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Lutheran Diaconal Association

10-1930

The Lutheran Deaconess, Vol. 7, No. 4

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. VII

ST. LOUIS, MO., OCTOBER, 1930

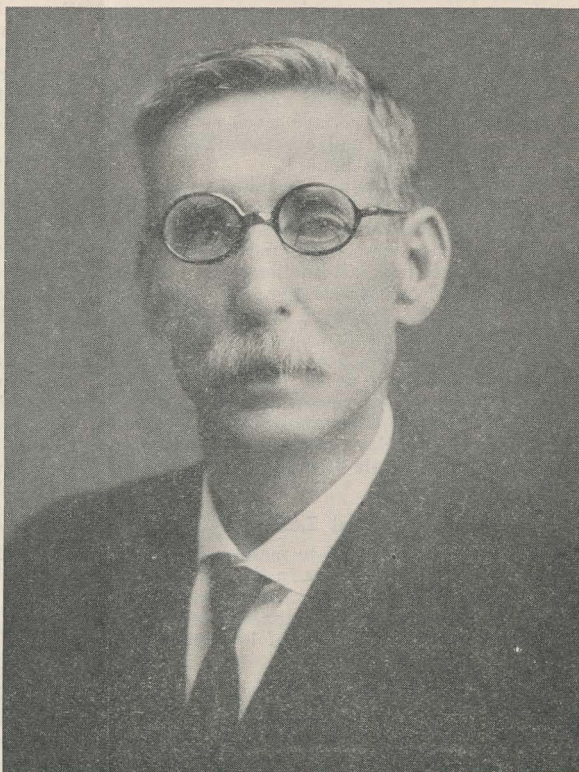
No. 4

IN MEMORIAM.

"With all my heart I wish you a pleasant journey," such was the last message received by the undersigned from our beloved Pastor Herzberger. The message had been written with a trembling hand, due to the exhausted condition of the writer. And now his life's journey has come to an end. Our little quarterly, the LUTHERAN DEACONESS, mourns the loss of its efficient editor. His articles proved an inspiration to all interested in the deaconess cause. He rejoiced to see his efforts bearing fruit as evidenced by the expansion of our deaconess work. When, six years ago, the LUTHERAN DEACONESS was first launched, there were three deaconesses in the service. The present force of workers totals thirty-five.

It was back in 1911, when the general body of the Missouri Synod met at St. Louis, that Pastor Herzberger championed the cause of establishing deaconess training-schools in our circles. He realized the necessity of trained woman helpers in the great fields of missions and charities. He was ever interested in the physically and spiritually poor, the halt, the maimed, and the blind, and thousands were by him taught the way of salvation in Christ Jesus. The first eighteen years of his ministry were spent in serving as pastor of congregations in Arkansas, in Kansas, and finally in Hammond, Ind. But his real life-work was done at St. Louis, Mo., where he served as city missionary for some thirty years. He began the work alone, but in the course of time it grew to such proportions that he received assistance in several branches of his labors. Among his assistants were also two woman helpers, Mrs. R. Vellner and Miss Helene Hanser, R. N.

And now the Lord of the Church has called His faithful steward home. He died in the



faith of his Savior on Tuesday, August 26. Funeral services were held on Friday, August 29. Among those present at the funeral was Pastor Enno Duemling, city missionary for Milwaukee and president of the Associated Lutheran Charities. The Board of Directors of our Lutheran Deaconess Association voted a memorial wreath. May the example of Pastor Herzberger stimulate us in the work which he loved so dearly that we may also work while it is day, before the night cometh, when no man can work!
B. POCH.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DEACONESS ASSOCIATION.

Because of the fact that the Charities Conference was to meet at Fort Wayne this fall, it was considered feasible to arrange the annual meeting of the Deaconess Association for the same week. Delegates and visitors began to arrive Monday afternoon, September 29, and were entertained with a supper provided by the Fort Wayne Deaconess Auxiliary. The meeting was held at Emmaus School and was opened by the president, Pastor Ph. Wambsganss. "Serve the Lord with gladness" was the subject of his address. The treasurer's report was then heard and approved. The auditing committee reported that they had found the books in excellent condition.

Superintendent B. Poch presented a survey of the year's activities. He said in part: "The present status of our deaconess work is conclusive evidence that the Lord has blessed our humble endeavors also during the past year. We have had our difficulties and our problems, but the dear Lord has always given us strength and courage to meet and overcome them. To Him be all praise and honor!"

"Before I enter upon a detailed report of last year's activities, I deem it proper that we remember him who was an outstanding figure in our deaconess work and whom it has pleased the Lord to call to his eternal home, our beloved Pastor Herzberger. Although he had not been able to attend our annual meetings for the last few years, he would always remember them in his prayer and would drop us a letter, assuring us of his whole-hearted support. Well do we remember his congratulatory letter as we celebrated our tenth anniversary last fall. May we cherish his memory and follow his example of holy zeal in winning souls for Christ!"

Our First Loss.

It has pleased the Lord to make a breach in the ranks of our deaconesses in the service. He called to her eternal rest Dorothea Koenig. The July issue of our LUTHERAN DEACONESS published a detailed account of her connection with our association.

Training Schools. — Fort Wayne, Ind.

There were thirteen deaconesses in training at our Fort Wayne school. Deaconess Grace Nordman was sent to the Lutheran Deaconess Hospital at Yuma, Colo. Deaconess Esther Schabacker was transferred from Yuma to Beaver Dam, Wis. Two hundred forty-one periods of instruction were given at the Deaconess Home. In addition to these classes all deaconesses attend the Bible-study period at the Nurses' Home, which is under the direction of the hospital chaplain, Pastor E. Weber. We are pleased to report that also in the past year our deaconesses in training have given a good account of themselves in the doctors' classes.

A special vote of thanks is due the Fort Wayne Deaconess Auxiliary, which remembered

the graduates with appropriate gifts and showed its interest in our work also in other ways. Credit is due also our Cleveland friends, who have been giving their moral and financial support to the cause. May the Lord reward our friends for their loyal support!

Beaver Dam, Wis.

Our great problem at Beaver Dam has been the small number of deaconesses in training. Due to this condition we were obliged to employ a greater number of graduate nurses, which, of course, made the overhead expenses much higher. An appeal for more student nurses published in the April issue of our DEACONESS QUARTERLY has had good results. We hope to have a Freshman class of six students by fall. Three Seniors were installed on September 21. Two of these will be employed at Beaver Dam as soon as they have had their vacation.

We regret very much that one of our able instructors at Beaver Dam, Pastor J. M. Nommensen, found it impossible to continue his classes because of increased parish work. Pastor Wm. Naumann, chaplain at the Bethesda Home, has consented to continue as instructor until other arrangements can be made.

Watertown.

Classes met regularly with Pastor Wm. Naumann, chaplain of Bethesda Home, as well as with Mr. L. Pingel, superintendent of the institution, and Mrs. J. H. Groenke, one of the teachers at Bethesda.

There were eight deaconess students at Bethesda, three of whom were installed the first Sunday in May. One of the graduates will take a special course in nursing. Miss Anna Marty was placed at the orphans' home in Des Peres, Mo. We are happy to state that every one of our Watertown graduates is still with us. May the Lord continue to bless our training-schools!

Statistics.

Foreign Missions, India, 2; Apache Indian Missions, Arizona, 3; parish-workers, 3; city mission, 1; institutions, 10; hospitals: Beaver Dam, 7; Alamosa, 4; Yuma, 1; Deaconess Home secretary, 1; resigned, 1; sick, 2; on furlough, 2.

Publicity.

The principal agency for last year's publicity work was our DEACONESS QUARTERLY. The January issue, which had an account of the tenth anniversary meeting, and the July issue which contained an editorial on the Deaconess Hospital proposition, were mailed to every pastor of the Synodical Conference. Copies were mailed also to former contributors.

The official papers of our Synod as well as the *Walther League Messenger* and various District papers carried items on deaconess work. Wider publicity will be given our cause as soon as our campaign gets under way. Deaconess Martha Schmidt is filling the position of office secretary for the present.

Professor Foelber's Report.

Professor Foelber had been asked by the Board of Directors to visit the Lutheran hospitals at Alamosa and Yuma, Colo., where a number of deaconesses are stationed. He reported in part:—

Alamosa, Colo.

"Alamosa is a city of about 4,000 inhabitants, situated in the beautiful San Luis Valley in Southern Colorado. The hospital building is located on one of the principal business streets. While it is not a first-class home for a hospital, it is very serviceable. The equipment is fair. The capacity is twenty beds. The nursing service is furnished by registered nurses only. All doctors of the city patronize the hospital, which has an excellent reputation.

"A meeting was held with the members of the hospital board and Pastors Mueller and Brott. The deaconesses were also present at a meeting. The recommendation was made that an executive committee meet every week with the superintendent to assist her both in making purchases and in collecting outstanding accounts. The deaconesses expressed the wish that the association arrange for regular visits by some member of the board or the superintendent. It would be very profitable that opportunities for further study be given.

"There seemed to be a fine spirit of harmony among the deaconesses and a willingness to continue in the work.

"The situation at Alamosa looks very hopeful. There is not a little sentiment among the business people in favor of erecting a hospital for our association. Pastor Brott reported a number of encouraging missionary experiences.

Yuma, Colo.

"The hospital at Yuma was opened at the request of a number of prominent people of that town, which has a population of about 1,500. Pastor A. Hoyer organized an association from among his membership. The home of the hospital is a dwelling of moderate size. The capacity is eight beds. Deaconess Esther Schabacker has done very fine work at Yuma. There is much favorable sentiment in the town for a hospital building.

"Several meetings were held with the board and the pastor. They are very grateful to the Deaconess Association for the assistance which it has given. It may take several years before much progress can be made.

Hot Springs, S. Dak.

"Due to a lack of cooperation among the doctors the Lutheran Sanitarium and Hospital at Hot Springs has suffered severe financial reverses. We ought to rally to the support of this institution, so that it may continue under Lutheran control. The value of the institution is rated at \$100,000. The Deaconess Association has been asked to supply the hospital with two deaconess nurses.

Other Visits.

"Calls were made on Pastors Peters and Hensel in Colorado; also on Pastor Schleef at Battle Creek, Nebr., and on Pastor Korbitz at Kansas City. These men are all very much interested in deaconess work and have pledged their support."

The Beaver Dam Prospect.

Pastor L. Kirst, of Beaver Dam, spoke on the situation obtaining at present with regard to the hospital project. There are influences at work, he said, that would like to interfere with our plans; but the assurance has been given us that eventually we shall get a clear title to the property. Once the title is clear, it will be a comparatively easy matter to arouse an enthusiasm in our people and have them contribute liberally towards the \$60,000 goal.

Election.

Messrs. E. F. Niemeyer, Aug. Becker, and L. Schmoee were elected to serve again for three years.

Attendance.

About fifty delegates and guests attended the meeting. Among them were six graduate deaconesses who stayed over for the Associated Charities Convention.

The superintendent was instructed to convey our regrets to Mr. Theo. Dammann, president of the Milwaukee Branch Association, who was not able to attend because of illness.

B. Poch.

INSTALLATION AT BEAVER DAM.

Installation services were held at St. Stephen's Church, Beaver Dam, on the evening of September 21. Pastor L. Kirst delivered the German address on 2 Cor. 5, 14: "The love of Christ constraineth us." "If our works are to please God, they must be the product of true faith in Christ, who first loved us. The love of Christ will prompt us to continue in our missionary and charitable endeavors even under the most adverse circumstances. He who gave Himself for us will grant us strength day by day to serve Him by serving our fellow-men. If you carry on your work in this spirit, you will experience the Lord's blessing and will, in turn, be a blessing unto others."

Pastor Poch's sermon was based on Matt. 6, 4: "Thy Father, which seeth in secret, Himself shall reward thee openly." He said in part: As you listened to the words of our text, the thought may have occurred to you, What bearing have these words upon the calling which we have chosen, the calling of a Lutheran deaconess? Dear friends, a close study of this particular scripture will reveal to us a wealth of comfort and encouragement to which I would direct your attention, who are standing upon the threshold of active deaconess service. Our text is taken from that portion of St. Matthew's gospel which has justly been called one of the most beautiful and impressive



Bertha Schimke.



Dorothea Langhoff.



Alma Schumann.

sections in the entire New Testament. Our text is taken from the Sermon on the Mount. In this sermon Jesus, in the simplest language, but with singular force, declares that it is utterly impossible for man to live up to the standard of God's holy Law. Using the Fifth and the Sixth Commandment as an illustration, the Savior makes it plain that our very thoughts are to be in perfect harmony with the holy will of God. According to Christ's teaching the Ten Commandments demand far more than was claimed by the scribes and Pharisees. These men were looked upon by the general public as very holy people. They made a great boast about their obeying the Law of Moses. To the amazement of the people, Jesus said: "Except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter the kingdom of God." For any man to think that because of his good behavior God must receive him into heaven is folly and presumption. Life eternal is a free gift of the grace of God. Jesus put Himself in direct opposition to the teaching of the scribes and Pharisees when He said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The poor in spirit are those who realize their sinful condition and turn to the Lord for mercy. The poor in spirit put their faith in Christ Jesus, who has become our Righteousness. Such faith in Christ as the Savior is bound to manifest itself in works of charity. It is of deeds of charity that Jesus speaks in the words preceding our text. He says: "Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth." The Pharisees made a great show when giving alms. Since they courted and accepted the praises of men, how could they expect to be rewarded by God? Their seeming charity, together with all their other works, was an abomination unto the Lord because the proper motive was lacking. To give alms is well-pleasing to the Lord if it is done in the right spirit, in the spirit of gratitude for God's love as revealed in Christ Jesus, the Savior. This truth,

that all our works, to please God, must be done in the right spirit, applies also, and very much so, to the calling of a Lutheran deaconess.

Luther writes on this point: "Let thy works shine brightly, but remain thou hidden to all but God, who seeth in secret." Behold our blessed Savior, the greatest Benefactor of mankind, who went about doing good. His miracles were a blessing to suffering humanity. But did you ever read that he sounded trumpets before Him to call the attention of the people in a special way? He did not. His very first miracle was done quietly. Let us follow our Savior's example. Let us not parade our good deeds before men, but consider it a privilege to serve the Lord by serving the least of His brethren. At the proper time He will reward us according to His great mercy. As a good deal of the pastor's work is done in secret, that is, unobserved by men, his prayers, his meditations, his private admonitions and encouragements, his touches of personal sympathy, thus also many deeds of a Lutheran deaconess are hidden from the eyes of men. Dr. Dau once remarked that the work of a deaconess in its very nature is inconspicuous; and then he added the significant remark that it would really not be good for the calling if the glamor of earthly distinction and the loud praises of men would settle upon it.

Still the calling of a deaconess is one upon which the eyes of our heavenly Father rest with delight. Moved by the Holy Spirit, St. Paul, in his Epistle to the Romans, mentions the names of several women who had labored much in the Lord. We do not know very much about their activities. Womanlike, these dear souls seem to have done their work mostly unobserved. But some things are told us about the activities of a certain Phoebe, who was officially employed by the congregation at Cenchrea. St. Paul writes about her services: "She has been a succorer of many and of myself also." Phoebe means "the radiant one." Her faith in the Lord Jesus shone forth in deeds of love. She was always willing to look after the poor, the sick, and the

disconsolate. Phoebe was, as we would express it to-day, a parish deaconess. We have several deaconesses engaged in a similar service to-day. The pastors of large congregations appreciate the services of trained woman helpers who assist not only in keeping the various files in order, but who are able also to serve in the day-school and Sunday-school and in the Walther League and who can nurse members of poor families. Our city missionaries also depend upon the services of deaconesses. The women's wards of the large city hospitals offer many an opportunity to render real service, the end always being to win souls for Christ. It seems a small thing in the eyes of the world to assist an aged invalid at the infirmary in his efforts to reach the elevator that will take him close to the chapel where the Lutheran missionary conducts a service. But it is just such deeds that our Father in heaven values most highly. And when on the Last Day our Savior will return in the clouds of heaven to take us with Him, He is going to tell the whole world among other things about such seemingly insignificant things as these: giving a drop of water to a famished wayfarer, sewing a dress for a ragged orphan, and visiting a prisoner in his cell. He will consider such deeds as done to Him and will reward them according to His mercy.

In view of our Savior's love and in consideration of His great reward of mercy let us give ourselves again and again to Him who loved us first, asking Him to make something out of us for Himself.

The Graduates.

Dorothea Langhoff, Hamburg, Wis.; Bertha Schimke, Leavenworth, Kans.; Alma Schumann, Beaver Dam, Wis. Miss Langhoff will need a prolonged rest before taking up a position. The other two graduates will be placed at the Beaver Dam Deaconess Hospital.

The services were enhanced by a selection from St. Stephen's Choir and the deaconess classes. A reception was given the graduates, and refreshments were served by the ladies of St. Stephen's.

ASSOCIATED LUTHERAN CHARITIES MEET AT FORT WAYNE.

The twenty-ninth convention of the Associated Lutheran Charities was held at Fort Wayne from September 30 to October 2. Over eighty delegates were present, representing the various city missions and charitable endeavors within the Synodical Conference. Inspirational addresses and round-table discussions were the main features of the convention. In the opening address Pastor Enno Duemling, city missionary at Milwaukee and president of the conference, paid a glowing tribute to the memory of Pastor F. W. Herzberger, of St. Louis, the first city missionary within the Lutheran Church and one of the founders of the Associated Charities. He was instrumental in calling into existence a home-finding society, a home for convalescents, and a home for the aged, and in

training a large number of volunteer workers to assist him in his institutional missions. It is due to his untiring efforts that the Lutheran Deaconess Association within the Synodical Conference was organized for the purpose of training Lutheran young women for special service in the great fields of missions and charities. The Bethesda Home at Watertown, Wis., which cares for hundreds of feeble-minded and epileptics from our Lutheran circles, owns him as sponsor and friend. In him our Associated Charities Conference has suffered a great loss.

Prof. Paul Bente spoke on "The Mission of a Charities Worker." He stressed the fact that the goal of our work is not outward reformation, but inward regeneration, and the only means to achieve this end is the Word of God. All other means, such as helping the poor and needy, providing for orphans and cripples, looking after the aged, are but a means to an end. Let us never give bread to the hungry without giving them the bread of life, the Word of God.

The afternoon sessions were given over to group meetings. The hospital group discussed the question of training executives and instructors for our Lutheran hospitals. Again and again appeals for Lutheran executives for Lutheran institutions come to the headquarters of the Lutheran Deaconess Association. A committee was elected which drew up a recommendation to the effect that the hospitals provide such training for Lutheran nurses who would qualify for such positions and, if necessary, supply financial aid. It was also suggested that the publication of a hospital bulletin would be of great help in establishing a closer relation among our Lutheran hospitals.

The child-welfare group discussed the problem of discipline in orphanages and children's homes.

Pastor F. J. Lankenau, First Vice-President of Synod, delivered the convention sermon. He said in part: "We are living in an age in which the value of a man is gaged by his possessions. Those who have amassed great wealth are looked upon as men who count for something. The true value of a man does not, however, depend upon his wealth or his social position, but rather upon his making use of his possessions in a God-pleasing manner. There are also some who would have us believe that the Christian religion is so much concerned about the future life that people will neglect their duties towards their fellow-men in trying to reach heaven. Our Savior's example, however, shows the utter fallacy of such a statement. If ever there was a person who was heaven-minded, it was Jesus. But did His heaven-mindedness keep Him from going about and doing good? The very opposite is the case. He had compassion with the sick, the poor, and the needy. No one was turned away who came to Him for help. It is faith in Him that will prompt us to do likewise. By serving the least of our brethren, we are serving the Lord Jesus. His love must ever be the source and mainspring of our charitable endeavors."

Mr. Walter Hoppe, treasurer of the Cleveland Lutheran Hospital, served as chairman for the

hospital group. He called attention to the fact that our Lutheran hospitals have a greater objective than merely the caring for the physically sick. A Lutheran hospital is a Christian institution, where true Christian atmosphere should prevail. Lutheran hospitals furnish ample opportunities to do great things for the sin-sick souls of men and women. Many an unchurched person has found the Savior through the spiritual ministrations of the hospital chaplain.

Pastor Holls, city missionary at St. Louis, addressed the woman workers on conditions as we find them in our larger cities at the present time. There is no getting away from the fact that crime and immorality are on the increase. The situation is accentuated due to the large number of unemployed. Our great question is, How can we best bring the Word of God to these people? They will not come to church of themselves. We must go to them. Here we find a great field for the woman worker to assist the city missionary. We rejoice in the fact that our Lutheran Church has at last recognized the tremendous value of the trained woman worker, the deaconess, in the fields of missionary endeavor. She is particularly qualified to be of service to delinquent girls. We need her help to improve home conditions in many families.

Dr. Dau contributed two papers. The first essay dwelt on the problems facing the Church because of the cityward trend of the population. There was a time when a comparatively small percentage of our country's population lived in the cities. Most people lived on farms. Now the opposite is the case. The city, and particularly the larger city, has so many attractions, and these split up man's interests and in the end prove disastrous. All kinds of antireligious forces are active in the cities. Statistics prove that the non-church-membership of city dwellers is rapidly increasing. The process of finding and reclaiming those who have left the church is very slow and exceedingly difficult. We are rapidly becoming a nation of city-dwellers. There is the difficult problem of the down-town church. Because of the trend to the city, many rural churches have been abandoned, and some are used only on the occasion of a funeral. The essayist quoted from an article which appeared in the *July Independent*: "To me it has always appeared that a simple faith is far more natural to people living in the country than to those who live in the artificial palaces of civilization." The lure of the city has been the undoing of many a son and many a daughter who otherwise might have grown up as respected citizens and good Christians. Let us, however, not become discouraged since God's Word will prove its power at all times and under all circumstances.

The second essay presented by Dr. Dau dealt with the subject "Know Thyself." If we are to be a success as workers in the Lord's kingdom, we must be aware of our weaknesses and failings. We must be conscious of the fact that with might of ours naught can be done. True humility is essential if we are to be of real

service in our missionary and charitable endeavors. If, like St. Paul, we are privileged to see the fruits of our labor, we are constrained to say, "By grace I am what I am." Only then shall we go forth with renewed zeal to win souls for Christ when we have again experienced the love of God which has been shed into our hearts.

Pastor Ilse, conference statistician, reported that over 400,000 persons have been reached last year through our city missions and charitable organizations, including our own hospitals.

Pastor Poch reported on the progress of our deaconess work. The association has been considering how to raise the standard of efficiency of its training-schools. Since the deaconess cause was originally sponsored by the Associated Charities, it is only natural that we should look to them for support in the special campaign for memberships and for donations toward the Beaver Dam Deaconess Hospital Annex.

May the Lord, our Savior, continue to bless all our endeavors to further His kingdom here on earth!



Rev. F. W. Korbitz.

AN INTRODUCTION.

We take great pleasure in introducing to our readers Pastor F. W. Korbitz, who has been engaged as field man by our association in negotiating the membership campaign and soliciting contributions for the Deaconess Hospital Annex. He has been an enthusiastic supporter of our deaconess cause for many years. After graduating from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, he took up a correspondence course in diaconics. The Junior Walther League of Nebraska had

elected him as its president. At that time he was serving the congregation at Eagle. Before entering upon his present duties in the deaconess cause, he was pastor of a mission-congregation at Kansas City, Kans.

He has begun active work as field man in the State of Wisconsin. The prospects for securing a larger membership are very bright. If only one out of every sixty communicant members affiliated with the Synodical Conference is gained as member, we shall go over the top. While at Milwaukee, he had occasion to address a meeting of pastors of the English District. At Random Lake he presented the deaconess cause to the pastoral conference of that circuit. Other speaking engagements have been secured.

When the title to the property at Beaver Dam is cleared, which is expected in a few weeks, the solicitation for funds to enlarge the hospital will begin.

May the Lord guide and bless the efforts of our field-worker!

NOTES AND NEWS.

The first contribution for our Deaconess Hospital Annex was given us by a former student of our Watertown Summer School.

Deaconesses Johanna Schmidt and Margaret Lauterbach have been transferred to the Lutheran Hospital and Sanatorium at Hot Springs, S. Dak. Deaconess Anna Schrader has been entrusted with the position of matron at the boarding-school of the Indian Mission at Gresham, Wis.

Several requests for deaconess nurses could not be complied with for lack of candidates.

There are six members in the new Freshman class at Fort Wayne. We need several more new students at Beaver Dam.

The question as to what kind of uniforms our deaconesses are to wear has been definitely settled by a committee of the Fort Wayne Deaconess Auxiliary. Every deaconess will receive a copy of the regulations.

The present issue of the LUTHERAN DEACONESS will be mailed to every pastor affiliated with the Synodical Conference.

Jahresversammlung.

Die Jahresversammlung unserer Lutherischen Diakonissen-Gesellschaft wurde am Abend des 29. September in der Schule der Emmausgemeinde zu Fort Wayne abgehalten. Die Frauen des Diakonissen-Hilfsvereins hatten die Delegaten und Gäste mit einer ausgezeichneten Mahlzeit bewirtet. Darauf wurde das Eigentum der Emmausgemeinde unter Führung der Pastoren P. und F. Wamböganß des näheren besichtigt. Um halb acht Uhr wurde die Versammlung mit Gebet und Gesang eröffnet. P. Philipp Wamböganß, der seit Gründung der Gesellschaft als Präsident gedient hat, führte den Vorsitz. Seiner Eröffnungsrede hatte er das Schriftwort Ps. 100, 2 zugrunde gelegt: „Dienet dem Herrn mit Freuden!“ Der Bericht des Kassierers wurde verlesen und angenommen. An Beiträgen sind im vergangenen Jahre an die \$700 weniger eingekommen als im Vorjahre.

Bericht des Superintendenten.

Der Superintendent berichtete, daß Gottes Segen auch im vergangenen Jahre sichtlich auf unserer Arbeit geruht hat. Wenn wir auch nicht auf große Erfolge hinweisen können, so hat das Werk doch einen gesegneten Fortgang gehabt. Es stehen zur Zeit vierunddreißig Diakonissen auf verschiedenen Arbeitsfeldern in gesegneter Tätigkeit. Zwei sind im Dienste der Heidenmission in Indien; drei sind in der Indianermision in Arizona tätig; drei sind Gemeindefröiwertern; in der Stadtmission in Chicago steht seit einigen Monaten Diakonisse Luise Möhlenbrod. Vierundzwanzig dienen in verschiedenen Wohltätigkeitsanstalten und in Hospitälern. In den Hospitälern haben unsere Diakonissen viel Gelegenheit, das Wort des Lebens an unfkirchliche Leute zu bringen. Achtundzwanzig Schülerinnen befinden sich in unsern drei Diakonissenschulen.

P. L. Kirst berichtete über den Stand der Dinge in Beaver Dam. Wiewohl mancherlei Schwierigkeiten sich uns in den Weg stellen wollen, um den geplanten Anbau an unser Diakonissenhospital zu hindern, so leben wir doch der guten Zuversicht, daß mit Gottes Hilfe alles wohl gelingen wird.

P. F. Korbiz hielt eine kurze Ansprache, in der er insonderheit darum bat, daß man ihn mit unsern Gebeten unterstützen möchte. Wegen der lauen Geschäftslage wird es nicht leicht sein, für den geplanten Hospitalbau Gelder zu sammeln. Doch sollte es verhältnismäßig nicht so schwer halten, die Mitgliederzahl unserer Gesellschaft zu erhöhen, so daß wir in absehbarer Zeit das Ziel von zehntausend erreicht haben. Auch gilt es, unsere Leute zu belehren, daß das Diakonissenhospital nicht bloß den Leuten in Beaver Dam dient, sondern durch seine Diakonissenschule der ganzen Synodalkonferenz zum Segen gereicht. Die erste Diakonisse, die in die Heidenmission nach Indien gesandt wurde, stammt aus der Diakonissenschule in Beaver Dam. Dasselbe ist auch der Fall bei unsern Diakonissen, die in der Mission unter den Apachen in Arizona stehen.

Allerlei vom Arbeitsfelde.

Diakonisse Gertrud Oberheu in Indien teilt uns mit, daß sie sich schon etwas im Tamulischen behelfen kann.

Auf die dringende Bitte der Behörde des Lutherischen Sanitariums und Hospitals zu Hot Springs, S. Dak., werden bald zwei Diakonissen als Krankenpflegerinnen dorthin gesandt werden.

P. Korbiz berichtet, daß er seine Tätigkeit als Feldsekretär im Staate Wisconsin angefangen hat. Auf etlichen Pastorkonferenzen hat er Vorträge gehalten und wird in den nächsten Wochen auch vor verschiedenen Frauenvereinen reden.

Zum Andenken an unsern selig entschlafenen P. Herzberger hat unser Direktorium einen Minde-franz gestiftet.

Wir könnten zur Zeit noch fünf Diakonissen, die geprüfte Krankenpflegerinnen sind, ins Feld stellen, wenn uns solche zur Verfügung ständen. Man erweist der Kirche einen großen Dienst, wenn man fromme Jungfrauen auf unsere Arbeit aufmerksam macht.

Diakonisse Anna Schrader ist als Matrone in der Kostschule unserer Indianermision zu Gresham, Wis., angestellt worden.

In Fort Wayne haben wir sechs Schülerinnen in der Anfangsklasse.

Sechs Diakonissen wohnten der Jahresversammlung sowie den Sitzungen der Wohltätigkeitskonferenz bei.

Am Abend des 21. September wurden drei Schülerinnen unserer Diakonissenschule in Beaver Dam installiert. P. Kirt hielt eine deutsche Ansprache über die Worte „Die Liebe Christi dringet uns also“. Er führte aus, daß alle Menschen von Natur selbstsüchtig sind. Keiner will von Natur dem andern dienen. Jeder will herrschen. Wo aber die Liebe Christi in ein Herz eingezogen ist, da folgt man gerne der Weisung der Schrift: „Durch die Liebe diene einer dem andern.“ Solange die Liebe Christi in euren Herzen wohnt, wird euch keine Arbeit zu viel, keine Mühe zu schwer sein. Lebt fleißig das Evangelium von der Liebe Christi, das euch neue Kraft gibt, dem Herrn in seinen Brüdern zu dienen.

P. Koch hielt die englische Ansprache über folgende Worte aus der Bergpredigt: „Dein Vater, der ins Verborgene siehet, wird dir's vergelten öffentlich.“

Nach dem Gottesdienst versammelte sich die Gemeinde im Erbschloß der Kirche, wo die Verwandten und Freunde der abgehenden Klasse Gelegenheit hatten, ihre Glückwünsche zu übermitteln. Die wertigen Frauen der St. Stephanusgemeinde hatten für Geschenke gesorgt.

Die drei Diakonissen, die bald in den Dienst treten werden, sind: Dorothea Langhoff, Hamburg, Wis.; Berta Schimke, Leavenworth, Kans.; Alma Schumann, Beaver Dam, Wis. Der treue Heiland segne die Dienste dieser Arbeiterinnen! Die zwei Vorigenannten werden im Diakonissenhospital in Stellung sein. B. Koch.

† Friedrich Wilhelm Herzberger. †

So ist er nun heimgegangen, unser treuerdienter Mitbruder und Vater in Christo. In Anbetracht seiner vielseitigen Tätigkeit und insonderheit in Anbetracht dessen, was er unserer Diakonissengesellschaft gewesen ist, werden es unsere lieben Leser begreiflich finden, daß wir ihm hier ein bescheidenes Denkmal setzen. Als der Unterzeichnete ihn letztes Frühjahr im Lutherischen Hospital zu St. Louis besuchte, sprach er die Hoffnung aus, daß der Herr der Kirche ihm aufs neue Gesundheit und Kraft zu weiterer Arbeit in seinem Weinberge schenken möge. „Er hat es in den letzten Jahren so oft getan, er kann es auch jetzt wieder tun. Wenn ich mich stärker fühle, so möchte ich mich gerne längere Zeit in unserer Bethesda-Anstalt zu Watertown anrufen. Doch des Herrn Wille geschehe. Wie Gott mich führt, so will ich gehn.“ Und nun hat der Herr der Ernte seinem müden Arbeiter Feierabend bereitet.

Achtundvierzig Jahre lang hat P. Herzberger im Predigtamt dienen dürfen. Seine Haupttätigkeit durfte er im Dienste der Stadtmission zu St. Louis entfalten. Als der erste Stadtmissionar in unsern Kreisen wirkte er bahnbrechend auf diesem Gebiet. Das leibliche und vor allen Dingen das geistliche Glend so vieler Menschen im Getriebe der Großstadt ging ihm tief zu Herzen. Im städtischen Gefängnis, im Stadthospital, im Armenhaus und in andern Anstalten der Stadt war er unermüdet tätig, arme und betrübt Sinder dem Heilande in die Arme zu

führen. Und Gottes Segen ruhte sichtlich auf seiner Arbeit. Im Laufe der Zeit mußten ihm Hilfskräfte zur Seite gestellt werden, darunter auch zwei Frauen. Er wußte aus Erfahrung, welche herrliche Dienste gerade auch durch geschulte, fromme Frauen der Kirche geleistet werden können auf dem Gebiete der Mission und der geordneten Liebestätigkeit. Die Christen der ersten Jahrhunderte haben sich in ausgiebiger Weise solch weiblicher Hilfskräfte bedient, die man Diakonissen nannte. Der Apostel Paulus rühmt den Dienst einer gewissen Phöbe, die von der Gemeinde zu Kenchred als Diakonissin angestellt war.

Wenn nun die Christen der ersten Jahrhunderte es für ratsam hielten, Diakonissen anzustellen, warum sollten wir es dann nicht auch für gut achten? So fing denn unser lieber Herzberger an, darauf hinzuwirken, daß in unsern Kreisen ein Diakonissenwesen emporblühen möchte nach biblischem Vorbilde. Seine Bestrebungen waren nicht umsonst. Auf der Wohltätigkeitskonferenz, die im August 1919 zu Fort Wayne tagte, wurde beschlossen, eine Diakonissengesellschaft zu gründen. Sein Bufenfreund, P. Philipp Wambsganz, stand ihm in seinen Bestrebungen kräftig zur Seite. Als unsere Diakonissengesellschaft im vergangenen Jahre ihr zehnjähriges Bestehen feiern durfte, sandte er uns ein besonderes Glückwunschschreiben, worin er uns aufforderte, Gott zu loben und zu preisen für den reichen Segen, den er auf unsere Diakonissenarbeit gelegt hat. Um unsere Sache in weiteren Kreisen bekannt zu machen, fing er an, unsere kleine Diakonissenzeitschrift herauszugeben. Er war auch einer der Gründer der Wohltätigkeitskonferenz. Das Altenheim in St. Louis, das Erholungsheim dafelbst und der Diakonissenweibverein sind durch ihn zustande gekommen. Er war auch literarisch tätig. Gott hatte ihm die Gabe der Dichtkunst verliehen. Sein Andachtsbuch, in englischer Sprache geschrieben, wird in vielen Christenhäusern gelesen. Er war ohne Zweifel einer der Großen im Reiche Gottes, die viele zur Gerechtigkeit gewiesen haben.

Am 26. August schloß er seine müden Augen, und am 29. ist er zur letzten Ruhe bestattet worden. Es will uns weh ums Herz werden, wenn wir an den Verlust denken, den sein Tod verursacht hat. Doch gönnen wir ihm die Ruhe, zu der er nun eingegangen ist.

Wir aber wollen seinem Beispiel folgen und wirken, solange es Tag ist, ehe die Nacht kommt, da niemand wirken kann. B. Koch.

BOOK REVIEW.

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