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Lutheran Diaconal Association

7-1928

The Lutheran Deaconess, Vol. 5, No. 3

Lutheran Deaconess Association

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The Lutheran Deaconess

Official Organ of the Lutheran Deaconess Association
within the Ev. Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America

Published quarterly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.
Entered as second-class matter, January 19, 1924, at Post Office at St. Louis, Mo.,
under the Act of March 3, 1897.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103,
Act of October 3, 1917, authorized January 19, 1924.

Vol. V.

ST. LOUIS, MO., JULY, 1928.

No. 3.

QUARTERLY SURVEY.

April to June, 1928.

The outstanding events of the quarter were the installation services held at Watertown, Wis., and Fort Wayne, Ind.

Installation at Watertown.

The services at Watertown were held on Sunday afternoon, April 29, at St. John's Church, Rev. Herman Eggers, pastor. The German sermon was preached by Pastor Leo Kirst, president of our Beaver Dam Deaconess Hospital. Pastor Enno Duemling, city missionary of Milwaukee, delivered the English sermon. Three graduates from our Bethesda Training-school were installed: Miss Anna Schrader, Miss Margaret Leader, and Miss Cora Leader. The choir of St. John's Church rendered fitting anthems. A reception in honor of the graduates was held at St. John's parish hall, where the members of the ladies' aid served ice cream and cake.

The Leader sisters will stay at Bethesda for the present, as their services are needed there. Miss Schrader has been requested to serve as a parish deaconess in the city of New York. May the Lord bless these our graduates from Bethesda! A number of friends from Milwaukee attended the services. We were very glad to have with us several of last year's graduates. Deaconess Louise Moehlenbrock, matron at the Lutheran boarding-school for Indian children at Gresham, Wis., was present; also Deaconess Erna Heck, who is stationed at the Buffalo Hospice. We had with us also our workers at the Addison Industrial School, the Misses Strehlow and Nanke. The graduates as well as the Bethesda deaconess students and friends were entertained by Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Naumann.

Installation at Fort Wayne.

Services were held at St. Paul's Church on Pentecost, May 30, at 4 o'clock. Pastor H. B. Kohlmeier, of New Haven, Ind., vice-president of the Deaconess Association, preached the sermon. The services were enhanced by the Brunner quartet from Emmaus Church and by a solo rendered by the president of the Deaconess Association, Pastor Philip Wambganss.

The three graduates are: Miss Minnie Spurgat, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Miss Louise Stillmann, of Goodland, Ind.; Miss Gertrude Oberheu, of Wentworth, S. Dak. Miss Spurgat has been assigned to the Deaconess Hospital at Beaver Dam to serve as supervisor of the operating-room. Miss Oberheu has volunteered her services for our India Missions. Miss Stillmann may be placed as deaconess nurse in an orphans' home.

The members of the Fort Wayne Deaconess Auxiliary gave a reception to the graduates at St. Paul's Parish Hall. About 250 guests were present at the banquet.

The graduates were remembered by the St. Louis Young Women's Lutheran Deaconess Association, which presented to each member of the class a high-grade hospital thermometer. The Cleveland Deaconess Branch Society was represented by Mrs. J. Schwachenwald, social worker employed by our Cleveland Lutheran City Mission, and by Miss Walz. Addressing the graduates with appropriate remarks, they presented each graduate with a beautifully designed Eversharp in the name of the Cleveland society. May the Lord bless the labors also of these graduates!

Lectures.

On May 1 a lecture was delivered at the annual meeting of the Buffalo Mission Society, whose members are affiliated with the various Lutheran churches of that city. We are indebted to Pastor H. Wind, city missionary, for arranging this address. Buffalo has staunchly supported our Deaconess cause from the day the association was organized. Among the ladies who have been particularly active in soliciting memberships we would mention Mrs. J. Sieck and Mrs. Bertha Quibell.

On May 18 an address was delivered at the Mothers' and Daughters' Banquet held at St. John's Parish Hall of Laporte, Ind. The members of St. John's Ladies' Aid have always shown a great interest in our work.

A third lecture was delivered June 14 at Alma, Wis. The ladies' aids of neighboring congregations had also been invited. Weather conditions were ideal for an open-air gathering.

Bethesda Graduates, 1928.



Cora Leader.



Margaret Leader.



Anna Schrader.

The congregation at Mondovi was well represented. The ladies' aid of Alma had provided for the supper, which was served in cafeteria style. As a result of the lecture a young lady from Alma expressed her willingness to enter our Fort Wayne Training-school this fall.

Thanks.

A special vote of thanks was tendered by our Board of Directors to our faithful friend Mr. H. L. Wedekind, who served as secretary of the Milwaukee branch of our association since its organization. May the Lord richly reward him for the interest he has ever displayed in the affairs of our Deaconess Association! Being near the four-score-year age, we can understand why he wished to be relieved from the duties incumbent on this office.

Miss Helen Koepke, who at the time of the Lutheran Exhibition in Milwaukee, in the fall of 1926, succeeded in getting 80 new members, has declared her willingness to serve as secretary of the Milwaukee branch. Miss Koepke is well known in Milwaukee circles because of her connection with the Conservatory of Music. Mr. Theodore Dammann, secretary of the State of Wisconsin, is president of the Milwaukee branch of the Deaconess Association.

B. POCH.

ADDRESS AT THE GRADUATION SERVICE OF THE DEACONESS CLASS, WATERTOWN, WIS.

April 29, 1928.

I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me.

Phil. 4, 13.

I. N. J.

MY DEAR CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, ESPECIALLY DEAR GRADUATES:—

This is a day of rejoicing, not only for the young women about to be graduated as deaconesses of the Lutheran Church, but also for

the pupils of the Bethesda Training-school for Deaconesses, their relatives, and their friends. It is but natural that they should be elated. By the grace of God another class has completed the prescribed course of instruction and training; its work has been subjected to approved standards of examination, and the authorities of the school are about to confer upon the successful candidates the title of deaconess. The ceremonies this afternoon are an announcement and a public recognition of the fact that another class of servants of the Lord has finished its course. It is an elevation to a calling of great worth, of mighty influence, if the duties are performed in the spirit of Christ.

For a certain period, prescribed by the board, these young women have studied and worked to become proficient in their chosen calling. Close application to their work has taught them how to make every second count, and it is to the credit of these consecrated women that the seconds mostly count for some one other than themselves. And even now, when the end of their school-life has been reached, this means but the beginning of the blessed labor marked out for the future. "For Missions and Charities," is the motto of our Lutheran Deaconess Association. What a noble object! It is, therefore, a most blessed work that you, dear graduates, are to enter upon; it is, however, also a most arduous and responsible work to which you are commissioned this afternoon. It is a work that requires self-denial, great patience, and forbearance, sometimes also great courage. This service, however, will not be depressing if you are Christ-centered, not self-centered. All your work will be done for Christ's sake, because the love of Christ constrains you. 2 Cor. 5, 14. If you would have your labors crowned with success, you will have to perform them in the spirit of Christ to the glory of God. As you are now formally to enter upon your chosen calling, let me speak, by way of encouragement, on the

Blessed Calling of a Deaconess of the Church.

"I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me," says Paul the Apostle. He means to say: Through Christ, who strengthens me, continually strengthens me, by receiving through Him constant and renewed strength, I am enabled to do everything that it is my God-given duty to perform. I wholly depend upon Him for all my spiritual powers. I need His strength in order that I may be truly content with whatever lot may be mine. The apostle gives all glory to Christ for the virtue of contentment shown by him and for the ability to adapt and accommodate himself to every condition of life. It is only through Christ, who strengthens him, he confesses, he can do it, not by means of his own strength.

Like the apostle, so we, too, should be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, strong through the grace granted us by Christ Jesus. We are weak, but His strength is made perfect in weakness; we are selfish, but His Spirit can kindle the fire of holy love in hearts that once were cold and dead. He must supply the ability which we need for the work He has given us to do. He has appointed to each Christian the work he is to do, and He enables every one who believes in Him to do this work if he humbly prays Him to endow him with this strength. Let us work, then, in the strength of the Lord and ascribe whatever success may be granted us wholly to that strength which our Lord gives. Let us learn in all humility that all our willing and doing must come from God.

The principal object of our deaconess schools is to train Lutheran young women for special service in the great fields of missions and charities. When a young woman enters the training-school to be fitted for the calling of a deaconess, she embarks on a new period of life, in which experiences will be hers quite different from those she has had until then. She comes with high ideals, great expectations, and personal consecration, gladly surrendering a large measure of personal freedom and other prospects for the privilege of placing her life as a thank-offering upon the altar of the Lord. She comes ready to be molded into an instrument of God, to be equipped for, and consumed in, God's service.

Remember, in the first place, dear members of the graduating class, that much has been given you. "As servants of the Church the precious Gospel is given you that you may freely give it to others. Let it ever be your most precious treasure. With it you can direct the spiritually blind to safety and happiness, strengthen the weak, and lift the fallen. You will find the Gospel to be the true balm of Gilead, which can heal all the wounds of sin; ever the reliable companion when man is about to pass through the dark valley of the shadow of death. All God's gifts are given to us that we may give them to others. All God's strength is given us that we should use it. If He makes an arm strong, it is for work. If He makes a voice strong, it is that it may plead with

others for Him. If He makes a heart strong, it is that it may be a blessing that is intended to rest with us." Our talents are not to be buried in the earth, but they are to be employed for the glory of God and the good of our fellow-men. We must ever be ready to give our last mite of knowledge and wisdom and devotion to our dearly bought brethren and sisters.

A deaconess, therefore, must be actuated by a genuine love of Christ and her charges and must put her whole soul, her strength, and all the gifts God has given her into her work if her work is to be successful. Realizing, then, that she is a dispenser of God's gifts, which were freely given her, she will give her services freely, cheerfully, and faithfully, to the saving of many souls. All this may be regarded as a trust and treasure from God committed to her care, for which an account must be rendered to Him who has made her a stewardess of them.

A Christian deaconess, properly trained in the schools of the Church, will also practise self-elimination and true humbleness. Joyful self-elimination and whole-souled devotion to a great cause make the life of a deaconess worth while and cause it to be a happy one. If God has blessed her labors, she will not become puffed up or boisterous and loud. She will not talk much about her achievements or be desirous of the praises of men. What does all praise mean, what does all publicity amount to? It is quickly heard, read, and forgotten. What is all the applause of the world compared with the consciousness of a duty well done? It is far better and of greater and more lasting value to hear the softly spoken words from the lips of the Good Samaritan: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!" The work of a deaconess is a ministry of Christian love. It presupposes an absolutely unselfish spirit, renunciation of worldly ambitions, a desire to serve Christ wholeheartedly in whatever way His Holy Spirit may indicate to us that it should be done. If you would be ideal deaconesses, you must be humble and poor in spirit.

Your chosen calling is an exacting master; it demands that you sacrifice all for it. You are to be strong because people will lean on you; you ought to be trustworthy because people will confide in you; you must be steady and reliable, for heavy responsibilities will sometimes be put on your shoulders. Needless to say, you should have the spirit of service, and you must take a sincere interest in human beings of all classes and kinds. The religion of our Lord Jesus Christ trains you to be exactly that. You must receive Him, the most unselfish Person that ever lived, into your lives; He must become the determining factor in even your commonest tasks. Sometimes, of course, hard things have to be endured, as in all other walks of life that are worth while. Yet there is a joyful challenge in every difficult task which you must assume, and a satisfaction in its performance that comes only to those who dare attempt even extremely difficult duties. Be a life ever so worthless, ever so ill

spent, it was yet precious enough in the sight of our Savior to make Him willing to shed His blood on Calvary to redeem it. Nor must one think that sympathy for these outcasts will degrade one. The divine lesson teaches us that every man is neighbor to his fellow, be he morally good or bad. While others may repeat the question of Cain, "Am I my brother's keeper?" a Christian deaconess will always lend a helping hand to the crushed, heartbroken outcast in order to win him for Christ; she will teach and uplift him as much by her example and sympathy as by her words. Let me tell you, in this sin-laden world there are many who lament and say with Nancy, the poor, crushed, heartbroken, and homeless waif of London: "Such as I have no certain roof but the coffin lid and no friend in sickness or death but the hospital nurse."

The duties of a deaconess are manifold, and the sphere of her activity is a large one. Trained woman helpers are particularly welcome in the women's wards of the large hospitals in our great cities. In these wards they may work with a freedom and a general efficiency necessarily denied to any man in such places. They can quickly gain the confidence of those of their sex to whom they seek to minister, while it is often a difficult task for the missionary to gain the confidence of a strange woman patient. A woman worker not only thoroughly realizes a woman's needs and understands her mental attitude, but she herself possesses the woman's viewpoint, often different from that of men. She may bring cheer, comfort, and sisterly love to the afflicted woman and thus assist the pastor and supplement the work he is doing to save her soul. In juvenile court cases and in correctional institutions for young girls, deaconesses have often been instrumental in bringing delinquent girls back to their Savior. In the field of foreign missions the services of trained woman helpers are indispensable. It is a well-known fact that only woman workers can approach the women of India in their homes. Our charitable institutions, such as orphanages, homes for the aged, sanitarium for tuberculars, and others, need efficient and consecrated workers. Much can be said of the crying need of Lutheran deaconesses, but time will not permit me to go into detail.

Enter, then, dear graduates, upon your blessed vocation in the name of Jesus, under the influence of the Christian principles which you have been taught in your Bethesda. Enter upon it deeply sensible of your responsibilities, and you will be worthy of our good wishes and of the congratulations offered you by your friends. May the Lord be with the members of this graduating class of deaconesses and grant success to their unselfish service, be it at home or abroad! May they always reflect honor upon their Bethesda, their calling, their fellow-Christians, and chiefly upon their great Redeemer! May they at all times be mindful of the motto "For Missions and Charities"! We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

E. A. DUEMLING.

Predigt bei der Installation von Diakonissen über Mark. 10, 45.

Von P. L. C. Kirst, Beaver Dam, Wis.

Geliebte Mitschwestern!

Wir wollen heute drei Schülerinnen der hiesigen Diakonissenschule in ihr Amt einführen. Diese wollen fortan in der Kirche dem Amte einer lutherischen Diakonissin obliegen. Diakonissin sein heißt dienen wollen. Dienst — oder, wie das Wort in der Landessprache heißt, service — ist eine zeitgemäße Sache. Alle Welt redet heutzutage von service. Aber die Welt ist selbstsüchtig. Sie sucht durch Dienst oder service nur das Ihre. Anders steht es bei euch, geliebte Mitschwestern, die ihr heute das Diakonissengelübde ablegen wollt. Ihr sucht nicht das Eure, sondern das, was des andern ist. Ihr begehrt ja in den Dienst dessen zu treten, der gekommen ist, nicht daß er sich dienen lasse, sondern daß er diene und gebe sein Leben zur Bezahlung für viele. Euch gilt nun vor allen Dingen das Wort des Apostels: "Ein jeglicher sei gesinnt, wie Jesus Christus auch war." Und ihr könnt auch als gläubige Kinder Gottes mit demselben Apostel sprechen: "Wir aber haben Christi Sinn."

1.

Wollt ihr, geliebte Mitschwestern, rechte Diakonissen sein, so müßt ihr gesinnt sein, wie Jesus Christus auch war. Wie war denn Christus gesinnt? Das sagt der Text: "Des Menschen Sohn ist nicht kommen, daß er sich dienen lasse." Die Meinung war sehr allgemein, daß er gekommen sei, um sich dienen zu lassen. Sogar seine Jünger hegten diese Meinung. Sie glaubten, ihr Meister würde sich nach Art der weltlichen Könige und Fürsten ein herrliches Reich hier auf Erden gründen, um dann von seinen Untertanen sich dienen zu lassen. Eben hatten die Söhne Zebedäi ihn um die vornehmsten Ehrenstellen in seinem Reich gebeten. Aber er weist sie zurecht und sagt ihnen, daß er nicht gekommen sei, um sich dienen zu lassen, sondern um selber zu dienen.

Bei Gelegenheit der wunderbaren Speisung will das Volk ihn haschen, um ihn mit Gewalt zu ihrem Könige zu machen; aber er entzieht sich ihnen. Sie haben sein Wunder gänzlich mißverstanden. Er war nicht gekommen, sich dienen zu lassen, sondern zu dienen.

Als er seinen letzten Einzug in Jerusalem hielt und die Einwohner Jerusalems ihm mit Jubelrufen und Ehrenbezeugungen entgegenkamen, da brach er in Tränen aus, weil sie es so schlecht verstanden, daß er nicht gekommen war, sich dienen zu lassen, sondern zu dienen und sein Leben zur Bezahlung für viele dahinzugeben.

Unser Heiland hielt es nicht für einen Raub, Gott gleich sein. Ob er wohl in göttlicher Gestalt war, äußerte er sich selbst und nahm Knechtsgestalt an, eben um den Menschen zu dienen. Wie müde hat er sich gearbeitet im Dienst der Menschheit! Er ist umhergezogen im jüdischen Lande und hat wohl getan und gesund gemacht alle, die vom Teufel überwältigt waren. Immer war er bereit zu dienen. Zum Aussätzigen, der ihn um Heilung bittet, spricht er: "Ich will's tun; sei gereinigt!" Zu dem Hauptmann, der wegen seines kranken Knechts zu ihm kommt, sagt er: "Ich will kommen und ihn gesund machen." Den Kranken am Leiche Bethesda, der achtunddreißig Jahre lang krank gelegen hatte,

fragt er mitleidig: „Willst du gesund werden?“ Bis spät in die Nacht hinein hat er sich oft angestrengt, um Kranke zu heilen, die sie massenhaft zu ihm brachten. Er hat sich ganz und gar, mit Leib und Seele, in den Dienst der Menschen gestellt.

Vor allen Dingen hat seine Seele gearbeitet; denn er trug der Welt Sünde. Er spricht: „Mir hast du Arbeit gemacht in deinen Sünden und hast mir Mühe gemacht in deinen Missetaten.“ Der Herr warf unser aller Sünde auf ihn. Aber er gab willig sein Leben zum Schuldopfer, zur Bezahlung für viele. Weil seine Seele gearbeitet hat, sieht er nun seine Lust an den Erlösten, für die er in dienender Liebe sein Leben gelassen hat. Weil er es nicht für einen Raub hielt, Gott gleich sein, sondern bereit war zu dienen und sein Leben dahinzugeben, gibt ihm nun sein Vater die Starke zum Raube und große Menge zur Beute. Er hat durch seinen Dienst eine ewige Erlösung erfunden.

2.

Ihr wollt nun, geliebte Mitschwester, in Dienst dessen wirksam sein, der sein Leben so für andere gegeben hat. Habt ihr seinen Sinn? Der Apostel sagt: „Wir aber haben Christi Sinn.“ Er stellt sich und solche, die ihm gleichgesinnt sind, in Gegensatz zu andern, die anders gesinnt sind. Das sind die Menschen, wie sie von Natur sind. Die sind eigenfönnig und selbstföchtig. Sie wollen nicht andern dienen, sondern sich von andern dienen lassen. Sie suchen bequeme Tage, Ehre und hohe Stellungen. Ihr aber habt einen andern Sinn. Das ist freilich nicht euer Verdienst, sondern Gottes Gnade. Der Herr hat euch von der Welt erwählt und euch Christi Sinn gegeben. Ihr geht nicht an euer Werk mit dem Geföhl, daß man sich vor euch beugen und viel von euch machen muß, sondern um euch gleichsam vor andern zu beugen und viel von andern zu machen. Dienen wollt ihr und nicht euch dienen lassen. Euch liegt das Seelenheil eurer Mitmenschen am Herzen. Ihr wollt euch selbst verleugnen, um andern zu helfen. Gott erhalte euch diesen rechten Diaconissensinn!

Der Apostel Johannes schreibt im Hinblick auf das große Opfer Christi: „Und wir sollen auch das Leben für die Brüder lassen“; das heißt, wir sollen zeitlichen Lohn und irdischen Vorteil gering achten gegen den herrlichen Dienst, der als letztes Ziel hat, unsterbliche, mit dem Blute Christi teurerkaufte Seelen selig zu machen. In solcher Gesinnung wollt ihr nun auch euer Leben für die Brüder lassen. Und wohl euch, daß ihr durch Gottes Gnade zu diesem Entschluß gekommen seid! Alles, was ihr in dieser Gesinnung tun werdet, und wenn es auch noch so gering vor Menschenaugen erscheint, hat in Gottes Augen bleibenden Wert und wird reiche Früchte tragen für die Ewigkeit. Ja, sogar der geringste Liebesdienst, den ihr als wahre Diaconissen tun werdet, wird euer Heiland am Jüngsten Tage namhaft machen.

So geht denn ein in den Dienst dessen, der auch gekommen ist, um zu dienen; er will mit euch sein und euren Dienst segnen. Laßt vorläufig das euren Lohn sein, daß der Herr gerade euch in diesen herrlichen Dienst berufen hat und auch euch mitbenutzen will, Seelen für die Ewigkeit zu gewinnen. Wenn ihr in dieser Herzensstellung dient und endlich darin euer Leben beschließt, dann wird euch noch ein ganz anderer Lohn werden. Dann wird er euch einst über viel segnen. Amen.

NOTES AND NEWS.

News from the foreign mission field in India. From a letter written by Deaconess Clara Mueller, of Nagercoil, Travancore, South India, we quote the following: “We have found India a land of peculiar fascination and not a place of disillusionment. There is a big task before us, and we are hoping for the future. God has helped us and is ever ready to help. Our hearts rejoice when we hear the children and the students at their devotions; our dear old Lutheran hymns do not sound strange in this country. On Sundays we attend the Tamil services in order to hear how the language is spoken. On Monday afternoons we have services in English, which are attended by many Hindus who are anxious to learn English. Our heart goes out in sympathy to these people, considering how deeply the land is steeped in idolatry and superstition. We shall be happy when we can serve the people in the vernacular. I hope the day will soon be here when I can have a little dispensary and converse with the natives in their mother tongue. They appreciate it very much that we are trying hard to learn their language, which is rather difficult to acquire.”—Surely our thoughts are often with our four deaconesses in India, and our prayers in their behalf will be answered because of our Savior’s promise.

A third congregation in the city of New York has applied for a parish deaconess, St. Paul’s of Tremont, Rev. Geo. Koenig, pastor. The efficient work done by our deaconesses at Immanuel’s and St. Matthew’s no doubt has influenced the members of St. Paul’s to call a trained woman helper.

Deaconess Beata Randt, who has labored faithfully in the Metropolitan Mission of New York since January, 1926, has been released to become the personal deaconess of Pastor A. F. Fergin, of Marshfield, Oreg. May God’s richest blessings attend their union!

Under the able management of Miss Thiele our Deaconess Hospital at Beaver Dam registers a decided improvement in every way. With very little expense a number of improvements have been made which will increase the efficiency of the institution.

Another Lutheran community in Colorado is contemplating the opening of a hospital at Yuma. The people have asked for deaconess nurses to operate the prospective hospital.

Deaconess Clara Strehlow, stationed with Deaconess Henrietta Nanke at the Lutheran Industrial School at Addison, Ill., is reported ill. We pray for a speedy recovery.

The largest contribution received since January this year is credited to Pittsburgh. A substantial check of one hundred dollars was received from the congregation at Freedom, Pa. God bless the donors!

The deaconess students Ruth Specht, Grace Nordmann, and Phyllis Mohr are still reported on the sick-list. May the Lord grant them a speedy recovery! All three are students at our Fort Wayne school.

The Fort Wayne Ladies' Deaconess Auxiliary followed the custom of previous years in presenting to each of the graduates a copy of Dr. Sheatsley's book *The Lord Thy Healer*. One of our deaconesses in India, Miss Clara Mueller, writes us that she could hardly know how to get along without this wonderful book.

Memberships.

Since a new edition of Dr. Kretzmann's book of *Outlines for Deaconess Training* must soon be published, as also a book presenting certain subjects, such as psychology, sociology, etc., from a Christian viewpoint, we are looking to our friends to help us gain new members in order that we may meet the ever-increasing expenses due to the rapid expansion of our work. A new folder explaining the work is soon to be mailed to our friends and to prospective members. The printer expects to have it ready about the middle of July. B. POCH.

Installationsgottesdienste.

Am Sonntagnachmittag, den 29. April, wurde der zweite Jahrgang unserer Diakonissenschule zu Watertown, Wis., in einem feierlichen Gottesdienst installiert. Drei Diakonissenschülerinnen haben ihr Abgangsgeramen bestanden, nämlich Fräulein Anna Schrader und die Geschwister Cora und Margarete Lüder. P. L. Kirst von Beaver Dam hielt die deutsche, Stadtmissionar Gano Dümmling von Milwaukee die englische Predigt. Der Gottesdienst wurde durch Chorgesang verschönert. Nach dem Gottesdienst ging es hinüber in die Halle der St. Johannisgemeinde, wo der werthe Frauenverein für Erfrischungen sorgte. Die Geschwister Cora und Margarete Lüder werden vorläufig in Bethesda ausbilden, während Fräulein Anna Schrader eine Stelle als Gemeindediakonissin übernehmen wird.

In Fort Wayne fand die Installationsfeier am Pfingstsonntag statt, und zwar in der St. Paulskirche. P. G. Kohlmeier, Vizepräsident der Diakonissengemeinschaft, hielt die englische Predigt. Das Brunner Quartett von der Emmausgemeinde trug ein passendes Musikstück vor, und P. Phil. Wambsgang sang eine Motette über den 134. Psalm, komponiert von Herrn Lehrer Hermann Dahn und seinem lieben Seelsorger Ph. Wambsgang gewidmet.

Der Diakonissen-Hilfsverein, der sich aus Gliedern der verschiedenen lutherischen Gemeinden in Fort Wayne und Umgegend zusammensetzt, hatte in der St. Paulshalle Tisch gedeckt für 250 Gäste. Wie in Watertown, so waren es auch in Fort Wayne drei Schülerinnen, die ihr Abgangsgeramen bestanden haben, nämlich Fräulein Minnie Spurgat von Grand Rapids, Mich., Fräulein Gertrud Oberheu und Fräulein Luise Stillmann. Fräulein Oberheu hat sich bereit erklärt, in der Heidenmission in Indien zu dienen. Fräulein Spurgat wird als Krankenwärterin in unser Diakonissenhospital zu Beaver Dam, Wis., eintreten. Fräulein Stillmann wird wahrscheinlich eine Stelle in einem Waisenhaus übernehmen. Der treue Gott setze auch diese Diakonissen zum Segen für viele!

Der Diakonissen-Zweigverein in St. Louis, dessen Berater unser lieber P. Herzberger ist, überbandte

den neuen Diakonissen ein besonderes Geschenk, desgleichen der Zweigverein in Cleveland, der unter der Leitung unseres lieben Freundes Stadtmissionar M. Ilse steht. Der Fort Wayne Hilfsverein schenkte jeder Diakonisse ein Exemplar des Buches „Der Herr ist dein Helfer“. Von diesem Buche schreibt uns Diakonisse Clara Müller in Indien, daß sie es um keinen Preis vermissen möchte.

B. P o ch.

Mindefränze.

Wir freuen uns, berichten zu dürfen, daß unser Kassierer etliche Beiträge in der Form von Mindefränzen erhalten hat. In der Januarnummer wurde berichtet, daß die Verwandten unserer lieben Freundin in Pittsburgh, Fräulein Marie Succop, einen Mindefranz von fünfzig Dollars gestiftet haben. Frau P. G. Schröder, früher in Washington, D. C., wohnhaft, jetzt in Fort Wayne, sandte uns einen Mindefranz im Betrage von fünf Dollars zum Andenken an ihren lieben Gemahl. Außerdem erhielten wir zwei Dollars von einer guten Freundin unserer Sache in Illinois sowie kürzlich einen Mindefranzbeitrag von zehn Dollars von Herrn und Frau Ernst Niemeyer. Gott segne die lieben Geber!

OBITUARY.

A friend and promoter of the Deaconess Cause entered into the joy of his Lord. Mr. Rudolph Herman, of Forest Park, Ill., suddenly passed away June 12. He had been housefather of the Bethesda Lutheran Home at Watertown, Wis., from 1921 to 1926. During this period the Deaconess Training-school had been established in connection with the Home. A few days before his death he came to Watertown to celebrate with us our *Jahresfest* and to meet old acquaintances. The hearty welcome he received showed that the faithful services he had rendered the Home had not been forgotten.

Mr. Herman, while attending a concert in the Northwestern College gymnasium with his wife, suffered a stroke that ended his life. A memorial service was held at the chapel of our Bethesda Home. The chaplain spoke on Ex. 15, 25, after which the remains were taken to Forest Park for burial. May God make the bitter waters of tribulation sweet for our dear former housemother Mrs. Amanda Herman, and for her children!

WM. T. N.

EASTER IN OUR MISSION AT HANKOW, CHINA.

A Letter.

DEAR FRIENDS: —

Easter Day, — and do you want to live it again with us in Hankow? It was not so bright and beautiful a day as all previous Easter days here have been, but full of joy and sorrow and long to be remembered.

The first Chinese service Miss Simon and I attended was at Zion Chapel, at nine in the

morning. We came especially to rejoice with those who were being received into the Lord's family in baptism, one woman and six children, Rev. J. A. Fischer preaching.

The next service was at ten-thirty at the chapel where Miss Simon and I attend every Sunday, helping with the children's service and also during the week taking the singing. There the evangelist gave us news of the serious illness of one of our woman catechumens at another chapel and asked that one of the missionaries come to baptize her.

At twelve o'clock, after a bit of lunch, Rev. Schmidt, Miss Simon, and I started out to the Lao Kuan Miao Chapel. Here Miss Simon, as usual, was organist and yours truly *Vor-saengerin*. Ninety per cent. of the pupils at this place were newcomers at the opening of the school term in March, but with some preparation they took part in the regular Easter service, which ended with the baptism of two babies, children of the evangelist and the teacher, respectively.

Then we proceeded to the home of the sick woman, the wife of one of the older members at Hsü Tzu Kai Chapel. The woman was suffering from what seemed to be the last stage of tuberculosis and had asked to be baptized. In spite of working to help earn a living for the family, she had attended services fairly regularly and lately also the women's class. But as is the case with so many Chinese women, she felt that she was hopeless as far as learning the Catechism is concerned. And she really had not tried, nor had she before this desired to be baptized. A quiet, careful examination by Rev. Schmidt in the presence of her family (all of whom are baptized), of the evangelist, Miss Simon, and myself revealed a clear understanding of the doctrine; she confessed herself to be a sinner, worthy of God's wrath, temporal death, and eternal punishment, but she believed that Jesus Christ is her Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil. Then the baptism took place. . . .

Before I close, I must tell you about the young woman who was baptized at Zion Chapel. On returning to Hankow from Shanghai, I noticed her attending services regularly and being very much interested in what she heard. At the women's class she was able to answer almost every question from the Catechism or Bible History put to her. On closer acquaintance I found that her old father-in-law had been studying with her for the past year and that she was now rejoicing in her Savior. Even her little four-year-old daughter was able to recite the Lord's Prayer and the Creed. She continued studying with us over the winter and at Easter asked to be baptized. During her examination Rev. Fischer was very much pleased because of her unusually clear understanding of the doctrine. The old father-in-law radiated joy during the baptismal service, and when also the three children of his daugh-

ter-in-law were baptized, he assisted in holding them over the font. The old man has been a member of the church for three years and has been a beautiful example of a true Christian studying God's Word and praying with his whole household. The household, according to Chinese custom, in this case means two sons, their wives and children, and several other relatives. His wife is dead.

Help us pray that more of the Chinese women may have the eyes of their understanding opened and learn to know the joy of salvation through Christ; "for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." Acts 4, 12.

Sincerest greetings to all members of the Sunday-school Association from Miss Simon and myself and many thanks for your constant remembrance of us. We are glad that we may be at work again and pray that we may continue so.

Yours in His service,

Hankow, China.

OLIVE GRUEN.

Acknowledgment.

Received for Medical Student Norbert Leckband and forwarded to Treasurer T. G. Eggers, Fort Wayne, Ind., from Ladies' Mission Aid Society, St. Louis, \$50.00.

J. KOENIG, *Treasurer*.

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- Miss Olive Gruen, Teacher, 7 Milan Terrace, Hankow, China.
- Miss Frieda Oelschlaeger, Teacher (on furlough), 208 W. 10th St., Wayne, Nebr.
- Miss Marie Oelschlaeger, Nurse (on furlough), Lutheran Hospital Nurses' Home, Texas Ave. and Potomac St., St. Louis, Mo.
- Miss Gertrude Simon, Nurse, 7 Milan Terrace, Hankow, China.

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- Miss Louise Rathke, Deaconess, Bethesda Hospital, Ambur, North Arcot District, India.
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The Lutheran Deaconess is published in January, April, July, and October of the year. Subscription price, 25 cts. a year. Send all subscriptions, donations, and membership dues to the Superintendent, Rev. B. Poch, 2916 Fairfield Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind.; all matters pertaining to the editorial department, to Rev. F. W. Herzberger, 3619 Iowa Ave., St. Louis, Mo.