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Lutheran Deaconess Association

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THE LUTHERAN

OFFICIAL ORGAN

OF THE
LUTHERAN
DEACONESS
ASSOCIATION

WITHIN THE
SYNODICAL
CONFERENCE

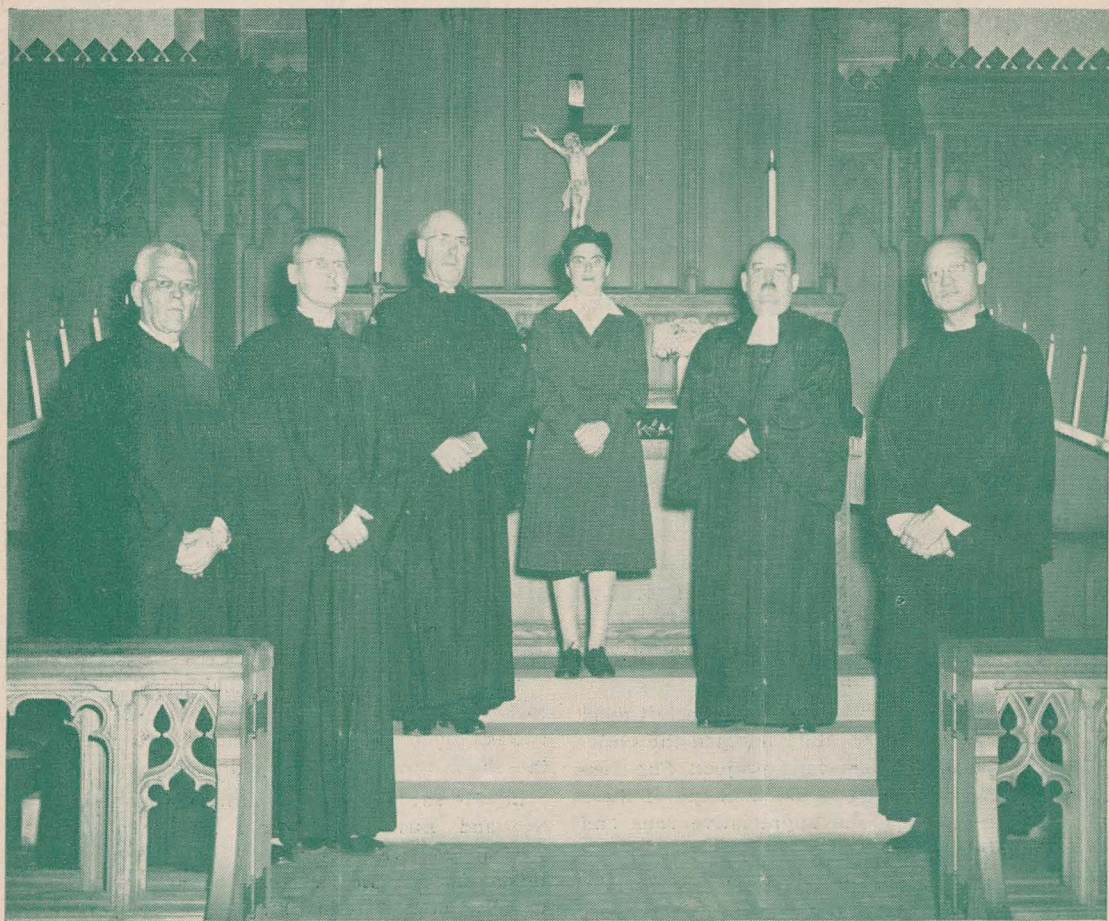
Deaconess

Vol. 24

No. 4



OCTOBER, 1947



Deaconess Rose Ziemke was commissioned for mission service in India in a special divine service held in Trinity Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., on June 26. Pastor W. H. McLaughlin preached the sermon and Rev. O. H. Schmidt, Executive Secretary for Foreign Missions, was in charge of the commissioning, assisted by the other pastors in the picture. From left to right Pastor Theo. D. Martens, Rev. Arnold F. Krentz, Rev. O. H. Schmidt, Deaconess Rose Ziemke, Pastor W. H. McLaughlin, Pastor F. E. Schumann.

ADVENTURING FOR CHRIST

We face a humanity too precious to neglect,
We know a remedy for the ills of the world
too wonderful to withhold.
We have a Christ who is too glorious to hide,
We have an adventure that is too thrilling
to miss.

G. B. Howard.

MARY SLESSOR

Ever hear of Mary Slessor? She was born 99 years ago in Aberdeen, Scotland. Her father was a drunkard. Will she surmount such an environmental barrier?

A missionary from Dark Africa came to her church to tell of his experiences. Her heart was stirred. In imagination she saw horrible scenes, captured Negroes, cannibal chiefs. She resolved to do something about it, to follow in Livingstone's footsteps.

Meanwhile she served in a slum mission. Finally she was granted a position by the Mission Board in Calabar, Africa. Then followed three months of intensive training.

Said her mother: "My lassie, I willingly let you go. You'll make a fine missionary."

Mary sailed for Africa on August 5, 1876. On the ship she caught sight of many whiskey casks which carried liquor to the dark natives. She remarked: "Scores of casks but only one missionary."

After three years of service she was stricken with tropical fever and had to return to Scotland to recuperate.

Upon her return she was placed in full charge of a mission.

One day a twin which had been left dead was brought to her. Mary adopted the child. Thus began a marvelous project: She rescued twins doomed to death. Some of these children grew to be appreciative sons and daughters of Mary.

After a dozen years of service on the coast the Mission Board granted Mary permission to open a mission station in the wild country of Okoyoung, populated by ferocious savages and dreaded cannibals.

Here Mary labored the rest of her life. She turned completely native, wore no shoes, ate whatever food the natives provided, drank unfiltered water. In this way she won the confidence of the people.

SCHOLARSHIP SPECIALS

The following friends of the Deaconess Cause have established scholarships to help deaconess students secure their education at Valparaiso University:

Ft. Wayne Deaconess Auxiliary \$100.00
Lutheran Deaconess Ass'n, St.

Louis, Mo. \$100.00
Emma S. Neddermann, Pekin, Ill. \$50.00
June Pomrenke, Huntington

Park, Cal. \$100.00
Leona Schroeder, Detroit, Mich. \$50.00
St. John's Guild, West Bend,

Wis. \$100.00
Detroit Lutheran Fellowship,

Detroit \$50.00

Our sincere thanks to these kind donors for remembering our students.

Frequently she risked her life to settle problems among the tribes. When a chief's son died, the village thought that a neighboring village was the cause of his death and the warriors attacked the other group, killing, plundering, burning the village.

On one occasion Mary pleaded with the chief to spare the people, but to no avail. When the time of the trial came, she saw the natives preparing the poison cup, a favorite method of killing enemies. She raced to the side of a woman about to be forced to drink the poison, grabbed her by the hand and took her to the mission-house.

The chief was enraged at this challenge of his plans. Eventually Mary cooled his ire and soothed his wild nature. What an heroic deed!

At another time two cannibal tribes went to battle. Mary ran and stood between the two spear-carrying tribes. She argued with the chiefs until they dropped their feud.

In 1914 she wanted to return to her native Scotland. But World War I interfered. In Africa she was overtaken by a tropical fever. In the Slessor Hospital at Itu she grew weaker. One day, scarcely audible, she was heard to say: "O Abasi, sana mi yok," Efik language for "O God, release me."

God heard her prayer. He released her three days later. She lies buried on African soil.

Thus ends this short biography of one of the great missionaries of all history, Mary Slessor, Heroine of Cannibal Land.

REPORT PREPARED FOR THE CENTENNIAL SYNOD

During the first half of our Synod's history, from 1847 to 1897, three major Lutheran church bodies in America, the United Lutheran Church, the Augustana Synod, and the American Lutheran Church had already established Deaconess Service in their midst.

Not until 1919, or approximately during the last quarter of Synod's first hundred years, did our Church begin training deaconesses for parish, missionary, and institutional services.

If there is **one unfinished task** in the work of our Synod in the past, it is definitely the education of deaconesses. During the past century 140 young women were consecrated for the diaconate.

We dare not be satisfied to educate 140 or 240 or 340 young women for deaconess service during the next hundred years. Rather let our aim be the education of 1,040 deaconesses during the coming century.

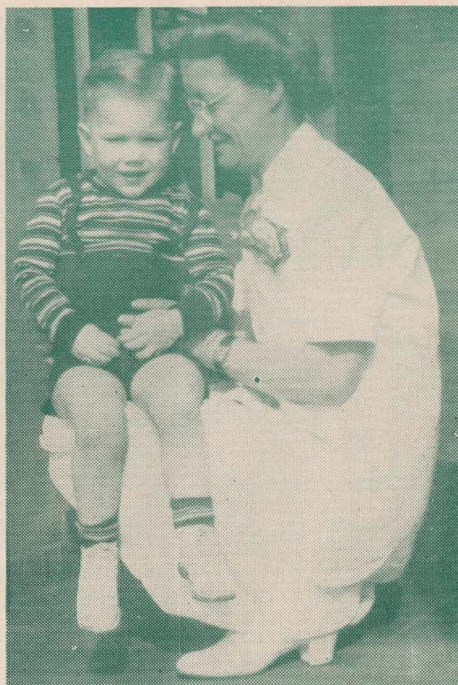
Synod's entrance into the second century, if it means anything, means a more intensive and extensive missionary program. To that end we need women like Mary Slessor, Ann Judson, and Betty Stam.

Brethren, we are in need of your financial help to promote the Deaconess Cause. May we plead with you to motivate your Sunday school, your Walther League, your ladies aid, your Lutheran Women's Missionary League to help us financially.

Remember, our education program for deaconesses is not allotted one cent of Synod's money. Yet we furnish you with qualified women workers. Just last month we commissioned a deaconess for service in India.

When Miss Olive Gruen, long-time mission worker in China, heard that we had established a full college course for deaconess students at Valparaiso University, she wrote us an enthusiastic letter, in which she emphasized the great improvement this education at Valparaiso is over the education she received in preparation for her service in China. When she was informed that we sorely needed a new Deaconess Chapter House at Valparaiso, she promised us a \$1,000 check for this purpose.

Brethren, your greater support of the Deaconess Cause will make the second century of our Synod differ from the past century in this respect.



Look at this fine boy. He surely wins your heart. The picture shows Deaconess Marie Twenhafel mothering this deaf boy at the Institute for the Deaf, Detroit, Michigan. Both Deaconess and pupil seem to be very happy.

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUER MEETS DEACONESS STUDENTS

While on a visit to America from Australia Miss Dorothy Hamann, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. H. P. A. Hamann of Concordia College in Unley, So. Australia, made it a point to visit our Deaconess Chapter House near the Valparaiso Campus. The description of her visit at the Chapter House and her evaluation of the Deaconess students as contained in the May issue of the *Luther League Monitor* is worth noting.

She writes: "While at Valparaiso I visited the Deaconess Home and there met many of the girls, who were all charming, friendly, full of fun, and imbued with the right spirit. They kept me for lunch so I really could get the feel of the atmosphere, so to speak. The Home was beautifully furnished, bright and pretty."

During the first century Deaconess Work was in the budding stage; during the second century it will reach full-bloom.

THE LUTHERAN DEACONESS

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**DEACONESS CHAPTER HOUSE
VALPARAISO, INDIANA**

Matron: Mrs. Sylvia Trautmann

BUILDING FUND

The First Ten Thousand Dollars

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Previously acknowledged | \$1,165.00 |
| Lulu Sieb, Monroe, Mich. | \$10.00 |

\$1,175.00

The need for a new Deaconess Chapter House in Valparaiso is very great. Our present quarters cannot possibly house our student group this fall. For this reason we are forced to rent additional quarters for a number of students. Not only does this create additional rent costs, but it breaks the entity of our student group.

We are depending for financial help on our friends throughout the country, individuals, ladies aids, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Sunday and Day Schools, and young people's societies. Won't you help us reach the first ten thousand dollars?

STATION LDA

- When the wife of Pastor A. G. Wacker, Ann Arbor, Michigan, died last year Salem Lutheran Church gave a memorial wreath of \$50.00 for the Deaconess Cause. Pastor Wacker and his congregation have demonstrated time and again that they are promoters of the Deaconess Movement.

- The father of Dr. C. F. Lindberg, head of the department of education and psychology at Valparaiso University, formerly headed the Deaconess Movement in the Augustana Synod. He was at the director of the large Immanuel Deaconess Institute, Omaha, Nebraska.

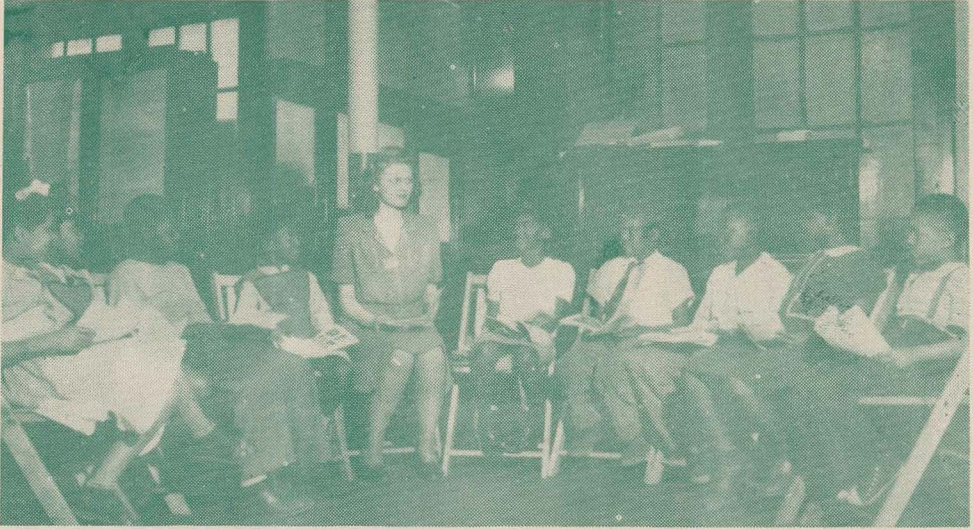
- Rev. Chas. Zeisser, Hamtramck, Michigan, has earned his Master's degree in the field of Speech at Wayne University, Detroit, Michigan. He wrote his thesis on *The Presence of Speech Techniques of Effective Preaching in the Sermons of Four Outstanding Preachers in the United States Today*. These are Merton S. Rice (since deceased), Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen, Harry Emerson Fosdick, and Clarence E. Macartney. We congratulate.

- *The Minneapolis Tribune*, in its July 27 issue, devoted an entire page with eight large pictures to the new deaconess uniform of the Augustana Synod. Throughout the entire Lutheran Church in America the tendency is to break away from the somber type of deaconess uniform.

- We are invited to address the Florida District of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League at its Convention in Miami on October 27. That night we shall need to fly back to Chicago to meet our class in Religious Education at Valparaiso University the next day.

- We preach at the Mental Hospital in Traverse City, Michigan, which Pastor Lorenz Grueber has served so fruitfully for many years. A novel experience! Mental hospitals present a great field for our Lutheran Church with its sweet Gospel of Christ which removes sin-tension and leaves the sinner at peace with God.

- Writes Pastor W. G. Dierks, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin: "My wife made a speech in behalf of the Lutheran Deaconess Association to the Ladies Aid and Mission Circle which resulted in \$100.00 from the Aid and \$25.00 from the Mission Circle." Hats off to Mrs. Dierks.



Student-Deaconess Mary Elaine Kluge spent a year doing field work at the Metropolitan City Mission, New York City. Here she received valuable training under the guidance of Pastor Wm. Stieve. Miss Kluge is shown teaching a class of Negro children. This fall she has returned to Valparaiso University for further academic work. Student-Deaconess Ellen Stahlke is now serving at this Mission.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Lutheran Deaconess Association will be held on Friday evening, Nov. 14, in Zion Lutheran Hall, Fort Wayne, Ind., beginning at 7:30.

The meeting will be in charge of the Rev. Walter Klausung, the president of the Lutheran Deaconess Association.

The meeting proper will be preceded by a luncheon served by the ladies aid of Zion Lutheran Church, the Rev. P. L. Dannenfeldt, D. D. and the Rev. L. R. Larson, pastors.

The terms of the following directors expire at this time: The Rev. W. H. Bouman, Mr. Oscar Salzbrenner, and Mr. Oscar Kiefer. The slate of candidates will be presented at the meeting.

Pastor Oscar Fedder, of Chicago, member of the Board at Large, will be the principal speaker.

Deaconess Frieda Bremermann, who serves the Northern Illinois District in mission work in Chicago, will give word pictures of her work.

The treasurer of the Association, Mr. Oscar Salzbrenner, will give his annual report and present the budget for the coming year.

The superintendent, Rev. Arnold Krentz, will give an over-all picture of deaconess education and service during the past year.

Your attendance at this meeting will testify of your interest in a growing service station of the Synodical Conference, Lutheran Deaconess Work.

SEE HIS BANNER FORWARD GO

In this beautiful booklet published in commemoration of the Centennial of the Missouri Synod we find this fitting evaluation of Deaconess Work:

"Of ever-growing importance in our Church is also the work done by our deaconesses. Parish deaconesses are in charge of various charitable endeavors of a local congregation. Deaconess nurses are trained to have charge of a full nurse's work in connection with the charitable undertakings of the entire Church. Some deaconesses serve as social workers, being active in general Inner Mission work. Other deaconesses minister as Bible women, especially in Foreign Mission work, where they bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to women who are not permitted to take part in public worship and must be served in private or zenana mission endeavors."



Excellent church publicity of our Chinese Mission in Ichang, Hupeh, China. Done into English the sentences read: "I shall come again. Be ye, therefore, ready." Mr. Wan, who stands at the left of the picture, painted the picture. Deaconess Gertrude Simon, R.N., stands at the right of the picture.

AUSTRALIAN LUTHER LEAGUE SPONSORS DEACONESS EDUCATION

We cull the following from the **Australian Lutheran**:

"As the work of our Church is becoming more and more complex, so the need of the specially trained women workers to whom certain spheres of church work can be delegated can be felt.

"The training and employment of Deaconesses in the Church is not something new. This type of work was originally established to relieve the apostles of certain responsibilities (Acts 6).

"We are convinced that there is much scope for consecrated Lutheran young women today serving in an office auxiliary to that of the Christian ministry.

"In sponsoring the training of Lutheran Deaconesses, the aim of the Australian Lutheran League is to educate and train young women for work in institutions, missions, and parishes.

"Two main considerations prompted the League to take up this matter energetically: it desired that Lutheran young women should be equipped for effective Church

CAMP CHETEK

Pastor C. L. Thalacker, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, on his own initiative established a week of camp life for Juniors at Chetek, Wisconsin. Under his management this camp has been eminently successful. Imagine giving young people a week of Christian inspiration, information, and recreation for \$8.50 in this year of high costs.

During this year's camp week it was our privilege to lecture four times on "Noted Christian Women." The setting for the lectures was nearly perfect. The young people sat under the trees on the side of a hill next to Lake Chetek, while the lecturer stood a few yards from the water's edge.

Pastor O. H. Marten lead the Bible Hour, during which he treated the Book of Daniel in its application to life today. Well done, brother! Pastor (Smiling) F. H. Krinke served as Dean, and Pastors E. A. Klemp, F. A. Rotermund, and I. T. Droege Mueller assisted in making camp life pleasant and profitable.

work and is hoped to be of real service to missions and institutions in securing trained Church workers."



It pays to observe what others are doing. These seven Deaconesses of the Augustana Synod were consecrated in Kansas City on June 12. Dr. P. O. Bersell, President of the Augustana Synod, is congratulating the new deaconesses. Dr. Samuel Miller, standing next to Dr. Bersell, is in charge of deaconess education of the Augustana Synod at The Immanuel Deaconess Institute, Omaha, Nebraska.

PROJECT FOR DAY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Educationally, a project for children is an excellent teaching device. To learn by doing is recognized as a basic learning principle.

Some children's classes have found the project of studying the Deaconess Movement very fascinating.

They secured pamphlets from our office, or were directed to read articles in *The Lutheran Deaconess*, *The Walther League Messenger*, *The Lutheran Women's Missionary League Quarterly*, or the *American Lutheran*. Then they were requested to report their findings.

During one month the children gathered funds for the Deaconess Cause. Children like to help. And applied Christianity includes sharing. The more of your Christianity you export the more you import. If children give for a purpose in which they are interested, they will give gladly and liberally.

When carry out such a project? This can be done in connection with Bible stories which are being mastered. In catechism instruction this project will correlate well with question 170, which treats of good

AUGUSTANA SYNOD PASSES IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS

The Augustana Synod at its Convention in Kansas City, June 10 to 15, passed highly important resolutions respecting Deaconess Work which merit more than passing attention. We reprint four of these thirteen resolutions for our readers.

Resolved that

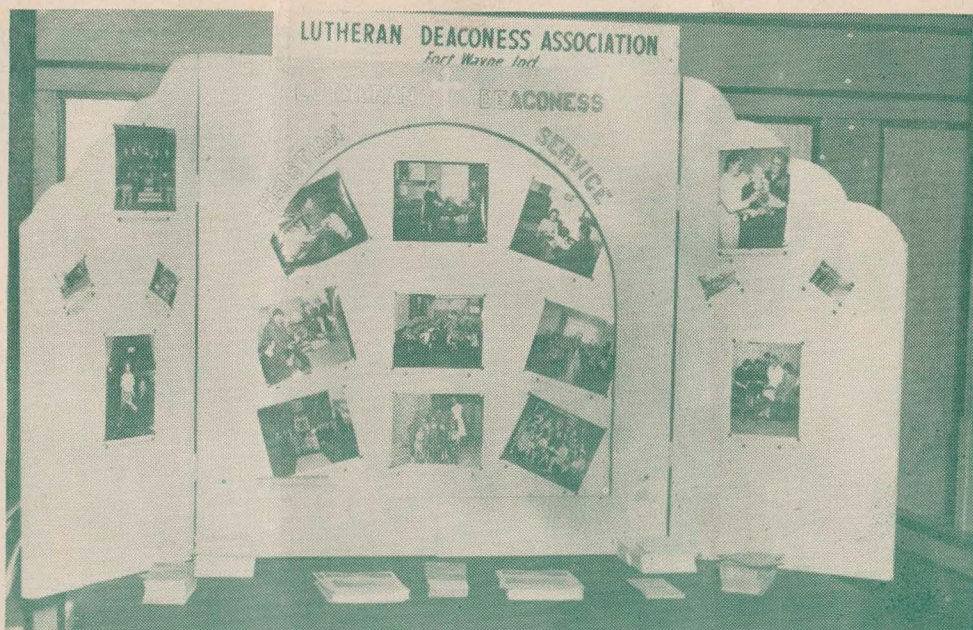
1. Synod express its gratitude for the service of the Diaconate to the Church, and realizing the importance of the Diaconate in its continued ministry of mercy, Synod urge increased interest in and support of this important service.

2. Whenever possible the consecration of sisters of the Diaconate take place in connection with the synodical convention.

3. Synod urges the continued efforts to establish courses for parish workers and social workers.

4. Synod approve the steps being taken in order to make the calling of the Diaconate more appealing to the women of our Church.

works. Fittingly, all three Bible references under the question speak of women who have done good works.



The picture shows our Deaconess Display at the Centennial Synod held at the Palmer House, Chicago, in July. The display received favorable comment from those who saw it.

CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

The Annual Conference of Deaconesses was held at First Trinity Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., June 26-28.

Conference sessions each morning and afternoon opened with a short inspirational message given either by a local pastor or Pastor Krentz. In these devotions we were encouraged to look to Jesus for faith, courage, and guidance.

The business sessions of the Conference were presided over by the President, Deaconess Frieda Bremermann. In addition to routine business matters transacted during regular sessions, a forum of the group was held on Friday evening. Such matters as hospital insurance, equality in traveling expenses, pension fund, and the official uniform were discussed.

An interesting evaluation of the religion of the Mormon Church was given by Pastor F. Schumann. He left with us the thought that our Missouri Synod has what the world needs.

Pastor Theodore Martens told us of the work being done by our Church in the Philippine Islands. Rev. O. H. Schmidt, Executive Secretary of the Board for Foreign Missions, presented interesting facts on our work in China and the fine contribution

our deaconesses were making in that field.

Deaconess Rose Ziemke talked on "The Women of India" and pointed out the great need for women workers in this field.

An essay on the wide extent of women's activities in the Church was presented by the Rev. W. McLaughlin. Special emphasis was placed on the service of the female diaconate.

The attitude of the Christian toward capital and labor was presented in a thought-provoking paper by Pastor August Brunn.

The deaconesses presented a panel discussion on "Building the Christian Personality," treating this subject from its four bases: spiritual, physical, mental, and social.

The undersigned also presented a short sketch of her year of field work at the Metropolitan Inner Mission in New York City.

Deaconess Ziemke was commissioned as missionary to India in a special service on Thursday evening. After this service Pastor Schmidt showed some interesting slides of our mission field in India.

The Conference came to a close on Saturday afternoon. All of us went home from this Conference to reconsecrate ourselves to Christian service through faithful work in our respective fields. Mary Elaine Kluge