

# COLUMBIA LUTHERAN

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NO. 7

## "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All The Land"

By DAVID E. ENGBERG

**T**HE LIBERTY BELL in Independence Hall in Philadelphia is one of the most treasured relics of early American history. Symbolic of the spirit which sustained the colonists in their long struggle for political freedom, it is to us an emblem of that liberty which we as a people so highly cherish. "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof," (Lev. 25: 10) is the graphic inscription that it bears. And in a very real sense such has been the mission of Liberty Bell. To loyal Americans it will ever remain a cherished symbol of freedom. But it is of a higher freedom we here would speak.

The words of Jesus, found in the eighth chapter of St. John and quoted above, set before us two of the greatest words known in human language which to so large an extent have called forth unselfish devotion and sacrifice; no words which are interpreted so variously, or which have occasioned more conflict of opinion than have these. Men who have scouted all restraints of civil and moral law have sought to mask their lawlessness by appealing to the name of Liberty. Personal liberty is, to many, higher and more sacred than any law, whether it be civil or moral. On the other hand, humanity has risen to heights of unselfish achievement, to the highest pinnacles of service and sacrifice, in the name of truth and freedom. As used by our Master the words are most closely connected and are used to throw light upon each other. "That is TRUTH which makes us really free; that is the genuine and only valuable FREEDOM which is based upon the truth." How we may find this Truth of life and through it attain a true state of moral and spiritual Freedom is then a most fitting subject for our meditation.

The whole purpose of Christ's coming to earth was to make all men free. According to the prophecy to which Christ himself referred, he had been anointed "to preach the gospel to the poor; to heal the broken-hearted; to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to SET AT LIBERTY them that are bruised; to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." During the time that

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. . . . If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."—John 8: 32 and 36.

our Saviour walked among men he saw signs of servitude all about Him. Man was enslaved by man, and race by race. The Jewish people were in political bondage to the Romans; in spiritual bondage to their own autocratic priesthood. But, what was a worse bondage still, humanity as a whole was enslaved by its own passions and depraved desires. By His teachings Jesus sought to awaken His people to the fact that bondage of the soul—of the inner man—is far worse, and far more fatal, than any form of political or intellectual bondage. When the soul is freed, it imparts a strength that will eventually break off the shackles of any other bondage that may prevail.

Through sin man has been robbed of his liberty. His soul and his conscience has been brought into bondage. Someone has said that men are, after a manner of speaking, built in three stories. "At the bottom, to be kept there, are the sinful inclinations, passions, lust and base desires. Above these is a dominant will, which is meant to control our actions, and above this dominant will is a conscience. Such is the pyramid of life, and as the gilded top of a lofty spire is illumined by the sunshine, so the light of God illumines the conscience of man." When sin is committed the conscience is defiled, and conscience in its turn makes us aware of our wrong-doing. And with the consciousness of guilt comes fear and bondage. The realization of sin causes us to fear the just judgment of God.

Sometimes, it is true, we are not fully aware of our sins. But that is because we have bribed conscience; because we refuse to be concerned about our spiritual welfare. Let us remember, however, that even though we may refuse to recognize a danger it may still be present. "The prophet Ezekiel was once led into a place where, through a hole broken in the wall, there was shown to him an inner chamber, on the walls of which were painted the hideous idols of the heathen. There, in the presence of the foul shapes, stood

venerable priests and official dignitaries of Israel, with their censers in their hands, and their backs to the oracle of God. There is a chamber like that in our hearts; and it would be a great deal better that we should go down, through the hole in the wall, and see it than that we should live, as so many of us do, in a fool's paradise of ignorance of our own sin." This ignorance of the bondage of sin is due to a lack of knowledge of the truth. Men often become so steeped in sin as to lose all consciousness of its existence. Only the TRUTH can liberate the soul from the deadly, destructive bondage of sin.

That all truth brings freedom is an accepted fact in all fields of human endeavour. Many things have been tried to liberate man from bondage that is deeply ingrained in all human nature. Force has been tried; and it has been effectual in gaining freedom for isolated groups of individuals, or for single nations. But it has never proved sufficient to establish a liberty that is all-inclusive and universal in its scope. Legislation has been tried as a means of satisfying the desire for liberty. The emancipation of the slaves in our own country might serve as an instance of this. But it is well to note in this connection that, while freedom may be given by legislation, it cannot be maintained unless those liberated are given opportunities to fit themselves for liberty, and are willing to make use of such opportunities. Civilization has been tried; and civilization does bring with it a certain degree of freedom. But, as man has become civilized, he has also become the slave of civilization. Men are no longer able to do without the advantages and luxuries of civilized life. We must look to some other source. If we are to find true freedom from bondage.

Jesus does not speak of intellectual, political or industrial freedom. The purpose of His Gospel is to free the inner man, and thus open the way for all other forms of liberty. "Ye shall know the Truth, and THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE." What, then, is this Truth that is able to make us free from all manner of bondage? In the first place let us

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## Editorial

### The Columbia Lutheran

editor, after only a few months in the  
office, finds it necessary to relinquish the  
pleasant duties associated with the editing  
of this paper. We have indeed enjoyed  
this interesting work in the field of pub-  
licity. This short experience has also con-  
vinced us of the publicity value of such  
a paper as the Columbia Lutheran, and we  
entertain the hope that the Conference  
will continue its publication. It serves  
indeed as a valuable link between the  
scattered territories of our Conference,  
that cannot be supplied by any other pub-  
lication.

On leaving this Conference, where we  
have spent four happy years and made so  
many friends, we hope that your interest  
and your prayers will follow us into the  
new work which we are about to under-  
take. And if ever it shall be possible  
for us to serve the interest of the Colum-  
bia Conference, either directly or indirect-  
ly, in the future, we shall esteem it a  
great privilege to render such service. May  
God bless the Columbia Conference and  
our Augustana Synod that we may be  
faithful in the work of proclaiming the  
gospel of salvation through Christ.

The New York Bible Society carries on  
a "constant survey" of hotels in that city  
to see that Bibles are supplied in all hotels  
for transients. During the past year more  
than 60 hotels received a total of 13,707  
Bibles so provided.

### Synodical Meeting 1931

The First Lutheran Church at James-  
town, N. Y., Dr. S. M. Miller, pastor, had  
just completed the celebration of the 75th  
anniversary of the congregation, when the  
delegates of the Augustana Synod arrived  
for deliberation and decisions for the wel-  
fare of the church.

The convention opened appropriately  
with the celebration of Holy Communion  
on Thursday evening June 11th. Rev. S.  
Hj. Swanson of St. Paul and Dr. G. A.  
Brandelle, our synodical president, pre-  
sented messages to the 2000 people as-  
sembled in the large and beautiful sanctu-  
ary of the First Church.

On Friday morning the synodical dele-  
gates, including four pastors, and four lay  
delegates from our conference, gathered to  
hear the president's annual message. This  
report was very interesting and full of  
valuable information. We thank God that  
it can be said that the Word of God is  
preached faithfully by our pastors. The  
Lord's Supper is held in esteem and is  
celebrated on the average from four to 12  
times during the year in our congrega-  
tions. Two congregations celebrate Holy  
Communion every two weeks. It was also  
brought out in the president's report that  
in spite of the so-called financial depres-  
sion there was no sign of a financial  
crisis in the local churches paying their obli-  
gations to the conference and synod. It is  
our earnest hope that the churches of our  
conference pay their allotted share to the  
conference treasury, so that the work of  
the church at large may not suffer. This  
can be done if the love of God constrains  
us. One of the resolutions passed by the  
synod expressed gratitude over the fact  
that in spite of the financial depression  
88 per cent. of the apportionment for the  
year 1930 was paid in, but also expressed  
the hope that all congregations may cheer-  
fully raise the apportionment allotted to  
them.

Home and foreign mission work is the  
most important mission of the church. The  
president emphasized the fact that our  
home missionaries need special training  
and vision to be successful. It was also  
pointed out that much of the money spent  
on home mission fields brought no results.  
Presumably with this fact in mind, a move  
to unite the home mission work of the  
synod and the 13 conferences was made.  
The synod voted in favor of a policy of  
unification, and elected a committee of five  
members to work out a plan for merging  
of the home mission activities. The  
churches throughout the synod were urged  
to observe Nov. 15 this year, the 125th  
anniversary of the famous "Haystack  
Prayer Meeting," for the purpose of pro-  
moting missionary interests. The date is

celebrated by protestantism as the anni-  
versary of the beginning of the foreign  
missionary movement in America.

The officers elected are as follows: Pres-  
ident, Dr. G. A. Brandelle, for a term of  
four years; vice president, Dr. C. A.  
Lund; secretary, Rev. N. J. W. Nelson;  
treasurer, Mr. K. T. Anderson; statistician,  
Dr. V. I. Vestling. The last four are  
elected for a term of two years.

The new pension plan came up for a  
great deal of interesting discussion. It  
was evident that the Synod was not ready  
to adopt the new plan, but requested the  
committee to make further study and re-  
port at the next meeting of the Synod, at  
Fargo, N. D.

The Board of Directors of Augustana  
College and Theological Seminary had  
their power curtailed in that the Synod  
assumed the power to elect the president  
and theological professors at our synodical  
institution at Rock Island, Ill. Nomina-  
tions for the presidency will be made by  
the Board of Directors, whereas the theol-  
ogical professors are to be nominated by  
the seminary faculty and the board.

Dr. V. I. Vestling, the synodical statis-  
tician, reported that the Synod had made  
a net gain of 3,951 members or 6 per cent.  
The total adult membership of the Synod  
is now 238,385. A total of \$5,167,062 has  
been taken in during the past year. The  
average contribution per member is estimated  
to \$22.13. The budget adopted for this  
year was \$355,420.00; about \$19,000.00 less  
than last year.

Many other interesting questions came  
up for discussion and decision. You are  
urged to read the detailed reports which  
appear in our synodical papers.

The programs given during the even-  
ings, as well as the devotional meetings  
every morning, testify to the fact that our  
church is building on the solid rock which  
is Jesus Christ. A spirit of loyalty to  
Christ permeated all the messages. As  
long as the church remains true to God  
and His Word, we know that He will bless  
our work and permit us to be His mes-  
sengers, for the salvation of many souls.

There was a spirit of sadness in the  
hearts of the delegation from our confer-  
ence especially, because of the illness of  
our conference president, Rev. H. P. John-  
son. Rev. Johnson was taken sick upon  
his arrival at Jamestown and was brought  
to a local hospital. Many prayers were  
offered by individuals, as well as at our  
devotional meetings, that God may speed  
his recovery. Mrs. Johnson was called to  
Jamestown to be with her husband. We  
continue to pray that God in His love  
and mercy may speedily restore him to  
health, so that he may resume his duties  
among his people at Portland as well as  
in the conference.

REV. N. WM. ANDERSON.

### Luther League Service Held at the Synodical Meeting, Jamestown, N. Y., June 15th

An impressive Luther League service was held at the synodical meeting on Monday evening, June 15th. Rev. P. N. Sjogren, executive secretary of the Synodical Luther League gave an address on "Boys and Girls between the age of 10 and 14," and admonished the church to deal sympathetically with those who are having their first glimpse of facing life. He gave a vivid description of the differences in makeup of the child of 12 and the opportunities of the Sunday school to study these characteristics in order to develop the child into the finest type of Christian manhood and womanhood. Rev. Sjogren stated that there are over 7,000 members of the Luther Leagues in the synod who are Sunday school teachers and over 6,000 members who are singing in church choirs.

Dr. Oden in his address stated that there are 42,000 members in the Luther League in our Synod. Dr. Oden is the president of the Synodical Luther League. His subject was: "Confirmation and What Immediately Follows." He stated as his belief that the boys and girls should be confirmed in the fall of the year instead of in the spring. He said: "Summer and vacation are the confirmation days now. The pastor leaves for his vacation trip. The children are thrown into the congregation where often they get a cold reception. When the church work becomes active in the fall, many of the confirmands have lost interest and not even a fall rally can bring them back into active service." "I believe in confirmation," stated Dr. Oden, "in the fall when the children can enter into all types of church programs under the guidance of the pastor. I believe that children should be confirmed at an earlier age and then conduct a reconsecration service at the age of 17 or 18." Dr. Oden outlined what he considered a successful type of program for the Junior Luther League; meetings to be held weekly and the children permitted to express themselves by assisting in devotions and in Bible study and in planning social activities.

Following the program a film taken at the Fourth Christian Conference at St. Peter, Minn., was shown. This film also included the ordination service held at Rock Island, Ill., in 1930.

REV. N. WM. ANDERSON.

### Report on the 22nd Annual Convention of the Spokane District Luther League

Plans for the coming convention of the Luther League of the Columbia Confer-

ence of the Augustana Synod were an important issue at the 22nd annual convention of the Spokane District Luther League held at the Sa'em Lutheran Church in Spokane, Washington, June 27 and 28. It is hoped that arrangements may be made to have at least one joint meeting with the delegates and members of the Luther Leagues of the Ohio Synod which are having their convention at the same time in Spokane. The Spokane District is looking forward to the biggest and finest convention of young people ever held in any Lutheran Church in Spokane. Won't everyone who has an opportunity to attend this conference convention on September 5 and 6 please come and make these meetings a success from every possible point of view?

The Luther Leagues comprising the Spokane District Luther League are from the following churches:

Grace Lutheran Church, Spokane, Wn., Rev. William Siegel, pastor.

Salem Lutheran Church, Spokane, Wn., Rev. N. William Anderson, pastor.

Westdala Lutheran Church, Troy, Ida., Rev. David E. Engberg, pastor.

First Lutheran Church, Moscow, Ida., Rev. Roger P. Oliver, pastor.

The convention began with a banquet on Saturday evening given by the entertaining League. The business meeting followed, opened by a short devotional led by Rev. Wm. Siegel, pastor of the Grace Lutheran Church of Spokane.

Several matters of local importance were discussed and acted upon. An interesting innovation which the Spokane District plans for the coming year is the publishing of a semi-yearly news letter for the purpose of helping the Leagues in the District to keep in closer contact with each other. The editor of this paper is Rudolph Carlson from the First Lutheran Church at Moscow, and his assistants are four reporters appointed one from each League. It is hoped that this beginning will grow into a real achievement.

The officers elected for the coming year are as follows:

President, Rev. Wm. Siegel, Grace, Spokane; vice president, Rev. David E. Engberg, Westdala, Troy; secretary, Miss Mildred Carlson, First Lutheran, Moscow; treasurer, Mr. Francis Edlund, Salem, Spokane; statistician, Miss Hazel Johnson, Grace, Spokane.

Sunday school and communion services were held on Sunday morning with Rev. David E. Engberg of Troy as the speaker on both occasions.

The Sunday afternoon meeting proved to be very inspirational in character. The convention address by Rev. William Siegel, district president, on the subject "The Challenge to Modern Youth" was indeed

a challenge, not only to every young person in the audience, but to the older ones as well. The text for his sermon was taken from Mark 10: 17-22, the story of the young man who came to the Master and asked how he might inherit eternal life. The program also included several musical numbers and three talks by Leaguers on the relation of the young people to the Sunday school, the Luther League, and to the Church.

A general get-together and social hour at the close of this service concluded the convention.

It is certain that these meetings have left with every Luther Leaguer who was present an earnest longing to become better acquainted with the Master, Jesus Christ; an appreciation for the work of the young people through the Luther League; and a desire to make himself a better Luther Leaguer and a better member of his or her respective church.

Respectfully submitted,

Spokane District Luther League,  
CONSTANCE JOHNSON,  
Reporter.

### The Luther League

This month is a busy one for the Luther League. The Bible Institutes will begin shortly after this issue is off the press. Remember the dates: Cotton Bible Institute, July 12-19; Tacoma-Mt. Baker Institute at Lake Sammamish, July 19-27. Plan to attend. You cannot spend a week in any better way or more completely build up both body and soul than at the Bible Institutes. The Portland District Luther League will meet in Astoria, August 8-9. We can give at this time a part of the program for this convention:

#### Saturday Evening

7:00—Bible Study, led by Rev. S. E. Johnson.

8:00—Business meeting.

#### Sunday Morning

Sunday School—Address, Rev. A. G. Anderson.

Morning Worship.

#### Sunday Afternoon: Young People's Rally

Scripture Reading and Prayer—Mr. Ray Widen, Augustana.

Paper: "A Consecrated Luther League," Lowell Anderson, Augustana.

Paper: "Consecration of our Resources—Stewardship," Mr. Albert Anderson, Immanuel.

Paper: "A Consecrated Luther Leaguer's Work and Play."

#### Sunday Evening

Divine Service, Sermon, Rev. Carl Muhr.

Musical numbers will be rendered by representatives from the various local leagues.

### The Bible Institute at Colton

Although July and August are spoken of as the dull months of the church year, we desire to be optimistic enough to believe that they are more profitable to the church than they are given credit for. For many weeks past we have noticed how our church papers have been advertising by appeals in striking write-ups, camp scenes, and cuts of speakers and Bible teachers, announcing Bible Institutes for the months of July and August. Not long ago Bible Institutes were scarcely mentioned in our church work, now they are common in every conference and many districts have their own. This should be, and we believe it is, hailed as a very encouraging sign in the Christian church in its fight against sin now presenting itself in so many alluring colors. Thousands of our young people are attending these institutes every summer, and if God's Word is still "a power unto salvation to all who believe," we are confident that blessings are at our hand which are often overlooked.

But it was not our purpose with this article to discuss the merit or demerit of summer vacation in the church, but rather to make one more appeal to the good people of our churches to remember the Bible Institutes at Colton and at Lake Sammamish. The Institute at Colton is a Lutheran might be considered as a clarion voice from on high, with God calling His people out from the din of a commercial world into His beautiful nature, where they may dwell for a while in the refreshing atmosphere of His Holy Word. Oh, how much we need such moments! All efforts should be put forth to attend as many meetings as possible if it is not possible to be there the whole week. The dates for our meetings at Colton, Oregon, are July 12 to 19. May we remind you again of the program. First Sunday, talk to the Sunday school at 10:00 a. m., morning services at 11:00. In the afternoon at 3:00 Professor J. P. Milton will give his introductory address on the subject, "Beautiful Saviour." At 8:00 in the evening Rev. Wm. Siegel will give his first address. During the week three sessions will be held every morning between 9:00 and 12:00, and one address every evening. On Sunday, the 19th, there will be a half hour given to the Sunday school, beginning at 9:45. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 10:30, and in the afternoon at 3:00, Professor Milton will give the closing address on the subject, "Glory Ahead." Campfire talks will be given in the evenings after the meetings, and the afternoons will be set aside for recreation in whatever form you desire to use it. Bring your Bibles and note books, tennis racquets, indoor balls, bathing suits, then you will enjoy yourself. We are going

to gather around God's Holy Word, and in His beautiful nature to build up ourselves spiritually and bodily. Again we extend a most hearty welcome to come to our Bible Institute at Colton.

S. E. J.

### Lutheran Religious Campus Work at State Institutions of Oregon

By this time most of our people will know that we have in Oregon an association organized for the purpose of serving Lutheran students enrolled at the major educational institutions of the state. This association was founded in 1926, and it has the support of nearly all the Lutheran bodies, including that of the Augustana synod. Rev. R. Bogstad is president of the association and Rev. Wm. Schoeler, Litt.D., executive secretary and student pastor.

It might prove interesting to give a brief outline of the work done last year, and we begin with Monmouth, where the major normal school of the state is located.

There were years when Monmouth had as many as 1,100 and more students; but last year the total enrollment was only 600, of which 24 were on record as Lutherans. This, however, does not take into account the summer term, which usually brings from 20 to 25 students to Monmouth. In 1930 a "Luther House" was put up by the association and the building proved of great usefulness. But it is incumbered with a \$1300 mortgage which ought to be paid off. Services were held twice each month, and social gatherings as often as seemed advisable. The pastor, during the year, made it a point to meet each student personally and distributed a great many helpful religious tracts.

We next consider Corvallis. Here the state college is located, with an enrollment this year of about 3,400 students of which nearly 70 were Lutherans. In former years our meetings were held in a room of the Y. W. C. A., but last fall the Association rented a large house as headquarters. The student pastor with his family uses this house as a residence, and the meetings are conducted in a spacious front room. The students gathered every Sunday morning for a fellowship hour from 10 to 11, and services were held from 11 to 12. The house marks a great improvement over the past, but still it is a makeshift and before long the church should provide better housing facilities. The Northwestern district of the American Lutheran Church, appreciating the need, at its meeting last May petitioned its general body to appropriate, at its next convention, the sum of \$5,000 for a "Luther House" to be erected at Monmouth. The United Lutheran Church, the Norwegian

Lutheran Church, and the Augustana synod have likewise been appealed to. The students themselves formed an alumni association a month ago, and of this year's graduates seven students pledged \$320 toward such a building.

At Eugene about 3,100 students were enrolled, and of this number between 65 and 70 were Lutherans. Meetings were held twice a month in the Y. W. C. A. bungalow near the campus, and several local Lutheran congregations cooperated by entertaining the students at their churches. On account of straitened finances the student pastor could not give as much time to Eugene as the place deserves. Much more might be done if more funds were on hand.

In November last year a regional meeting was held at Pullman, which fourteen students from Oregon attended as delegates. These students came home filled with enthusiasm. The next regional meeting will be held November 27-29 at Pacific Lutheran College, Parkland, Wash.

Work among our students at state institutions is second to none in importance. Our campuses are mission fields white unto the harvest. Dr. Harry insists that "dollar for dollar, there are larger and quicker returns to the church for the money invested in student work than in any other form of her activity." We will not press this point. But certain it is that our people should give this work more thought, remember it in their prayers and support it generously with their money.

### New Westminster, B. C.

The members of the Immanuel church, New Westminster, B. C. pleasantly surprised their pastor O. W. Westling and wife on their wedding anniversary Wednesday evening, June 17th. The Ladies' Aid society held its monthly meeting that evening, and after the usual business, a program was given and congratulations were extended to the pastor and family, together with a purse of money. Words of thanks and appreciation were expressed by the pastor and his wife, who felt that it was doubly appreciated, coming as it did when the congregation has had extra expenses, connected with the church building and the continued depression with many of our people without employment.

O. W. W.

### Zion, Everett

On May 24th a Confirmation Reunion was held at Zion Lutheran Church, Everett, Washington. At 10:45 a. m., morning services were held at which the Lord's Supper was celebrated. At 2:45 p. m., the Reunion was held with Rev. Carl Nor-

guard of our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Everett as the main speaker.

Members of the various classes took part in the program which was composed of a talk on "Our Class Motto," based on the motto of the class of 1926, "We would see Jesus"; a brief history of the class of 1902, which was the first class confirmed in Zion; musical selections, Roll Call, and greetings sent by absent members and former pastors of Zion.

At 5:30 lunch was served by the Luther League, and at 7:45 a miscellaneous program was presented with Wilbur Johnson, a member of the class of '25, as the principal speaker. The pastor spoke a few words concerning those confirmands who have passed on, and a beautiful vocal selection was rendered by Profesosr Thomas Bergstrom.

In order to stimulate interest in the Reunion, a slogan contest was held in which Gordis Hall won first prize, and Viola Anderson, second.

All services were well attended, and Zion will look forward to future Reunions.

M. N.

### Bellingham-Clearbrook

On Thursday evening, May 21, a public examination of the catechumens of the First Lutheran Church was held. Preceding the examination two members of the class were baptized. On Whitsunday the class of 12 members was confirmed. In the evening they came to the Lord's Supper. These services were attended by large audiences and some new members were admitted. And we wish that our intercessory prayers for our catechumens by our church-members were comensurate with our enthusiasm at these events.

Wednesday evening, May 27, a confirmation alumni banquet was held at 7:00 p. m. The Rev. Carl Zimmerman of the St. Johns Lutheran Church was the speaker. At this meeting of the alumni Miss Esther Nordquist acted as chairman. And we hope that a permanent organization of the Lutheran confirmands of our church may be effected.

At a special meeting of the congregation in Clearbrook on February 10th, it was decided to lengthen the church building ten feet and build a basement under the church. A furnace is also being installed. Felt paper has been put on the wainscoted walls of the auditorium. Papered and calcimined, the interior looks very churchly in its new dress with white ceiling and bright ivory walls. Our good Ladies' Aid has bought a fine carpet for the rostrum. The kitchen is a real asset to our faithful women; and it is a much needed addition to our work. All these improvements are just about completed,

and we are all pleased. The building committee in charge are: Leonard Loreen, Albert Olson, and Victor Holmquist. May we become just as interested in beautifying our hearts and our lives in the Master's service, as we are in adorning our churches. We should be happy beyond measure to be engaged in such spiritual work, for we are asked this pertinent question by the sainted apostle: "Know ye not that your bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit?"

L. CORNAY.

### Lutheran Welfare Society

The first annual meeting of the Lutheran Welfare Society of Tacoma, Washington and vicinity was held April 30 in the Lutheran Compass Mission.

The following officers and trustees were elected following the adoption of the by-laws: Pres., Rev. J. P. Pflueger; 1st vice president, N. N. Hageness; 2nd vice president, Carl F. Wolf; secretary, F. C. Mason; treasurer, Theo. V. Northstrom.

Other trustees: For three year term, E. J. Bresemann, Silas E. Dahl, H. C. Pochert, Theo. Anderson; for two year term, Frank Christensen, Olaf Devik, Ole Hokold, Conrad Gaard; for one year term, C. O. Lynn, John Hedberg, Mrs. F. C. Mason, Mrs. Ida C. Johnsrud.

The Lutheran Welfare Society will continue the work of the Compass Mission among the transient laborers and homeless men of the Northwest. It will also carry out a program of institutional visitation, child welfare work, and family welfare work.

The society is an intersynodical organization and will represent some seven synods in this field of social service in Tacoma and vicinity.

V. E. THOREN,  
Executive Secretary.

### "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All The Land"

(Cont'd from page 1)

remember that the truth of which Christ speaks, does not mean mere information. True wisdom does not depend upon the extent of a man's knowledge of things; but it depends upon his ability to put to practical use the knowledge that he possesses. Not in mere knowledge of science, of art, of philosophy, or of any other branch of learning may we find the truth that makes for freedom. We must look to some more satisfying and more reliable source than any of these.

"If ye continue in my word," says Jesus, "ye shall know the truth." When we have discovered in the Word of God that which satisfies the deepest needs of the soul, then indeed, we shall have discovered the very soul and essence of truth. Nowhere else can the truth be found; in no other way

can we find true liberty. "The truth of the wheat seed lies in that principle of Nature which causes it to grow in its own distinctive way, and produce wholesome kernels of wheat, and not something else. The truth of the rose bush is found in those characteristics that distinguish it from all other flowering plants, and causes it to produce the beauty of the rose. The great and vital truth for all created things lies in the principle in which they 'live and move and have their being.' In the realm of intellect truth is found in those deeper laws by which the intellect itself its governed and developed."

But it is, after all, with spiritual truths that we should be most directly concerned. For the human spirit truth is that which is able to raise it to a higher plane; to set it forever free from the bondage of sin. The word of God meets this test, for in it we may find that which is able to transform life and character. In Jesus Christ the spiritual life of man reaches a perfect development that is possible in no other way. And, as in the days of the Apostles, "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on His name," even so He stands ready today, under the same conditions, to give us that power which makes for a pure and righteous life. The question, "What is truth?", was satisfactorily answered when Jesus said to His disciples, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Christ himself is the truth, and His teachings accepted by us, and expressed in our lives is the Truth that makes us free. When His truth has been found, and when it has become a part of our inner life, we shall understand the meaning of being free.

The Bible is essentially a Book of Liberty. Its pages ring with the message of freedom—freedom from moral and spiritual bondage. All the ideals of liberty that have made for humanity's release from political, industrial or moral bondage are contained in Holy Writ. The Old Testament tells the story of the emancipation of the Chosen People from bondage, in order that they might live a larger, freer life in the service of God. The New Testament points the way to release from th bondage of sin, to a full attainment of all our most sacred longings and desires in the service of Him who died that all humanity might live. No one has ever yet received the Gospel in faith, and failed to feel its mighty power in regenerating the heart, and giving to the soul true liberty. The soul that has found the Truth in Christ will also find in Him the power to throw off the heavy shackles of sin.

In the Gospel Jesus has given us that truth which reveals God to us, teaches us to love Him, and gives us the grace to

live as He would have us live. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." The choice lies before us; it is for us to decide whether we shall live in the bondage of sin, or in the liberty that belongs only to the sons of God. The experience of humanity in all ages shows that no other choice is possible. If it had been possible for man to rise from his sinful state by his own efforts, the Saviour would not have come down from heaven to die upon the cross. We can become free from sin only by the Truth as it is found in Christ Jesus. May we then seek for Truth—and for Liberty—at the only source where it may be found; in the living word of God. Until eternity that Word will continue to send out its glorious message of Truth and Freedom. It will never cease to "proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

## Items of Interest

**The June Issue.** Due to the large amount of material relative to the Bible Institute that was published in the last issue, all the "Items of Interest" had to be omitted. We are inserting some of them in this issue, although their publication is rather late. We also want to state that the splendid devotional article in the last issue, "Life's Chief Concern," was a confirmation address contributed by Rev. Ernest G. Svenson of the First Church, Tacoma.

**Rev. H. P. Johnson.** The members of the Columbia Conference have been deeply grieved by the report from Jamestown, N. Y., telling us of the illness of Rev. Johnson, our Conference president. Rev. Johnson took suddenly sick with heart disease on Saturday before the Synodical convention, and had to be removed to a hospital in Jamestown. Mrs. Johnson left Portland on Monday, and on arriving found Rev. Johnson still in the hospital but considerably improved. His recovery has been slow, however, and at present writing he is still confined in the hospital and no definite date has been set for his return. We hope and pray that he will be speedily and completely restored to health and strength, and that he soon may be home to take up his work again.

**Rev. P. H. Nordlander,** Yakima, Wash., has accepted a call extended to him by the Bethany Lutheran church, Batavia, Ill. He will enter upon his work there about October 1. We regret very much to see Rev. Nordlander leave the Columbia Conference. He has served ably and faithfully as treasurer during the last two

years. We wish him God's blessing in his new field of labor.

**Rev. O. R. Karlstrom** has resigned from his charge in the First Lutheran Church of Vancouver, B. C., and has accepted a call to become superintendent of the Lutheran Compass Mission in Seattle, Wash. This mission, which was formerly operated by the Augustana Synod, is now sponsored by a local organization in Seattle. Rev. Karlstrom plans to begin his new duties some time in August.

**Birthday celebrated.** Rev. Enoch Sandeen was guest of honor at a birthday given in the Bethel parsonage May 12th. Those who were present were: Dr. and Mrs. C. R. Swanson, Rev. and Mrs. C. G. Bloomquist, Rev. and Mrs. John Billdt, Rev. and Mrs. Carl A. Bengtson, and Miss Lydia Stenborg.

**Dr. C. R. Swanson** delivered the baccalaureate sermon at the commencement of Parkland College, Tacoma, on Sunday, May 31. The subject of Dr. Swanson's sermon was "Go Forward."

**The American Lutheran Church.** The Northwest District of the American Lutheran Church, occupying the same territory as the Columbia Conference, held its first annual meeting in the Zion Lutheran church, Oregon City, Ore., May 6-11. Over 40 pastors and an equal number of lay delegates were in attendance. Dr. C. C. Hein, general president of the American Lutheran Church attended the convention. Rev. H. P. Johnson attended the meeting on Monday, May 11, and brought fraternal greetings from the Columbia Conference. The editor also had the pleasure of attending the convention one day, conferring with the leaders of the young people of the American Lutheran Church in regard to a joint program at the Luther League convention in Spokane next fall. This All-Lutheran Young People's Rally will be held in the afternoon of the convention Sunday in the Grace church of Spokane.

**Parkland College.** The committee from the various Lutheran bodies appointed to confer in regard to Parkland College held its first meeting in the Zion Lutheran church, Oregon City, Ore., on May 8. The members present were Dr. J. A. E. Naess and Rev. R. Bogstad of the Norwegian Lutheran Church; Dr. C. R. Swanson and Rev. S. E. Johnson (substituting for Rev. Carl A. V. Lund); Rev. A. E. Mimmien and Rev. L. Ludwig of the American Lutheran Church. Other members present were Dr. O. A. Tingelstad, president of the College, Rev. A. Kraabel, and Dr. J. P. Pflueger. Dr. Tingelstad was elected chairman and Rev. Ludwig secretary. The functions and the procedure of the committee were discussed. It was decided to

study the problems of ownership, capital investment, administration and control, faculty representation, and financial support of the College. A subcommittee, consisting of Dr. Swanson, Rev. Bogstad, and Rev. Ludwig, was appointed to prepare a draft of these problems and present them for discussion at the next meeting of the committee, which was held at Parkland College, June 3rd.

**Columbia Home for the Aged.** The Lutheran Hospice, owned by the Gethsemane church in Seattle, has been leased to the Conference for a period of 10 years to be used as an addition to the Old People's Home. The building has been remodeled and put in shape for its new purpose. It will provide living quarters for about 20 people, and will give an opportunity to many of the recent applicants to be admitted to the home in the near future.

**A number of pastors and their wives** of the Tacoma and Mt. Baker Districts spent Monday, May 18, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Anderson in Sedro-Woolley. Dinner was brought and served by the visitors. All enjoyed a pleasant day in the companionship of these congenial friends. Those present were Rev. and Mrs. Luther Cornay, Rev. and Mrs. C. A. V. Lund and Grace, Rev. and Mrs. John Billdt, Rev. and Mrs. Enoch Sandeen and Franklin, and Mr. Harold Bjorklund, Rev. and Mrs. C. G. Bloomquist, Dr. and Mrs. C. R. Swanson and Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Bengtson.

**Confirmation Reunion.** The Luther League of the Bethany Lutheran church, Warren, Ore., held a confirmation reunion on Sunday, June 28. In the morning Rev. Carl Muhr, himself confirmed in this congregation, preached the English sermon, and Rev. Wahlstrom preached in Swedish. Rev. Nystrom of Brush Prairie had been invited to address his former confirmation classes, but was prevented on account of illness to attend. He sent, however, a short greeting which was greatly appreciated. The confirmation program was held in the afternoon. All the numbers on the program were rendered by those who had been confirmed in this church. In all 13 classes have been confirmed, including this year's class, and a representative from each class gave a brief history of the class and a description of their confirmation experience. Many beautiful personal testimonies were given in these reports. It was brought out that 105 have been confirmed in the church since its organization in 1907. Of these 53 are still members of the church, 6 have passed away, 13 are members elsewhere, and of the rest no report could be given. In the evening Rev. G. K. Andeen delivered the reunion address. All the services were well at-

tended and many of those who had moved away from Warren took the opportunity to return home to renew old associations and friendships. Written greetings were received from Rev. J. E. Shipp and from several of those confirmed who were unable to be present.

**The Pacific Synod.** The Pacific Synod of the United Lutheran Church held their annual convention in the University Lutheran church, Seattle, on May 28-31. Dr. Frederick H. Knobel, president of the United Lutheran Church of America, was the guest of honor at the convention. Rev. Adolph Nelson, graduate of the Pacific Lutheran Seminary, was ordained to the ministry. He has accepted a call to the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Portland, Ore.

**Rev. and Mrs. G. K. Andeen** and family made an extensive trip through the Conference before leaving for the East. They visited the congregations in Mt. Vernon and Spokane, where Rev. Andeen used to be pastor. While passing through Seattle, they were guests of honor at a dinner sponsored by the Seattle pastors at Hotel Gowman of that city. While in Spokane Rev. Andeen delivered an address at the annual hospice day, held in the Lutheran Hospice for Girls in Spokane. At this occasion the Grace and Salem congregations in Spokane took the opportunity to present Rev. and Mrs. Andeen with a fine Indian blanket for their trip. Rev. Andeen preached his farewell sermon in Astoria on Sunday morning, June 28. On the same day they started on their trip to Providence, making their first stop in Warren, where Rev. Andeen delivered the Confirmation Reunion address on Sunday evening. Rev. Andeen and his family requested the editor to express to all their friends their sincere thanks and appreciation for the many tokens of love and esteem received. They expect to be in Providence, R. I., by August 1st. We wish them a pleasant journey and God's richest blessings in their new field.

**Pastor called.** At a recent congregational meeting in Trinity, Astoria, Rev. C. W. Johnson, Boise, Idaho, was extended a unanimous call to become the pastor of Trinity.

**The Editor** has received and accepted a call to the chair of New Testament Literature and Exegesis in the Augustana Seminary in Rock Island as associate professor for two years.

**Rev. Carl Muhr** is spending part of the summer in his home in Warren, Ore. He was ordained to the ministry at the recent Synodical convention in Jamestown, N. Y., on a call to Hilmar, California. He will begin his work in that congregation about

September 1. We wish Rev. Muhr joy and blessings from God in his new work.

**Call Declined.** Rev. G. W. Henry of Pasadena, California, has declined the call issued to him by the First church, Vancouver, B. C.

**Memorial Services** The Lutherans of Seattle held a memorial service on the Pacific Lutheran Cemetery in that city on Memorial Day, May 30. The service was held under the auspices of the Seattle Lutheran Ministerial Association. Rev. K. K. Olofson, president of the Icelandic Synod, delivered the memorial address. Among other speakers on the program were Rev. C. G. Bloomquist of the Bethany church, Seattle.

A memorial service was held on the Lutheran cemetery in Warren, Ore., on Memorial Day. The pastor of the church spoke at the Swedish service, and Rev. Leroy Walker of St. Helens delivered the memorial address at the English service. This is an annual service, and is being attended by more and more people from year to year.

**Mrs. Enoch Sandeen**, Seattle, Wash., is spending the summer in her home in Moline, Ill. She left for the East the last part of May. The ladies of the Bethel church had arranged a splendid farewell reception for her before she left. Rev. Sandeen and Orville are remaining in Seattle.

**Golden Wedding.** A golden wedding was celebrated in the Bethany Lutheran church, Warren, Ore., on Friday evening, June 26. Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Carlson had on that day completed 50 years in holy matrimony. The church was beautifully decorated. A program was rendered consisting of songs and music, an address to the golden wedding couple by Rev. Wahlstrom, and greetings from the congregation and friends by Mr. Ernest Rylander and Mr. C. J. Larson. After the program the bridal couple were escorted to the parlors of the church where a luncheon was served. The table for the guests of honor was beautifully decorated in gold and white, and a golden wedding cake graced the table. A bouquet of golden roses was presented to the bridal couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlson came to America from Östergötland, Sweden, in the year 1879, and settled in Otsego Lake, Mich. There they were married on June 26, 1881. They belonged to the Lutheran congregation in Bay City, Mich., until they came to Warren in the summer of 1909. Mr. Carlson came in 1908 to procure a place for himself and his family in the West. During this time the church in Warren was being built, and Mr. Carlson worked on the church building for some time. Since that time both Mr. and Mrs. Carl-

son have been faithful workers in the church and the Sunday school as long as their strength permitted. They have also been readers of the Synodical paper "Augustana" during the 50 years of their married life. Two children and two children's children remain to them now, all living in Warren, Ore. We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Carlson and wish for them God's richest blessings in the remaining years of their life.

**Mr. Harold Bjorklund**, student in Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., has accepted a call to serve as student pastor in the Trinity Lutheran church of Astoria during the vacancy. Mr. Bjorklund is a member of the Bethel congregation in Seattle.

**Junior Mission Band Rally.** The Junior Mission Band of the Portland district held a Mission Rally in the Bethany church, Warren, Ore., on Sunday afternoon, June 14. In spite of the heavy rain that fell in the afternoon the Rally was well attended. A splendid program was rendered by the Juniors of the various mission bands. Rev. A. G. Anderson of Gresham delivered a missionary address.

**Rev. Victor Sternherz**, until recently missionary in the service of the Zion Society for Israel, made a vacation trip thru the West and also visited Portland. He was present and spoke at a meeting of the Women's Missionary society of the Augustana church, relating his experiences as missionary to the Jews in Chicago and Minneapolis. Rev. Sternherz later continued his journey to San Francisco.

**Rochester, Wash.** At a recent congregational meeting the First Lutheran church of this city decided to unite with the Bethesda congregation in Olympia to form one pastoral charge. Rev. Elmer M. Johnson was called to become pastor also of Rochester, and he has accepted the call.

**Rev. J. A. Edlund** celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary on June 3. He was born near Karlstad, Sweden, and came to this country in 1872 with his mother and younger sisters. His father had already been in this country a few years then. Rev. Edlund was ordained to the ministry 37 years ago and has served as pastor in 12 different states and has preached in 10 others. Rev. Edlund has been located in Marshfield since 1920, except for a short time when he served as pastor in Tacoma, Wash. We congratulate Rev. Edlund on this anniversary and wish for him many more happy years of service in the Kingdom of God.

**Lutheran Chautauqua.** The Pacific Lutheran Chautauqua is being held July 4-10 this year at Pacific Lutheran College, Parkland, Wash. This chautauqua is be-

ing held under the auspices of the churches of the American Lutheran Conference. Visiting teachers are Rev. Prof. J. A. Dell, Luther Theological Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, and Rev. T. O. Burntvedt, president of the Lutheran Free Church, Minneapolis.

**Farewell party.** The pastors of the Portland district motored to Astoria on May 21 to visit Rev. and Mrs. Andeen. A bountiful dinner was served at the parsonage. Just before departing Rev. H. P. Johnson in a few words expressed the sentiment of the district at the departure of Rev. and Mrs. Andeen, and wished them a happy journey and God's blessing in their new field of labor. Rev. Andeen responded with a few words of appreciation and farewell.

**An offer from Washington.** — In 1929 the government printing office at Washington issued for sale at 20c per copy its bulletin "Lutherans," which in addition to the complete statistical table of the religious census of 1926, contains authorized brief statements of history, doctrine and organization of every Lutheran general body in the United States. Through arrangement with the National Lutheran Council the government printing office is ready to supply this bulletin at 13c per copy, in bulk only, to presidents of constituent synods, conferences, districts and the like.

All who desire copies of the book for use, file or distribution should place their orders with their presidents, asking them to forward all orders to the National Lutheran Council. The book is a real bargain.

**"The Knubel Hour" over N. B. C.** — Dr. Frederick H. Knubel, president of the United Lutheran Church in America, has accepted an invitation from the National Broadcasting Company to speak on the National Sunday Forum for a period of nine weeks from August 16th to October 11th. This weekly feature, which runs from 4:00 to 5:00 P. M., Eastern Standard (Daylight Saving) Time each Sunday, has been popularized during the past few years by Dr. S. Parkes Cadman. Dr. Knubel's address will occupy about 20 minutes, a similar period will be devoted to answering questions sent in by listeners, and the balance of the hour will be taken up with religious music by professional radio talent supplied by the National Broadcasting Co. While the N. B. C. accepts no pay for its religious features, investing \$41,000 in putting Dr. Knubel on the air for the period, the professional musical talent will be paid by a committee of laymen organized for the purpose as the "Dr. Frederick H. Knubel Radio Committee."

**Diamond Jubilee.** — A pilgrimage to the grave of the Rev. Dr. Carl O. Hultgren, pastor for three decades of the past cen-

tury of First Lutheran Church, Jamestown, N. Y., featured the celebration, beginning June 7th, of the 75th anniversary of that congregation. The pastor of the church, which a few days later entertained the international convention of the Augustana Synod, is the Rev. Dr. Samuel M. Miller, for many years dean of the Lutheran Bible Institute of Minneapolis, Minn. Featuring this diamond jubilee was music furnished by a chorus composed of former choir members, including two who had been singers in the first choir, organized in 1870. Dr. Julius Lincoln of Chicago, pastor of the church for a period of 22 years, reviewed the illustrious history of this largest congregation in the Augustana Synod, and of the original settlements of Swedish Lutherans in western New York.

**Mrs. S. E. Johnson**, president of the Columbia Conference Women's Missionary Society, attended the Synodical Convention in Jamestown as delegate from the Conference. She also attended the dedication of the Girls' Home in New York after the convention. On her way home Mrs. Johnson spent a few days visiting her mother in South Dakota. She was also present at a missionary meeting in Spokane arranged for her as she passed thru. Mrs. Johnson spoke at this meeting and gave a report on the Synodical Convention. The W. M. Society of the Augustana church have arranged to hold a "Synodical Echo Meeting" in the Augustana church on the evening of July 9th. The missionary societies of the other churches in the district are also invited to this meeting. Mrs. Johnson will then be home and give a report on her trip and on the Synodical convention.

**Professor and Mrs. John Elson** of St. Peter, Minn., spent a couple of weeks in Portland during June. Prof. Elson is on leave of absence from Gustavus Adolphus College for a year, which he intends to spend in studying at the University of California. Mrs. Elson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmquist of Portland.

Meeting the question: "Is there any further need for foreign missions," the Watchman Examiner replies: "There is still need for Christ among many millions" and cites the following figures to prove it:

India has a population of 330,000,000, of which 2,300,000 are enrolled as Protestant Christians. In all China there is but one missionary to every 70,000 persons; one Christian mission to each 30,000 persons. Among 400,000,000 persons does 618,000 Protestant Christians indicate that the missionary need has been met in China? Of Africa's 147,000,000 people less than two per cent have been reached by the gospel. Latin America has but one Protestant missionary to every 37,000 people.

The Ohio Conference of the newly merged Congregational and Christian Churches has taken a unique and significant step in the appointment of Vincent H. Percy, organist of the Euclid Avenue Congregational Church, Cleveland, O., as consulting architect and engineer for churches contemplating the purchase of pipe organs. The purpose of the appointment is to give churches the advantage of skilled advice in dealing with organ builders. Mr. Percy not only is an expert organist but also understands the construction and operation of the organ's complicated inner mechanism.

Eighty new missionaries are needed by the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in order to meet requirements of the field during the present year, and the candidate department of that board has issued a call for them. Many of the demands have come from China and India.

Why is it, for instance, that many churches can drop their services for from one to three months in the summer with no noticeable effect? If radios were shut off for a like period, or movies closed, what a howl would arise!

—Des Moines Evening Tribune.

Our times need oxygen, a fresh infusion of the spirit of Augsburg, the spirit of fortitude and heroic witness-bearing, the spirit that is ready to exclaim: "Rather than deny my God or His Gospels I would kneel down before his satanic majesty and have my head cut off."

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