

Valparaiso University

ValpoScholar

The Lutheran Deaconess

Lutheran Diaconal Association

1-1926

The Lutheran Deaconess, Vol. 3, No. 1

Lutheran Deaconess Association

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholar.valpo.edu/lutherandeaconess>



Part of the [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Practical Theology Commons](#)

This Full Issue is brought to you for free and open access by the Lutheran Diaconal Association at ValpoScholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Lutheran Deaconess by an authorized administrator of ValpoScholar. For more information, please contact a ValpoScholar staff member at scholar@valpo.edu.

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. III

ST. LOUIS, MO., JANUARY, 1926

No. 1



Mrs. A. Vellner.



Miss H. Hanser.

THE WOMAN WORKERS IN OUR ST. LOUIS CITY MISSION.

The rich and merciful blessings of our everlasting God in Christ Jesus, our only Redeemer, to all our dear deaconesses, Lutheran woman workers, our officials, and supporters of our blessed deaconess cause!

We take great pleasure in presenting to our readers the pictures of the two veteran woman workers who are doing real deaconess work in our teeming City Mission fields at St. Louis. Mrs. A. Vellner is a widow and the mother of our organized woman helpers in our mission-work. For many years the Editor had been longing and praying for a woman coworker who would look after the suffering women and straying girls in our big City Hospital. The exigencies of the war, when so many of the nurses went to the front, furnished the opportunity to put Mrs. Vellner to work in the City Hospital; and what blessed work she has been doing in the nine years she has been with us! She has proved a wise and patient mother to many a wayward girl, a sympathetic comforter and adviser to suffering married women, a happy restorer of many a disrupted marital relation, and a rescuer of many a little un-

fortunate, homeless child. May the dear Lord keep her with us for many years to come!

Miss H. Hanser is a registered nurse, who assists Mrs. Vellner in her child-rescue work and brings the sweet Gospel and also material cheer to the women patients at the overcrowded Insane Asylum, the Koch Consumptive Hospital, and the City Infirmary. She made a trip to Germany last year to visit and study conditions at the various deaconess institutions there, and we shall publish her observations in our LUTHERAN DEACONESS in this and the following numbers. May the dear Lord also bless Miss Hanser's work in His vineyard for many coming years!

F. W. H.

LAST QUARTER'S ACTIVITIES.

October, 1925, to January 1, 1926.

The outstanding feature in our publicity campaign during the past quarter was the lecture trip of our superintendent through South Dakota. This tour had been arranged by enthusiastic Walther Leaguers of the Sunshine State. The tour having been approved of at the Annual Conference of the Deaconess Asso-

ciation, our superintendent left immediately after the close of the session.

Aberdeen was the first stop. A zone rally had been arranged for the first Sunday in October and was held at the State Fair Grounds at Aberdeen. The attendance was fine. The program concluded with a lecture on deaconess work, held in the evening at the church of Rev. F. Graeber. The lecturer was surprised to meet people who had come from North Dakota to attend the rally and to get first-hand information on deaconess work.

Twenty-six sermons and lectures were delivered, most of them in the southeastern section of the State, where our Lutheran Church is well represented. A most cordial welcome was extended the lecturer at every place. There was always some one there to meet him at the station, and in many instances he was taken from one place to the next by the ever handy Ford. Addresses were given also at mission-festivals, as, for instance, at Tripp, a well-established Lutheran community. In spite of abnormal weather conditions the attendance at most places was very good. Although South Dakota vies with Colorado in point of sunshine, there was little sunshine during October, 1925, and it was intensely cold.

A capacity audience had gathered at Freeman, where Pastor G. Steffen, an enthusiastic Walther Leaguer, had given a good deal of publicity to our cause. At Wagner, where Pastor Gade has charge of affairs, the speaker delivered two lectures. Having spoken of the necessity of deaconess work and its blessed results, the lecturer was asked to relate some of his experiences as missionary in London, England. Because of the hospitality of our South Dakota brethren there were no hotel bills to be squared, and the Fords saved considerable money which otherwise would have been spent for railroad tickets. Additional invitations for lectures were received while on the tour, but they had to be declined because of lack of time. We hope to accommodate those who invited us, however, on another trip.

Arriving at Rapid City in the Black Hills District, a cold wave swept down from the North, sending the mercury down to 14 below zero. Nevertheless, several of Pastor Schwarz's parishioners ventured out to hear the lecture and have joined the Association as members. The superintendent hopes that at least 250 new members will be enrolled in South Dakota. Parkston, S. Dak., enrolled the largest number. Other congregations voted a collection for the support of the deaconess work.

The enlisting of new members was, however, not the only object of the lecturer. Another purpose of his lectures is to cause Lutheran young women to take up the deaconess training. He is very happy to state that as a result of his lecture trip two young ladies from Pastor Steffen's congregation near Freeman have already entered our Beaver Dam Deaconess Hospital for training. We expect a young lady from Pastor Gerike's church at Tripp to enter our Fort Wayne training-school this spring.

At Hot Springs, S. Dak., where we have a hospital and sanitarium and also a deaconess training-school, we were very glad to find a decided progress compared with the state of affairs a year ago. The day before our superintendent arrived, the good news had been received that our sanitarium and hospital at Hot Springs had been placed on the list of accredited hospitals by the American College of Surgeons. A complete X-ray outfit has been purchased, and we have with us a staff of efficient physicians. The financial situation has been greatly improved, and we hope that many fellow-Lutherans who are in need of rest or seek relief from some chronic ailment will spend a few weeks in the wonderful climate of Hot Springs and at the same time avail themselves of the curative powers of its thermal springs.

Our brethren in South Dakota and Nebraska, who were instrumental in the acquisition of the Hot Springs Sanitarium, are particularly happy and much encouraged by the latest reports from the institution. Two of the eight pupil nurses are taking the deaconess training, and two others have expressed the wish to take the special deaconess training after finishing the nurses' course. Pastor Lang, the hospital chaplain, and Pastor Gerike have charge of the deaconess classes. Those who desire further information will kindly write to Miss Ida Gerding, principal of Lutheran Sanitarium and Hospital, Hot Springs, S. Dak.

Hillsdale, Mich.

A lecture delivered at Hillsdale, Mich., on November 15, 1925, has helped to add a number of new names to our membership list. Pastor Paul Kretzmann is very much interested in our work, and a young lady from his congregation will enter training at our Fort Wayne school.

B. POCH.

OUR DEACONESSSES IN ARIZONA.

The Apache Indians in Arizona, a tribe of about 5,200 souls, are often called the most savage of the American savages. To what extent that statement is true we do not want to say. However, they were the last tribe to be subdued by Uncle Sam. And they were one of the last tribes to be evangelized.

The Ev. Luth. Joint Synod of Wisconsin sent its first two missionaries to the Apaches in 1893.

To-day there are at work among the Apaches ten ordained men, four lay workers, two native helpers, a number of part-time interpreters, and lastly, by way of emphasis, two deaconesses from the Deaconess Hospital in Beaver Dam: Miss Pauline Meyer, of Wellsville, N. Y., and Miss Louise Rathke, of Olpe, Kans.

If you lived among a primitive, ignorant, and superstitious people, whose death-rate equals the birth-rate, and who are being saved from extinction only because of their high birth-rate; whose children "die like flies" every time an epidemic comes (and they come

often); who kill the weaker of a pair of twins; who kill a child that has physical defects at birth; who will not let a child born out of wedlock live; who submit their sick babies to the treatment of medicine men, who with their crude, superstitious practises often bring about the death of a child; who are so ignorant of even the rudiments of sanitation that they are unable to raise a child which for some reason cannot be nursed by its mother;—if you saw helpless orphans by the dozens dying a slow death in spite of the well-meant care bestowed upon them by ignorant grandmothers; if you saw these conditions daily, year after year, and you had been sent to this people as a messenger of the Gospel, as an ambassador of Him who has a special love for children,—what would you do?

Unless you had a heart of stone, you would do just what the missionaries to the Apaches did. You would build a life-saving station. And perhaps you would not even consider the matter as long as did the missionaries.

Great was the rejoicing when the orphanage could be turned over to two trained nurses, and nurses with a deaconess training. The rejoicing was particularly great because of the fact that just before the deaconesses came, a dire emergency had forced the superintendent to the painful step of entrusting the orphans to the care of an inexperienced woman of the Mormon faith!

The Misses Meyer and Rathke arrived August 28, 1925, and stepped into their work as quietly as if they had only been gone on a little vacation.

To date, thirty-six children have been committed to our orphanage. Of this number seven have been returned to their homes, since the relatives were in position to care for them. Eighteen are sleeping in their little graves on our cemetery; some of these were tubercular, some syphilitic, and some were so weak from exposure or malnutrition when brought to us that they could not survive, and a number of them died in the two epidemics of dysentery



Miss Pauline Meyer and Her Family.



Miss Louise Rathke,
Orphans, and Native Helpers.

The East Fork Orphanage, near Whiteriver, Ariz., was founded in 1922, with one orphan. An educated Seneca Indian was the first matron.

To get efficient matrons, and to get them to stay, was a problem equally as serious as the erecting of a proper building and the selection of a centrally situated location for the building.

The East Fork mission was, after much deliberation and some disappointments, chosen as the place. For two years the orphans and their matrons were housed in quarters that were far from ideal. The rooms were few and small and at that had to be shared with the pupils of the boarding-school.

But the Lord provided, as He does for all enterprises that are pleasing to Him.

The widow of a physician well known in our Church donated two thousand dollars from the estate of her husband. One thousand dollars were donated from another source.

A well-equipped two-story building now houses the orphan family, which is cared for by the two deaconesses and a native laundress.

that visited the orphanage. Eleven are now in the home. Three of them are already of school age.

The orphanage could appropriately be called a baby hospital, for frequently the "woman doctors," as the Indians call them, are asked to treat sick babies that are brought to them; or they are asked to come out into the teepees to relieve suffering babies and adults; or an Indian will come and in crude, but concrete English, accompanied by appropriate gestures, describe the symptoms of the disease from which his child is suffering and ask the matrons to dispense medicine.

The work that your deaconesses do here is far from easy. It taxes to the full their physical strength. It calls for an exercise of all the Christian virtues, particularly of patience and courage and contentment. And it calls forth every bit of knowledge they have gleaned in the lecture-room, in books, and at bedsides. But it is also a work presenting a blessed challenge from Him through whom we can do all things, because He strengtheneth us, even Christ Jesus.

H. C. NITZ.

BETHEL.

By MISS H. HANSER, R. N.

My first visit, after arriving in Germany, was made at Bethel, near Bielefeld.

After one has arrived at Bielefeld, the electric car takes one in twenty minutes to Bethel. You walk up a good-sized hill, and there you have a beautiful view of this wonderful institution, the city or the home of the epileptics. Pastor v. Bodelschwingh was called there in 1872. They started in a farmhouse with four epileptic patients and were erecting the first building when Pastor v. Bodelschwingh took charge; this building was called Ebenezer. The Pastor expected a number of children to enter, but to his surprise more men than children applied for admittance, men of all ages, of all trades, and in different stages of the disease. Their cry was, "No one will employ us," and they could not be cared for at home. So Pastor v. Bodelschwingh soon realized that it was not a nursing problem, but a question of giving these people work and a home. And so one house after another was erected: a house for children, for men, and for women. In this way this great City of Mercy was built.

A general hospital is there for the training of deaconesses. The epileptic patients are all cared for in their different homes, as they are always put into the place they belong according to the stage of sickness, and here the men are trained for deacons or brothers, serving two years in the care of the sick.

I first stopped at the home of the aged sisters and was permitted to stay there. This is called "Abendfrieden" and is on the hill, offering a beautiful view of the country round about. And not far from it is the cemetery, where the old sisters take care of the graves of the deceased sisters and especially of the graves of Pastor v. Bodelschwingh and his wife. A sister took me through some of the houses, and it is indeed very interesting to see how the patients are cared for. The house for the little children was visited first. Some of the children were very sick. Children from six to twelve years of age were mentally very much affected, so that one sister could hardly manage ten to twelve, but they all could be out of doors. Then we saw where the boys from twelve to twenty were cared for. A couple has charge of such a house because it should be homelike. The man and his wife are father and mother to these patients. Most of these patients were helpless; they had to be dressed and fed. This house-mother took us through the wards, and all patients were happy to see her making her evening rounds. Some cannot talk. Then I came to the "Kinderheim"; here 75 infants are cared for, mostly orphans, undernourished children. All these babies in their little cribs are carried out under the trees every day. Not far from this house is the school for the children from eight to fourteen years, a regular every-day school. The sister said, "It is not an easy task to teach these children, for their minds

are weakened from their sickness." Then we saw the workshops. Every trade is taught there; there are shoemakers, carpenters, tailors, basket-makers, etc. This city has its own waterworks, electric center, architect's building offices, post-office, bookstore — absolutely everything.

Finally the "Brockensammlung"; here everything that is not needed any more in other households is received. When Pastor v. Bodelschwingh sent out as a call the words of Jesus "Gather up the fragments," John 6, 12, there came wagonload after wagonload with clothing, shoes, furniture, dishes, clocks, in fact everything "possible and impossible," so that soon a three-story building had to be erected to store all of this. And this, again, gives those patients work in their different shops. When clothing and shoes have been repaired, they are sent to the different houses to clothe the inmates. In every building, hall, or church there is a couch, so that the patients can be laid down when an attack comes on.

Sarepta was the first mother-house. It has a large chapel; but it soon became too small and the wonderful Zion Church was built on the hill, which seats 1,600 people. Not far from Zion Church is the open-air church, large enough for 10,000 people; its roof are the tops of trees, which come close together. Altar and pulpit are of stone. As often as the weather permits, they have services there, and all the patients able to come enjoy it very much. Their annual celebration is held there also.

There are now two hundred buildings, large and small, and much farmland, where vegetables and fruit are raised. They also raise their own cattle and have their own slaughterhouse.

What impressed me most was the sincere Christian spirit dominant everywhere and by everybody. They work for Christ and take care of these helpless, more or less insane patients and at the same time try to teach them "the old, old story of Jesus and His love."

CHRISTMAS OF THE SCHOOLCHILDREN AT BETHESDA, WATERTOWN, WIS.

Christmas has come and gone, but the spirit and memories still remain. Weeks before our smaller children in school would ask, "When is Christmas coming?" They were so happy when we started with the Christmas story which they seemed to enjoy more with every lesson.

In the beginning, at Miss Perlewitz's suggestion, we told the children that instead of Santa Clauses this year they should see how many pictures of the Christ-child could be found to put in our schoolrooms to make the spirit more complete. This the children took up willingly, and they also worked hard at making bells, candles, and trees for their rooms.

It is the custom of the house for the children

dren to sing a "Happy Birthday" song. When I brought it back to their minds that Christmas is the Christ-child's birthday, Mildred at once said, "Let's sing 'Happy Birthday' to the Lord Jesus." This was certainly done wholeheartedly, not with their "Happy Birthday" song, but with their hymns of praise, which they learned with the help of their teachers. On Christmas Eve and again on Second Christmas Day our schoolchildren and the older ones gave their program. The schoolchildren had been taught by their teachers and the older ones by our Superintendent, Mr. Pingel.

In our program we heard the numerous prophecies of our Savior's coming and the beautiful Christmas story itself, told both in their answers and hymns. The choir sang several hymns alone, and the children sang the chorus. Little helpless Emma, in her wheelchair beside the Christmas-tree, was one of the most touching pictures when she recited her little piece:—

What can I give,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would give Him a lamb.
If I were a wise man,
I would do my part.
But what can I give?
I'll give Him my heart.

On Christmas morning the schoolchildren marched down the stairs around the Christmas-tree to their breakfast, softly singing "Silent Night." We deaconess students must all admit that this was the most impressive Christmas we have ever seen, also one that will remain in our memories a long time.

THELMA MATIL.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. — We have received six delightful letters from Watertown in which each one of our deaconesses there tells of the Christmas celebration in her particular department. We regret that our limited space forbids our publishing all of them.]

HOLIDAY CHEER AT DETROIT.

Three hundred fifty patients to whom we have been ministering in various institutions of our city received a "Scripture-text Calendar" with a hearty "Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year" wish from our Lutheran Ladies' Aid Mission Society. Ten among these received individual gifts, an article needed or longed for. A special Christmas program was arranged by the worker for the Sunday-school class at the Detroit T. B. Sanitarium. We made these poor, unfortunate little ones (26) happy with a large Biblical picture and story-book, a chocolate bar, and a box of cookies presented to them by a Junior Girls' Club of one of our churches. Seven poor families (with a deserted husband) received a basket containing the Christmas dinner and articles of necessary clothing from a Woman's Church Circle and individual girls, who rejoiced to do this. "Scripture-text Calendars" were sent by the

worker to distant Florida, New Mexico, and Northern Michigan, to former patients, with whom the worker is still in touch. Four boarding children in our homes also received a Biblical picture-book.

It is certainly a great privilege which a missionary worker has to be accounted worthy of bringing a word of cheer, a smile, a gift, and a word of comfort to these poor, lonely, unhappy sick. And how does that message of Eternal Love extended to them at this happy Christmas season bring peace, joy, and happiness into their sad, darkened hearts! Oh, may the Lord grant us many more opportunities to carry on this blessed work!

I. KEMPF.

OUR CHRISTMAS SEASON AT HOT SPRINGS, S. DAK.

Several weeks before Christmas everybody was making preparations for Christmas. Packages were delivered by our faithful mail-carrier, only to be hidden carefully until the great date—December 24.

Promptly at four o'clock all patients who were able to be up were taken to the beautifully decorated dining-room. Here a lovely evergreen, with its glistening and glittering lights, radiated brightly to all alike, seeming to say: "The Christ-child came for all and has filled each heart with joy." After a short program, gifts were distributed. Every one present was remembered; and what a large family we really are! We also wonder where all the packages came from.

The span of life has broadened, and now Christmas for us means "others"; but it also means happiness. Now patients must be taken back and served their evening meal before the nurses even peek at their gifts from home and their loved ones. At seven-thirty the children's program at the church was given, and no one wanted to miss this.

Immediately after services, cars were supplied and a bountiful basket of eats and clothing were taken to a poor family. Our arrival at this home was announced by singing "Joy to the World." The father and only parent expressed thanks, while the children peered wistfully at us.

After arriving home, we scampered to our own rooms to undo our gifts. Room after room now was visited. Ten o'clock was forgotten, for supervisors and students were all alike, and nobody was sleepy. After the rounds had been made and it seemed we had only fallen asleep, footsteps were heard in the hall, and soon every one was up and ready with the happy greeting, "Merry Christmas." All doors were left open in order that patients might enjoy the morning devotion while the night nurse was the first to awaken the sleepy patients or found them ready waiting for her.

All outdoors, too, had taken on the Christmas garb, for a beautiful white cover of snow had fallen in spite of the lovely mild weather. So the Christmas spirit reigned supreme. Loved ones at home were not forgotten, yet happiness was manifested everywhere. C. DIENST.

CHRISTMAS AT BEAVER DAM.

The holidays were pleasant indeed. Parcels commenced coming in a few weeks before Christmas and were taken care of by the superintendent. The excitement increased as the days passed by, but eventually December 24 arrived.

After dinner the students were excluded from the dining-room, while Santa Claus trimmed the tree and arranged the numerous packages under the tree.

At four o'clock Santa greeted the deaconesses with Christmas cheer and distributed the many presents. After the gift distribution, Santa went through the hospital with a holiday remembrance and holiday greeting for each patient, while the students sang carols in the halls.

In the evening the students attended the Christmas Eve services at St. Stephen's Church.

Christmas morn, at 6 A. M., the students awakened the patients by singing carols.

Breakfast was then served. The trays were prettily decorated with greetings and evergreen sprays. At noon a goose dinner was served.

The evening was very pleasantly spent at the Nurses' Home. The students entertained the faculty at an informal home party. Games were played, music was enjoyed, and refreshments were served.

During the week special privileges were allowed the deaconesses. Classes were canceled and New Year's Eve a watch party was held at the Nurses' Home.

LEONORA FRIEDRICHS, R. N.

Nachrichten aus unserm Arbeitsfeld.

Es gehört mit zu den Aufgaben unsers Superintendents, daß er, soweit es ihm die Zeit erlaubt, in Predigten und Vorträgen unsere lieben Christen darüber belehrt, was es mit der Diaconissenarbeit für eine Bewandnis hat und wie durch sie viel Segen gestiftet wird. Mit Freuden nahm er darum die Einladung an, die von der Walthertliga des South Dakota-Distrikts an ihn ergangen war, daß er in diesem Staate eine Reihe von Vorträgen über Diaconissenarbeit halten möchte. Überall fand er herzliche Aufnahme. In sechsundzwanzig Ortschaften wurden Predigten und Vorträge gehalten. Trotz widriger Witterungsverhältnisse — es war nämlich in Anbetracht der Jahreszeit außergewöhnlich kalt — war vielerorts eine zahlreiche Zuhörererschaft erschienen, und so hofft man, daß wenigstens 250 neue Glieder sich der Gesellschaft anschließen werden. Es ist wiederholt in unserm Blättchen darauf hingewiesen worden, daß wir wenigstens 10,000 Glieder haben sollten, um unsere Arbeit fester gründen und weiter ausdehnen zu können. Zudem wir viele neue Glieder zu gewinnen suchen, wollen wir uns auch an diejenigen wenden, welche zur Zeit der Gründung der Gesellschaft uns geholfen haben, aber seitdem nicht wieder von sich haben hören lassen. Wir wenden uns an die lieben Leser unsers Blättchens mit der herzlichen Bitte, daß sie uns beihilflich sein möchten in unserm Bestreben, recht viele neue Glieder zu gewinnen. Wir haben zurzeit zwölf

Diaconissen im Dienst; doch könnten wir noch weitere zwölf gut unterbringen, wenn sie uns zur Verfügung ständen. Wir werden in diesem Jahre voraussichtlich nur fünf weitere Diaconissen ins Feld stellen können, es sei denn, daß wir noch mehr gepriifte Krankenwärterinnen bekommen, die den Diaconissenfurchs durchmachen wollen.

Aus Chicago.

Unsere Diaconissin in Chicago, Frä. Luise Wegner, die dem Stadtmissonar P. Sandboß in seiner Anstaltsmission behilflich ist, weiß mancherlei darüber zu berichten, wie nötig gerade auch weibliche Hilfskräfte im Dienste der Stadtmision sind. Ihre beiden Hauptfelder sind die städtische Anstalt für Schwindsüchtige und das Armenhaus in Oak Forest. In der Anstalt für Schwindsüchtige sind bereits mehrere Personen durch ihre Bemühungen benoten worden, sich von dem Stadtmissonar unterrichten und taufen zu lassen. In dieser Anstalt hat sie eine ganze Anzahl Personen, meist jüngere Leute, getroffen, die in einer lutherischen Kirche konfirmiert worden, später aber ganz kirchlos geworden sind. Solche sind dann vielfach für Gottes Wort empfänglich.

Im Armenhause zu Oak Forest, wo P. Sandboß regelmäßig Gottesdienst hält, traf sie eine lutherische Großmutter, die seit Jahren keinem Gottesdienst hatte beiwohnen können, da sie gelähmt ist und niemand bisher sich der Mühe unterzogen hatte, sie zum Gottesdienst zu führen, der in der Kapelle im ersten Stockwerk gehalten wird. Unsere Diaconissin nahm sich ihrer an, setzte sie in einen Rollstuhl und brachte sie und etliche andere mit zum Gottesdienst. Unter Tränen sagte die Großmutter: „Dies ist der erste lutherische Gottesdienst, dem ich seit zehn Jahren habe beiwohnen können.“

Gerade in den Frauenabteilungen der großen städtischen Anstalten gibt es übergenug Arbeit für unsere Diaconissinnen. Das gilt gerade auch von Hospitälern. Wie oft haben da unsere Diaconissinnen Gelegenheit, ein Wort zur rechten Zeit zu reden! Je mehr Diaconissen wir ausbilden, desto mehr fördern wir durch ihre Dienste das selige Werk der Mission, zumal in Heidenländern.

B. Poch.

DEACONESS WORK IS BLESSED WORK!

Miss Louise Wegner, our missionary deaconess at Chicago, has many a story to tell about her experiences in the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium and in the Infirmary located at Oak Forest. Although she has begun her work only recently, the wisdom of placing a second woman helper in Chicago is already apparent. She has been instrumental in persuading several adults to receive instruction from Pastor Sandvoss. Some of them have been baptized. She conducts also a Sunday-school at the Municipal Sanitarium which is attended by almost forty children. Among the patients there are always a number of former Lutherans who have drifted away from the Church, but who lend a willing ear to the sweet Gospel as it is brought to them on their sick-bed.

At the Oak Forest Infirmary she found an old Lutheran grandmother whose prayer had been to be privileged again to hear a Lutheran service in the German language. Our deaconess calls on her now every time Pastor Sandvoss conducts German services and, placing her in a wheel-chair and taking her down the elevator, brings her to the services. With tears streaming down her cheeks she said, "This is the first time in ten years that I have been able to attend a Lutheran service." And this dear grandmother is by no means the only one whom our deaconess helps to attend services. Therefore we repeat that deaconess service in every way is a blessed service.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN.

The first effort made in the direction of increasing the membership of the Association will be the mailing of an appeal to all those congregations and individuals who responded readily when the first appeal in behalf of the support of deaconess work was made six years ago. At the same time we will continue our efforts to enroll as members those whose names are not listed on our records. We are still a good way from our coveted goal of a membership of ten thousand. Our dear readers will render our cause a great service by endeavoring to win their friends for the cause. We have at present twelve deaconesses in the field, but we could have placed twelve more had they been at our disposal.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Miss Anna Pusch, who during July and August of the past year attended our summer-school for deaconesses at Watertown, Wis., has been appointed assistant to Rev. E. Frey, city missionary at St. Paul, to help him in his institutional work.

Miss B. Randt was installed as Deaconess Worker of the Metropolitan Lutheran Inner Mission Society of New York, January 10.

We regret to lose the services of a faithful worker, Mrs. Carrie Rosentrader, who has been soliciting memberships at Logansport ever since our Association was organized.

The Fort Wayne Deaconess Ladies' Aid has been busy sewing carpet-rags to furnish rugs for the Deaconess Home. A large parcel, containing sheets and other bedding-material, was donated by the ladies' aid at Kappa, Ind. A third item is to be credited to the ladies' aid at Young America, Minn., which furnished pillows for the Deaconess Home. May the Lord's blessing rest upon the donors!

Thanksgiving Day brought us a substantial check from our Pittsburgh friends, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Schaffer.

A set of books on Social Welfare Service was donated by our friends at North Olmsted, O., Mr. and Mrs. G. Schwachenwald. Another addition to our Deaconess Library was a Christmas-gift by Mr. Norbert Leckband, who two years ago was instrumental in founding a Dea-

coness Library by presenting books for reference listed in Dr. Kretzmann's *Book of Outlines for Lutheran Deaconesses*. Mr. Leckband, a graduate of our St. Louis Seminary, 1925, is taking a medical course at the Chicago University in order to qualify for medical mission in foreign lands.

Miss Amelia Docter, a graduate of Denver Hospital, is taking the Deaconess Course at Fort Wayne. For the present she is relieving at Beaver Dam, where we are short of nurses.

Six deaconess students are enrolled at our Watertown school.

It has been decided that this year's installation services at Fort Wayne will be held in May, soon after the nurses' graduation exercises. B. Poch.

"TOO CHEAP."

Dr. G. Campbell Morgan tells of a collier who came to him at the close of one of his services and said, "I would like to be a Christian, but I cannot receive what you said to-night."

Dr. Morgan asked him why not, and the man replied, "I would give anything to believe that He will forgive me if I just turn to Him. It is too cheap."

The Doctor looked at him and said, "My dear friend, have you been working to-day?"

The man appeared slightly astonished and said, "Yes, I was down in the pit as usual."

"How did you get out of the pit?"

"The way I usually do. I got into the cage and was pulled to the top."

"How much did you pay to come out of that pit?"

He looked astonished and said, "Pay? Of course, I don't pay anything."

"Were you not afraid to trust yourself in that cage? Was it not too cheap?"

"O no," he said. "It was cheap for me, but it cost the company a lot of money to sink that shaft." And without another word the truth of that admission broke upon him, and he saw that, though he could have salvation without money and without price, it had cost God a tremendous sacrifice to "sink the shaft."

Donations for Our Publicity Fund.

From Young Women's Lutheran Deaconess Association of St. Louis, \$50.00; Lutheran Mission Circle of St. Louis, \$10.00; Rev. Korbit's young people's society at Fairbury, Nebr., 10.00; Mr. L. H. Walte, St. Louis, 100.00. — Total, \$170.00. With a happy and grateful heart, THE EDITOR.

Donations for Medical Student.

Received for Medical Student Norbert Leckband and forwarded to Treasurer T. G. Eggers, Fort Wayne, Ind.: From Ladies' Mission Aid Society, St. Louis, \$25.00; Young Women's Deaconess Society, St. Louis, 25.00; N. N., 1.00; Ladies' Aid, Slater, Mo., 10.00; St. Trinity Young Ladies' Mission Society, St. Louis, 5.00; Mrs. A. W. Meyer, Iowa Falls, Iowa, 10.00; Redeemer Ladies' Aid, Overland, Mo., 5.00; Mr. Geo. Hoerber, Treasurer, Western District, 40.12. — Total, \$121.12.

JULIA KOENIG,
Concordia Publishing House,
St. Louis, Mo.