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The Lutheran Deaconess

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ST. LOUIS, MO., JANUARY, 1927.

No. 1.

OUR FIRST DEACONESS IN INDIA.

Miss Louise Rathke, whose picture appears below, was released from her field of service in the orphanage of the Indian Mission at White-river, Ariz., to leave for the foreign field. She enjoyed a short rest with her people at



Miss Louise Rathke.

Miss Rathke is expected to arrive in India about Christmas. She will proceed to our mission-hospital at Ambur. She was a member of our first graduating class at our Beaver Dam Deaconess Hospital. We are eagerly looking forward to her reports from India.

B. P.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LUTHERAN DEACONESS ASSOCIATION.

The meeting was held on the 9th of November, 1926, and for the first time since the organization of the Deaconess Association in 1919 the annual conference was scheduled to meet at Beaver Dam, Wis. Hitherto the annual meeting had been held at Fort Wayne, Ind. Due to the fact that the situation at Beaver Dam calls for an enlargement of our Deaconess Hospital, it was considered advisable to meet in the Wisconsin city, which would give the delegates an opportunity to get definite ideas as to the necessity of adding more rooms to our Deaconess Hospital. Three sessions were held. Due to very inclement weather conditions a number of visitors and delegates were prevented from attending the sessions.

Pastor Philip Wambsganss, our venerable president, opened the conference with prayer and then read a stirring address. Referring to Luther's birthday, he pictured to the delegates the blessings which have accrued to us from the reformation of the Church and which are ours by inheritance. Let us give proof of our gratitude, therefore, also in this way, that we show our faith by ministering to our fellow-men in a physical way, relieving their sufferings as far as we can, remembering, however, that, while ministering to their physical needs, we are to seek, above all else, the welfare of their souls. And we are to do this work with greater zeal than ever before since the signs of the times teach us that the end of all things is at hand.

Following the treasurer's report, the superintendent was called upon to give a survey of the year's work and the present status of our four Deaconess training-schools.

Olpe, Kans., and on her journey eastward stopped at Fort Wayne to meet the deaconesses in training. Together with Missionary F. Zucker she traveled to New York, where she was met by the deaconesses Martha Eber and Beata Randt. Through the kind efforts of Mr. Chas. Wohltjen, president of the Metropolitan District of the Walther League, and with the hearty cooperation of the members of that district and of our New York pastors, a farewell was given her at Redeemer Church. Pastor H. Gallman, city missionary in the Metropolitan District, and others made appropriate addresses. The former offered a prayer, commending the departing sister and her work to the gracious protection and blessing of the Lord.

The young people of Pastor A. Brunn's congregation had prepared refreshments, which were served during the social that followed the addresses.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT POCH.

According to our constitution the principal object of our Deaconess Association is to train Lutheran young women for special service in the great fields of missions and charities. Three of our training-schools are conducted in connection with a Lutheran hospital.

FORT WAYNE, IND.

Fifteen students are enrolled at our Fort Wayne school. There were five Seniors, six Juniors, and four Freshmen. No pupils were obliged to discontinue their training during the past year. The reports given our pupils by the faculty of the Nurses' Training-school show that our deaconess students rank very high in their nurses' studies in spite of the fact that they are obliged to attend to their deaconess subjects as well. 264 lessons in all were given during the past year, 35 of them by Pastor E. Foelber, city missionary at Fort Wayne. The other instruction was supplied by the superintendent. Installation services were held in the afternoon of Pentecost Sunday, at Zion Church. Pastor Lankenau, of Napoleon, O., preached the sermon, which was published in the July issue of the LUTHERAN DEACONESS. Of the five graduates two are already in the service, Miss Amelia Doctor and Miss Amanda Kaiser. Two other graduates have expressed their desire of going to India. Since our Lutheran Hospital has inaugurated a Bible hour, to be attended by all student nurses, this means an additional period or religious instruction for our deaconess pupils as well. This Bible hour is given by the chaplain, Pastor E. Foelber.

Miss E. Jensen, formerly employed as welfare worker in St. Paul, has accepted a position with the Lutheran Welfare League of Fort Wayne and has consented to deliver a series of lectures on various phases of welfare work to be given for the benefit of our deaconess pupils. Our city missionary has kindly consented to give our girls in training some practical experience in city mission work.

Frequently, on Saturday evenings, the members of the three classes meet at the Deaconess Home for a social and educational gathering. Whenever missionaries happen to be passing through Fort Wayne, they are asked to address our deaconess students, the majority of whom are very much interested in Foreign Missions.

We had the pleasure of having with us Pastor F. Brand, director of our Foreign Missions; also Miss Olive Gruen, teacher at a girls' school in Hankow, China; and recently Missionary F. Zucker from India spoke on the great work in the foreign field. We hope to have with us in the near future another faithful worker from India, Miss Lulu Ellerman.

It is with a spirit of deep gratitude that I would also mention what our good Cleveland Lutherans are doing for us. Mrs. Marie Dankworth has been very successful in obtaining contributions from members of the Cleveland Lutheran Hospital Ladies' Aid. And then we have there the Lutheran Deaconess Association of Greater Cleveland, which supplies our Fort

Wayne students with the most necessary books for their deaconess studies. In addition, they have mailed us several good-looking checks for the prosecution of our work. Then we must not forget our Lutheran Young Women's Deaconess Society of St. Louis, Mo., which all these years has supplied free of cost to all our pupils in all our schools our text-book, Dr. Kretzmann's *Outlines for the Training of Deaconesses*.

As to the educational requirements for mission at Fort Wayne, the standard has been raised from one to two years of high school work or its equivalent. Eight credits are required: two in history, two in algebra, two in a foreign language, two in home economics.

BEAVER DAM.

The members of our Beaver Dam Hospital Board will bear me out when I state that during the past year we had to contend with great difficulties due to the fact that vacancies had to be filled. Not long after last year's annual meeting our superintendent, Miss Elsie Moller, left her position. Two deaconesses, one of whom was still in training, were sent to Beaver Dam to relieve the situation. Eventually we were able to transfer Miss Clara Dienst from Hot Springs, S. Dak., to Beaver Dam. Miss Dienst had been serving as Superintendent of the Nurses' and Deaconesses' Training-class at the Hot Springs Lutheran Sanitarium. The loss of three members of the Junior class seriously handicapped our new superintendent, Miss Dienst, in her work. We are to-day, however, very glad to inform you that we have had a good enrollment this fall. It is the largest Freshmen class we have ever had at Beaver Dam, numbering six members. This certainly is most encouraging.

Pastor Ernst Walther, of Randolph, supplied the greater part of the instruction. We are very much indebted to our local pastor, Rev. L. Kirst, who, in spite of his many other duties, was willing to have classes in the spring of this year. I would suggest that this body tender him at least a special vote of thanks for his faithful services. A number of lessons were given by the superintendent during August and also last week, which will be continued for a few days this week. We regret very much to lose the services of Pastor E. Walther, who has accepted a call from Wisconsin Rapids. We consider ourselves fortunate, however, in having secured the services of Pastor Nommensen of Juneau, who has consented to teach at least for the present.

Miss Dienst has advised that as soon as possible a Superintendent of Nurses be called. This arrangement would give her more time to supervise the various departments of the hospital. A great want at our Deaconess Hospital is a reference library for our deaconesses in training. Last year the ladies' aid of Pastor Harms's congregation at Davenport, Iowa, donated twenty-five dollars for this purpose. Considering the price of the *Popular Commentary*, which was purchased, only a small balance remains for other very important books.

WATERTOWN.

Our hopes for establishing a training-school in connection with our Bethesda Home at Watertown have been realized beyond our fondest expectations. We have now an enrolment of fifteen, seven of whom are in the Senior class. For a time the religious instruction was supplied by Pastor H. Eggers. Because he is overburdened with other work, Pastor Stern was so kind as to continue the instruction. Mr. Pingel instructed in pedagogy, and Dr. Kosanke supplied lectures on nursing. The newly appointed chaplain, Pastor Wm. Naumann, has taken over the religious instruction. Since September 1 the class meets three times a week with him, each period covering an hour and a half. The students receive also considerable practical training while working in the various departments of the institution. The course of study includes music lessons, shorthand, and typewriting. A series of lectures was given also by your superintendent as he travels back and forth between Watertown and Beaver Dam. Our students at Watertown are applying themselves with great earnestness to their studies and are a wonderful help to the institution.

As to the advisability of having a three-year course for the Watertown training-school, the conference will hear the report of a special committee on this matter.

HOT SPRINGS, S. DAK.

The enrolment at our school in the Black Hills as well as the staff of instructors has remained the same during the past year. Eight pupil nurses attend the religious instruction supplied by the chaplain, Pastor H. Lang, and Pastor A. Gericke. Two are taking the full deaconess course. Several others intend to take up the deaconess studies after finishing the nurses' course.

Hot Springs has seen some changes in the management of its affairs. Miss H. Gerding, the principal, left in March, and soon after we were compelled to transfer Miss Dienst to Beaver Dam. It would be well if arrangements could be made enabling your Superintendent to spend at least one or two weeks at Hot Springs annually in order to keep in closer contact with the affairs of our Western training-school.

PUBLICITY WORK.

To bring the activities of the Association before our fellow-Lutherans, your Superintendent has contributed articles on the work to various church-papers and synodical organs. At the request of the South Dakota Walther League a four-week lecture trip through that State was arranged, which resulted in the gaining of 152 new members. Since the last conference 49 sermons and addresses on the work were delivered. Close to 15,000 miles were covered. Due to railroad privileges the traveling expenses were extremely low. The correspondence has grown to large proportions; 1,213 letters were mailed. This does not in-

clude receipts and other literature, such as the mailing of appeals.

The Lutheran Exposition at Chicago afforded a welcome opportunity to advertise our work. 5,000 folders were distributed among the visitors, and already we can see some results.

A special issue of the *American Lutheran*, official organ of the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau, had a two-page editorial, with illustrations, regarding our work. Our venerable president, Rev. Philip Wambsganss, was given the floor during the biennial session of the Synodical Conference, which met at Lockport, N. Y., last August, and he addressed the assembly on the importance of our work. The Synodical Conference, convinced of the necessity of such work, advises the Deaconess Association to approach the various Districts of the various synods for support.

Our little quarterly, the LUTHERAN DEACONESS, also is a great factor in our publicity work. Frequently letters are received at our office stating that the writer received his first information concerning our work through our excellent little paper.

MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN EXPOSITION NETS
EIGHTY-FOUR NEW MEMBERS.

The splendid success of our Chicago Lutherans in staging an exposition which brought home to many thousands what our Church is doing in the fields of missions, charities, and education prompted the pastoral conference of our Milwaukee brethren to follow suit and have a similar exhibit in the Cream City. The exposition was held at the Lutheran Community House and was formally opened the day after Thanksgiving. The committee on arrangements had prepared a program covering three days. The program for Saturday evening included an address by Mr. Theodore Dammann, president of our Milwaukee Deaconess Branch Society. In his address on Lutheran charities in Wisconsin he also put in a good word for our cause. Due to the fact that for lack of room many people had to be turned away on Sunday evening, the committee on arrangements decided to continue the exhibit for another day. The undersigned spoke on the necessity and the blessings of deaconess work on Monday evening. Several ladies of the Milwaukee Lutheran Welfare Service assisted in the Deaconess Booth. Special thanks are due Miss Helen Koepke, who gained most of the new members. As in Chicago, so also in Milwaukee many visitors told the undersigned that they had never dreamt that our Church is doing such great work, especially for missions and charities, until they had seen those pictures nicely grouped together in the exposition.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Pastor Wismar of St. Matthew's, New York, informs us that under God's blessings the work of his parish deaconess, Miss Hulda Buegel, has had splendid results. Since she is with

St. Matthew's, the attendance at the Sunday-school has increased one hundred per cent. and that of the parish-school twenty-five per cent.

Miss Meta Schrader, a 1926 graduate of our Fort Wayne school, is taking a special course at the Chicago Lying-in Hospital in order to be all the better equipped for service in India.

Miss Martha Koehler, formerly stationed at the Augsburg Home for the Aged and for Orphans, an institution supported by our Baltimore Lutherans, has been helping in the office of our Deaconess Hospital at Beaver Dam. Having regained her strength after an operation, she hopes to enter the services of the Orphans' Home at Addison, Ill.

Miss Alma Miller, also a 1926 graduate of our Fort Wayne school, who passed the State Board Examination in November, expects to be on duty at Beaver Dam by the middle of January.

Miss Louise Moehlenbrock, a member of the Senior class at the Bethesda Training-school, expects to enter our China Missions.

Miss Amanda Kaiser, another 1926 graduate of our Fort Wayne school, stationed at Beaver Dam since September, surprised us with the news that she expected to be united in holy wedlock about Christmas. The Association wishes her God's richest blessings for the future.

Miss Amelia Doctor, also a 1926 graduate of our Fort Wayne school, was obliged to discontinue her work at the Wheat Ridge Sanitarium due to illness, from which as yet she has not recovered. Our prayers are that the Lord, according to His good pleasure, may soon restore her to health.

Miss Adeline Harms, a 1926 graduate of our Beaver Dam Training-school is expected to enter upon her field of service at the orphanage in Whiteriver, Ariz., by the first of January, 1927. May the Lord bless her labors of love! She will assist Deaconess Pauline Meyer, who has been down in Arizona since October, 1925.

The vacancy in the Board of Directors caused by Pastor Th. Destinon's accepting a call to Sauers, Ind., was filled by the election of Pastor E. Foelber, city missionary at Fort Wayne.

Thanks.

We have received so many letters of late from friends who express their wish that our work may continue to prosper that it is impossible to thank them all individually. We therefore take this opportunity to thank them most heartily for their encouragement and for the assurance given us that they will help our good cause along. Due to the fact that our enrolment has practically doubled within two years, we must have larger revenues to meet our expenses.

A letter was recently received from a dear friend whom we believe to be the oldest member of the Association—Mr. Stolley, of Hammond, Ind., who is ninety-three years of age. He also asks the Lord in his prayers to bless our work.

B. Poch.

Allelei Mitteilungen über die Jahresversammlung.

Die Jahresversammlung unserer Diakonissen-gesellschaft wurde am 9. November vorigen Jahres in der gastfreien St. Stephanus-gemeinde zu Beaver Dam, Wis., abgehalten. Infolge des äußerst freundlichen Wetters waren nicht so viele Delegierte erschienen, wie sich gemeldet hatten. Die Fahrt im nördlichen und nordöstlichen Wisconsin wegen des Glatteises äußerst gefährlich.

In seiner Eröffnungsrede wies der Präsident unserer Gesellschaft, P. Philipp Wambganß, auf die große Aufgabe hin, die der Herr der Kirche gerade uns Lutheranern gestellt hat. „Luthers Geburtstag, den wir morgen feiern, erinnert uns daran, welche herrliche Wohltaten wir infolge der Reformation genießen. Darum sollen wir nun auch als Kinder der Reformation unsern Dank damit recht beweisen, daß wir die reine Lehre ausbreiten und unsern Glauben auch in Werken christlicher Barmherzigkeit zeigen. Die Aufgabe der Diakonissengesellschaft ist keine andere als die, der Kirche zu dienen in ihrer Missions- und Liebestätigkeit. Unter Gottes Segen ist ein guter Anfang gemacht worden, und wir sind hier versammelt, um zu beraten, was unsern Werte auch in Zukunft Förderung dient.“

Die Berichte des Finanzsekretärs und des Superintendenten wurden ausführlich besprochen.

Auszug aus dem Bericht des Superintendenten

Diakonissenschule in Fort Wayne

Die Zahl der Schülerinnen ist dieselbe wie im Vorjahre, nämlich fünfzehn. Wir haben im vergangenen Jahre keine Schülerin verloren. Die Schülerinnen widmen sich ihrem Studium mit großem Fleiß. Im ganzen wurden 264 Unterrichtsstunden erteilt. Jede Klasse erhält zwei Stunden die Woche. Dazu kommt noch eine Unterrichtsstunde, die vom Kaplan des Hospitals, P. Föllmer im Heim der Krankenpflegerinnen erteilt wird. Uns sprechen Missionare und Missionsgehilfinnen der Diakonissenheim vor und reden von ihren Erfahrungen. So hatten wir dieses Jahr die Fremdmissionar Friedrich Zuder zu begrüßen sowie Fräulein Grün, unsere Lehrerin in der Missionsarbeit zu Kantow, China. Auch hat Missionsdirektor Fr. Brand mehrere Male eine Ansprache an unsere Diakonissenschülerinnen gehalten.

Den Gliedern des Zweigvereins unserer Diakonissengesellschaft in Cleveland sind wir zu besonderem Danke verpflichtet; diese sorgen nämlich dafür, daß wir unsern Schülerinnen in Fort Wayne ihre Bücher unentgeltlich liefern können.

Beaver Dam, Wis.

Das vergangene Jahr hat uns, was unser Diakonissenhospital und unsere Diakonissenschule betrifft, manche schwere Sorge bereitet, was der Präsident des Hospitals, P. L. Kirst, und die Hospitalbehörde bereitwilligst bezeugen. Durch den Weggang unserer Superintendentin, Fräulein Elise Madsen, haben wir uns genötigt, allerlei Aushilfe anzufragen, bis endlich unsere Diakonisse Klara Dietrich, Vorsteherin der Pflegerinnenschule in Hot Springs, S. Dak., nach Beaver Dam versetzt werden konnte. Dadurch, daß wir drei Schülerinnen der Mission-

klasse verloren, wurde die Lage noch kritischer. Um so größer ist nun unsere Freude, daß allmählich alles wieder ins rechte Geleise kommt. Die neue Klasse ist die größte, die wir noch je hier haben aufnehmen dürfen, und so sind wir der getrosteten Zuversicht, daß mit Gottes Hilfe schließlich alles wieder in der besten Ordnung sein wird. P. Ernst Walther aus Randolph, Wis., der den Unterricht in den besonderen Diakonissenschulen erteilt, hat einen Beruf nach Wisconsin Rapids angenommen. Er hat uns mit größter Treue gedient. P. Rommens aus Juneau, Wis., hat sich bereit finden lassen, unserer Schule wenigstens zeitweilig vorzustehen. Wie im vergangenen Jahre (1925), so ist auch in diesem Sommer (1926) von unserm Superintendenten Unterricht erteilt worden. Auch in der vergangenen Woche hat er unterrichtet und wird bis Freitag dieser Woche den Unterricht noch weiterführen. Wir hoffen, daß es sich bald einrichten läßt, daß wir noch einen zweiten Lehrer für Beaver Dam bekommen.

Watertown, Wis.

Es gereicht uns zur besonderen Freude, berichten zu können, daß wir jetzt in Watertown fünfzehn Schülerinnen haben. Diese Diakonissenschule steht bekanntlich in Verbindung mit unserer Anstalt für Epileptische und Schwachsinrige. Der Superintendent der Anstalt, Herr V. Pingel, gibt unsern Schülerinnen das Zeugnis, daß sie treu und fleißig arbeiten. Der neu berufene Kaplan der Anstalt, P. W. Naumann, erteilt dreimal in der Woche Religionsunterricht. Außerdem unterrichten Superintendent Pingel und Dr. Kofante. Der Unterricht in Bethesda erstreckt sich auf zwei Jahre. Das soll auch in Zukunft so bleiben; nur mit dem Verständnis, daß die Schülerinnen aus Watertown nach ihrer Entlassung ein Jahr lang als Probeschwestern dienen, ehe sie formell als Diakonissen eingeführt werden. Wie in Beaver Dam, so hat Superintendent Voch auch in Watertown eine Reihe von Unterrichtsstunden gegeben.

Hot Springs, S. Dak.

Die Schülerzahl sowie das Lehrpersonal ist unverändert geblieben. Die Pastoren S. Lang und A. Gerike erteilen den Unterricht. An dem Unterricht nehmen alle Schülerinnen im Sanitarium teil; doch sind es zurzeit nur zwei, die in den Dienst der Diakonissengesellschaft eintreten wollen. Wegen der großen Entfernung hält es etwas schwer, immer so recht in enger Verbindung mit der Sachlage in Hot Springs zu bleiben, wie es wünschenswert wäre. Unsere Brüder in South Dakota interessieren sich sehr für unser Diakonissenwerk, wie unser Superintendent aus seiner Vortragsreise durch diesen Staat erfahren hat.

Außer in South Dakota sind auch an andern Orten Vorträge und Predigten über unser Diakonissenwerk gehalten worden. Da die Zahl unserer Schülerinnen sich innerhalb der beiden letzten Jahre verdoppelt hat, so müssen wir unbedingt dafür sorgen, daß wir mehr Glieder gewinnen.

Unsere erste Diakonissin in der Heidenwelt.

Frl. Luise Rathke, die bisher im Waisenhaus in Abiteriver, Ariz., tätig war, ist am 26. November von New York aus nach Indien abgereist, wo sie

bald nach Weihnachten erwartet wird. Frl. Rathke hat ihren Unterricht in der Diakonissenschule zu Beaver Dam genossen. Wir wünschen dieser lieben Schwester Gottes reichen Segen zu ihrer Arbeit im fernen Indien. Sie wird zunächst im Missionshospital zu Ambur dienen. Frl. Ueline Harns, die diesen Herbst ihr Diakonisseneexamen bestanden hat, wird Frl. Rathkes Stelle in der Indianermision in Arizona übernehmen. Auch dieser Schwester wünschen wir Gottes reichen Segen auf ihrem neuen Arbeitsfelde.

BETHESDA TRAINING-SCHOOL, WATERTOWN, WIS.

When it was first proposed to begin training practical deaconesses at Bethesda, a number of arguments were advanced against the proposition. It was said the girls would be frightened and disgusted at the work and leave in a few weeks; the work among defective people was depressing; the pupils could not be cheerful in such surroundings; Watertown was too small a place for pupils to gain experience, etc.

The school has been in existence now almost two years and has passed the experimental stage. Out of an enrolment of 17, three pupils gave up the work before completing the course, two of them on account of ill health, and the other one for good and valid reasons.

We find that the kind of girls we can get to Watertown have determination and good sense, that they do not give up because the work is disagreeable at times,—that is all the more reason for doing it. The work among our inmates is far from depressing; it is the helpers' privilege to make the children happy, so they must cultivate a cheerful disposition, and that reacts upon their own happiness. One would have to go far to find a class of girls as happy and cheerful and as willing to *serve* as our pupils.

We do not attempt to make hospital nurses out of them. The work of the deaconess is not only reading to the sick and helpless and speaking kind words to them; the deaconess should *serve*, that is, do the work that is to be done and make the patient comfortable and happy. There is no better place to get this practical training than in a home for defectives. The patients here are so feeble and helpless in mind and body that the nurse must do everything for them, even the thinking. This training makes them alert, quick in making decisions, resourceful in studying the individuals and their needs and in providing amusements and instruction for them. Thus they learn to know human nature. Our inmates react to their environment to some extent as normal people, only they cannot conceal their emotions as well.

The work in the kitchen, dining-room, laundry, milk-room, and laboratory gives them a chance to study how a large household can be managed economically and to know what is necessary to keep the children healthy and the conditions sanitary.

We instruct our deaconess pupils in the laws

of teaching and give them practical work in the classroom. We show them how to prepare a lesson and deliver it to the class and test the results. We study the psychology of the child and the adolescent and illustrate what we have learned by examples taken from the Home.

Of course, the pupils are given intensive training in Bible study and related subjects, so that they will become firm in their faith and know how to lead others to the Scriptures, but also how to defend their faith.

Typewriting and shorthand are taught in the evening at our City High School by very capable teachers. We also try to teach them to play the organ to enable them to accompany our hymns and lead a class in singing. The House physician teaches the class "first aid" and "home nursing."

This program keeps the class quite busy. But there is some time left for recreation. The girls have a choir, which meets once a week and sings at the services in the Home and on festival days. Now and then they have a social evening among themselves in the Dormitory, which is their home. Now and then they listen in to the radio, when the music is worth while. They do not attend the movies or other worldly pleasures, but go to hear a concert here at Watertown or occasionally in Milwaukee.

According to the above, Bethesda must be a bit of paradise for the training-school pupils, where they all love one another. But it is a fact that we get on each other's nerves sometimes and have little jealousies and squabbles and say unpleasant things once in a while. But when things get disagreeable, we get together and have a general talkfest and settle all matters and promise to behave better in the future. We are very much human in Bethesda.

Eight of the pupils will finish the course this year and can then be placed in the work. We feel assured that they will be efficient workers in any position to which the Lord may call them.

We shall be ready to accept members of the new class after April. Applicants should be neither too young nor too old; they must have received a good common school education, be in good health and of a cheerful disposition, and have the determination to give themselves to the Lord for service among the helpless.

Application may be made to Bethesda Training-school, Watertown, Wis. L. P.

CHRISTMAS IN LUTHERAN DEACONESS HOSPITAL, BEAVER DAM, WIS.

December 24, 1926, dawned upon us a fair day. Snowflakes did not fall, although we had anticipated a light snowfall to give the day the typical Christmas touch. Nevertheless we all felt that wonderful and lasting Christmas spirit within our hearts.

Every one was happy as we knew now it would not be long before we would get all the kind gifts "from home." Home and loved ones mean so much to us, especially during the Christmas season, when every one thinks and

dreams of the happy moments spent around the parental hearth.

Shortly after dinner Miss Dienst and Miss Trettin, with the help of several other R. N.'s in the hospital just then, decorated a beautiful fir in our hospital dining-room for our short, but impressive program. Then they also carried up all the gifts previously received by mail or local from the drug-room, where Miss Dienst had hid them until the time stated when they should be opened and placed them under the spreading branches of our Christmas-tree.

Enough chairs were placed in the room for possible visitors and the hospital force.

At about two o'clock our program was opened with a prayer by Rev. Kirst, and the following program was rendered: First there was a song, "O Thou Holiest," by all the nurses. Then the Christmas story as recorded in Luke 2 was read by Rev. Kirst and briefly expounded for our edification. Next we heard a duet, "O Come, All Ye Faithful," by the Misses Miller and Boerger. Then there was a reading in accordance with the Christmas story by Miss Lauterbach and a solo, "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates," by Miss Kleist. Finally "Silent Night, Holy Night" was sung by all present, and the Lord's Prayer was said in unison.

After every one had found a seat or a place to stand, all eyes turned toward the door, whence our Old St. Nick was to appear, whose duty it seemed to be to distribute the gifts. This time he did not come down through the chimney, but down the elevator. After a few anxious minutes he appeared in full regalia, explaining his tardiness by telling us that he had come 'way from the North Pole that day. The following moments we all were as happy as the little children present, who first of all received a little gift from his generous hands. Generously and thoughtfully indeed were we remembered by him; but we were most thankful to our heavenly Provider for all His goodness, and we were again reminded of the one "unspeakable Gift," "God manifest in the flesh," given to us.

At four o'clock everybody was busy again with duties until seven, when all those who were able, got ready to attend the children's services in St. Stephen's Church to hear the old story of our Savior's birth.

After the services we all assembled at the hospital again instead of going to our nurses' home, as a basketful of goodies, previously prepared, stood ready to be carried to a poor family which had lost its mother only a few months before. With our superintendent leading, we soon arrived at our destination. We lined up and sang the first verse of the hymn "Joy to the World." When the father opened the door, the basket was given to him with our greetings, and we returned home, tired, but happy.

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, Mo., \$25.00. JULIA KOENIG.

MISSIONARY AND SOCIAL WORK.

(Concluded.)

If woman workers were a necessity in the early centuries, to-day the need is far greater, since the Gospel is being preached throughout the world. The Church to-day needs women to assist the ministers of the Gospel, to undertake detail work, which women can do particularly well. This does not mean that the woman worker who teaches and gives spiritual comfort can take the place of a pastor.

In no instance can a woman worker supplant the peculiar work of a pastor. She is simply the handmaiden. She often paves the way for the pastor's visits and assists him in all his work. Examples: As *parish worker* her most important work is not pastoral work nor other routine duties in a parish, but to serve her church by winning over the unchurched and bringing back to the fold the dispersed brethren and sisters who have grown indifferent and weak in the faith.

Bringing cheer and comfort to the shut-in members of the church is also an important part of the worker's task. These friendly visits are intended to strengthen or keep alive the spiritual life of those afflicted. Oftentimes, however, as also in Inner Mission work, the parish worker finds it necessary to render also physical aid to unfortunate fellow-members, such as providing the needy with clothing, food, fuel, securing employment for them, etc.

The main duty of the institutional missionary, which is the work in which most woman workers are at present engaged, is, of course, to visit the sick confined in hospitals, especially those lying in public wards, where the poor and friendless are accommodated. In this work particularly the woman worker has abundant opportunity to act the part of big sister to the patient, and, in general, by giving cheer and comforting her in all her troubles. In this work also spiritual service must be rendered first of all and then the physical needs of the patient cared for. These physical needs are often small and call for nothing more than candy or flowers, a birthday cake, or some little article which the patient has longed for. Still they mean a great deal to the patient, and they are of great importance for the success of the workers; for such little gifts, small though they be, are tokens of the love for suffering humanity which dwells in the workers and which, after all, is but a reflection of the love which Christ has for all sinners.

Institutional Work among children also has as its chief aim the care of the soul. Through teaching the little ones are brought to the knowledge of Christ, their Savior, and are told of His great love for them and the eternal home He has provided for them. In this work also much social work must frequently be done, particularly in so-called charity cases. Oftentimes, to protect the interests of the child, it is advisable to consult other agencies or even to turn the case over to them if they are better fitted to give a particular child the care it requires. Frequently our agencies can likewise

cooperate with other agencies by providing crutches, braces, clothing, or by supervising the care of some orphaned child of our faith.

Work among the aged, in our own institutions as well as in those of our cities and counties can scarcely be carried on in an efficient and effective manner without some social work in connection with the missionary work. These aged people, many of whom are forgotten and forsaken by friends and relatives, largely depend upon the worker's cheering visits. Their wants are not many, and they are easily made happy by frequent visits and occasional little gifts. The more able ones are supplied with various kinds of hand-work and are sometimes taught to make new and different novelties. Here, too, of course, the soul of the aged person is given first consideration, and they are supplied with Christian literature, the Gospel is discussed with them, and sometimes classes are formed in which Bible stories are studied.

Does not the foregoing bear out the fact that missionary work can be carried on more efficiently with the aid of social work? Missionary and social work as we know them are two separate and distinct departments of Inner Mission work, and yet the two are so profoundly interlinked that we, as Christian workers, cannot accomplish our missionary work efficiently nor conscientiously without "acts of mercy." Our chief duty as missionary is to bring the Bread of Life to sin-sick souls. Yet, in cases of physical distress, *hunger*, can we, as workers for Christ, withhold the bread for the body or the cup of water from a poor, suffering brother or sister? To answer this, we have but to read Matt. 25, 35: "I was hungry, and ye gave Me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink."

CLARA MENARD,
115 Glenwood Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

Notes and News.

How richly merciful God has blessed our deaconess cause can be seen from the fact that we had twenty-three urgent applications for trained deaconesses last year to work within our Synodical Conference. However we had only six graduates to supply the want. At present we have ten of our deaconesses at work in our various mission-fields. Our schools number *forty-two* Christian young women, who are preparing themselves for blessed labor in the Lord's vineyard.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE LUTHERAN DEACONESS ASSOCIATION.

September 1, 1925, to September 1, 1926.

Balance on hand, September 1, 1925, \$284.45. Contributions, collections, and dues, 4,293.68. Graduate deaconess earnings, 6,577.80. *Total*, \$11,155.93.—*Disbursements*: To Graduate deaconesses, \$3,441.24. Student nurses, 2,875.00. For uniforms, dresses, and crosses, 467.07. For instruction of student nurses, 171.00. 15,000

copies of LUTHERAN DEACONESS, and mailing, 268.75. Printing and stationery, 258.72. Fire insurance for three years, 64.00. Home repairs and equalization, 108.40. Traveling expenses, 288.55. Office expenses and postage stamps, 550.27. Typewriter, 40.00. Board of Support: Payment for 1924, 50.00. Lutheran Charity Conference: Dues for 1926, 10.00. Interest on \$500.00 note, 20.00. Rev. Poch's salary, 1,500.00. CASH ON HAND, September 1, 1926, 1,042.93. *Total*, \$11,155.93.

Deaconess Fund.

Credit by earnings, \$6,577.80. Debit to expenses and monthly allowances, 3,441.24. 1926 balance, 3,136.56. 1925 balance, 3,643.78. *Total*, \$6,780.34.

General Fund.

Credit by Deaconess Mother House, \$11,466.99. Credit by cash on hand, 1,042.93. *Total*, \$12,509.92. — Debit to one note of \$500.00; to Deaconess Fund, 6,780.34. *Total*, \$7,280.34. BALANCE, \$5,229.58.

E. F. NIEMEYER, *Fin. Sec.-Treas.*

Officials of Our Deaconess Society.

President: Rev. Philip Wambsganss, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Vice-President: Rev. H. B. Kohlmeier, New Haven, Ind.
Secretary: Rev. W. Klausing, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Treasurer: Mr. Ernst Niemeyer, 795 Madison St., Fort Wayne, Ind.
Superintendent: Rev. B. Poch, 2916 Fairfield Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind.

Deaconess Schools within the Synodical Conference.

Motherhouse and School at Fort Wayne, Ind., 2916 Fairfield Ave. *President*, Rev. Philip Wambsganss. *Superintendent*, Rev. B. Poch.
Lutheran Deaconess Hospital, Beaver Dam, Wis. *President*, Rev. L. C. Kirst. *Superintendent*, Miss Clara Dienst.
Bethesda Training-school at Watertown, Wis. *Superintendent*, Mr. L. Pingel.
Lutheran Deaconess Hospital, Hot Springs, S. Dak.

Branch Societies of our Lutheran Deaconess Association.

(Up to October, 1926.)

St. Louis, Mo. — Young Women's Deaconess Association. Miss A. L. Roffmann, 1815 Railway Exchange Bldg.
Beaver Dam, Wis. — Mr. Ernest Wegener, *Treasurer*.
Milwaukee, Wis. — Mr. H. L. Wedekind, *Treasurer*, 699 Lapham St.
Sheboygan, Wis. — Pastor Wm. Wambsganss, 1125 Georgia Ave.
 Pastor E. Krause, 915 S. 17th St.
 Mission Society. Pastor Ed Schmidt, 1832 N. 13th St.
Chicago, Ill. — Ev. Luth. Young People's League. Mr. Walter C. Eheim, *Treasurer*, 4201 Irving Park Blvd.
 Bethany Ladies' Aid. Pastor K. Schlerf, 5950 Magnolia Ave.
 First St. Paul's Ladies' Aid. Pastor H. Kowert, 1826 N. Hammond St.
 Pastor Wm. M. Roecker, 3116 S. Racine Ave.

Fort Wayne, Ind. — The Lutheran Ladies' Deaconess Auxiliary. Mrs. L. Rehling, *Secretary*, 1612 California Ave.

Cleveland, O. — Mrs. M. Dankworth, *Treasurer*, Greater Cleveland.

The Lutheran Deaconess Association of Greater Cleveland, Miss Louise Lohman, *Treasurer*.

Cincinnati, O. — Pastor F. Kroencke, 5590 Ridge Ave., Pleasant Ridge Sta.

Roselle, Ill. — Pastor G. Theiss, R. 1.

La Fayette, Ind. — Pastor P. G. Schmidt, 814 Cincinnati St.

Monroe, Mich. — Pastor Hy. Frincke, 225 Scott St.

Truman, Minn. — Pastor Herm. Heinemann, Box 1.

New York, N. Y. — Lutheran Hospital Association. Mr. Wm. F. Weber, *Treasurer*, 268 W. 96th St.

Albany, N. Y. — Young Ladies' Aid. Miss A. M. Stander, *Treasurer*, 475 Elk St.

Freistatt, Mo. — Ladies' Aid. Pastor C. Bernthal.

Sweet Springs, Mo. — Ladies' Aid. Pastor M. Senn.

Buffalo, N. Y. — Mrs. Bertha Quibell, *Treasurer*, 1938 Bailey Ave.

Akron, O. — Mrs. E. H. Buehl, *Treasurer*, 623 East Buchtal Ave.

Elyria, O. — Pastor W. C. Birkner, 242 E. Heights Blvd.

Lancaster, O. — Ladies' Aid. Pastor C. A. Kammeyer, R. 11.

Pittsburgh, Pa. — Miss Mary E. Succop, *Treasurer*, 345 S. Graham St.

Logansport, Ind. — Mrs. C. Rosentrader, *Treasurer*, 1622 Spear St.

Huntington, Ind. — Pastor C. J. Wirsing, 651 Polk St.

Petoskey, Mich. — Ladies' Aid. Pastor Wm. Oplis, 810 Petoskey St.

South Hadley, Mich. — Ladies' Aid. Pastor E. Luth. Church.

Nashville, Ill. — Pastor C. P. Rohloff, 500 West Elm St.

New Minden, Ill. — Pastor E. F. Koesterling.

Kankakee, Ill. — Pastor C. Haller, 228 S. Dearborn St.

Crystal Lake, Ill. — Pastor F. G. Kuehnert.

Jacksonville, Ill. — Mrs. Fred Brown, *Treasurer*, 821 E. Jackson St.

Arenzville, Ill. — Pastor E. F. Tonn, L. B. 126.

Streator, Ill. — Mr. Rudi Repko, *Treasurer*.

Mount Olive, Ill. — Mr. J. C. Boecker, *Treasurer*.

Davenport, Iowa. — Pastor Herm. Harms, 510 Myrtle St.

Stanwood, Iowa. — Pastor W. G. Nagler.

Waterloo, Iowa. — Mrs. Otto Roepe, *Treasurer*, 210 S. Barclay St.

Carlville, Ill. — Zion Ladies' Aid. Pastor Geo. Beiderwieden, 509 S. Broad St.

Forest Park, Ill. — Ladies' Aid. Pastor M. Wagner, 208 Marengo Ave.

Galveston, Tex. — Ladies' Aid. Pastor A. F. Michalk, 1117 39th St.

La Grange, Tex. — Trinity Ladies' Aid. Pastor A. E. Moebus.

Delano, Cal. — Ladies' Aid Society. Pastor W. Adam.

NOTE. — Send additional names of societies and change of officers to

MISS EDNA UDE, *Sec.*,
 2903 Sidney St., St. Louis, Mo.

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