

The Lutheran COMPANION



First "Pro Deo et Patria"

Presented to Scout Harold Wimmer of Troop 48, which is sponsored by the Lutheran Brotherhood of the Grace Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa. The Rev. Frans Victorson, pastor of Grace, has done much to promote Scouting in the Synod.

The Spectator

BY JOHN HELMER OLSON

THE temperature of our tempers toward zenith the moment someone asks: "Should our pastor wear a stole or not?" Said temperature ought to rise even higher when the Spectator asks: "Should a pastor serve at the communion table with soiled shoes and blackened finger-nails?" (He has seen it!) Seriously speaking, formalism is deadly, but is not slovenliness the same? The Spectator has found many who exercise their organs of virtue by condemning "high-churchliness." He would also like to hear some indignation voiced against soup-stained vests, ragged gowns, dirty collars, and the like.

In the New York Times Magazine (July 29, 1945), Herbert L. Matthews writes convincingly concerning the transformation of the Mediterranean "from an imperial sea to a world lake." Because of the aeroplane, the buzz-bomb, the glider transport, and similar inventions, England has actually lost control of "Mare Nostrum." How can we consider Gibraltar invincible when you can fly over it at will? Some think that Russia will take England's place as sole owner of the sea, but it is equally impossible, thinks Mr. Matthews, for the Russian bear as for Britannia's lion to keep the Mediterranean all to himself. Now "the Middle Sea" belongs to the world! We quoted the final paragraph of the brief but important essay: "The simple truth is that the Mediterranean is becoming an international sea. The Mediterranean is going to be again what nature intended it to be—a channel of trade to Europe, Africa and the Near East, a way to culture and beauty of many civilizations, the heritage of the Western world, to which it gave art, knowledge and faith."

Pietro Mascagni, composer of "Cavalleria Rusticana," died August 2, 1945, at the age of 82. His last days on earth were darkened by war conditions, primarily by the necessity on the part of the old man to prove that he had never been a Fascist. A radio commentator, taking note of the composer's death, stated (as heard by the Spectator) that Mascagni invariably dedicated his works as follows: "To Myself, with inestimable satisfaction." (I am not sure of the adjective.) Usually we allow geniuses a larger percentage of egotism in their makeup than we permit

ordinary mortals to exhibit. For example, when G. B. Shaw insults us, we do not give him a biff in the nose, as we would if John Smith next door, spoke thus. Instead we roll our eyes and exclaim: "That naughty old Irish wit! Isn't he cute!" Well, even if Mascagni, too, was stuck on himself, the Spectator enjoys the "Cavalleria" whenever he hears it in full or in part. Mascagni was no doubt a poor politician and a bit too crusty, but hats off nevertheless to a great composer.

Col. Lindbergh is in the news again. The Spectator recalls the day many years ago when he saw the silver plane of the young Minnesotan coming out of the clouds and landing like a bird at the Helena airport. He also recalls vividly the informal banquet in his honor in the Montana city, remembers especially the simple, straightforward, almost bashful way in which the colonel spoke. We all recall Lindbergh's isolationist speeches of 1941, the abuse he suffered, especially after Pearl Harbor. Then there was darkness and silence! But once again Lindbergh's name appears on the front page. His report on conditions in Europe, after a fairly long visit on the unfortunate continent, is important enough to be noted with care by many writers and readers. Correspondents call attention to Lindbergh's inconsistencies. He now admits that America has beat Germany in aeroplane production. He now admits that Russia may not be as vulgar and violent an ally as he once thought. We must remember, of course, that the world of 1945 differs vastly from that of 1941, and we all know a good deal more now than we did then. One prediction we make, consistent or inconsistent: the hero of our youth will never lose all of his glory. Charles A. Lindbergh, the young man who flew across the Atlantic alone in "The Spirit of St. Louis" will be enshrined in the hearts of children and young folks as long as the world exists.

The passing of Roosevelt and Churchill in favor of Truman and Attlee calls to mind the fact that the former were colorful, dramatic personalities, while the latter by comparison are colorless and plain. But people seem to like the change. We cannot have flood-lights and crescendo all the time. Now "the lights of the house have been lowered" and the concert is more subdued. Let it be so. Soon we will call for the loud noises and the great actors again. Such is life. Such is human nature. Shakespeare was right: "Each dog has his day." And at best it is a dog's day!

At this writing the papers are filled with guesses concerning "the new big three" (New York Times, July 29, 1945). What is Stalin thinking as he remembers Churchill and Roosevelt? Is he repeating to himself the Russian equivalent of "Sic transit gloria mundi?" No, very likely he is secretly rejoicing over his own physical and political longevity. But he too is mortal in both senses. Incidentally, the Spectator hopes that there will soon be an end to "big threes," "big fives" and all other "bigs." They are inconsistent with "the democratic way" even if temporarily necessary and unavoidable. As the preacher said at the funeral of Louis XIV—"Only God is great!"

Irreplaceable Loss

THE death of Major Richard I. Bong whose 40 individual victories in the air over Japanese fliers made him America's outstanding ace is a lamentable loss to the nation he served so brilliantly.

It is also a loss that should make the High Command of our air forces revise some of the arbitrary methods by which they assign irreplaceable personnel.

Major Bong was a boy in years. A modest, unassuming boy who in demeanor and aspect could well serve as a model for the ideal American lad.

But in the performance of his duty, in his ability to assume and carry out tasks beyond the call of that duty, he was as poised, mature and gallant as that renowned mirror of knighthood of whom it was said he was the perfect warrior, "without fear and without reproach."

Thus he represented to his country, to this and future generations, the ideal of patriotic valor and personal worthiness that inspires and fortifies American youth.

He had won the honor and borne the burden that entitled him to rest upon his laurels no other had achieved.

He should never have been assigned to the hazardous duty in which he met his death.

He should have been discharged, or placed in a post of safety, not because he might have wanted that, which he did not, but because the country needs living heroes, their example and also their immediate posterity.

But it seems to be a habit or tradition among the High Command for certain officers to regard others as expendable, regardless of greater considerations. So it comes that lives of infinite value to the country are put on the delicate balance of fate time after time when there is neither reason nor need for such procedure.

The untimely loss of Major Bong should serve to awaken public inquiry and protest against this practice.

—New York Journal American.

The Christian religion is the life of man in gratitude and obedience and growing likeness to God in Christ.

—Phillips Brooks.

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THE startling announcement by President Truman on August 6 that an atomic bomb had been dropped the previous day by the crew of an American B-29 with devastating effect on Hiroshima, a Japanese industrial city of 318,000 inhabitants, was received with breathless interest, not to say consternation, by the whole civilized world. That a discovery of extraordinary potentialities had been made by American and British scientists in the development of the bomb was immediately conceded. The President's announcement stated that a method had been found to harness and utilize atomic power—"the basic power of the universe."

The Atomic Bomb: Curse or Blessing?

Subsequent evidences of the awful destructive power of the bomb were revealed by photographic surveys made by American reconnaissance planes which showed that four and one-tenth square miles, or 60 per cent of Hiroshima's total area, had been completely obliterated. At Guam, American officers expressed the belief that 150,000 people in the ill-fated city, which was used as a military base, had perished.

Radio broadcasts emanating from Tokyo seemed to substantiate the American reports. The Japanese called the city "a disastrous ruin" and declared that the "indescribable destructive power" of the single bomb had crushed big buildings and small buildings alike in an unparalleled holocaust. Inhabitants were killed by blast, fire, and crumbling buildings. Most bodies were so badly burned or battered that it was impossible to distinguish between male and female victims, the Japanese claimed.

"The impact of the bomb was so terrific," asserted Radio Tokyo, "that practically all living things, human and animals, were literally seared to death by the tremendous heat and pressure engendered by the blast."

Announcement of the new Allied weapon, which President Truman described as having a destructive power equivalent to the explosion of 20,000 tons of TNT, raised conjectures in military circles regarding its probable effect on Japanese morale. Followed two days later by the announcement of Russia's entry into the war against Japan, it was freely predicted that the two startling developments would result in the early capitulation of Tokyo.

IF THIS aim is accomplished, it will bring at least a measure of compensation for the concern and apprehension experienced by many thoughtful Americans that so fearful a weapon should have been unleashed by our own country. Lidice pales into insignificance in the light of the terrible fate of Hiroshima. Poison gas and other forms of warfare outlawed by international agreement are toy weapons compared with the atomic bomb. No atrocity committed against civilian populations can hereafter be branded by Americans as an act of barbarism. Our own military authorities have evidently adopted the doubtful principle that in modern warfare the end justifies the means, even if they must resort to terrorism and indiscriminate killing and destruction.

It has become quite apparent that war at last has become so fiendish a thing that unless an alternative

is found for it our vaunted civilization has come to an end. When the best minds of the world are put to work by governments to find newer and more dreadful instruments of destruction, the future of mankind is dark indeed. Certainly the monster which we have created carries with it such potentialities of untold woe and misery for all humanity, it should fill men's hearts with gravest anxiety and dread.

BUT perhaps there is a brighter side to the picture. President Truman alluded to that more hopeful prospect when he spoke of the peace-time possibilities envisioned through the successful harnessing of atomic energy. He said:

"The fact that we can release atomic energy ushers in a new era of man's understanding of nature's forces. Atomic energy may in the future supplement the power that now comes from coal, oil, and falling water, but at present it cannot be produced on a basis to compete with them commercially. Before that comes there must be a long period of intensive research."

He then announced that he would propose to Congress the establishment of a special commission to control the production and use of atomic power in order that it might become "a powerful and forceful influence toward the maintenance of world peace."

The "basic power of the universe"! The words themselves are startling and arresting. Shall this power be employed for the benign purposes for which the Creator intended it, or shall it be put to Satanic uses? Shall it work for the weal or the woe of mankind? Shall it prove to be a curse or a blessing to the world? Surely the Christian Church should have something to say in answer to these fateful questions.

Meanwhile, if the atomic bomb will bring speedy peace to our war-cursed world, we will thank God with fervent hearts. But we tremble for the future. Unless Christ, the Prince of Peace, becomes the Ruler of nations and the Saviour of men, there is surely no hope for the world.

Japanese Government Offers to Surrender

EVENTS are moving with astounding speed. The week between Sunday, August 5, and Sunday, August 12, will undoubtedly be recorded as one of the most remarkable in the annals of mankind—a week that witnessed one of the great turning points in human history. As the week draws to a close, the whole world has been startled by Japan's offer of surrender on terms of the Potsdam ultimatum, provided its emperor be permitted to retain his prerogatives as a sovereign ruler. The four Allies at war with Japan, after due consultation, have replied that the emperor will be required to carry out the orders of the Supreme Commander of the Allied forces to occupy Japan, and that Japan will be permitted to determine its own form of government in accordance with the freely expressed will of the Japanese people.

Thus, the long and weary years of grief and tears, fear and anxiety, and agony and suffering appear to be drawing to a close. God has heard the supplications of His people, the unnumbered prayers of those who have pleaded that the mad carnage among the na-

tions might soon come to an end. V-J Day is at hand. In all probability, it will already be a blessed memory when these lines reach our readers.

The reply of the Allied powers to Japan's offer to capitulate seems a reasonable one. It is not only in strict conformity with the terms set forth in the Potsdam ultimatum, but it also adheres honestly to the promises held out to the enemy countries in the Atlantic Charter. It would strip Japan of all her conquests and reduce her sovereignty to her former island kingdom, but it also makes it clear that she will be given access to raw materials and world trade.

It is confidently expected that the Japanese will quickly accept the counter proposal. Indeed, she has no alternative, since it is apparently the only way of averting sure doom.

Augustana Synod's Hero in Tragic End

ALL of the membership of the Augustana Synod will share in a special sense the deep feeling of grief experienced by the entire nation over the tragic death of Major Richard Bong. The ace among American fliers in World War II was a member of our Church, having been brought up and confirmed in the Bethany congregation at Poplar, Wis. Up until the time he entered the service of his country, he had been active in his little home church, singing in the choir and taking part in Luther League work. The Rev. Arvid F. Hoorn of Superior, Wis., who serves as pastor of the Poplar parish, was warm in his commendation of the faithfulness revealed during pre-war years by the famous aviator.

Major Bong was probably the most decorated man in the American forces. Cited twenty-eight times for conspicuous bravery, his decorations included the Congressional Medal of Honor. He was engaged in innumerable combats in the Pacific, and was officially credited with having brought down forty Japanese planes.

All the honors that came to the young flier, however, failed to turn his head. When he returned home on furlough while the whole nation was ringing with his praises, newspaper correspondents who flocked to Poplar found him associating with the "home folks" and entering into the simple life of the little North Woods village in the same friendly and unassuming manner as he had done before world fame had come to him. About a half year ago he returned again to marry his boyhood sweetheart, a Norwegian Lutheran lass of Superior, Wis.

Nor did the stress of war or the temptations of military life cause the young flier to forget his Christian ideals. When he was offered a gift of liquor after having exceeded Captain Rickenbacker's record of World War I, he refused to accept it. This act brought him special commendation from General MacArthur.

Because Major Bong was considered far too valuable to the Air Service to continue to risk his life in actual combat, he was given special duties at home. It was while making test flights of jet-propelled B-80 planes at Burbank, California, that the accident occurred which cost him his life. It is unfortunate that Bong should have been assigned even so dangerous a task. We agree with Senator Wiley that "Heroes of his stature are not expendable."

While the nation honors a hero, the Church thanks God for the example of a young man who not only was brave in combat but also dared to be a Christian.

The Pulpit

Sacrificial Giving

A Meditation for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

BY ARTHUR E. OLSON

Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

Read Mark 12. 41-44

OUR text presents a scene from the last week of our Saviour's life. It was a busy week, spent in Jerusalem by our Lord in trying to bring the people to an understanding of the spiritual nature of His Kingdom. At the time of our text, Jesus was in what might be called the treasury chamber of the Temple. At this place there were thirteen brazen, trumpet-shaped chests. Into these the people dropped their contributions for the needs of the temple. Jesus sat watching what and how they gave. And what He did two thousand years ago, He is doing still today. In our relations to the support of the Church, and all its causes, Jesus stands near by, looking on.

Not only do we note the fact that Jesus observes His people's giving, but also that He sees it in a light far different from that of man. As Jesus watched the people drop their offerings into the treasury, He noted how some gave large sums. On the other hand, He saw how a poor widow came up, took from her well-worn purse two little coins amounting to three-fifths of a cent in our money, and deposited them in the chest. And He called His disciples and said to them (made all the more meaningful in Moffat's translation) "I tell you truly, this poor widow has put in more than all who have put their money into the treasury; for they have all put in a contribution out of their surplus, but she has given out of her neediness all she possessed, her whole living."

NOW, in what sense was her gift the largest? In proportion to her possessions, and because of the motive that prompted it. The widow's contribution was the largest in proportion to her means. Jesus looks not only on what we give to Him, but on what we keep for ourselves, or on what we spend for other purposes. This poor widow gave to God all that she had. She did not keep back one of her two mites; she gave Him both; she gave Him all.

A church solicitor called on a well-to-do merchant for a contribution. "Yes, I must give you my mite," said the merchant. "Do you mean the widow's mite?" asked the solicitor. "Certainly," answered the merchant. "I shall be satisfied with half as much as she gave. Now, how much may you be worth?" inquired the solicitor. "Oh," said the merchant, "about seventy thousand dollars." "Then," said the solicitor, "give me your check for thirty-five thousand dollars; that would be half as much as the widow gave, for she gave, you remember, 'all that she had, even all her living.'" The merchant was quite embarrassed by his proposition; but he was not the first person who has tried to hide behind the widow's mite. It is a dangerous refuge. Hers was a real sacrifice; it was self-denial. Self-denial is the essence of charity. It gave value to her gift.

HOW do our gifts to the Lord compare with hers? In general, people today do not sacrifice for the Lord. They do not deny themselves to give to the

Church, or to the Lord's cause. When it comes to giving to God, they keep the most and the best for themselves. They give of their abundance, of their superfluity, what they will not miss.

It is not enough to give liberally, we must give sacrificially. We talk beautifully about sacrifice, but few of us know anything about what real sacrifice is. Surely the 2.033 cents of every dollar (which represents the giving of the American public for all causes, Church and benevolences) is no sacrifice. We Americans (according to statistics) gamble away 12¢ a day, buy liquor for 30¢ a day, but have only 2½¢ a day for the Lord. Is it any wonder that the Church has so little influence in our national and cultural life? We really don't know what sacrificial giving means as this poor widow knew it. Mere living becomes real life when it becomes sacrificial. Certainly no patriotic civilian in our stirring war days can remain unchallenged as realistic war posters and placards confront him, depicting the great sacrifices our armed forces are making—even unto death!

The fact is, we begin to operate with vital force only when we cross the border to the land of sacrifice in every realm of life and most certainly this applies to the very highest—the spiritual realm.

IF YOUR gift is to have value before God, it must also be inspired by the right motive. The gift of the widow had value because of the motive that must have prompted it—her love to God. Apart from genuine love, there can be no real sacrifice. The reason there is so little sacrifice today is because people have so little love for God. They love themselves more than they love Him, and they use their possessions selfishly. How differently the widow acted! She loved God more than she loved herself; her gift reveals this. May the prayer of each Christian be:

"In love my soul would bow,
My heart fulfill its vow,
Some offering bring Thee now,
Something for Thee."

In spirit Jesus still "sits over against the treasury," watching as the offering-plate is passed in our present-day temples. He knows, even better than we ourselves, in what proportion our weekly or annual contributions to His cause stand to our income and the motive for them. May the ever-present and ever-watching Lord and Saviour, who gave himself for us, find in our contributions to Him real sacrifices, gifts of self-denial, prompted by love to Him!

Pro Deo et Patria

THE first *Pro Deo et Patria* award received by a Boy Scout of the Augustana Synod was given recently to Scout Harold Wimmer of Troop 48, which is sponsored by the Lutheran Brotherhood of Grace Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa.

Harold is active in the church school, Luther League, Grace choir and the Boy Scouts. Fifteen years of age, he is a pianist and was the president of his confirmation class in 1944. Outstanding in leadership and character, he is respected by both the young people and adults of his church.

The Rev. C. Oscar Leonardson, executive director of the Lutheran Brotherhood, was present for the occasion. Pastor Leonardson delivered a message on "For God and Country" and made the presentation on behalf

of the synodical Brotherhood. The following members of the Executive Committee of the Iowa Conference Brotherhood were present: Dr. F. Peel of Des Moines, president; Raymond Carlson of Fort Dodge, secretary; Arthur Johnson of Shenandoah, treasurer, and J. F. McDowell of Des Moines, past president. Scout executives of the Tall Corn Council and Lutheran Scouts of other synods also attended.

Letters were read from Dr. P. O. Bersell, Dr. D. Verner Swanson, Adolph A. Hanson, Dr. Frederick F. Peel, A. Tingwald, president of the Grace Brotherhood, and Henry M. Wilson, president of the Tall Corn Council, B. S. A.

Troop 48 has enjoyed a successful program of Scouting under Scoutmaster Frank Graham, who has for many years led the Troop in its activities. Mr. Graham is assisted by Mr. A. Bervin, a consecrated and able layman. Both men are active in the Church and are excellent examples for the boys they lead. Under the leadership of Graham and Bervin, the Scout Troop recently won the district advancement contest and received a beautifully hand-carved shield.

The Worship

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Liturgical Color: Green.

Hymns:

Processional: "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" (327).
Opening Hymn: "O Would, My God, That I Could Praise Thee" (178); "Praise the Lord, Each Tribe and Nation" (289), or "Before Jehovah's Awful Throne" (290).
Gradual: "Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults" (409), or "All That I Was, My Sin, My Guilt" (442).
Pulpit Hymn: "O Christ, Thy Grace unto Us Lend" (305, 1-3); "Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word" (302); "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (320), or "When All Thy Mercies, O My God" (328).
Closing Hymn: "Just As I Am, without One Plea" (427); "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" (419); "One There Is Above All Others" (430), or "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" (432).
Recessional: "How Firm a Foundation" (439), or "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" (451).

"Don't Forget to Remember"

Dedicated to Our Fallen Airmen

BY CARL EDWARD ANDERSON

Chicago, Ill.

IN memory's chamber still gay at your play,
Your presence keeps lingering on.
What raptured delight set your eyes beaming bright
When promise was made of a silvery plane!
Like a lad who's enchanted your fancy took flight:
That promise made lessons and errands seem light;
Your plaintive reminder still echoes your plea:
"Now please don't forget to remember!"

When war's herald sounded your country's grave need,
Its challenge framed planes for your steed;
Through flak-blighted skies you fought all of the way,
Till missions all made, you checked out of the fray.
Like silver star falling, you turned into gold;
You fell in a service flag's glorious folds.
With eyes to the heavens, our tribute we pay:
We shall not forget to remember!

What Shall We Do with Germany?

By P. O. BERSELL*

President of the Augustana Synod and Chairman of European Commission

THIS article does not deal with politics, nor with international relationships. Others, the men in authority backed by the public opinion of the dominant nations, will have to settle the question of the government of Germany and the political and military controls.

We are interested in that aspect of the matter, of course, because the future destiny of the world hangs in the balance. From the long-range point of view the destiny of America is very much involved in the European equation. Isolationism is a thing of the past in the minds of thinking men who know the score.

We have had high hopes for the San Francisco Conference. The most optimistic have had many of their hopes shattered already. Much good may yet result from the deliberations of these national and international leaders, even if we now despair of the attainment of the ultimate, so devoutly wished for by men of good will and prayed for by Christians throughout the world.

Fight Is Not Yet Lost

The world powers will undoubtedly continue to have their say and the dominations of their selfish national and international interests and policies will suffer but little diminution. If all were of the mind and heart of our own United States, we would have little to fear in regard to the future peaceful state of the world. But the question marks are already so much in evidence that we are truly concerned and considerably disturbed. Let not the soldiers of peace give up the fight! It is not yet lost.

In my travels in Europe during recent months, I had opportunity to speak to many men in various walks of life, some of them men in authority and with a vast fund of knowledge of the realities of the European situation. The consensus of these men was that the war against Germany, though gruesome and indescribably costly, was a rather simple thing, with a well-defined technique, in comparison with the baffling postwar problems, political, economical, social, educational, and spiritual. To solve these problems will take the entire financial, intellectual, and spiritual resources of the world.

The devastation is so terrific that it defies any attempt at description. I refer not only to the loss of millions of human lives and the wrecking of millions of human bodies, nor to the unprecedented destruction of property. I think of the tearing down of that which it has taken centuries of Christian civilization to build up. I am mindful of the dislocation of entire racial and national populations, of the entire disruption of social structures and the distortion of Christian morality. I am thinking of what this hell that is called war has done to the people that are left. It has seared and poisoned and polluted the souls of men. It has bred lies and hatreds and bitterness. The harvest is appalling. It will be reaped for a generation at least. Long after the last gun has been fired on the Asiatic battlefield, war will continue to take its toll in its grim aftermath.

* This article was originally written for the *Lutheran Outlook*, but because of requests for its publication in the *LUTHERAN COMPANION*, it is brought to the attention of our readers.

—THE EDITOR.

Fate of Germany Is Pivotal

The disposition of Germany by the Allied councils is not fundamental, but right now it is pivotal and it will set the pattern for future actions. It is therefore of vital importance to the whole world.

As Christians and as Lutherans we are tremendously interested. What shall be our attitude toward the German people? Shall the spirit of hatred and vengeance prevail over against the concepts of the Kingdom of God and the genius of the Gospel of Christ?

I saw with my own eyes what the Germans had done so ruthlessly and barbarously to conquered peoples. I listened by the hour to the stories of refugees. Many of them were men of God. I do not believe that they lied to me. I spoke to diplomats who had documentary evidence of terrible atrocities. I heard a story, as told by men who had come right out of Germany, of almost unbelievable wholesale liquidation of Jews and other "undesirables," political and religious. I shuddered as I sensed the terrific inner struggle that has been going on for years, and I was almost overwhelmed by a sense of frustration and futility as I pondered the thought that this was the homeland of the Reformation and the historic stronghold of the Lutheran Church.

What hope is there for the future if a minority, dominated by gangsters who have scrapped all that is beautiful and good and godly in the Christian religion, can thus seize control of a whole nation, and systematically and effectively indoctrinate a whole generation with the perverse tenets of a destructive paganism?

Hitler's Crime Against Germany

From a military point of view the Allies have laid Germany low. Its great cities have been reduced to shambles. A large part of the country is a mass of ruins. But let it be said and known, in truth, that the Allies have not destroyed Germany. Hitler and his gang did it, with a vengeance, to the bitter end. Hitler's crime was primarily a crime against the German people. How and why they stood for it will continue to be one of the enigmas of history. Whatever the answer, the German people, as such, must share the blame for what happened.

However, the Christian Church cannot and must not succumb to a spirit of hopeless defeatism. That would indeed be a denial of the faith and an abdication of the power given to the Church. It would also be disobedience to the command of the Lord whose orders may be summed up in three words, "Love, go, evangelize." Those are still the marching orders for this day.

The cause is not a hopeless one. While in Europe I learned from authoritative sources of a spiritual resistance movement in Germany of no small dimensions. It was not one that gained utterance first in the promise of Allied victory and in the twilight of Nazi domination. It was there all the time with cumulative power.

Spiritual Giants in Germany

There are names of spiritual giants in Germany just as illustrious as those of Bishop Berggrav in Norway

and Kaj Munk in Denmark. I mention here only Cardinal Faulhaber of the Catholic Church and Bishops Wurm and Meiser and Pastors Niemoeller, Gertsonmeier, and Thieliche of the Lutheran Church. They and thousands with them have stood heroically for the freedom of the Church and for Christian principles. Under Bishop Wurm of Stuttgart, eighty-five percent of the Protestant churches (mostly Lutheran) have banded together in the "Einigungswerk," a united front of the churches for evangelical freedom and Christian liberty and for the liberation of the Church from the tyranny of the State. Underlying it all and undergirding it has been a deep spiritual movement with prime emphasis on the return to utter dependence on the Word of God as the absolute authority in faith and life.

Space does not permit further detail, but I call to mind an incident from the history of ancient Israel. One of the great prophets, Elijah, was ready in his hopelessness to turn his back upon his own people in one of the periods of its deepest decadence. But God turned him back to face his task as a man of God when he told him, "There are yet seven thousand in Israel who have not bowed their knees to Baal."

Re-evangelization of Central Europe

The Christians of England and America are getting ready to give material and spiritual aid in the re-evangelization of central Europe. The Methodists and the Presbyterians and others here in America are gathering large funds, a considerable portion of which will be spent in Germany. The Lutherans of America are right now in the midst of an ingathering of millions of dollars for the same purpose. And well they may, for eighty-five percent of the Protestants on the continent of Europe are Lutherans.

What aid can be given immediately is contingent upon political situations and Allied control authoriza-

tions. But without question, Christianity is the only power that has any hope of saving the German nation, or Europe, or the world. Its principles and truths and life alone can win the battle against Nazism or any other phase of godlessness and paganism.

A Battle for Germany's Soul

Therefore, as opportunity is given, let us Christians unitedly join in this battle for Germany's soul. The Church in Germany must be given aid to build tabernacles for religious worship to take the place of the thousands of churches destroyed, to integrate the congregational life, to furnish Bibles and Christian literature by the millions, to prepare and sustain pastors and other Christian leaders, to rehabilitate Christian institutions of mercy; in brief, to build up a vibrant, strong church life.

The big task is to evangelize the millions of paganzized German youth. That is a stupendous undertaking in itself. The leadership of the Church must be purged of all that "bowed the knee to Baal," and of all sympathizers with Jewish or other racial persecutions. In the accomplishment of this there will be a spontaneous response on the part of the new evangelical leadership with Germany which bodes well for the future.

Even as I write this, I am on my way to New York to attend a meeting of Church leaders from England and the Continent with American Church leaders under the auspices of the World Council of Churches to lay plans for the execution of the task that is ours. Ours is a solemn obligation and we approach it with "fear and trembling," because we are humans, but with courage and hope because the cause is God's. It is the battle for Europe's soul. That battle must be won, or else hell will break loose again with renewed fury.

This is the day of the Church's opportunity. Let us not come with too little and too late.

Conscription and the Scriptures

BY JOHN F. PALM

Supt. of Schools, Eagle Bend, Minn.

IN VIEW of the high-pressure drive being conducted for the enactment of peacetime conscription in the United States, it would be well to consider the subject of conscription in the light of Scripture.

When Israel rejected the rulership of Samuel, as recorded in I Samuel 8, and desired a king or a dictator, God said to Samuel: "They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected ME, that I should not reign over them. . . . howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and show them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. . . . And he (Samuel) said: This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them for himself (note, not for the nation, but for himself), for his chariots, and to be his horsemen. . . . And he will appoint him captain over thousands, and captains over fifties. . . . And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards. And he will take your menservants, and your goodliest young men, and put them to work. And ye shall cry out in that day because your king which ye have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day."

We are all agreed that we must be prepared, but is there not a greater danger in applying the so-called remedy than in the evil we are attempting to eliminate? The majority of people in this nation are in favor of making America invincible on land, sea, and air, through the largest navy in the world and by increasing and modernizing our Army and National Guard. But they are not in favor of copying the European war system of conscription in time of peace, although it may be necessary for defense if we are ever attacked.

We have had two World Wars. In the first World War three great peacetime conscription countries—Germany, Austria, and Russia—were so badly defeated that they burst into revolution. In the second World War three peacetime conscript countries have been or are being defeated—Italy, Germany, and Japan. Of all the countries involved in the two tremendous wars only two nations—the United States and Britain—are twice victorious. That is, the only victors both times are the two non-conscription countries. This may not absolutely prove anything; but it is worth quite a little of thinking over.

Did Moses Practice It?

There are those who attempt to prove that conscription was practiced by Moses, citing Numbers 31. 3. In this Scripture God spake unto Moses and said: "Arm some of yourselves unto the war." He did not say conscript all. Others cite Numbers 26. 2, where God commanded Moses to count all the men from twenty years and upward that were able to go to war in Israel. To count the men of the nation and to conscript the men of the nation are two very different things. By knowing the number of able-bodied men in Israel, Moses would know how many volunteers he should have and how many to receive.

True, on one occasion when Moses misunderstood the tribes of Reuben and Gad, and thought that they were refusing to fight for their brethren, he declared

that their sins would find them out. In other words, there are times when it is necessary to go to war, and on such occasions God's laws relative to military service will provide all the fighting men necessary.

Our Strength Is in God

In James 5. 7 the Apostle writes: "Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord." And in verse 8 he writes: "Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." There is only one who can establish our hearts and that is God. We will be strong and useful today only to the extent that we know, believe, and do the will of God.

Jesus said that they that take to the sword shall perish by the sword. We do not need conscription; we need to return to the Scriptures!

Remembering Other Lutherans, Too . . . **In 1948 We Celebrate**

By G. EVERETT ARDEN

Professor-Elect, Augustana Theological Seminary

THE year 1948 is momentous for the Augustana Synod. With deep gratitude to God for a wonderfully rich heritage, we shall then memorialize the sacrificial labors of our pioneer forefathers. We shall recall the heroism of a village shoemaker, Magnus Hokenson, who in 1848 quitted the business of sole repair and gave himself to the more arduous task of soul care.

Our Synod Is Just a Battalion

This was the beginning of a great American saga, the pages of which are luminous with such spiritual lights as an Esbjorn, Hasselquist, Norelius, Carlsson, Nelsenius, and a host of others. It is in such a chronicle that one discovers the matrix of America's spiritual greatness. Thus, when the Augustana Synod in 1948 celebrates the centenary of its first organized work, and memorializes a century of growth and progress under the guiding grace of God, it can well be humbly proud of the significant contribution which it has made to the history of this great nation.

But while we prepare to celebrate a century of synodical history, it might be well to remind ourselves that ultimately this history is important simply because it does not stand alone. It is a part of a much larger whole. And it is the whole which transcends and gives import to each part. For while the Augustana Synod has possessed, from its very origins, a strong self-consciousness, and while its work has indubitably been directed in large measure toward a Scandinavian constituency, it has been but a battalion of the Lutheran Church in America. And it is in relationship to this larger whole—to the Lutheran Church at work everywhere in the new world—that the deepest and most profound significance of our synodical history is to be found.

It is when we match our endeavors and achievements with those of other Lutherans that our own become freighted with new meaning and purpose. Our Centennial must not be a celebration of provincial triumphs, but a festival of thanksgiving for having been permitted under God to be a contributing member of a great ecumenical evangelical society, with

common purposes, common aims, and a common motivating faith.

Beginnings of Pennsylvania's Ministerium

And so it might be well to remind ourselves that 1948 is momentous, not only to the Augustana Synod, but to the entire Lutheran Church in America. Indeed, 1948 marks the bicentenary of the permanent founding of the Lutheran Church on American soil. It was on the 15th day of August, 1748, that Henry Melchior Muhlenberg together with four associates, Pastors Brunnholtz, Hartwick, Handschuh, and Kurtz, and a number of laymen, met in the newly dedicated St. Michael's Church in Philadelphia and organized the first permanent Lutheran Synod in America. At this same meeting the first American Lutheran liturgy was created and a young man, John Nicholas Kurtz, was ordained to the holy ministry, obligating himself to teach in his congregation "nothing, whether publicly or privately, but what harmonizes with the Word of God and the Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church."

Here at Philadelphia was planted the seed out of which came the great Pennsylvania Ministerium which in subsequent years gave direction and stability to Lutheran work for a hundred years. Here the spirit of confessional piety, which has characterized Lutheranism in America, was established. Here was created a type of worship which eventuated in what we now call The Common Service. Here a type of polity was evolved which was consonant with democratic ideals, and which has characterized the entire Lutheran Church in the new world. Here a pattern of religious community life came into being which has influenced every Lutheran congregation subsequently established in America.

We shall celebrate the centenary of our own Synod in 1948, but athwart our pathway shall fall the benevolent shadows of a Henry Melchior Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania, a John Christopher Kunze of New York, a Paul Henkel of Virginia. They and their associates are a part of our Lutheran heritage. Let us acclaim it in 1948!

Centennial of Inner Missions

But our Centennial will not be simply the celebration of the founding of Lutheran congregational life in America; it will also memorialize the various ways in which the evangelical faith of the Lutheran Church has reflected itself in terms of sacrificial living and giving. Here too, the year 1948 is momentous, for it marks the centenary of the founding of what we today call "Inner Missions."

It was on the 22nd of September, 1848, that a Church Congress had been convened in the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Though the purpose of this congress was to bring about a federation of Protestant Churches in Germany, the most significant result was the formation of the Central Committee for the Inner Mission of the German Evangelical Church. On that historic day, and in that historic spot, Johann Heinrich Wichern, the "father of the Inner Mission," with fervid eloquence brought to the attention of the Church in Germany the dire needs of a humanity, living within a Christian community but bereft of the very blessings which the Gospel brings. "The time has come," said he, "when the entire Evangelical Church must make the Inner Mission her work and demonstrate her faith by her love. This love must burn in her as a torch lighted of God to show that Christ lives in His people. As the whole Christ reveals himself in the living Word of God, so must He also declare himself in divine acts, and the highest, purest, and most churchly of these is saving love. If the Inner Mission be viewed in this light, the Church will have a new future before her." By his matchless plea, the whole of Protestant Germany was awakened and the result was a nation-wide crusade on behalf of the "benighted at home."

First Diaconate in America in 1848

The spiritual leaven which had been at work in Protestant Germany was brought to America by Pastor William Alfred Passavant, a member of the Pittsburgh Synod of the General Council. In the year 1846 Passavant spent several months in Germany, where he met such men as Wichern and Theodor Fliedner. He visited Fliedner's great institution of mercy at Kaiserwerth. He came back to America fired with a new vision and a fresh determination.

In order to implement the purposes he had in mind and meet the needs of an American Church, Passavant had decided that the work of an American Inner Mission program could be properly prosecuted only if competent and trained workers were first provided. To this end a female diaconate must be founded. Consequently, in the spring of 1848, Passavant rented a house in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of establishing the first female diaconate on American soil. A few months later this institution was moved to Pittsburgh where, in 1849, Dr. Fliedner, who had come from Germany for that purpose, accompanied by four sisters, solemnly consecrated the new property as an "Infirmity for the sick, and a Motherhouse for the training of Christian deaconesses for hospitals, asylums, and congregations in other parts of the United States."

Remembering Wichern, Fliedner, Passavant

In 1948 we of the Augustana Synod will recall with appreciation the sacrificial labors of those who established the Deaconess Institute with its colony of mercy at Omaha, Nebraska; the ten hospitals; the nineteen homes for the aged; the eleven homes and nur-

series for orphaned children; the two Immigrant and Seamen's Missions; the ten hospices, as well as the half dozen independent institutions which receive our constant and prayerful support.

In one sweep, these institutions encompass a very large part of the history of our synodical home mission benevolence. We thank God for what they have accomplished. But more especially ought we be grateful that these institutions have not been isolated expressions of the evangelical faith, but that the same faith and love which gave birth to our own eleemosynary work impelled a Wichern and a Fliedner of Germany and a Passavant of Pittsburgh. These men and their work constitute a part of our Lutheran heritage. Let us acclaim it in 1948.



PIANISTS WHO PLAY FOR SOLDIERS

They Make Music

ABOVE is a picture of the many pianists who come to the Seattle Lutheran Service Center at regular intervals to play the piano and assist in the singing. Music is an outstanding feature at our Center. In fact, many of the men who come here have stated that they know of no other service club anywhere where they can be sure of finding a pianist on the job for group singing in an informal way.

There is a pianist every evening, and on Sundays we have two, one for the afternoon and another for the evening. As a rule, that means singing without interruption from 4:30 until 11 o'clock.

The pianists in the picture include the following: Back row, left to right, Dorothy Johanson, Betty Reiman, Caroline Hoff, Elaine Oversvee, Betty Quackenbush, Madeline Nordquist, Alv Melver, Lenore Welin; front row, left to right, Leonard Larson, Adele Styve, Connie Martin, Lorraine Sutsch, Janice Knudson, Margaret Cedar—and then the service pastor. Those of the Augustana Synod include Dorothy Johanson, Betty Quackenbush, Leonard Larson, and Margaret Cedar.

Seattle, Wash.

PAUL V. RANDOLPH.

Love to God and to our brothers raises the soul above all worldly considerations and gives us a taste of Heaven on earth.

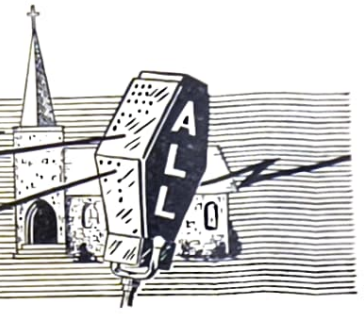
—WILLIAM PENN.

In God's world, for those who are in earnest, there is no failure. No work truly done, no word earnestly spoken, no sacrifice freely made, was ever made in vain.

—F. W. ROBERTSON.

LUTHER
LEAGUE

Broadcast



THE Luther Leaguers of the Iowa Conference together with young people of several Lutheran synods enjoyed a week at their annual Bible camp at Clear Lake, Iowa. The faculty included Dr. George Hall of Gustavus Adolphus College and Prof. Robert N. Pearson, Augustana Synod's representatives; and Dr. J. Bodensieck of the American Lutheran Church, and the Rev. Harold Ditmanson of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. The newly elected officers of the Iowa Conference are: Pastor Ruben Spong, president; Pastor Carl E. Benander, vice-president; Lois Keefner, secretary; Richard Lundeen, statistician; Irene Magnusson, P. T. L. secretary. It was decided to hold a conference Luther League convention during the Thanksgiving vacation at the Grand View Lutheran Church of Des Moines in response to their invitation.

.....Ernie Lindman and Everett Hallquist of Rockford Conference fame met and had a good visit together out in one of the Marianas. There comes to us from New Britain, Connecticut, \$138.66 (representing the loose offering in the morning and the entire offering in the evening), which sets an all time high for Fellowship Offerings. From First, St. Paul, comes an offering from their Youth Sunday of \$125. To prelude the Angelica, Los Angeles Fellowship Service sixty Luther Leaguers formed a candlelight procession and marched into the church with the sanctuary lights dim. The offering was \$109.57. At a recent Calvary, Minneapolis, Luther League meeting four youths from various races told what Christ meant to them and told also their hopes and dreams for America: Earl Werner, Hebrew, who has recently become a Christian; Mrs. H. Magdali, Hindu from British Guiana, whose husband has been studying at Lutheran Northwestern Seminary; George Shindo, Japanese-American high school lad whose folks are still at a relocation center; and Mrs. Chivers, a Negress. As these four knelt together at the altar one sensed profoundly that Christ is the answer to all the needs and problems of the world in this tragic hour, and that in Christ we are all one. Mildred Swanson writes from the Lutheran Service Center at Newport, Rhode Island: "We try to have a League

meeting here at the Center every Friday evening. The group consists of service folks and the youth of First Lutheran Church. Our evening programs sometimes take the form of discussion periods when one of the service folks takes the lead. We combine this with a bit of hymn singing. We have youth from nearly every synod here and it surely leads to some very interesting discussions. The Missionary Group at Berkeley (who have been studying at the University of California preparatory to taking up foreign mission work) have been appearing in a number of churches and have found the missionary interest of young people most encouraging. This Missionary Group has been putting out a little paper called "Missionary Notes." From it we quote: "A missionary teacher in China's capital says: 'there seems to be in China today a special opportunity with young people, so come out with lots and lots of love for them.' At the annual Fellowship Service of Augustana, Denver, Colorado, an illuminated cross with the word "Peace" across its arms was used as the center of the setting. Flanking it on either side were seven-armed candelabra and service flags. At the base of the cross was a beautiful bouquet of flowers. Auditorium lighting was held down to a minimum in order to emphasize the message, "Peace through the Cross of Christ." A friend in Luzon writes to remind us that the church has a tremendous task in the future; that while there may not be any atheists in foxholes there are a great many foxhole Christians—when the danger is past they forget about God. "Forward in Faith" is the name of the beautiful 75th Anniversary book of First, Des Moines,

Iowa. "Messiah Service Leaguer," full of pictures and news, brings inspiration to the service folk from Messiah, Minneapolis. "League Letter" is the newspacked mimeographed medium used by Trinity, Topeka, Kansas, Leaguers to keep in touch with their fellow youth in service. Ilene Linnerooth (Synodical P. T. L. Secretary) presented the Pocket Testament League at the St. Croix District Luther League convention.

Warren Holmen, in the Navy, at San Diego, has been making transcriptions of organ music for quite a number of the hymns in the Army-Navy Hymnbook for the accompaniment of hymn singing, with Gunnar Anderson the organist. 178 Red River Valley Conference Leaguers gathered at Fair Hills camp near Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, July 11-16, around the theme "Jesus Calls Us." Pastor F. E. Lauersen taught the Epistle to the Hebrews; Pastor W. E. Bergstrand lectured on Luther League work. The two guest teachers spoke at evening services on the topics "Jesus Calls Us—To Come, To Abide, To Go, To Present Ourselves." Africa missionary Edythe Kjellin spoke at two sessions. This year's camp marked a milestone. On Friday the delegations met for the purpose of organizing a Conference Luther League, replacing the former Council. Officers elected to guide the new organization were: Pastor Ervin C. Malm, president; Pastor K. L. Engstrom, vice president; Pastor Arnold Carlson, secretary; Charlotte Berg, Fargo, North Dakota, treasurer; Pearl Anderson Nelson, Minnesota, statistician; Virgie Piesold, Elbow Lake, Minnesota, Pocket Testament secretary.



SPEAKERS AT CALVARY LUTHER LEAGUE,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

..... Thanks to Mildred Swanson of New England, Walter Sundber of Red River Valley and Pastor Herbert Olson of Iowa for write-ups of their particular conference League. Pastor Martin Carlson of Chicago is official Augustana Lutheran League historian and is putting together the history of the Augustana Synod Luther League down the years which we plan to print in a brochure now in connection with the Centennial. Send to the Luther League office any historical materials you think will be helpful.

Among the Churches

Almanac Notice!

PASTORS, secretaries of conference and mission districts, heads of institutions, etc., will please take note of the following for the 1946 Augustana Almanac:

1. All changes of addresses of pastors should be reported promptly to the undersigned. The old and the new address should be given. Any errors that anyone has found in the list of 1945 should also be reported.

2. Secretaries of conferences and mission districts will help to bring about a correct list in the church directory if they will report all changes in their conferences or districts since October, 1944. Wherever possible, give location of church—street, number, etc.

3. All changes in heads of the various institutions should be reported for corrections. This is important.

4. A corrected list of foreign missionaries is wanted not later than Sept. 15.

Please co-operate by attending to this promptly. All changes must be reported by September 15. Birger Swenson, Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill.

Immanuel Deaconess Institute, Omaha, Nebr. The fall term of the new school year begins Monday, September 10. New students should file their application for admission not later than August 25. Information about entrance requirements, studies, etc., will be sent upon request.

Address: 34 and Towler Aves., Omaha 11, Nebr. Emil G. Chinlund.

Seventy-fifth Anniversary. The Svea Ev. Lutheran Church of Svea, Minnesota, O. E. Turnquist, pastor, will observe the seventy-fifth anniversary of its organization on September 9.

Since January 11, the organization date, each organization of the church has kept the observance alive by special programs during the year. The final observance will be held September 9 when we hope to have with us the only former pastor living, the Rev. Axel W. Rudquist; former members; members of former pastors' families, and pastors and friends of the community and the Willmar District.

Dr. Emil Swenson, president of the Minnesota Conference, will give the anniversary address. Dr. Victor Swenson, missionary to China, will also be our guest speaker. All former members and friends, who cannot be with us in person, kindly send a greeting!

Pastors' Address Changes. C. E. Franzen, Valley City, N. D., to Strandquist, Minn.; Gustav F. Grahm, Pierson, Florida, to General Delivery, Jacksonville, Florida; E. Harold Hammar, Grantsburg, Wisconsin, to Balaton, Minn.; Royal F. Peterson, 4818 Hopkins St., to 7626 Caillet St., Dallas 9, Texas; H. G. Randolph, 266 No. Graham St., to 237 No. Graham St., Portland 12, Oregon; A. L. Scott, Elgin, Texas, to Barton Blvd., Austin, Texas.

Newly Ordained Pastors. Kenneth Andeen, 92 North Taylor St., Bergenfield, New Jersey; Drell E. Bernhardtson, Hooper, Nebraska; Donald Carlson, 275 S. Nuevo Avenue, Fontana, California; Carl Fjellman, 2516 Otis Drive, Alameda, Cali-

fornia; J. Clemmons Peterson, Ogema, Wisconsin; Howard B. Pettersen, 14 Struzziery Terrace, Roslindale 31, Mass.; Paul H. Swenson, Scandia, Alberta, Can.

Des Moines, Iowa. After 19 years of service as pastor of the First Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa, Dr. Emil F. Bergren has tendered his resignation and accepted a call to the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Almelund, Minn.

Alcester, S. D. The 60th anniversary of the Nathaneal Lutheran Church will be observed on Sunday, August 26. A confirmation reunion will be held in the evening to which members of the Union Creek congregation are invited, and their pastor, the Rev. David J. Roy, will be the speaker. Former pastors and members if unable to be present are asked to send a brief greeting. Nels E. Olson.

Crimson Heart Appeal. The annual Crimson Heart Appeal in the Illinois Conference will be conducted this year October 14-28. This annual appeal for the work of the Conference in its welfare program among children in the homes of Andover and Joliet and in the Augustana Nursery of Chicago is prayerfully commended to all its Sunday schools.

There are many prophecies indicating a changed world once this war is over, and very few will doubt this. But humanity's need of love and compassion will be as much a part of the experience of the postwar world as it ever was, and in spite of progressive social legislation it will have need of the kind of interest and service that the Church alone can give. There will very likely be more children without the benefit of a normal home life for many years to come. We shall be called upon not only to carry on in our child care but to increase and multiply our efforts in this God-given task for the days that are coming. Such is the prospect.

We shall need therefore the good will and active support of this project on the part of all Sunday school officers and teachers in order to achieve the best result. We ask that you make room for it in your program, and that you may remember this worthy cause in your daily prayers. The date set by the committee is, as stated above, October 14-28.

Seventy-fifth Anniversary. The Bethany Lutheran Church of Ishpeming, Michigan, will celebrate their diamond jubilee year with a number of special services from September 30 to October 7. It is our hope that many of the former members will be with us on these festive days. If you cannot be present, send a greeting. Address greetings to Edwin Velin, 902 North Main Street, Ishpeming, Mich.

Vasa, Minn. The Vasa church, Dr. Jno. E. Oslund, pastor, plans to celebrate the 90th anniversary of its founding on September 1 and 2. On Saturday afternoon at 2:30, the president of the Minnesota Conference, Dr. Emil Swenson, will speak on the subject, "The Clarion Call of the Church of Today."

Sunday morning the Rev. N. Wm. Anderson will preach the anniversary sermon, and the Rev. A. G. Benson will deliver the preparatory address.

The Cannon Falls Band will give a concert from the pavilion followed by a service at which the Rev. Wm. J. Hyllemgren will address the audience on the topic, "The Significance of Time," and the Rev. J. Edward Oslund will speak on "Our Times."

Dr. Paul Andreen, vice president of the Minnesota Conference, will speak Sunday evening at 8:15, on the subject, "The Church—The Hope of the World."

Drottningholm to Sail August 25. Through arrangements made with British Ministry of War Transport, the Drottningholm of Swedish American Line is making one eastward voyage from New York to Gothenburg leaving New York August 25. She will carry Finnish, Norwegian, Danish, and Swedish repatriates as passengers, who, due to war, have been unable to return home and who now wish to go back to their homelands. Naturally, passengers must have necessary valid passports plus also proof showing income tax paid in this country. Scandinavian aliens who wish to make use of this opportunity should communicate for further information with nearest office of the Swedish American Line located in New York, Detroit, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, Winnipeg.

Fitchburg, Mass. Emanuel Lutheran church members voted to purchase the house of Dr. Darwin E. Bennett for a parsonage. Announcement was made that the property will be made available for occupancy Sept. 1.

This will be the first parsonage to be owned by the Lutheran church which was established here over 50 years ago by the Swedish residents of the city. Recogn-

In Three Weeks . . .

The fall semester begins at Augustana College. If you plan to attend Augustana and haven't made application for admission, write at once for the necessary blanks. We're expecting a record out-of-town enrollment. 1945-46 should be a banner year at Augustana.

Write for a catalog

Visit the campus

AUGUSTANA COLLEGE

Dr. Conrad Bergendoff, President

Rock Island, Illinois

nized now as the only all-English Lutheran church here, the church has 350 adult communicants and 100 children representing 16 nationalities.

The Rev. and Mrs. Hilmer G. W. Linne will be the first occupants of the house as a parsonage. The Rev. Linne came to this city as pastor of the church in February, 1943.

In the past few years extensive repairs and improvements have been carried on both in the church and its grounds. It is estimated that about \$5,000 had been expended for this work.

Bemidji District Installations. Installation services were held at Hines, Minn., Sunday evening, July 15, and at Clearbrook, Minn., Monday evening, July 16. At both occasions we had the joy of having with us Dr. and Mrs. Oscar O. Gustafson. The Hines installation, at which Pastor Paul J. R. Peterson was installed,

was held as a climax to the Blackduck Lutheran Bible Camp. Dr. Gustafson gave the installation address. Remarks and well wishes were expressed in behalf of the District by Pastor B. G. Johnson. Dr. George Hall of Gustavus Adolphus College also brought a greeting. After Pastor Peterson's expression of thanks, the service closed to be followed by a fellowship hour in the parsonage.

At Clearbrook, Dr. and Mrs. Gustafson, together with the pastors and their families, gathered at the Clearbrook parsonage in the afternoon to extend their welcome to Pastor and Mrs. E. Oscar Johnson and family. Dr. O. O. Gustafson presented the installation address. Greetings to pastor and congregation were extended by the district president, Pastor B. G. Johnson. Closing remarks were made by the Rev. Oscar Johnson. The ladies of the parish had prepared a social hour and served refreshments in the church parlors after the service.

Immanuel Deaconess Institute, Omaha, Nebr. The Institute films have been shown in about 160 of our congregations. All report they furnish an enjoyable and instructive program. If you wish to make use of them, please notify Dr. E. G. Chindlund, director, several weeks in advance. There are three reels, 16 mm., lasting one hour. The only charge is for return postage and insurance. A. C.

Pastor Hilmer G. Linné, Fitchburg, Mass., has declined the call extended him by the Bethany Lutheran Church of Woodhull, Illinois.

Gibbon, Minn. After a vacancy of over two and one-half years the Gibbon and Clear Lake parish had the joy of receiving the Rev. Verner C. Johnson as its new pastor. Pastor Johnson was ordained at the last synodical meeting. He preached his initial sermons on July 8, and was installed at Gibbon on the evening of July 8 by Dr. Emil Swenson with the assistance of the pastors of the St. Peter District. Each congregation held a reception for Pastor and Mrs. Johnson during the following week. They were heartily welcomed by the members and presented with a well-filled purse from each congregation. The week before the Johnson's arrival, the congregations held farewell receptions for Mr. Orville Quist, a consecrated young layman, who had faithfully conducted the Sunday services during the vacancy. On July 15, the Clear Lake congregation served as host to the Lutheran Brotherhood and the W. M. S. of the District. A very fine program was given with Pastor Paul J. A. Gustafson, district president, giving the main address. After the program a picnic supper was enjoyed by all on the spacious church lawn. The proceeds of this meeting were given the Home Missions and Lutheran World Action.

FARM FOR SALE 7 miles northeast of the First Lutheran Church of Hector, Minn. 80 acres of improved land, good soil, good drainage. Must be sold as soon as possible to settle estate. Contact First Lutheran Farm Information Committee, Kenneth Jacobs, Chairman, Hector, Minn.

Farm for Sale

A small farm for sale in Lutheran community in Wisconsin. Good soil, modern house and barn. Write Box J, Lutheran Companion, Rock Island, Illinois.

Minneapolis, Minnesota. Miss Gladys Lundberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Lundberg of Minneapolis, became the bride of Pastor Earl W. Carlson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carlson of Amery, Wisconsin, June 29, at 8:30 o'clock in Gustavus Adolphus Church. The Rev. Reuben Ford, pastor of the church, and Pastor Verner Granquist of Centuria, Wisconsin, performed the double-ring ceremony.

Miss Anne Dahlberg was the maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Miss Violet Franzen and Miss Evelyn Bexell. Shirley Lundberg, niece of the bride, was the flower girl.

Pastor C. Willard Carlson was the best man. The ushers were Alfred Lundberg, brother of the bride, and Reuben Carlson, brother of the groom. Steven Lundberg, nephew of the bride, was the ring-bearer.

Organ music was played by E. Holger Moberg of Taylors Falls, Minnesota. Mrs. Moberg was the accompanist for the soloists, Miss Donna Mae Johnson and Wilbert Johnson.

The bride and groom are both graduates of Gustavus Adolphus College. Pastor Carlson was ordained June 10. Pastor and Mrs. Carlson are making their home in Youngsville, where Pastor Carlson began his work August 1 as pastor of the Youngsville-Chandlers Valley-Freehold parish.

A Service for Thanksgiving for Peace

Prepared by the Rev. C. George Engdahl and sponsored by the Liturgical Commission of the Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod. Designed for use in churches on the day of Victory—when war in the Pacific comes to an end. Be prepared. Order a quantity of this service now.

Each 5 cents; per dozen, net 35 cents; per 100 copies, net \$2.00.

AUGUSTANA BOOK CONCERN

Rock Island, Illinois

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Seminary Matriculation, 1945-1946

THE Matriculation Committee of the Augustana Synod will convene at the Augustana Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Illinois, on Monday, September 17, 1945, at 10:00 a.m. All candidates for admission into the Seminary who have not previously been admitted are to appear before this Committee and are asked to be present at a chapel service Monday morning at 10 o'clock. The Committee will meet only on Monday.

The opening service will be held in the Seminary chapel on Tuesday, September 18, at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Charles B. Folesch, president of the Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary, Maywood, Ill., will preach the sermon. All students are requested to be present at this service.

Registration for all classes will be held on Wednesday, September 19.

Applicants for admission into the Seminary are requested to send to the Matriculation Committee in care of Professor Carl A. Anderson, Augustana Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Illinois, the following documents:

1. A formal application for admission to the Seminary.
2. A biography, from 600 to 800 words in length. It should include complete vital statistics, a statement of the candidate's faith and an account of his Christian experience, and an explicit statement of the motives actuating him to devote his life to the gospel ministry.
3. A certificate of graduation from college, with an official transcript of all college credits.
4. A testimonial from the president of the institution previously attended concerning the moral character and Christian life of the candidate.
5. A certificate of membership in a Lutheran church, together with the recommendation of the pastor of that church. This recommendation should be sent by the pastor directly to the secretary of the Committee.
6. A health certificate from a recognized physician on forms furnished by the Dean's office.

There are no special forms for these documents with the exception of No. 6.

Eric H. Wahlstrom,
Acting Dean.
Carl A. Anderson,
Secretary of the Committee.

Clearbrook, Washington. A welcome reception was held by the members and friends of the Church, Friday evening, August 3, for Pastor and Mrs. Olof Wallin, who arrived the previous Tuesday from Comfrey, Minnesota, to take up the work at Clearbrook.

The program was in charge of Pastor G. W. Henry of Bellingham, who has served as vice pastor during the vacancy since last Spring when Pastor Oliver Wilson left for Butte, Montana. The program consisted of musical numbers and songs, a talk by Pastor Henry, and a talk by Pastor Norman Nelson of the Lutheran Free Church of Ferndale, who has preached in Clearbrook during the vacancy. Herbin Benson made the presentation speech and gave Pastor and Mrs. Wallin a sum of money. Vic. Estergreen presented Pastor Nelson with a Bible as a token of appreciation for his service. Pastor Nelson thanked the congregation for the gift. Pastor Wallin also responded. G. W. H.

Tacoma, Wash. A three-fold anniversary took place at First Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Washington, on Sunday, July 29, when members of the congregation honored Pastor Carl E. Rydell and family. It was the twentieth wedding anniversary of Pastor and Mrs. Rydell, the twentieth anniversary of his ordination into the ministry, and his tenth anniversary as pastor of First Lutheran.

Mr. W. H. Lindeman, vice chairman of the Board of Deacons, presided. The choir, under the direction of Mr. Karl E. Weiss, sang after the opening meditation by Mr. Edward Flatness.

The Board of Administration had invited the Rev. Carl H. Sandgren, pastor of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Seattle, to give the congratulatory message.

Mr. R. F. Engvall, a deacon representing the congregation, extended congratulations and best wishes. He recognized the fact that almost half of the years of Pastor Rydell's ministry have been spent at First Lutheran Church. One of the accomplishments in the ten years is the almost complete liquidation of the church debt of \$50,000. Mr. Engvall presented Pastor Rydell and family with a sum of money.

Pastor Rydell thanked the congregation for the gift, co-operation, love and affection shown him and his family year after year.

The Board of Administration was in charge of arrangements with the members of the cabinet of Tabitha, headed by Mrs. Albert Wekell, assisting.

—T. Lantz.

Red River District W. M. S. The Red River District of the W. M. S. convened at Maria church in Kennedy, Minn., for its twenty-fifth annual conference, on July 10. Mrs. E. Lindholm presided. Pastor Walter Carlson led in devotions and also brought the address.

All reports on the work were encouraging.

General officers elected were: Pres., Mrs. Walter Carlson; V. Pres., Mrs. Lena Brendal; Sec.-Treas., Mrs. Carl Mosbeck.

At the afternoon session, the Kennedy Juniors gave a program under the direction of Miss Edwards of Kennedy. The Rev. Arvid Larson gave the afternoon address.

The president announced that this year is the 25th anniversary of the organization of the Red River District and a meeting in observance of that event will be held at Grand Forks in October.

Zion, Philadelphia. The Rev. C. Willard Carlson preached his first sermons as pastor of Zion on Sunday, August 5. Pastor Carlson was ordained in June and was married shortly after. The young pastor and his bride were welcomed by a reception in the church parlors. Mrs. Carlson was presented with a corsage and Pastor Carlson received a gift of money. Mr. R. G. Petersen, an Augustana Synod student assigned to Mt. Airy Lutheran Seminary under the Navy V-12 program, has been preaching during the interim. He was presented with a gift of money, and Mrs. Petersen received a corsage. The Rev. Carl Lien of the Norwegian Lutheran Church was present at the reception and made a few remarks fitting to the occasion. Mr. J. Robert Nordstrom, vice-president of the Board, was in charge of the proceedings.

Upsala, Minnesota. Hakan Hanson, one of the first settlers here and a charter member of the Gethsemane Lutheran Church passed away on July 2 at the age of 90 years. For many years he served his church faithfully as deacon, Sunday school superintendent, and teacher. While he was able, his custom was to be in the house of his Saviour. His wife, four daughters and two sons survive. His oldest son, F. William Hanson, is a pastor at Stratford, Iowa.

North Henderson and Henderson Grove, Ill. Pastor and Mrs. Arnold Nelson were honored recently at receptions by the two churches of their parish, at North Henderson and Henderson Grove, Illinois. The first event, coming as a complete surprise to the honored guests, followed a Sunday evening Luther League Fellow-

ship service at Messiah, Henderson Grove. Mr. Alvin Johnson presented Pastor Nelson with a purse of money after making a speech of welcome. He then presented Mrs. Nelson with a corsage. After Pastor and Mrs. Nelson had expressed their thanks, the meeting adjourned to the social hall where refreshments were served.

Zion, North Henderson, honored their new pastor and family with a congregational dinner immediately following the worship service. After a social hour, a program was presented with Mrs. Arthur T. Johnson as chairman. Pastor and Mrs. M. L. Raymond of Galesburg were guests. Pastor Raymond, vice pastor of the church, gave the speech of welcome to Pastor Nelson and presented him with a purse of money. A gift of linen was given to Mrs. Nelson. In appreciation of Pastor Raymond's work during the past year, Mr. Martin Anderson, representing the Board of Administration, gave him a set of books.

Pastor Nelson was ordained in Moline last June 10 and will be installed on September 18 during the Diamond Jubilee celebration at the Messiah church.

Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lundgren, members of the First Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa, celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary on Sunday, August 5. They were both born in Sweden in 1857 and were married August 1, 1885, by Dr. L. A. Johnston. Mrs. Lundgren was confirmed by Dr. John Telleen in 1875. Dr. Emil F. Bergren, their pastor, expressed the felicitations of the congregation at the celebration.

Chapel Vespers

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That was the theme of a series of weekly devotionals from the chapels of Camp Wheeler, Georgia, sponsored by radio station WBML, Macon, Georgia. CHAPEL VESPERS presents a number of the talks given by Chaplain Ernest A. Lack as a part of that series. These devotional talks are designed to meet the need for guidance in spiritual thinking during the days of stress and strain.

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Groveland, Zion: S. F. Hammarlof, pastor.

Hallandale, Bethlehem: West Blvd.: Anders André, pastor.

Miami, Immanuel, N. W. 5th Ave. and 4th St.: G. K. Andeen, pastor.

St. John's, N. W. 22nd Ave. and 26th St.: Evans Carlson, pastor.

Orlando, St. Paul's: E. Church and S. Lake Streets. O. E. Liden, pastor.

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Brotherhood

All contributions for this page should be sent to Herman G. Nelson, 2525 Crosby Street, Rockford, Ill.

Hector Brotherhood Creates Farm Information Committee

A FARM information committee has been organized by the Brotherhood of First Lutheran Church, Hector, Minn. Purpose of the organization is to advise Augustana Lutheran farmers in the acquisition of good farm lands.

Minnesota state authorities say that Renville County, where Hector is located, has the richest farm land in Minnesota. The Hector men felt that Augustana Synod members in the market for a farm should be informed about this fact and as a result they named a committee to help Augustana families to know when farms are available in the vicinity.

Augustana Lutheran farmers moving into this community not only find that the land is unusually rich but they also discover that they have an abundance of good Christian fellowship. There are two strong Augustana churches: First Lutheran with the Rev. Ralph A. Nelson as pastor is in town and Swedlanda Lutheran with the Rev. Walfred Erickson as pastor is in the country a few miles southwest of Hector. The town also has a strong German Lutheran church, a Methodist church, a Catholic church and a Church of God. In the country surrounding Hector are Norwegian Lutheran, Mission Covenant, German Lutheran and Methodist churches.

As farms become vacant, the men of Hector Brotherhood want them to be taken by Augustana Lutherans. They say: "Many others are alert for an opportunity to buy this rich farm land. Let us people also be on the alert."

The Farm Information committee of the Hector Brotherhood consists of Kenneth Jacobs, chairman, Ernest Hagquist and Pastor Nelson. There is no commission or change to anyone who asks for information and wants assistance in locating a good farm.

Pastor Nelson writes that at Hector "we have an unusually fine Brotherhood organization." The church has been growing steadily and during the last 26 months 76 new communicant members were received to bring the communicant membership to 398.

Harvey, Ill., Brotherhood Reports Fine Progress

A RECORD attendance marked the annual Brotherhood picnic of Tabor church, Harvey, Ill., on July 19. The August issue of the Tabor Messenger included a large size photograph, 8 by 11 inches, of the church's new pastor, the Rev. Yngve E. Nelson, ordained last June. The Messenger was mailed to all service men, and with each copy was sent the pamphlets "Hi, Friend . . . Let's Talk It Over" and "Veterans' Education at Augustana."

"We look forward to a great advancement in our own local Brotherhood," writes C. A. Ryd of the Harvey Brotherhood.

Lutheran Institutions

The following Augustana Institutions offer their facilities and services. They are endorsed and recommended.

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We urge that you use the products that are published and recommended by our Synod.

If from time to time you become interested in the products of some other publication house, send your order to your own Augustana Book Concern and we will be glad to take care of your order. Loyalty to your own publication house will help us to serve you better.

AUGUSTANA BOOK CONCERN

Rock Island, Illinois

Our Colleges

AUGUSTANA

THE summer number of *Christendom* has included an article by President Bergendoff on "Peace on Earth, Good-will Among the Churches."

Approximately 150 volumes published in Sweden during the war years have been received by Augustana's library. The gift was made possible through the efforts of interested friends in Sweden including Archbishop Eidem. The books give evidence of an uninterrupted activity by Swedish scholars, and are a rich source for students interested in religious and social topics. Reviews of many of these books will appear later in issues of the *Augustana Quarterly*.

The June issue of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* carries an article by Dr. O. F. Ander, head of Augustana's department of history, on "The New Augustana Plan and an American Studies Major." It outlines carefully the extensive research by Augustana's faculty in effecting the extensive revision of our curriculum as outlined in the new catalog. The article points out clearly how new trends in area studies will enrich the college curriculum and, perhaps, eventually outmode the departmental majors which have been current in American colleges and universities for so many years. Anyone interested in following the trends in college curriculum reorganization will find the article stimulating and instructive.

Dean Wilbur F. Swanson has recently been awarded the A.A.G.O. (Associate degree) of the American Guild of Organists. The degree is based upon rigid examinations in the fields of harmony, counterpoint, music history, composition and fugue, as well as in all phases of organ playing. For the past six years, Prof. Swanson has been dean of the Tri-city chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

At the recent meeting of the board of directors, all of the former officers were re-elected. They are: Dr. E. E. Ryden, president; Mr. Earl Hanson, vice-president; Mr. Herman G. Nelson, secretary; and Dr. Knut E. Erickson, treasurer. Mr. Earl Hanson was reappointed chairman of the executive committee and Mrs. K. T. Anderson as secretary. Two new members of the board inducted to their office at the July meeting are the Rev. Ruben Spong, Boone, Iowa, and the Rev. Gustav A. E. Lund, Escanaba, Mich.

UPSALA

A TOTAL of 120 students was enrolled in the first summer session and 115 in the second. The summer sessions are directed by Dean Ericsson.

It appears that all available dormitory space will be filled with the beginning of the Fall semester. Prospective students from our churches are urged to get in their applications at the very earliest moment. Every effort will be made to accommodate those desiring rooms.

A Pastoral Conference, observing the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the New York Conference, will be held at Upsala Monday and Tuesday, October 1 and 2. Pastors in the New York and the New England Conferences are cordially invited to attend. The Convocation will be held Tuesday evening, October 2. Detailed announcement of the program will be sent to our pastors at an early date.



Augustana Book Review

All books reviewed in these columns should be ordered from Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Illinois.

GREATER GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY.

By Wade Crawford Barclay. Published by Willett, Clark & Company, Chicago. 1945. 257 pp. Price \$2.50.

This is probably the best handbook on South and Central American history, religious conditions, governments, social life, and suggestions for improving the intercourse and relation between North

America and its southern neighbors. The author writes from the knowledge and experience gathered during twenty years of contact with and travels in the Latin-American countries, and from his wide reading of the literature treating of his subjects.

Dr. Barclay's main thesis is that: "to develop inter-American unity by bringing about the spiritual renewal of the social life of the American republics; to reconstitute the economic order, national and international, after a truly Christian pattern; and to insure that the temporal order as a whole shall be made to serve the welfare of all the people—this is an undertaking to which government can make great and important contributions; but because it is essentially an ethical and spiritual task it is in a peculiar sense the responsibility of organized religion. It is an undertaking that constitutes a tremendous challenge to Christianity." The doing of these things, which are so badly

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needed, constitutes the "greater good neighbor policy."

Each chapter is followed by notes and references, and a good topical index concludes the volume. —I. O. N.

OUR CREED. By J. M. Weidenschilling. Concordia Publishing House. Paper, 35 cents.

"The purpose of this manual," says the Preface, "is to help the members of our Church review the teachings of the Bible." It is a brief course on Christian doctrine, originally prepared as a course for Bible classes in Lutheran churches in the Missouri Synod, and makes Luther's explanation of the three articles of the Creed the order of its presentation of the Bible teachings. The course is quite definitely identified with the particular synod it represents, but has much to offer to all Bible students and especially to those who want to review in an orderly fashion the tenets of their Lutheran faith in the light of the Scriptures.—D. N.

TOWARD THE UNDERSTANDING OF EUROPE. By Ethan T. Colton. Published by Association Press, N. Y. 86 pp. Maps. Price \$1.00.

While this is a small book, it contains a vast amount of information. The author has spent much time and effort in learning the facts in the history of each of the European nations which have a special bearing on the subject of securing a just peace. Every statesman who will have anything to do at the peace table should be required to read these facts, and every other person who reads them will find himself in a better frame of mind and more sympathetic towards the people who have lived for so many centuries in fear and insecurity. Most Americans are only dimly aware of the problems which will have to be solved if Europe and the world are to have a permanent peace, and this book plainly shows that the problem can never be solved by force, but only by Christian brotherliness and forgiveness. —I. O. N.

FROM HEAVEN'S GLORY. By Kenneth S. Wuest. Moody Press.

The author is teacher of New Testament Greek at Moody Bible Institute. The book considers the Christmas Scripture in Philippians 2: 1-8. It is a medita-

tion upon what the first Christmas meant for the Lord Jesus. The doctrines associated with the Incarnation, as well as its implications for faith, are discussed briefly but thoroughly. Christ's pre-existence, virgin birth, humiliation, and atoning death are especially stressed, and particular words and phrases in the original Greek are carefully explained. —D. N.

GOLD FROM GOLGOTHA. By Russell Bradley Jones. Moody Press. \$1.00.

New volumes are added yearly to the large number of books of sermons or studies on the Lord's words from the cross. Here is another volume of discourses on this subject, by the pastor of Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga. Its appearance ought to be welcomed, because it is evidently the result of much meditation on the part of the author and of creative thought, guided by evangelical convictions concerning the great truths of salvation.—D. N.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF BIBLE TRUTH. By H. A. Ironside. Moody Press. \$1.00.

The pastor of Moody Memorial Church, Chicago, has grouped together in this volume many stories and incidents which have served him in his preaching as sermon illustrations—"windows that let in the light." The seventy stories, one less, are not brief illustrations, but average a page and a half in the book.—D. N.

HEROES OF FAITH ON PIONEER TRAILS. By E. Myers Harrison. Moody Press. \$2.00.

David Brainerd, William Carey, Henry Martyn, Robert Morrison, Adoniram Judson, John Williams, Robert Moffatt, David Livingstone, J. Hudson Taylor, John G. Paton—these men of God belong to all of Christendom. From their lives all may gather inspiration, just as all are indebted to their labors. These biographies of great missionary heroes, while presenting the record of each man in brief, succeed in giving, along with a vivid picture of activity, that which was the secret of their power and the central ideal that governed the life of each.—D. N.

CHRIST AND THE BELIEVER IN THE SONG OF SONGS. By Wendell P. Loveless. Moody Press. \$1.50.

Spurgeon often preached on Texts from the Song of Songs. It is doubtful if many sermons are based on that Old Testament book today. This is not strange, considering the difficulties presented. Here is a volume of devotional studies in the Song of Solomon. Its main objective is to emphasize the precious relationship between Christ and each individual believer. —D. N.

OUTLINE STUDIES IN MARK. By John L. Hill. Abingdon-Cokesburg Press. \$1.50.

That this layman Bible teacher knows how to interest people in Bible study, and that people will listen to a simple presentation of the plain truths that derive from the Gospels, is shown by the reception given these studies by a large radio audience when they were broadcast in abbreviated form. We note the helpful use of outline, an economy of comment that gives main emphasis to vital truths, and reliance, where passages are best made clear by reference to the original Greek, on the consecrated scholarship of men like the late Dr. A. T. Robertson. —D. N.

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Abundant Living. By E. Stanley Jones. "Abundant Living" begins where the reader is and helps him advance day by day in Christian faith and experience. It may be used for personal devotions. Net \$1.00

At Eventide. By Gottfrid Billing. This book, translated by E. W. Olson, contains messages of comfort and encouragement for those of advanced age. The thirty meditations, set in extra large type (over one-quarter inch in height), will be appreciated by those whose sight has begun to fail. 160 pages. Cloth, net \$1.25

Book of Prayers for Boys and Girls. By J. G. Neumann. A volume of short prayers in both verse and prose for boys and girls. Contains morning and evening prayers, grace before and after meals, prayers for sickness, for parents and friends, etc. Net 50 cents

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Little Folded Hands. Compiled by Louis Birk. Prayers for Children. The 48 pages contain short prayers for morning, evening, table, etc. Net 25 cents

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