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The Lutheran Deaconess

Lutheran Diaconal Association

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## The Lutheran Deaconess, Vol. 6, No. 2

Lutheran Deaconess Association

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# The Lutheran Deaconess

Official Organ of the Lutheran Deaconess Association  
within the Ev. Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America

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ST. LOUIS, MO., APRIL, 1929.

No. 2.

## QUARTERLY SURVEY.

January to March, 1929.

Due to the ever-increasing volume of correspondence, the undersigned finds it difficult to leave his office for a greater length of time in answer to requests for lectures on our deaconess cause. Under the circumstances we are glad to get away for a few days to visit at Beaver Dam and Watertown and discuss matters concerning the welfare of our deaconess training-schools at these places and our deaconess work in general. Reports of unprecedented snowfall in Central Wisconsin did not deter us from traveling via Fond du Lac to Beaver Dam. The snow-drifts were immense, but we finally reached our destination. Our Deaconess Hospital Board, under the able direction of Pastor L. Kirst, is considering the building of a hospital annex this year. The demand for a larger number of private rooms necessitates the enlargement of our hospital. Due to efficient management, the running expenses have always been covered by the hospital revenues, and, in addition, a number of most welcome improvements, as regards both the building and equipment, have been made.

We do regret, however, that our efficient deaconess nurse Miss Martha Buchholz, superintendent of student nurses, is not in the best of health. She will be granted a furlough as soon as possible. Miss Martha Herzberg will complete her three years of training the middle of April. Five more graduates will be available in fall. Deaconess Esther Tassinari, who had been called to Beaver Dam to relieve temporarily, was called home because of the serious illness of her mother. We were saddened to hear that shortly after she arrived home her mother passed away. We extend our sincere sympathy to her in her great bereavement.

There will be four graduates from our Bethesda Training-school at Watertown this year. One of the graduates has expressed the wish to take another year's training at Beaver Dam. Miss Lutz, a deaconess in training at Bethesda, asked that her bed be placed in the room adjoining the lecture-room to enable her to hear the lecture while being confined to bed because of a cold. It is truly encouraging to note the

interest and zeal of our deaconess students, at Bethesda as well as at our other training-schools, in preparing themselves for their future calling. Mr. L. Pingel, superintendent of our Bethesda Home, has issued a standing invitation to us to spend several weeks at Bethesda, and we are looking forward to the day when we shall be able to do so.

Fort Wayne will have six deaconess graduates this year. This is the largest number of graduates in the history of our Fort Wayne training-school. One of the graduates, Miss Esther Schabacker, has volunteered to serve in India. She is the daughter of Pastor H. Schabacker, of Arapahoe, Nebr. Two graduates, Miss M. Spencer and Miss Pauline Barthel, will finish their three years' training in April. Ten calls for deaconesses have been received thus far, and there is every indication that all graduates will be placed immediately. A request has come from distant Arizona for a third deaconess, to be placed in the service of the Apache Indian Mission conducted under the auspices of the Wisconsin Synod. Other calls have come from old people's homes and other institutions as well as from hospitals.

Because of crowded conditions in the Nurses' Home four deaconesses are staying in the Deaconess Home. The Ladies' Deaconess Auxiliary of Fort Wayne has taken care of the papering of two deaconess rooms in the Home.

B. POCH.

## LUTHERAN WOMAN'S MISSIONARY ENDEAVOR.

During the sessions of the Easter Conference of pastors and teachers of the North Indiana Circuit of the Central District, in April, 1928, the following memorial was submitted by a number of ladies holding membership in various Lutheran congregations of Fort Wayne:—

To the Honorable Members of Conference.  
DEAR SIRS:—

We feel timid about approaching you in this matter. It is only because we see so great a field for Christian service open before us that we take courage to speak.

1. *What We Desire.* — We ask the consent, support, and encouragement of the pastors of this conference for organizing the women's societies of our Synod into a federation, or league, for the purpose of aiding Synod in its mission-work, especially for women and children. It is to be distinctly understood that this is no new mission-endeavor, but an attempt to systematize women's agencies now already at work. The object of this organization would be to act as an auxiliary to Synod's mission boards by uniting existing ladies' aids for the purpose of educating our women to the needs of our missions at home and abroad and of stimulating intelligent support.

2. *Why We Wish to Organize.* — In the New Testament there is ample proof of the fact that women not only provided relief for physical suffering, but also brought spiritual comfort to the needy in the churches with the sanction of those in authority. On this Scriptural basis, women of our churches have been organized to aid in its work. Many pastors, especially those in larger centers, acknowledge that the ladies' aids of our congregations do valuable work in the Church. We have information, however, to show that much help from this source is still either going to waste or being frittered away on non-essentials. We have often heard the remark, "We should like to do something, but we don't know *what*." The women of our Synod are like a host of individual soldiers, willing to help in the battle for spreading the Gospel, but lacking the necessary organization to make them an effective army. In many cities there is a certain amount of organized effort in local undertakings. These societies would only gain by becoming members of a larger organization, with the advantages of exchange of ideas and prevention of waste of money and energy through overlapping. Besides, for the great number of isolated congregations, where the women have even less contact with other groups of their faith than the men, we feel that this sort of union would be a boon. Not only for the sake of the work they will be able to do, but also for the good to themselves that will come of it will it be worth while.

One might say that we women are members of our congregations and as such, through the usual channels, can help in the work. However, there are certain spheres where the work of women is especially necessary. A survey of the various women's societies in Fort Wayne alone will point to many. The special ladies' aids for Home Mission work and orphans' asylums in New York, Detroit, Baltimore, and St. Louis, for instance, point to another phase. The vast possibilities of reaching children in Sunday-schools in mission-areas of our cities and the follow-up work of these, reaching mothers in their homes, opens a vista of unlimited usefulness for the women of our churches. Especially do we find that the case is very clear in Foreign Mission fields. It is a well-known fact that literally millions of women in Oriental countries living in the very districts where our Synod is working are either

entirely cut off from, or much hampered in hearing the Gospel when men are bearers of the good news. Could there be anything more appropriate and — it would seem to us — God-pleasing than for us women to undertake this task? We believe that it would give our women a greater impetus if they were given the privilege to organize for the purpose of carrying on this work.

3. *What Combined Efforts have Done for Others.* — While we do not fraternize with other denominations or follow their example, nevertheless their statistics show us what combined effort can accomplish. As one instance let us quote the Woman's Auxiliary of the Protestant Episcopal Church (American branch). With a church-membership of 1,128,000, it supports 223 white woman workers and 432 native woman workers in Foreign Mission fields only, and in 1925 this auxiliary collected \$912,841.30 for this work. Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist women also support a large number of white and native workers in foreign fields. The women of the United Lutheran Church contributed \$305,000 in 1925 and in 1928 had 59 white woman workers in foreign fields. Their efforts in Home Mission work are in proportion to these figures. At the present we have only 10 white and 36 native woman workers in the field and 25 deaconesses in home work.

4. *How We Should Like to Organize.* — We have come to the conclusion, especially after consulting persons who have had years of experience in organizing church-work, that the practical plan for us would be not to create a new society, but to unite existing societies into a federation, or league. Each ladies' aid, sewing society, women's city mission society, or hospital sewing society would retain its own identity and carry out its own program, the work for which it was called into existence, but at the same time be a member and a supporter of the central organization. The danger of expensive conventions seems to us to be trivial in view of the fact that the body would be made up largely of women whose home duties would prevent attendance and of women past the age when the mere excitement of such conventions would appeal to them. There could be joint meetings of local chapters, an idea which has already been successfully carried out in St. Louis and vicinity. As we see it, a bulletin or leaflet issued at regular intervals would be the chief means of keeping connection between units as well as the means of educating our women to a realization of the need and scope of the work. Of course, if the idea of a union or federation of this kind should gain favor at all, it would soon be necessary to employ a secretary to make it known, to win friends, to centralize the work, and to act as a clearing-house for advice and information.

In conclusion we beg to repeat our request for your consent, aid, support, and encouragement for this undertaking. We have seen the sad lot of women in Christless lands; some of us have been there. Daily we are reminded of the need of many women and children at our

very doors. Gratitude and a sense of justice urge us on to make this appeal. We ask you not to deny us this greater opportunity for passing on to our sisters and their children, wherever they may be, the good that has come to us through Him who deigned to be born of, and cared for, by a woman, who praised the faith of a woman, and who allowed the glad tidings of His presence to be brought to a whole town through a single sinful woman, and who first showed himself to a woman as the risen Savior.

The above appeal was signed by twelve women. At the same conference a similar memorial was submitted for discussion. Pastor Fred Wambsgans, chairman of the Central District Mission Board, wished to enlist the support of the women in the District for missionary projects not provided for by the District budget, as, for instance, the erecting of chapels for mission-fields. The memorial was read before Synod, and a committee representing the interests of various missions was appointed to cooperate with the District Home Mission Board in devising ways and means to get the best results in the important field of missions.

According to the resolution of the Central District the committee is to print and distribute informative and inspirational literature bearing on the projects to be undertaken, which will enable the pastors to present the cause of missions to their societies systematically and regularly. In compliance with this resolution quarterly is being published bearing the title, *Lutheran Woman's Missionary Endeavor Quarterly*. Pastor Fred Wambsgans, editor of the quarterly, announces in the first issue that he has been fortunate to receive promises from men and women with a strong missionary background to contribute regularly to the pages of this missionary periodical. The feature article in the first issue has been contributed by Pastor Frank Lankenau, who for many years served in the Colored Mission field of the South. Mrs. F. Zucker, wife of Missionary Zucker in India, has prepared most interesting articles in the first and second issues on the necessity of helping Oriental women through women.

We hope that the Lutheran Woman's Missionary Endeavor will create greater interest also in our deaconess work to help us in training young women for special service in the great harvest-fields of the Church.

### ALAMOSA, COLO.

It was with profound interest and deep gratitude that we read the following report concerning our Lutheran Hospital at Alamosa. We quote from the *Colorado Lutheran*:—

"On February 1 the Alamosa Lutheran Hospital celebrated its first birthday. It can be stated that the hospital has lived up to, and accomplished, the purposes for which it was called into existence. It has proved to be a means of sound Lutheran publicity. It has

brought the Lutheran Church to the attention of the public. The many patients who have been attended to by our faithful Lutheran nurses and who have read our periodicals and tracts during their stay at the hospital are speaking of the Lutheran Church and of Lutheran principles throughout Colorado and New Mexico. The doctors have become so interested in the Lutheran Hospital that in their homes they tune in on KFÜO and later tell the Lutheran pastors about it.

"Again, our hospital served its main object well; namely, it has been a splendid means of mission-work. We had the opportunity of approaching men, women, and children whom otherwise we would not have reached. We have baptized children who would otherwise not have been baptized. We wrested immortal souls from the grip of the secret empire. In various instances the Lord made us manifestly His instruments for gathering in His elect in the eleventh hour. Pastor Brott, missionary at Alamosa, reports: 'I have made approximately 107 sick-calls in the hospital. Opportunities for missionary endeavor are good. Many homes have been opened to me through the influence of the hospital. Our Church is widely advertised. Just recently one old man, on his deathbed, renounced the Masonic Order and placed his trust solely in the merits of Christ, his Savior.'

"Of the 664 patients admitted during the year only 23 were Lutherans. Forty had no church connections whatever. Miss Clara Dienst, deaconess nurse, is superintendent, Miss Amelia Docter, also a deaconess nurse, is assistant superintendent. Deaconesses Lulu Noess and Esther Larsen are in charge of the operating-room and alternate as night-supervisor. Besides these deaconesses we have a number of other nurses, one of whom is a Spanish woman.

"May this blessed work, which we have undertaken not for personal gain, but alone to the glory of God and the welfare of our fellowmen, continue to prosper and to prove a blessing to many!"

### NEWS FROM THE FOREIGN MISSIONS FIELD.

Mrs. Samuel Lang, formerly deaconess Clara Mueller, writes us from Vaniyambadi, South India: "When this letter reaches you, it will be early spring over there. I cannot forget Fort Wayne in this season. Just now everything is very brown and barren here. One tree near our bungalow rattles in the breeze, and it makes one feel melancholy.

"My husband is school manager. He has twenty-five schools to look after besides two boarding-schools. It keeps him very busy with all his other work. He preaches twice every Sunday. And then there are Bible classes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings. Every other Saturday is teachers' meeting. Being manager, he has all the salaries to pay. The natives have the happy faculty of always wanting money, the teachers not excluded.

Some of the schools are close to each other, some are more than twenty miles distant. Several weeks ago I had the pleasure of accompanying my husband as he visited the Gudiyattam mission-schools. One of the villages is five miles from the main road, and the road is simply terrible.

"We started out early one Tuesday morning. I wish you could have seen the old Ford loaded to capacity. After driving twenty-five miles we reached a bungalow, where we stayed till Thursday. When one goes traveling in India, especially to the small villages, one must take along bedding, dishes, cooking-utensils, linens, and other articles.

"Visiting schools here is very different from visiting schools in the United States. Here it means that you bring your own chair along for comfort. Also leave your nose at home, for the smells are 'swell.' I am sure they cannot be beat. But you can get used to stockyard odors.

"Some native teachers are very gifted and do really good work. Some of them have had only a limited training. If the Lord continues to bless the work, we shall soon have a good number of trained natives. They are now training men at the Ambur high school. We depend upon the children in building up our Church in India.

"I was very happy to note how well our children recite the Bible stories and the Catechism. And, oh, how our heart rejoices when we hear them sing the good old Lutheran hymns!

"This being the cool season, the children come shivering and shaking to school. Clothing is the least of the native's worries. The children wear a smile and a little loin cloth. They all sit on the ground or on a plank. This, I think, gives them colds, at least aggravates them. You ought to hear the sniffing—and nothing to use. They do not know what handkerchiefs are.

"The children as well as the teachers are ill at ease when my husband comes to visit the schools.

"And don't forget that in addition to your prayers we do like to hear from you once in a while. Those are red-letter days when mail arrives from our friends in the good United States."

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### MEMORIAL WREATHS.

The Misses Kuegele, of Richmond, Va., \$3, in memory of Mrs. Augusta Nold.

Mr. and Mrs. Jungton, of Milwaukee, Wis., \$2, in memory of H. L. Wedekind, former secretary of our Branch Society at Milwaukee.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Kucher, of New Haven, \$2, in memory of a member of their congregation.

Mrs. Philip Geltman, of Pittsburgh, Pa., \$25, in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Riesmeyer.

We are indeed grateful to our friends who remember our deaconess cause by the donation of a memorial wreath.

### INSTALLATION SERVICES.

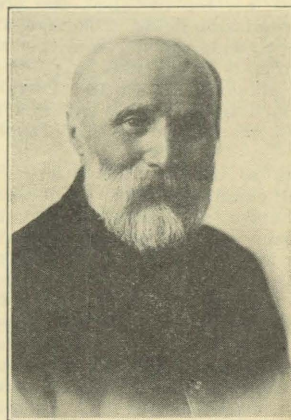
Sunday, May 5, has been selected as the date for the installation services to be held for the graduating class at Watertown, Wis. The services will be held in the afternoon at St. John's Church, Rev. H. Eggers, pastor.

The Fort Wayne graduates will be installed on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. The services will be held at 7.30 P. M. in Immanuel Church, Rev. W. Moll, pastor.

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### H. L. WEDEKIND.

On Monday, February 11, our dear friend H. L. Wedekind was laid to rest. His name is intimately connected with the organization and development of our Milwaukee branch society,



H. L. Wedekind.

which he served as secretary until the middle of 1928. He was a member of St. James's Lutheran Church, where he had taught the second grade for thirty-one years. His memory as a faithful laborer shall ever be dear to us.

Miss Helene Koepke has kindly consented to serve the association as successor to Mr. Wedekind. Her office is located in Room 301, Stephenson Bldg., which serves as the headquarters for the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Mr. Theo. Dammann, Secretary of State, is president of the Milwaukee branch.

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### LEGACIES.

Two legacies have recently been bequeathed to our Deaconess Association, one by Mr. Henry Wehrenberg, prominent member of St. Paul's Congregation, who remembered our cause by a gift of \$500, the other by Mrs. Katie Hansen, of Oakland, Cal., who willed \$300 to us. She was a member of our association from the very beginning.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

The Fort Wayne Lutheran Ladies' Mission Society, in its January meeting, voted the sum of \$250 to be used in providing special training for Deaconess Gertrude Oberheu, who has volunteered her services for India. Miss Oberheu has a brother in the South India Mission field.

Miss Erna Heck, formerly assistant matron at the Buffalo hospice, has been transferred to Watertown because of the very urgent need of help at Bethesda. We hope to place another deaconess at Buffalo in the very near future.

According to latest reports the new Lutheran hospital venture at Yuma, Colo., is making good progress.

### AN APPEAL FOR OUR DEAF-MUTE SCHOOL AT DETROIT, MICH.

Rev. Enno Duemling, institutional missionary at Milwaukee, who is well acquainted with the work among the deaf and is familiar with the work our Deaf-mute Institute at Detroit is doing, having at one time been a member of the Board of Directors, has this to say concerning our school for the deaf:—

"The very fact that at this school our deaf children are brought to Christ and taught the way to salvation should be an incentive to our Christians to lend a helping hand and to give every possible aid to further the aims of this Christian school for the silent children of the Church. For fifty-six years the school has performed its ministry of love and is blessed by hundreds of its graduates who have found Christ within the walls of the unpretentious building. The time has now come, however, to bid farewell to the old and totally inadequate building and to build anew on a beautiful piece of land. It is essential that this school have proper and suitable buildings to meet present demands and better housing conditions. The request for financial help comes to you, dear Fellow-Christians. Will you heed it? Will you give it your kind attention? You are not a deaf-mute, thank God! You are more fortunate than those deaf children you are asked to help. You have speech and hearing. Why not express your gratitude for these unmerited blessings by helping this great cause, not only materially, but also with your fervent prayers for the success of this worthy undertaking? What a privilege to be an instrument in the hands of a gracious God to help handicapped children to a saving knowledge of the truth as revealed in the Word of God, the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!"

### IN MEMORIAM.

Am Freitagmorgen, den 8. Februar, ist Lehrer emeritus H. A. Wedekind, der unserer Diakonissen-Gesellschaft als Sekretär des Milwaukee-Zweigvereins jahrelang treu gedient hat, eingegangen zu der Ruhe, die noch vorhanden ist dem Volke Gottes.

Sein Alter hat er gebracht auf zweieundachtzig Jahre. Sein Geburtsort war Northheim, eine Stadt im südlichen Hannover. Seine Eltern, wie wohl arme Leute, sorgten dafür, daß er gute Schulen besuchen konnte. Gott hatte ihm herrliche Gaben verliehen, so daß er bereits im Alter von sechzehn Jahren das Gymnasium absolvierte. Es war immer sein Wunsch gewesen, sich dem Lehrerberufe zu widmen. Da er noch zu jung war, um in das Lehrerseminar zu Ahlfeld einzutreten, so besorgte ihm der Rektor des Gymnasiums eine Stelle als Hauslehrer auf einem Gut in der Nähe der Stadt Hannover. Gott fügte es so, daß die Herrschaft treulutherisch war. Drei kleine Kinder standen unter seiner Obhut. In dieser Stellung lernte er den Segen eines wahrhaft christlichen Hauses schätzen. Sein Examen beim Abgang aus dem Lehrerseminar bestand er mit Glanz. Im deutsch-französischen Kriege diente er in der Fahnenkompagnie. Nach Schluß des Feldzugs übernahm er wieder seine Klasse an der höheren Bürgerschule in Osterode. Wäre er in Deutschland geblieben, so hätte er dort zu immer höheren Stellen mit entsprechenden Gehältern gelangen können. Da aber seine Eltern und Geschwister nach Amerika ausgewandert waren, so fühlte er sich zuzeiten recht einsam. Er entschloß sich, ebenfalls nach Amerika auszuwandern, und kam im August 1872 in New York an. Seine erste Stelle hier war an der Schule der Immanuelsgemeinde in New York, wo er sechs Jahre tätig war. Im Jahre 1875 schloß er mit Frä. Johanna Kruschinsky den Bund fürs Leben. Gott segnete den Bund mit acht Kindern, zwei Söhnen und sechs Töchtern. Eine Zeitlang unterrichtete er auch in der Schule der St. Matthäusgemeinde, der ältesten lutherischen Gemeinde unjenseits Landes. Im Jahre 1885 kam er nach Milwaukee, wo er die zweite Klasse in der Schule der St. Jakobsgemeinde unterrichtete. Dieser Gemeinde hat er seine besten Jahre und Kräfte gewidmet. Einunddreißig Jahre hat er hier gewirkt. Im Jahre 1916 durfte er sein goldenes Amtsjubiläum feiern.

Während seiner Wirksamkeit an der St. Jakobischule war er auch literarisch tätig. Im Auftrage der Wisconsin-synode hat er unter Mitwirkung etlicher Amtsbrüder eine Serie deutscher Lesebücher veröffentlicht.

Als im Jahre 1906 die lutherische Altenheimgesellschaft von Wisconsin gegründet wurde, erwählte man unsern lieben Bedekind als Sekretär. Als er vorgerückten Alters halben sein Amt als Lehrer in die Hände der Gemeinde zurücklegte, übertrug ihm die Altenheimgesellschaft das Amt eines Agenten derselben und die Redaktion ihres Blattes „Lutherisches Altenheim“. Auch war er fünfundzwanzig Jahre lang Leiter und einige Jahre korrespondierender Sekretär der lutherischen Kinderfreundgesellschaft von Wisconsin. Desgleichen diente er als Berichterstatter für den „Milwaukee-Herald“ und brachte die Nachrichten aus den Kreisen der lutherischen Gemeinden von Milwaukee und Um-

gend. Und wie oben bereits erwähnt wurde, hat er dem Milwaukee-Zweigverein unserer Diakonissen-gesellschaft seit Gründung desselben treu gedient. Im vergangenen Jahre bat er uns, wir möchten eine jüngere Kraft anstellen, da die Schwächen des Alters sich immer mehr zeigten. An seine Stelle ist nun seit letztem Sommer Fräulein Helene Köpfe getreten, die ihre Office im Zimmer 301 des Stephenson-Gebäudes hat. Herr Theo. Dammann, zurzeit Staatssekretär von Wisconsin, ist Präsident des Milwaukee-Diakonissen-Zweigvereins.

Den Hinterbliebenen des teuren Entschlafenen bezeugen wir unser herzlichstes Beileid. Das Andenken des Entschlafenen bleibe unter uns im Segen!

### Die Geschlechtsregister der Bibel.

Ein evangelischer Prediger in Frankreich, der oft während der Gottesdienste seine Zuhörer in der Bibel nachschlagen und die Stellen, auf die er sich in seiner Predigt bezog, nachlesen ließ (in Frankreich haben die Zuhörer die Bibel immer bei sich), hörte einmal von einer Frau, die ganz besonders in der Bibel bewandert sei und deren Unterhaltung schon vielen, die sie besuchten, zur Erbauung gedient habe. Als er durch das Dorf kam, wo sie wohnte, besuchte er sie und fand sie, wie sie eben von ihren Arbeiten in der Haushaltung ausruhte und die Bibel vor sich aufgeschlagen hatte. Er sah zufällig auf das Blatt der Bibel und fand, daß es eins der Geschlechtsregister enthielt, über die viele sonst hinweggehen, ohne sie zu lesen. Er dachte schon, das müße eine recht einfältige Person sein, fragte sie aber mehrmals, welchen Abschnitt sie lese, und sie deutete immer auf das Geschlechtsregister. Er hätte gern ihr dies ernstlich vorgehalten, fragte aber vorher: „Was finden Sie denn darin zu Ihrer Erbauung?“

„Ach“, antwortete die Frau, „das kann ich nicht alles auf einmal sagen. Jeder dieser Namen gibt mir viel zu denken. Unser Heiland wollte Mensch werden. Er allein konnte seine Vorfahren wählen, und siehe, nun wählt er ein Geschlecht von Sündern und gibt uns ihre Namen! Da denke ich nun bei jedem dieser Namen daran, was die Schrift uns von ihnen sagt. Unter diesen Personen sind bekehrte, gerettete, geheiligte Sünder, aber es sind auch hartnäckige Sünder darunter, die großes Vergehn gegeben haben und von deren Buße wir nichts wissen. Da lerne ich die tiefe Erniedrigung meines Heilandes noch besser verstehen. Die besten unter allen diesen seinen Vorfahren — wie sind sie doch seiner so unwürdig! Wie hat er den Ehebrecher und Mörder David und die Hure Rahab so gnädig zu sich gezogen! Da sehe ich, daß alles in seinem Reiche lauter Gnade ist, Gnade, nichts als Gnade. Nun kann ich glauben, daß er auch mich Unwürdige annimmt.“

Der Prediger ging ebenso beschämt wie mit Dank gegen Gott erfüllt für die Wahrheiten, die er in die Geschlechtsregister hineingelegt hat, von dannen.

### Interessantes aus dem Tagebuche einer Diakonistin.

Von den Erlebnissen der Diakonistin Emilie Heuser während ihrer Tätigkeit als Pflegerin im Diakonissenhospital zu Alexandrien in Nordafrika haben wir in der letzten Nummer uners Diakonissenblattes berichtet. In ihrem Beruf als Krankenwärterin hat sie jede Gelegenheit benützt, sich insonderheit der armen Frauen und Kinder unter den Arabern anzunehmen und ihnen nicht bloß leibliche, sondern vor allem auch geistliche Hilfe zu bringen und sie zu Christo zu führen. Nachdem unter ihrer tatkräftigen Leitung das Hospital gut in Gang gebracht worden war, wurde sie gebeten, die Leitung eines Kranken- und Waisenhauses in Jerusalem zu übernehmen. Es wurde ihr nicht leicht, aus Alexandrien zu scheiden, wo sie in kurzer Zeit eine gesegnete Tätigkeit entwickelt hatte. Doch erkannte sie es als Gottes Willen, die Arbeit in Jerusalem zu übernehmen. Am 3. Juli 1858 nahm sie ihre Arbeit hier in Angriff. Im Frühjahr 1851 hatte der edle Diakonissenvater P. Theodor Fiedner im oberen Stock des preußischen Hospizes auf dem Berge Zion ein sehr kleines, anspruchsloses Hospital und Kinderheim eröffnet. Das Hospiz wurde etliche Jahre später nach einer andern Wohnung verlegt, so daß die Kranken nun im unteren Stockwerk untergebracht werden konnten. Bald nachdem Schwester Emilie Heuser ihre Tätigkeit entfaltet hatte, wurde der Mangel an Raum immer fühlbarer. Wie in Alexandrien, so hatte sie auch hier bald das volle Zutrauen der Mohammedaner gewonnen. In Scharen kamen die Araber, um sich vom Arzt untersuchen und von der Apothekerin Emilie Heuser sich Arznei geben und ihre Wunden verbinden zu lassen. Auch hier hat Diakonistin Heuser unter der mohammedanischen Bevölkerung viel Segen gestiftet. Durch sie ist der Name Christi von vielen Arabern gepriesen worden. Eine vornehme Mohammedanerin sagte einmal: „Sie ist eine Dienerin Gottes; ihre Hände sind gesegnet.“

Um dem Mangel an Raum abzuwehren, wurde die Errichtung eines Anbaues unumgänglich nötig. Die Kinder und Kranken waren wie Heringe zusammengepfercht. Die Liebe der vielen Freunde von Kaiserswerth, die reichlich Geld beisteuerten, machte einen solchen Bau möglich. Es gab viel Arbeit und auch mancherlei Noth während dieses Baues, aber auch viel treue Durchhilfe. Die Fundamente mußten durch Trümmer und Schutthaufen des alten Jerusalem hindurch vierzig Fuß tief gelegt werden. Die Zahl der Waisenkinder stieg mittlerweile auf 45, die der Kranken auf 25. Zu den lieblichen Erfahrungen, die Schwester Emilie und die andern Diakonistinnen an manchen Kranken machen durften, gehört folgendes: Eine arme Negersklavin namens Chadra, ein wahres Jammerbild, begehrte in ihrer Krankheit die heilige Taufe, weil auch sie den Heiland liebhabte.

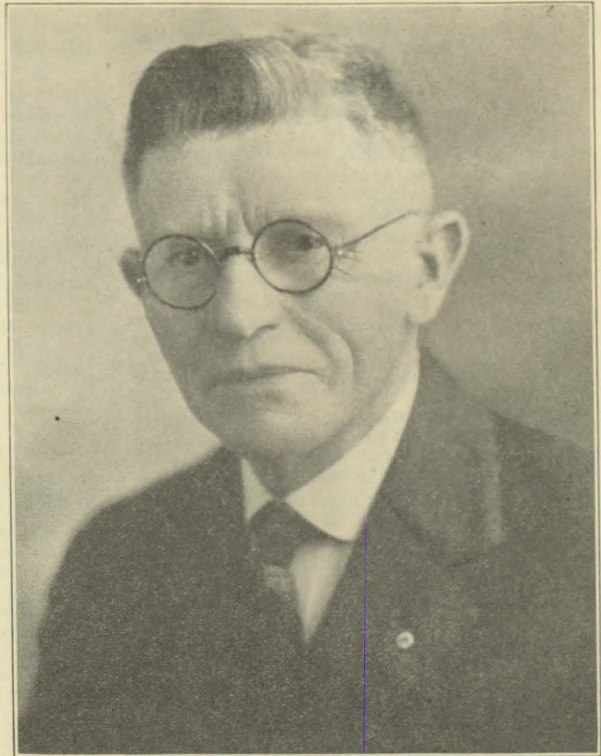
Zweimal hat diese treue Diakonistin mitten aus ihrer Arbeit heraus kleine Reisen unternehmen können. So reiste sie nach dem nicht weit entfernten Bethlehem und später nach Hebron. Freilich fand sie dann bei ihrer Rückkehr nach Jerusalem doppelte Arbeit vor. Die Handarbeitsstunden, in

denen sie den armen Frauen unter den Arabern dienen durfte, waren ihr besonders lieb. Hier hatte sie eben auch Gelegenheit, die schönen biblischen Geschichten zu erzählen. So reich aber auch die Jahre in Jerusalem waren, ihre größte und ernsteste Aufgabe wartete ihrer in Syrien. Darüber wollen wir später hören. (Fortsetzung folgt.)

### Heinrich Wehrenberg.

Zu den Gönnern unserer Diakonissengesellschaft, die ihre Liebe zu unserer Sache mit der Tat bewiesen haben, gehörte Herr Heinrich Wehrenberg, prominentes Glied der St. Paulsgemeinde in Fort Wayne. In seinem Testament hat er unser Werk mit \$500 bedacht. Es ist das größte Vermächtnis, das wir bis jetzt erhalten haben. Er war stets ein Freund der Wohltätigkeitsbestrebungen in unsern lutherischen Kreisen, besonders hier in Fort Wayne. Dem Luther-Institut sowie der Lutherischen Universität in Valparaiso hat er mit seiner Zeit und seinen irdischen Mitteln reichlich gedient. Er genoss die Liebe und Achtung der Bürger in reichem Maße. Seine Gattin hat ihn nur kurze Zeit überlebt.

Gott beschere uns auch ferner solche Männer, die mit ihrem irdischen Gut der Kirche dienen!



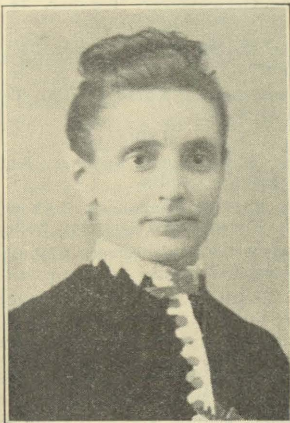
Heinrich Wehrenberg.

### Katharine Hansen.

Ein anderes Vermächtnis, das uns kürzlich übermittelt wurde, kommt aus dem Westen. Frau Katharine Hansen, langjähriges Glied der St. Petri-gemeinde in Oakland, Cal., hatte sich seit Gründung unserer Diakonissengesellschaft derselben angeschlossen. Sie war immer bereit, für wohltätige Zwecke von ihren irdischen Gütern zu opfern. In ihrem Testament hat sie \$300 für unsere Diakonissensache bestimmt. Ihre Wiege stand in der Schweiz. Seit 1882 hatte sie in Oakland gewohnt. Ihr Alter hat sie auf achtundsechzig Jahre gebracht. Sie gehörte zu den Stillen im Lande, die Gutes tun, ohne Aufsehen erregen zu wollen.

### CONCERNING INDIA.

A great student of world affairs studying conditions in India came to the conclusion that practically every economic evil in India is rooted in religious and social custom. Every time you try to lift an Indian economically, you run into a custom that balks you. "Therefore, while I thank God for every endeavor to help India to get more bread, I am convinced that the best way to give India bread is to give her Christ, the Bread of Life. It is the Word of Christ, His Gospel, that makes us free."



Katharine Hansen.



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