

Pacific Lutheran College Bulletin

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THE SPIRITUAL RETREAT

The Spiritual Retreat for West Coast Lutheran Pastors, which was sponsored by the Pacific Lutheran College Board of Trustees, under American Lutheran Conference auspices, attracted more than a hundred pastors, presented a penetrating analysis and an inspiring vision of the task before the Lutheran Church on the Pacific Coast, and resulted in the expressed desire for similar conferences, open also to the public. Just to keep the record of this important meeting straight, the program, as actually given, appears below.

Program

Thursday, February 20, 1936, 9:50 A. M., College Chapel.

Chapel Exercises: In charge, Bertrum O. Myhre, President of the Pacific Lutheran College Student Body.

Speaker, Rev. E. J. Sakrison, (AS), Colton, Oregon.

Welcome, President O. A. Tingelstad, Pacific Lutheran College.

Presiding: Rev. John A. Houkom, Lutheran Free Church Member, Inter-synodical Committee on Cooperation, Seattle, Washington.

TODAY'S VISION OF THE KINGDOM: Dr. T. O. Burntvedt, President, Lutheran Free Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Discussion: Rev. Paul V. Randolph, (AS), Portland, Oregon.

Thursday, February 20, 1936, 2:00 P. M., College Chapel.

Presiding: Rev. L. Rasmussen, (NLCA), Vice President, Pacific Lutheran College Board of Trustees, Burlington, Washington.

HOME MISSIONS TODAY AND TOMORROW: Rev. Emil Swenson, (AS), Secretary, American Lutheran Conference Commission on Home Missions, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Discussion: Rev. George O. Lane, (NLCA), Seattle, Washington.

Thursday, February 20, 1936, 7:30 P. M., Trinity Lutheran Church, Public Session.

Presiding: Rev. O. L. Haavik, (NLCA), late President, Pacific Lutheran College Board of Trustees, Seattle, Washington.

A LUTHERAN WORLD VIEW: Prof. J. P. Pflueger, (ALC), Pacific Lutheran College, Parkland, Washington.

Sacred Concert: Pacific Lutheran College Choir, Prof. J. O. Edwards, Director.

Friday, February 21, 1936, 9:50 P. M., College Chapel.

Chapel Exercises: In charge, Prof. A. W. Ramstad, (NLCA), Pacific Lutheran College.

Speaker, Rev. Emil Swenson, (AS), Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Presiding: Dr. C. R. Swanson, Senior Augustana Synod Member, Pacific Lutheran College Board of Trustees, Seattle, Washington.

THE VITALITY OF THE AMERICAN LUTHERAN CONFERENCE: Prof. W. F. Schmidt, (ALC), Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota.

Discussion: Rev. L. Ludwig, (ALC), Portland, Oregon.

Friday, February 21, 1936, 2:00 P. M., College Chapel.

Presiding: Dr. C. R. Swanson, (AS), Seattle, Washington.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE: Dr. Herman A. Preus, (NLCA), Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Discussion: Rev. E. E. Krebs, (ALC), Lewiston, Idaho.

Friday, February 21, 1936, 7:00 P. M., College Chapel, Public Session.

Presiding: Rev. L. Ludwig, Senior American Lutheran Church Member, Pacific Lutheran College Board of Trustees, Portland, Oregon.

PRELIMINARY RALLY SESSION

Summary of Findings during Retreat: Rev. S. J. N. Ylvisaker, (NLCA), Secretary, Pacific Lutheran College Board of Trustees, Stanwood, Washington.

Tomorrow's Program: Prof. J. P. Pflueger, (ALC), Pacific Lutheran College.

Greetings from the Pacific Lutheran College Alumni Association: Prof. J. P. Pflueger, (ALC), representing the President of the Association.

ALUMNI REUNION, 8:15 P. M., College Gymnasium.

Saturday, February 22, 1936, 10:00 A. M., College Chapel, Rally Session.

Presiding: Rev. Alf M. Kraabel, (NLCA), President, Pacific Lutheran College Board of Trustees, Portland, Oregon.

THE COLLEGE PROGRAM FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE: Dr.

O. A. Tingelstad, President, Pacific Lutheran College.

Discussion: Rev. Alf M. Kraabel, (NLCA), Portland, Oregon.

General Discussion: Mid-West visitors and others.

The Alumni Reunion continued through Saturday, February 22, and Sunday, February 23, 1936. Chaplain Carl L. Foss, (NLCA), Missoula, Montana, preached the reunion sermon Sunday morning on Matt. 13:44-46. Miss Helen Thrane, retiring Alumni Association President, was toastmistress at the Alumni banquet at the Winthrop Hotel, Tacoma, Saturday evening; and Professor Edwards directed the largest Alumni chorus to date at the "Choir of the West" Reunion at Trinity Lutheran Church, Parkland, Sunday afternoon.

In truth, wonderful, helpful, significant days were these four days, February 20, 21, 22 and 23, 1936.

We have been given some assurance that the messages given by Rev. Swenson, Prof. Schmidt, and Dr. Preus will be made public, at least in substance, in some printed form. The editor of the BULLETIN assumes the responsibility of offering in this issue brief summaries of Dr. Burntvedt's and Dr. Tingelstad's addresses. Prof. Pflueger's paper, "A Lutheran World View," will, we trust, be expanded into a volume and given to the world in that form.

TODAY'S VISION OF THE KINGDOM

The world is one. God is one. The same Spirit is active abroad as at home; and He moves mightily in hearts today.

And brethren bear trials. For example, in Germany. Martyrdom, possibly. There have been more martyrs in Russia than in any church we know.

In Norway, participation in communion, Bible sales, and seriousness have increased, in connection with the Oxford movement. Similarly in Denmark. In Sweden the archbishop has taken a stand against the movement, but for the Kingdom.

Today's generation is tired of the materialistic view of life.

But the Church of Christ seems like a giant asleep. I love the Church, but I like to follow my Master. We seem to be busy with surveys and meetings and conferences; but it seems to me that it stops there, after consuming all available energy.

A program for soul-winning I have not. But this is on my heart: Before there was an exodus, there had to be a Moses, a man to whom God spoke for years, and through whom God spoke to the people: "In Jehovah's name, not in our strength, we conquer." So a Luther had to be, that a Reformation could be.

One hundred fifty to two hundred years ago Norway was permeated with rationalism. Before there could be a spiritual revival, there had to be a Hauge, called by Almighty God Himself. The Spirit of God moved despite the Church. What would our churches say today if the same occurred? Would we give the Spirit freedom? Pharisaism sticks pretty close to all of us.

If I want souls saved, I must begin with myself.

What we brethren in the ministry need is an experience like the one recorded in Isaiah's description of his vision of the seraphim. "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!—Woe is me!" Let a live coal from God touch our lips. "Here am I; send me." We need a new vision of God, of God's holiness. (We can thank Barth for emphasis thereon.) Also of the sinfulness of man. This will follow. (Compare Peter.) And we need the experience over and over again of the cleansing power of the blood of Christ.

I fear that Western people will drift away from the cross. Only in its shadow dare we look out into the future. Only in utter dependence upon Him do our hearts become sensitive to the Word of God and to God's missionary call.

THE COLLEGE PROGRAM FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE

We do well to follow the example of the Master. When the high priest asked Jesus of His disciples and of His doctrine, he made answer and affirmed: "In secret have I said nothing." (John 18:19-20.) In this spirit we may look upward, outward, inward, backward, and even downward, in viewing the topic before us.

Looking upward (Is. 40:26-31). Daily renewal of our strength is our need. Faith and prayer are important in each life. Christian leaven is vitally important in the student body. Our College program will therefore continue to stress the permeation of Christianity through the life and atmosphere and curricular program of the College.

Looking outward (Prov. 29:18a). "Where there is no vision, the people perish." We view a world that is perishing. What is our duty toward the perishing? How reach them? The present scope of Pacific Lutheran College (high school, junior college, collegiate normal) seems more important than the proposed four-year senior college scope. Christian social service is needed, specific training for home and community service; the importance of the Normal Department is obvious. The College also needs visual aids to attract support and students: buildings, added endowment, wider accreditation, student activities, field service, proper publicity (e. g., Herald), pastoral and student testimony, perpetual protection of a good reputation.

Looking inward (Rom. 1:16). The gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation. Every teacher's contract contains the pledge to live and teach in harmony with the principles of Christianity. No quick turnover of teachers is desired, no sham or artificiality, but a frank recognition of the "old Adam" in all. Home mission work requires diversity, sympathy, tolerance, as well as loyalty to principle. Because of the widely varying religious affiliations of students, we have no "us-four-and-no-more" prayers here; and to limit the non-Lutheran contingent in our student body would be unfortunate, because this section of our country has so few schools like ours.

Looking forward (Matt. 28:17-20). The Master's command was to teach, to teach all, and to baptize. We must continue to place this command first in our thinking and planning, and in the light thereof answer such questions as: What practical limit may there be to our enrollment? What of prospective wars and our proximity to an important military base and soldier boys who are our neighbors? What is our duty in the light of vanishing racial lines in America?

Looking backward (Acts 26:19-20). Let the lessons of the past teach us the significance of survival. If we are "not disobedient to the heavenly vision," we

may expect repetition of the Damascus-Jerusalem-Judea-Gentiles sequence of Paul, i.e., progress from nationalistic groups to Americanism, from scattered local efforts to co-ordinated effort over larger areas.

Looking downward (Mark 8:14-21). The American Lutheran Conference needs to beware of the leaven of provincialism, jealousies, and false economies. We surely need to ponder the Savior's question to His disciples: "How is it that ye do not understand?" The KINGDOM-VISION will unite and overcome and inspire and give needed courage and strength.

A SPLENDID CITY

Consider Tacoma! As you glide by train along Puget sound and note the great lumber mills, the many shipping lines as you are entering the city, you are impressed with the thought that Tacoma is not a local but a world port. And as you contact its homes and its delightful people you write culture and generous fellowship into your appraisal of the city.

Tacoma is one of the gems of the Puget Sound country. Its front yard lies on the rim of a mighty inland sea, and a beautiful mountain, Mount Tacoma, is just beyond the back porch of the city.

Tacoma is accounted by her people as the lumber capital of America. More than 11 per cent of its population is gainfully employed in the industry. It has 1100 men employed in one industrial plant alone—the Tacoma smelter, an institution that is one of the largest of its kind in the whole wide world. It handles one-twelfth of the nation's refined gold, silver and copper and makes, as a by-product, enough arsenic to poison all the rats in Christendom, if only the little rascals had relish for he stuff.

Tacoma, the city, owns its own great light and power plant, which is the envy of many a community and provides light and power at remarkably low rates.

Tacoma's retail trade has recently jumped ahead a plump 25 per cent, and that would seem to dispose of any unflattering notion that the place is only "a delightful home town," a sort of modern Sleepy Hollow. Its trade with Alaska has trebled within a short period. Its bank transactions, building permits and all the rest of the conventional criteria place Tacoma in the live and substantial class.

Tacoma is the gateway to that wonder of wonderlands, Rainier national park, the particular realm of rugged, grand and majestic natural beauty that inspires either to battle or to poesy, as you will.

And finally, though by no means the least of the city's charms, there is its open-door hospitality, which, in the very first moments of a visitor's experience, puts to flight any uncertainty of welcome or hazard of comfort. Considered in the spirit of finer neighborliness, Tacoma is impressively worth while.

Portland and Tacoma ought to be pals. There are rare and beautiful jewels in the diadem of friendliness. The love of man expands and mellows and thrills if we look beyond the limits of our immediate circle and see with friendly eyes the merits of neighbors.

And this philosophy applies with multiplied effectiveness to communities as well as to folks. Not in envy, jealousy or mere selfish competition should one community regard another. Rather, the spirit of understanding, appreciation and esteem should dominate. "As ye give, so shall ye receive," says the great and good Book, the foundation rock upon which Andrew Jackson, on his deathbed, said our republic rests. All are sister cities, each possessing its own charm, its beauty, its allurements, its advantages, not stolen from our own or from some other community. And in the picture is Tacoma, a worth-while and attractive city.

—Oregon Journal.