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The LUTHERAN

Deaconess



VOL. 39, NO. 3

JULY, 1962



Consecration: Miss Nobuko Sasaki

"MORBUS SABBATICUS"

As the 1962 graduate deaconesses are assigned, the thought is often expressed that the two going to Africa and the one returning to Japan have the most discouraging prospect in doing the Lord's work—at least more discouraging than the deaconesses working in "Christian" America. We question that in the light of personal experience and on the basis of deaconess reports. One of the greatest problems, as prevalent in America as anywhere among "religious" people is "Morbus Sabbaticus" illustrated in the following parable.

A certain church prepared a service of worship and invited any and all to come. And it sent forth a letter saying to all its friends and members: 'Come, for we have made all things ready!' And the majority began with tiresome repetition to make excuses.

The first said: "All the week I labor hard and unceasingly. On Sunday I must needs rest in bed until noon. I pray thee, have me excused."

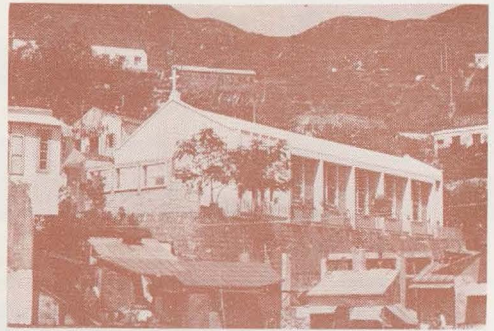
Another said: "I have bought a car and on Sundays my family doth make a great clamor to be taken into the country. Pray, have me excused." And another said "I have children and behold, by the time they are dressed and fed and dispatched to Sunday School, I have reached the end of my Sunday morning enthusiasm and to get myself ready is more than I can manage. I pray thee, have me excused."

And another said: "The members of my family are peculiar, they must needs eat on Sunday, the same as other days. And if I go to church, will the minister send someone to prepare dinner? To sit down to a dinner an hour late is impossible, for we are not of a mind to subdue the call of the stomach to the needs of our immortal souls. I pray thee, have me excused."

And many other excuses of equal impressiveness did the people make.

As unimpressive as such excuses are to the child of God, how much less impressive they must be to our blessed Lord! We trust that none of our readers are afflicted with this disease. Although not generally regarded as such, "Morbus Sabbaticus" is as deadly and malignant as atheism and heathenism.

W. C. Gerken



Christians in Hong Kong rejoice at the completion of their chapel. Deaconess Martha Boss serving in Hong Kong with her colleague, Miss Gertrude Simon, sent us this picture of the completed Chapel.

NOW AVAILABLE

The 7th edition of "The Deaconess Quiz" has been completed and mailed to all pastors and deaconesses in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We would like to urge all who have received it to file it in reference file so that it will be available when needed.

The "Quiz" is primarily intended for those seriously considering entering deaconess work and as reference material for those who are in a position to influence capable young women toward such a decision. It contains '66 answers to your questions about The Deaconess Program' and covers such things as history, required course of education, cost of education, and areas in which deaconesses serve.

Those persons who have not received a copy and who feel that they could put such a publication to good use may write to 3714 South Hanna St., Fort Wayne, Ind.

NAME SCHOLARSHIPS

An individual, organization or church makes a one time or a repeated grant in a specified amount (\$25.00 or more) to be given to a deserving student in Deaconess training as determined by the LDA Scholarship Committee. This grant bears the donor's name.

Additional funds are sorely needed to permit girls, otherwise qualified, to train as Deaconesses. They look to us and we appeal to you! Why not "adopt" a Deaconess student?



Dr. C. F. Golisch honors Deaconess Erna Heck, far right.

OBSERVES 35th ANNIVERSARY

On Tuesday, May 22, at Bethesda Lutheran Home, Miss Erna Heck was honored for thirty-five years of service as a Lutheran Deaconess. In April, 1925, she arrived by train in Watertown from her home in Schenectady, N.Y.

She was consecrated on May 1, 1927, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Watertown with the rest of her class. In June she began her work as a Deaconess in the Lutheran Hospice in Buffalo, New York. She was there until April of 1929 when she began service at Bethesda Lutheran Home.

In 1940, her mother became ill and Miss Heck went home to Schenectady to care for her until her death in 1952. She then returned to Bethesda where she has served since.

In her years of service at Bethesda, she has given generously of the love, understanding and patience which these children need so desperately. Many times her patient counseling and guiding hand have brought these children to see the love of the Savior and to feel that force of love in their own lives.

35 YEARS AGO

In 1924, Miss Lulu Noess entered deaconess training at Lutheran Hospital in Hot Springs South Dakota. She was consecrated there on August 14, 1927.

For her first year of service she served at the hospital in Hot Springs. She then served at the Lutheran Hospital in Alamosa Colorado until 1941.

For 7½ months she served at a Home for the Aged in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin and then began service at Concordia Teacher's College, River Forest, Illinois where she is serving at the present time. In her first years of service at Concordia she was also in charge of a girl's dormitory.

She has attended almost every deaconess conference and served as president of the Conference from 1950-52. She as well as many other deaconesses, has not been content to stand idle intellectually. In 1947 she wrote that the "flu" and studying for her extra courses, chemistry and clinical psychology, were keeping her busy. Those who come to know her and her sweet unselfishness cannot but feel that here is another selfless servant of the Lord.

THE LUTHERAN DEACONESS

Official Quarterly of the Lutheran Deaconess Association, Inc., within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and Affiliated Synods.

Entered as second class matter May 31, 1931, at the post office at Berne, Indiana, under the act of March 3, 1879.

THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: the Rev. Walter C. Gerken; and Deaconess Marilyn Brammeier.

All materials pertaining to the Editorial Department are taken care of by the Executive Director, 3714 S. Hanna St., Fort Wayne, Indiana.

SHE HAS HELPED

In response to a recent appeal which was mailed out of our office, we received the following letter with a \$5.00 contribution.

"Sorry I haven't been sending my yearly contribution. Am sending \$5.00 this time as I am working now. As I am 73 years old, I can't promise too much but will gladly give as long as I can work. Thank you for the reminder."

"She has helped with the little she has. Will you, who have more, help us also?"

NEWS FROM INDIA

"In recent months we have also been able to start a regular visiting program in a newly opened government tuberculosis hospital near Trivandrum. In this hospital there are a large number of male patients but only about fifty women patients. The male patients are being regularly visited by the seminarians of the London Mission Seminary here in Trivandrum, but no one visits the women, so we have started to visit there once a week, with one of our Bible Women.

Recently we started a Bible class there in which about thirty women participate. A large number of these women are Christians, mostly Roman or Syrian Catholic, but we also have a large number of non-Christians participating. In this class we are studying the Gospel of St. John at present. During the week these women fill in a questionnaire on the lesson studied and thus we get to know whether or not they have really understood the lesson. If not, we have a wonderful opportunity to discuss with each individual the things they did not understand the next time we visit there."

Deaconess Adeline Rink, India

WILL YOU HELP?

**CLIP THE FORM BELOW AND
SEND WITH YOUR
CONTRIBUTION**

LUTHERAN DEACONESS ASSOCIATION, INC.
3714 SOUTH HANNA STREET
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

DATE

Dear Friends:

Kindly enroll me as one of your supporters in the division as indicated.

Regular Member:

\$2.00 \$..... \$3.00 \$4.00

Patron Member:

\$5.00 \$..... \$10.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$25.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 \$.....

(Please check—or enter—applicable amount under grouping you select.)

Enclosed please find \$.....

Signed:

Street Address

City Zone..... State or Province.....



The children of Our Redeemer kindergarten in Honolulu, Hawaii, came from many races and many religious backgrounds. Here, Deaconess Della Henning, their teacher leads them in games and holds their attention with stories. Religious training (see below) is also part of their kindergarten.

Deaconess
Della
Henning



Our
Redeemer
Hawaii

PLENARY BOARD MEETING

The Plenary Board of Directors of the Lutheran Deaconess Association met May 4, 1962 at the Senior College conference room at 10:00 A.M. In attendance were Pastors Walter C. Gerken, Arne P. Kristo, E. H. Albers, Bernard Johnson, Walter A. Pieper, Helmut H. Schauland, Hartwig Schwehn; Dr. Robert Schnabel, Dr. E. E. Foelber; Messrs. Ed. Benz, Paul Liebmann, Hugo Boerger, Harold Hollman; the Misses Pauline Krudop, Clara Strehlow, Marilyn Brammeier, and Mrs. Paul Liebmann.

The Admissions Committee, which had been ordered to prepare a concise and precise statement of the modern concept of

the deaconess and her responsibilities began it's report. The matter was tabled for re-study and presentation at our September meeting or at a special meeting, if necessary.

There was much discussion of our present financial difficulties and it was RESOLVED that the treasurer be authorized to sell our Series J. bonds. **The Board also passed a resolution authorizing the treasurer to borrow up to \$20,000.00 in order to meet our current operating expenses.**

The Director of Training reported that 18 new students have already been accepted at Valparaiso. 10 have been accepted at the Junior Colleges.



PLACEMENT — 1962

Three of this year's graduates have been placed in a foreign country. There were two applications for a Deaconess-nurse from Africa. Miss Mary Ann Mejdrich will be leaving next fall to begin service at the Lutheran Hospital in Eket, Nigeria.

Miss Nancy Leland will follow at a later date. These girls will be serving near Obot Idim where two Deaconesses, Miss Betty Bader and Miss Marilyn Siewert are already serving.

In addition to this, Miss Nobuko Sasaki will be returning to her beloved Japan to serve as Administrator at the English School at the Lutheran Student Center in Tokyo. She will sail from San Francisco on July 9.

The remaining placements of graduates are as follows:

Connie Allen to Grace, Northbrook, Ill.;
Helen Beckman to St. Matthew, Worthington, Minn.;

Beverly Berner to St. John, Marengo, Iowa;

Joyce Coryell to St. Mark, Brooklyn, N.Y.;

Leona Irsch to Zion, Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Karna Kohtz to Mt. Calvary, St. Louis, Mo.;

Maralyn Marske to St. Matthew, New York, N.Y.;

Katherine Miller to Lutheran School for the Deaf, Mill Neck, N.Y.;

Sharon Rahn to First Church, Pasadena, Calif.;

Susan Werner to Nazareth, Milwaukee, Wis.

The Placement of Interns was as follows:

Elaine Albers to Good Shepherd, Plainview, L.I., N.Y.;

Betty Beckmann to Calvary, Lincoln Park, Mich.;

Lorna Bender to Lutheran Ass'n. for Works of Mercy, West Roxbury, Mass.;

Judy Calkin to Immanuel, Puyallup, Wash.;

Kathleen Ehlert to Immanuel, Terre Haute, Ind.;

Audrey Englert to Southern Illinois;

Grace Hennemann to Lutheran Action Council, Washington, D.C.;

Ona R. Klema to Zion, San Francisco, Calif.;

Elaine Miller to the Lutheran Missionary Association, Fort Wayne, Ind.;

Patricia Novak to St. Paul, Bethpage, L.I., N.Y.;

Carol Schewe to Faith, Kansas City, Kansas;

Corinne Seibel to Redeemer, Rochester, Minn.;

Deloris Thieme to Iowa District East, Iowa City, Iowa.



35th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On May 1, 1927, in St. John's Lutheran Church, Watertown, Wisconsin, Miss Clara Strehlow was consecrated as a Lutheran Deaconess. Two years before she had written to Mr. Louis Pingel, superintendent of a new training school for deaconesses which was being opened at Bethesda. After her consecration she began her service at the Kinderheim in Addison, Illinois where she served for 13½ years. She then served for 4½ months at the Institute for the Deaf in Detroit, Michigan when she was asked to begin service as a parish deaconess at Grace Church in St. Louis, Missouri where she served until 1957. This was to be on a six month trial because the work of parish deaconess was something new at the time.

However, on June 30, 1943, Pastor Karl Kurth wrote to Pastor Krentz saying, "My congregation is very much pleased with our deaconess arrangement and desires to continue same for years to come. Miss Strehlow has proven her worth and is doing excellent work. She is loved by all, particularly the children."

So she continued to serve in this congre-

gation until 1958. At that time she became the House Director at the newly opened Deaconess Hall. In the four years in which she has served in this capacity she has helped many by sharing the wisdom gained in years as a deaconess.

Not only has she serve faithfully and well in her career as a deaconess but she has also been an active member of the Deaconess Conference. At the first regular meeting of the Conference at Watertown, Wisconsin, July 2 & 3, 1934, she was elected president. She served in this capacity until 1938. Later she served as Secretary-Treasurer for some time.

Her years of service seem to have been marked by a cheerful, down-to-earth practicality that has made her truly a "helper of many" and a servant of the Lord.

S.O.S.

It will be greatly appreciated if those receiving the "Lutheran Deaconess" will notify us of address changes. It will help us save on stamps, since we must pay ten cents in postage for every address change notification made by the U.S. Post Office. Your cooperation will be appreciated.



Deaconess Gerry Eubanks, Gretchen Gaver, Doris Awe, Evelyn Middlestadt, and Dolores Seyfert, make plans for this year's Deaconess Conference to be held at St. John's College, Winfield, Kansas.

OTHER ANNIVERSARIES

This year marks the 20th year of service as a Lutheran Deaconess for Miss Rose Ziemke who is presently serving in India. She was consecrated on February 1, 1942. She served for time at Lutheran Child Welfare in Indianapolis and in August of 1942 began service at St. John's in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1947 she began serving in India where she is serving at the present time.

Deaconess Evelyn Middelstadt was consecrated in September of 1952. She then began her studies at the University of Minnesota to obtain her Masters in Social Work. She served until 1960 for the Lutheran Children's Friend Society in Minneapolis, Minnesota. At the present time she is Social Work supervisor at Lutheran Social Services in Wichita, Kansas.

In July of 1957 Deaconess Lorraine Ehmann was consecrated. She has served for the Lutheran Home Finding Society of Fort Dodge, Iowa and has just completed study for her Master's degree.

"THE NEW LIFE"

The above is the name of a magazine which is published by Korean Christians in South Korea. In a recent issue of this magazine there appeared pictures of three deaconesses presently serving in the United States. Deaconess Marie Otten is pictured praying with an elderly woman; Norma Jean Cook with some youngsters from her school; and Della Henning with Walther Leaguers.

How did these pictures happen to appear in a Korean magazine? Mrs. Maynard Dorow, the former Shirley Groh, wrote an article about deaconess work for "The New Life" and submitted the pictures.

Her husband is a missionary now in Korea. They have three children and Shirley is a full-time wife and mother. Still she found time for this project.

She will also be speaking at Deaconess Conference, July 9, 10, & 11 at St. John's College in Winfield, Kansas. The Dorow's will arrive in the United States for a six month furlough on June 6.