take an active interest in these gatherings and help in promoting their success. They also serve on the faculty of L. S. V. schools, on summer conference camp staffs in the districts and at Arcadia, and as representatives of the International Walther League at district conventions.

To be effective, the youth program must at all times apply and release the power of the Gospel, which alone is able to win and hold young people for Christ and His kingdom. The program of the League is truly Christ-centered, but it can be effective only as the theory of it is carried over into practice. To make such a Christ-centered program fully effective on a local level is still one of the chief concerns of your youth leaders.

The materials which are produced concentrate attention on the necessity of making every activity of the youth group a process of Christian growth. These materials include the *Walther League Messenger for Youth, the Workers Quarterly,* and many pamphlets and reprints. Your Board would emphasize that it is not the existence of the materials, but the proper use of them which will help develop a functional youth program on a congregational level.

Survey Committee

To be sure that the youth program is serving the best possible interest of the Church, the Walther League in co-operation with the Board for Young People's Work has set up a Survey Committee to determine whether the present procedures are the best in the interest of youth or whether changes should be made. Synod's Board of Directors also decided to survey the youth programs in Synod. Very likely these two surveys will be merged. All aspects of youth work are to be studied down to the local congregational level, and it will no doubt take some time before the findings are known.

Christian Youth Emergency Action

In the light of what is happening to our young people today and of what is confronting them tomorrow, every congregation must be deeply concerned about the effectiveness of its youth program. Its future depends upon its holding and its winning of young people. In recognition of this need, the Board for Young People's Work, in consultation with Dr. J. W. Behnken and in collaboration with the Walther League, endeavored to alert the Church to the crucial importance of youth work and to the urgent need of developing every possible way to give some training to pastors, teachers, and adult counselors who have the responsibility of active leadership of the youth program in the congregation. This effort directed the attention of these youth leaders to the resources of methods and materials which the youth program needs. In co-

operation with the Walther League, Pastor Walter Wangerin was appointed as director of this program. He met in conferences with pastors and youth counselors all over the United States and Canada in virtually every synodical District. A number of seminars were held, and an up-to-date file was set up of all youth counselors, who then received materials to be of assistance on the congregational level. It was very encouraging to see how the youth leaders rallied to the cause and gave their full support so that our youth program in these times could go forward as effectively as possible.

Much of this work had to be curtailed since Pastor Wangerin accepted a call as pastor in Grand Forks, N. Dak. Then also Dr. O. H. Theiss, who served the League as Executive Secretary for almost eleven years, accepted a call to initiate a ministerial training program in Japan. It is the hope of your Board that this project will soon be supervised by another full-time director, who will rally this potential force of youth leaders to ever greater service in the Church.

Bible Reading League

One of the new mission endeavors started during the past triennium was the venture known as the Bible Reading League. This endeavor has been spearheaded by Pastor A. R. Kretzmann and Miss Vera Mueller through the Walther League office. The plan briefly was this: Our young people would enroll in the Bible Reading League by sending one dollar to the Walther League office. Through the co-operation of our missionaries in foreign fields a "Mission Friend" was assigned to everyone who enrolled. This "Mission Friend" is a native of a foreign country and received a Testament printed in his language. This offered also a wonderful opportunity for every enrollee to correspond with this "Mission Friend." The results of this project were beyond expectation. Over 16,000 enrolled in the Bible Reading League, and over 17,000 Testaments were sent to "Mission Friends" in 75 countries embracing 41 different languages. So that this wonderful project would not come to a halt, the Walther League convention in Ottawa adopted the resolution to continue the project under the heading of "Bible Reading Advance." In this way such as previously enrolled could re-enroll so that portions of the Old Testament (Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah) could be sent to the "Mission Friends."

Closely allied to the Bible Reading League is the *Messenger* Mission Project. As part of the 60th anniversary program of the Walther League, the *Messenger* Mission Project was designed to help societies send the *Walther League Messenger* to foreign schools, libraries, colleges, and universities. In its year and a quarter of operation, the *Messenger* Mission Project has sent 2,500 such subscriptions into all parts of the world.

Lutheran Service Volunteer Schools (L. S. V.)

An important area of youth leadership training is the training of youth itself. This phase of leadership training is carried on throughout Synod by means of L. S. V. schools. This is a joint effort of your Board and the Walther League. Approximately 20 such schools have been conducted each year during the last triennium. These schools have developed hundreds of youth leaders. Since many of these have now passed the "Walther League stage," they are now putting their experiences gained from these schools into excellent use in the congregation. Since this is the case, it is important that these schools receive even wider support from congregations and individuals so that we train, first of all, good youth leaders, and from there also excellent leaders in the parish. Congregations would do well if they set aside a certain amount each year to send several of their young people to their nearest L. S. V. school.

Youth Leadership Training

Synod at its Centennial Convention "encouraged the Board for Young People's Work and the International Walther League to continue the development and expansion of their program for professional leadership training schools" (*Proceedings*, 1947, p. 332). This same resolution was reiterated at the synodical convention in Milwaukee with this addition: "That the Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod set aside $15,000 during the coming triennium to be used for the purpose of carrying on this leadership training program, subject to the approval of the Fiscal Conference" (*Proceedings*, 1950, p. 410).

Although the Fiscal Conference found it necessary to curtail the above resolution, your Board did everything possible to carry on an adequate program. For the past two years two leadership conferences were held each year, one at Bowling Green, Ohio, and the other at Seward, Nebr. This year one conference will be held at Bowling Green, Ohio. It is hoped that in future years these conferences can be expanded to our coastal areas. It is true that not all pastors, teachers, and counselors can attend these two-week conferences; however, each District could probably send a few, and these would in turn share their experiences at pastors' and teachers' conferences as well as other groups. This area of leadership training is still wide open for future expansion.

An elective course in youth work is being offered at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis by Dean Wuerffel, and a one-day seminar is also held for the graduates of our Concordia Seminaries in St. Louis and Springfield. In this way more and more of our young

[illegible]s are getting some formal training in proper youth guidance. [illegible] Board feels that this is only a beginning, with more intensive [illegible] needed in this area in the future.

Youth Conferences

[illegible] Youth conferences have been held annually, to which all of [illegible] District Youth Committee chairmen were invited. These conferences are carried out pursuant to a synodical resolution in Saginaw in 1944. Since the last synodical convention this group has met three times. In 1951 the conference was held in St. Louis. In 1952 it was held in Chicago in conjunction with the Presidents' Conference of the Walther League. Again this year it was held in St. Louis. All members present call these conferences a "must" if an effective and a co-ordinated effort is to be made in all Districts in the interest of youth.

Camps

More and more camps are becoming popular, as is attested by the great number of our young people attending them. For this reason it is important that camps receive our full attention.

Camp Arcadia, owned and operated by the International Walther League under the direction of "Chief" Weiherman, served 1,638 Lutherans last year during its 30th anniversary season. These people came from 18 States, Washington, D. C., and Canada. Arcadia is self-supporting and should be debt free in the near future. At this writing it appears that some 30 district Walther League camps will also be held this year.

Wheat Ridge Foundation

A practical demonstration of how God has richly blessed the work of our youth in a tangible way is the Wheat Ridge Foundation. Not only has God enabled the Walther League to improve the facilities at Wheat Ridge, but He has lovingly guided the efforts of the League to bring the help and healing of the latest developments in medical science and Christian love to hundreds of Lutherans who cannot come to the Sanatorium. This has been made possible through the Medical Social Work Program of the Foundation. During the past year approximately 1,748 patients were served through the Medical Social Service Program. Thus nearly 4,000 patients have been served since the establishment of the regional units in 1948.

It is heart-warming to note how our Christians have rallied to the cause of the Wheat Ridge Foundation by buying at Christmas time so many of these little messengers of mercy known as the "Wheat Ridge Christmas Seals."

The Walther League Alumni Drive

With so many of our young people held to school until the age of 17 and so many more bound over by the military services into detachment from the congregation, it became imperative to enlist the support of former Walther Leaguers to carry a part of the program. The League Alumni Drive has already reached out to 30,491 names from approximately 637 societies, and those alumni who have responded have contributed an average of almost $5.00 to the great cause of youth. Above all, youth needs the moral support and the counseling service of former experienced leaders.

World Federation of Lutheran Youth

Financial strictures prevented carrying out this phase of the Walther League Christian Youth Mission to the fullest extent because it was impossible to secure funds and make arrangements with the restricted staff at Walther League headquarters to take care of and plan the itinerary of completely strange people from foreign lands. Following the advice of the Foreign Mission Board and others experienced in this field, the plan was somewhat revised to take foreign students at present in educational institutions, colleges, and seminaries in America and give them specialized training in youth work at Youth Workers Conferences, LSV Schools and conventions before they return to their native land. It has been found that such people, who have had a little longer experience with American life and customs, make better evaluations and adjustments to such programs as offered by the Walther League with the Board for Young People's Work. They see these plans in their full setting rather than as an isolated experience.

Summary

Through this report your Board for Young People's Work has endeavored to give you an accounting of the tremendous challenge that is ours in the field of youth work in the Church, the complex problems confronting our youth, and the methods which your Board has employed to meet these challenges.

We plead for your prayers and your assistance in every endeavor of your Board to advance the reign of our Savior in the activities of our youth groups.

THE BOARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK
CLARENCE PETERS, *Chairman*
L. W. SPITZ
HOMER GRUBER
GILBERT MUCHOW
PAUL W. JABKER, *Secretary*

ACTION

The various items in this report were taken care of by the following resolutions, which were recommended by Committee 5 and *adopted* by Synod:

Resolution 1

GREETINGS TO THE WALTHER LEAGUE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, The Walther League by the grace of God is observing its sixtieth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, The program of the International Walther League is recognized by Synod as its youth program; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod gratefully recognize the blessings which have accrued to the Church through the work of the Walther League, especially through its pre-anniversary program of Christian Youth Mission; its sharing of the Word of God with 17,000 persons in seventy-five countries embracing forty-one languages through the Bible Reading League; its sharing of the *Walther League Messenger* in 2,500 subscriptions with foreign schools, libraries, colleges, and universities; its sharing of moral support and counsel by over 30,000 Leaguers through the League Alumni Roundup; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod extend cordial greetings to the International Walther League at its sixtieth anniversary convention in Chicago, July 19—23, 1953; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod extend greetings and prayerful best wishes to the Rev. Mr. Elmer Witt upon the assumption of his duties of executive secretary of the Walther League.

Resolution 2

COMMENDATION OF THE WALTHER LEAGUE

WHEREAS, The Walther League has supported and implemented the program of Synod's Board for Young People's Work by co-sponsoring youth conferences, by supplying leadership at Lutheran Service Volunteer schools, and by supplying materials, not only for youth groups affiliated with the Walther League, but also for others not so affiliated; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express our appreciation to the Walther League and its officers for their close co-operation with Synod's Board for Young People's Work; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage the Walther League to continue working with the Board for Young People's Work in the guidance of our youth.

Resolution 12

SURVEY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, The Executive Board of the Walther League and the Board of Directors of Synod have appointed a committee to survey all the youth work in our Church; and

WHEREAS, Such a survey should prove very worth while and helpful for the future development of this important phase of our work; therefore be it

Resolved, That we heartily commend the Executive Board of the Walther League and the Board of Directors of Synod for instituting such a survey; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge all institutions, congregations, pastors, teachers, and youth counselors to co-operate in this survey.

Resolution 3

TRAINING IN YOUTH WORK AT SEMINARIES AND TEACHERS' COLLEGES

WHEREAS, The pastor is the key person in the youth program of the local congregation; and

WHEREAS, Many of our day school teachers are active leaders in the youth groups of the congregations; and

WHEREAS, Our congregations and young people look to the pastors and teachers for guidance and leadership in the youth program; and

WHEREAS, The young people studying to become pastors and teachers should receive information on the program and methods of youth work; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod encourage the faculties to introduce courses in youth work at the seminaries and teachers' colleges and workshops in youth work similar to the program now in use at several of the institutions; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod urge Districts, circuits, congregations, and societies to send young people on scholarships to Lutheran Service Volunteer schools, and pastors, teachers, and youth counselors to youth workers' conferences.

Resolution 4

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

WHEREAS, The Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League have conducted Lutheran Service Volunteer schools since 1944 to help the young people of our Church gain greater facility in their participation in the youth program and to deepen their spirituality; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League have conducted youth workers' conferences since 1948 for pastors, teachers, and youth counselors to strengthen them in their guidance of youth in the ways of Christ; and

WHEREAS, God has blessed this program among the hundreds who have attended; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League, and encourage them to continue and expand this program; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod continue to give adequate support to carry out this program.

Resolution 5

EXPANSION OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH EMERGENCY ACTION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The results of the Christian Youth Emergency Action, an effort of the Board for Young People's Work, in consultation with Dr. John W. Behnken and in collaboration with the Walther League, have been effective; and

WHEREAS, Much of this work yet remains to be done in alerting the Church to the crucial importance of youth work and in directing youth leaders on the local level to the resources of methods and materials which an effective Christ-centered youth program needs; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod encourage the Board for Young People's Work in co-operation with the Walther League to continue and expand its program; and be it further

Resolved, That every congregation be encouraged to re-evaluate and strengthen its local youth program.

Greater Financial Support for Young People's Work

(Memorial 302)

WHEREAS, The youth program of our Church is expanding both in importance and in service to the church at large, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Atlantic District memorialize The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod meeting in convention, and its Fiscal Conference, to consider giving greater financial support to the Board for Young People's Work.

ATLANTIC DISTRICT
CARL M. ZORN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 5 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 6

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

WHEREAS, Many members of Synod are vitally interested in adequate financial support of the youth program; and

WHEREAS, There has been increased financial support in Synod's budget during the years, and such support is indispensable; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod continue to provide adequate financial support for our youth program.

The following resolution, submitted by Committee 5, was *adopted:*

Resolution 7

COMMENDATION FOR BOARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Resolved, That we commend the Board for Young People's Work and its chairman, Dr. Clarence Peters, for their very efficient co-ordination of the work in the interest of the youth of our Church and for their co-operation with the Walther League, and that we ask God's blessing upon the future activities of this board.

Report of the Student Service Commission

(Memorial 303)

Under the guidance and benediction of the Lord of the Church and the splendid co-operation of responsible synodical and District personnel, Synod's program of student service not only moved progressively forward in pursuit of established objectives, but also advanced to new levels of fruitful activity during the 1950—53 triennium.

Very substantial capital investments by synodical Districts in student service facilities, allocations from the "Conquest for Christ" offering for such purposes by the Board of Directors, the constant increase in the number of vigorous and purposeful chapters and regions of Gamma Delta, the growth of Beta Sigma Psi (the national Lutheran social fraternity which emphasizes gregarious Christian living), the appreciable number of students and faculty members won for Christ, the significant emulation by others of our Synod's student service philosophy, and the increased participation by alumni in the activities of their respective local congregations bear testimony to an enlarged synodical interest in student service and the God-approved outcome of aggressive action in this important phase of the Church's total work. Our Commission appreciates the approbation accorded its expanding program by the Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference as reflected in periodic subsidy increases commensurate with existing needs and

opportunities and solicits the continued financial support of Synod's fiscal agents.

While the colleges and universities experienced declining enrollments by reason of the reduced birth rate two decades ago and also because of the diminishing number of veterans of World War II, factors which also affected the total number of students of our Synod, the numerical response to our local student service programs showed progressive improvement from year to year, especially on the part of college freshmen. Well-located facilities and well-publicized and attractive programs under competent pastoral guidance and spirited student leadership were, in the main, responsible for this noteworthy improvement.

The attractive character of our current student service facilities and program during the lean years of college enrollment, however, imposes the necessity of making provision now for adequate campus facilities and manpower for the years that lie immediately ahead, when the greatly increased birth rate of recent years will manifest itself also in greatly increased college enrollments. Long-term loans to synodical Districts from some synodical source, in extension of the pattern set by such allocations from the "Conquest for Christ" offering, are suggested as means of solving the student service facilities problem.

New opportunities for Christian impact on the campus have come to our Church through proffered chairs of religion at State colleges and universities. Our Commission has experimented with credit and non-credit courses in religion on a part-time basis and is eager to expand its program in this area by sponsoring Synod-subsidized full-time and part-time chairs of religion where opportunities present themselves voluntarily or through negotiations. No sacrifice of principle is involved through our expanded activity in this area.

A religious feature which is proving increasingly popular at State colleges and universities is the annual administration-encouraged Religious Emphasis Week, or Religion-in-Life Week. In recent years our Church has participated in the program, which provides opportunity for Christian testimony in classrooms, student houses, convocations, seminars, inquirers' hours, and scheduled interviews. Several universities have invited representatives of our Church as featured speakers. If our Church is to command a position of respect, the Student Service Commission must be enabled to make available experts who are qualified to take their place alongside the skilled rabbis and Jesuits who represent their respective religious groups with *éclat.*

Establishment of the National Lutheran Council's division of student service in Chicago and the retention of our own Commis-

sion's office in this center of student population encouraged occasional joint meetings of the two commissions, periodic conferences of the two executive secretaries, and frequent emergency calls between the two student service headquarters with consequent happy outcomes in the establishment and enforcement of student service policies, the solution of innumerable campus problems both on the top and grass-roots levels, and the determination of areas of permissible co-operation. A universally applied joint statement concerning the Lutheran ministry to students resulted from the acknowledged neeessity "for those of us who labor on behalf of particular Lutheran bodies to recognize and respect the limitations which exist at the present time."

While our Commission requests the privilege of sponsoring annual conferences of District co-ordinators of student work and full-time student pastors when emergencies arise, the several years of gratifying experimentation with biennial student workers' conferences induced our Commission to schedule these national conferences biennially in the future and encourage District co-ordinators of student work to conduct District student pastors' conferences on an annual basis.

Earlier in this report reference was made to the purposeful objectives of Gamma Delta, the International Association of Lutheran Students. This fine organization of consecrated college folk is currently supporting two noteworthy projects; a medical missions scholarship and maintenance of an agricultural assistant to the Lutheran missionary in Guatemala. Its major objectives, however, remain in force: group and personal Bible study and training in churchmanship.

During the past triennium the Student Service Commission continued its encouragement to the Lutheran Collegiate Association and labored toward the establishment of chapters in metropolitan communities from coast to coast in an effort to channel the latent power of the alumni into avenues of Kingdom service.

The acquisition of Pastor Rudolph Norden as editorial assistant to the Executive Secretary of the Student Service Commission has been a definite boon to our department. His directed and continuous use of existing channels of communication has contributed immeasurably toward the development of a campus-conscious laity. His authorized and integrated releases to our student groups have contributed toward Christian growth and the development of their synodical consciousness. His aids to student pastors have simplified especially the campus tasks of the preoccupied parish pastors in college communities.

While the two clergy members of our Commission — Chairman W. C. Birkner and Secretary E. M. Plass — have cheerfully served

in this area for a period of 20 years, Mr. Walter H. Gross, assistant treasurer of International Harvester Company and a director of a Chicago bank, was pressed into service as lay member and treasurer of the Commission after the sudden death of Henry J. Meier several months after his election at the Milwaukee Convention in 1950.

The enthusiastic and intelligent participation of our 614 college-serving pastors in our Commission-sponsored ministry to an estimated 25,000 Synodical Conference students at more than 1,000 colleges and universities in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, and the aggressive regional leadership of alert District co-ordinators of student work merit a special item of recognition and gratitude in our report. Their zeal and diligence and self-sacrificing efforts refreshed us and encouraged us to pursue our Synod-imposed tasks with a full measure of joy.

THE STUDENT SERVICE COMMISSION
WALTER C. BIRKNER, *Chairman*
EWALD M. PLASS, *Secretary*
WALTER H. GROSS, *Treasurer*
REUBEN W. HAHN, *Executive Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 5 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 8

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SERVICE RENDERED

WHEREAS, The Rev. Mr. W. C. Birkner and Professor E. M. Plass have served as chairman and secretary, respectively, of the Student Service Commission for a period of twenty years and rendered Synod invaluable service in the development of Synod's program of student service; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention recognize their fine contributions in this area and manifest its pleasure and gratitude with a rising vote of thanks.

Resolution 9

CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF STUDENT SERVICE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The Student Service Commission is constantly confronted with new opportunities in student service; and

WHEREAS, The 1950 convention encouraged the Student Service Commission to meet such opportunities, and instructed the Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference to make adequate financial provision enabling the Commission to expand its program of student service; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention reaffirm its directive of the 1950 convention; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention encourage the Student Service Commission to meet its present witness-bearing opportunities through Commission-controlled and Synod-financed participation in Religious Emphasis Week at colleges and universities and the establishment of Commission-controlled and Synod-financed chairs of religion in strategic locations.

Resolution 10

LOANS FOR STUDENT SERVICE FACILITIES

WHEREAS, The synodical Board of Directors solved the student service facilities problem of several Districts through the allocation of "Conquest for Christ" funds on a long-term basis; and

WHEREAS, The problem of adequate facilities will again arise during the ensuing years of increased enrollments; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors make continued provision for long-term loans to synodical Districts for needed facilities enabling them to meet their student service opportunities.

Resolution 11

COMMENDATION OF STUDENT SERVICE COMMISSION AND ITS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

WHEREAS, God has again visibly blessed the work of the Student Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, These blessings are reflected in the dedicating of nine new student centers during the past year; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the Student Service Commission and its dynamic executive secretary, and thank God that He has used this Commission as His instrument to intelligently guide the student activities of our Church.

IV. MISSIONS

Report of Secretary of Missions

(Memorial 401)

If I am once more privileged to submit a report of the Secretary of Missions Department, I cannot but reflect upon the years gone by during which I could be the co-worker in the greatest and noblest work on earth, in the rescue of perishing souls. I cannot but say in deepest humility with Jacob: "I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which Thou hast shown unto thy servant," Gen. 32:10.

With trepidation, with fear and trembling, I heeded the call of Synod's Board of Directors in 1931 as one of the members of their Mission Committee to survey the missions of our subsidized Districts, to visit typical mission stations of each District, to consult with the mission boards in the various Districts, to observe their missionary methods, to consider their needs. I was also to meet with all mission boards of the general Synod. At that time it meant to consult with the Board of Missions of South America, and with the Board of Home Missions, the Board of Foreign Missions in the Orient, the European, the Indian, the Jewish, the Foreign-Tongue, and the Immigrant and Seamen's Missions. Two and one-half months were spent to make this survey and analysis. Fifty-seven meetings were held with mission boards and pastoral conferences.

One of the underlying reasons for this survey was the depression. The financial stringency made it necessary to confer with the brethren to fit the work of the Church into the frame of a budget which had to be reduced by nearly 25% or 33%. The financial crash had come. During this crisis the synodical convention met at Milwaukee in 1932. All were very much depressed and not at all in a frame of mind to make any appropriations of any kind. Almost invariably the requests were turned over to the Board of Directors with power to act if and when funds could be made available. In a truly miraculous manner, at the very depth of the depression, all obligations at the banks were met. Yes, an indebtedness of nearly $1,000,000 was gradually liquidated. All loans were repaid in full.

Then came World War II. But this, too, was a means in the hand of God for good. Again the Lord did not only sustain us in a most remarkable manner, but He permitted us to extend and to expand His kingdom at home and abroad. The very means Satan had invented to halt the preaching of the Word were then means in the hand of God to extend the preaching of the Word

to areas which we had not been able to reach before this. Even though we are today still suffering from the aftermath of World War II, even though a war of greater proportions seems to be in the offing, the Lord God reigns supreme and opens the door for our mission activities far and wide. And not only this, He has by His grace and tender mercy furnished the necessary means that we can go forward on all fronts — at home and abroad.

Proper Distribution of Manpower

Proper distribution of manpower of necessity demands our serious consideration. There must be good planning for an energetic mission expansion program throughout the world. Then, too, existing vacancies must not be overlooked.

What is the outlook for the future? From year to year the rank and file of workers in the Lord's vineyard is materially reduced by death, old age, and illness. From 1947 to 1951 inclusive, 333 pastors advanced to the Church Triumphant. During the same period 237 resigned from full-time duty. Thus 570 pastors were removed from full-time active service of the Church. That means that an average of 66 pastors die each year, and 46 resign. Accordingly a total of 112 discontinue the work of the Church.

Compare with this the approximate number of students who will graduate from our seminaries at St. Louis and Springfield from 1953 to 1956, according to figures secured from the office of the Board for Higher Education.

	St. Louis	Springfield	Total
1953	104	39	143
1954	126	40	166
1955	160	45	205
1956	176	45	221
			735

Because of the large number of deaths and resignations, because a larger number of pastors went into chaplaincies, we need not be surprised to hear that as of January 1, 1952, there existed in our midst approximately 285 vacancies. Tabulating the reports received, we find that some of these were of long duration. Some had called as often as ten times. It was revealing to note that District Presidents believed that 54 (possibly 70) parishes now vacant could acceptably be served from another parish if all were willing to accept such service.

What can we do about this matter? Dare we continue to provide resident pastors to any and all congregations and mission stations and continue their ever-increasing subsidies indefinitely if these stations can be acceptably served from another parish? And if a group is on a self-sustaining basis, ought we, without further

obligation, grant a pastor because the congregation insists that it has its God-given right to have a resident pastor? Serious thought ought to be given this problem, and some remedial suggestions should be offered.

Proper balance in the distribution of manpower and in the distribution of funds available. It is all-important that proper balance be sustained in the distribution of the manpower and also in the funds available. Above all, let us not forget that we must ever be mindful to strengthen the home base. If we neglect to strengthen the home base, it will soon be impossible for us to take care of the opportunities in foreign lands.

Training a National Ministry

The policy established by all mission boards operating in foreign lands is to train a national ministry if this is at all possible. In keeping with this policy we established theological schools in Argentina, in Brazil, in India, in China, and in Mexico. Plans are under way to have a training center in the Philippine Islands.

The Lord's abundant blessings were upon the efforts put forth to train a national ministry as the reports from the various mission departments will verify.

Building for the Future

It is important that we center our attention on the development of an indigenous, self-governing Church wherever we plant the standards of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, on the development of a Church which eventually will be self-supporting and take over the further development and expansion of the work in the respective countries so that we, the Mother Church, being released from the obligation to support and direct the affairs of their Church, can advance to new fields, to new countries not as yet being served.

It is therefore important that with this goal in mind and in due time we focus the attention of our missionaries and our fellow Christians on the goal that it is their obligation to build and to extend the borders of the Lord's kingdom. In order to help train them to reach this goal, a greater measure of authority of self-government, with corresponding responsibility, ought gradually be granted the missionaries and fellow Christians.

Following this policy, at the suggestion of the Board for Missions in North and South America, with a measure of success, a Mission Council of pastors and of the laity was appointed in Mexico to advise in arising problems, to advise in the fixing of salaries, of the budget of the parishes, of the *Instituto* at Monterrey, and in the further developments of the mission-expansion program.

Extending the cords into foreign lands, let us ever strengthen the home base and grasp the opportunities that are ours today be-

cause of the tremendous shifting of population. No less than 10,000,000 people have left their abode and gone elsewhere. We must ever be on the alert to enter new fields before the opportunity slips away.

The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few. True, the number of men graduating for the ministry is highly encouraging. We rejoice that the Lord has heard our prayers. But dare we now be found wanting? Must we not be up and doing and make ready for the increased number of young men willing to heed the call of the Master and extend the borders of the Lord's kingdom at home and everywhere in foreign lands?

Let us pray that the Lord may give free course to His Word, break and hinder the counsel and will of those who would impede the progress of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May He continue to grant a rich measure of His Holy Spirit to the messengers of peace so that they will count no sacrifice too great for His cause and make us ready and willing and able to support them.

F. C. STREUFERT, *Secretary of Missions*

ACTION

With regard to this report Committee 2 submitted the following recommendations, which were *adopted:*

Resolution 1

GRATITUDE TO GOD

WHEREAS, The Lord of the Church during the past triennium has again richly blessed our Synod in its various mission endeavors; and

WHEREAS, God in His grace is presenting unprecedented opportunities for the continued expansion of His kingdom; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the delegates here assembled in convention, strike a joyous keynote of gratitude by arising to sing the doxology; and be it further

Resolved, That we and the entire membership of our beloved Synod rededicate ourselves to ever greater devotion and zeal to the cause of the conquest for souls.

Resolution 2

THE AMALGAMATION OF PARISHES

WHEREAS, Approximately 285 vacancies in our parishes were reported as of January 1, 1952; and

WHEREAS, It has been shown that 54 (possibly 70) parishes now vacant could acceptably be served from another parish if all were willing to accept such services; and

WHEREAS, The shift in our population should cause us to realize the proper distribution of manpower and a wise stewardship of available funds in the interest of greater efficiency; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the growing number of congregations which in recent years selflessly considered the over-all welfare of the kingdom of God by sharing the service of one pastor with another congregation; and be it further

Resolved, That in the interest of efficiency in the kingdom of God we encourage our several Districts and individual congregations to follow this fine example by combining parishes wherever advantageous.

Resolution 3

DEVELOPMENT OF AN INDIGENOUS CHURCH

WHEREAS, It is the policy of all mission boards operating in foreign lands to encourage the development of an indigenous church in our several mission fields, and to train a national ministry; and

WHEREAS, It is likewise the policy of these boards to initiate mission work in the more populous areas, from which the missionaries can then extend their activities also into the surrounding territories; therefore be it

Resolved, That we heartily commend our mission boards for their vision in carrying out such practical policies.

Resolution 4

ESTABLISHING MISSION COUNCILS

WHEREAS, The ideal of an indigenous church in any country calls for the attainment of self-government, self-propagation, and self-support; and

WHEREAS, Boards have found that missions can be encouraged to attain these goals through the creation of councils or committees composed of national pastors and laymen as well as missionaries; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express our gratification over the creation of such councils in the various countries where God permits us to carry on missionary endeavors; and be it further

Resolved, That these councils be encouraged by the boards to assume an ever-increasing degree of responsibility and administrative function, also in the further development and expansion of the work in their respective countries.

Report of the Board for Missions in North and South America

(Memorial 402)

During the past triennium the following men have served on your Board for Missions in North and South America: The Rev. Messrs, Henry Blanke, Walter E. Dorre, Arthur H. Haake, Elmer V. Haserodt, Geo. Kuechle, Messrs. E. T. Schumm, Ferd. Korneffel, Paul G. Vetter, and O. J. Steinwart.

On January 23, 1953, death took Mr. Steinwart from our midst. Mr. F. Korneffel died suddenly on March 16. We express our condolences to the bereaved members of these two families. The vacancies caused by the death of these two men have not been filled.

Dr. F. C. Streufert and Dr. H. A. Mayer, in their capacity as Secretary and Assistant Secretary of Missions, have served our Board as Executive Staff members. In addition, our Board had the services of Pastor H. W. Gockel and Pastor Wm. H. Hillmer. During the triennium Pastor Gockel was released in order that he might accept a position as Religious Director of our Synod's Television Program, "This Is the Life."

Officers of the Board are: Chairman, the Rev. H. Blanke; Vice-Chairman, the Rev. W. Dorre; Secretary, Dr. H. A. Mayer.

Your Board met every other month for a two-day session in order to carry on its work.

The total cost of operating this department for the three-year period was as follows: 1950 — $583,466; 1951 — $657,648; 1952 — $692,309.64.

Home Missions

The Home Mission program of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod is unique in so far as the major portion of the Home Mission program is carried on by the District mission boards. For that reason the amount for Home Missions, as it appears in Synod's budget, represents only about 15 per cent of the total amount spent for Home Missions in our Church.

During the year 1950 the total amount spent for Home Missions in the United States and Canada was $2,204,025. Synod's share of this amount, the amount paid out to eleven Districts in subsidy, amounted to only $328,707, or 15 per cent.

The same ratio prevailed for the year 1951. During that year our thirty-two North American Districts spent $2,455,899 for Home Missions. Synod's Home Mission Board subsidized eleven of the thirty-two Districts to the extent of $370,588, or 15 per cent.

The total cost figure for Home Missions for the year 1952 is

available at this writing. However, we can report that Synod's Mission Board subsidized the Districts to the extent of 750.

During the year 1952 the Ontario District joined the ranks of idized Districts because it needed assistance to meet the many ortunities arising, particularly from the large influx of D. P.'s. Texas District was given a grant to assist in the opening of ee new stations.

The twelve Districts being subsidized at the present time are following: Alberta and British Columbia, Atlantic, California Nevada, Colorado, Florida-Georgia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Montana, Northwest, Oklahoma, Ontario, Southeastern, and Southern California.

The Home Mission program of our Synod covers the work at 65 congregations and 267 preaching stations. These are served by 782 pastors.

Home Mission Expansion

During the four-year period 1948—51 we opened 395 new Home Mission stations in the United States and Canada. This gives us an average of 99 new stations annually.

We have very carefully studied the possible expansion for the next four-year period and believe that a goal of 480 new stations is attainable. In arriving at this figure we considered the following factors:

1. The average number of stations opened in each District during the past five years.

2. A five-year program submitted to us by the District mission boards in the spring of 1952.

3. The opportunities prevailing in the various areas of our country. It is said that each year over 50 new suburban communities are springing up in our country. "America today is on the move, thirty million strong each year." By the end of the year 1956 we shall have 9,210,000 more people than we have today, according to the present rate of increase. All of this means new cities, new communities, each of which constitutes an invitation to open a church.

4. It appears that the larger graduating classes during the coming years will make more men available also for the Home Mission fields of our Synod. During the four-year period 1953—1956 it is expected that on the average we shall have 45 more graduates available each year than we had in 1952.

5. The only area which constitutes a hurdle in attaining this goal lies in the availability of Church Extension funds. But it is our hope that some immediate courageous action will be taken to

obtain the necessary Church Extension funds so that we can keep pace with the opportunities which the Lord has presented to us.

On the basis of these factors we believe that a goal which calls for the opening of 120 new Home Mission stations annually, or a total of 480 stations for the next four-year period, is not only attainable but ought to be encouraged. This would mean that annually we should open 21 more new stations than we did during the past four years.

Home Mission Areas Needing Special Attention

There are two areas which our Board believes need the special interest and attention of our entire church body. One has to do with so-called *"blighted areas."* As communities change and the membership moves away, the local congregation is confronted with the question: What shall we do? Shall we stay or relocate? At times the field is abandoned, or the church property is sold to another denomination. We believe that this is most unfortunate. We would urge District mission boards and congregations to work together in an effort to avoid the abandonment of any field which we now occupy. Our Board has asked Prof. E. Mahnke of Concordia Seminary to assist us in developing some suggestions and procedures which can guide our congregations and mission boards as they cope with this particular problem.

Another area which needs special attention is our *rural church work.* There is the problem of a declining rural population, the problem of many smaller churches in close proximity, the fact that churches which were once considered far apart are brought closer to one another by an improved highway system. On the other hand we dare not overlook the fact that there are still many unmet mission opportunities to be found in our small towns and rural communities.

In order to counsel Synod's Home Mission Board with reference to rural church work, our Board called together a group of men during January of 1953 to advise us with reference to rural work. The men constituting this Advisory Committee were the following: The Rev. Arnold Meyer, mission executive of the Colorado District; Prof. Victor Hoffmann of Valparaiso University; the Rev. Martin Schaefer, Mission Executive of the Western District; the Rev. Messrs. A. W. Maack and H. W. Niewald of the Western District Rural Commission; and the Rev. W. Stuenkel of St. Joseph, Mich. This committee suggested that Synod's Home Mission Board work closely with the District mission boards in calling attention to the problems in rural church work and offering suggestions and helps. As a result of that meeting our Board has secured the part-time services of the Rev. Arnold F. Meyer of

[illegible]ver, Executive Secretary of the Colorado District, to help us [illegible] more closely with the District mission boards with reference [illegible]ural church work.

[illegible]moting Home Missions

The primary responsibility for carrying on the Home Mission program of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod rests upon the thirty-two Districts and not upon Synod's Home Mission Board. (See *Handbook,* Sec. 8.27b.) This is a unique Home Mission arrangement in Protestantism. However, Synod's Home Mission Board is to interest itself in the Home Mission program of the Church, give counsel and guidance to the District mission boards and also financial assistance where needed. In order to achieve this purpose your Home Mission Board has used particularly two avenues.

A. Mission Conferences

During January of 1951 eight regional mission conferences were held, at which all District mission boards were represented. The total attendance was 200.

In May of 1952 a general mission conference was held in Kansas City, at which all Districts except one were represented. The total attendance was 152.

Through these conferences Synod's Home Mission Board endeavors to achieve greater co-ordination and integration. They also serve to encourage our District mission boards to move forward with an aggressive Home Mission program in their respective areas.

B. District Visitations

Since Synod has asked our Board to keep in close touch with the mission developments in the various Districts (see *Handbook,* 8.27a), our Board has developed a program of District visitations through which we try to keep in touch with the mission developments in the various Districts, gather and disseminate information, and place our resources at the service of the Districts. In these visitations Synod's Home Mission Board is usually represented by two men. From three to five days are spent in the District with the mission board or its representatives, visiting some of their mission stations and prospective fields. A meeting with the District mission board is also part of the visitation. Up to this time we have visited seven Districts. Since we do not have a full complement of staff members, we have not been able to visit as many Districts as we had hoped.

We are thoroughly convinced of the value of making such visitations. While we do not want to give the impression that this is a new venture, for we know that Dr. Streufert has long carried

on such or similar visits, we want to say that they certainly serve to give us a better picture of the mission problems and opportunities as they exist in our Church. It is also of great value to meet the men personally. The meeting with the District Mission Board, which is an important part of every visitation, enables us to discuss various phases of Home Mission activity as it relates to that particular District.

Evangelism

The Board for Home Missions has also served as the Evangelism Department of our Synod. By *evangelism* we understand any activity by which either the individual Christian or the local congregation sends out the evangel, the good news of a Redeemer, and invites men to accept Christ. Toward that end our Board sponsored the "Each One Reach One" movement, we sponsored the promotion of vacation Bible schools, and we issued the journal *Today,* which was directed particularly to the clergy of our Church in order to encourage them to greater evangelistic activity.

Today

When the Rev. H. W. Gockel received a leave of absense from our Board in October, 1951, in order to work with Synod's television program, our Board decided to suspend publication of *Today* temporarily. Since our staff was already undermanned, and also since it was considered virtually impossible to secure a temporary editor, it was deemed best to discontinue publication for the time being.

When the Rev. Gockel accepted a permanent appointment with Synod's television program in November, 1952, the editorship of *Today* also became vacant with his departure. Before that date Pastor Gockel was merely on leave.

Our Board has taken no steps to replace the Rev. Gockel, since there is under consideration a proposal to issue *Today* under a new setup whereby the scope of *Today* would be changed so that it would become a *journal of practical parish procedure* instead of being limited to *missionary procedure* as it was formerly. If this proposal does not materialize, our Board has full intentions of securing an editor and resuming the publication of *Today* as a journal of practical missionary procedure.

It is generally agreed that *Today,* which was sent to all pastors of Synod for six years, under the able editorship of Pastor Gockel, did much to promote a greater evangelistic zeal and fervor in our Church.

Continued Emphasis on Evangelism

Your Board has endeavored to give continued emphasis to evangelism by offering its assistance to District mission boards in

the promotion of evangelism. We have personally and with materials and guidance helped Districts promote conferences on evangelism.

Two pamphlets entitled "Witness Where You Are" and "Mission Work and Our Society" have been prepared and published under the sponsorship of our Board during the past triennium.

Courses in evangelism have been taught at Concordia Seminary, both in the Graduate School and the Correspondence Department, under the sponsorship of our Board.

Evangelism was the principal topic at our Kansas City mission conference held in May of 1952. Three of the major essays were in the field of evangelism.

It is gratifying to note that there is in our midst a growing interest and participation in evangelism. Several District mission boards have undertaken ambitious programs of promoting evangelism on the District level. Here and there circuits and local conference groups have launched out upon an effort of mutual encouragement to a greater evangelistic activity. In our Synod we also have certain individuals who, in an unofficial capacity, are putting forth great efforts to stimulate evangelism through conferences, evangelism schools, and evangelistic services. All of this is most encouraging.

Nevertheless, it is the belief of our Board that we must constantly keep before our Church the need for being evangelistic and for intensifying all our efforts to extend the outreach of the Church.

For that reason our Board comes to the general convention of Synod with a proposal that we invite all congregations of Synod to join hands in a

Conquest of Souls

In order to achieve this objective we submit the following suggestions:

A. Let this not be a campaign, but let it become, as it should be, a part of the normal life of the congregation and the individual. Campaigns have a way of ending, but evangelism dare never end. For that reason we also believe that it might be well if in this effort we avoid anything which resembles a campaign. Let it be a renewed emphasis on what is and should be the lifework of the Church.

B. Even if we do not think of this effort as a campaign, it dare not become just a general invitation to everyone to be more evangelistic. For that reason our Board proposes to come to the pastors and congregations of Synod during the next triennium with some definite suggestions to intensify the evangelistic activity on the

part of our pastors, congregations, and lay people. To that end we propose that with the beginning of 1954 we again launch an all-out effort to enlist our membership for more intensive personal mission work. We shall suggest that congregations first of all evaluate themselves in order to determine to what extent they and their members are actually mission-minded. After that has been done, congregations should begin to plan their mission program with this one thing in mind, namely, constantly to enlist the members of the congregation in more intensive mission work.

In order to help our congregations achieve this great and ongoing objective, our Board for Missions in North and South America will supply suitable suggestions and guidelines to our congregations so that the following will be normal, year-round, ongoing activities:

1. Enlisting and helping more of our people to be witnesses unto Christ.
2. Visiting prospects.
3. Greeting visitors.
4. Welcoming new residents.
5. Assimilation of new members.
6. Soul-keeping.

Since we believe that it is helpful to select certain periods of time during which you give special attention to specific phases of congregational mission activity, we propose that during ensuing years we offer to our congregations and pastors special helps on such emphases as the following: Evangelistic meetings and services, a community census, integration of new members, soul keeping, extending the outreach of the congregation into neighboring towns and communities.

Evangelistic Agencies

Through its Evangelism Department your Board for Home Missions operates two evangelistic agencies through which it endeavors to extend the outreach of the Church by contact with individuals. They are

A. Sunday School by Mail

Sunday School by Mail was begun in October of 1948. It is operated jointly by Synod's Home Mission Board, the Lutheran Hour, and the Board for Parish Education.

The closing announcement of the Lutheran Hour broadcast calls attention to Sunday School by Mail. As inquiries are received by the Lutheran Hour office, they are forwarded to Sunday School by Mail, and we then proceed to complete the enrollment.

The Board for Parish Education prepares the "Parents' Guides" ...d in Sunday School by Mail.

The administration of Sunday School by Mail is altogether ...der the direction of Synod's Home Mission Board.

Reorganization

Originally Sunday School by Mail was operated by each District through a Sunday School by Mail director appointed by the District mission board. At the suggestion of several District directors and mission boards Sunday School by Mail was reorganized during the summer of 1951. One phase of the reorganization was that our Home Mission office offered to take over Sunday School by Mail and operate it from St. Louis instead of operating through District directors. Each District mission board was asked to decide whether it desired to retain Sunday School by Mail or turn it over to our office. Up to the present time all Districts except eight have turned their Sunday School by Mail operations over to us.

Enrollments handled through our office are as follows: For the United States and Canada — 1,878; for foreign countries — 169; making a grand total of 2,047. During the year 1952 the enrollments handled in our office increased by 846.

The total enrollment in the eight Districts which have retained Sunday School by Mail is 2,146. There has been virtually no increase over the previous year in this figure. Among the eight Districts which have retained Sunday School by Mail we find the three Districts with the largest Sunday School by Mail enrollments, namely, the Alberta and British Columbia District with 563, the Manitoba and Saskatchewan District with 378, and the Northwest District with 1,080.

Summary of Enrollments

Total number of enrollments for North America handled by the St. Louis office — 1,878.

Total number of enrollments for foreign countries handled by the St. Louis office — 169.

Total number of enrollments handled by individual Districts — 2,146.

This gives us a grand total of 4,193 enrollments in Sunday School by Mail.

Religious Affiliation

It is interesting to observe the religious affiliation of some of the pupils from North America enrolled in our St. Louis office. About 1,000 of the 1,878 are Lutheran, representing various Synods. Seventy are unchurched. No religious affiliation is indicated for 243. All the others are from various denominations, the Baptists leading with an enrollment of 142.

Lesson Materials

Another feature of the reorganization of Sunday School by Mail during 1951 was that we discontinued the use of the old series of pamphlets with the work sheets and began using the regular current Sunday school lesson leaflets plus a "Parents' Guide" prepared by the Board for Parish Education. This guide contains suggestions to the parents for the teaching of each individual lesson. The quarterly lesson leaflets are sent out each quarter to all pupils with the suggestion that they study one lesson each week and thus remain on schedule. The enrollees in the upper three departments are asked to return the booklets for correction, and the parents of all Beginner and Primary children are asked to send us a report card stating that a certain lesson booklet has been completed. We find that this arrangement is quite satisfactory.

Although there are still many children who do not return their booklets regularly for correction, we are constantly working on this and are gradually increasing the number of children who regularly study and submit their lessons. We receive many letters from parents stating that they appreciate the fact that we send the booklet for the next quarter even though the pupil has not yet completed the booklet for the previous quarter. Considerable interest has been built up by issuing promotion and recognition certificates.

During 1952, 134 children discontinued their enrollment with us because they were able to attend regular Sunday school classes.

During the year 1952 we received $1,974.82 as contributions from the children enrolled in Sunday School by Mail. The total cost of Sunday School by Mail for the year 1952 was $4,727.65, after contributions had been deducted.

B. Telemission

The term "telemission" was coined in order to designate the follow-up phase of our Synod's television program. Telemission has to do only with following up all people who have written to our Synod's television program. Since this is a type of evangelism, this work was turned over to our Home Mission Department. Briefly stated, the procedure is as follows: All names of people who have written are stamped on a double card, are segregated according to Districts, then forwarded to the mission secretaries of the various Districts, and from them they go to the congregations for follow-up. After a preliminary contact a return card is sent to the District Mission Secretary, and at the end of each month he sends a telemission report to our office.

At this writing the telemission program is just beginning to

into full swing. However, the first reports indicate that about of the people writing to our Synod's television program are urched, 28% are Missouri Synod Lutherans, and 63% are bers of other denominations.

Since our "This Is the Life" program does not encourage people rite about their spiritual problems, not much mail of this nature ceived. Nevertheless there is a small amount of mail in which ple ask for assistance on various problems. This mail also comes our office for handling. We have asked the Rev. A. Melendez to lp us with this problem mail. He is in our Mission Department has had considerable experience in answering mail for the Spanish Lutheran Hour. Telemission is a new venture, and consequently it may be necessary to revise our procedure from time to time. However, in a general way, we believe that our program for following-up is satisfactory.

Since nothing was included in our 1953 budget for telemission, the Board of Directors has agreed to provide the necessary funds for the telemission program if and when they become necessary.

South America

Statistics

District	Congr.	Pr. Stat.	Pastors	Souls	Comm. Memb.
Argentina	116	2	34	15,535	8,706
Paraguay	4	1	1	337	151
Uruguay	2	—	1	170	131
Brazil	337	231	92	67,926	38,600

The Church Is on the March

This is also true of our Church in South America. Being more closely associated with their sister Districts in North America, the Brazil and Argentina Districts made remarkable forward strides during the past triennium. It was at their own request, in 1947, that the Boards for North and South America were consolidated. Both Districts are forging ahead. In an increasing measure they are following the pattern of our North American Districts in the cultivation of good stewardship and mission policies, in the development of mission fields, in the organization of congregations, in the holding of circuit meetings, and in the conduct of District conventions; in all of which the laity is beginning to play an increasing role.

True, whenever and wherever there is, by the grace of God, any progress, it is attained in the midst of many problems and difficulties. It is never a walk-away, it is ever a battle royal; for the Evil One is ever alert to hinder the preaching of the Gospel, if not from without, then from within. It is very strange, however, that the very things which the Evil One had invented to thwart

the preaching of the Gospel — hatred, war, and persecutions — were a means in the hands of God to bring the Gospel to other areas and to strengthen fellow Christians and knit them more closely together to do even greater things for the Lord and His kingdom.

In spite of manifold difficulties the South American Districts are forging ahead. They are gradually "becoming of age." They are advancing to full manhood. The time is not too far distant when the guidance and the direction of all of the affairs of our Church on the South American continent can be turned over to them. How soon our fellow Christians beneath the Southern Cross will be able to take over also the full financial obligation time will tell.

For more than fifty years the Mother Church fostered South American missions with the greatest care. For fifty years it sent pastors and missionaries and subsidized them. And it was not in vain. For today we are ministering to over 80,000 blood-bought souls on the South American continent. Then, too, we also have well-qualified leaders in the South American Districts upon whom in due time the full responsibility of the affairs of the Church beneath the Southern Cross can be placed. May the Lord speed the day when our fellow Christians as an autonomous, indigenous Lutheran Church can take over the propagation of the Gospel in South America.

Argentina

The work of the Argentina District includes Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay. Also in this District a continued effort is being made to lead our fellow Christians to a better Christian stewardship. And all this was done in spite of the financial stringency that had hit the country. The cost of living and other necessities of life had risen to unknown heights in Argentina. Salaries were increased from year to year. Special assistance was given them from time to time. Their subsidy requests were granted in full.

It was ever a difficult task to persuade the Christians to share more liberally in the support of their pastors. After forty years there had not been a single parish in Argentina that was self-supporting. It is therefore very encouraging to note that fellow Christians gradually advanced also in the grace of giving. According to the latest reports, there are 19 parishes out of 36 which are now self-supporting. The District Mission Board and the officers of the District are, however, ever alert to give these parishes the assistance needed.

The Argentina District was also remembered in the distribution of the "Conquest for Christ" offering. The following allotments were made for

Montevideo School Project	$15,000.00
Chapel at Rosario, Argentina	15,000.00
Two Professors' Dwellings at Villa Ballester, Arg.	30,000.00
Motorization	10,000.00

The District will be represented at this convention by President E. H. Beckmann and Pastor C. F. Truenow. Both are veterans in our mission field in Argentina.

Paraguay and Uruguay. — Missions in these countries are under the guidance and direction of the Argentina District. Two missionaries are carrying the Gospel to six different areas.

Brazil

Brazil is the country where our Church first began mission activities in South America. We are going forward at every turn.

The D. P. work done in the "Ellis Island" of Rio de Janeiro, the so-called *Blumeninsel,* is paying off in Goiania, Recife, Salvador, and other places — also in Sao Paulo, where we organized a Latvian congregation with about 200 souls and 135 communicants. They have a pastor with them who also is a D. P. immigrant. Recently another large unaffiliated group of Lutherans of about 6,000 souls requested the services of one of our pastors. During the year 1951 199 adults were baptized and confirmed; 140 parish schools had an enrollment of 6,382 pupils. The Ginasio at Porto Alegre is a school and high school sponsored by a number of our congregations and pastors. It is self-supporting. It has an enrollment of 800 pupils.

It will also be our privilege, D. v., to have in our midst at the convention the President of the Brazil District, the Rev. Rodolfo Hasse, together with a lay delegate, Mr. Waldemar Goerl of Porto Alegre, Brazil. This is the first time in the history of our South American Missions that a lay delegate from South America will be present at a synodical convention. Their personal reports as well as the information given the convention in their separate overtures will tell the story.

The following allotments were made to the Brazil District: for parsonage and chapel $25,000; for motorization $25,000; for Ginasio, Porto Alegre, $25,000.

Our Seminaries

Our report would not be complete if we would not also touch upon the fact that our South American Districts are bending every effort to train a national ministry.

Seminario Concordia at Villa Ballester, Argentina, with an

enrollment of 25 students, and the Seminario Concordia at Porto Alegre, Brazil, with an enrollment of 133 students, are in a flourishing condition. However, though students graduate at regular intervals into the ministry, there is still a shortage of manpower to take care of the fast-expanding mission fields.

Venezuela

This is the latest of our missions in the expansion program. Three stations were opened. Two pastors and one lay worker are conducting the work. We have 135 souls and 55 communicants. Recently a school was opened with an enrollment of 80 children. It will soon be on a self-supporting basis. With the help of funds granted from the "Conquest for Christ" effort a building is under construction which will serve as a school and a chapel, and also as living quarters for the pastors. If we are to capitalize on the opportunities in Venezuela, we shall have to invest larger amounts of money in this very expensive mission field of our Church. Judging by the early beginning, the investments will pay rich dividends. Fellow Christians are coming to the fore and contributing liberally to the cause in their midst. Dr. H. A. Mayer, who recently visited this area, will give pertinent information on the development of our missions in Venezuela.

Extraterritorial Missions

Mexico

Here we have six stations, and six pastors, serving approximately 453 souls and 275 communicants. We have an institute, a place for the training of Mexican workers. According to Mexican law none but native Mexicans can serve the Mexicans in their churches. It is therefore necessary that we train a national ministry. The present enrollment at this school is 12.

Guatemala

In this Central American country we have 11 stations with 466 souls and 147 communicants, served by five missionaries and one vicar. Fine progress has been made. With the assistance of lay workers spreading the Gospel, selling Bibles and Bible pictures, gathering children for Sunday school, the work is gradually extended to the interior and to the adjoining countries, to Nicaragua and others.

Cuba — Isle of Pines

Two missionaries and two native workers are ministering to the spiritual needs of nine stations, with 239 souls and 152 communicants. We are gradually getting a foothold in Cuba. Just

...ly we were enabled to erect a school, which will also serve ...lace of worship. The upper story serves as living quarters ...e pastor. Funds were granted from the Peace Thankoffering ...is purpose. Work on the Isle of Pines is carried on amid ... difficulties. Constant removal of our members in the Isle ...nes will possibly make necessary the closing of this mission ...e near future.

...ii

In a most remarkable manner the Lord has blessed our mission ...Honolulu. Recent reports tell us that the total Sunday attend...ce numbers up to 280.

In Wahiawa, a suburb of Honolulu, the work has also made ...onderful progress. All of this work was possible through grants ...ade through the Peace Thankoffering and the Centennial Thank...ffering and also through gifts and loans from the "Conquest ...or Christ" offering.

New opportunities in the Hawaiian Islands will make it neces...ary to call a third missionary.

Translation of Literature into Spanish and Portuguese

Translation of literature into the Spanish and Portuguese continues. Our Sunday school lessons and our tracts in the Spanish and Portuguese languages are widely used in the Latin American countries.

The preparation of Spanish and Portuguese literature has placed our Synod into a prominent position of leadership in this phase of activity. A full-time Spanish translator prepares tracts, Sunday school literature. *Christian Dogmatics* by Dr. F. Pieper (Dr. J. T. Mueller edition) has been placed on the market in Spanish. The translation of "The Formula of Concord" will soon be completed. The Portuguese translation of *Christian Dogmatics* is now being printed in Porto Alegre.

The Lutheran Hour

The many contacts through the Lutheran Hour demand the sending out of large quantities of tracts and other types of Christian literature, particularly also Sunday school lessons. Much of the material is sent gratis.

BOARD FOR MISSIONS IN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA
F. C. STREUFERT, *Executive Secretary*

ACTION

With reference to these matters, Committee 2 brought in the following resolutions, which were *adopted:*

Resolution 5

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

WHEREAS, The Lord of the Church has called to their heavenly home two active members of the Board for Missions in North and South America, namely, Otto J. Steinwart of Aurora, Ill., and Ferdinand Korneffel of Detroit, Mich.; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recognize the faithful services of these men with gratitude to God and that we express our sincere condolence to the members of the bereaved families.

Resolution 6

HOME MISSION EXPANSION

WHEREAS, The shifting of the population creates new communities, new towns and cities throughout our country; and

WHEREAS, According to conservative estimates the population increase in our country is above 2,600,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, The graduating classes at our theological seminaries for the coming years will, God willing, present more men ready for the service of the Church; be it therefore

Resolved, To endorse wholeheartedly the mission expansion program of the Board for Missions in North and South America, which calls for the opening of at least 120 new stations annually; be it further

Resolved, To encourage every District Mission Board prayerfully to consider the challenging program of our Church's vast expansion opportunities and urge them to a spirit of hearty cooperation; be it further

Resolved, To encourage our fellow Christians to support liberally the cause of Home Missions and thus strengthen the home base to meet the challenge of mission opportunities.

Resolution 7

RECOGNITION OF DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS CONGREGATIONS IN CHANGING METROPOLITAN AREAS

WHEREAS, Changing conditions in the downtown areas of many of our metropolitan cities and in the older residential sections present our congregations with new and grave problems when charting their future course of action; and

WHEREAS, The correct decision of the many perplexing possibilities confronting these congregations is a part of the common responsibility which devolves upon the *entire* Church; and

WHEREAS, Wise churchmanship demands that we face courageously the problems which a new day brings to us; therefore be it

Resolved, That our Board for Home Missions in North and South America continue its study of these areas and transmit to the District Mission Boards its findings and suggestions; and be further

Resolved, That these District Mission Boards be encouraged to make an analysis of these situations and to discuss possible solutions and procedures with the local pastoral conference and with the congregation, or congregations that are involved; and be it finally

Resolved, That District Mission Boards incorporate in their planning the necessity of providing financial help in aiding these congregations as they develop a program of activity which recognizes the changed environment in which they find themselves and the new opportunities to which God is pointing them.

Resolution 8

CHURCH IN RURAL AREAS

WHEREAS, Our beloved Church still has many rural parishes; and

WHEREAS, The present-day shift in population presents many problems also in rural church communities; and

WHEREAS, There are still many unmet opportunities for mission conquests in rural and small-town communities, as is indicated by the fact that other church bodies are concentrating on such areas; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod through its Board for Missions in North and South America establish a Rural Life Commission which will give further study and attention to the rural church problem; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage each synodical District Mission Board to establish such a Rural Life Commission to work jointly with the synodical board in the solution of its respective problems.

Resolution 9

MISSIONS CONFERENCES

WHEREAS, Missions conferences general or regional, attended by representatives from every District Home Mission Board in the U. S. A. and Canada have achieved greater co-ordination and integration and also encouraged District Home Mission Boards to move forward with an aggressive mission expansion program in their respective areas; and

WHEREAS, The discussion of mutual problems confronting the respective District Home Mission Boards was an encouragement to all; be it therefore

Resolved, That missions conferences, be they of a general or a regional nature, be held at the call of the Board for Missions in North and South America and with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Resolution 10

EVANGELISM

WHEREAS, The recent "Each One Reach One" program of Synod served as a mighty stimulus to the mission consciousness of our people; and

WHEREAS, The following statements indicate unprecedented opportunities for personal evangelism: 42 per cent of the American people claim no church membership; and: Many nominal church members are, for all practical purposes, mission prospects to our Church; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod intensify its emphasis on evangelism by offering to the congregations every encouragement and assistance in sending out the good news (evangel) of the Redeemer; be it further

Resolved, That all congregations be asked to evaluate themselves as to their missionary outreach in fulfilling the Savior's Great Commission ("Preach the Gospel to *every* creature"); be it further

Resolved, That all congregations be urged to look upon themselves as centers of missionary activity and that the entire program of the congregation be geared to that objective; be it further

Resolved, That congregations give special attention to the matter of equipping and training the individual members for sharing the good news of the Redeemer with their fellow men; and be it finally

Resolved, That Synod's Home Mission Board provide the necessary helps and suggestions in order to achieve the aforementioned objectives.

Resolution 11

SUNDAY SCHOOL BY MAIL

WHEREAS, The Sunday School by Mail initiated and operated jointly by the Lutheran Hour, the Board for Parish Education, and the Board for Missions in North and South America is another evangelistic agency intended to reach not only children of the unchurched, but also children of our Lutheran families who are unable to attend a Sunday school; and

WHEREAS, A successful Sunday School by Mail can be achieved only by a consecrated follow-up and co-operation of the respective

District Home Mission Boards or their appointed representatives; be it therefore

Resolved, That we continue the Sunday School by Mail program; and be it further

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be extended to the Lutheran Hour, the Board for Parish Education, District Mission Boards, and all who have assisted in supporting this worthy project.

Resolution 12

TELEMISSION

WHEREAS, The tabulation of letters received in response to the televised programs "This Is the Life" indicates a potential of more than 600,000 unchurched listeners (estimated); and

WHEREAS, Of a total of 160,000 communications addressed to the Television office, approximately 11,000 persons writing in named no church affiliation and were processed to the various synodical Districts; and

WHEREAS, This project offers wonderful opportunities for personal evangelism on the District and congregational level; therefore be it

Resolved, To express our appreciation to the District Home Mission Boards, pastors, members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Walther League, and other organizations, and individuals for their consecrated assistance in contacting the unchurched thus brought to our attention; and be it further

Resolved, That we ask our pastors and congregations to encourage their mission committees to make immediate personal contact with all those brought to their attention by this mission.

Resolution 16

CHILE

WHEREAS, By the grace of God, we have a nucleus of 70 adults and 60 children in Sunday school in Chile under the leadership of Mr. Avendano, who will soon be ready to pass his colloquy; and

WHEREAS, The Lord of missions has further favored this field in that Chile enjoys religious liberty; and

WHEREAS, Our brethren in the Argentina District have shown their missionary zeal by making the initial entrance into this field; therefore be it

Resolved, That we refer this new venture to the Argentina District with the request that after further study and consultation with Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America they be encouraged to launch out into this new field whenever in their joint opinions the time is ripe for action; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend the members of our Argentina District for their conquest for souls, and encourage them under the guidance and blessing of God to continue their work of winning new members for the kingdom of heaven.

Resolution 17

PORTUGAL

WHEREAS, The Lord has enabled our Brazilian District President to find a sponsor for the Lutheran Hour broadcast to Portugal, thereby giving our Church an opening in that country; and

WHEREAS, The Lord of missions has further blessed this field in that the people of Portugal have religious freedom and that no language problem is involved; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recommend to our Brazilian brethren that, after further study and consultation with Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America regarding this mission opportunity, they be encouraged to explore and develop it to the fullest degree; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend our fellow Christians of the Brazilian District for their missionary zeal and encourage them under God's guidance and blessing to continue their conquest for souls.

Resolution 18

EXTRATERRITORIAL MISSIONS

WHEREAS, By the grace of God fine progress has been achieved also in the development of our extraterritorial missions in Mexico, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, in Cuba, in the Hawaiian Islands, and also in Venezuela; be it

Resolved, That we with due gratitude to God for His manifold blessings, also recognize and acknowledge the energetic and consecrated spirit of the Board for Missions in North and South America in carrying out the program; be it further

Resolved, To encourage the Board for Missions in North and South America to press forward vigorously in the work of evangelizing Latin America; and be it finally

Resolved, To implore the Lord to shower His blessing upon the consecrated efforts of the missionaries in these countries.

Resolution 19

PRAYERS FOR MISSIONARIES

WHEREAS, The Lord of the Church invites us to pray for the laborers in His vineyard and has promised to hear and answer our prayers; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage the continued prayers of our [illegible] in behalf of our missionaries and workers in the foreign [illegible]; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage

1. The printing of such prayers in each issue of *Portals of [illegible]yer;*

2. The President of Synod to send out prayers to be used in [illegible]ur churches at given intervals (Epiphany, Pentecost, etc.);

3. Our pastors to remember these workers in the General [illegible]rayer at the Sunday services;

4. Our laity to include our missionaries in their family devo[illegible]tional and private prayers.

Abolish Present Board of Missions for North and South America and Set Up Two Separate Boards

(Memorial 403)

WHEREAS, The rapid expansion of missions in the United States and Canada demands all the time and attention of a special mission board; and

WHEREAS, The tremendous scope of Latin American missions also requires all the attention and study that a special mission board could devote to it; and

WHEREAS, It seems to be poor stewardship of men, time, and money to have a single mission board of thirteen men in charge of, and sitting in the same sessions on, all missions in the Western Hemisphere; and

WHEREAS, Many difficulties faced by our Latin American workers are at least partly due to lack of information between the mission fields and the Mother Church, and hence also due to lack of adequate funds; and

WHEREAS, Latin American work is actually foreign mission work in foreign languages and countries; and

WHEREAS, Synod requires that the fields of China and India be represented on the Board for Foreign Missions by at least one man with experience in each field; and

WHEREAS, The present Board of Missions in North and South America has no representative whatever with personal experience in the Latin American field; we therefore

Request Synod

1. To abolish the Board of Missions in North and South America in its present form;

2. To set up two separate mission boards, namely, a Board for Missions in North America in charge of missions north of the U. S. boundary and a Board for Missions in Latin America in charge of missions south of the U. S. boundary; and

3. To require that at least two men with Latin American experience serve on the Board for Missions in Latin America; and

4. To supply these two boards with the necessary funds and facilities to carry out their respective purposes; and

5. To direct each of these boards to elect its own Executive Secretary, under the approval of the President of Synod, and to hold such Executive Secretary responsible to the board by whom he is elected for the carrying out of his work and for the employment of such personnel as is needed.

H. M. Hansen, Vallonia, Ind.
Theo. J. E. Herrmann, Brownstown, Ind.
J. Th. Destinon, Seymour, Ind.
H. C. Besel, North Vernon, Ind.
Vernon H. Harley, Corpus Christi, Tex.
Raymond A. Ernst, Medora, Ind.
Victor A. Mack, Seymour, Ind.
Robert E. Foelber, Seymour, Ind.
Alvin A. Mueller, Seymour, Ind.

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 24

Whereas, Synod in 1947 at the request of the Brazil and Argentina Districts consolidated the Board for Missions in North and South America; and

Whereas, Synod in 1950 deemed it premature to abolish this newly consolidated Board; and

Whereas, Representatives from both South American Districts expressed complete satisfaction with the present arrangement; and

Whereas, It lies within the province of the duly elected board to assign to a subcommittee any and all special problems that may arise; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 403 be declined; and be it further

Resolved, That we request our Board for Missions in North and South America seriously to consider the appointment of a subcommittee to study the special problems of our Latin American missions.

Full-Time Director of Missions

(Memorial 404)

Whereas, The mission program of Synod at home and on foreign soil is constantly expanding; and

Whereas, The co-ordination and unification of policies would result in a greater effectiveness and better stewardship; and

Whereas, A properly balanced effort among the various boards will give proper emphasis to the various mission fields; therefore be it

Resolved, That a full-time director of missions be appointed to supervise the general synodical missions program in all its various phases. Be it further

Resolved, That this office be a supervisory office and separated from direct executive responsibility for the program of any individual board. Be it further

Resolved, That the administrative board for guiding and governing the functions of this office be made up of proportionate representation from existing synodical mission boards to be determined by joint sessions of said boards.

Arlington Heights, Ill., Special Conference
Edgar H. Behrens, *Chairman*
H. H. Heinemann, *Secretary*

The Office of Mission Secretary and the Creation of a Mission Council

(Unprinted Memorial 26)

Whereas, The representatives of the various mission departments of our Synod have expressed themselves in favor of the creation of a Mission Council, to be composed of the executive and one representative from each of the following departments:

The Armed Services Commission
The Board for Missions to the Blind
The General Church Extension Board
The Board for Missions to the Deaf
The Board for European Affairs
The Board for Missions in Foreign Countries
The Board for Missions in North and South America
The Synodical Radio and Television Committee
The Board of Social Welfare
The Student Service Commission
The Missionary Board of the Synodical Conference
The Lutheran Television Productions, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, The functions of this Council are to be the following:

1. To give each department an opportunity to share with all the other mission departments its program, plans, and problems. The members of the Council are to be kept well informed on the work of all the departments in the division of missions.

2. To advise the respective departments on any matter which they may care to submit.

3. To promote policies and procedures in so far as these pertain to the general mission program of the Church.

4. To speak for the over-all mission program of the Church, or on behalf of any of its departments when necessary.

5. To work closely with the Department of Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion in order to determine those phases of missionary education which ought to receive special emphasis.

6. To designate the necessary representation to the various agencies within the Church where such representation is needed, e. g., the Lutheran Laymen's League, the Lutheran Hour, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the Family Worship Hour, the Lutheran Medical Missions Association.

7. To offer advice to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League with reference to the mission projects which it intends to support; and

WHEREAS, It appears that the functions of a Mission Council would duplicate certain duties assigned to the office of Secretary of Missions; and

WHEREAS, The office of Secretary of Missions could heretofore not fully function as such since the Secretary of Missions was also at the same time the Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions in North and South America and the Church Extension Board; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod encourage the creation of such a Mission Council; and be it further

Resolved, That this Council function as outlined above; and be it finally

Resolved, That the office of Secretary of Missions be temporarily discontinued, and if it appears during the next triennium that a Secretary of Missions is still needed, that the Mission Council make that fact known to the next convention of Synod.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
M. F. KRETZMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Action on this memorial and Unprinted Memorial 53 was taken under Resolution 39.

Report of the General Church Extension Board

(Memorial 406)

The challenge on the home front today is tremendous. Never in the history of our Church were there greater mission opportunities than now. With the shifting of millions in our country to new unoccupied areas new doors are opened to District Home Mission Boards throughout the land. Every third or fourth day a new mission was opened in the past triennium. And what this meant to the synodical Districts and to the church at large was revealed when the Church Extension Board just prior to the Fiscal Conference, which met in September, 1952, presented an over-all picture of the crying need of funds to provide chapels, schools, parsonages, teacherages, and other equipment. As of August 1, 1952, 22 Districts reported that Church Extension funds were needed for 198 specific projects. For the purchase of lots and for the erection of modest buildings the staggering amount needed was estimated at $6,240,500. To meet this ever-increasing challenge all of the synodical Districts put forth heroic efforts to increase the net worth and the working capital of their District Church Extension Fund. But unable to meet the challenge before them, they frantically appealed to the General Church Extension Board for assistance. Thus 60 applications for a total of $915,300 were presented in the past fiscal year, but only $673,300 could be granted to 52 applicants, since sufficient funds were not available to meet the demands in full.

In days like these, when building materials and wages have reached unknown heights, a paltry loan of $5,000 or $10,000 means little to a struggling congregation to erect the initial plant, a humble place of worship or a parsonage. It means little to a fast-developing mission if it is compelled to enlarge its facilities. But whither shall the General Church Extension Board go to provide the funds so sorely needed? True, the Board of Directors time and again came to the assistance of the Board. It replenished the treasury by an outright grant of $250,000 from the "Conquest for Christ" offering and by an additional $420,839.22 on a loan basis so that as of January 31, 1953, a working capital of $2,513,660.47 was provided. All but $272,870.94 of this working capital was allocated. But if the Lord had not made the hearts of our fellow Christians so willing to contribute so liberally in the "Conquest for Christ" effort, the situation would have been most critical. As of February, 1953, $1,038,500 were allotted the various synodical Districts from the "Conquest for Christ" funds in loan grants to alleviate the need of the hour. Yet the Macedonian cry continues louder and louder: "Come, come, and help us!"

What are we to do? Dare we stand by and not make a de-

termined effort to provide the funds necessary and to prepare for the future, for the day when our young men will in increasing numbers graduate for the ministry to go out to possess the land and to extend the work?

Now is the time to prepare, to increase the net worth of the General Church Extension Fund. This was the plea presented to the Fiscal Conference held in St. Louis in September, 1952. We pleaded that the General Church Extension Fund be placed into the annual synodical budget until the net worth of the General Church Extension Fund has reached approximately $5,000,000, which would mean an annual revolving fund of about $500,000, which would for some time to come meet the estimated needs of the fund. We pleaded that $500,000 be placed into the synodical budget of 1953. Brethren, however, after long discussion regretfully declined the proposal, but believed the request to be of such vital importance that they resolved "that the Church Extension Fund be eliminated from the budget *for this year.*"

SINCE THE MISSION EXPANSION OF OUR CHURCH is dependent upon adequate church extension funds, the General Church Extension Board herewith respectfully petitions the venerable convention

1. to increase the Church Extension Fund to $5,000,000 as speedily as possible. This should be done (a) by again including the Church Extension Fund in the regular budget of Synod and making a sizable annual allotment to it, and (b) by granting the Board permission to institute a Synod-wide solicitation of gifts, bequests, and legacies.

2. to grant permission to appoint an executive secretary who shall devote his full time and energy to this important phase of the Church's work.

In conformity with resolution of Synod we present a tabulation of Church Extension loans to the various synodical Districts and mission departments.

	Loans to Districts		Loans to Congregations	
	Balance	Past Due	Balance	Past Due
1. Alberta and British Columbia	$ 59,170.00	$ —	$ —	$ —
2. Atlantic	135,800.00	—	3,684.84	3,684.84
3. California and Nevada	208,550.00	—	—	—
4. Central	30,200.00	—	—	—
5. Central Illinois	16,000.00	—	—	—
6. Colorado	102,550.00	—	—	—
7. Eastern	18,000.00	—	—	—
8. English	151,970.00	1,000.00	—	—
9. Florida-Georgia	130,000.00	—	—	—
10. Iowa District East	5,500.00	—	—	—
11. Kansas	34,500.00	—	—	—
12. Manitoba and Saskatchewan	23,386.51	6,386.51	—	—

	Loans to Districts		Loans to Congregations	
	Balance	Past Due	Balance	Past Due
13. Michigan	8,952.60	1,200.00	—	—
14. Minnesota	8,000.00	—	—	—
15. Montana	1,400.00	—	1,250.00	1,250.00
16. North Dakota	33,800.00	—	—	—
17. Northern Nebraska	27,400.00	—	—	—
18. Northwest	134,800.00	—	—	—
19. Oklahoma	58,200.00	—	—	—
20. Ontario	50,000.00	—	—	—
21. South Dakota	48,000.00	1,000.00	—	—
22. Southeastern	240,595.00	—	—	—
23. Southern	73,850.00	—	—	—
24. Southern California	94,600.00	—	—	—
25. Southern Illinois	25,500.00	—	—	—
26. Texas	27,050.00	—	—	—
27. Western	28,500.00	—	9,800.00	9,800.00
28. Miscellaneous *	250,033.18	5,000.00	—	—
	$2,026,307.29	$14,586.51	$14,734.84	$14,734.84

Loans to Board for Missions to the Deaf	Balance of Loans	Amounts Past Due: Total	Amounts Past Due: Less than 2 Years
Cleveland, Ohio	$ 7,050.00	$ —	$ —
Columbus, Ohio — Chapel	12,737.50	—	—
Des Moines, Iowa (Calvary)	6,685.00	—	—
Indianapolis, Ind. (Peace)	8,500.00	—	—
Jacksonville, Ill. — Chapel	8,950.00	—	—
Jacksonville, Ill.	5,000.00	—	—
Kansas City, Mo. (Pilgrim)	3,350.92	—	—
Los Angeles, Calif. (Pilgrim) — Parsonage	6,800.00	—	—
Los Angeles, Calif. (Pilgrim)	5,709.94	—	—
Miami, Fla. — Parsonage	10,293.37	—	—
Newark, N. J. (Keyl Memorial)	14,250.00	—	—
New York City, N. Y. (St. Matthew)	7,125.00	—	—
Oakland, Calif.	8,500.00	—	—
Omaha, Nebr. — Chapel	5,508.44	—	—
Portland, Oreg.	7,100.00	—	—
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.	9,700.00	—	—
Spokane, Wash. (Faith)	8,750.00	—	—
Washington, D. C. — Parsonage and Student Center	6,750.00	—	—
	$142,760.17	—	—
Board for Missions in North and South America			
Honolulu, Hawaii (Redeemer)	$ 4,000.00	$ —	$ —
Honolulu, Hawaii (Redeemer)	12,000.00	—	—
Honolulu, Hawaii (Land)	7,200.00	—	—
Honolulu, Hawaii (School)	15,000.00	—	—
Mexico City (Good Shepherd)	5,533.32	—	—
Mexico City (Good Shepherd)	30,000.00	—	—
Monterrey, Mexico	4,771.89	—	—
Monterrey, Mexico — Parsonage	7,500.00	—	—
Puerto Barrios, Guatemala	540.00	—	—
Wahiawa, Oahu, Hawaii (Trinity)	15,575.00	—	—
San Pablo, Mexico, D. F.	5,152.80	—	—
	$107,273.01	—	—

Administration of Loan Grants from the "Conquest for Christ" Effort

All allocations from the "Conquest for Christ" funds are made by the Board of Directors.

The administration, however, of loan grants from the CFC funds in the United States and Canada, from which returns are expected, is the responsibility of the General Extension Board.

Funds received in repayment of CFC loans are to be kept on records separate from the records of the Church Extension Fund.

As moneys are repaid from the CFC loan grants, they become available for continued re-allocation. At regular intervals the General Church Extension Board shall render an account of the "Conquest for Christ" Mission Fund to the Board of Directors and to the Mission Boards involved.

As of March 1, 1953, a total of $1,038,500 was allocated to missions in the United States and Canada for the benefit of forty-seven places.

MR. WALTER H. KROEHNKE, *Chairman*
REV. M. A. HAENDSCHKE, *Vice-Chairman*
MR. W. O. BRAUER, *Secretary*
REV. THEO. H. ROSCHKE
MR. PAUL E. DOERRER
MR. ELMER H. FISCHER, *Financial Secretary*
DR. F. C. STREUFERT, *Executive Secretary*
DR. H. A. MAYER, *Assistant Executive Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 41

I

WHEREAS, The mission boards and also Memorial 404 request that the office of Secretary of Missions be separated from the executive secretaryship of Missions in North and South America, being one of several other missionary and service departments; and

WHEREAS, The Church Extension Board in Overture 406 requests the establishment of a separate executive secretaryship for its department to intensify its activities in a proper distribution and upbuilding of Church Extension funds; and

WHEREAS, We are persuaded of the merits of the cause; and

WHEREAS, The Church Extension Board serves not only one, but all our missions and similar services, and that, therefore, this work would quite properly be connected with the office of Secretary of Missions; and

WHEREAS, Being relieved of executive secretaryship work of

Board of Missions in North and South America would give Secretary more time to devote to the cause of Church Extension; therefore be it

Resolved, That the office of Secretary of Missions be separated from the office of Executive Secretary of Missions in North and South America, and that the Secretary of Missions remain the Executive Secretary of Church Extension.

II

WHEREAS, The work in the Board for Missions in North and South America can be rearranged to good advantage without any increase or decrease in authorized personnel; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following rearrangement in the duties of the personnel of this board be effected:

1. That a secretary be appointed by the Board for Missions in North and South America with the approval of the Board of Directors for each of its three departments:

a. North American missions,
b. Latin American missions,
c. Evangelism;

2. That one of these secretaries be appointed by the Board for Missions in North and South America with the approval of Synod's Board of Directors as Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions in North and South America;

3. That the several mission boards together with the Board of Directors define the areas of responsibilities of each of the secretaries.

As to Unprinted Memorial 53, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 39

WHEREAS, The representatives of the various Mission agencies of our Synod have expressed themselves in favor of the creation of a Mission Council; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod encourage the creation of such a Mission Council composed of representatives from each of the following agencies:

The Armed Services Commission
The Board of Missions to the Blind
The General Church Extension Board
The Board for Missions to the Deaf
The Board for European Affairs
The Board of Missions in Foreign Countries
The Board for Missions in North and South America

The Synodical Radio and Television Committee
The Board of Social Welfare
The Student Service Commission
The Missionary Board of the Synodical Conference
The Lutheran Television Productions Committee;

and be it further

Resolved, That the basic functions of this Council shall be as follows:

1. To give each mission agency of Synod an opportunity to share with all the other mission agencies its program, plans, and problems;

2. To work closely with the Department of Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion in order to determine those phases of missionary education which ought to receive special emphasis;

3. To offer advice to the various agencies within the Church, e. g., the Lutheran Laymen's League, the Lutheran Hour, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the Family Worship Hour, the Lutheran Medical Missions Association, the Walther League, and other Church-related organizations, with reference to their missionary projects.

Negro Missions in the United States

The past year marked the 75th anniversary of the inauguration of missionary endeavors by the Synodical Conference among the Negroes of the United States. The Lord of the Church has bountifully blessed the efforts put forth in behalf of blood-bought souls during these three quarters of a century.

The plan of operation in our Negro Missions has undergone a marked change in recent years. This change was brought about by an important resolution of the Synodical Conference when it resolved to "recommend the adoption of the Survey Committee's report on receiving Negro churches and their pastors into membership of the constituent synods of the Synodical Conference (or the respective Districts)." This new arrangement implied that Districts which assumed supervision and responsibility "in consultation with the Missionary Board have the power to call missionaries, teachers, and assistants for mission stations and fix the missionary workers' salaries, give instructions, exercise the right of visitation, and guide and direct and supervise all Negro missions of the respective District, encourage pastors and congregations to greater zeal and closer co-operation, study mission opportunities within the District, etc."

This arrangement has been generally accepted by the Districts,

some of which have taken over Negro missions entirely, including all financial obligations. In most supervising Districts, however, the Missionary Board must continue to assume either the entire or the greater part of the financial responsibility of existing congregations and the opening of new missions.

Among the urgent needs are larger appropriations for the Church Extension Fund to make possible the erection or purchase of chapels and parsonages. This need is particularly urgent with regard to the contemplated opening of new missions in the larger urban areas. Ample funds should also be provided for the creation of an Automobile Fund which would enable the Missionary Board to grant loans to missionaries for the purchase of needed cars.

The proposed new dormitory building for Immanuel Lutheran College, Greensboro, N. C., has been delayed and actual construction postponed because the present appropriation appears to be inadequate to meet the existing requirements. Alabama Lutheran Academy, Selma, Ala., is requesting an additional appropriation of $60,000 for needed buildings.

The statistical report indicates that our Negro Missions in the United States have 112 churches, 17,964 baptized members, 10,272 communicant members, 2,857 pupils in Christian day schools with 74 teachers, and 7,803 Sunday school pupils.

We give thanks to the Lord for His bountiful blessings and implore His gracious guidance and continued benediction for the days to come.

The following memorial concerning Mission Work among the Negroes in North America was also submitted:

Synod Take Over Mission Work Among the Negroes in North America

(Memorial 405)

WHEREAS, The administration of the fiscal affairs of the Synodical Conference in the interest of mission work among the Negroes in North America is unavoidably so involved as to cause operational difficulties; and

WHEREAS, These difficulties could be eliminated if one of the constituent Synods took over the work among the Negroes in North America; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod is now bearing 83 per cent of the cost of this work and is the only constituent Synod financially able to assume the responsibility for doing this work alone;

Therefore, the Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod does herewith petition The Lutheran Church

— Missouri Synod to declare its readiness at its convention in 1953 to take over the mission work among the Negroes in North America and to request the Synodical Conference to approve this petition.

THE SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
REV. EDGAR C. RAKOW, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 43

WHEREAS, The past year marked the 75th anniversary of the inauguration of missionary endeavors by the Synodical Conference among the Negroes of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The plan of operation in our Negro Missions has undergone a marked change in recent years; and

WHEREAS, This change was brought about by an important resolution of the Synodical Conference when it resolved to "appeal to the constituent synods of the Lutheran Synodical Conference or the respective Districts of the synod to take over the work among the Negroes in their territorial areas"; and

WHEREAS, This arrangement has been generally accepted by the Districts of the Missouri Synod, some of which have taken over our Negro mission entirely, including all financial obligations; and

WHEREAS, The Synodical Conference in its last two conventions commended these Districts and encouraged this procedure; therefore be it

Resolved, That this policy be advocated for all of our Districts; and be it

Resolved, That Synod declare its willingness to support this work also in those Districts which cannot carry the financial load.

Request for Alabama Lutheran Academy

(Unprinted Memorial 64)

WHEREAS, The Synodical Conference at the convention in St. Paul, Minn., August 12—15, 1952, authorized the expenditure of $100,000 for buildings at Alabama Lutheran Academy and College, Selma, Ala.; and

WHEREAS, This amount must be appropriated by the constituent synods of the Synodical Conference; and

WHEREAS, An administration building, a library, and dormitories are needed for carrying out the purpose of this school; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be authorized to appropriate the proportionate share of our Synod for the needed buildings at Alabama Lutheran Academy and College.

THE MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE SYNODICAL CONFERENCE
REV. E. L. WILSON, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 44

WHEREAS, The Synodical Conference at the convention in St. Paul, August 12—15, 1952, authorized the expenditure of $100,000 for buildings at Alabama Lutheran Academy and College, Selma, Ala.; and

WHEREAS, This amount must be appropriated by the constituent synods of the Synodical Conference; and

WHEREAS, An administration building, a library, and dormitories are needed for carrying out the purpose of this school; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be authorized to appropriate the proportionate share of our Synod for the needed buildings at Alabama Lutheran Academy and College.

Missions in Africa

(Unprinted Memorial 64)

The work of our Church in Nigeria, West Africa, continues to grow and expand. This missionary endeavor, sponsored and supported by the Synodical Conference, has been richly prospered by the Lord since its inception seventeen years ago. Among the outstanding accomplishments in more recent history is the graduation of our first class, consisting of eight men from our seminary. The seminary was established in January, 1949, with an enrollment of ten native students and is now housed in permanent buildings, equipped with the necessary facilities for the training of a native ministry.

Our new hospital was recently completed and dedicated in the month of May. The cost of this structure was approximately $90,000, of which the sum of $70,000 was contributed by a mission-minded layman from Wisconsin. Two doctors, now on the field, are in charge of the medical work.

Our educational system, consisting of the elementary schools, the secondary schools, normal school, girls' school, and the new seminary promise to supply a satisfactory number of workers in church and school. Two African students are attending Valparaiso

University and after obtaining their degrees next year expect to return to Africa and serve the Church in their native country.

The latest statistics demonstrate most impressively the continued mercies and blessings of our gracious Lord. Our mission in Africa has 172 churches, 26,347 baptized members, 7,763 communicant members, 98 schools with 12,151 pupils and 501 teachers.

While a generous harvest has been gathered, a virtually unlimited field of operation awaits our further and intensified activity. The British protectorate of Nigeria comprises an area of 373,000 square miles, one tenth as large as the United States, with a population approaching 29,000,000. It is estimated that fewer than two million of this vast number have been evangelized. An insistent and challenging call thus presents itself to go forward in the development and expansion of an ever greater and more effective missionary program.

Our churches in Nigeria are organized as a synod which is known as "The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Nigeria." Nine districts have been established according to geographical locations. Determined efforts are being made to impress upon our churches the importance of taking upon themselves an ever larger measure of their financial obligations. All workers are agreed that our Lutheran Nigerian Church should become an indigenous church and are working faithfully towards the establishment of such a church.

Dr. Karl Kurth, Executive Secretary of the Missionary Board, in recent weeks concluded a visitation of several months' duration in Africa, where he made an extensive survey of our missionary program.

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 42

WHEREAS, The work of our Church in Nigeria, sponsored and supported by the Synodical Conference, has been richly prospered by the Lord since its inception 17 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Our educational system, consisting of the elementary schools, the secondary school, normal school, girls' school, and the new seminary promise to supply a satisfactory number of workers in church and school; and

WHEREAS, Under God, our new hospital was recently completed and dedicated in the month of May; therefore be it

Resolved, That we praise God for His abundant blessing upon our laborers in Africa; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend the Missionary Board of the

Synodical Conference and our missionaries for the aggressive leadership they have given to this work; and be it finally

Resolved, That we pray for Pastor Karl Kurth a safe journey home from his visitation of our missions in Africa.

Report of the Board for European Affairs

(Memorial 407)

Your Board for European Affairs desires to submit to you the following report of its activities in the past triennium. The Board feels that the best way in which this can be done is to submit the report of the European Survey Commission, appointed pursuant to a resolution of Synod convened in Milwaukee, together with the comments of our Board on the action taken by us to implement the recommendations of the European Survey Commission or stating the reasons for the delay or non-compliance. The report of the Survey Commission reads as follows:

"Report of European Survey Commission

"Submitted to:

The Praesidium;
The Board for European Affairs;
The Board of Directors of
The Honorable Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

"In the name of the Holy Trinity, Greetings:

"Pursuant to a resolution of Synod convened in Milwaukee (cf. *Proceedings, Forty-First Convention,* A. D. 1950, page 449), the undersigned, appointed by the *Praesidium* and the Board for European Affairs to serve as a Survey Committee, submit the following report and recommendations concerning the work of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in Europe:

I. Introductory

"The Committee engaged the services of the Rev. Richard Wukasch, who, in the service of the World Council of Churches, had spent a year in Europe to gather data concerning the political, economic, cultural, and specifically religious life of the countries which were to be visited, as well as the names of important personages who were serving as leaders in Christian movements in the respective countries.

"This was done so that each member of the Commission might have some reasonably helpful overview of the total background against which to discuss local situations upon reaching foreign soil and to aid in evaluating facts as they presented themselves. — An itinerary and a calendar of appointments were carefully

arranged beforehand so that no time was lost after the Commission reached foreign soil.

"The Commission sought to gain an insight into the religious life of the countries affected by meeting with pastors, officials, theological teachers, and laymen affiliated with our Synod; with pastors, officials, bishops, laymen, theological professors, and institutional leaders of non-affiliated Lutheran and non-Lutheran groups.

"The Commission sought to take insight into such matters as would prove helpful in reaching decisions concerning the work of our Synod in England, France, Alsace, Belgium (Switzerland, Geneva: Lutheran World Federation), Germany, Denmark (Sweden: Independent Evangelistic movement), and Finland. The recommendations of the Commission represent its findings and conclusions based on the aforesaid studies and investigations. The Committee began its work in an organized way on foreign soil at London on Monday, June 4, and held its final meeting at Frankfurt on Thursday, July 19, A. D. 1951.

II. England

"A. General Statement.

"The interests of our Church in England at present are represented by

"1. The work of our two congregations in London: Holy Trinity and Luther-Tyndale, served by the Rev. E. George Pearce;

"2. Our support of the Estonian (4,800), Latvian (15,000), Polish (3,000), and German (20,000) Lutheran groups who came to England either as exiles or as prisoners of war, or who settled in England on a temporary or permanent basis even before the war;

"3. The program of the Lutheran Hour.

"Holy Trinity and Luther-Tyndale Congregations are independent and self-supporting and are incorporating as the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England.

"The work of the exiled and other groups is being guided by the so-called Lutheran Council of Great Britain, the Rev. E. George Pearce, chairman; the Rev. David Ostergren, D. D., executive secretary; the Rev. Joak Taul, Estonian, secretary; the Rev. W. Fierla, Polish; the Rev. E. Bergs, Latvian; and the Rev. H. H. Kramm, German. This work was most energetically started in A. D. 1946 by Pastor E. George Pearce, who received the full support of the Emergency Planning Council of our Synod. In A. D. 1948 the National Lutheran Council entered the field.

"Our sister congregations, Holy Trinity and Luther-Tyndale, have a total communicant membership of about 175 persons after

30 years' work. Both congregations possess neat houses of worship. Their progress in the past has (very probably) been greatly impeded because their work was identified with German. Presently all work is being done in English, and earnest efforts are being made to minister to unchurched natives in their respective communities.

"Their work in the future should, therefore, by the grace of God, show greater results than in the past.

"The Lutheran Council of Great Britain was founded in March, A. D. 1948, as an agency through which the financial aid given by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the National Lutheran Council could be properly channeled and equitably distributed to the various Lutheran refugee groups in England.

"Under the leadership of Pastor Pearce, the Council of Great Britain, consisting of a representative of each larger refugee group, has included in its regular monthly business meeting a study of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions with a view to reaching complete unity in doctrine and practice. These discussions have been richly blessed by the Spirit of God with the result that a greater Lutheran consciousness, a deeper appreciation of our Lutheran heritage, and a strengthening of solid Lutheran convictions have been achieved with at least some of the pastors and with the further result that the hope of eventual unification of the Lutherans in England into one body on the basis of complete unity in doctrine and practice still is justified, despite the difficulties inherent in a situation where so many varying groups with their existing connections on the Continent are involved.

"The Lutheran Hour broadcast over Station Luxembourg has been and still is serving as a means to bring the message of the Lutheran Church to the attention of the people in England and to gain the names and addresses of interested persons in various parts of the country. The number of letters received and contacts made is by no means negligible. Mr. Elmer Smith, a young Lutheran layman, serves as a full-time Executive Secretary of the Lutheran Hour in England.

"B. The Problems.

"Two principal problems confront our Church with reference to the question of Lutheranism in England.

"1. What course of action shall be followed with regard to the exiled and other nationalistic Lutheran groups now being cared for in co-operation with the National Lutheran Council?

"2. What policy should be followed so as to bring the message of the Lutheran Council to the English people more effectively and to build an indigenous Lutheran Church on English soil eventually?

"C. Recommendations.

"The two questions are closely allied in the opinion of the Commission. It is the Commission's recommendation:

"1. That the nationalistic Lutheran groups represented in the Lutheran Council of Great Britain be allowed, without interference from abroad, to develop by a further study of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions into a united Lutheran Church of Great Britain, completely united in Scriptural doctrine and practice;

"2. That the present arrangement of support provided by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the National Lutheran Council be continued with a decrease of subsidies annually as these groups become an integrated part of British society, establish their own homes, and find steady remunerative employment so that they can become self-supporting;

"3. That the aggressive advancement of Lutheranism in England be allowed, under God, to grow out of the mission zeal and effort of the Lutherans composing our two sister congregations in London and the members of the afore-mentioned nationalistic groups as they and their descendants by God's grace become a doctrinally united Church and an integrated part of the English people;

"4. That in the meantime we encourage our two sister congregations in London to complete their incorporation as the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England and then effect their release from the Atlantic District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to form an independent Lutheran Church of England in doctrinal fellowship with our Synod and assigned to the correspondence of the Board for European Affairs;

"5. That we continue financial support to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England as the expansion of their work and the fellowship of others with them make it necessary;

"6. That in the present emergency four automobiles be made available in A. D. 1952 to pastors serving refugee groups where such transportation is most needed for efficient work; and

"7. That the purchase of the automobiles be made possible in this manner:

"The refugee congregations are to contribute ⅓ of the total cost (that is to say: 1,000 pounds equal to about $2,800 U. S.) and that The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the National Lutheran Council each loan 1,000 pounds (a total of 2,000 pounds — $5,600 U. S.) without interest, the principal to be repaid by the congregations over a period of five years."

Comment of the Board for European Affairs

Our Board has not been assigned the task of supervising the work in England and for that reason has no jurisdiction at the present time over whatever actions are recommended by the European Survey Commission.

However, should recommendation No. 4 be carried out, namely, that the "Ev. Lutheran Church of England form an Independent Lutheran Church of England in doctrinal fellowship with our Synod and assigned to the correspondence of the Board for European Affairs," the honorable Synod may be assured that our Board will take due cognizance of the recommendations of the European Survey Commission after due consideration has been given to changes in the situation and carry out the recommendations of the European Survey Commission or whatever recommendations Synod makes in this matter.

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 2 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 31

CHURCH IN ENGLAND

WHEREAS, The Ev. Luth. Church in England, consisting at present of our two sister congregations in London, asked for independent status in fellowship with our Synod, in order that she may more effectively carry out her task of spreading the saving Gospel; and

WHEREAS, The proper steps of procedure are being taken to grant this request; and

WHEREAS, She has already reached out into other areas; therefore be it

Resolved, That the congregations of the Ev. Luth. Church in England be granted permission to effect an independent status in fellowship with our Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend the Ev. Luth. Church in England for her aggressive mission program; and be it finally

Resolved, That we continue financial support to the Ev. Luth. Church in England as the expansion of her work and the fellowship of others with her make it necessary.

III. France

"A. General Statement.

"The work of our Church in France and Alsace is represented by our congregation in Paris, served by the Rev. Fred Kreiss; a mission station at Rouen, served by the Rev. Jean Bricka;

a congregation in Strasbourg, the Rev. S. Erik Peyser; congregations at Schillersdorf, Obersulzbach, Lembach, and Wörth, served by the Rev. A. F. Michalk; and congregations at Heiligenstein and Mulhouse, the Rev. G. Wolff. These five pastors serve a total of nine congregations and preaching stations with a total communicant membership of 346, constituting the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of France, organized after the First World War. Pastors Kreiss, Bricka, Peyser, and Wolff employ both French and German in their services. Pastor Michalk's work is done exclusively in German. Alsace, up to A. D. 1918, belonged to Germany, and the work naturally was done in the German language. When in A. D. 1918 Alsace became French, the use of German naturally had to be continued, but French was also introduced and the church became bilingual. The fact that the German language is still employed in the services, the antagonism between Germany and France growing out of past wars, and the fact that the Free Church is not recognized by the government as a Church, but only as a benevolent association and that it is incorporated as such to do charitable work through a sanatorium for tuberculous patients located near Strasbourg, has undoubtedly impeded the progress of the Free Church's work and obstructed a ready approach to the native Frenchmen.

"Our brethren in Paris worship in a chapel which is in the interior of a building, the front of which is used for commercial purposes, while the upper stories are divided into apartments. The chapel, very beautiful and serviceable, is located in the rear part of the first floor, but completely hidden away from the street, so that anyone passing the structure could not possibly surmise the presence of a church or be aware that the work of the Church is being done there.

"Pastor Kreiss has sought faithfully to perform his duties by ministering to such German- or French-speaking individuals as would accept his ministrations. The result has been that his efforts have been widely scattered and tremendously time consuming. He has also devoted much time to the work of the Lutheran Hour, to the editing of a Lutheran church paper in French, and to the maintenance of contacts with pastors and theological professors of the three other Lutheran churches, or synods, in France, the Lutheran Synod of Paris, the Lutheran Synod of Montbeliard, and the Lutheran Synod of Alsace, with a hope of stimulating Lutheran consciousness and strengthening the foundations of Lutheran doctrine and practice in these synods. For that purpose our brethren in France in the past three years also arranged theological discussions ("Bad Boll" conferences) with pastors and

pastors from these synods. American representatives of our Missouri Synod took part in the discussions.

"The Benevolent Society, representing particularly our predominantly German churches in Alsace, made its first effort to bring the Gospel to wider areas of the French population by lending a helping hand in the establishment of the mission at Rouen, where the first-floor living quarters of a three-story home have been converted into a chapel. The entrance way to this structure is to be given a touch of ecclesiastical architecture so as to indicate more clearly its use for church purposes.

"B. Problems.

"1. Native Frenchmen are assumed to belong to the Roman Catholic Church. Multitudes, however, who may have been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church today are quite unchurched. A large percentage of France's population has no living religious faith whatever. It can, therefore, readily be understood that our fellow Christians in France are deeply concerned about the spiritual welfare of their fellow countrymen. As in other European countries, so also here the mere outward relationship of the people to the Roman Catholic Church presents special problems for church work.

"2. Our Church cannot be incorporated as a Church and has no standing before the law. It is regarded as a sect. The Welfare Society was formed, as first-century Christians organized burial societies, to gain some status before the law.

"3. The antagonism of the French against the Germans probably has also turned the native French against the work of the Free Church, so much of which in the past was, by force of circumstances, bilingual.

"4. The location of our church in Paris, hidden away from public view within a large business and apartment building, and the scattered and time-consuming efforts of the pastor have conspired to prevent any kind of an encouraging growth in this city of millions, many of whom are unchurched.

"5. The problem of providing French native pastors who have been properly trained theologically is most formidable.

"C. Recommendations.

"1. That competent representatives of the Free Church in France make renewed efforts to secure government recognition and official registration as a Free Church."

COMMENT: The first recommendation of the Survey Commission has not as yet been carried out, but efforts toward this end are being made and there may well be some tangible evidence of progress by the time Synod is assembled in convention at Houston.

"2. That the main and advertised services of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of France in Paris and Rouen be conducted in French. If services in German are still needed, they should be held completely separated from the main services."

COMMENT: Recommendation No. 2 has been carried out. There are at the present time no German services conducted in Paris; in Rouen the few German services which are being conducted are held as devotions in the homes of the German-speaking members; or in the few instances where German services are still conducted in the church they are conducted at hours totally separated from the main service.

"3. That the congregation in Paris consider the advisability of selling what is left of their equity in the present property and of relocating in a community where some large new housing project finds thousands of people without a near-by church to serve them, thus gaining not only a more promising but also a more concentrated mission field and obviating the scattered and time-consuming efforts of the pastor."

COMMENT: The third recommendation of the Survey Commission is in process of being carried out. However, it was thought wise for the first not to sell the equity in the apartment building until we have actually become established in some other locality. Negotiations are in progress in order to acquire property in the outer suburbs of Paris for the new mission station.

"4. That before any systematic work be opened in any other city, the question of engaging a traveling missionary be given serious consideration to follow up Lutheran Hour and other contacts. Also here in France the Lutheran Hour (over Station Luxembourg) letters and contacts are quite numerous."

COMMENT: Recommendation No. 4 has the endorsement of our Board because our Board considers France the pre-eminent mission field in Europe. It needs intensive development. The plan of the Board is to assign this duty to its executive secretary, which office it hopes to establish with the approval of the Board of Directors. If we cannot implement this recommendation soon, together with the next recommendation, we will lose our opportunities both for men and congregation.

"5. That since native workers are essential to a successful maintenance and promotion of the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in France, a coaching system of theological students at the university of Paris be studied and, if possible, be introduced to provide additional theologically trained workers."

COMMENT: Recommendation No. 5 is in process of being carried out. Plans are under way to combine such a theological training school or "house of studies" with the new mission station which is to be established in the suburbs of Paris.

It is the opinion of our Board that the matter of establishing a theological training school or "house of studies" is essential to any further progress in France. Without this school, and until this school begins to produce additional workers, all the plans for an aggressive mission program in France are in vain. If we don't act soon, we shall lose the prospective students who are waiting to be trained. We cannot establish this school unless we have a man on the spot such as an executive secretary would be.

"6. That a program of aggressive mission activity among the non-theological students at the university of Paris be carried on. The Executive Secretary of Synod's Student Service Commission might be called upon to offer helpful suggestions."

COMMENT: Nothing has been done up to the present time to carry out this recommendation, mainly for lack of suitable personnel.

"7. That we urge our fellow Christians in France to continue their support of the mission they have established in Rouen; that we commend them for their interest in the mission work in France; and that we urge them to pursue this work with ever-deepening interest as a work of their own responsibility."

COMMENT: This recommendation has been carried out to a large extent. The *Synodalrat* of the Lutheran Free Church in France has been very active, and its recommendations to our Board have guided us in the implementation of policies and principles recommended by the Survey Commission and adopted by our Board.

"8. That we continue the present financial support to the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in France to enable them to make the most of the work which they have begun or will undertake, the meanwhile also urge our brethren to grow in the financial support of the Church's work."

COMMENT: The financial support of the congregations of the Ev. Lutheran Free Church has been increasing by leaps and bounds. The complete report for the year 1951 shows a 36 per cent increase in receipts over the previous year. The average contribution per communicant member of the congregations of the Lutheran Free Church in France for home and outside purposes is almost $20 per annum. When we remember that the income and standard of living of these people is very much lower than that of our American congregations, we can rejoice greatly over the progress in Christian giving which has been made by our brethren.

"9. That we encourage our brethren in France to continue their contact with, and witness to, the pastors and theological professors of the other Lutheran Synods through so-called Free Conferences and that we offer our continued assistance in them."

COMMENT: This recommendation has been carried out by our brethren in France. The contact has been particularly close, and the witness particularly effective, with the Lutheran Synod of Paris, where Pastor Kreiss has made some very fine progress. The free conferences have been continued under the direction of the *Praesidium*, and it is not for us to report on the success which has been achieved.

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 2 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 32

WHEREAS, The problem of providing French and Belgian native pastors who have been properly trained theologically is most formidable; and

WHEREAS, Native workers are essential to a successful maintenance and promotion of the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in France; and

WHEREAS, Past experience has proved it to be unwise to bring native students to our schools in America for their theological training; and

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the Board for European Affairs that the matter of establishing a theological training school or "house of studies" is essential to any further progress in France; and

WHEREAS, It has been pointed out that the native students could receive their academic training in the recognized schools in Paris — and then receive their theological training in the proposed theological training school or "house of studies"; and

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of our Board for European Affairs that if we do not act soon we shall lose the prospective students who are waiting to be trained; therefore be it

Resolved, That we adopt the Board's recommendation to establish a theological training school or "house of studies" in France and that we *approve* the favorable action taken by our Board of Directors of Synod in this matter.

IV. Belgium

"A. General Statement.

"The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Belgium is composed of two parishes, one at Antwerp, served by the Rev. Lambert Hellings in the Flemish language, and the other at Brussels, served by the Rev. C. J. Hobus in French. These men are presently serving a total of about fifty communicant members. The work in Antwerp is intimately tied to the personal history of Pastor Hellings, who was brought up in a Roman Catholic home, but through reading of the Gospel according to St. John and later the entire New Testament became convinced of the truth of the Word. Later he had contact with Dr. Fuerbringer by correspondence, through whom he learned of our work in England and in France. In A. D. 1938 he established fellowship with our Church. His work was rudely interrupted by the war, kept up in a fashion during the war, and resumed fully after the war. Pastor Hobus studied theology in France, Belgium, and Holland under Methodist discipline, was ordained a Methodist minister, and served as missionary for the Methodist Church for 15 years. The liberalism in the Methodist Church and its methods of church work (revivalism, etc.) made it impossible for him to continue in that Church. He was brought in contact with Pastor Hellings; and having come to full doctrinal unity with the Free Church brethren in France, established by a formal colloquy, he has now been ordained as pastor of our Church and is serving a small band of members who came with him into the Lutheran Church.

"B. Problems and Recommendations.

"Belgium is a Roman Catholic country. Protestantism in general is not very effective. While the Lutheran Hour via Station Luxembourg reaches the Belgian people and our missionaries establish contact through the mail with individuals who respond to the Lutheran Hour, successful mission work is extremely difficult, again because most people maintain an outward relationship to the Roman Catholic Church.

"The temptation lies very near for the missionary to scatter his energies and to spend much time in travel, seeking out individuals in various parts of the country, instead of engaging in a more concentrated and intensive form of mission work.

"The task of providing successors for the pastors now serving presents a problem comparable to that which exists in France and should, therefore, be studied and solved, if possible, together with the situation in France.

"Since the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in Belgium is comparatively new and the two pastors serving there are doing their work in a very aggressive manner, they should be encouraged to continue an intensive program of mission endeavor among the people of Belgium. We recommend that further financial assistance be given so as to enable these pastors to continue their work. It is to be expected that an increase in membership will also produce greater financial support on the part of the members, on whom must rest the primary responsibility for the work in Belgium. Our sister churches in other European countries ought to be encouraged, being much closer to the scene, to assume a warm interest in the work of our brethren in Belgium."

COMMENT: The progress of the work in Belgium has continued in the past triennium. While the progress measured in actual number of souls gained looks small, yet when considered in the light of percentage of annual gain, this field indeed looks very promising. In Antwerp, for example, the annual gain in baptized membership over the last five years has been 15%, the average annual gain in communicant membership has been 20%, and the

average annual gain in attendance at services has been 17%. Similarly in Brussels the average annual gain in baptized membership has been 23% over the last two years, and the average annual gain in communicant membership has been 150% over the same period, and there has been an average gain of 10% a year in church attendance.

Our Board has been deeply impressed with the forward-looking plan of expansion and church activation which Pastor Hobus has submitted to us.

The recommendation that "Our sister churches in other European countries ought to be encouraged . . . to assume a warm interest in the work of our brethren in Belgium" has been implemented by the Lutheran Free Church in France, which has made the two Belgium brethren members of their church organization.

V. Germany

"A. General Statement.

"The work of our Church in Germany is represented primarily by the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany and the Evangelical Lutheran Church *'im frueheren Altpreussen'* (Breslau Synod). The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany numbers about 15,000 souls and the Breslau Synod about 43,000. Ninety-six pastors are ministering to 85 congregations and 515 preaching stations. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Diaspora *(Fluechtlingsmissionskirche)*, supported by the Joint Synod of Wisconsin, and the *'Selbststaendige'* Evangelical Lutheran Church are in fellowship with the above-named two churches. The *'Selbststaendige Freikirche'* is maintaining a flourishing mission in South Africa, in which the other two sister synods, especially the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church, are giving active support. This is an endeavor in which the recently established fellowship among the three Free Churches finds further active expression.

"The work in Germany must be considered under two aspects: work in the West Zone and work in the East Zone.

"B. West Zone Problems.

"The work of the Church in the West Zone can be done unhampered by government restrictions. The fact that many of the houses of worship were destroyed in the Second World War and that more than five million Lutheran refugees, who were driven out of the Eastern provinces of Germany, ceded to Poland and Russia, into the West Zone, creates a terrific problem for our brethren in Western Germany. While their own churches are self-supporting, their need for help in serving the refugees has been great. Our Synod has assisted them in providing physical relief; subsidizing refugee missions; supplying theological and other

Christian literature; maintaining a preparatory theological school at Gross Oesingen and a theological seminary *(Hochschule)* at Oberursel. The fact that persons born in German communities, where the Lutheran, or Evangelical, *Landeskirche* prevails, are assumed to be members of that Church because they have been baptized and confirmed there, even though they have long since ceased to attend the services, has caused the pastors of the Free Church to be hesitant about doing mission work among such actually unchurched people. The result has been that the growth of the Free Churches has not been as great as it might have been, under God, if the approach had been more realistic and if more aggressive missionary methods for the winning of souls had been employed. Today the problem in some instances is a bit more complicated, since pastors and congregations of the Free Church in some communities find it necessary to use the facilities of the established Church to conduct their meetings and services. Obviously this would not be permitted if they made an effort to win people for the Free Church who are nominally members of the established Church.

"According to a census taken by the United States Military Government, 97 per cent of the people of Germany are nominally church members, of whom, however, only 1½ per cent would be counted as members under conditions prevailing in our country. Twenty-six per cent are actually opposed to Christianity despite their nominal church membership.

"C. Recommendations.

"The Commission submits the following recommendations with reference to our work in West Germany:

"1. That assistance be provided through loans which will enable congregations whose houses of worship were destroyed, and other congregations of the Free Churches, to secure places of worship, with the understanding that these loans be repaid over a reasonable period of time. The places where such buildings would be needed, as well as the amounts and terms of the loans, are to be established through consultation with the officers of the respective synod and of the respective congregations of the communities which would come into question."

COMMENT: As far as our knowledge goes, this recommendation has been carried out through a special grant for the establishment of a revolving Church Extension Fund. This grant was made by the Board of Directors from Peace Thankoffering and Centennial Thankoffering funds.

"2. That consideration be given to the possibility of resettling some of the millions of refugees, still without home and without

gainful employment and without adequate church ministrations, in the West Zone. Two possibilities present themselves:

"a. To carry on this work in collaboration with the Lutheran World Federation and through co-operation with the proper government authorities in our own country (emigration).

"b. To make moneys available for loans to individual families so that they can purchase a plot of ground in new communities which are being established in the West Zone and to whom the German government and German banks will then loan additional sums which will enable them to build a home and to re-establish themselves (settlements — *Siedlungen*). Such a settlement could be established with a church and school bought by our Synod and affiliated with the Free Church.

"Both of these possibilities should be further explored under the guidance of our Board for European Affairs."

COMMENT: Since Synod in its resolution at the Milwaukee Convention specifically excepted the work among refugees from the jurisdiction of our Board, this recommendation was none of our concern. The Board which handled this matter will undoubtedly make its report to Synod.

"3. That the theological seminary now located at Oberursel be relocated. Presently it finds itself in a community where there is no established Free Church congregation and where an intimate acquaintance with congregational life is made very difficult for the students. The cost of traveling to Frankfurt to attend services, to say nothing of other congregational meetings, in one of the two Free Church congregations located in that city, is prohibitive for the majority of the students and very time consuming.

"The city of Frankfurt is also without a university with a theological department, thus making it difficult for the theological students at our seminary to supplement their studies with work at the theological school of a recognized university, although such work is regarded by our faculty at Oberursel as an important factor in the theological training of their students. This is a subject to which the Board for European Affairs, together with the officers of the Free Churches and the members of the faculty at Oberursel, should give immediate attention with a view toward an early removal of the school to Berlin (see par. E, point 3, below)."

COMMENT: Recommendation No. 3 has not been carried out, because of the fact that political uncertainty in Berlin is still of such a nature that it was thought unwise to make the shift there at the present time. It might be added that, in order to safeguard Synod's investment, the Board of Directors purchased the land on which our buildings at Oberursel stand for $12,000 and that this purchase was carried out by the Board of Directors and the land is now owned in the name of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

"That the preparatory school in Gross Oesingen be discontinued and the preparatory course be connected with the seminary, whereby the cost of maintenance and the salary of one teacher may be saved."

COMMENT: This recommendation has been carried out, and the preparatory department is now amalgamated with the seminary at Oberursel.

"5. That the congregations of the Free Churches, together with their pastors, be encouraged to unfold an aggressive missionary activity among the many neglected people who have turned their backs upon the Church and to grow in *'volksmissionarische'* activity;

"6. That the congregations be encouraged in an increasing manner to assume the financial responsibilities for their total program of work at the earliest possible date and to that end introduce an extended stewardship program and with it a thoroughgoing accounting system of contributions and expenditures;

"7. That pastors of the Free Churches be encouraged to stay in closest possible contact with pastors and theological professors of the *'Landeskirche'* with a view to strengthening orthodox Lutheranism in that Church;

"8. That at such or similar conferences they also frankly discuss the mission problem *'volksmissionarische Taetigkeit'* with a view to reaching an understanding that people who may nominally still belong to a *Landeskirche* but are not attending are rightfully to be considered mission material also for the Free Churches."

COMMENT: Recommendations No. 5, 6, 7, and 8 have not been carried out to any extent, due mainly to the fact that the Board has not had the personnel available to implement these recommendations. It would mean placing a man in Europe who would by consultation at the grass-roots level be able to carry out the work necessary in order to make the desired progress in aggressive missionary activity, in financial responsibility, in theological contact, and in a growth of mutual understanding in the field of missionary activity.

"D. East Zone Problems.

"The Free Churches operating in the East Zone find themselves behind the Iron Curtain and under the dominion of a Communistic form of government. The members and pastors of these churches suffer not only from physical want, but particularly also from the restrictions and restraints placed upon the work of the Church by the government. It is exceedingly difficult, if not quite impossible, for them to rebuild churches which were destroyed; to secure adequate meeting places; to provide properly for the religious instruction of the young; to serve the members

who became scattered through the fortunes of war; to produce Christian literature; and to keep their parishes supplied with soundly trained pastors, inasmuch as the government frowns upon the introduction of pastors who have received their theological training outside the East Zone. It is feared that the government may prohibit this altogether. It is difficult for us to gain an adequate understanding of the difficulties and dangers under which our brethren are carrying on their work.

"E. Recommendations for the East Zone.

"The Commission recommends:

"1. That our Synod continue to provide moneys for the relief of physical suffering on the part of pastors and members as circumstances permit."

COMMENT: Our Board has carried out recommendation No. 1 concerning the East Zone. It may be added that the need in the East Zone for physical relief continues.

"2. That assistance be made available through gifts or loans, whichever may be feasible, to aid in the reconstruction of modest places of worship."

COMMENT: The second recommendation concerning the East Zones has been carried out in connection with the establishment of a revolving Church Extension Fund, which was spoken of in Recommendation No. 1 of the West Zone.

"3. That consideration be given to the establishment of a theological school at Berlin by the removal of the seminary from Oberursel to Berlin (west sector). (The Commission recommends this strongly for the following reasons: This would place the theological high school within easy reach of a university with a theological faculty and library. The students would be able to participate in congregational life. Costs of maintenance would be decreased. Service to our brethren in the East Zone would be greatly facilitated.);

"4. That assistance be given through such channels as are available to provide hymnbooks and other Christian literature for the use of the Free Churches in the East Zone."

COMMENT: Recommendation No. 4 concerning the East Zone has been carried out to the extent that this has been feasible under the present difficult circumstances. It is a fact that no book published in the West German Zone of Germany can be sent into, or circulate in, the Eastern Zone. This has made the implementation of this recommendation almost impossible.

In the past triennium 70 per cent of the budget moneys administered by our Board have been spent in Germany for the maintenance of the theological school of our Lutheran Free Churches and the promotion of mission work among German refugees in both Eastern and Western Zones in Germany. Besides the moneys

expended through our Board larger sums were also spent by direct grant from the Board of Directors, so that it can be said that our Church spent $150,000 to $200,000 in Germany annually. In the opinion of our Board the amount of money our Synod spent in Germany in comparison with elsewhere in Europe should be reviewed and considered in the light of our other European mission opportunities.

VI. Denmark

"A. Present Status.

"The Lutheran Free Church of Denmark is about 100 years old. It began with strength, but declined from a peak of 2,000 souls to its present number of 128 souls and 91 communicant members, which are attached to five congregations in widely scattered areas. These congregations are being served by two brothers, the Pastors P. and W. Michael. A great deal of their time is spent in traveling to meet a few people here and a few people there. The conditions under which they labor are most difficult and disheartening.

"The Lutheran State Church of Denmark acts also as the government department of vital statistics. This means, for instance, that people must go to a pastor of the State Church in order to have their children's names entered upon government records at Baptism or to have marriages officially recorded. The result is that people are reluctant to join a church which cannot perform these official functions with governmental recognition. Experience has shown that people who are willing to come to occasional Bible Hour meetings or who are ready to form an educational society so that their children may be more thoroughly instructed in the Word of God are not ready to take the next step and become members of the Free Church.

"B. Recommendations.

"It is the considered opinion of the Survey Committee, supported also by brethren of the German Free Church who have had firsthand information as to church conditions in Denmark, that we cannot answer for continuing to support two men in a field that throughout decades of conscientious work on the part of faithful pastors has shown no prospect for growth and in which one man could well take care of the souls that earnestly desire the ministrations of the Free Church. We therefore recommend:

"1. That only one pastor be retained in Denmark and that the congregations in Denmark rally to the full financial support of this one pastor and his work."

COMMENT: The implementation of this first recommendation has been begun. The Board has succeeded in its efforts to obtain a call for the Rev. Paul Michael. He is being called into the German work of our Ontario District.

"2. That the two pastors in Denmark be called into more prom-

ising fields of work in Germany and that the Christians of Denmark affiliated with our churches and preaching places be asked to content themselves with occasional services by pastors from Germany, the expenses for which services the people themselves would be able to pay."

COMMENT: It has not been possible thus far to carry out completely this recommendation of the Survey Committee because of the difficulty in finding a call for the persons who are to be relieved of their duties in Denmark.

"3. That we request our Free Church brethren in Germany to make themselves responsible for this care;

"4. If, however, Pastors P. and W. Michael feel in conscience bound to remain with their parishes in Denmark, we would certainly wish them the blessing of God, but meanwhile we would also find it necessary to make their livelihood dependent upon such contributions as the Christians of their congregations would be willing to provide or upon such sources of income as they could independently devise."

COMMENT: Pastor Walter Michael has as yet not determined whether he will remain in Denmark or accept a call to another mission field. The Board has granted him time until the end of this present fiscal year in order to make such arrangements and in order to provide for the continuing service of the congregations in Denmark through the ministry of Pastor Oskar Hjort.

It may be well to point out to Synod that while the numerical growth of the Lutheran Free Church in Denmark is relatively small, there are indications in two of the four parishes of an increased percentual gain in membership. Thus for instance, the congregation in Haderslev in the past five years increased 14% annually in baptized membership and 9% annually in communicant membership, while the congregation in Copenhagen increased an average of 11% annually in baptized membership and 10% annually in communicant membership. These are by no means the slowest-growing congregations subsidized by our Board.

ACTION

Regarding Denmark, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 33

WHEREAS, At one time conditions in the Free Church of Denmark were quite flourishing; and

WHEREAS, In the course of years, through political conditions, many difficulties arose under which the work of the Free Church in Denmark was greatly retarded; and

WHEREAS, Even though during recent years conditions seemed to improve again, it is nevertheless felt by your Board for European Affairs that one consecrated pastor can well take care of this field; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recommend to the Board for European Affairs that they continue to do all within their power under existing circumstances to serve our brethren in Denmark as far as that is possible without violating the principles of wise stewardship of manpower and funds.

III. Finland

"A. Present Status and Problems.

"Our Synod has been interested in, and identified with, the work of the Free Church in Finland for about half a century. The Free Church began with seven pastors and 500 lay members who separated from a Gospel society of the State Church to establish the Lutheran Free Church of Finland. Their numbers dwindled, and at the present time the Lutheran Free Church of Finland is composed of three pastors, 344 souls, and 242 communicants. There are seven congregations and a total of 128 families scattered over 52 communities and 31 preaching places. Nominal membership of the Finnish people in the State Church and non-recognition of the Free Church on the part of the government make the work of our brethren also here extremely difficult.

"Our brethren in Finland courageously undertook the construction of a building in Lahti, which serves as a chapel, a meeting house, and a parsonage. This is really the only locale our brethren in Finland have which is representative of their work and which establishes them as a working group within their country. A debt of approximately $16,500, on which they must pay 10% interest, still rests on this structure. Our brethren had hoped so to multiply the value of the support moneys received from our Synod by engaging in certain legitimate business ventures as to be enabled to show a handsome profit wherewith to wipe out their building fund debt. A change in the laws of the country, however, interfered with this program, leaving them in the precarious situation of having a mortgage on their property which they know not how to pay. They addressed a petition to Synod, which by the convention in 1950 was given over to our committee for further investigation and a report to Synod's Board of Directors, which was authorized to act in this matter.

"The three pastors presently serving the Finnish Free Church are no longer young. The problem of finding successors who have had the proper theological training is, because of the language, very difficult of solution for us.

"B. Recommendations.

"The Commission recommends

"1. That our Synod should extend an interest-free loan to our brethren in Finland wherewith to pay the debt still resting upon

the property in Lahti; and that this loan then be amortized by an adequate reduction in subsidy spread over the next five years."

COMMENT: The first recommendation has been implemented by the grant of an interest-free loan of 3,462,707 Finnmark which was granted by the Board of Directors to the Ev. Lutheran Free Church of Finland for the liquidation of its bank loan on the property in Lahti. This loan is to be repaid in installments after a moratorium of five years on repayment has elapsed.

"2. That our brethren in Finland be informed that our Synod will cease its support by 1956. This will give them an opportunity so to arrange their affairs as to become self-supporting by that time."

COMMENT: Recommendation No. 2 has been implemented to the extent that the brethren in Finland have been informed of the recommendation of the European Survey Commission, in which the Board for European Affairs joins. It may be pointed out, however, that there is always the possibility of reconsidering this recommendation in the light of circumstances as they develop in the years 1955 and 1956.

"3. That in the meantime we bring the situation in Finland, with its attendant problems, to the attention of our brethren in the National Evangelical Lutheran Church in our country, who, being of Finnish background and conversant with the Finnish language, may become of real service to our brethren in that country."

COMMENT: Efforts have been made to carry out the third recommendation of the Survey Commission. However, the National Ev. Lutheran Church in our country has expressed a disinclination to assume the jurisdiction and the support of the work in Finland, mainly for lack of the necessary financial strength.

Finally, the Ev. Luth. Free Church in Finland has lost one of its three pastors by death. The Rev. Vaino I. Salonen died on January 3, 1953.

ACTION

Regarding Finland, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 34

WHEREAS, Over the years there has been a constant decrease in the membership of our Lutheran Free Church of Finland; and

WHEREAS, Nominal membership of the Finnish people in the State Church and non-recognition of the Free Church on the part of the government make the work of our brethren extremely difficult; and

WHEREAS, The three pastors presently serving the Finnish Free Church are no longer young and, because of the language, the problem of finding successors who have had the proper theological training is very difficult for us to solve; and

WHEREAS, Our brethren in the National Evangelical Lutheran

Church in our country are of Finnish background and conversant with the Finnish language; therefore be it

Resolved, That we bring the situation in Finland, with its attendant problems, to the attention of our brethren in the National Evangelical Lutheran Church in our country, and ask them to keep in touch with the Lutheran Free Church of Finland and to become of real service to our brethren in that country; and be it further

Resolved, That we support this work with our prayers and necessary financial aid.

VIII. Lutheran Council of Europe

"At the convention of Synod in the year 1950 the Board for European Affairs was authorized 'to create an advisory council or councils in Europe, composed of clergy and lay members of sister churches, whose duty it shall be to counsel with the Board for European Affairs in all matters given under its care.' The Board for European Affairs instructed the Commission to discuss this matter while meeting with the officials of the several Free Churches in Europe. This was done. It was thought that the Free Church of each country might elect one pastor and one layman as representatives to represent the respective Free Church on such a council and that this council, meeting once or twice a year at some central point, possibly in Germany, could discuss the needs of the Free Churches in the several countries and arrive at definite recommendations which could serve the Board for European Affairs as a guide in determining the amount of support and other needs to be supplied in any given country. Such a council would also serve to make the Free Churches of Europe all the more an indigenous Church.

"Although the idea was received quite favorably by some, it did not meet with a ready response on the part of many. We believe that this was due mostly to the unsettled political and economic conditions prevailing in Europe at this time. It would, therefore, be unwise to urge the establishment of such a council at this time. Your commissioners are of the opinion, however, that this plan has great merits and should, therefore, be taken up again after political and economic conditions of Europe have become more settled, at which time this plan might find more general support also in Europe. The Board for European Affairs is encouraged to keep this in mind."

COMMENT: The Board for European Affairs agrees with the above recommendation and feels that at the present time no change should be made.

ACTION

Regarding such a Lutheran Council of Europe, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 35

WHEREAS, Synod in 1950 authorized the Board for European Affairs "to create an advisory council or councils in Europe, composed of clergy and lay members of sister churches, whose duty it shall be to counsel with the Board for European Affairs in all matters given under its care"; and

WHEREAS, Such a council would serve to make the Free Churches of Europe all the more an indigenous Church; and

WHEREAS, The Board for European Affairs instructed the European Survey Commission to discuss this matter with the officials of the several Free Churches in Europe; and

WHEREAS, Unsettled political conditions make it unwise to establish such a council at this time; therefore be it

Resolved, That this plan be taken up again after political and economic conditions in Europe have become more settled (at which time this plan might find more general support); and be it further

Resolved, That the Board for European Affairs be encouraged to keep the above resolution in mind.

IX. Resident Representative

"The idea of placing a permanent resident representative of our Synod in Europe was recommended to the 1950 convention at Milwaukee. This matter was also discussed with our brethren in the European Free Churches, most particularly at the pastoral conferences and with the officers of the Free Churches in Germany. It became apparent at once that it would be very difficult to find an individual who would possess all of the qualifications necessary to serve in this capacity. He would be required to be a competent, well-trained, and Biblically sound theologian. He would also have to possess excellent administrative abilities and the know-how of practical church work. Further, he should be equally familiar with the Church in America and in Europe.

"His place of residence would also constitute a problem. If he lived in Germany, this would arouse prejudices on the part of the Church in the other European countries. If he lived in a neutral country, such as Switzerland, he would find it difficult to secure for himself and his family the spiritual ministrations required, since he would not be near a church of his own persuasion.

"In view of these difficulties and the further fact that the problems of the Church in European countries are constantly changing with the ongoing events of history, and since they are of a widely varying nature, sometimes being of a theological, sometimes of an administrative, sometimes of a financial nature, it might be wiser and less costly to continue functioning as we have in the past. When a problem of a certain nature arises, a representative of our Church, who is peculiarly qualified to handle that problem, can be sent. Even if we had a permanent resident representative in Europe, it would still be necessary to bring him back home at fairly frequent intervals so as to keep him in touch with the home Church. Otherwise he would almost inevitably become the spokesman for the European churches, and it would then still be necessary to send men from here to discover how a given situation would look to a representative of our Synod and what in the judgment of Synod ought to be done under the circumstances.

"We, therefore, recommend that no resident representative of our Synod be sent to Europe."

COMMENT: 1. Your Board is cognizant of the difficulties which the establishment of the office of resident commissioner in Europe will entail and, in general, is in agreement with the argumentation of the European Survey Commission.

2. However, this recommendation does not exclude the establishment of the office of executive secretary for the Board for European Affairs, which our Board considers necessary and essential for the effective prosecution of the work assigned to it by Synod.

X. Bad Boll

"It is the opinion of the Commission that the Bad Boll meetings have been richly blessed by God. Not a few of the men who attended these meetings as the guests of our Synod were grateful to God for the light and the inspiration which they gained from them.

"It is the opinion of the Commission that these meetings should be continued, but that with the improvement of the economic situation, particularly in western Germany, the persons who attend should begin to share in the costs, probably by paying for their own transportation while we continue to provide food and lodging.

XI. The Lutheran World Federation

"The Commission met with the late Dr. S. C. Michelfelder, then Executive Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, and two leading members of his staff. The Lutheran World Federation now embraces in its membership virtually all the Lutherans in the world except those affiliated with our Synod.

"The Lutheran World Federation engaged in organized relief work among refugees both in Europe and in Arab countries. With its offices at Geneva, Switzerland, it was able, with the assistance of Swiss government representatives, to act as trustees for church properties and institutions which came into jeopardy as a result of war or other processes of history in various parts of the globe.

"The Lutheran World Federation pursued the policy of carrying on its work through the established churches and of utilizing

existing administrative machinery for the re-establishment and rebuilding of such areas of the Church as had been most severely affected by war. The result has been that it has become recognized as a Church and charitable agency through which even secular organizations, such as the United Nations, have distributed relief to needy refugees, as, for instance, among the Arabs in the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan. They have also been able to lend a helping hand by way of providing churches and chapels where most needed. The Commission visited one such chapel in an area of Paris where a new housing project of vast proportions had just been completed and where there was no other church near by to minister to the spiritual needs of the thousands who had come to live in the new apartment buildings. The Commission also found such a chapel in the refugee center at Uelzen, where each day hundreds of people arrive who have fled from the East Zone into the West Zone of Germany to escape the tyranny of Communism.

"It is the opinion of your Commission that the Lutheran World Federation has been and is performing a most important task. The Commission would recommend that:

"1. The appropriate officers study the possibility of full, or at least advisory, membership in the Lutheran World Federation; and

"2. Explore avenues by which our Synod can ever more cooperate with the Lutheran World Federation in such matters as will involve no violation of our principles in doctrine or practice."

COMMENT: Since the two matters touched upon are outside the jurisdiction assigned to our Board by Synod, we do not feel competent to add our comment to these recommendations. Since the "Bad Boll Conferences" (and to a lesser degree the Lutheran World Federation) touch the work which our Board is doing in Europe, we hope that in the future the executive secretary be invited to attend these or similar conferences. If the honorable Synod specifically assigns one or the other of these matters to the Board for European Affairs, we shall certainly be guided in large measure by the policies which have been established by this commission.

XII. Conclusion

"Finally the Commission is unanimous in the view that the Free Churches of Europe should be asked to assume the responsibility for the evangelizing of the unchurched within their respective countries and that they should strive to become self-supporting at the earliest possible date. Meanwhile, however, our Synod should stand by and be prepared to give them moral encouragement, spiritual inspiration, and financial assistance, particularly in cases of acute need, especially since their respective economies are still suffering from the devastations of war and since the burdens of government taxes generally are a great deal heavier than they

our own more prosperous country, whose churches, homes, dustrial structures have, by the mercies of God, thus far d the destructions of war. Such help should be made availost particularly to our brethren who are behind the Iron n, as long as such help is still possible according to the laws country.

"H. HARMS, D. D.
"A. F. BOBZIN, *Secretary*
"O. A. GEISEMAN, S. T. D., *Chairman*"

Your Board is thankful for the guidance which it has received ough this report of the European Survey Commission and for establishment of principles and policies upon which all of our rk in Europe is to be established. We are of the opinion that work which the present personnel of our Board or our successs may do in Europe will ever be able to ignore these policies nd principles, and we would urge Synod to endorse this report its policies and principles as a proper guideline for the future rk in our Church.

BOARD FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
WALTER C. DAIB, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 36

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE FOR EUROPEAN MISSIONS

WHEREAS, Experience has shown that it is becoming increasingly difficult to guide and administer the affairs of our European missions; and

WHEREAS, The appointment of a field representative, whose duty it would be to work more closely and directly with these several mission fields in Europe, would alleviate many of the existing difficulties; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for European Affairs in conjunction with the Board of Directors of Synod appoint a field representative for Europe as soon as conditions warrant it, and for as long a time as is necessary.

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 40

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. F. C. STREUFERT AS SECRETARY OF MISSIONS

WHEREAS, The various mission reports presented to this Convention demonstrate that the Lord has so signally blessed the mission program of our Church; and

WHEREAS, Next to the blessing of Almighty God this growth

in our mission program is largely due to the aggressive and able leadership of Dr. F. C. Streufert, who is celebrating his 20th anniversary as Secretary of Missions and who also has served as Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions in North and South America as well as Executive Secretary of the Church Extension Board of Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express to God our deep gratitude for the service and leadership which He has given us through the service of Dr. Streufert; and be it further

Resolved, That we express to Dr. Streufert our sincere thanks for the time and service which he has so unselfishly given to our beloved Church.

Report of the Board for Missions to the Deaf

(Memorial 409)

Your Board for Missions to the Deaf has held monthly meetings during the past triennium. Many problems were solved, important decisions were made, advice and support was given to the men in their respective fields. God has been with our workers and has graciously protected them on all their missionary journeys. Thanks to God, we have not lost one man since Synod met in 1950, neither by death, nor by resignation, nor by being called out of our Mission. God has been very gracious to us. Quarterly and annual reports were submitted by each missionary. Progress is seen all along the line. Praise be to God for giving us faithful stewards of the mysteries of God.

Richly our Lord has blessed this work among the deaf and deaf-blind. The following figures will bear this out:

Year	Missionaries		Communicants	Baptized Adults	Confirmed	
	Full-time	Part-time			Children	Adults
1950	27	4	3,434	98	100	170
1951	29	4	3,549	72	121	177
1952	32	3	3,751	89	105	182

Contributions:

Year	Home Purposes	Outside Purposes	Totals
1950	$45,359	$ 6,485	$51,844
1951	46,516	8,110	54,626
1952	53,249	15,896	69,146

Praise God for Our Goodly Number of Workers

At the time of this writing we have, thanks to God, thirty-two full-time missionaries, including the Executive Secretary, three part-time workers, one of whom also works for and among the blind. At the present time we have two vacancies, and these must be filled as soon as possible. In His grace God always has granted us men for this work, and He will provide also for our present and future needs.

Praise God for Congregations and Preaching Stations

In our Mission there are 35 organized congregations, the three largest being the Detroit congregation with 43 voters and 179 communicants, the Oakland congregation with 16 voters and 133 communicants, and the Los Angeles congregation with 20 voting and 124 communicant members. All congregations are being subsidized excepting the Milwaukee congregation with 40 voters and 106 communicants. All congregations are urged to increase their salary pledges from year to year. Salary pledges have increased 74 per cent from 1949 to 1952. Aside from these congregations there are 235 preaching stations. The collections of these stations have increased by 277 per cent from 1949 to 1952 according to our treasurer's report. These offerings are divided thus: 75 per cent for traveling expenses and salaries and 25 per cent for the District and Synod budgets. In these congregations and preaching stations our men minister also to eighty-two deaf-blind. The statistical report given above shows the increase in the number of communicants and also the number of adult baptisms and confirmations. Indeed, God has abundantly blessed the preaching of His Word also among the deaf. Many are brought to Christ. We thank Him for these blessings!

Praise God for Our Work in Schools for Deaf

In the United States there are 277 schools for the deaf with an attendance of nearly 21,000 deaf boys and girls. Among these schools are ten Catholic and two Lutheran schools, one in Detroit and the other in Mill Neck, Long Island, N. Y. By the way, these are the only Protestant schools for deaf in the United States. In 28 State schools and 17 public day schools and in two schools for mentally retarded deaf children our men conduct religious classes with a total enrollment of 1,730. In eleven State schools for white children our workers address the assemblies, reaching about 2,300 deaf, and in eight schools for colored about 870 are spoken to. Thus the precious seed of the Gospel is sown into the hearts of many deaf boys and girls.

Praise God for New Workers and Expansion

Again many changes have taken place during the past triennium. Pastor R. W. Mackensen, Missoula, Mont., was installed in Delavan, Wis., in 1950; Candidate Donald Simon, St. Louis, was installed in Columbus, Ohio, and Candidate Victor Mesenbring, St. Louis, in Des Moines, Iowa. In 1951 Candidate Delbert Thies, Springfield, was ordained and installed in Memphis. In 1952 Candidate Wm. F. Reinking, St. Louis, was placed in charge of the St. Louis field; in the same year Pastor E. Rische of South Dakota was called to, and installed in, the newly created Chicago field, especially for the work among the colored; Candidate Laurence

Stacy, Springfield, was called into the Pittsburgh field. Vicar Lee Lennon, Springfield, was placed into New Orleans, later into Jackson, Miss., and served two years; Vicar L. Stacy worked one year in the Memphis field, and Vicar Donald Sallach, St. Louis, ministered to the deaf in the Jackson, Miss., field 1952—1953.

In 1950 the Milwaukee field was divided, the Milwaukee congregation being self-sustaining; Pastor R. W. Mackensen took over the other stations of the field. The Omaha field was divided in the same year, Pastor E. C. Mappes retaining the west part of the field and Candidate Mesenbring taking over the eastern part. Next the Chicago field was divided, Pastor E. Scheibert thus being enabled to do more intensive work in Chicago, while still serving three smaller stations; Pastor E. Rische took over the remaining stations, especially the work among the Chicago colored. In 1952 the Pittsburgh field was divided, Pastor H. Rohe moving to Rochester, N. Y., and Candidate L. Stacy serving in the Pittsburgh area. Also in 1952 Pastor F. G. Gyle, St. Louis, was transferred to Florida, a new field, and Candidate W. Reinking was placed into the St. Louis territory. In the same year Pastor R. F. Cordes, St. Paul, was called into the Sioux Falls, S. Dak., field; Pastor F. Possehl then was moved from the Newark area to St. Paul, and thereupon Pastor C. R. Gerhold of the Boston area accepted the call into the Newark field. This current year the Oakland field has been divided, Pastor Geo. Gaertner remaining in the Oakland area, and Pastor Theo. De Laney of the Texas-Oklahoma territory will move into the San Francisco area July 1.

At the present time three fields are to be supplied: the Boston field, vacant since August, 1952, the Texas-Oklahoma field, to be vacant in July, and the Jackson, Miss., field, which will be vacant when Vicar Sallach returns to the seminary. Calls have been extended repeatedly, but so far always have been returned. We must heed the words of our Savior: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." Matthew 9:38.

Here we may mention that Pastor N. P. Uhlig conducts sign classes at the Springfield Seminary, and Pastor Reinking in the St. Louis Seminary. During the past triennium a number of candidates who studied the sign language in these classes were assigned to us. With the help of God we are planning to go forward. According to our five-year plan we intend to place additional men into the Kansas City, the New York, the Los Angeles, the Washington, D. C., and the Newark fields, and into Canada. Thus, by God's grace, we hope to have about forty full-time workers by 1956.

Praise God for Conferences and Regional Meetings

The Ephphatha Conference did not meet in 1950; it convened in Minneapolis in 1951 and in Detroit in 1952. A number of regional conferences were held. The Dixie Conference met several times,

build also the Northwest, the Northeast, and the Great Lakes Conference.

In the Ephphatha Conference all our missionaries meet, and also the members of the Board attend. This conference is of great help and benefit to the workers in this specialized field. In the regional conferences also the laymen take part. Deaf men usually deliver papers. Some of the topics were: "The Christian and His Home," "The Christian and His Church," "The Christian in the World."

Praise God for New Chapels and Parsonages

In 1950 Trinity Church, Memphis, the Rev. V. Brugge, pastor, built a new parish house and in it set aside a room to serve as a chapel for the deaf furnished with altar and lectern. Grace Church, Fargo, the Rev. A. H. Grumm, D. D., pastor, also has given a room to the deaf Fargo congregation which is being furnished by the deaf themselves. St. Peter Church, Devils Lake, N. Dak., the Rev. L. Dierks, pastor, in its new church has included a small chapel to be used by the deaf of that city, especially by the children of the State School. May Synod remember to ask God's richest blessings upon these congregations for their thoughtfulness toward the deaf. Three thousand dollars have been assigned from the "Conquest for Christ" collection for furnishing the Devils Lake chapel. Other allocations from CFC are: $3,000 for the rehabilitation of the St. Paul chapel, $20,000 each for St. Louis, Rochester, and Delavan, Wis., chapel-parsonages, and a $16,000 loan grant for the New York congregation. In Indianapolis a dwelling was purchased in which the deaf worship on the first floor and the pastor's living quarters are on the second floor; the same was done in Columbus. This could be done by securing loans from the General Church Extension Fund.

Praise God for Our Consecrated and Faithful Executive Secretary

In 1950 our Executive Secretary, the Rev. John Salvner, D. D., spent several days with Pastor H. E. Bollow of Pascagoula, Miss., who formerly served in our Mission and then took care of the field as vacancy pastor. With him he visited the two schools of Louisiana at Baton Rouge, one for white and the other for colored, also the two schools in Jackson, Miss. Many of the superintendents think highly of our work and have only words of praise and appreciation for our Mission. The same year he spent seven weeks with Pastor R. W. Mackensen in Delavan, Wis., training him for the work and then installing him. After attending the Northwest Regional Conference he visited all stations of the Spokane field.

In January, 1951, he went to Florida, stopping off in St. Louis and visiting the sign classes at Concordia Seminary and speaking

words of encouragement to them. After spending a few days with Vicar Lennon in Jackson, Miss., and also with Vicar Stacy in Memphis he journeyed on to Florida. Formerly a Methodist missionary to the deaf served all Florida cities. Upon his death his Church could find no one to take his place. Then a former Methodist worker among the deaf wrote the following to one of our men: "If the Lutheran Church has an able, consecrated man who can fill the bill, let him come in rather than to see the field deteriorate and the devil take the field." Services were held in St. Augustine in the two schools, with the adult deaf of the city, in Tampa, and St. Petersburg. These deaf rejoiced over the fact that they again had services. In the fall of the same year Dr. Salvner made a second trip to Florida. However, he first attended the dedication of our second Lutheran School for the Deaf in Mill Neck, Long Island, N. Y., visited the Newark, the Boston, the Washington, D. C., and the New York fields. Then he went on to Florida, where two services were held in the St. Augustine schools and also with the adult deaf of the city; twice he preached also in Tampa, Miami, and St. Petersburg, and once in Jacksonville and Gainesville. He put in five weeks of intensive work. In February, 1952, Pastor F. Gyle of St. Louis took over the entire field in Florida and has also started the work in South Carolina and Georgia. Our Executive Secretary also trained Pastor E. W. Rische for Chicago and Candidate V. H. Mesenbring for Des Moines.

In August, 1951, the Ephphatha Conference met in Minneapolis to celebrate the golden anniversary of our Executive Secretary with praise and thanksgiving to God in a special service which was attended by many deaf and hearing friends. By the grace of God he is rounding out 52 years in the work of bringing Christ and His salvation to our deaf fellow men.

In 1951 he attended the convention of American Instructors of the Deaf in Fulton, Mo., and there met many of the superintendents and teachers of the deaf. In 1952 he went to the Northeast Regional Conference and preached at the 30th anniversary of the Pittsburgh congregation. The same year he preached also at the dedication of the Indianapolis chapel-parsonage. In the early part of this year he visited the Pacific Coast field: Los Angeles, Oakland, Portland, Seattle, and Spokane, preaching, as he always does, in the congregations and all of the preaching stations. At the Great Lakes Regional Conference he made several addresses and preached the sermon on Sunday. In Fargo a reunion service, an annual affair, was held for the benefit of deaf who live great distances away and seldom have an opportunity to attend a service and Holy Communion. He preached the sermon and addressed them at a gathering after the service.

Thanks be to God that He has been with our Executive Secretary, protected him in all his travels, given him health and strength to continue in the work, and richly blessed him in all his endeavors. May God be with him also in the future!

Praise God for Opening Doors in Foreign Lands

Our attention has been directed to Japan. The 1951 Government Report on Deafness lists 41,251 totally deaf and 28,585 hard-of-hearing. Other reports speak of larger numbers. From a letter of a teacher of the deaf in Japan sent to Mr. Luebke, headmaster of our Lutheran School in Long Island, we glean the following: "There are 83 schools for the deaf in Japan which have an enrollment of 13,392. Eight churches for the deaf are listed, seemingly not connected with any church organization: one Christian Church for the Deaf, three Christian Meetings of the Deaf-Mutes, one Christian Brethren Meeting of the Deaf-Mutes, one Keiyu-kai of the Deaf, one Prayer Friends Meeting of the Deaf-Mutes, and one Brethren Meeting of the Deaf-Mutes. From this letter we quote directly: "It will be wonderful if the Missouri Synod could send us a pastor or two to work directly for deaf people all around the country. I myself am appealing to the authorities of the Seminaries to encourage their prospective pastors to think about deaf people who are in desperate need of the Gospel in every part of the country, but so far I have not yet succeeded in getting their interest." This material has been handed over to Dr. O. H. Schmidt, Executive Secretary of our Foreign Mission Board.

God is opening the door unto us also in India. Missionary Arnold Lutz, who ministered to deaf in the States for two years before going to India, has met with teachers of a school for deaf and several deaf, one of whom he knew from his childhood days. In the 1953 March number of the *Deaf Lutheran* he makes this statement: "I am wondering what I can do to teach the first deaf person that I have ever known. May God also bring her to the knowledge of salvation!" God is evidently calling us to bring Christ Crucified also to the deaf in foreign countries. May God speed the day!

In view of the many rich blessings of the past and the opening of many doors at home and abroad God manifestly would encourage us to work among the deaf "while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work."

Soli Deo Gloria

BOARD OF MISSIONS TO THE DEAF
PASTOR WM. BUEGE, *Chairman*
PASTOR ERNEST DREWS, *Secretary*
MR. G. F. KRUSE, *Treasurer*
PASTOR O. H. LOTTES
MR. J. P. MILLER

ACTION

Concerning this mission, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 28

WHEREAS, The Spirit of God has abundantly blessed the labors of our brethren who are serving the deaf in our country; therefore be it

Resolved, That we thank our Lord for His unbounded blessings upon our prayers and labors in behalf of the deaf; and furthermore be it

Resolved, To express our appreciation to the Board for Missions to the Deaf for the splendid leadership they are giving to this program.

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 29

ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO DEAF GROUPS

WHEREAS, Throughout our country many congregations and organizations of our Church are assisting our missionaries to the deaf in their work; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recognize with gratitude those congregations which offer the use of their facilities to our deaf groups; be it further

Resolved, To express our gratitude to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and all other groups, both national and District, which have helped to further the work of our missions to the deaf through generous contributions.

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 30

INITIATING DEAF MISSION WORK IN FOREIGN LANDS

WHEREAS, Contacts with deaf people have been established in India, South America, Japan, and Colombia; therefore be it

Resolved, That we urge the Board for Missions to the Deaf to continue exploring and developing to the maximum degree the possibilities for entering upon work in promising foreign fields in consultation with the mission boards concerned and with the Board of Directors.

Report of Board for Missions to the Blind

(Memorial 410)

During the past triennium your Board for Missions to the Blind has tried to enlarge the scope of its activities by learning to know the field as it is being developed by various State and national institutions serving the blind. Accordingly, our Executive

Secretary, the Rev. Walter H. Storm, has attended several meetings of the superintendents of State schools and workers among the blind to observe their approach to blind people. Of especial interest was the meeting of Braille transcribers recently held in Washington, D. C., giving us a far better understanding of the manner in which this work should be done, with more consideration being given to the Braille readers than to the volunteer workers who desire to give their time for this noble purpose. The experiences gained through these conferences should mean much in making a greater impact upon those in need of the Word and who have not been served by our Church to date.

Shortly after the last convention the 25th anniversary of our work among the blind was observed in a large number of the congregations of our Synod. For this observance a historical pamphlet was prepared, and over 50,000 Braille alphabet cards were distributed to those requesting the same. Results were most gratifying through the response of many individuals, unsolicited contributions, and requests for services to the blind.

After the anniversary the German Braille *Bote* was again put into publication. The first issue was published in some 300 copies and was sent out from Marburg, Germany, prior to Christmas, 1950. It is a quarterly publication and as coeditor with Pastor O. C. Schroeder of Chicago we have Pastor Heinrich Huebner of our Lutheran Church in Frankfurt, Germany, who has been showing a deep interest in this work. Since the first issue appeared, the subscription of the *Bote* has grown to 472, with a slight increase being reflected each month.

Early in 1951 the old hymnal in Braille was supplanted with a new edition consisting, to begin with, of 100 of the most-sung hymns of our Church. It is prepared in a loose-leaf edition so that the blind can either take the individual sheets with them to church, affording them the opportunity to sing with the congregation, or making it possible for a larger edition later as demands may be made.

In January of 1952 the Library for the Blind was moved from Chicago to the Lutheran Building in St. Louis. At that time the Board engaged Mrs. M. Bruenig to work in the Library on a part-time basis. After eight months the volume of work so increased that she was employed full time. The Board is happy to report that Mrs. Bruenig has learned to read Braille and is able to operate the Braille typewriter, and so has increased her value to the work tremendously. During the last year the number of blind readers who regularly use the services of the Library has more than tripled, from 40 to over 178. As a result the Library has added more books.

Concurrent with the moving of the Library to St. Louis we also transferred the publishing of our *Messenger* (monthly publication) to the American Printing House of Louisville, effecting a substantial saving in the publication cost. While the subscription to the *Messenger* and the *Herald* has remained rather stable, it does reflect a considerable change in the number of readers. For example, in 1952, with a subscription list of 1,248 readers, we added 132 and removed 75. The *Herald,* published in Moon type, now has 520 readers, compared with 510 in 1949. In spite of the fact that Moon is read less, we have enjoyed this slight increase in the number of readers.

One complication has arisen in both our transcription work and also in the publication of books, namely, that State schools are now teaching children to read Grade 2 (a more advanced) Braille instead of Grade 1½ (which contains fewer abbreviations). Since 90 per cent of our books are transcribed in Grade 1½, we shall soon have to increase substantially the number of Grade 2 books to prepare for this new demand.

While in 1950 we had but one Talking Book we have slowly been increasing the number of these books available to the blind through our Library. A set of four of Dr. Maier's sermons, entitled *Living for Christ,* has been placed in Talking Records, as well as Beiderwieden's *Heaven,* Gockel's *This Is the Life,* and Kramer's *Happiness Can Be Yours.* We have also acquired several sets of the entire Scriptures on Talking Records for our Library to make the Scriptures available to our readers in Talking Book form. We are entering this field of service to the blind rather slowly to see what demands will be made, and also because the production of Talking Records is a rather costly process.

Teen Time is our Church's new magazine in Braille for children of the ages of 13 to 19, to bring the light of the Gospel to the growing generation of the blind. This mission endeavor reaches toward 6,500 children in State schools all over the country, with approximately 3,000 children within the age group of *Teen Time's* aim. As editor the Board has temporarily engaged the services of Pastor Harold Storm, son of our Executive Secretary, and assistant to his father, a graduate in journalism, who has been giving freely of his time through the generous interest of Concordia Church, Cleveland, to visit the various State schools to learn to know better the problems of blind children and then to edit this magazine in line with their interests.

With this magazine we are working under several handicaps. First, we are writing for children who, except for blindness, are completely normal with all the desires of normal children intensified. As in other children's magazines, we find it necessary to cater to these desires.

Secondly, the children who read *Teen Time* are members of all denominations or of no church, Lutheran children of our Missouri Synod constituting a very small percentage.

Accordingly, to make this magazine appealing to children and to overcome these handicaps, *Teen Time* adds to its religious articles, stories of general interest to the blind children. The magazine reports the intramural sporting events of the blind, fiction stories, and stories about the various State schools, highlighting a different school each month. Thus *Teen Time* is attempting to be all things to all children that it might gain some for the Savior.

The Board is happy to report that this method has met with outstanding success. *Teen Time* is becoming well known and well received by the students and the superintendents of the schools. As a result, its subscriptions, in three months, have grown from 234 to 450, even though the magazine is being sent only to those children who ask for it. This is better than 10 per cent of all the children of that age group. Three State schools have also introduced *Teen Time* into their regular classroom instruction.

Another phase of this work should include the sight-saving children, children who are not totally blind, but whose vision is definitely impaired. The number of these children is almost ten times that of blind children. In Ohio alone there are 1,033 sight-saving children in 35 schools. These children require printed material of eighteen- and 24-point type in order to read. This type of printing is very costly, but as an experiment *Teen Time* is also being published in this large type, the only magazine religious or secular which has entered the field.

In the near future the Board must consider re-editing the Concordia Sunday school material in Braille, and later on in large type for the blind children to participate in regular Sunday school classwork. Also the Catechism and Prayer Book shall be re-edited and reprinted.

During the course of the past triennium a number of requests have come to the Board to establish a Home for the Blind, especially for aged blind in our Church. As a result a survey was made of all our Homes for the Aged to inquire whether they would receive blind and integrate them with the residents of the homes — since such procedure is generally encouraged rather than to isolate the blind in specific homes. The response of all our Lutheran Homes for the Aged, except one, indicated a definite willingness to accept the blind, and, accordingly, the Board has felt it inadvisable to consider this thought further for the present.

In conclusion we wish to acknowledge the splendid work done again during the past three years by our volunteer workers, who have given freely of their time for the transcribing of books for our Library and other Braille literature. Especially commendable

has been the effort of the Lutheran Braille workers of California, who have done much work in transcribing portions of the Scriptures in German Braille and the various Lutheran Hour Bible Study Courses. While this group of workers has worked independently of the Board since its inception as an organization, the Board has tried to effect a co-ordination for more efficient service of our Church to the blind the world over, and we are happy to report that at the time of this writing a co-ordinated plan is being made which we are confident will prove a real blessing to the visually handicapped and to our Church.

VICTOR M. SELLE, *Chairman*
GEORGE BRUEGGEMANN, *Secretary*
WALTER STORM, *Executive Secretary*

ACTION

As to **Literature for the Blind,** Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 25

WHEREAS, Our publications for the blind: *The Messenger for the Blind,* the German *Bote* in Braille, *The Lutheran Herald for the Blind* in Moon type, have again brought the saving truth to the visually handicapped in many countries; and

WHEREAS, The efforts of the Board for Missions to the Blind to reach the blind in the numerous State schools have been signally blessed; and

WHEREAS, *Teen Time,* a magazine for the youth up to 18 years, has met with favor everywhere, particularly also the *Teen Time* issue presented in ink print, in 18- or 24-point type, for children whose vision is impaired (this being the only magazine of its kind in the religious and secular fields); and

WHEREAS, Talking Books, offering sermons by Dr. W. A. Maier — also such writings as *Heaven* by the Rev. G. Beiderwieden, *What Jesus Means to Me* and *This Is the Life* by the Rev. H. W. Gockel, and *Happiness Can Be Yours* by Mr. Wm. A. Kramer, have entered the homes of many blind; and

WHEREAS, Books from our Library for the Blind are increasing in demand; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Missions to the Blind be commended for its zeal in looking after the spiritual needs of the blind; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board be encouraged to continue the publication of Christian literature, books, and magazines in Braille, Moon type, large-type ink print, and Talking Books.

As to **Conferences for Contact Pastors,** Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 26

WHEREAS, A number of Districts have appointed contact pastors to serve the interests of a deeper understanding of our people who are visually handicapped, and of integrating them into congregational life; and

WHEREAS, Most of these pastors are serving in areas where State schools for the blind are found; and

WHEREAS, The only way to effect a closely co-ordinated program and effective service to these blind is to have regular meetings of these contact pastors with the board; therefore be it

Resolved, That we endorse the regular meeting of these contact pastors with the Board for Missions to the Blind and encourage our Board of Directors to support such meetings.

As to **Volunteer Braille Transcribers,** Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 27

WHEREAS, Volunteer Braille transcribers have given unstintingly of their time to bring blind children to Christ, their Savior, transcribing Sunday school lessons, and to lead adults to a deeper understanding of the sacred truths by transcribing Bible courses and other Christian literature; and

WHEREAS, Closest co-ordination and consolidation of effort would mean greater efficiency and even greater services to the visually handicapped; be it therefore

Resolved, That we encourage any of our members interested in work among the blind to unify and consolidate their individual efforts under the guidance and the direction of the Board for Missions to the Blind for greater service and efficiency; and be it further

Resolved, That solicitation of funds in behalf of the services of our Church to the blind be made in consultation with, and with the approval of, the Board for Missions to the Blind.

Report of the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries

(Memorial 411)

As we survey the past triennium of our Foreign Mission enterprise, we note that in many aspects and areas it has the characteristics of the second phase of a Foreign Mission endeavor. No new countries were entered, unless one speaks of Formosa as such. The first surge of mission expansion had carried us into the Philippines, Japan, New Guinea, and Hong Kong. Now came that second and not so spectacular phase of digging in, of consolidating our posi-

tions, of building up regular church life and church activity, of patient instruction, of edifying the elements already gained, of organization and taking on the appearance and pattern of a living Church. This phase of the work is apt to be not so spectacular as the first advance and is characterized by a great deal of plain hard work, patient and persistent work, often somewhat discouraging, yet attended with many blessings and, in the aggregate, signalized by substantial gains.

In the past triennium the numbers of our missionaries grew from 62 American pastors, 2 male teachers, 2 male lay workers, and 10 women workers as of January 1, 1950, to 79 pastors, 5 male teachers, 5 male lay workers, and fifteen women workers as of January 1, 1953. The number of souls rose from 22,970 to 27,827, and that of communicant members from 7,389 to 9,396. It is to be noted that where our work was still new in many places, you could not expect the number of communicant members to be very large at this stage of the work. Notable advances were made toward indigenization with the organization of the Ambur Synod in India, and the Nagercoil area is near that point at this writing. In the Philippines a mission council was formed by which the native members themselves carry on mission work in the mountain province above Baguio. In many other places the native members effected better organization and assumed more responsibility. A good beginning for that was also made in a recent meeting of representatives of our Tokyo and Yokohama churches in Japan. This is reflected also in the increased contributions on the field.

For the first time in our mission history a violent death took one of our workers, when in April, 1952, Miss Betty Rose Wulf, who had proved herself a devoted and successful worker in the short time she was in India, lost her life in a plane crash at Delhi, India. After a blessed career of more than twenty years as a missionary in India, illness of a critical nature forced Missionary Daniel Chuvala to return to this country, where he passed away on February 20, 1953. Other cases of illness also caused dislocations in our work. On July 10, 1952, the Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Thode reached Hong Kong from Hankow, the last of our Synod's American missionaries to come out from behind the Bamboo Curtain of present-day China. When Missionary Thode reported in person to the Board of Foreign Missions, he stated their conviction that they were literally prayed out of China. He told of the faithful and courageous effort of many of our Chinese Christians to carry on and expressed the firm conviction that Communism would not be able to crush Christianity in China. Decidedly, our work in China was not in vain.

India

Speaking a bit more in detail of the various countries in which mission work is carried on under the guidance of this Board, we may say that in India there was a steady forward march, unaffected by the various political and economic happenings, at least not in a serious way. Our missionaries repeatedly state their conviction that this is a time of opportunity for Christian work in India and also a time when such work is urgently needed. While figures do not tell the whole story, they do indicate a good bit of the story. We therefore thank God that the number of souls and communicants grew from 20,765, respectively 7,211 in 1950, to 23,642, respectively 8,589 as of January 1, 1953. A very significant growth is that of the number of native pastors, from 35 on January 1, 1950, to 77 on January 1, 1953. Together with a conscious effort at intensification and expansion in or near all our present fields, it was also possible to extend our work into new fields, such as Papanasam near Vallioor, and the Valuvanad field near the Wynaad, and reaching out also toward Bombay. Medical mission work has seen a decided advance with the coming of Dr. Bulle and nurses Gronbach and Rasch to Ambur, and a large building program under way there, made possible by a grant of $70,000 by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. In addition to the persons just named, the following new workers just came into India: Andrew Fritze (Ceylon), George Luecke, and Miss Adeline Rink. On the other hand, the Lord took out of busy mission activity Miss Betty Rose Wulf and Missionary Daniel Chuvala, while Missionaries R. H. Brauer, A. J. Buehner, William Landgraf, George Schroeder, and B. Strasen resigned from mission service.

China — Hong Kong

For China the last triennium was a time of most severe trial as far as our mission work was concerned. The three missionaries who were still in China when last we reported to Synod have been able to leave that country. One of these is planning to return to the work among the Chinese in Formosa and another to the work in Hong Kong. In most of the stations where we had work, there is still some church work going on, by native workers and members, though they face great difficulties. A truly amazing mission development took place in Hong Kong. From scratch three years ago, we now have 691 members there, with active work at twelve stations and about thirty different places, with one missionary and four women workers and about fifteen full-time Chinese workers, four of them regular evangelists. One of these, Paul Chang, has been ordained and is now to serve in the True Light Mission in New York. The work is carried on among regular residents of

Hong Kong and Kowloon, and then also among the refugees who have swarmed into Hong Kong literally by the hundreds of thousands, and many of these are in very destitute circumstances. In addition to the regular work of the mission, of preaching, teaching, preparing people for Baptism and Communion, there are some special features in the work at Hong Kong, namely, a determined effort at Bible training, by which people should be enabled to give very effective witness for Christ. Perhaps 200 different people, to a large extent men of rather good former training or position, have been given four to five months of training, five days a week, and some for several such terms of intensive Bible study, combined with active field work. They are to witness for Christ now already in their own areas of Hong Kong and Kowloon, but we are thinking particularly of the time when such people might be transferred either to other countries, such as Formosa and Malaya, or when they can get back into the interior of China again, as most of them hope to do. In Hong Kong there is also very effective radio work, and much effort has to go into the providing of literature. By the very nature of things, relief measures must also be undertaken, and this will also make demands upon the time of the staff although they were able to enlist some well-trained Chinese personnel for this work.

Missionary H. A. Hinz returned to Hong Kong in 1950, when Missionary Holt's health broke down and he had to return to this country. The Board is keenly conscious of the fact that we are understaffed in that area, but every effort to secure additional help has been in vain thus far, with the exception of adding Miss Ruth Proft to the staff in 1952 and have Mr. Arlo Nau, a seminary student, help out in Hong Kong for 4½ months in 1953. The Board hopes, however, to return two experienced missionaries to the Hong Kong area during the course of this year.

Formosa

Partly as a result of our work in Hong Kong, we then also felt constrained to begin work on Formosa, where members gained in Hong Kong and moving to Formosa formed nuclei for work in Taipeh and Chia-I. Miss Olive Gruen began work in Formosa in the fall of 1951, and the Rev. Roy Suelflow came there in May, 1952. The Board hopes to add two experienced missionaries to the Formosa staff this summer.

Philippines

As to the Philippines, we are grateful to God to be able to report steady progress. The last three years have seen a growth of almost 300 souls and 80 communicants. This is very commendable, considering the newness of our effort. In Manila we are established in four strategically well-located places. Some 120 miles north is the nicely developing Binalonan field. Another 90 miles farther north is the Candon area, which has shown very fine development, for instance, an increase of four times the attendance in Sunday services. In Baguio and north from there into the mountains a splendid new mission development has taken place among the Igorots, where the Rev. Simon Bilagot, who was ordained after three years of intensified instruction by our missionaries, has been a great help, since he knows the local dialect. In Mindanao we were able to establish anchor points in Cagayan and Davao. Manpower shortage has troubled us in the Philippines, with Missionaries Buntrock, Buuck, and Wilenius leaving that field for health reasons and only one new man secured for that field in the last three years, the Rev. J. G. Scholz.

In the Philippines a very determined effort is being made to have this mission develop as an indigenous project just as much as possible, and good progress has accompanied these efforts. Nevertheless, there are certain needs which call for grants from the home church: chapels, missionary houses, jeeps, or cars, mechanical aids, help for literature, etc. Ministerial training must also be developed in that country, as indeed a modest beginning has been made.

Japan

In respect to Japan, what we said at the beginning of this report applies in a very special sense, namely, that we are now in the second, not quite so spectacular stage of digging in, of consolidating our gains, of intensifying our work on the local level, of training the members for personal mission work. In our report three years ago we said: "Thus far we have no chapels of our own." Today there is quite an array of chapels, together with a goodly number of homes for missionaries, and with our splendid center in Tokyo, which is really proving to be a center in many ways, and also a center for youth work in Sapporo on the upper island of Hokkaido. We thank God that so early in our work in Japan we are really a "going concern," a well-established church body, strategically well placed, and with plans maturing and consistently carried out for progressive work in the northern part of that country. Since our last report to Synod, when we had twelve stations and could speak of but 193 souls and 114 communicants, very good for the short time we were there, we can now report 568 souls and 459 communicants. In our services, classes, and Sunday schools, instruction for Baptism, etc., we reach many thousands of people. This is true also of the broadcast of the Lutheran Hour. We may rest assured that the Word will not return void.

Our work was aided appreciably by a grant of $35,000 from

the L. W. M. L. for the center in Tokyo, and $5,000 by the Gamma Delta Society for the furnishings of the same, as well as by a grant of $20,000 on the part of the Walther League toward a youth center in Sapporo. Since our last report to Synod the following workers were added to our roster in Japan: Hugh Auw, E. J. Bergt, Ralph Bringewatt, Albert Carow, Delmar Glock, Richard Hintz, Robert Jastram, Paul Pallmeyer, Milton Popp, O. H. Theiss, Max Zschiegner; Teachers Robert Epp and Robert Neujahr; Business Manager E. H. Tewes; while Missionary Suelflow was transferred to Formosa. With the rapid development of the work and the urgency of capitalizing on opportunities at once, the Board sent ten vicars to Japan for two years, who could immediately attack the work through interpreters while the missionaries under whose guidance they were working could devote themselves more specifically to language study. These ten vicars were a very decided help.

Together with the regular work through preaching, through Bible classes and Sunday schools, through personal evangelism, there is the great development of the missions through the Lutheran Hour broadcast and the resulting correspondence Bible courses and mission follow-up calls. Three or four kindergartens are in operation. A first attempt at a regular Christian day school is getting under way at Urawa, while at Hanno we have a high school. The theological training program is also under way. First it was a Bible institute, but from April of this year forward it is a regular theological school for training native pastors on a high academic standard. Youth work, the production of literature, and the care of U. S. military and civilian personnel also is part of the work. For the latter, splendid aid has come in the person of a service center pastor in Tokyo. For Japan many needs continue, and we shall want to support this work generously also in the future, expecting that before so very long the emergence of an indigenous Church will signalize our mission efforts in Japan and that Christian influence and missionary work may go out from Japan to other nations in the Far East.

New Guinea

For New Guinea we are glad to report splendid progress, as manifested under God's blessing. From 4,000 to 5,000 people are reached every week with the Word of God; mission stations are established at four main stations and 27 outposts; some 60 boys and young men are in schools in which they are being trained to bring the Word of God to others; much effort has gone into developing an alphabet and material by which reading can be taught; more permanent buildings are being constructed; a hospital is being set up; a small experimental hydroelectric plant has been put into operation. But much more needs to be done. We need to expand our work by reaching farther out into areas that have not yet been

touched, by intensifying the work where we are, by training native workers to take on leadership positions, and to help spread the Word. Since our last report to Synod, the Rev. Karl Stötik and Erwin Spruth have been added to our staff, Teacher George Hinlicky, Mr. Loren Wessel, Dr. Eric Hoopmann, and Miss Wanda Fricke, R. N., have been added; while Missionary A. P. H. Freund has returned to work under the Australian Board of Foreign Missions in another area in New Guinea. More manpower is needed. The Board has in mind to send a business manager out to New Guinea, since the absence of currency and the need to run everything on a community and barter basis makes for an endless amount of business transactions. At least one more nurse needs to be sent out quite soon. A jeep station wagon was donated by the Minnesota L. W. M. L., and the North Wisconsin L. W. M. L. made a very generous grant toward the furnishing of a hospital in New Guinea. Perhaps we shall also need to have a plane by and by.

Mission Work Among the Mohammedans

Speaking of Mohammedan mission work, you will recall that less than three years ago a new start was made with this work through Missionaries Gall and Otten, in the Malabar area on the west side of Southern India. After some time the Rev. Gall returned to this country. About two years ago the Rev. H. Nau returned to India, where he had served as a missionary some thirty-five to forty years earlier, this time to take up Mohammedan mission work in Vaniyambadi. He was joined there early this year by candidate Ernest Hahn. During this summer the other part of the Mohammedan mission field is to get another worker in the person of the Rev. Roland Miller, who is to team up with the Rev. Otten. Mohammedan mission work is, as we all know, a difficult undertaking, but footholds are being established, and gradually the work is getting under way. In the Rev. Otten's field a small clinic is being operated, with something similar in prospect also in the Rev. Nau's field, for that is an effective approach to the Mohammedan people. The Society for the Promotion of Mohammedan Missions has continued to interest itself greatly in this work and has come to the aid of it in a substantial manner several times.

Korea

During the Rev. Koppelmann's visit to our Foreign Mission fields in 1951—52 he also had a chance to see Korea, which may, by and by, become a mission field for us. Several Korean students are at present in the U. S. A., with the thought of future activity for the Lutheran Church in Korea. One of these, Mr. Ji, has translated the Catechism into the Korean language. For this he was particularly subsidized by Jehovah Lutheran Congregation in St. Paul.

The Board for Foreign Missions was able to function without interruption, with regular monthly meetings and additional regular meetings of the Finance Committee and occasional meetings of the executive committee and special subcommittees. Changes in the Board personnel became necessary when Rev. Berner was elected to an office in the Central District, when Rev. Strieter accepted a call to Venezuela, and when the Lord called Dr. Keinath to his eternal rest. Messrs. Holt and Voertman resigned from the Board under pressure of their business affairs. The Rev. Walter A. Raedeke, Prof. L. M. Petersen, Mr. Richard K. Fox, Sr., and Mr. Paul E. Kummer became members of the Board.

We have already alluded to an official trip of visitation by the Rev. Herman H. Koppelmann, Assistant Executive Secretary of the Board, which lasted more than a year and in the course of which he visited New Guinea, Australia, India, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Macao, Formosa, the Philippines, Japan, and Korea.

In August, 1951, the office of the Board for Foreign Missions was moved into the new synodical office building, where it is on the same floor with all the other mission offices of Synod. This makes it possible to have regular meetings with the other mission executives, and this has proved very helpful for the conduct of the work.

With deep gratitude to the Lord for past blessings we want to maintain a forward look. For that reason the Board for Foreign Missions has tried to work out a plan for possible work for the next five years. Points which urgently require discussion at this convention are an adequate appropriation for our Foreign Missions, a possible extension of our work to Korea, an increase in our missionary manpower, a strengthening of our seminaries and other schools on the fields abroad. Likewise the strengthening of the mission departments in our seminaries here in this country and similar matters. Good stewardship demands that we find full employment for all the talents which the Lord places at the disposal of the missionary enterprise, that we work strenuously while it is day. Mobility and initiative must ever characterize the missionary activity of the Church, intensification and expansion must ever be maintained. The recent great gatherings, such as the "Conquest for Christ" collection, have demonstrated an awakened sense of stewardship among our people and have brought forth some excellent training in stewardship approach and application. Manpower should become available in increasing degree, and manpower and material resources are needed for the implementation of the vigorous forward march in missions. The possibilities are before us. Now it becomes a matter of decision, of devotion, of flaming zeal, of urgency and compulsion. Now let us follow through so that the momentum which has been gained is not dissipated or slowed down.

A vigorous mission outreach is of critical importance if the Church is to be kept alive, awake, throbbing with love and moving with courage, to the honor of our God and the welfare of dearly bought souls.

R. G. Lange, *Chairman*
W. A. Raedeke, *Secretary*
William Arndt
Paul Mehl
L. M. Petersen
John Runge
Louis Dau
Richard K. Fox, Sr.
Paul E. Kummer
Louis Prange
Herman H. Koppelmann
Ass't Executive Secretary
O. H. Schmidt
Executive Secretary

ACTION

Concerning our Missions in Foreign Countries, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 38

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF BOARD FOR MISSIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Whereas, This year of our Lord, 1953, marks the 60th anniversary of the appointment of the first Foreign Mission Board in Synod; and

Whereas, The Lord of the Church has graciously showered His divine benedictions upon our several foreign missions since our first missionary entered the field in India in 1894; be it therefore

Resolved, That we raise our hearts in gratitude and praise to the Almighty for the limitless success He has bestowed upon our Church in its program of far-reaching mission activity; and be it further

Resolved, That we take cognizance of this anniversary occasion by rededicating ourselves to our glorious privilege and duty of "going into *all the world*" and "preaching the Gospel to *every* creature," to the end that the Holy Spirit may continue to "add daily unto the Church such as should be saved."

With reference to Unprinted Memorial No. 32, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 37

Whereas, In an unprinted memorial entitled "Mission Work in Foreign Countries" a caution is expressed against *co-operation in externals* with church groups with whom the Missouri Synod is not in fellowship lest it lead to co-operation in *essential church work;* be it therefore

Resolved, That our missionaries at home and abroad be cautioned to exercise care so that the Scriptural principles of church fellowship are observed.

Regarding the death of two former missionaries, Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 20

WHEREAS, In God's all-wise providence the blessed labors and life of the Rev. Daniel Chuvala and Miss Betty Rose Wulf were terminated by death on February 20, 1953, and on April 30, 1952, respectively; be it

Resolved, That the Convention render thanks to the Lord for all which these devout servants of the Gospel were able to do in their missionary career; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable expressions of Christian sympathy be conveyed through the Secretary of Synod to the bereaved families of the afore-mentioned workers.

Opening Mission Work in Korea

(Memorial 412)

WHEREAS, The Lord Jesus Christ gave His Church the command to preach the Gospel to all nations;

WHEREAS, The present situation in world affairs will emphasize the urgency of doing this with all vigor and speed, to work while it is day;

WHEREAS, The sympathy of the people of our Church will go forth in a special manner toward Korea at this time;

WHEREAS, Chaplains and soldier members of our Church have been in Korea and speak of the need and opportunity for Christian mission work there;

WHEREAS, The Lord has directed several Korean students into our midst who are preparing at our institutions for possible future work as missionaries in Korea if the Lord should make it possible for them to return to that country;

WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed our beloved Synod with the resources of manpower and material things to make it possible to undertake further missionary endeavors;

WHEREAS, The Board of Foreign Missions has been charged by Synod with the conduct of foreign missions especially in the Far East; therefore be it

Resolved, That permission be granted to the Board of Foreign Missions to begin mission work in Korea if they are convinced that the time and opportunity for that undertaking is at hand.

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD
O. H. SCHMIDT, *Executive Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 21

WHEREAS, The Lord Jesus Christ gave His Church the command to preach the Gospel to all nations; and

WHEREAS, Korea is the natural link between Japan and China; and

WHEREAS, Only a small per cent of the Korean people are Christians, and thus an open door of opportunity is presented to our Church; and

WHEREAS, The sympathy of the people of our Church will go forth in a special manner toward Korea at this time; and

WHEREAS, Chaplains and soldier members of our Church who have been in Korea speak of the need and opportunity for Christian mission work there; and

WHEREAS, The Lord has directed several Korean students into our midst who are preparing at our institutions for possible future work as missionaries in Korea, if the Lord should make it possible for them to return to that country; and

WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed our beloved Synod with the resources of manpower and material means to make it possible to undertake further missionary endeavors; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions in Foreign Countries has been charged by Synod with the conduct of foreign missions especially in the Far East; therefore be it

Resolved, That permission be granted to the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries to begin mission work in Korea when the time and opportunity for that undertaking are at hand.

Report of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association

(Memorial 413)

Submitting our first report to the venerable convention, we cannot but give expression of our profound joy and deepest gratitude to our Lord for the attention given, and the co-operation extended, by our fellow Christians to promote this our latest Synod-wide endeavor — the Lutheran Medical Mission.

It will be remembered that Synod, at its convention held at Milwaukee in 1950, at great length discussed a petition to place greater emphasis on medical missions. Synod expressed its appreciation of the interest taken and the thought given by physicians and other professional people in our midst to launch out upon an expanded program of medical missions. The convention also ex-

pressed its agreement in principle with the general objectives set forth in the general petition. Thereupon it resolved to request petitioners, together with Synod's Secretary of Missions, Dr. F. C. Streufert, and his assistant, Dr. H. A. Mayer, to study problems involved and to formulate a workable plan of operation. At the same time this committee was empowered with the execution of the synodical program of medical missions after it had secured the necessary approval of the Board of Directors and the necessary appropriation of funds from this Board. That was in 1950.

During the latter part of 1950 and early in 1951 numerous meetings were held with representatives of the two existing medical mission societies, one in Chicago and the other in St. Louis. Present were also Dr. O. H. Schmidt and Pastor H. Koppelmann, Executive Secretaries from the Foreign Mission Department; Dr. K. Kurth, Executive Secretary of Negro Missions in the United States and Africa. The Rev. Justus P. Kretzmann, formerly missionary in Nigeria, West Africa, was appointed full-time Executive Secretary. In this capacity he served from December 1, 1951, to February 28, 1952. Since that date he continued to serve on a part-time basis. An office was established in the Lutheran Building at 210 North Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

A letter was sent to all pastors of the Synodical Conference, requesting names and addresses of medical personnel among members of our churches. The co-operation was most gratifying. The replies as of February 1, 1953, brought the names and addresses of 5,018 men and women in the medical profession.

A bulletin titled *The Cross and the Caduceus* was issued every two months and sent to all pastors and to men and women in the medical profession.

New chapters of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association were organized in Cleveland, Detroit, Buffalo, New York City, San Francisco, and Omaha.

Contributions were made as follows: $500 by the St. Louis chapter for the clinic at Sapporo, Japan; $1,000 by the Chicago chapter for Japan; and $150 for medical supplies in the Philippine Islands. As of February 19, 1953, cash contributions were received in the amount of $2,135.50 for membership dues; for scholarship, $784.53; for hospitals in Nigeria, Africa, and India, $1,255.47. Gamma Delta awarded a medical scholarship. Other groups are also making donations for this fund.

As we record the contributions made in the interest of medical missions, we, too, cannot but point with deepest gratitude to the magnanimous gift of $70,000 of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League for the Ambur, India, hospital. May the Lord most bountifully bless them for this gift of love.

To grasp, even on a very limited, conservative, and restricted basis, the opportunities as they are opening to us in this our far-flung medical mission program is unfortunately not as yet within the financial ability of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association.

Rather than permit the glorious work to become stagnant after such an auspicious beginning during the very short time of its existence, the Lutheran Medical Mission Association takes courage to plead the cause of this mission and requests the venerable convention to empower the Fiscal Conference and the Board of Directors to grant such financial assistance as will be needed over and above a personal consecrated effort of the members of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association.

Be it agreed that all plans for the further development of the medical mission program be presented to the Board of Directors for approval. The estimated need to meet the requirements for the ensuing year will entail an expenditure of up to $10,000.

May it please the convention to support the request made.

THE LUTHERAN MEDICAL MISSION ASSOCIATION

THE INTERIM COMMITTEE	THE ADVISORY BOARD
Dr. Charles Obermeyer, M. D.	Rev. O. H. Schmidt, D. D.
Dr. V. E. Michael, M. D.	Rev. K. Kurth, D. D.
Dr. Albert W. Seidel, M. D.	Rev. H. A. Mayer, D. D.
Mrs. Margaret Westberg, R. N.	Dr. Theo. Hanser, M. D.
Rev. F. C. Streufert, D. D.	Dr. C. E. Stindel, M. D.

F. C. STREUFERT, *Secretary of Missions*

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 22

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Medical Mission Association has now been nationally organized (chapters in St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Buffalo, New York City, San Francisco, and Omaha); and

WHEREAS, Replies to inquiries made brought the names and addresses of over 5,000 men and women in the medical profession affiliated with our churches; and

WHEREAS, Contributions in larger and smaller amounts were received in dues for medical supplies, for equipment in hospitals, and for medical scholarships; be it therefore

Resolved, To commend the men and women of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association for the interest shown in the development of, and the support given, this work of love; be it further

Resolved, That we commend Dr. Charles E. Stindel and his associates in the Lutheran Medical Mission Association for the counsel they have given to the mission boards; and be it further

Resolved, That the various mission boards active in medical missions be encouraged to appoint the medical adviser of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association to be an advisory member to their respective boards in matters pertaining to the medical care of the missionary or pertaining to hospitals and clinics in the mission fields; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage the Board of Directors of Synod to grant continued financial assistance to this program for the coming triennium. Be it further

Resolved, That all plans for new developments in this area be presented to the Board of Directors for approval; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Lutheran Medical Mission Association be encouraged to make a concerted effort to place this undertaking on a self-sustaining basis at an early date.

Policy Regarding the Gathering of Funds by Missionaries on Furlough

(Memorial 414)

WHEREAS, The missionaries on furlough are the best representatives for their missions; and

WHEREAS, They frequently move our people to immediate generosity; and

WHEREAS, A good and wholesome stimulus to generosity is neglected if the missionary is denied the privilege of presenting his needs; therefore be it

Resolved, That we memorialize Synod

1. To allow missionaries on furlough to feel free to present special needs of their field to our congregations and societies;

2. To allow them also to gather funds for such special needs;

3. To clear the project, however, through the Mission Board;

4. That the missionary should not be bound to remit personal gifts.

SOUTH AND EAST MICHIGAN PASTORAL CONFERENCE
AT WALDENWOODS
H. J. MALESKE, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 2 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 23

WHEREAS, Our missionaries on furlough are the best representatives for their respective mission fields; and

WHEREAS, They frequently move our people to greater missionconsciousness and a willingness to support the cause of missions; and

WHEREAS, The following policy concerning the lecturing activities of missionaries on furlough has been established and practiced by the Mission Boards, to wit:

"Since our missionaries receive a salary while on furlough, congregations are not expected to assume any financial obligation other than travel expense, including meals and hotel. If it is customary to give a visiting pastor an honorarium for a sermon, you will want to do no less for our missionaries who preach for you. If you take up an offering (many people expect it and gladly give a special offering for missions), this should be forwarded to the synodical Treasurer in the regular way. However, the main purpose of the lecture is not the taking up of a collection, but rather the giving out of information and inspiration which will result in more intelligent and liberal giving in the future.

"Missionaries are instructed to direct all mission gifts into the budgeted treasuries of Synod or into such projects as are authorized by the Board. No personal gifts are to be solicited either in money or in kind, directly or indirectly. However, if personal gifts are offered and given by interested Christians, they are not to be rejected."

Be it therefore

Resolved, That pastors and congregations avail themselves of the opportunity to schedule missionaries on furlough for lectures or preaching engagements; and be it further

Resolved, That the mission boards continue to publicize the availability of such missionaries on furlough through the medium of mission boards and the *Mission Call;* and be it further

Resolved, That all congregations, organizations, and groups be asked to abide by the afore-mentioned policies of the Mission Board.

V. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters

(Memorial 501)

The committee organized by electing President W. H. Meyer as chairman and the undersigned as secretary.

The first task of the committee after the last convention was to make the changes in the By-Laws as they had been adopted by Synod. We found that these changes were so numerous, especially in the field of Higher Education, that the whole *Handbook* had to be reprinted.

The committee was called together whenever it was necessary to take up matters assigned to it or to render an opinion as requested. Our minutes record whatever action was taken.

We are ready at this time to submit the following *recommendations:*

1. To add to Section 2.05 a new paragraph, d: "By the President and Vice-Presidents and the Faculty of Concordia Seminary at St. Louis:

"A. An Editorial Board for the *Lutheran Witness.*

"B. An Editorial Committee for *Der Lutheraner.*"

2. In Section 8.47 after b add a new paragraph: "c. The Board shall publish Synod's publications for the blind. All publications issued by, and in the interest of, the blind shall be subject to censorship by the faculty of Concordia Seminary at St. Louis." Paragraph c would then become d, and d would become e. (In the Topical Index, under "Concordia Seminary, St. Louis," the reference to 8.47b should be omitted. It should now read: 8.47c.

3. Insert in Section 3.61 a, in the third line, after "each circuit" the words: "from among the pastors thereof"—.

4. In Section 2.07 add the words: "unless the By-Laws specifically provide otherwise."

5. In Section 2.97 the word "recommendations" in lines four and five is to read "reports." (Cf. *Proceedings* 1950, page 514.)

6. In Section 2.121, in the second line, after the word "President," add: "from among the accredited delegates." At the end of the paragraph add the sentence: "For this purpose they may appoint tellers who need not be delegates."

7. Section 2.113 should be recast as follows:

"a. A Committee on Constitutional Matters shall be appointed by the President in conjunction with the Vice-Presidents. This Committee shall consist of four members, one of whom shall be the Secretary of Synod, *ex officio.*

"b. Any overtures made to Synod asking for changes of, or ...ments to, the Constitution of Synod or which in any manner ...s the Constitution or By-Laws, shall be submitted to the ...mittee on Constitutional Matters in order that it may examine ... contents and language as to their agreement with the Con...tion and By-Laws of Synod.

"c. At conventions of Synod this Committee shall be repre...ted at the meetings of the committee appointed to consider ...stitutional Matters.

"d. Immediately after each convention of Synod, this Com...ttee shall amend the synodical *Handbook* in harmony with the ...olutions adopted by the convention.

"e. This Committee shall also interpret the Constitution and ...-Laws in cases of controversy."

(NOTE: The wording is changed only slightly, but the former Paragraph a is divided into a, b, c, and d, b becoming e.)

The Committee on Constitutional Matters is planning another meeting after the REPORTS AND MEMORIALS are out, to carry out the provisions of Section 2.113 b (as revised above).

THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
M. F. KRETZMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

The following recommendation of Committee 6 on this report was *adopted:*

Resolution 41

This Memorial 501 embodies clarifications of the *Handbook* to which your Committee is agreed.

Your Committee therefore recommends that this Memorial 501 be adopted and that the clarifications as suggested be incorporated in the *Handbook.*

With particular reference to *By-law 2.07,* Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 1

TERM OF OFFICE

The 1950 convention of Synod amended Article 10 B, No. 2 of the Constitution to read: "The time of service of all officers, boards, and commissions shall be fixed by the by-laws of the Constitution of Synod." This amendment was ratified by the congregations of Synod.

In order to bring the by-laws into conformity with this constitutional provision, Committee No. 6 recommends that it be

Resolved, That By-law 2.07, Term of Office, be amended by adding the words: "unless the by-laws specifically provide other-

wise," so that this section reads: "The term of office for all officers, boards, commissions, and committees of Synod shall be three (3) years unless the by-laws specifically provide otherwise."

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 4

AUGMENTING ELECTION COMMITTEE

Memorial 501, page 304, Section 6.

In order to expedite the election procedure, be it

Resolved, That the suggestion of the Committee on Constitutional Matters be adopted to add to Section 2.121 the following words: "For this purpose they may appoint tellers who need not be delegates. These tellers shall be certified to the Secretary of Synod by the Elections Committee," so that the whole section reads: "2.121. The Committee on Elections shall be appointed by the President prior to the convention of Synod. The Committee shall make the necessary provisions for the elections and shall conduct and supervise the elections according to Synod's regulations. For this purpose they may appoint tellers who need not be delegates. These tellers shall be certified to the Secretary of Synod by the Elections Committee."

Report of Committee on Convention Election Procedures

(Memorial 507)

Function and Scope of the Committee

The *Proceedings* of 1950, page 875, contain this report of the Committee on Elections:

"We have distributed thirty-eight slates, with an average of 450 ballots or a total of 171,000 votes. Having taken 38 ballots also means that we interrupted the proceedings of Synod some 70 times.

"We now move that the President of Synod appoint a committee which shall study ways and means of simplifying election methods.

"We are willing to convey to this committee thoughts which have come to us during these days and thoughts which others have expressed to us."

This recommendation was adopted with the following addition:

"The Committee on Nominations shall likewise aid this committee with suggestions which will be helpful to future committees on Nominations."

NOTE. — The scope of this committee was broadened to include the study of the policies and practices concerning the holding of synodical and District conventions. Cf. *Proceedings* of 1950, page 530, Memorial 513.

Paragraphs of the synodical *Handbook* studied by the Committee are the following: 1.51, 1.53, 1.57, 2.121, 2.129, 2.139, 2.141, 2.145.

Re: 1.51, Electoral Circuits of Member Congregations.

Our Committee recommends no change in this paragraph.

Re: 1.53, Election of Delegates to Convention.

Our Committee recommends that the last sentence of this paragraph be changed to read as follows:

"If these proceedings have not been printed or if in the meantime changes have become necessary, the certification of election by the District Secretary or the District President shall entitle the delegates to vote, provided every lay delegate presents credentials as aforesaid."

Re: 1.57, Electoral Circuits of Advisory Members.

Our Committee recommends that the last sentence of this paragraph be changed to read as follows:

"The registered name in the printed Proceedings of the District or the certification by the District Secretary or the District President shall entitle the elected representative to recognition by Synod, but without vote."

Re: 2.121, Committee on Elections.

Our Committee recommends that this paragraph be changed to read as follows:

"A Committee on Elections shall be appointed by the *Praesidium* at least six months prior to the next convention. It shall consist of seven pastors, three teachers, and five laymen. The committee shall have power to augment itself. The members of this committee need not be voting delegates to the forthcoming convention. The Committee on Elections shall be responsible for the preparation of the official ballots, the balloting, and the tabulation of the votes cast."

Re: 2.127, Primary Election for President.

Our Committee recommends that this paragraph be changed to read as follows:

"Balloting for candidates for the office of President shall be done no later than the second business session of the convention."

Re: 2.129, Candidates for the Office of President.

Our Committee recommends that the following sentence be added to this paragraph:

"However, if on the nominating ballot any one candidate receives 75 per cent or more of all votes cast, he shall be declared elected."

Re: 2.139, Appointment of Committee on Nominations.

Our Committee recommends that the heading of this paragraph be changed to read:

"Election of Committee on Nominations."

Our Committee recommends that this paragraph be changed to read as follows:

"At each regular convention of Synod a Committee on Nominations shall be elected to serve for the next convention. The Committee on Nominations shall consist of eighteen pastors, six teachers, and twelve laymen. The various areas of Synod shall be represented on this committee. In case a vacancy on this committee occurs, the vacancy shall be filled by the *Praesidium*. The members of this Committee on Nominations need not be voting delegates to the next triennial convention, and they cannot succeed themselves in office."

Re: 2.141, Publication of Committee on Nominations.

Our Committee recommends that the heading of this paragraph be changed to read:

"Soliciting Suggestions for Candidates."

Our Committee also recommends that this entire paragraph be changed to read as follows:

"The Committee on Nominations shall solicit, by questionnaire, from all congregations of Synod, suggestions for candidates for the various offices to be filled. However, any individual member of Synod, too, may suggest suitable candidates for the various offices."

Re: 2.145, District Presidents to Suggest Candidates.

Our Committee recommends no change in the contents or wording of this paragraph.

Re: 2.147, Suggestion for Boards of Control and for Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House.

Our Committee recommends that this paragraph be changed to read as follows:

"Each District in which an educational institution of Synod is located shall propose two approved slates of candidates for the Board of Control of said institution, one of which slates shall be elected by the convention. The slate of candidates receiving the highest number of votes in the District shall be placed first on the synodical ballot. Names of candidates for the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House shall be solicited in like manner."

Re: 2.151, Nominations Submitted to Convention.

Our Committee recommends that the following be substituted for paragraph 2.151:

"The Committee on Nominations shall be required to obtain and have available pertinent information concerning each candidate proposed by the committee."

Our Committee recommends the addition of this new paragraph:

2.154 Publication of Lists of Candidates

"The Committee on Nominations shall have its complete list of candidates for all offices published in "Today's Business" at least one day prior to the time when the convention shall be asked to approve the slate. The approved slate shall thereupon be published in the next issue of "Today's Business," and the official ballots shall be printed. At least one full day shall have elapsed after the approval of the slate of candidates by the convention before the voting begins.

Our Committee recommends also the addition of these paragraphs:

2.156 Time, Place, and Manner of Balloting

a) There shall be no balloting during convention sessions except for the President and Vice-Presidents of Synod, and to determine the rank of Vice-Presidents.

b) In the session immediately following the completion of election of Synod's *Praesidium*, the convention shall receive the report of the Committee on Nominations.

c) The Committee on Elections shall have received from the Secretary of Synod, or from the Registration Committee, a complete file of all voting delegates in attendance.

d) Voting delegates shall call for their ballot at a time and place designated by the Committee on Elections. Polling places shall be closed during the sessions of the convention. The Committee on Elections shall also officially announce a deadline to terminate the balloting, and then to announce the elections closed.

e) Tabulation of the votes shall be done in the customary manner of one reader and one tabulator working as a team.

f) The chairman of the Committee on Elections shall furnish a copy of tabulated votes of each election, certified by at least three members of the committee, to the convention chairman, to the Secretary of Synod, and to Synod's Department of Public Relations.

g) All ballots of each election shall be separately bundled and preserved until the close of the convention. The preservation or the destruction of all ballots shall be the specific duty of the chairman of the Committee on Elections.

Pastor E. A. Schuett, *Chairman* (Glencoe, Minn.)
Pastor A. G. Fehner, *Secretary* (Mankato, Minn.)
Mr. Ernest Balke (Tulsa, Okla.)

ACTION

With reference to this report Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 3

NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO CONVENTION

Covering report of Committee on Convention Election Procedure, Memorial 507, pages 311 and 312, be it

Resolved, That the recommendation of the Committee on Election Procedure, By-Laws 2.151 and 2.154, be declined, and that *Handbook* Section 2.151 remain in force.

As to the **Publication of Committee on Nominations,** Section 2.141, Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Resolution 10

Resolved, That the recommended change of heading of Section 2.141 be declined; and be it

Resolved, That the words "inviting all members and congregations" be added to Section 2.141, so that it reads: "the names of the members of the Committee on Nominations shall be published four months before each convention of Synod, inviting all members and congregations of Synod to suggest suitable candidates for the various offices, stating the reasons for such suggestions."

As to **Convention Election Procedures,** Section 2.147, Synod *adopted* the recommendations of Committee 6:

Resolution 14

WHEREAS, The Report of the Committee on Convention Election Procedures recommends the following wording for 2.147: "Each District in which an educational institution is located shall propose two approved slates of candidates for the Board of Control of said institution, one of which slates shall be elected by the convention. The slate of candidates receiving the highest number of votes in the District shall be placed first on the synodical ballot. Names of candidates for the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House shall be solicited in like manner"; and

WHEREAS, This proposal gives definite election directives to Synod; and

WHEREAS, This proposal is a reverting back to a former procedure which had been discarded by Synod; therefore your Committee

Recommends, That this substitution for 2.147 be declined. And be it further

Recommended, That 2.147 be divided into sections A and B; and that section A of this par. 2.147 be reworded to read: "The

Committee on Nominations shall solicit from the Board of Directors or Officers' Conference of each District in which an educational institution is located as well as from Boards of Directors or Officers' Conferences of adjacent Districts the names of suitable candidates for the local Board of Control"; and be it further

Recommended, That 2.147 B be reworded to read: "The Committee on Nominations shall solicit names of suitable candidates for the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House from the Boards of Directors and/or Officers' Conferences of all the Districts of Synod in the United States.

As to **Time, Place, and Manner of Balloting,** Section 2.155, Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Resolution 15

Your Committee

Recommends, The following addition to Synod's *Handbook* as par. 2.155, to wit:

a) The Committee on Elections shall be responsible for the preparation of the official balloting, and the tabulation of the votes cast.

b) Tabulation of votes shall be done in the customary manner of one reader and one tabulator working as a team.

c) The chairman of the committee on Elections shall furnish a copy of tabulated votes of each election, certified by at least three members of the Committee, to the convention chairman, to the Secretary of Synod, and to Synod's Department of Public Relations.

d) All ballots shall be separately bundled and preserved until the close of the convention. The preservation or destruction of all ballots shall be the specific duty of the chairman of the Committee on Elections.

As to **Primary Election for President,** Section 2.127, Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Your Committee **Resolution 20**

Recommends, That the suggested sentence: "Balloting for candidates for the office of President shall be done no later than the second business session," be added to Section 2.127, so that this section reads: "Nominations for the office of President shall be by primary election. Each voting delegate shall be entitled to one nomination for the office of President. Balloting for candidates for the office of President shall be done no later than the second business session."

As to **Election of Delegates to Convention,** Section 1.53, Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Your Committee **Resolution 21**

Recommends, That the last sentence be changed to read: "If these proceedings have not been printed, or if in the meantime, changes have become necessary, the certification of election by the District Secretary or the District President or his representative shall entitle the delegates to vote, provided every lay delegate presents credentials as aforesaid."

This means only the insertion of the words: "or the District President or his representative" into Section 1.53.

As to **Electoral Circuits of Advisory Members,** Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Your Committee **Resolution 22**

Recommends, That the suggested sentence be changed to read: "The registered name in the printed proceedings of the District or the certification by the District Secretary or the District President or his representative shall entitle the elected representative to recognition by Synod, but without vote."

Again this merely involves the insertion of the words: "or the District President or his representative."

As to **Candidates for the Office of President,** Section 2.129, Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Your Committee **Resolution 38**

Recommends, That the following paragraph be added to Section 2.129 of the *Handbook:* "However, if on the nominating ballot any one candidate receives 75 per cent or more of all votes cast, the rules governing elections may be suspended, and the Secretary shall be instructed to cast a collective ballot for such candidate."

Changes in "Handbook" Suggested by the Board of Directors

(Memorial 502)

2.79 Board of Directors of Synod — Duties

e. *Now reads:* The Board of Directors shall cause regular audits to be made of all departments, boards, committees, and activities of Synod and shall cause examinations to be made of the books and records of all subsidized Districts, so far as these may relate to the subsidies received from Synod. It may at any time cause an audit to be made of any department, board, committee, or activity of Synod, independent of the audits hereinbefore provided.

e. *Be revised to read:* The Board of Directors shall cause a continuous and/or annual audit to be made of all educational institutions, departments, boards, commissions, committees, subsidized Districts and any other activity or spending agency receiving subsidy from Synod. These audits are to be initiated by Synod's Controller in consultation with the Board of Directors.

New paragraphs to be added:

t. The Board of Directors shall establish and prescribe standard practices relating to all accounting matters and procedures and the co-ordination of systems, including forms, records, reports, and procedures of every agency or organization receiving subsidy. In matters relating to educational institutions, consultation shall be had with the Board for Higher Education in establishing such standard practices so that they may conform to the requirements of accrediting associations and governmental agencies.

u. The Board of Directors, through the office of its Controller, in consultation with the Board for Higher Education, on the basis of reasonable and generally accepted accounting practices, shall establish and prescribe uniform accounting methods, financial controls, and budgetary classifications for each of the educational institutions of Synod.

6.141 Uniform Accounting Methods

(to be deleted because replaced by "u" above)

The Board for Higher Education, in consultation with the Board of Directors, shall establish and prescribe, on the basis of reasonable and generally accepted educational practice, uniform accounting methods, financial controls, budgetary classifications, and allocations for operating income and costs and for capital investments of each of the educational institutions of Synod.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
M. F. KRETZMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

This memorial was withdrawn, and therefore no action was taken.

Reconsider Former Memorial re Creation of New Districts

(Memorial 503)

We memorialize Synod to reconsider the memorial of the last Synod on page 535, No. 518, dealing with matters pertaining to the creation of new synodical Districts and the consolidation of old ones.

THE CONCORDIA CIRCUIT PASTORAL CONFERENCE
REV. R. J. DEYE, *Secretary*

ACTION

The following resolution recommended by Committee 6 was *adopted:*

Resolution 28

This former memorial reads:

"WHEREAS, The endless proliferation of new Districts of Synod increases the administrative machinery and overhead cost, threatens to encourage provincialism and sectionalism, makes the task of doctrinal and practical oversight almost impossible, may someday threaten the unity of Synod, and affects the availability of resources for synodical use adversely; and

"WHEREAS, New Districts may need to be created in present foreign mission fields; be it therefore

"*Resolved,* That the College of Presidents develop criteria to be applied to applications and petitions for the creating of new Districts and the combining of existing Districts territorially contiguous and in need of specialized services in stewardship, missions, and education, and that no new Districts be created until such criteria have been adopted by Synod. York-Seward Regional Conference, Southern Nebraska District."

Your Committee suggests the following resolution:

Resolved, That the College of Presidents be asked to set up certain criteria to be used as guidelines in establishing new Districts of Synod and report to the next convention of Synod.

Amalgamation of the Congregations of the English District with the Territorial Districts

(Memorial 504)

The Committee appointed by the *Praesidium* for the purpose of carrying out the 1950 Resolution 520 herewith makes its report.

The Committee at its first meeting adopted a threefold program:

1. To study the question of amalgamation of the congregations of the English District with the territorial Districts;

2. To make contact with the English District regarding this matter;

3. To formulate a report for the convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod assembled in Houston, Tex.

An earnest study was made of the history of the English District and of the important work the District has done for the Church. The Church received many blessings from the work of the English District during the decades when The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was carrying out its mission chiefly through the

Praesidium of the German language. The Committee also studied the advantages and disadvantages of having a "District at large," such as the English District, working in a great portion of the area where the other Districts of Synod do their work.

It is a matter of general opinion that eventual amalgamation will be effected. The language is obviously no longer a question. However, this is not the only subject which now needs to be considered. Tradition, for example, with its influence upon thought and action must not be forgotten.

The Amalgamation Committee of the English District was invited to the second meeting of the Committee. After a thorough discussion with the English District Committee and on the basis of its previous study, the Committee offers the following opinion and suggestion:

It is the opinion of this Committee that the matter cannot be settled in a very short time. It is the further opinion of this Committee that amalgamation should be the result of orderly historical development. Such a development can be made possible through co-operative efforts of Synod and the English District. The Committee, therefore, has one suggestion, namely, that the President of Synod appoint a continuation committee which will keep in touch with the English District and will make a report on this matter at the next convention.

OLIVER R. HARMS, *Chairman*
HERBERT BRUMMER, *Secretary*
CARL A. GEIST
ERWIN KURTH
J. J. OHLIS

ACTION

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 7

WHEREAS, It is a matter of general opinion that eventual amalgamation will be effected; and

WHEREAS, Synod has for many years urged such amalgamation; and

WHEREAS, Many congregations of the English District have within the past few years joined various territorial Districts; therefore be it

Resolved, That the co-operative efforts of Synod and the English District be continued; and be it

Resolved, That the President of Synod appoint a Continuation Committee which shall keep in touch with the English District and work toward eventual amalgamation, and shall report on this matter at the next convention.

Regarding the "Praesidium"

(Memorial 505 and Unprinted Memorial 16)

WHEREAS, With the growth of our beloved Synod more and more of its functions and activities require the full time of administrators, executive secretaries, directors, etc., together with their staffs; and

WHEREAS, This development tends to draw the administration farther and farther away from the grass roots, i. e., from the parishes of Synod; and

WHEREAS, This development, while definitely expediting the functioning of the Church, at the same time creates a serious threat of a growing bureaucracy, or even of a hierarchy, which would change the entire character of our Church, contrary to the principles based on the royal priesthood of the believers and the sovereignty of the local congregation; and

WHEREAS, The establishing of full-time administrators in many fields of Synod's work should at the same time remove more and more of the detail of administration from the *Praesidium*; and

WHEREAS, We conceive Synod to be an advisory body and not a congregation of congregations, and consequently principles applying to the call of a pastor do not apply to the election of synodical officials; and

WHEREAS, The plan which we shall propose has proved successful in the administration of other large church bodies, i. e., in the Presbyterian Church with its Moderator; therefore be it

Resolved, That we respectfully petition Synod to elect a committee of members of Synod who are not a part of the *Praesidium* or of its various boards, which committee is to study the feasibility of establishing the policy that members of the *Praesidium* shall be pastors of parishes within Synod, thereby maintaining them as a part of the grass roots of Synod;

That the same committee be instructed to consider the feasibility of limiting the terms of office of this *Praesidium* to one term; also the feasibility of the Committee on Nominations to propose candidates for the *Praesidium;*

That it be understood that in the event of such a change in the administration it shall not apply to the present, incumbent, full-time members of the *Praesidium.*

GREATER CHICAGO PASTORAL CONFERENCE
OF THE ENGLISH DISTRICT
WILLIAM EIFRIG, *Chairman*
CARL L. RUTZ, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 8

WHEREAS, The duties of the President of Synod are specifically outlined and limited in the Constitution and By-Laws of Synod; cp. Art. XI b in the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, The threats of a bureaucracy, or even a hierarchy, are just as imminent in any other kind of administration as that mentioned in this memorial; and

WHEREAS, The present type of administration of Synod doubtlessly has received much thought and consideration not only by the Committee on Constitutional Matters, but by the Committee which thoroughly revised the By-Laws within recent years; and

WHEREAS, These committees after much study have found the present system of administration still satisfactory; and

WHEREAS, This memorial's proposal of a different manner of nominating the *Praesidium* removes it farther still from the grass roots; therefore your Committee

Recommends, That this Memorial 505 and Unprinted Memorial 16 be declined.

Change Arrangement re Full-Time Vice-President

(Memorial 506)

We memorialize Synod to alter the existing arrangement whereby the First Vice-President automatically is full-time Vice-President. We believe that better purposes would be served if Synod would first elect its four Vice-Presidents without indicating the rank. After consultation with the Vice-Presidents, the President of Synod would recommend to the Synod which of the four should serve full time for the ensuing triennium. Thereupon the Synod would proceed by preferential ballot to determine the ranking and thereby the line of succession.

THE CONCORDIA CIRCUIT PASTORAL CONFERENCE
REV. R. J. DEYE, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 9

WHEREAS, The present procedure in determining the rank of the Vice-Presidents according to the rules established in the By-Laws of Synod is fair to all; and

WHEREAS, The method proposed by Memorial 506 tends to remove this fair procedure from the electorate and place it as an additional and unnecessary burden into the hands of the President; therefore your Committee

Recommends, That Memorial 506 be rejected.

Installation of Voting Machines

(Memorial 508)

We memorialize Synod to consider the installation of voting machines at conventions to reduce the work of the Committee on Elections in the counting of votes.

THE CONCORDIA CIRCUIT PASTORAL CONFERENCE
REV. R. J. DEYE, *Secretary*

ACTION

Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Resolution 16

WHEREAS, The duties of the Committee on Elections have been defined in the suggested new paragraph 2.155, and do not require voting booths; and

WHEREAS, The installation of voting machines because of the constant amending of the Nominations Committee's report would really serve no good purpose, rather be highly impractical; and

WHEREAS, The memorial is rather vague and indefinite as to the procurement of voting machines either by rental from whatever municipality in which the convention is meeting, or by direct purchase for transporting to, and use by, subsequent conventions; therefore your Committee

Recommends, That Memorial 508 be declined.

General Personnel Policies for Staff Employees, etc.

(Memorial 509)

Resolved, To memorialize Synod to establish a general personnel policy for staff employees of boards and agencies with offices in the synodical office building.

This general policy is to be developed by the Board of Directors after prior consultation with the boards, officers, and employees involved.

The policy is to include salary and wage scales with graduated service increments, provisions for tenure, promotion, vacations, sick and service leaves, dismissal, retirement, pension, and other employee welfare and benefit provisions.

statement of this policy shall be available for public inspection and for examination by any present or prospective synodical employee.

The Board of Directors shall provide for annual revision of policy, and at least triennially it shall be reviewed by the Conference.

THE WEST MISSOURI PASTORAL CONFERENCE
A. F. C. PFOTENHAUER

ACTION

Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Resolution 17

Since a definite policy for staff employees even now is being followed under Section 2.79 f of Synod's *Handbook,* your Committee

Recommends, That Memorial 509 be declined.

Authorize President to Approve Executive Secretaries, etc.

(Memorial 510)

Resolved, That we memorialize Synod to make explicit and general the executive function of the President of Synod by authorizing him

1. To recommend men approved by him when executive secretaries or officers with equivalent authority and responsibility are to be called or appointed by the various synodical boards, commissions, and committees. (The boards of control of the various colleges and seminaries are to be exceptions, since he already has a major voice in the selection of the executive heads of these schools.)

2. To approve in advance the recommendations made to these same boards, commissions, and committees by their respective executive secretaries or officers, when men are to be called or appointed as assistants or associates in their respective synodical offices.

The respective boards may set up desirable standards of competence, experience, and training and may secure the names of possible nominees by all legitimate means, but they shall call or appoint from the persons thus recommended or approved by Synod's President.

The Committee on Constitutional Matters shall adjust the pertinent regulations of Synod to conform to this provision.

THE WEST MISSOURI PASTORAL CONFERENCE
A. F. C. PFOTENHAUER

ACTION

Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Resolution 18

WHEREAS, The Memorial lacks clarity, be it

Resolved, That Memorial 510 be declined; however, instead of Memorial 510 your Committee

Recommends, That Synod authorize and instruct its Committee on Constitutional Matters to add to every paragraph in the *Handbook* governing the appointment of Executive Secretaries and Assistants the words: "with the approval of the President of Synod." (See *Handbook* 8.81 a.)

Auxiliary Agencies Within Synod

(Memorial 511)

WHEREAS, For certain understandable reasons many congregations have denied themselves the privilege of giving adequate support to the various "auxiliary agencies" in Synod; and

WHEREAS, Our experience clearly indicates that congregations show greater interest and financial support when the agencies present a unified budget and a co-ordinated appeal for support; and

WHEREAS, We have learned that congregations respond more readily and liberally when they have the assurance that the programs and the budgets of the agencies have been approved by a responsible and capable review board; and

WHEREAS, We are of the opinion that congregations have a right to request all agencies which appeal to them for financial support to channel their appeals through their designated representatives; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod, assembled in Houston, Tex.,

1. Instruct the Council of Lutheran Agencies (should the Council be approved) to urge upon its members the co-ordination of their appeals and budgets as soon as possible.

2. Instruct its Board of Directors to be responsible for an annual review and approval of the programs and budgets of the "auxiliary agencies," which review is to be completed before any or all of said agencies solicit the congregations not located in their synodical District for financial support.

3. Instruct the Council of Lutheran Agencies (should the Council be approved), or its individual members, to respect the wishes of the congregations of any District concerning the manner and time of solicitation for support.

ATLANTIC DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CARL M. ZORN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Synod *adopted* the report of Committee 6 in this matter:

Resolution 19

WHEREAS, The contents of Memorial 511 are being taken care of by the recommendations of Committee 13, which is reviewing Memorial 626 and which covers all matters contained in Memorials 626 and 511; your Committee

Reports, That Memorial 511 has been referred for final actions to Committee 13, in connection with Memorial 626.

"Handbook" Changes for Department of Public Relations

(Memorial 512)

12.01 Personnel and Appointment

The Department of Public Relations shall be administered by a Board of seven members, three pastors, three laymen, and one member of the faculty of one of our teachers' colleges. This board shall be appointed triennially by the Board of Directors, in consultation with the President together with the Vice-Presidents.

12.03 Functions and Duties

a. The department shall be responsible for the work of Synod's public relations organization, co-ordinating the efforts of Synod and its ancillary organizations to develop greater understanding of Synod, its doctrine and its work, among the public.

b. The department shall disseminate factual information on Synod and its work through all accepted means of communication.

c. The department shall present the Lutheran viewpoint on issues of the day.

d. The department shall answer attacks against our Church.

e. The department shall co-ordinate and conduct Synod's relations with governmental agencies, promoting the interests of Synod while safeguarding constitutional guarantees of the separation of Church and State.

f. The department shall be responsible to the President of Synod for policy and action but shall be related to the Board of Directors of Synod in financial and all other matters.

12.05 Executive Secretary

An Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Board for Public Relations, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. He shall be Synod's Director of Public Relations. He may be released from office by the Board for Public Relations, with the consent of the Board of Directors.

12.07 Headquarters

The Board for Public Relations shall establish and maintain headquarters for its Executive Secretary in one of the nation's principal cities to be determined by the Board in consultation with the Board of Directors.

12.09 Budget

The Board shall annually submit a budget to the Board of Directors of Synod for recommendation and for reference to the Fiscal Conference, which shall allocate funds for the department.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
OSWALD C. J. HOFFMANN, D. D., *Executive Secretary*

ACTION

Synod *adopted* the following proposal of Committee 6:

Resolution 34

Change the present reading of *Handbook* Section 12.03 to conform to reading proposed in Memorial 512, page 315, and as they now appear amended in "Today's Business":

a) The department shall be responsible for the work of Synod's Public Relations organization, co-ordinating the Public Relations efforts of Synod and its auxiliary organizations to develop greater understanding of Synod, its doctrine and its work, among the public.

b) The department shall disseminate factual information on Synod and its work through all accepted means of communication.

c) The department shall present the Lutheran viewpoint on issues of the day.

d) The department shall answer attacks upon our Church.

e) The department shall co-ordinate and conduct Synod's relations with governmental agencies, except those assigned to other departments of Synod directly, promoting the interests of Synod while safeguarding constitutional guarantees of the separation of Church and State.

f) The department shall be responsible to the President of Synod for policy and action but shall be related to the Board of Directors of Synod in financial and all other matters.

Section 12.05, *Handbook,* should be changed to conform to proposed paragraph 12.05 in *Proceedings,* page 315, with the addition of the words "subject to the approval of the President and the Board of Directors of Synod."

Section 12.09, *Handbook,* should be amended to read: "The Board shall annually submit a budget to the Board of Directors of Synod for recommendation and for reference to the Fiscal Conference."

Procedure in Calling Teachers

(Memorial 513)

Immanuel Lutheran Congregation, in regular meeting assembled on March 12, 1953, and after due consideration of the problems involved, adopted the following resolution and begs leave to submit the same for your careful study and possible favorable action:

WHEREAS, The present practice of calling parochial school teachers at all times of the year tends to cause considerable disruptions in the schools of those who accept a call during the current school term, thus disrupting the orderly progress of the school in addition to the vacant position already disrupted; and

WHEREAS, Under present circumstances many teachers who accept a call in mid-term feel somewhat embarrassed about remaining to the end of the school term after acceptance of their call; and

WHEREAS, This practice frequently gives rise to feelings of resentment and dissatisfaction with our parochial school system; and

WHEREAS, A uniform procedure in this matter could do much to foster and increase the good will of many of our members toward our parochial schools, and would in no way affect the divinity of the call; be it therefore

Resolved, that we, Immanuel Lutheran Congregation of Sheboygan, Wis., bring this problem to the attention of Synod, respectfully suggesting that Synod advise and encourage its congregations wherever possible to follow this or a similar uniform procedure:

When calling a teacher to fill a vacancy, the calling congregation should stipulate that the teacher called is not expected to leave his present position until the end of the current school year. If this were the general practice in Synod, the teacher involved would feel no reluctance to stay and finish the school year. The congregation whose teacher received the call would certainly welcome such an arrangement, both because that would keep the school in normal operation, and it would give the congregation ample time to provide for a replacement.

IMMANUEL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sheboygan, Wis.
H. J. A. BOUMAN, *Pastor*

ACTION

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 26

WHEREAS, A congregation extending a call early in the school year creates a difficult situation for the other school; and

WHEREAS, The teacher who accepts such a call early in the school year might disrupt that congregation; and

WHEREAS, Synod, as an advisory body, can pass no rule in matters related to the acceptance of a call; and

WHEREAS, The law of Christian love must always guide all our actions; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod encourage congregations and teachers to remember the law of Christian love when dealing in matters of a call or transfer.

Revision of Section 14.03 re Communing Lodge Members

(Memorial 514)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod is firmly opposed to lodges or societies of an unchristian or anti-Christian character and has laid down certain principles and practices in dealing with this question in Section 14.03 of the By-Laws to its Constitution, which it earnestly urges pastors, congregations, and Districts to observe; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph f of Section 14.03 states that it shall be the practice in Synod not to administer Holy Communion to members of such lodges and paragraph g of Section 14.03 states that a conscientious pastor may make exceptions to this practice in unusual cases; and

WHEREAS, Instances are known where congregations have admitted such lodge members to communicant membership as exceptional cases under paragraph g, in the hope that such closer relationship with the Christian congregation and regular participation in the Sacrament will convince them in time of the irreconcilable conflict between such lodges and Christianity, with the result that they will renounce their lodge membership; and

WHEREAS, Such procedure would seem to be due to a misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the intent and spirit of Section 14.03 and in conflict with Synod's position;

Now, therefore, we, the undersigned voting members of various congregations in Baltimore, Md., affiliated with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, hereby

Petition Synod to make its position unequivocally clear as to the true intent of paragraphs f and g of Section 14.03 by revising the same so that they shall hereafter read as follows:

It is, and shall be, the practice in Synod not to administer Communion to members of such lodges nor to admit such to communicant membership in our congregations.

A conscientious pastor may in cases which present unusual features, rendering their classification difficult, administer Holy Communion to a person who is still outwardly connected with such lodge. But in such a case the pastor shall earnestly beware of procrastinating and giving offense, and to this end he shall freely and conscientiously consult with his church council and congregation, his brethren in the ministry, and with the officials of Synod, as the case may be. It is not intended, however, that such exception may include the administration of Holy Communion publicly to non-members of the congregation who are members of lodges or societies of an unchristian or anti-Christian character or the actual admission of such persons to communicant membership in our congregations.

EMIL A. HOPPENSTEADT IVAN E. TUHY
of Calvary Lutheran Church

HENRY F. KRUELLE JOHN W. SCHERER
of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

HERBERT F. KUENNE ERNEST F. FADUM
C. LOUIS MCCLEAN
of Martini Lutheran Church

E. HOWARD ASENDORF
of Redeemer Lutheran Church

ALBERT G. GEIGER
of Mount Olive Ev. Lutheran Church

CARL H. KRUELLE
of Lutheran Church of Our Savior

WILLIAM C. L. RACH
of Immanuel Lutheran Church

ACTION

Committees 6 and 7 jointly recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 5

WHEREAS, This memorial has been presented by a group of consecrated laymen who are earnestly concerned that Synod's established practice over against "lodges or societies of an unchristian or anti-Christian character" should be maintained; and

WHEREAS, Your Committee in conjunction with Committee 6 on Constitutional Matters has examined the merits of this memorial; therefore be it

Resolved, That in conformity with Synod's position concerning lodges (14.03 a-e), in agreement with general practice in Synod, and in the interest of clarification, paragraph f of this section of the By-Laws of Synod be amended to read: "It is, and shall be, the practice in Synod not to administer Holy Communion to members of such lodges *nor to admit such persons to communicant membership in our congregations*"; and be it

Resolved, That paragraph g be not amended at this time, but that the President of Synod appoint a committee which in consultation with the Commission on Fraternal Organizations shall rewrite paragraph 14.03 g, with the purpose of more clearly defining the nature of the exceptions to the general rule which is stated in paragraph f, and report to the next convention.

Membership of Synod's Board of Directors

(Memorial 802)

WHEREAS, Synod's Board of Directors, composed of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer of Synod, by virtue of their office, and three pastors and five laymen, is charged by Synod to be its legal representative and custodian of its property; and

WHEREAS, It is also charged with many other duties, as set forth in twenty-one paragraphs of Section 2.79 of Synod's *Handbook;* and

WHEREAS, Synod in 1950, by adopting Section 2.81 as a completely new Section to "F. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SYNOD," further increased the duties of the Board of Directors of Synod; and

WHEREAS, The present arrangement of representation on the Board of Directors of Synod is not in accordance with the democratic principles of our Church, since no provision is made for regional representation, nor representation on a per-communicant basis; and

WHEREAS, A much better understanding between Synod and Districts could be brought about through a more equitable representation of the Districts on Synod's Board of Directors; be it therefore

Resolved, That in Synod's *Handbook,* Section 2.71, "Membership," be amended to read: "The Board of Directors shall be constituted as follows: The President, the Secretary, the Treasurer of Synod by virtue of their office, and one pastor or layman from each District of Synod in the United States and Canada with a total communicant membership of twenty-five thousand or over, to be elected according to Synod's rules"; be it further

Resolved, That the Committee on Nominations place in nomination candidates in such a manner that, if possible, an equal number of pastors and laymen be elected; be it finally

Resolved, That this change become effective with the 1956 convention of Synod.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MINNESOTA DISTRICT
ARNOLD E. WENGER, *Secretary*

Committee 6 reported:

Resolution 24

PREAMBLE: There is, of course, every reason to commend the Board of Directors, Minnesota District, for its deep interest in, and zeal for, preserving the genuine democratic principles of our Church, as well as in bringing about a better understanding between Synod and Districts.

WHEREAS, However, the functions of the Board of Directors are administrative rather than legislative; and

WHEREAS, An increase in the size of the Board of Directors would rather retard than increase the efficiency of the Board of Directors in its administrative functions; and

WHEREAS, This proposal of limiting selection of membership of the Board of Directors to Districts of 25,000 communicants or over, would deprive Synod of talented men serving capably now; and

WHEREAS, This proposal itself would seem to negate the democratic principles of our Church by depriving Districts of less than 25,000 communicants of representation on the Board of Directors; therefore your Committee

Recommends, That Memorial 802 be declined; and that future Committees on Nominations keep in mind presentation of slates of candidates for membership on the Board of Directors from different areas of Synod.

ACTION

This matter was referred to the Committee on Constitutional Matters.

Woman Suffrage in the Church

(Unprinted Memorials 21 and 47)

Concerning this matter Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 27

WHEREAS, It is a general principle of Holy Scripture that woman should not usurp authority over men in the home and in the church; and

WHEREAS, Synod has based its position in the field of woman suffrage in the church on this general principle of the Bible, as expressed in various passages, including 1 Cor. 14:34 and 1 Tim. 2:11, 12; and

WHEREAS, However, there is a sincere difference of opinion among clergy and laity concerning the full and correct application of these texts to the question of woman suffrage in the church, as indicated by Unprinted Memorials 21 and 47; and

WHEREAS, Many women of our Church are eager to be of greatest service to their Lord in the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That the President of Synod appoint a committee of five members to prepare for the next convention a thorough exegetical study of 1 Corinthians 14, 1 Timothy 2, and all other applicable texts as they relate to the question of woman suffrage in our congregations; and be it further

Resolved, That, in the meantime, our congregations be urged to continue the present practice of our Synod in restricting the privileges of voting membership to qualified male communicants.

NOTE: Synod by a rising vote expressed its esteem for the women of the Church and their work.

Report of Committee on Allocating C. T. O. Funds for Scholarly Research

(Memorial 1010)

ACTION

Concerning this report, printed in Section II, Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 29

WHEREAS, The Committee on Allocating Research Funds now has projects of scholarly research under way which will require several more years to finish; and

WHEREAS, Additional and new projects are under way for future scholarly research; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Committee on Allocating Research Funds become a standing committee of Synod; be it further

Resolved, That the *name* of this Committee be: Committee for Developing Scholarly Research; be it further

Resolved, That the *membership* of this Committee be composed of two pastors, two professors, and one teacher; and be it further

Resolved, That the *functions* of this Committee be as follows:

1. To consider research projects that may be proposed by members of Synod, to approve those that meet certain standards, and to allocate funds for the carrying on of these projects;

2. To initiate research in the following areas: a) Biblical research, b) Reformation research, c) Church History, d) subsidizing when necessary the production of pertinent theological literature, e) church problems of today;

3. To allocate funds to underwrite the scholarly work of pastors, teachers, and of retired professors, when such projects meet the standards set by the Committee for Developing Scholarly Research; and be it finally

Resolved, That a new section, defining the name, the membership, and the functions of this Committee be added to the *Handbook.*

Another recommendation by Committee 11 was also *adopted:*

Resolution 12

WHEREAS, Additional funds are requested for the work of scholarly research; therefore be it

Resolved, That in addition to the sums already available, Synod encourage the Fiscal Conference to include in the annual budget the sum of $15,000 to carry on special research projects.

Action of Synod in Milwaukee, 1950, Declaring the Adoption of the "Common Confession," Is Null and Void

(Memorial 614 and Protest of Pastor J. R. Sheppard)

1. The motion before the convention read: "*Resolved,* That we accept the *Common Confession* as a statement of these doctrines in harmony with Scriptures." (1950 *Proceedings,* p. 585.)

2. When the vote was taken, the chairman announced that a "scattered nay vote" was heard.

3. Before the motion was called, various speakers had earnestly contended on the floor of the convention that in several articles the *Common Confession* was devoid of Scripturalness.

4. In the "Constitution of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod" Article VIII C reads: "All matters of doctrine and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God."

5. As a case of discipline in a congregation a nay vote makes excommunication by a majority vote null and void, so here also the "scattered nay votes" cast in "matters of doctrine and of conscience" have made the action taken by majority vote null and void.

GUSTAV H. STEFFEN

ACTION

Committee 6 recommended the following resolution, which was *adopted* with 17 negative votes:

Resolution 31

The memorial and protest contend that the negative votes cast against the adoption of the *Common Confession* at the 1950 convention render the action of the majority null and void because a unanimous vote was required.

Committee 6 has been informed by Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters that protests against the adoption of the *Common Confession* had been previously made on the same grounds to the President of the Synod and referred by him to the Committee on Constitutional Matters for an opinion. This Committee originally rendered an opinion under date of May 18, 1951, in which it made the following statements:

1. "Article VIII C of our Constitution states: 'All matters of doctrine and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God. All other matters shall be decided by a majority vote. In case of a tie vote, the President may cast the deciding vote.' This article safeguards doctrine and conscience by declaring that no doctrine is decided by man or by vote.

2. "Dr. Pieper's *Dogmatics,* Vol. III, p. 495, states: 'Abstimmungen in Sachen der Lehre haben nur den Zweck, festzustellen, ob alle die Lehre des goettlichen Worts erkannt haben und ihr zustimmen; nicht haben sie den Zweck durch Stimmenmehrheit oder auch durch Einstimmigkeit ueber die Richtigkeit einer Lehre zu entscheiden.'

"We note that the correctness of a doctrine is determined neither by a majority vote nor by a unanimous vote, but solely by the Word of God.

"Consequently, when Article VIII C deals with matters of doctrine and conscience, it says nothing about a unanimous vote, thus clearly indicating that when matters are decided by the Word of God, it is not a demand for a unanimous vote; hence the two are not identical. 1 Cor. 1:10 properly belongs where it appears as a reference in Article III of the Constitution and with Eph. 4:3-6 is a plea to conserve and promote the unity of the true faith."

The Committee then quoted the resolution for the adoption of the *Common Confession* and called attention to the fact that the doctrinal position of the Missouri Synod is sufficiently safeguarded with reference to the *Brief Statement,* and the provision for possible clarification and expansion.

The Committee further pointed out that at no time during the discussion on the floor was there any evidence of disagreement of doctrine itself among the members of the Missouri Synod, and that in the absence of protests before the Chair declared the resolution adopted, the decision of the Chair was not a violation of Article VIII of the Constitution.

The Committee closed its opinion with the following paragraph: "The vote at Milwaukee on the acceptance of the *Common Confession,* which was certainly a 'matter of doctrine and of conscience,' can be considered constitutional only if it is definitely understood that those who voted for and those who voted against the manner in which the doctrines are expressed in the *Common Confession* have gone on record as to their position in the matter. That is their constitutional right. The vote is not to be considered binding on the conscience of anyone who voted against the adoption of the *Common Confession* for the sake of his conscience, inasmuch as Synod by resolution (*Proceedings,* p. 586) has given an opportunity for further discussion of all questions with regard to the *Common Confession* with the Committee on Doctrinal Unity."

As a result of this opinion, a lengthy criticism was received from one of the protestants, and the Committee on Constitutional Matters upon giving further consideration to the matter realized that its original opinion had been misunderstood in several respects and rendered a revised opinion dated September 28, 1951.

The Committee changed the last sentence of paragraph 2 as follows: "Therefore, when Article VIII C deals with matters of doctrine and conscience, it says nothing about a unanimous vote or majority vote, but demands that all such matters are decided by the Word of God."

The Committee rewrote paragraph 6 as follows: "The vote at Milwaukee on the acceptance of the *Common Confession* cannot be considered as violating the conscience of anyone inasmuch as Synod by resolution (*Proceedings,* p. 585 f.) has given an opportunity for further discussion of all questions regarding the *Common Confession* with the Committee on Doctrinal Unity."

Committee 6 has given careful consideration to the original and revised opinions of the Committee on Constitutional Matters and to the following conditions and circumstances accompanying the adoption of the *Common Confession:*

1. That no objection was voiced on the floor that anything contained therein was contrary to Scripture. All objections were addressed to choice of words and adequacy.

2. That before final announcement of adoption by the President no one protested that adoption by majority vote was contrary to the Constitution.

3. That no one protested on the ground that the *Common Confession* contained false doctrine.

4. That no one protested on the floor on the ground of violation of conscience.

5. That no one requested from the floor that his name be recorded as opposed to adoption on any of these grounds.

Committee 6 is convinced that the action of the 1950 convention in adopting the *Common Confession* is not rendered null and void by reason of the few scattered nays against adoption; therefore be it

Resolved, That the opinion of Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters dated September 28, 1951, be approved; and be it further

Resolved, That Memorial 614 and Protest of Rev. J. R. Sheppard be declined.

When Is a Unanimous Vote Required?

(Unprinted Memorial 59)

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *adopted* this resolution with 21 negative votes:

Resolution 32

This memorial refers to this congregation's Unprinted Memorial 62 to the 1950 convention asking that Synod reject the *Common Confession* "as doctrinally ambiguous, inadequate, and confused," to its letter of January 13, 1951, asking whether it is the position of the officers of Synod that, in spite of lack of unanimity of action, the *Common Confession* is now constitutionally adopted and that all members' rights and equity in Synod are now governed by this adoption. It refers also to paragraph 6 of the original opinion of Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters dated May 18, 1951, and to paragraph 6 of the revised opinion dated September 28, 1951; also to letter of the President dated April 26, 1952, advising that Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters "is convinced that, considering the circumstances in this particular case a unanimous vote was not necessary. It has not thereby declared that a unanimous vote is never required. It has expressed no opinion on this point since the facts did not require it to do so." The memorial states that the congregation is not clear as to what "the circumstances in this particular case are which eliminate the necessity of a unanimous vote on this "matter of doctrine and conscience" and requests an answer to the following questions:

1. In what circumstances is a unanimous agreement on matters of doctrine and conscience required by God's Word and the synodical Constitution?

2. Does this opinion mean that the Committee and the President hold that unanimous agreement must be required for *final* acceptance of the *Common Confession?*

With reference to the "circumstances of this particular case," Committee 6 refers to its report on Memorial 614 and protest of Rev. J. R. Sheppard, which lists the circumstances.

With reference to question 1 of the Memorial, Committee 6 is of the opinion that this is an abstract question to which it is impossible to give an answer at this time since it is not possible to anticipate circumstances which may develop or occur in the future;

With reference to question 2 of the Memorial, Committee 6 is of the opinion that the opinion of Synod's standing Committee on Constitutional Matters does not hold that unanimous agreement must be required for final acceptance of the *Common Confession* since the question of final adoption was not before it. As with question 1, an answer to this question is not possible at this time. Therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod decline to answer these two questions in Unprinted Memorial 59 at this time.

Do All Matters of Doctrine and Conscience Still Require Unanimous Agreement?

(Memorial 607)

WHEREAS, Article III of the Constitution of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod states that the first object of Synod is "the conservation and promotion of the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10) and a united defense against schism and sectarianism (Rom. 16:17)"; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII C expressly states: "All matters of doctrine and conscience shall be decided by the Word of God. All other matters shall be decided by a majority vote"; and

WHEREAS, The Western District in 1862 declared: "Matters of doctrine and conscience can be disposed of only by unanimous agreement according to the Word of God and the Confessions of the Church, Is. 8:2" (*Die rechte Gestalt,* p. 61; cf. *Theol. Quarterly,* Vol. I, p. 405; Walther, *Pastorale,* p. 372); and

WHEREAS, The Central District declared in 1875: "When a controversy in doctrine arises, then it is ungodly to settle the controversy by a majority vote" (quoted in Kansas District, 1901, p. 30); and

WHEREAS, Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters in an opinion, dated May 18, 1951, declared: "The vote at Milwaukee on the acceptance of the *Common Confession* was certainly a 'matter of doctrine and conscience'" (II, 6); now therefore be it

Resolved, That St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Congregation of Morrison, Ill., hereby requests The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

in convention assembled at Houston, Tex., to answer the question: Is unanimous agreement to the Word of God still required for final disposition of all matters of doctrine and conscience within the Missouri Synod?

ST. PETER'S EV. LUTHERAN CONGREGATION OF MORRISON, ILL.
HAROLD DENIG, *Chairman of Congregational Meetings*
MARVIN BEVEROTH, *Secretary*

ACTION

The following report of Committee 6 was *adopted:*

Resolution 33

This memorial refers to a paragraph in the opinion of Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters dated May 18, 1951, which paragraph, however, was later revised in the opinion of the Committee dated September 28, 1951. The memorial asks Synod to answer the following question: "Is unanimous agreement to the Word of God still required for final disposition of all matters of doctrine and conscience within the Missouri Synod?"

Your Committee submits the following answer: In view of the provision of Article VIII C of the Constitution that all matters of doctrine and conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God, it is obvious that at all times we should strive for unanimous agreement to the Word of God.

However, due to the fact that not only matters of doctrine, but also of conscience are involved, the application of the principle to any given situation or resolution before the convention is subject to the circumstances surrounding the case.

No case of casuistry can be answered in advance.

Duties of the College of Presidents

(Unprinted Memorial 46)

The 1950 convention at Milwaukee referred to the College of Presidents the following memorial of the York-Seward Regional Conference, Southern Nebraska District:

"That between conventions the College of Presidents be the ranking policy-forming group of Synod;

"That its decision and policies be a matter of public record;

"That the Delegate Synod review the actions taken by the College of Presidents since its previous convention; and

"That this convention direct a careful listing of the duties of this College." (*Proceedings* 1950, page 533.)

Since this is a matter which deals with the possible grant of

authority to the College of Presidents not held by this body previously and which should, therefore, be studied by a group other than the College of Presidents, which is directly concerned; the College of Presidents, therefore, *recommends* to Synod assembled in convention at Houston, June, 1953, that this memorial be referred to a special committee appointed by the President of Synod.

COLLEGE OF PRESIDENTS
G. W. LOBECK, *Secretary*

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 35

WHEREAS, The question of making the College of Presidents the ranking policy-forming group of Synod during the interval between conventions deals with a possible grant of authority not held by this body previously, and should, therefore, be studied by a group other than the College of Presidents; be it

Resolved, That the President of Synod appoint a special committee to study this whole matter as presented in the 1950 *Proceedings,* page 533, and report to the next convention.

Certification of Delegates

(Unprinted Memorial 65)

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 36

WHEREAS, Considerable confusion took place in the certification of lay delegates; and

WHEREAS, The certification forms required by the registration desk were not distributed in advance; and

WHEREAS, Getting these blanks signed by the District President was often difficult and time-consuming, and in some cases, virtually impossible; and

WHEREAS, All regular delegates had definite proof of their selection by virtue of the fact that their names appeared in printed material published by Synod, such as the *Lutheran Witness* and the pocket directory distributed to each delegate; therefore be it

Resolved, That the procedure for certification of delegates be studied by the Committee on Constitutional Matters; and be it further

Resolved, That a simplified procedure be developed under which lay delegates and pastors are certified by the same procedure; and be it finally

Resolved, That this simplified procedure be incorporated in the *Handbook.*

Regulations for Executive Secretaries

Committee 6 submitted the following resolution, which was *adopted:*

Resolution 37

WHEREAS, Executive secretaries and assistants serving various boards have been and are now serving; and

WHEREAS, In some instances regulations defining their duties have not as yet been drawn up; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Constitutional Matters be authorized to draw up such regulations whenever none exist.

Authority to Establish Full-Time Offices in Synod

(Unprinted Memorial 37)

Committee 6 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 39

In answer to the question proposed in Unprinted Memorial 37, be it

Resolved, That Synod continue to reserve to itself the authority to establish full-time offices in Synod.

Changes in "Handbook" in Section 8.27

Upon recommendation of Committee 6 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 40

WHEREAS, Greater emphasis should be laid on evangelism in our churches; therefore be it

Resolved, That paragraph a of 8.27 remain as it now reads; and be it further

Resolved, That a new paragraph, numbered b, be added to read as follows: "The Board shall work closely with the District Mission Boards and the congregations of Synod in order to promote an intensive program of all phases of Evangelism throughout Synod, and offer such helps and assistance as may be needed." And be it further

Resolved, That the paragraphs b, c, and d become paragraphs c, d, and e.

Boundary Line Between the Atlantic and Eastern Districts

(Unprinted Memorials 63 and 55)

Synod *adopted* the recommendation of Committee 6:

Resolution 12

WHEREAS, This matter was carefully reviewed with the Presidents of the two Districts concerned; and

WHEREAS, These officials suggested that the matter would be ... between the two Districts; therefore be it

Resolved, That this matter be turned over to the District ...als involved and be submitted by them to the 1956 convention ...ynod for ratification. Cp. *Handbook* 3.02.

Constitutional Matters in the Report of the Board of Directors

Upon recommendation of Committee 6 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 23

Covering this part of the report of the Board of Directors, we wish to inform the Convention that No. 22 has been referred to Committee 13. Cf. page 545, *Reports and Memorials,* Memorial 1009. No. 23 has also been referred to Committee 13. Cf. page 514, *Reports and Memorials,* Memorial 821. No. 25 has been referred to Committee 10. Cf. page 500. No. 26 has been referred to Committee 10 also. Cf. page 496, *Reports and Memorials.*

Covering No. 21, page 457, your Committee offers the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Regulations governing Retirement Plan for Lay Employees, formerly in the *Handbook* under Section 10.61—10.93, were removed from the *Handbook,* since these regulations are of interest to a small group only and must often be changed; and

WHEREAS, The administration of this plan is under the complete direction of the Board of Directors of Synod according to the resolution of the 1947 convention of Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That this action be ratified.

Concerning No. 24, page 457 — *Handbook* Section 2.79 h, your Committee *recommends* adoption, and that Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters be authorized and directed to put this provision into its proper place in the *Handbook.*

Covering No. 27, page 458, your Committee offers the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The duties outlined in Section 9.27 b of the *Handbook* are the responsibility of the Treasurer of Synod; be it therefore

Resolved, That Section 9.27 b of the *Handbook* be repealed.

VI. INTERSYNODICAL AND DOCTRINAL MATTERS

Report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity

(Memorial 601)

In conformity with a resolution of the Milwaukee Convention a Committee on Doctrinal Unity, consisting of Pastors George Maassel, Geo. J. Meyer, and Werner H. Jurgens; Profs. Walter A. Baepler, Martin Franzmann, and Alfred O. Fuerbringer; and Messrs. Walter Blume and Herbert A. Knopp, was appointed in the fall of 1950. The members of this committee, with the exception of Pastor Jurgens, who in September, 1952, asked to be excused from further service, have, throughout the triennium, carried out the task assigned to them to the best of their ability and herewith make their report to Synod.

I

We wish to acknowledge the grace of God, whose aid we always implored for our task and who, we are convinced, guided us in its execution. We are grateful for the presence of Dr. J. W. Behnken at all our meetings and that of Dr. Herman Harms at practically all of them. Both of these leaders of our Church took a deep interest in the work of the committee and were of great help to us. We also wish to acknowledge the interest, understanding, and help of many of the members of our Synod who gave us advice and encouragement and supported us with their prayers. We wish to express our appreciation to the representatives of the other synods of the Synodical Conference for their willingness to meet with us and discuss in a fraternal spirit the problems that confronted us. While we did not reach agreement with all of them on all points, we are hopeful that this may yet come to pass. The very friendly and cordial spirit of the members of the American Lutheran Church with whom we met and the honesty with which they faced some rather difficult situations served to make our task lighter.

II

In accordance with the instructions of Synod the committee has served as a clearinghouse and a steering committee with regard to matters affecting the negotiations with the American Lutheran Church and, especially, the *Common Confession*. At its first meeting, held on December 4, 1950, the committee carefully studied all of the resolutions of the Milwaukee Convention pertaining to its sphere of activity. The committee recognized Synod's declaration that the *Common Confession* as adopted at Milwaukee composed the doctrinal differences of the past. At the same time it was aware that Synod made provisions for clarifications of, and

additions to, the *Common Confession* in case further study or developments made them necessary or advisable. Therefore the committee has made itself available to all who wished to consult it and as a result met with individual members and groups of members of our Church, listened to their presentations, and endeavored to answer their questions. Members of the committee have appeared before conferences and District conventions and have answered whatever correspondence was directed to them in these matters.

III

The committee has also had meetings with representatives of the other synods of the Synodical Conference to discuss the *Common Confession* in a very thorough manner. (Other intersynodical matters do not belong to our sphere of activity.) In meetings held in January, 1951, and in April, 1951, and attended by representatives of all the constituent synods, attention was focused on the sections of the *Common Confession,* as adopted at Milwaukee, regarding which some need for clarification was felt. Upon invitation several members of the committee were present at the convention of the Wisconsin Synod, held at New Ulm, Minn., in August, 1951, and at the convention of the Slovak Church, held in Detroit in the same month.

The Norwegian Synod resolved at its convention in June, 1951:

WHEREAS, The matter of the *Common Confession* has been placed before our Synod by our sister synod, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, for our consent to the course of action outlined in the resolutions of the Missouri Synod, be it

Resolved, That we cannot give our consent to the *Common Confession* as a settlement of doctrinal differences between the Synodical Conference and the American Lutheran Church, for the following reasons:

The *Common Confession* does not reject the errors of the American Lutheran Church. The document does not reject the false doctrine which has been expressed in the American Lutheran Church, that some parts of Scripture are not divinely inspired. John 10, 35: II Tim. 3, 16. On the contrary, when describing the origin of Scripture the *Common Confession* uses the expression "content and fitting word," which is acceptable to many of those who also accept the false doctrine aforementioned.

Secondly, although the justification of all mankind in Christ (objective justification, Rom. 4, 5; 5, 18) has been openly denied within the American Lutheran Church, yet the *Common Confession* does not definitely state that God has declared all mankind to be righteous in Christ.

Thirdly, the error of the American Lutheran Church, that some people are converted to Christ while others are not, because the converted offer only a natural resistance, while others offer willful resistance, — this error is not rejected in the *Common Confession.* Rom. 3, 22.23.

Fourthly, the *Common Confession* does not reject the error taught in the American Lutheran Church, that God elected His people to eternal life in view of their foreseen faith. Acts 13.48.

Fifthly, the *Common Confession* does not reject the error in the American Lutheran Church, that the Means of Grace belong to the essence of the Holy Christian Church. Eph. 2.19; Acts 2.38; Matt. 26.38. (The saints in heaven do not need the remission of sins.)

Sixthly, The *Common Confession* does not *wholly* reject such errors in the doctrine of the Last Things as the American Lutheran Church is tolerating, as, for example, that the Papacy may not be the Antichrist until the last day: (II Thess. 2.8); that an unusually large number of Jews will be converted to Christ in the future (Acts 7.51; Rom. 8.7), and that there will be some kind of millennial reign of Christ (II Tim. 3.1).

These are examples sufficient to show that the *Common Confession* is not a settlement of the differences.

We therefore earnestly entreat our sister synod, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, to reconsider its adoption of the *Common Confession* and to reject it as a settlement of its doctrinal differences with the American Lutheran Church

We further entreat The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to discontinue negotiations with the American Lutheran Church except on the basis of a full acceptance of the *"Brief Statement."* (Titus 3.10.)

Concern for the truth and for the continuation of our fellowship with the Missouri Synod on the doctrinal basis which we have enjoyed in the Synodical Conference through these many years moves us to draw up these resolutions. We desire our fellowship on the basis of right doctrine and practice to continue. God grant that the unity which once prevailed in the Synodical Conference may be restored by a steadfast adherence to the Scriptural principles that have united us.

The Wisconsin Synod received a *Review of the "Common Confession"* prepared at the request of its Standing Committee on Church Union. This *Review* finds "a number of serious omissions in the articles '[of the *Common Confession*]' dealing with the doctrines that have been in controversy" (VI: Justification, VII: Conversion, IV: Election, V: Means of Grace, IX: The Church, XII: The Last Things) and adds that a statement on the doctrine of the Sunday ought to be included. The pertinent resolutions of the Wisconsin Synod are as follows (*Proceedings, 31st Convention,* pp. 147 to 148:

1. Be it *Resolved,* That we concur in the findings of the Standing Committee on Church Union as found in the document *Review of the "Common Confession,"* and herewith make them our own.

2. Be it further *Resolved,* That we inform The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod that we not only find the *Common Confession* to be inadequate in the points noted (cf. *Review of the Common Confession*), but that we also hold that the adoption of the *Common Confession* by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod involves an untruth and creates a basically untruthful situation,

since this action has been officially interpreted as a settlement of the differences which are in fact not settled.

3. And be it further *Resolved,* That we ask The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to repudiate its stand that the *Common Confession* is a settlement of the doctrines treated by the two committees (Mo.-ALC.)

4. And be it further *Resolved:*

a. That we direct the attention of our sister Synod of Missouri to the position which the American Lutheran Church has taken in the *Friendly Invitation* of March 4, 1947, with the remark contending for "an area where there exists an allowable and wholesome latitude of theological opinion on the basis of the teaching of the Word of God," and that we indicate to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod that this position of the American Lutheran Church challenges the clarity and therefore the authority of the Scriptures (Ps. 119:105). This can only cause confusion and disturbance in the church. Therefore negotiations should be suspended.

b. That we further indicate to the sister Synod of Missouri that not until the American Lutheran Church recognizes this as the basic problem which must first be considered and settled, will the obstacle to the renewal of doctrinal discussions have been removed. (Cf. *Convention Proceedings of the Joint Synod,* 1939, page 61, 2b and c.)"

The Slovak Church adopted this resolution:

WHEREAS, The *Common Confession* of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and of the American Lutheran Church has been placed before the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for the purpose of securing the consent of our Church to the course of action of our sister Missouri Synod as outlined in its resolutions; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to this request, the *Common Confession* under the prayerful guidance of the Holy Spirit and in the fear of God has been diligently studied by our Pastoral Conferences and thoroughly examined and discussed daily at the sessions of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church in convention assembled; and

WHEREAS, The Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church, on the basis of this thorough study has come to the conviction that the *Common Confession* does not contain anything contrary to the Word of God and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church; and

WHEREAS, The Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church regards the *Common Confession* as sufficient basis for further negotiations with other Lutheran bodies toward the attainment of true unity of doctrine and practice; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church express its agreement with the doctrines set forth in the *Common Confession* and grant its consent to the course of action as outlined in the resolutions of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

It added the following note:

Although the *Common Confession* has been adopted by unanimous vote of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church we hereby wish to bring to your attention a few pertinent observations which may help you in arriving at any clarification or expansion of the *Common Confession.* (Followed by seven suggestions for improved wording.)

A further meeting with representatives of all of the Synodical Conference groups was held in April, 1952. At this time the tentative draft of Part II was discussed.

At the convention of the Synodical Conference held at St. Paul, Minn., in August, 1952, the following resolution was adopted (*Proceedings, 42d Convention,* pp. 159f.):

WHEREAS, Not all brethren of the Synodical Conference are persuaded that the *Common Confession* is adequate as a settlement of the doctrinal differences between the Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Church; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, as provided for by the Missouri Synod *Convention Proceedings,* p. 585, has prepared a tentative Part II of the *Common Confession* to meet the objections raised against the *Common Confession;* therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synodical Conference postpone all further action with reference to the *Common Confession* until said Part II has been completed and presented to the constituent synods of the Synodical Conference and to the American Lutheran Church."

When the final draft of Articles VIII and IX of Part II of the *Common Confession* had been completed, another meeting was held with representatives of Synodical Conference groups. This meeting took place in Milwaukee in January, 1953. The Norwegian Synod was not represented, but its committee agreed to hold a meeting with the Missouri Synod representatives on April 15, 1953, which at the time of this writing is still in the future.

IV

The main portion of the committee's work was the completion of the *Common Confession.* All of the suggestions made to it relative to the wording of Part I were carefully weighed by the committee and discussed also in joint session with the Committee on Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church. The members of the latter group were very sympathetic to the requests of members of the Missouri Synod and the other Synodical Conference synods for additional statements, spelling out more clearly some of the statements in Part I. They stressed, however, that in order to avoid confusion, these clarifications should be incorporated in the planned Part II, which should then be made one document with Part I. In all, six plenary meetings of both committees and as many meetings of the editorial subcommittee were held. The tentative draft of Articles I to VII and Article X of Part II (present numbering) was printed in the church papers of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Church in April, 1952, and printed copies were mailed to all pastors of both Churches shortly thereafter. The final draft of the entire document was submitted to all pastors in April of this year.

The American Lutheran Church, meeting in Columbus, Ohio, in October, 1950, adopted Part I of the *Common Confession.* At its convention in Waverly, Iowa, in October, 1950, it received Part II in its tentative form as a progress report.

It is the committee's conviction that the entire *Common Confession* as now presented to the convention is an adequate statement of doctrine and practice, which, if also Part II is adopted by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Church, will be a blueprint according to which, with the help of God, full unity in doctrine can be attained and agreement in practice can be achieved between the two Churches.

In accordance with another resolution of the Milwaukee Convention a meeting bringing together the committees, Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and District Presidents of the two Churches was held in February of this year. About 70 men were present at this three-day meeting. The history of the union movement involving the two Churches was reviewed, and the *Common Confession* was discussed, with special emphasis on church fellowship and anti-Christian organizations. As in all of the other meetings of the two committees, the discussion was very frank, but friendly. This meeting, in our opinion, constituted a major step forward. The group resolved that further meetings of this kind should be held in order to corroborate and verify the unity in doctrine and bring about unity in practice as well as eventual church fellowship.

Throughout the triennium your Committee was not unaware of the fact that the American Lutheran Church is contemplating an organic merger with the four other bodies of the American Lutheran Conference. The document which is to form the doctrinal basis for this union is entitled the *United Testimony on Faith and Life.* While the American Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church have adopted the *United Testimony* and are willing to enter the proposed merger, the Augustana Synod at its meeting in June, 1952, indicated that it would not participate in the present merger, and the Lutheran Free Church, also meeting in June, 1952, would not commit itself to the goal of organic union. Your Committee had slated discussion of the *United Testimony* for the agenda at several joint meetings with the committee of the American Lutheran Church, but lack of time prevented the realization of this discussion. In case the proposed merger comes to pass, an entirely new situation will have arisen, which will require the attention of our Synod.

V

Your Committee herewith officially presents to this convention the *Common Confession,* as augmented in accordance with the provisions of the Milwaukee Convention.

The Common Confession (Parts I and II)

Foreword to Part I

The common confession of faith is the composite work of two committees: the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, authorized and empowered to prepare such a statement by its 1947 convention, and the Committee on Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church, authorized and empowered to negotiate with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for the same purpose by its 1948 convention. These two committees voted in joint session on January 7, 1949, to request a joint subcommittee consisting of Dr. Edward C. Fendt, Dr. John H. C. Fritz, Dr. Bernard J. Holm, and Rev. Werner H. Jurgens to prepare the preliminary draft of such a confession. This draft was written by these men in Chicago, Ill., on August 29 and 30, 1949. Revisions were offered in sessions of the two official committees meeting separately (the American Lutheran Church committee in Chicago on September 15, 1949, and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod committee in St. Louis on September 16, 1949). On October 21, 1949, the joint subcommittee embodied these revisions in the document and submitted the revised draft to all the members of the two committees. On December 5 and 6, 1949, the two committees met jointly and approved the copy herewith submitted.

This confession of faith, unanimously approved by the two official committees as their report to their Synods, is hereby respectfully submitted to the Synods for adoption.

The Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Dr. W. Arndt, Chairman
Dr. John W. Behnken
Dr. John H. C. Fritz
Dr. F. H. Brunn
Prof. Walter Baepler
Rev. Geo. J. Meyer
Rev. W. H. Jurgens
Mr. H. W. Knopp

The Committee on Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church

Dr. Em. Poppen, Chairman
Dr. Edward C. Fendt
Dr. Bernard J. Holm
Dr. L. Ludwig
Dr. W. L. Young
Mr. Carl E. Schock

Augmented by the Executive Committee of the American Lutheran Church:

Dr. Wm. Sodt
Dr. Julius Bodensieck
Dr. H. L. Yochum

Chicago, Illinois, December 6, 1949

Report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and of the Committee on Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church

In order to give expression to our common Christian Faith, we hereby declare the following to be our mutual conviction and testimony:

I. *GOD*

We believe and teach:

The one and only God is the God who has revealed Himself to us as the Creator of the world and its Preserver, to whom the entire creation and all creatures are subject, who is the Lord and Ruler over all things. Through the Holy Scriptures He has revealed Himself to us as the Righteous and Holy One and also as the God of our salvation from sin and death. He has designated and manifested Himself as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the work of creation, redemption, and sanctification. We therefore confess our faith in this Triune God, three distinct Persons in the one Godhead.

(2) All men can know of the existence and activity of God, deriving such knowledge from the creation of the world, their own conscience, and history. But who God is, how He is minded toward man, and what He has done for man's salvation from sin, can be known only from God's revelation of Himself in Jesus Christ through the Holy Scriptures. In Jesus Christ, God became incarnate. "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the Only-Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth," John 1:14.

Cf. Acts 14:15-17; 17:24-31; Romans 1:19-20; 2:14-15; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; Ephesians 2; Colossians 1; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; Hebrews 1—2.

II. *MAN*

We believe and teach:

(1) God in the beginning created man in His own image to live according to His Law which God had written into man's heart; but man disobeyed God and thereby became a sinner, alienating himself from God, and bringing sin and death upon himself and all his posterity. "As by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned," Romans 5:12. Therefore all men are born into this world with original sin; and being unable to observe God's divine commands, they willfully continue to transgress God's holy Law in thoughts, words, and deeds. Man as sinner has delivered himself

into the bondage of sin and of the devil, from which man cannot free himself by his own powers. From this desperate condition and tyranny only God can set man free.

Cf. Genesis 1—3; Psalms 51 and 130; Romans 1—7; Ephesians 4:24; Hebrews 2:14-18.

III. *REDEMPTION*

We believe and teach:

(1) God from eternity decreed to send, and in the fullness of time did send, His Son to fallen man as Savior, to fulfill the Law in the sinner's stead and to suffer the sinner's punishment in his stead. Christ "was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification," Rom. 4:25. God "laid on Him the iniquity of us all," Is. 53:6. Christ entered into death in order to bring man, held in the grip of death, unto life with Himself. In His victory over death He brings to man a life of freedom from death. God by raising Christ from the dead proclaimed to the world that He has accepted the atonement for man's sin as completed and that Christ, the risen and exalted God-Man, shall reign as Lord forever.

Cf. Isaiah 53; Matthew 20:28; Luke 24; John 11 and 14; Acts 2:22-36; 1 Corinthians 15; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21; 1 Timothy 2:4-6; 1 Peter 1:18-25.

IV. *ELECTION*

We believe and teach:

(1) God from eternity, solely because of His grace in Christ and without any cause whatever in man, elected as His own all those whom He makes and keeps members of His kingdom and heirs of eternal life. The Holy Spirit by the Gospel has called us and assured us of our status before God, testifying to us that He has chosen us for Himself in Christ from the foundation of the world, and by the imputation of Christ's righteousness has given us the assurance that He will present us faultless before the throne of His glory.

Cf. Acts 13:48; Romans 8; Ephesians 1; 1 Peter 1:1-9.

V. *MEANS OF GRACE*

We believe and teach:

(1) God has willed that the knowledge and benefit of Christ's redemption from sin be brought to man through His means of grace, namely, through the Gospel in the Word and in the Sacraments. Through these means he not only offers but actually bestows His grace in Christ unto forgiveness of sins and a life of fellowship with Him.

(2) *The Word.* Through the Holy Scriptures, which God caused to be written by men chosen and inspired by Him, God instructs and assures us regarding His will for us. The Holy Scriptures

stitute His Word to men, centering in the revelation of Him- in the person and work of Jesus Christ for our salvation. rough the Holy Scriptures God continues to speak to men in all s until the end of time. He speaks as the infallible and unanging God, whose message to mankind never changes. Since Holy Spirit by divine inspiration supplied to the holy writers ntent and fitting word, therefore we acknowledge the Holy riptures in their entirety as the inspired Word of God. His Holy Spirit testifies in our hearts that His Word is true, that He will keep all His promises to us, and that our faith in Him is not in vain.

(3) We therefore recognize the Holy Scriptures as God's inerrant Word, and this Word of God alone shall establish articles of faith (cf. Smalcald Articles, Part II, Art. II). We pledge ourselves to teach all things taught in the Holy Scriptures, and nothing but that which is taught us by God in the Holy Scriptures.

(4) The Holy Scriptures teach both Law and Gospel, but the chief content of the Holy Scriptures is the Gospel. The Law enters into the service of the Gospel by bringing man to a knowledge of his sins and by convincing him that he is under God's judgment because of his sins, and by telling the believer what fruits of faith he should produce.

(5) *Baptism.* In the Sacrament of Baptism, God adopts men as His children. In Baptism, God confers the benefits of Christ's redemption and graciously bestows the washing of regeneration and newness of life. We recognize it as the Lord's will that men should be baptized even in their infancy, knowing that the promise of God also applies to little children.

(6) *The Lord's Supper.* In the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ gives us His body, offered up for us, and His blood, shed for us, to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins, the strengthening of our faith, and the increase in holiness of life. In this Sacrament we receive Christ's body and blood orally as well as spiritually. All communicants receive Christ's precious body and blood together with the bread and wine, but only the believers obtain the blessings of the Sacrament. Christ is not only present at the celebration of the Sacrament, but in this Sacrament He enters into the most intimate communion with the members of His Church, bringing to them His body and His blood by which He made atonement for their sins.

Cf. The Word: 1 Corinthians 1—2; 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; 1 Peter 1; 2 Peter 1:12-21.

Baptism: Matthew 28:18-20; John 3:1-13; Acts 2:37-39; Romans 6; Titus 3:4-7.

Lord's Supper: Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:23-29.

VI. *JUSTIFICATION*

We believe and teach:

(1) By His redemptive work Christ is the Propitiation for the sins of the whole world; hence forgiveness of sin has been secured and provided for all men. (This is often spoken of as objective justification.) "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the Word of Reconciliation," 2 Corinthians 5:19. Hence no sinner need be eternally lost on account of his sins. God offers this propitiation and reconciliation freely to all men through His means of grace. There is nothing in sinful man or in what he may do to merit God's declaring him righteous. God justifies the sinner solely on the basis of Christ's righteousness, which He imputes to the sinner through the Gospel and which the sinner accepts by faith. Such faith is wrought in man by the Holy Spirit. Through this faith we not only receive from God but also retain the blessed assurance of our righteousness in His sight for Christ's sake.

Cf. Romans 3—5; Galatians 2:16—3:29; Colossians 1; 1 John 2:2.

VII. *CONVERSION*

We believe and teach:

(1) The sinner's conversion takes place when God brings the contrite sinner to faith in Christ as his Savior. This change of heart with respect to sin, and this reliance upon Christ for salvation from sin, is the work of God the Holy Spirit, without any co-operation whatsoever from sinful man. "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost," 1 Corinthians 12:3b.

Cf. Acts 5:31; 26:18; Ephesians 2:1-9; Jeremiah 31:18-19; Ezekiel 11:19-20.

VIII. *SANCTIFICATION*

We believe and teach:

(1) The believer in Christ can no longer enjoy living in sin, but he is prompted and enabled by the love of God in Christ and by the indwelling Holy Spirit to live according to God's commandments and to be minded toward all things as God is minded. "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me," Galatians 2:20.

(2) We therefore, out of gratitude to God, seek to glorify Him by abounding in good works, without which faith is dead. In glorifying God we seek to serve Him and our neighbor in love, as He directs us in both tables of His Law.

(3) In this present world the Christian can never attain perfect holiness, because sin inheres in him until death. But we strive toward the goal that is set before us and by daily contrition and faith make progress in our Christian life. We look forward to the life to come, when we shall be cleansed of every defilement of sin and shall share with Christ His perfect life.

Cf. Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 and 7:1; Ephesians 2:10; Philippians 2:13 and 3:12; Colossians 1:10 and 2:6; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:15; 1 John 3:6-9.

IX. *THE CHURCH*

We believe and teach:

(1) All believers in Christ constitute the one, holy, Apostolic (in agreement with the Apostles' doctrine), and catholic (universal) Church. Jesus Christ is its Head. Through the means of grace He calls all its members into fellowship with Himself and also unites the members in fellowship with one another.

(2) To all members of His Church the Lord has given all the rights and prerogatives set forth in His Word. Every Christian has the right of direct access to God without a human mediator.

(3) To the Church has been given the commission to preach the Gospel and to administer the Sacraments. It is therefore the duty of Christians to unite in local congregations for this purpose. In such local congregations the presence or activity of any unbelievers or hypocrites does not nullify the power of the Word of God. The efficacy of the means of grace does not depend on the faith of the administrant, but inheres in the Word of God itself.

(4) In this present world, Christ does not promise His Church any earthly reign over the affairs of men. His Church will remain a kingdom of the cross until His return for Judgment; but He will sustain it according to His promise: "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it," Matt. 16:18b.

(5) It is the duty of the Church to be faithful to its Lord and His Word in all its testimony, to be steadfast in its confession of His truth at all times, and to avoid and combat error. It is the duty of the Church to mold and keep its practice in conformity with the Lord's directives in the Holy Scriptures. Therefore we dare not condone error or have altar and pulpit fellowship and unscriptural co-operation with erring individuals, church bodies, or church groups that refuse to be corrected by God's Word. We must also be alert and susceptible to the Lord's leading to establish and maintain fellowship with those whom He has made one with us in the faith and to seek to win the erring and wayward for unity in the true faith. We are mindful of our Lord's intercessory prayer

that we, who are His brethren, may be one, even as He and the Father are one.

Cf. Matthew 28; John 8:31-32; 15; 17; 20:22-23; Romans 12: 3-8; 16; 1 Corinthians 1:10; 3:12; Ephesians 2; 4:1-16; 5:6-11; Colossians 1; 1 Timothy 6; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 John 4:1; 2 John 9-10.

X. *THE MINISTRY*

We believe and teach:

(1) The ministry of the Word and Sacraments exists by divine ordinance. God continues to call men into this holy office and entrusts the spiritual welfare of His congregations to these pastors as His gifts to the Church. It is the will of God that congregations choose as their pastors only such men as have the qualifications outlined in the Holy Scriptures. Pastors are required by God to be faithful and as faithful pastors are entitled to the love and respect of their congregations.

Cf. Acts 20:28; Romans 10:12-18; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 2 Corinthians 4; Ephesians 4:11-15; 1 Timothy 3; 5:17; Hebrews 13:7-17.

XI. *THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS*

We believe and teach:

(1) The Lutheran Confessions (Book of Concord, 1580) are true exhibitions of the truths of the Holy Scriptures. Therefore it is rightly required that every pastor and congregation in the Lutheran Church subscribe to and uphold the doctrines taught in these Confessions without any omission, deviation, or reservation.

XII. *THE LAST THINGS*

We believe and teach:

(1) The Church of Jesus Christ will exist and endure on earth, according to the promises of Christ, until His return for Judgment. When Christ returns for Judgment, He will raise up all the dead — all believers in Him to eternal life, and all others to everlasting damnation.

(2) Among the signs of His approaching return for Judgment the distinguishing features of the Antichrist, as portrayed in the Holy Scriptures, are still clearly discernible in the Roman Papacy, the climax of all human usurpations of Christ's authority in the Church. We hold it to be an error to teach anything as a sign of Christ's second advent not promised or foretold in the Holy Scriptures, such as the expectation of a mass conversion of the Jews, a preliminary resurrection of martyrs, and a visible millennial reign of Christ on the earth before the Day of Judgment.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time, wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations; that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ; whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory; receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls," 1 Peter 1:3-9.

(4) "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that when He shall appear we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is," 1 John 3:2.

Cf. Matthew 16:18; John 5:28-29; 6:40; 18:36; Romans 11; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-10; 1 John 2:18; Revelation 20.

Foreword to Part II

Part II of the *Common Confession* was prepared in a period of two years by the members of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the Committee on Union and Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church after Part I was adopted by these two Synods. Part II is intended as a supplement to Part I, and the two parts in reality form one doctrinal statement. Neither part is to be regarded as complete in itself or unrelated to the other. Part II was written to bring clarification where misunderstanding of Part I was encountered, as well as adding some doctrines which were omitted in Part I. The aim of the joint committee was to let the Holy Scriptures speak authoritatively and with finality in all matters discussed and summarized, so that past controversies might be allayed and future controversies avoided.

The entire *Common Confession* does not claim to be a complete review of the Christian faith and life, but it manifests common insights and emphases in our understanding and formulation of many Christian doctrines as held and taught in our churches. It constitutes a common and united devotion to the Word of God as the teaching of our churches in our times.

Part II as unanimously adopted by our two official committees

in our last joint meeting in Chicago, Ill., on February 9, 1953, is therefore being submitted to our Synods for thorough discussion and, if found in harmony with the Holy Scriptures, for adoption.

The Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Dr. Walter A. Baepler, Chairman
Dr. John W. Behnken
Prof. Martin Franzmann
Prof. Alfred O. Fuerbringer
Dr. Herman Harms
Pastor George Maassel
Pastor George Meyer
Mr. Walter Blume
Mr. Herbert Knopp

The Committee on Union and Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church

Dr. Henry F. Schuh, Chairman
Dr. E. J. Braulick
Dr. Edward C. Fendt
Dr. Bernard J. Holm
Dr. Leonard Ludwig
Dr. H. W. Siefkes
Mr. L. E. Fisher
Mr. Fred Lentz
Dr. W. L. Young

Report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and of the Committee on Union and Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church

In the belief that our common conviction and testimony regarding the Christian faith as expressed in the *Common Confession* must express itself in the life and corporate activity of the Church, we submit the following statements as indicative of, and normative for, Christian life in our congregations and Synods:

THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

i. *THE CHURCH'S MISSION*

(1) **Company of the Reborn** The Church, as the company of those who are born again, is the salt of the earth and the light of the world. It confronts a mankind which without the gracious working of the Holy Spirit is totally corrupt in trespasses and sins, is completely blinded to the will of God, and willfully resists every endeavor of God to save it from destruction. It is the privilege of the Church to proclaim in word and deed the glorious redemption of all men in Christ. God "will have all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth," 1 Timothy 2:4. It is the duty of the Church to testify that salvation is wholly and solely in and through Christ. "Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved," Acts 4:12.

(2) **Communion of Saints** The Church, as the communion of saints, enjoys fellowship with God and is nourished and sustained by His presence and by His activity in the means of grace. God speaks to the assembled congregation in the Word and Sacraments, and the assembly of believers responds in hymns and prayers of adoration, intercession, petition, and thanksgiving to God. Through the Word and the Sacraments God constantly assures the Church of its status before Him and enables it to fulfill its function in the world. The Church thus enabled is commissioned by God to "show forth His salvation from day to day," to "declare His glory among the heathen, His wonders among all people," Psalm 96:2-3.

(3) **Beloved of God** The Church, as the beloved of God, reflects its love for God by ministering to all men, especially to those of the household of faith. Following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Church seeks and works for the complete well-being of all men. "This commandment have we from Him, that he who loveth God love his brother also," 1 John 4:21.

Matthew 5:13-16; Ephesians 2:1; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Romans 8; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 Timothy 2:3-6; Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 2:8-10.

John 14:23; Exodus 20:24; John 8:31-32; 1 Timothy 2:1; Philippians 2:15-16; 2 Timothy 1:7-14; 4:1-5.

Matthew 25:31-40; Galatians 6:10; 1 John 4:7-21; Luke 10:25-37.

ii. *THE CHURCH'S RESOURCES*

(1) **Presence of God** The Lord, who commissions the Church to preach the Gospel to every creature, promises to be with it unto the end of the world. He sends His Spirit to dwell in the Church forever and to bring to its remembrance all things which Christ as its Head has said and still says in the Scriptures. As the Church faithfully proclaims His Word, Christ's promise, "He that heareth you, heareth Me," is fulfilled, Luke 10:16. He to whom all power is given in heaven and in earth has promised to grant whatsoever the Church needs and asks in His name.

(2) **Means of Grace** As the Good Shepherd Christ guides and guards the Church through perils and assaults in a hostile world, and the Holy Spirit as the Chief Builder cleanses and sanctifies the Church as the habitation of God. Through the means of grace, the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments, the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it in union with Jesus Christ in the one true faith, and thus directs and enables it to do the will of God. Where these means of grace are in use, there God builds His Church.

(3) **God's Gifts** The Lord always bestows His gifts on the Church in a generous and abundant measure. He gives to the Church pastors after His own heart who preach God's Word and administer the Sacraments in the name of the Christian congregation. He also calls and equips other workers for their respective and diverse ministrations of love in every generation.

(4) **Assurance of Victory** God's Word never returns unto Him void, but always accomplishes that which He pleases and prospers in the thing whereto He sends it. Through the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments He is at work in and through the Church to call men from sin and death and to make them heirs of everlasting life. Those who believe in Him enjoy fellowship with Him forever, are made laborers together with God in the work of His kingdom, and by their faith triumph over the world. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith," 1 John 5:4.

Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:26; 16:23-24.

John 17; Ephesians 5:25-27; 2:14-22; 2 Timothy 1:9; Romans 1:16.

Acts 1:8; Ephesians 4:7-16; Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12—14; Acts 6:1-7; John 13:12-15.

Isaiah 55:10-11; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; John 5:24; 8:31-32; Acts 2:38-40; Galatians 2:20; 1 Corinthians 3:9; 2 Corinthians 6:1.

iii. *THE CHURCH AND ITS MINISTRATIONS*

(1) **Universal Priesthood** All members of the Church are royal priests. In calling a pastor to preach the Word of God and to administer the Sacraments on their behalf, the members of a local congregation exercise their royal priesthood and by no means relinquish it. The privilege and the responsibility of ministering to the saints of God remain the privilege and responsibility of all the members of the Church.

(2) **Individual and United Activity** From the exercise of this ministry no one is exempt. Every Christian, man or woman, old or young, rich or poor, skilled or unskilled, learned or unlearned, as God gives power and opportunity, is to edify the Church of God; to feed the lambs and the sheep; to instruct and encourage others; to visit the sick and help the needy and distressed; to seek, admonish, rebuke, forgive, and restore the erring; to judge and remove false teaching; to endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace; to speak in defense of all the saints, being ready to give an answer to anyone concerning the hope that is in them; and to support with prayers and gifts the exercise of this ministry in areas and spheres which he himself

can reach. Christian congregations and synods take counsel and cooperate with each other in seeking God-pleasing and effective ways to perform the work the Lord has assigned to all members of His Church.

(3) **Universal Application** The blessings of this ministry are meant for all races and conditions of men. From these blessings no one may be excluded, since no one is excluded from the forgiveness spoken by God to the world in the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. Christian love, having its source in that forgiving love of God, is spontaneous and unrestricted and knows no barrier of race, class, or color, even as Christ is the Propitiation not only for our sins, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 5:9-10; 2 Corinthians 2:10.

Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12; 14:29; Jeremiah 23:9-40; Ephesians 3:14-21; 4:1-6; 1 Peter 3:15; 1 John 4:1-6.

2 Corinthians 5:19; Colossians 1:19-22; 1 John 4:7-21; Hebrews 9:26; Acts 17:24-28; 1 John 2:2.

iv. *THE CHURCH AND THE HOME*

(1) **Marriage** God has ordained and blessed the estate of marriage and has established the relation of mutual helpfulness and love between husband and wife. Marriage is intended by God to be a lifelong union. "What God hath joined together let not man put asunder," Matthew 19:6.

(2) **Parents and Children** In love and wisdom God has blessed the marriage state with the privilege and responsibility of parenthood. "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth," Genesis 1:28. "Children are an heritage of the Lord," Psalm 127:3. Parents are responsible for their children and should rear them in the fear and admonition of the Lord. God has established the home as the foundation of society and the training school for Christian character. Over against the sins of impurity, infidelity, neglect, and all other causes that may lead to divorce, the Church emphasizes the sacredness of the home and the blessedness of the parent-child relationship.

(3) **Christian Home** The Church under the impulse of Christ's Gospel counsels the youth, encourages Christian companionship, upholds purity of life, and teaches God's will regarding courtship and marriage. The Church upholds the all-inclusive character of the home, where the old and the new generations meet together in love and esteem. To rear children in the fear of God and to care for aged and infirm members of the family remain the responsibility of the family.

(4) **Family Worship** Christians enjoy the blessings of the family altar, where God's Word is read and the entire household unites in prayer. Christian parents present their little ones to be baptized as early as possible and regularly bring their entire household to the house of God for worship and spiritual growth and understanding. When parents fail to recognize and discharge their duties as God's representatives in the home, God will hold them responsible for any resulting delinquency of their children. Christian parents remember Joshua's example, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord," Joshua 24:15.

Genesis 2:18-24; Ephesians 5:22-33; Matthew 19:3-9; 1 Corinthians 7:10-16.

Psalm 127; Ephesians 6:1-4.

Ecclesiastes 11:19—12:1; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 2 Timothy 2:22; Malachi 4:6; 1 Timothy 5:4.

Genesis 18:19; Deuteronomy 6:6-9; Colossians 3:16; Mark 10:14; Hebrews 10:23-25; Ephesians 6:3.

v. *THE CHURCH AND VOCATION*

(1) **Christian Vocation** Every earthly relationship is sanctified through fellowship with God, and for the Christian, whatever his vocation may be, the whole of life is a sacred stewardship from God. The Church, therefore, recognizes and proclaims the dignity of all labor that glorifies God and serves the welfare of man. All believers are responsible servants of God; and their time, talents, and treasure are a sacred trust from God, to be employed for Christ in their respective vocations. As a steward of God the individual Christian constantly faces the question, "Is my vocation God-pleasing?" The choice or change of his vocation must be prompted not by selfish gain, but by a desire for better service to God and man according to the abilities which God has granted to him. The Church reminds its members to heed the divine injunction, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might," Ecclesiastes 9:10, in the assurance that a good and perfect kind of life is one which has for it the commandment of God.

(2) **Management and Labor** In the relation of management and labor the Church is obligated to proclaim to its people with strength the twin admonitions, "Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven," Colossians 4:1. "Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eye service as menpleasers, but in singleness of heart, fearing God; and whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men, knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ," Colossians 3:22-24. The emphasis in

...agement-labor relation should not be on selfish or unfair ... on depriving others of the benefit of their labors, but on ... Christian service to the neighbor and the community.

(3) ...ship God blesses such labor and through it provides the necessities of life for the individual and his dependents, the things that are good and beautiful, and ...nance of good government. Above all, He supplies the ... for the support and extension of His kingdom and the ...rces for that Christian charity which has compassion upon ...eighbor and promptly and personally supplies his need. The ...tian views the fruits of his labor as blessings bestowed upon ...by God and as a trust to be administered to the glory of God.

... 1 Timothy 4:4-5; Colossians 3:17; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Thes...lonians 3:10-13.

... Proverbs 3:5-10; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; James 5:1-6; Philippians ...4; 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; Matthew 7:12.

... Psalm 145:15-16; Ephesians 4:28; 1 Corinthians 9:14; Galatians ...9-10; Matthew 25:31-40; 1 Corinthians 4:7; 1 Chronicles 29:10-19.

vi. *THE CHURCH AND EDUCATION*

(1) **The Great Commission** The Church continues to heed Christ's charge to go into all the world and to make disciples of all men, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever Christ has commanded.

(2) **Bible in Education** The Church has the duty to provide for all its members throughout their lives the best possible instruction in the Holy Scriptures. The Holy Scriptures are God's verbally inspired Word, that is, God moved men to write what He wanted recorded in the words which He wanted employed. They alone constitute God's inerrant Word to men. They alone are "able to make" men "wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus," 2 Timothy 3:15. They alone train men in holy living. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works," 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

(3) **Christ-Centered Education** The Church places all the arts and sciences in the service of God and therefore brings the Word of God to bear on education at all levels for all professions and occupations. It insists that education for a God-pleasing life must be Christ-centered. Therefore it considers incomplete any program of education which omits as its paramount consideration the existence and activity of the Triune God in the world. The Church corrects such programs with its own program

of teaching the truths revealed by God in His Word. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you," Matthew 6:33.

Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Isaiah 40:9; John 14:6-23; 8:12.

2 Peter 3:17-18; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; Psalm 78:1-8; John 10:35; 6:63; Isaiah 40:8; 1 Peter 1:23-25; 2 Peter 1:19.

Psalm 19:7-14; 111:10; Acts 17:24-28; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; 1 Timothy 4:8.

vii. *THE CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT*

(1) **God and Government** The Church recognizes governmental authority as ordained of God, as subject to the will of God, and as designed to seek the good of its citizens. It is the function of such government as God's representative to punish those who do wrong, to approve those who do right, and to protect all from injustice. The Church supports such government by admonishing its members to obey the laws, to pay taxes, and to render personal service in time of peace and war as the government may require, provided only that "we ought to obey God rather than men," Acts 5:29.

(2) **Christian and Government** The Church calls upon its members to pray and work for good government. They are enjoined not only to keep themselves unspotted from the evils of the world, but are also called upon to work as citizens for the eradication of evil practices in government. To assist in the nomination and election of honest men to public office, to promote the enactment and enforcement of proper and salutary legislation, to encourage Christian men and women to hold public office, and to support all officers in the faithful exercise of their duties, remain responsibilities of all Christian citizens. The liberty of Christian witness should not be abused to heap disrespect upon the incumbents of government offices, however frail these officers may be. The Church constantly prays "for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty," 1 Timothy 2:2. God's Word requires that government officers administer their high trust with integrity, sobriety, and humility, for they shall be judged by God.

(3) **Christian and War** The Church recognizes war as an evil and emphasizes that sins, both personal and national, are the cause of war, and earnestly stresses the need of repentance. If repentance does not take place, the judgment of God may become evident in war. In times of war as well as in times of peace the Church proclaims the will of God for all men, combats the passions of hatred and revenge, and always seeks to alleviate the suffering

caused by war. Christians, while careful not to provoke war or resort to war, nevertheless in times of war have the responsibility to defend their country when in danger or under attack from its enemies.

Romans 13; 1 Peter 2:13-17; Titus 3:1-2; Matthew 22:15-22.

Jeremiah 29:7; 1 Timothy 2:1-4; Romans 13:6-7.

Matthew 5:43-48; James 4:1-2; 1 Timothy 2:1-6; Romans 12:9-21; Luke 3:14; Matthew 5:9.

viii. *THE CHURCH AND CHURCH FELLOWSHIP*

A. The Basis, Nature, and Extent of the Church

(1) **Church Universal** All believers in Christ, and only believers in Christ, are members of the one, holy, Apostolic, Universal Church. They are made and kept members of this Church solely through the gracious work of God. God is at work wherever His Word is preached and His Sacraments are administered. It is in the one Christ, who comes in the Word and the Sacraments, that the Church Universal possesses its unity.

(2) **Church Unity** The oneness of the Church is not a goal to be achieved or a task to be completed. It is a unity that belongs to the essence of the Church because the one Christ, the Lord of heaven and earth, is its Head. Either a man belongs to this one Church, or he does not. Either the Church is the one Church, or it is not the Church. This union with Christ as the Head also brings about the union of believers with one another. The uniting power of the Gospel becomes manifest both in local congregations and groups of congregations throughout Christendom.

(3) **Marks of the Church** The means of grace (the Gospel in the Word and the Sacraments) are the only genuine marks of the Church, and by them Christ through the Holy Spirit creates and preserves faith in the hearts of men. Through them the Church manifests itself on earth. The Gospel in the Word is not to be thought of as an inarticulate possession of the truth, but as a real proclamation of the Christ for us, the declaration of God's forgiveness for the sake of Christ, our Substitute, "who was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification." Likewise, it is not mere knowledge about the Sacraments which constitutes a mark of the Church, but the actual administration of them according to the institution of Christ. Without the Gospel in preaching and Sacraments it would be impossible to speak of the Church, for then the Church would be non-existent.

Acts 16:30; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:26-28; Romans 10:9-17.

Ephesians 4:1-16; Acts 2:41-47; Romans 12:4-5.

1 Peter 1:23-25; Romans 10:17; 1:16; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-20; Matthew 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.

B. The Basis, Nature, and Extent of Church Fellowship

1. Church Fellowship as a Fellowship of Faith

(4) **Authority of the Scriptures** Fidelity to the source and norm of Christian doctrine, that is, submission and obedience to the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, is required on the part of all members of the Church. If a person (or group of persons) by God's grace and the guidance of the Spirit acknowledges the Holy Scriptures as his only authority in all matters of faith and life and conforms thereto, and does not deny, contradict, or ignore any word of God in the Holy Scriptures, he is to be regarded and acknowledged as a brother in the Lord and a fellow worker in the Kingdom of God. Not to recognize him as such constitutes a denial of Christ's work in the brother and leads to schism in the Church.

(5) **Disruptions of the Fellowship of Faith** On the other hand, teaching otherwise than the Word of God teaches, setting up dogma contrary to, or without warrant from, the Word of God, as well as neglecting or omitting any part of the Word of God, creates divisions in the Church and disrupts its unity. To overlook divergences from the Word of God in the teaching and life of other Christians, to tolerate false teaching and practice contrary to Scripture, and to be silent in the face of denials of the Word of God likewise contribute to the disruption of the unity of the Church.

Matthew 28:20; John 8:31; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; Acts 4:32; 9:27-28; 1 Corinthians 3:11.

Acts 18:24-28; Galatians 2:11-14; Matthew 18:15-18; Romans 16:17-20; Matthew 16:6; Ephesians 5:11.

2. Church Fellowship as a Fellowship of Confession

(6) **Function of the Confessions** The Church's response and witness to the Word of God, particularly in the face of denial and attack, finds expression in the confessions of the Church. Loyalty to the Ecumenical Creeds and the Lutheran Confessions is therefore essentially fidelity to the Holy Scriptures. We hold to them not merely because they have been formulated and accepted by the Church as the expression of its faith, but because they constitute the right understanding and exposition of the Scriptures. The Scriptures remain the norm by which every confession must be interpreted and judged.

(7) **Primacy of the Gospel** This confessional loyalty is of particular importance with reference to the witness of the Confessions to the central theme of the Scriptures, the Gospel. Agreement in the Gospel is fundamental to church fellowship, for the Gospel constitutes the center from which all teachings of the Scriptures are to be viewed. Ultimately all the doctrines of the

Scriptures have an organic connection with the central theme of Scriptures, which is the Gospel. A denial of any teaching Scriptures involves a mutilation of, and departure from, the ete Gospel, and it is for this reason that a full and common ence to the Holy Scriptures is an indispensable requisite for fellowship. It is impossible to recognize as equally valid confessions as are mutually contradictory. The validity of nfession is established not by the mere claim that it is in ony with the Scriptures, but by the fact that it is in actual ment with them and is a faithful restatement of the Gospel e central theme of the Scriptures.

(8) **Defending the Truth** The Lord directs His Church in every age to determine how the testimony to the truth of His Word can be given most effectively, so that all men may hear and know the authority of that Word in such matters. In order to protect the flock of Christ against errorists, it may be necessary to give this testimony in their presence, or it may be necessary to testify by withdrawing from them. There is no warrant in the Scriptures to disregard error and errorists. The Lord makes it the duty of the Church to expose the error to the errorists on the basis of the Holy Scriptures and thus seek to win the erring brethren by love. If the Church's admonition of love remains unheeded, separation as a final endeavor of love becomes inevitable, for even in withdrawal or excommunication for reasons of heresy and apostasy the real purpose is not to exclude the erring brother forever from the fellowship of faith, but to win him back into such fellowship.

Hebrews 10:23; 1 Peter 3:15; Galatians 1:8; 1 Corinthians 1:10.

1 Corinthians 3:11; Galatians 1:8; 2 John 9—11; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Romans 1:16-17; Isaiah 8:20; Matthew 28:20.

Matthew 7:15; Acts 17:11; 1 Timothy 6:3-5; Titus 3:10; Romans 16:17-20; 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14, 15; 1 Corinthians 5:4-5; James 5; 19-20; 2 Cor. 2:6-10.

3. Church Fellowship as a Fellowship of Love

(9) **The Bond of Love** Church fellowship is characterized by love for the brethren. Following the example of the Lord, who gave Himself for the Church, the members of the Church are to "consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works"; "forbearing one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." As Christ loved the Church, so His followers are enjoined to love one another. This love for one another has compelling implications for church fellowship. Christian love yearns for fellowship with the brethren, shuns the loneliness of separation, and is nourished and sustained by the

personal relationship of Christ with the Church and the members of the Church with Christ and with one another. It is the nature of Christian faith and love to be expressed in fellowship with brethren.

(10) **Speaking the Whole Truth in Love** Christian love for the erring brother is clothed in humility and candor. Humility demands that a Christian remember that he, too, is frail and that his judgment of a brother may be partial and erroneous. Lovelessness, arrogance, and arbitrariness have no place in the treatment of an erring brother. Great and grievous sins of maltreatment of the erring brother may lie concealed behind a screen of avowed faithfulness to the truth. Candor demands that fellowship or the avoidance of fellowship be motivated and fortified by all the relevant teachings of the Word of God. Neither separatism nor unionism may be validated by using selected Scriptural admonitions out of proper context to prove it correct and by disregarding other relevant Scriptural admonitions. It is required of brethren to listen to each other's testimony, to respect each other's conscience, and to judge all relationships in the light of the entire Scriptures.

John 15:9-17; Romans 12:3-21; Ephesians 4:16; Hebrews 10:25. Galatians 6:1; Acts 18:24-28; Matthew 18:15-18; Acts 9:26-30; Luke 9:49-50; Romans 14:1; Galatians 6:1-5; 2:11; Acts 20:27; 2 Corinthians 13:8.

4. Church Fellowship as a Fellowship of Work

(11) **The Lord's Behest** A fellowship of faith, confession, and love will find expression in a fellowship of work. Such behests of the Lord to the Church as "Go ye," "Pray ye," "Labor ye," are commands not only for individual, but also for joint or corporate activity. The work of proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed is the task both of the individual Christian and of Christians joined together. However, such co-operation among Christians, based on the fellowship of faith, confession, and love, should not be confused or identified with co-operation in external matters. If such co-operation in external matters is not contrary to the Holy Scriptures or the Lutheran Confessions, it becomes a matter of Christian freedom and may be undertaken for reasons of good stewardship and efficiency.

(12) **One Lord — One Task** The Lord has given many gifts to the Church, not for the edification of a few, but for the edification of all. The Lord has assigned tasks to the Church for which He enlists the co-operation of all its members with Himself and with one another. It would be a misreading or a misunder-

ing of the Gospel to insist that each Christian or each group of Christians must work entirely alone or that each Christian serve the Lord in his own self-chosen way. Such an attitude results in confusion, suspicion, and poor stewardship. One of the purposes of the Gospel is to bring Christians to serve the Lord together in the Lord's way.

(13) **One Word — One Mind** This fellowship of work can become a reality only when a fellowship of faith, confession, and love exists. It is only when Christians confess the same faith and are agreed to let the Word of God be authoritative and normative in all matters of faith and life that a real fellowship of work can result. God's Word requires that Christians "stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the Gospel."

John 13:13-17; 17:18; Galatians 6:2; Matthew 28:19; Luke 10:2; Romans 15:26-27.

1 Corinthians, chs. 12—14; 16:1.

John 15:1-5; Ephesians 4:13-16; 2 Corinthians 6:1; Philippians 1:27.

ix. *THE CHURCH AND ANTI-CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS*

(1) **Church Under Cross** The Lord has warned His disciples that as long as this world stands, the Church will be under the cross. Christ's name will be mocked by unbelievers and His authority usurped by impostors within and without Christendom. As for the faithful members of the Church, the warning of their Lord always applies: "If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you," John 15:20. The Church as the company of God's faithful witnesses will continue under bitter attack and at times must endure grievous tribulation.

(2) **Church in Combat** In the face of these onslaughts of the enemies of Christ, the Church must stand firm in the faith. It does more than bear and suffer. It unmasks, condemns, and combats with the sword of the Spirit all religions and sects which alter or displace the redemption wrought by Jesus Christ by their own devices or efforts; all organizations and movements which seek to deprive God of His sovereignty; and all humanistic and secularistic philosophies which exalt the powers of man and refuse to give to God the glory that is due Him.

(3) **Church in Witness** The Church must be alert to detect such anti-Christian propaganda everywhere, even where it appears in moralistic and pseudo-Christian form, as in those lodges and fraternal orders which explicitly or by omission remove Christ from His position of mediatorship between God and man and thus deny the central teaching of Scriptures, that salva-

tion is solely and wholly through Christ. Over against the teaching of such organizations the testimony of the Church must be clear and unequivocal. By proclamation and by salutary discipline all men must be shown and must be made to face the fact that they cannot serve two masters. To compromise with work-righteousness is to endanger the whole Church; and each and all must share the labor of safeguarding the faithful, of extricating those who have become involved in organizations which proclaim salvation by works, and of denying fellowship to those who stubbornly refuse to yield to the Word of God by continuing in their anti-Christian affiliations. Synods as well as Christian congregations cannot remain indifferent or inactive in the exercise of salutary discipline necessitated by such divided loyalty. This task, like all the tasks of the Church, must be done in holy fear and in holy love.

Mark 12:1-12; Matthew 16:24-28; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12. Ephesians 6:10-19; Romans 1:18—2:16; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. Galatians 1:8-9; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Matthew 18:15-18; 6:24; 7:21-27.

x. *THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD TO COME*

(1) **Church in Eternity** The Church in all its activities in the world remembers that its life in Christ is eternal. The fact that the Church exists, that men believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, is due ultimately to the eternal election of God, who "hath chosen us in Him [Christ] before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him," Ephesians 1:4. "God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth, whereunto He called you by our Gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ," 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14. God by His Word and Sacrament calls men to faith and keeps them in that faith unto the end. Remaining humbly and gratefully conscious of its origin in God's elective will, the Church is preserved from the fatal delusion that it is a self-caused and self-sustaining institution; and the individual member lives and works in the blessed assurance that nothing shall separate him from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

(2) **Church in Time** The Church remembers also that it is the beginning of the new world in the midst of the old, that the goal of all its working and striving is not in this present world, that it is the body of the Christ whose Kingdom is not of this world, the Christ who is to come. Since we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, the Church's life is marked by an alert and responsible expectancy and striving, and measures all its actions by the inescapable and just judgment of Christ upon those actions. Such a life cannot fail to be a life of daily repentance.

(3) **Church in Triumph** The Church's expectancy of its Lord's return is also a joyous hope: the Bridegroom who will return has even now made the Church's life the evening before the feast. This solemnly joyous expectancy frees the Church from a sole and desperate concern with things earthly and temporal; it makes the Church free to act spontaneously according to the promptings of the love that is the pulse beat of its faith. Despite all the seeming triumphs of Satan, the Church possesses for its work in the world a serene courage and an undisturbed vision and assurance of victory. "In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us."

Ephesians 1:3-14: Romans 8:28-39; John 10:27-28; Luke 12:32. Ephesians 2:19-22; Colossians 3:1-2; Luke 12:42-48. Luke 21:28; Matthew 25:1-13; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Romans 8:31-39; Revelation 22.

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VI

In connection with our report we submit the following recommendations:

1. We request that Part II of the *Common Confession* as here presented be adopted and that Synod declare that Parts I and II hereafter be regarded as one document.

2. Since Part II of the *Common Confession* was drawn up in compliance with a resolution of the Milwaukee Convention, we repeat a recommendation made and adopted three years ago with regard to Part I (*Proceedings, 41st Convention,* pp. 586, 587). The constitution of the Synodical Conference provides that fellowship with another church body cannot be established by any one of its constituent synods without the consent of every synod in the Synodical Conference. The American Lutheran Church, moreover, in 1938 in its Sandusky Resolutions, declared itself ready to place the agreement reached with the Missouri Synod before its sister synods for approval and acceptance. Therefore we recommend that after favorable action has been taken by the American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod on Part II of the *Common Confession,* the indicated procedure pertaining to sister Synods on both sides be followed and that the President of Synod be requested to take whatever steps are proper on our part to secure such action.

3. We ask Synod to declare that in its dealings with the other synods of the Synodical Conference it wishes to keep in mind and to remind the other synods of Article 4 of the constitution of the Synodical Conference, which reads:

The purpose of the Synodical Conference of North America shall be: to give outward expression to the unity of spirit existing among the constituent synods; to encourage and strengthen one another in faith and confession; to further unity in doctrine and practice and to remove whatever might threaten to disturb this unity; to co-operate in matters of mutual interest; to strive for true unity in doctrine and practice among Lutheran church bodies.

4. Since Synod has now had a committee of this kind for 18 years, and in view of the widespread union movements in world Lutheranism, we recommend that Synod authorize the appointment of a Committee on Doctrinal Unity for the new triennium. We

further recommend that this committee be given the status of a standing committee and be so listed in paragraph 2.05 of the *Synodical Handbook;* its duties should be delineated and listed under section H of Chapter II of the *Handbook.*

5. We also recommend that this convention request and authorize further joint meetings of the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and District Presidents of both Churches, together with the Committee on Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church and the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

6. Inasmuch as several steps remain to be taken before church fellowship can be established between us and the American Lutheran Church, we recommend that the resolution of the Milwaukee Convention given on page 587 of the *Proceedings* be reaffirmed: "When by the grace of God everything necessary for fellowship has been accomplished, this fact is to be announced officially by the President of Synod. Until then no action is to be taken by any member of Synod which would overlook the fact that we are not as yet united."

VII

We close with the prayer that our gracious God may guide and bless the efforts put forth to achieve and keep a unity of doctrine and practice that is pleasing to Him. We ask it for our entire Synod, for all with whom we are now in fellowship, for those with whom we are negotiating, and for as many others as it may please Him to bring into contact with us.

WALTER A. BAEPLER, *Chairman*
WALTER BLUME
MARTIN FRANZMANN
ALFRED O. FUERBRINGER, *Secretary*
HERBERT W. KNOPP
GEORGE MAASSEL
GEO. J. MEYER

ACTION

Synod took up matters pertaining to the *Common Confession,* Parts I and II. In this connection Memorials 619 and 620 were considered as well as Unprinted Memorials 58 and 23 a.

Postpone Action on Part II of the "Common Confession"

(Memorial 619)

WHEREAS, Part II of the *Common Confession* proposed by the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the Committee on Unity and Fellowship of The American Lutheran Church is being submitted to the convention of The

Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in June, 1953, for approval revision or rejection; and

WHEREAS, This document is intended as a basis for fellowship between the two above-mentioned synods and hence is one of utmost and far-reaching importance; and

WHEREAS, Any document of such importance should be thoroughly studied, not only by all pastors, but also by the congregations and pastoral conferences; and

WHEREAS, Part II of the *Common Confession* has not as yet (March 16, 1953) been released for general publication;

Therefore the undersigned circuit conference is of the humble opinion that there will not be sufficient time for all pastors and congregations to thoroughly study this document, nor for any of the spring pastoral conferences to give it the due consideration it deserves, and that hence the delegates representing our Church at the 1953 convention will not have been able by that time to ascertain the convictions of their respective Districts concerning this document. Be it therefore

Resolved, That the Vancouver Circuit Conference of the Alberta and British Columbia District hereby petition our honorable Synod to postpone any action on the proposed Part II of the *Common Confession* until the 1956 synodical convention.

VANCOUVER CIRCUIT CONFERENCE
REV. C. BEIDERWIEDEN, *Visitor*
REV. F. GABERT, *Member*
REV. E. BICKEL, *Member*

1953 Convention Take No Action on "Common Confession," Part II

(Memorial 620)

Since Part II of the so-called *Common Confession* has not been in our hands long enough for sufficient study before the last date on which overtures are accepted for print, on or about April 8, 1953, be it therefore

Resolved, That we respectfully petition the 1953 convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to take no action on Part II of the *Common Confession.*

THE LUTHERAN UNITY COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT
J. R. SHEPPARD, *Secretary*

ACTION

Concerning this matter the following resolutions were *adopted* on recommendation of Committee 3:

Resolution 6

We acknowledge with deep gratitude to God the work done by our Committee on Doctrinal Unity in collaboration with the Committee on Union and Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church in preparing Part II of the *Common Confession* and the progress which thus has been achieved.

WHEREAS, However, Part II of the *Common Confession* in its present form did not become available to members of Synod until two weeks after Easter, 1953; and

WHEREAS, The time allowed was not sufficient to permit our congregations, pastors' and teachers' conferences, and individuals to acquaint themselves thoroughly with this document; and

WHEREAS, Our sister synods of the Synodical Conference have not had sufficient opportunity to study and evaluate Part II of the *Common Confession;* therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention postpone action on Part II of the *Common Confession.*

Resolution 7

The Committee on Doctrinal Unity in its report to this Convention (page 350, *Reports and Memorials*) has requested that Parts I and II of the *Common Confession* henceforth be regarded as one document.

WHEREAS, Part II of the *Common Confession* is intended as a supplement to Part I; therefore be it

Resolved, That for purposes of study, Parts I and II of the *Common Confession* hereafter be treated as one document with the understanding that Part II has not yet been adopted.

(*Adopted* with one negative vote.)

Besides Memorial 608, in which the Norwegian Synod asked that the *Common Confession* be rejected, Synod considered the following memorials on the same matter.

Antitheses in the "Common Confession"

(Memorial 612)

WHEREAS, The Lord has thus far blessed The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Church in their mutual efforts to gain doctrinal unity on the basis of Scriptures; and

WHEREAS, It is possible for error and misunderstanding to creep into our Church through the *Common Confession,* since no antitheses are stated; and

WHEREAS, The Formula of Concord states: "Since for the preservation of pure doctrine and for thorough, permanent, godly unity in the Church it is necessary, not only that the pure, wholesome

be rightly presented, but also that the opponents who teach ise be reproved, 1 Timothy 3 (2 Tim. 3:16)" (*Concordia Tri-* Of Articles in Controversy, p. 855); and

HEREAS, The Constitution of The Lutheran Church — Mis- Synod states (Art. VIII C): "All matters of doctrine and of ience shall be decided only by the Word of God," cf. also 1:10; Eph. 4:3; be it therefore

Resolved, That we thank the Lord for the progress which He hus far granted; and be it further

Resolved, That we request Synod:

1. To direct its Unity Committee in conjunction with the corresponding committee of The American Lutheran Church (should e negotiations continue) to draw up antitheses which are to be luded in, or added to, the *Common Confession;*

2. To accept the final draft of the *Common Confession* with additions only after *all Scriptural* objections have been removed.

THE BIBLE CLASS OF ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Belvidere Township, R. 3, Goodhue, Minn.

BERNARD KEHREN	MARTIN WIEBUSCH
DONALD BURFEIND	CLARENCE BOESCH
REINHOLD R. KEHREN	LE ROY MICKELSON
CALVIN H. BOLLUM	ROBERT D. STAFFORD
WALTER KEHREN	REYNOLD KOHRS
GERALD BURFEIND	PAUL C. MUELLER, *Pastor*

Re "An Evaluation of the 'Common Confession' — Section V"

(Memorial 613)

Resolution from the Minutes of the Central Regional Pastoral Conference, Northern Illinois District, Assembled at Bensenville, Ill., February 10—11, 1953

Resolved, That a copy of the paper "An Evaluation of the *Common Confession,* Section V, Means of Grace, Paragraphs on 'The Word,'" accepted by the conference, shall be filed with the Secretary of Synod.

Amendment: That Dr. Theo. Dierks be authorized by the conference to submit said paper to the Houston Convention.

The amended resolution was adopted.

WALTER H. RENGSTORF, *Secretary*

(The conference paper was delivered to the Floor Committee.)

Reconsider the Adoption of the "Common Confession"

(Memorial 615)

The Central Regional Pastoral Conference of the Northern Illinois District on February 11, 1953, adopted a memorial requesting the Houston Convention to "reconsider" the adoption of the *Common Confession* by the Milwaukee Convention in 1950. The enclosed paper formed the basis for such resolution. However, since a final decision on adopting the paper *as such* was not made by the conference for lack of time — the matter will be taken up again at the fall conference — it was suggested that the undersigned submit this paper to the Houston Convention for consideration.

THEO. DIERKS

(The conference paper was delivered to the Floor Committee.)

Reconsider Resolution 14 of the Milwaukee Convention

(Memorial 616)

WHEREAS, The Milwaukee Convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod stated "that the *Common Confession* shows that agreement has been achieved in the doctrines treated by the two committees" (*Missouri Synod Proceedings,* 1950, p. 585); and

WHEREAS, The Missouri Committee on Doctrinal Unity informed representatives of the sister synods in the Synodical Conference that the *Common Confession* constitutes "settlement of those doctrinal controversies that were before the Church up to the time of the adoption of the *Common Confession*" (Minutes of Committee on Doctrinal Unity, April 10, 1951); and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Synodical Conference provides that fellowship with another church body cannot be established by any one of its constituent synods without the consent of every synod in the Synodical Conference; and

WHEREAS, Two of the constituent synods of the Synodical Conference have objected to the *Common Confession* as a settlement of doctrinal differences between The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Church (*Wisconsin Synod Proceedings,* 1951, p. 147; *Norwegian Synod Report,* 1951, p. 54); and

WHEREAS, The Central Regional Conference of the Northern Illinois District is of the considered opinion that Part I and the "tentative Part II" of the *Common Confession* are an insufficient and inadequate basis for church fellowship with the American Lutheran Church; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Central Regional Conference of the Northern Illinois District hereby requests The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled in Houston, Tex., to reconsider Resolution 14 adopted by a majority of the Milwaukee Convention (*Proceedings,* 1950, p. 585).

THE CENTRAL REGIONAL PASTORAL CONFERENCE
NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT
WALTER H. RENGSTORF, *Secretary*

Reject "Common Confession"

(Memorial 617)

WHEREAS, Our congregation holds firmly to the Scriptural doctrine and practice of Old Missouri; and

WHEREAS, We feel it our duty, as Scripture says, in matters pertaining to church union with other church bodies, to insist that we "be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment" (1 Cor. 1:10); and

WHEREAS, We have studied the *Common Confession* and find it wanting not only in clarity as to its use as a basis for unity of doctrine with the American Lutheran Conference, but also that it fails to measure up to its necessary standard for use by laymen to be clear, concise, and Scriptural; and

WHEREAS, We find the *Common Confession* adopted in Milwaukee as not clearly defining and ruling out unscriptural doctrines and teachings of the American Lutheran Conference on inspiration, election, objective justification, the ministry, the Church, on last things, and on the Antichrist, which things are clearly taught in Scripture; and

WHEREAS, We feel that much confusion has resulted by the manner in which the *Common Confession* was adopted at the convention and that the status of the document as a church confession is not clear to the laymen even today; therefore be it

Resolved, That we reject the *Common Confession* as a document effecting any degree of union between The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Conference.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, CUBA, MO
FRED H. OBERKROM, *Vice-President*
PAUL R. NOEL, *Secretary*

Reconsider 1950 Vote on Part I of "Common Confession"

(Memorial 618)

WHEREAS, There is some dissatisfaction among members of Synod with the doctrinal statement adopted by majority vote in 1950, now known as Part I of the *Common Confession;* and

WHEREAS, The addition to Resolution 14 (Milwaukee Convention *Proceedings*, p. 585) indicates that the convention itself was aware of some deficiencies, stating, e. g.: "Not all phases of the doctrines of the Scriptures are treated in the *Common Confession*," and: "Further study of future developments may show the need of clarification or expansion of the *Common Confession*"; and

WHEREAS, Synod's Constitution (Art. VIII, Par. C) clearly states that "All matters of doctrine and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God. All other matters shall be decided by a majority vote," thus indicating that a unanimous vote is required in doctrinal matters; and

WHEREAS, It is admitted that the vote of the Milwaukee Convention, supported as it was by a large majority, was nevertheless not unanimous (see *Lutheran Witness*, Vol. LXIX, No. 14, p. 215: "On this issue the convention overwhelmingly passed the following set of resolutions"; also *Lutheran Witness*, Vol. LXIX, No. 15, p. 228: "Only a few votes were cast against the proposed resolutions");

Therefore we, the undersigned, on behalf of the pastors of the Vancouver Circuit of the Alberta and British Columbia District respectfully request Synod to reconsider the 1950 resolutions on the *Common Confession*.

FRED L. GABERT L. H. GIERACH
E. F. BICKEL

Our Confession and Petition

(Memorial 621, Point 2)

Together with two sister synods of our Synodical Conference we reject the *Common Confession* because it fails to meet, and leaves unsettled, the doctrinal differences between our Synod and the American Lutheran Church.

Unprinted Memorials 35 and 23 were also considered in this connection.

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 8

WHEREAS, Part II of the *Common Confession* supplements and expands Part I; and

WHEREAS, Future study of Part II of the *Common Confession* may clarify possible misunderstandings encountered in Part I; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention take no action on overtures pertaining to Part I of the *Common Confession;* and be it further

Resolved, That we urge all pastors, teachers, and laymen to study privately, in conference, and in adult Bible classes *the Scriptures* as referred to in the *Common Confession* in its present form, asking the Holy Ghost for our Savior's sake to enlighten us in these teachings through His gracious Word, encouraging the membership to report their Scriptural findings to our Synod's Doctrinal Unity Committee in sufficient time to have them included in their written report to the next convention.

With regard to the *Committee on Doctrinal Unity*, Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 11

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has had a Committee on Doctrinal Unity for many years; and

WHEREAS, Widespread union movements in world Lutheranism warrant the continuation of such a committee; therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention authorize the appointment of a Committee on Doctrinal Unity for the next triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That "this committee be given the status of a standing committee and be so listed in paragraph 2.05 of the synodical *Handbook*"; and that its duties "be delineated and listed under Section H of Chapter II of the *Handbook*."

Suspend Discussions with the American Lutheran Church

Memorial 609 asked that we suspend the doctrinal discussions with the American Lutheran Church until that body in convention clearly and unequivocally has declared itself against unionism as defined in the *Brief Statement* and has begun to put this principle into practice.

NOTE: This has been our position since 1939, and we are convinced that we have shown with sufficient clarity that it is correct according to the Scriptures. It will not be necessary to refer to the Sandusky Resolutions, the quotation from the "Friendly Invitation," the declaration for "Selective Fellowship," and the associations which the American Lutheran Church has continued to maintain and new ones which it has recently entered.

Re Fellowship with the American Lutheran Church

(Memorial 622)

WHEREAS, Synod in adopting the report of its convention committee No. 19 in 1929 "emphasized that future discussion" with synods constituting the American Lutheran Church "be contingent on the following two conditions:

"a. That the move toward fellowship between the Ohio and Iowa Synods, on the one hand, and the Norwegian Lutheran Church" ("the party of the Norwegian Opgoer") "on the other, be first adjusted according to the Word of God;

"b. That future deliberations proceed from the exact point of controversy and take into account the pertinent history" (*General Proceedings*, 1929, p. 112 f.); and

WHEREAS, A contrary course has shown itself to be obstructive to true unity; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Synod restate and put in practice the principles on which it conditioned discussions toward possible fellowship with synods constituting the American Lutheran Church; and be it further

Resolved, To apply these principles also to the present move toward fellowship between the American Lutheran Church and other Churches of the American Lutheran Conference and of the National Lutheran Council.

PAUL H. BURGDORF

ACTION

Concerning this matter Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved*, with 10 negative votes:

Resolution 15

WHEREAS, Progress toward unity of doctrine has been achieved through discussion on the basis of God's Word by representatives of the American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, Meetings of the Committee on Union and Fellowship of the American Lutheran Church and the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod afford opportunity to give testimony to the truth; and

WHEREAS, The committees on doctrine, the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and District Presidents of the two Churches in a joint meeting in February of this year resolved that further meetings of this kind should be held; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod is planning to discuss with the representatives of the American Lutheran Church the document entitled "United Testimony on Faith and Life," which is to form the doctrinal basis for the proposed merger between the American Lutheran Church and other churches of the American Lutheran Conference (*Reports and Memorials*, p. 324); and

WHEREAS, One of the major objectives of the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America is "to strive for

unity in doctrine and practice among Lutheran church bodies" (Constitution, Article IV); therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention urge the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to continue discussions with the representatives of the American Lutheran Church; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention authorize further meetings of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity, the President, Vice-Presidents, and District Presidents of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod with corresponding representatives of the American Lutheran Church.

This also answered Unprinted Memorial 55.

Communication from the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States

(Memorial 608)

The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod
In Convention at Houston, Texas
June 17 to 27, 1953

DEAR BRETHREN:

The fact that in the Synodical Conference we have these many years enjoyed the blessings and comforts of a full unity in doctrine and practice compels the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States to tell you frankly that it is our firm conviction that your body for a number of years has been deviating to an ever-increasing extent from the position we have so long held and defended together and thereby has most seriously disturbed our God-created relation and has placed our two Synods on opposite sides on a number of important issues, making it impossible for us to join you in the new course you have taken.

Our Synod made an earnest effort to prevail on the convention of the Synodical Conference to settle our controversies according to the Scriptures, but, as you know, without avail.

Our Synod is, therefore, addressing itself to your convention of 1953, earnestly pleading with you to remove the offenses of which we have for years complained to the Committee on Intersynodical Relations, to the Synodical Conference, and to your convention as well, and so to restore mutual confidence and truly brotherly co-operation.

That we are not misinterpreting your resolutions and actions during the past years is attested by utterances heard from other Lutherans, by some leaders in your Synod, and by the protests of dissenting individuals and groups of your brethren, as well as by

the fact that some have actually renounced membership in the Missouri Synod for "the sake of conscience."

For the sake of the truth and our common good we ask you to do the following in order to preserve the Synodical Conference and to make it possible for us to continue our affiliation with you and our joint labors in the service of our Lord:

1. Rescind the following resolutions:

"*Resolved,* That we rejoice and thank God that the *Common Confession* shows that agreement has been achieved in the doctrines treated by the two committees . . . and be it further

"*Resolved,* That if the American Lutheran Church, in convention assembled, accepts it, the *Common Confession* shall be recognized as a statement of agreement on these doctrines between us and the American Lutheran Church."

NOTE: A statement of our reasons for rejecting the *Common Confession* as inadequate is in the hands of President Behnken.

In this connection Synod considered a

Report from the Norwegian Synod of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church

(Unprinted Memorial 55)

At its convention in Mankato, May 29 to June 4, 1953, the Norwegian Synod of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church adopted the following resolution:

"We adopt the report of our Union Committee and send it to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled at Houston, Tex., in 1953."

The committee report referred to in this resolution reads as follows:

"The Union Committee of the Norwegian Synod had occasion during April of this year (1953) to reiterate the stand of our Synod on the *Common Confession* (cf. Norwegian Synod resolutions on doctrinal matters, 1951) at a meeting of our committee with the Missouri Synod committee in Milwaukee. At this meeting our resolutions of 1951 (cf. above) were discussed and defended by our committee.

"Our committee believes, without reservation, that our Synod has acted wisely and in a God-pleasing manner by its resolutions of 1951 (which are being presented to the Missouri Synod convention this year) and by its overture to the Synodical Conference in 1952. In asking the Missouri Synod to discontinue negotiations with the American Lutheran Church except on the basis of a full acceptance of the *Brief Statement,* Titus 3:10, our Synod is justified, not only for the reasons given in the previous resolutions, but also

use of our sister synod's (Missouri's) own resolutions of 1941 which her union committee is instructed as follows: 'Since the odical Conference has asked us "earnestly to consider the sability of bringing about the framing of one document of eement," and since it has become quite evident that it is not y desirable, but necessary to have one document, our committee nstructed to make every possible effort that such one document prepared.'

"Accordingly, our Synod in all good faith acted on the *Common fession* as a complete document which was ready and prepared our conscientious study and reaction. We did not act on the ument as then being incomplete or as though the Missouri nod regarded it as the first rung in reaching doctrinal agreement with the A. L. C. That we were right in regarding it as we did has been proved by the Missouri Synod's own official committee, which stated to us that as of June, 1950, the *Common Confession* was an adequate and satisfactory settlement of the doctrines there treated. At its 1950 convention, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod also adopted the following statement (Resolution 14): 'Resolved, that we rejoice and thank God that the *Common Confession* shows that agreement has been achieved in the doctrines treated by the two committees.'" We have since had no indication of any kind from the Missouri Synod's committee or the officials that there has been any recession from this position. In disregard of this first instruction, a tentative Part II of the *Common Confession* has been prepared 'to meet the objections raised against the *Common Confession.*' (*Proceedings* of the Synodical Conference, 1952, page 160.)

"The Missouri Synod resolutions, 1941, continue (italics ours): '. . . in preparing this one document, our committee prayerfully and carefully consider all the misgivings and objections that have been expressed in memorials presented to this convention or otherwise; and that *this document be so clearly written that there can be no misunderstanding in reference to the meaning which the words are to convey.*'

"Our Synod's resolutions of 1951 and overture to the Synodical Conference in 1952 show that this instruction also has not been fulfilled in the *Common Confession.* The Synodical Conference *Proceedings* of 1952, pages 159, 160, also emphasize this point. 'Not all brethren of the Synodical Conference are persuaded that the *Common Confession* is adequate as a settlement of the doctrinal differences between the Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Church.'

"The Missouri Synod resolutions, 1941, continue (italics ours): 'In calling for one document, we do not mean to dispense with any

doctrinal statement made in our *Brief Statement* — for we believe that it correctly expressed the doctrinal position of our Synod — but we concede that, for the sake of *clarification* under the present circumstances, some statements may need to be *more sharply defined* or amplified.'

"For the same reasons as above, we hold that this instruction also has been ignored. The doctrinal statements of the *Brief Statement* have not been 'more sharply defined or amplified' in the *Common Confession.* We have already shown in our 1951 resolutions that, whereas before there was clarity in the *Brief Statement,* there is now ambiguity in the *Common Confession.* Now some of the doctrinal statements of the *Brief Statement* have actually been dispensed with in the *Common Confession.* If this is not so, then the A. L. C. should have no difficulty in accepting the *Brief Statement* as it stands. However, we have not been given even the assurance that the A. L. C. would accept the *Brief Statement* unconditionally, if asked to do so.

"In view of the fact that the *Brief Statement* (*one* document) was accepted unconditionally by all the constituent groups of the Synodical Conference and is 'so clearly written that there can be no misunderstanding in reference to the meaning which the words are to convey,' and since the Missouri Synod does 'not mean to dispense with any doctrinal statement made in our *Brief Statement,*' we recommend the following resolution for adoption:

"We reaffirm our 1951 resolutions regarding the *Common Confession* and regarding continued negotiations with the American Lutheran Church, also for this reason (besides other reasons we have given), that the original purpose of a new confession, as defined by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in 1941, has not been fulfilled."

C. M. GULLERUD, *President*
W. C. GULLIXSON, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved,* with 12 negative votes:

Resolution 19

WHEREAS, The Norwegian Synod and the Wisconsin Synod have expressed their misgivings about Part I of the *Common Confession* (*Reports and Memorials,* pages 320—322; 357, 358); and

WHEREAS, The addition to Resolution 14, pages 585, 586, of the *Proceedings* of the 1950 convention makes explicit provision for additional statements to clarify the *Common Confession;* and

WHEREAS, Part II of the *Common Confession* is intended as a supplement to Part I; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, at its 1953

convention in Houston, Tex., resolved that "for purposes of study, parts I and II of the *Common Confession* hereafter be treated as one document with the understanding that Part II has not yet been adopted"; therefore be it

Resolved, That we respectfully request also our sister synods in the Synodical Conference, for purposes of study to treat Part I and Part II of the *Common Confession* as one document.

What Is a Doctrine?

This question was raised in Unprinted Memorial 69 a. Committee 3 recommended, and Synod resolved, with three negative votes:

Resolution 22

WHEREAS, The Committee on Doctrinal Unity must by the very nature of its work deal with the question "What Is a Doctrine?" and

WHEREAS, This is a theological question which concerns also the faculties of our two theological seminaries; therefore be it

Resolved, That this question be referred to the Committee on Doctrinal Unity and the faculties of our two theological seminaries for joint study; and be it

Resolved, That the results of this study be made available to all pastors, teachers, and congregations of our Synod.

Lutheran Men in America

(Unprinted Memorial 69)

This memorial refers to a document entitled "A Brief Study of the 'Lutheran Men in America of Wisconsin'" prepared by the Intersynodical Relations Committee of the Synodical Conference and adopted by the Synodical Conference in convention assembled at St. Paul, Minn., August 12 to 15, 1952.

Representatives of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod who assisted in the preparation of this document were Dr. J. W. Behnken, Dr. H. Harms, and Dr. J. H. Meyer.

There being considerable confusion as to the validity of the conclusions reached in the document, since the statement is made that the President of our Synod acted without proper authority, and that the acceptance of the document by the Synodical Conference has no pertinent relation to our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, we respectfully request that our Synod ratify the document in question, which will be found printed in full in the *Proceedings of the Forty-second Convention of the Ev. Luth. Synodical Conference,* pages 149 to 156.

CHAS. W. NIELSEN, Eagle, Wis.
ALFRED H. KNIEF, Milwaukee, Wis.

ACTION

Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

WHEREAS, Your Committee has received information that the matter of "Lutheran Men in America of Wisconsin" is at present being dealt with by a committee in the Milwaukee area; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention take no action in this matter, but implore the help and blessing of God upon the efforts to resolve this matter in a God-pleasing manner.

No Union as Yet with the American Lutheran Church

(Memorial 601, Recommendation 6)

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 16

WHEREAS, Our Committee on Doctrinal Unity states (p. 351, *Reports and Memorials*) that even in the event of the adoption of Part II of the *Common Confession* by our Church, "several steps remain to be taken before church fellowship can be established between us and the American Lutheran Church"; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention reaffirm the resolution of the Milwaukee Convention given on page 587 of the *Proceedings:* "When by the grace of God everything necessary for fellowship has been accomplished, this fact should be announced officially by the President of Synod. Until then no action is to be taken by any member of Synod which would overlook the fact that we are not as yet united."

Overture to the Ev. Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved:*

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

WHEREAS, At its convention in St. Paul in August of 1952 our Synodical Conference resolved to postpone further action on the *Common Confession* until Part II "has been completed and presented to the constituent Synods of the Synodical Conference and to the American Lutheran Church"; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod at its convention in Houston, Tex., in June, 1953, resolved to postpone action on Part II of the *Common Confession;* therefore be it

Resolved, That we respectfully request the Evangelical Lu-

Synodical Conference of North America again to postpone on the *Common Confession* until Part II has been acted by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod at its convention

Report of Committee on Doctrinal Unity, Paragraph VII

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod unanimously *ed:*

Resolution 21

WHEREAS, The entire program of our Church "to achieve and a unity in doctrine and practice that is pleasing to the Lord" nds for its success on the power and guidance of our gracious alone; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention adopt as its own the prayer which our Committee on Doctrinal Unity closed its report, ely: "We close with the prayer that our gracious God may e and bless the efforts put forth to achieve and keep a unity octrine and practice that is pleasing to Him. We ask it for entire Synod, for all with whom we are now in fellowship, those with whom we are negotiating, and for as many others it may please Him to bring into contact with us."

Re the Report of the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice

(Memorial 602)

On account of the many implications of the Report of the dvisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice, issued as "A Report to the *Praesidium,*" August 15, 1951, and for which it was stated that "The *Praesidium* will submit this report to the next convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod," be it

Resolved, That we respectfully petition the 1953 convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod that this report be referred back to the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice.

THE LUTHERAN UNITY COMMITTEE
OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT
J. R. SHEPPARD, *Secretary*

Committee 3 also considered Memorial 621, points 1 and 3,

Our Confession and Petition

We herewith present for your earnest and prayerful consideration

Our Confession and Petition

Bound by the clear Word of God, 1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:3, by the historic Confessions of the Lutheran Church, to which all members of Synod are obligated, and by the *Brief Statement of the Doctrinal Position of the Missouri Synod* — a faithful confession of the teachings of Holy Scripture and the Missouri Synod, we declare:

1. We reject the Presidency's report of the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice of August 15, 1951, because it surrenders the Scriptural confession of our Synod and espouses Iowan errors heretofore properly rejected by the Missouri Synod — on the Church, the Last Things, Antichrist, and Open Questions.

2. Together with two sister synods of our Synodical Conference we reject the *Common Confession* because it fails to meet, and leaves unsettled, the doctrinal differences between our Synod and the American Lutheran Church.

3. We reject the unretracted "A Statement" issued in Chicago in 1945, because it champions unscriptural teaching and practice.

For the reasons stated we request Synod

1) To reject the report of the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice in its present form,

2) To reconsider and set aside the majority action of the Milwaukee Convention regarding the *Common Confession,* and

3) To resolve according to the Word of God the issues raised by "A Statement" by rejecting the false teaching and practice advocated in "A Statement," which are disturbing and disrupting our confessional fellowship. That the Presidency's Theses have not adequately resolved the issues is indicated by the fact that members of Synod and entire pastoral conferences have found parts of the Theses unacceptable because they are not in full accord with the Word of God.

ERNEST T. LAMS

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H. Prekel
John E. Blum
O. F. Fichte
L. B. Raether
Frank C. Lietz
Karl H. Rabey
F. O. Tilsner
John Sedory
G. Elbert
Victor G. Storbeck
Edwin J. Becker
Henry T. Gesling

Trinity Ev. Luth. Church
Oak Park, Ill.
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J. L. Hoelter
E. A. Fandell
Wm. L. Streu
W. E. Perlick
Arthur A. Brauer
Helene M. Luebke
Richard F. Blum
Erna F. Blum
John M. Rhame
John H. Luckstead
Lawrence A. Burgdorf
Otto Schultz
C. J. Schuth
Harry Graf
Harold Martens
Edwin Menke
Anne Wehrs
Gertrude A. Burgdorf
Henry J. Luckitz
Edward J. Wulf
Andrew H. Buell
J. Buenger
F. E. Bartling
R. A. Frick
George Stadt
Henry Bohl
Henry Pfingsten
Olga A. Luebke

ACTION

Committee 3 brought in the following report, which was *adopted* with one negative vote:

Resolution 10

The 1950 convention of Synod passed the following resolution with reference to a number of memorials which had been submitted to Committee 3 of that convention:

"Whereas, The memorials under consideration contain per[illegible] accusations and other matters, all requiring extensive in[illegible]gation; and

"Whereas, Your Committee, for lack of time, could not effec[illegible]ly act on these matters at this convention; be it therefore

"*Resolved,* To refer the charges to Synod's regularly set-up [illegible]nnels for action." (*Proceedings,* p. 659, 1950.)

Complying with this resolution, the *Praesidium* referred the [illegible]rtinent memorials to the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and [illegible]ractice. (Cf. list on page 7 of the Report of the A. C. D. P.)

In August, 1951, the *Praesidium* received the report of the A. C. D. P. and after study disseminated it under the date of January 25, 1952.

Memorial No. 602, p. 352 of the 1953 *Reports and Memorials,* requests that the above-mentioned report of the A. C. D. P. be referred back to this Committee.

Memorial No. 621, p. 366, petitions Synod to reject the report of the A. C. D. P. in its present form because, in the opinion of the signers of the memorial, this report does not present "the Scriptural confession of our Synod" on the Church, the Last Things, Antichrist, and Open Questions.

Unprinted Memorial No. 35. In paragraph 1 the author rejects . . . the report of the A. C. D. P. and "requests Synod to join him in the repudiation" of this document.

Unprinted Memorial No. 61 discusses a "visible side" of the Church, "the doctrine of the Antichrist," "Conversion of the Jews," and "Resurrection of the Martyrs" with special reference to the *Brief Statement* and the report of the A. C. D. P. The authors of this memorial claim that the report of the A. C. D. P. rejects "doctrinal statements of our *Brief Statement*" and petition Synod to uphold the *Brief Statement* over against all contrary positions and statements, such as they claim are to be found in the report of the A. C. D. P.

In response to these memorials your Committee calls attention to the report of the President of Synod to this Convention on Wednesday afternoon, June 17, in which he indicated that after the report of the A. C. D. P. was made public, a number of pastors requested a meeting with the President and the Vice-Presidents of Synod and with members of the A. C. D. P. In his report the President of Synod stated: "Two meetings were held. The matter is not completed. God willing, another meeting is to be held. It is hoped that this will bring the matter to a God-pleasing conclusion."

WHEREAS, The matters referred to in Memorials 602 and 621 and in Unprinted Memorials 35 and 61 are still under discussion; therefore be it

Resolved, That all criticisms and suggestions in these memorials be referred to the *Praesidium* for further consideration and action.

As to Memorial 621 (3) and Unprinted Memorial 35, I, Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved* with two negative votes:

Resolution 17

WHEREAS, According to the *Proceedings* of Synod in 1947 (page 523) "'A Statement' as such is no longer a basis for discussion"; and

WHEREAS, Issues raised by "A Statement" have been and are being submitted for study to pastors and congregations on the basis of materials and theses supplied by the President; and

WHEREAS, The convention of 1950 (cf. *Proceedings,* page 658) encouraged the President to use the reactions submitted in connection with these theses for the furtherance of agreement on the issues raised; and

WHEREAS, The President has informed your Committee that he is dealing with reactions submitted in connection with the theses sent out under his direction; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention refer the matter contained in Memorial 621 (3) to the *Praesidium* for consideration and for the purpose of obtaining "furtherance of agreement" on the issues raised.

Set Up a Commission on Scriptural Peace in Doctrine and Practice

(Memorial 603)

Various questions of doctrine and practice are causing serious dissension in our Synod.

This is borne out by the synodical reports of recent years, and especially by the fact that some members have left our Synod in protest and have organized the Orthodox Lutheran Conference.

Attempts to settle these questions of doctrine and practice by means of discussions in convention committees, discussions on the convention floor, and by resolutions of Synod have failed to restore Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice. Other attempts likewise have proved inadequate.

At Synod's conventions much of the time is taken up with business matters, leaving too little time for questions of doctrine and practice.

There is also too much temptation to use unscriptural methods — first, winning votes by techniques of oratory rather than by ...ptural persuasion; secondly, persuading delegates to follow a ...er rather than following the voice of Christ giving spiritual ...uctions out of Scripture; thirdly, applying group power pres... rather than relying solely on the persuasiveness of Scripture; ...urthly, arbitrarily limiting debate rather than providing free and ...ll opportunity for adequate application of Scripture; fifthly, ...alling for a vote while delegates are still in the process of deciding ...ather than giving them ample opportunity to become convinced by ...Scripture; and, sixthly, deciding the issue by majority vote rather than by unanimous assent to the teaching of Scripture.

To let things drift would be sinful.

To call a special session of Synod to restore Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice would be difficult. Because of the large number of men in a convention of Synod and because a convention would have to work under a definite time limit, this method of trying to restore Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice might prove cumbersome, inefficient, or even unworkable.

Still, it should not be impossible to restore Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice. We recognize Holy Scripture as our sole authority on doctrine and practice. We acknowledge that the doctrinal decisions of the Lutheran Confessions are binding upon our consciences for the reason that they agree with Scripture. We also accept the *Brief Statement of the Doctrinal Position of the Missouri Synod* as a Scriptural statement binding upon our consciences. If everyone concerned will make the necessary effort to be consistent and to conform to these standards of doctrine and practice, Scriptural peace can be restored.

One possibility that commends itself is that of setting up a *Commission on Scriptural Peace in Doctrine and Practice* and instructing this commission to use procedures which will give Scripture free and full opportunities to restore Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice.

Under the circumstances, with so many persons involved in differences of doctrine and practice, such a commission may perhaps work most effectively if persons representing conflicting positions in a certain controversy are brought together in a *Concord Committee,* say, of five to nine members, with from one to three of each party serving on the Concord Committee. Acceptance of a position on a Concord Committee would constitute a promise, first, to be guided by the Lutheran Confessions, secondly, to uphold the *Brief Statement of the Doctrinal Position of the Missouri Synod* without any reservation whatsoever, and, thirdly, to give Scripture free and full opportunity to restore Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice.

It may be advisable to set up separate Concord Committees for different phases of doctrine and practice; for instance, one Concord Committee on doctrines, including the doctrine of the Church, the doctrine of Fellowship, and the doctrine of the Last Things; another Concord Committee on restoring Scriptural peace in our midst regarding the so-called *Common Confession;* another one restoring Scriptural peace between us and the Orthodox Lutheran Conference; and another on restoring Scriptural peace between us and the Wisconsin Synod and the Norwegian Synod.

The work of such Concord Committees needs supervision and critical review. This would make it advisable to have a *Board of Review.* The duty of this Board of Review would be to supervise the work of the Concord Committees, and to be responsible for a thoroughgoing critical examination of reports of the Concord Committees. This reviewing of reports should preferably consist of two phases. The first is that the Board of Review critically examine a report and get necessary changes made by the Concord Committee concerned. The second phase is that the report, after examination and emendation by the Board of Review, be sent to all pastors and congregations of Synod for examination, criticism, and suggestions for improvements, such criticism and suggestions to be turned over to the Concord Committee concerned for consideration and possible adoption. After a report of a Concord Committee has gone through this procedure the first time, it would be wise to repeat the procedure; for it is extremely important that our pastors and congregations have confidence in the work done by the proposed Commission on Scriptural Peace in Doctrine and Practice.

It would seem wise to set up a *Council* within the Commission to serve as an extra check against the human tendency to deprive Scripture of free and full opportunities to restore Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice. The task of the Council would be to examine reports of Concord Committees after these reports have been given final approval by the Board of Review. Two things should be checked by the Council: 1) Is the report Scriptural throughout? 2) Is the report adequate as a document to be used in restoring Scriptural peace on the issue concerned? If the report is found to be satisfactory, the Council would then submit it to the Commission with a recommendation that the report be approved and recommended to Synod for adoption.

The Commission would then take up the report for consideration and action, either approving it and recommending it to Synod for adoption or referring it back to the Concord Committee concerned.

In order to co-ordinate the various activities of the Commission it may be advisable to set up a small *Executive Committee.* While the Concord Committees, the Board of Review, the Council, and the Executive Committee should preferably be limited to about five to nine members each, it would seem advisable that the Commission have a larger number of members in addition, including the President of Synod, the Vice-Presidents of Synod, all District Presidents, and a goodly number of members at large consisting of pastors, teachers, and laymen.

Scriptural doctrine is basic for all our activities in Christ's Kingdom, and any deviation from Scripture may, like leaven, penetrate into every phase of our activities. Scriptural practice should be according to the will of our Lord; and unscriptural practice may result in loss of souls and finally in loss of the Gospel. It would seem wise, therefore, that the proposed Commission meet at least once a year, first, for the purpose of considering the general cause of establishing, promoting, and preserving Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice; secondly, for the purpose of considering the work of its Executive Committee, the Council, the Board of Review, and the Concord Committees, especially reports submitted for approval and for recommendation to Synod; and, thirdly, for the purpose of filling vacancies occurring on its staff between conventions of Synod.

I herewith respectfully petition Synod, first, to set up a *Commission on Scriptural Peace in Doctrine and Practice;* secondly, to draw up regulations for this Commission; thirdly, to elect the members of this Commission at the convention in June; and, fourthly, to refer to the Commission all questions of doctrine and practice regarding which Scriptural peace has not yet been restored in our midst.

ARNOLD H. GEBHARDT

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 4

WHEREAS, Provision for maintaining Scriptural Peace in Doctrine and Practice has already been made, synodical *Handbook* 2.117 a; be it

Resolved, That Synod take no action in the matter of Overture 603.

Joint Study of Scriptures to Remove Disturbances

(Memorial 604)

1. Since there is much confusion in the Church caused by the bitterness in our polemics and the emphasis on philosophy and formalism;

2. Since the liberals do not think it necessary, and the conservatives often consider it useless, to study the Scriptures together to remove the confusion;

3. Since we know of no other way to achieve true unity than through His gracious Word, and since God wants all men to be saved and *come unto the knowledge of the truth* and miracles *are* performed in bringing errorists to the truth; therefore we urge the

4. *Re-emphasizing* of the urgency of jointly studying the Scriptures to remove the disturbances, asking the Holy Ghost to lead us to realize more fully that this is the only guide in what we believe and how we live;

5. And to this end encourage our men to testify wherever they have the opportunity. Compare Acts 17:1 ff., and Jesus' association with publicans, sinners, and Pharisees.

ARTHUR E. BECK, *Pastor*
Henning, Minn.

ACTION

Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 12

WHEREAS, Joint study of the Scriptures is the God-given way of keeping and restoring true unity in the Church; be it

Resolved, That Synod urgently recommend joint study of the Scriptures to her members everywhere and at all times, but particularly where the Church is disturbed by differences in doctrine and practice.

Is It Contrary to Scripture to Speak of a "Visible" Manifestation of the One, Holy Christian Church?

(Memorial 623)

Resolution from the Minutes of the Central Regional Pastoral Conference, Northern Illinois District, Assembled at Bensenville, Ill., February 10—11, 1953

Resolved, That a copy of the paper "Whether or Not It Is Contrary to Scripture to Speak of a Visible Manifestation of the One Holy Christian Church," accepted by the conference, shall be filed with the Secretary of Synod.

Amendment: That Dr. Theo. Dierks be authorized by the conference to submit said paper to the Houston Convention.

The amended resolution was adopted.

WALTER H. RENGSTORF, *Secretary*

(The conference paper was delivered to the Floor Committee.)

The President's Theses on "The Church"

(Memorial 605)

Resolution from the Minutes of the Central Regional Pastoral Conference, Northern Illinois District, Assembled at Bensenville, Ill., February 10—11, 1953

Resolved, That a copy of the paper "The President's Theses on 'The Church,'" accepted by the conference, shall be filed with the Secretary of Synod.

Amendment: That Dr. Theo. Dierks be authorized by the conference to submit said paper to the Houston Convention.

The amended resolution was adopted.

WALTER H. RENGSTORF, *Secretary*

(The conference paper was delivered to the Floor Committee.)

An Evaluation of the President's Theses on Fellowship

(Memorial 606)

Resolution from the Minutes of the Central Regional Pastoral Conference, Northern Illinois District, Assembled at Bensenville, Ill., February 10—11, 1953

Resolved, That a copy of the paper "An Evaluation of the President's Theses on Fellowship," accepted by the conference, shall be filed with the Secretary of Synod.

Amendment: That Dr. Theo. Dierks be authorized by the conference to submit said paper to the Houston Convention.

The amended resolution was adopted.

WALTER H. RENGSTORF, *Secretary*

(The conference paper was delivered to the Floor Committee.)

ACTION

Concerning these three memorials Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 9

WHEREAS, The questions proposed in these essays are under discussion by the *Praesidium* in connection with the report of the A. C. D. P.; therefore be it

Resolved, That these essays be referred to the *Praesidium* for consideration.

To Reconsider Synod's Position on Joint Prayer, etc.

(Memorial 610, 3)

Reverse your resolution on "Scouting," and reconsider your position on "Joint Prayer," as well as your answer to the "Questions" our Synod addressed to yours in 1949.

NOTE: President Behnken has the necessary documents.

We hope that you will find it possible to discuss these issues on the floor of the convention and that all of your delegates will learn all of the facts. May the gracious Lord guide you and give you the spiritual strength to do His will.

We are requesting this action on your part only because we are seeking the restoration of our previous relationship on the basis of the position we once held jointly and from which we find ourselves unable to depart.

If we are invited to do so, we will be glad to send a delegation of our Committee on Church Union to expatiate on the matters which we have set down briefly.

Praying for peace and brotherly understanding and for true unity in the Synodical Conference,

THE EV. LUTH. JOINT SYNOD OF WISCONSIN AND OTHER STATES
JOHN BRENNER, *President*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved,* with seven negative votes:

Resolution 14

Since the request in Memorial 610 concerning Joint Prayer is general and indefinite, your Committee proceeded on the assumption that references are to Synod's position on Joint Prayer at intersynodical conferences as expressed in the proceedings of the Saginaw Convention (*Proceedings,* p. 521) and reaffirmed by the Chicago Convention (*Proceedings,* p. 517). Your Committee suggests the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Such prayer at intersynodical meetings does not pretend that doctrinal unity exists where it does not exist, nor intimate that doctrinal differences are unimportant, but rather implores God, from whom true unity in the spirit must come, for His blessing, in order that unity may be achieved in those things where it is lacking; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod declare that it does not consider Joint Prayer at intersynodical meetings unionistic and sinful, "provided such prayer does not imply denial of truth or support of error" (*Proceedings* of the 1947 Chicago Convention, page 517).

"Lutheran Witness" Statement

(Unprinted Memorial 35)

Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 3

Unprinted Memorial 35 takes exception to a statement in the *Lutheran Witness* of March 31, 1953, page 9 (109). The statement reads: "A sovereign congregation, which has voluntarily joined Synod, will also voluntarily abide by the regulations of Synod."

WHEREAS, Committee 3 finds the above statement wholly correct and in accord with the principles of Christian love by which individual Christians and Christian congregations should be guided in their relationship to Synod; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod declare its agreement with the statement in question and decline to take any further action in this matter.

Reconsider Our Answer to Questions of the Wisconsin Synod

(Memorial 610, 3)

(Quoted above)

Committee 3 submitted the following resolution, which was *adopted:*

Resolution 18

1. In 1949 the Wisconsin Synod addressed a letter to our Synod in which it asked for an answer to certain questions on matters of doctrine and practice. (Missouri Synod *Proceedings* 1950, pp. 666, 667.)

2. Upon instruction of the 1950 convention the *Praesidium* of our Synod answered the questions put to our Synod in the letter of the Wisconsin Synod. (Missouri Synod *Proceedings* 1950, p. 669, Resolution 13.)

3. At its convention in 1951 the Wisconsin Synod declared the answers of our *Praesidium* to be unsatisfactory. (Wisconsin Synod *Proceedings,* 1951, p. 148.)

4. In 1952 the Wisconsin Synod appealed this matter to the Synodical Conference, whereupon the Synodical Conference passed a resolution urging "the Missouri Synod to take the steps necessary to bring about a God-pleasing disposition" of these matters. (*Proceedings* of the Synodical Conference, 1952, p. 157, II; p. 160.)

5. The Wisconsin Synod now appeals to this convention to "reconsider the reply" of our *Praesidium.* (Memorial 610.3, *Reports and Memorials,* 1953.)

6. Your Committee has studied

a) the questions addressed to our Synod;

b) the reply of our *Praesidium* to these questions;

c) the action of the Wisconsin Synod at its 1951 convention; and

d) the action of the Synodical Conference on the appeal of the Wisconsin Synod (cf. *Proceedings*, Synodical Conference, 1952, pages 157—160).

Your Committee believes that the letter of the *Praesidium* correctly states the Scriptural principles in the matters concerned; however,

WHEREAS, Not only matters of doctrine, but also the application of Scriptural principles to exceptional cases are involved in Memorial 610.3; and

WHEREAS, Such cases cannot be adequately considered on the floor of the Convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention ask the *Praesidium* to continue to "take the steps necessary to bring about a God-pleasing disposition of the matters" mentioned in this memorial; and that the Wisconsin Synod be informed of this action of the Convention.

Clarify Synod's Policy re Scouting

(Memorial 611)

While the matter of Scouting may have been settled to the satisfaction of the majority of congregations within our Synod, nevertheless our own congregation, together with others in our immediate vicinity, still is experiencing difficulties with reference to Synod's stated policy regarding Scouting.

At Saginaw in 1944, again at Chicago in 1947, and yet again at Milwaukee in 1950 Synod adopted this policy concerning Scouting: "That the matter of Scouting should be left to the individual congregation to decide and that under the circumstances Synod may consider her interests sufficiently protected." (*Proceedings of the Forty-first Regular Convention*, page 669.)

To set forth our point: Since the resolution leaves the matter of Scouting to the individual congregation to decide, could a congregation, for example, decide *against* Scouting, that is, not only decide *not* to have its own Lutheran troop, but also decide *not* to accept Scouts or others connected with the Scouting movement into communicant membership; decide *not* to confirm Scouts; and insist that communicant members do *not* become affiliated with the movement? We maintain that the resolution, as it now reads, definitely gives any congregation the right to act in the manner described in the previous sentence, provided that that same congregation does not attempt to prescribe to sister congregations just what their policy should be, but rather recognizes and honors the right of sister congregations to formulate and adopt their own policies with reference to Scouting. — But is this the intent of the stated synodical resolution?

Frankly, our congregation feels that this statement of policy is not at all clear; that it is, on the contrary, rather ambiguous. Furthermore, we are not posing a hypothetical case. Our own congregation has been in the throes of this problem a number of years.

Accordingly, we, Zion Lutheran Congregation of Milwaukee, Wis., respectfully submit the following memorial to Synod:

WHEREAS, Synod's stated policy concerning Scouting, namely: "That the matter of Scouting should be left to the individual congregation to decide and that under the circumstances Synod may consider her interests sufficiently protected," obviously is not expressed in language sufficiently clear to indicate just *what* a congregation may decide with reference to Scouting; and

WHEREAS, Congregations of our Synod undoubtedly have met with problems in attempting to determine a policy regarding Scouting — problems which could not be resolved satisfactorily because of Synod's inadequate resolution; and

WHEREAS, This synodical resolution, despite its unclear nature, has been permitted to stand as a guide to our congregations for almost a decade; be it therefore

Resolved, That our Synod, in convention assembled at Houston, Tex., *clarify* its stated policy with reference to Scouting, in order that existing ambiguity may be eliminated.

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONGREGATION
OF MILWAUKEE, WIS.
RALPH SCHUMACHER, *President*
CARL R. MARQUARDT, *Secretary*
O. W. SCHAEFER, *Pastor*
HENRY C. TESCH, *Pastor*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 7 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 6

WHEREAS, This memorial asks for a clarification of Synod's policy with regard to Scouting; and

WHEREAS, Your Committee is of the opinion that Synod's policy which has been restated in the last three conventions is clear, namely: "That the matter of Scouting should be left to the individual congregation to decide"; and

WHEREAS, Synod thus neither encourages nor discourages Scoutism in any congregation; and

WHEREAS, Synod thus leaves it to each congregation to establish its own policy as pastoral wisdom on the part of both the

congregation and the ministry in its own particular situation dictates; therefore be it

Resolved, That for the peculiar problem which exists in the petitioning congregation we recommend to them the services of our official Commission on Fraternal Organizations; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod urge its congregations to avoid extremes in either direction in the matter of Scoutism lest consciences be burdened.

Report of Committee "To Study the NLC Matters"

(Memorial 624)

Relative to membership on the part of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in the National Lutheran Council, the synodical convention assembled in Milwaukee in 1950 adopted the following resolutions:

"WHEREAS, The constitution of the National Lutheran Council lists among its purposes and objectives joint activities in church work, such as missions, education, and student service (Article III, g) despite a lack of doctrinal agreement . . .

"WHEREAS, Therefore much of the program of the Council is of a unionistic nature, as is plainly shown in the majority report of the Committee on Membership in the National Lutheran Council . . .

"*Resolved,* That under the present conditions we decline to apply for membership as a participating body in the National Lutheran Council."

"WHEREAS, There are certain areas of purely external endeavor in which our Church may participate, as it has done in the past; be it therefore

"*Resolved,* That we express our continued willingness to co-operate with the National Lutheran Council wherever it can be done without compromising Scriptural principles."

Your Committee appointed by the President to keep the question of membership in the National Lutheran Council under survey during the past triennium begs leave to report that the factors which obtained at the time of the 1950 Milwaukee Convention and which persuaded the convention to adopt the above resolutions are unchanged. We are happy to report that the co-operative relationship between the National Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in areas of purely external endeavor is continuing, and we recommend to the convention assembled in Houston

that we express our Synod's willingness and eagerness to operate with the National Lutheran Church wherever it can be done without compromising Scriptural principles.

L. MEYER, *Secretary to the Committee*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 1

No. 624 is the report of a committee appointed by the President to keep the question of membership by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in the National Lutheran Council under survey. The President's committee refers to Synod's resolution in this matter at its Milwaukee Convention in 1950 and states "that the factors which obtained at the time of the 1950 Milwaukee Convention and which persuaded the Convention to adopt the above resolution are unchanged."

Recommendation of Committee 3:

WHEREAS, The conditions which prompted Synod's action with respect to membership in the National Lutheran Council at its convention in Milwaukee remain unchanged; be it

Resolved, That Synod's resolution of 1950, in which Synod declined to apply for membership in the National Lutheran Council, but expressed its willingness to co-operate with the National Lutheran Council wherever it can be done without compromising Scriptural principles, remain in force during the coming triennium.

Lutheran World Federation

(Memorial 625)

WHEREAS, The Executive Committee of the Lutheran World Federation has issued an invitation to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to accept the privileges and responsibilities of membership in the Lutheran World Federation; and

WHEREAS, The objectives of the Lutheran World Federation require study before The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod can commit itself to an application for membership; and

WHEREAS, Other types of permanent association with the Lutheran World Federation (e. g., consultative membership, etc.) have been ruled out, for all practical purposes, by the Executive Committee of the Lutheran World Federation in order to protect the distinctively Lutheran character of the Lutheran World Federation; and

WHEREAS, Certain programs (e. g., resettlement of refugees,

interchurch aid, etc.) of the Lutheran World Federation merit immediate support of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, An informal association of a purely temporary character between The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the Lutheran World Federation seems desirable in order to study the constitution and program of the Lutheran World Federation and to facilitate the immediate support of urgently required aid to needy fellow Lutherans now being rendered by the Lutheran World Federation; therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by the President of Synod to study the objectives of the Lutheran World Federation, with recommendations for action on the invitation of the Executive Committee of the Lutheran World Federation; and be it further

Resolved, That the report of this committee be distributed no later than January, 1955, to all the congregations of Synod for their study and consideration; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod approve the establishment of purely temporary relations with the duly constituted organs of the Lutheran World Federation to facilitate this study as well as to make possible the immediate support by our Synod of selected programs of the Lutheran World Federation until such time as Synod shall have arrived at a decision on the question of membership in the Lutheran World Federation.

THE MANHATTAN-BRONX-WESTCHESTER PASTORAL CONFERENCE, ATLANTIC DISTRICT
ALEXANDER F. VON SCHLICHTEN, D. D., *Chairman*
THEODORE H. BUSHMANN, *Secretary*

Concerning this matter, our Committee on NLC and LWF had reported as follows:

Re Membership in Lutheran World Federation

(Memorial 1016)

A Preliminary Study on the Relationship of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to the Lutheran World Federation

Invitation to Join Lutheran World Federation

"On behalf of the Executive Committee I invite your Church to become a member of the Lutheran World Federation. I am sending you a copy of the constitution, which gives the provisions that your Church will need to follow in order to become a member. You will carefully note Articles II and IV.

"In the event your Church wishes to accept this invitation, we would need a record of the action of your governing body together with a copy of your constitution plus information on the number of members, congregations, pastors, institutions, etc.

"DR. CARL E. LUND-QUIST, *Executive Secretary*"

The above communication was received from the Executive Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, inviting The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to membership in that organization.

"To join or not to join" the Lutheran World Federation is for The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the member churches of the Lutheran World Federation a question of far-reaching importance and implications. Because the next convention of the Lutheran World Federation will not be held until the year 1958, the question of membership in the Lutheran World Federation is not now being presented to this convention for its decision. However, to give everyone ample time and opportunity prior to our own 1956 convention for a thorough study of this important question, the following is being submitted as a source of information and a possible basis for study.

All premises and conclusions in the study of any kind of relationship between The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the Lutheran World Federation must be based on the Word of God. There are two primary injunctions related to this question, which the Lord has given:

a) *John 17:21*, where the Lord Jesus in His high-priestly prayer implores the Father for His Church "that they all may be one," a concept upon which the Apostle Paul enlarged in Eph. 4:4-6: "There is *one* body and *one* Spirit . . . *one* hope . . . *one* Lord . . . *one* faith . . . *one* Baptism . . . *one* God."

b) *1 Cor. 1:10:* "Now, I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

A

"That they all may be one" (John 17:21) means that Christians seek the fellowship of other Christians and oneness with them. As Christians we deplore isolation. We yearn for communion with every other member of the body of Christ. A Christian seeks the fellowship of every other Christian in prayer, in corporate worship, in Holy Communion, in doing the Lord's work, even in suffering for the faith. In Matt. 18:19 the Lord Jesus extends a divine blessing upon prayer fellowship: "Again I say unto you that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in Heaven." In Heb. 10:24, 25 we are encouraged to "consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the Day approaching."

In the Augustana we confess that all who believe in Him are fellow members of the body of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Our acceptance of those who believe must approximate in fullness that of the Savior, and our joy in every soul that is saved must approach the joy of the angels in heaven, irrespective of denominational affiliation.

B

However, the second of the two primary injunctions of God (1 Cor. 1:10) is just as binding: "Now, I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." We must be intent upon maintaining the unity of doctrine which the Lord requires. In our endeavor to fulfill this requirement we are to be as fervent as we are to be eager in our search for oneness.

These two divine injunctions are basic considerations in formulating our answer to the invitation to become members of the Lutheran World Federation.

What Is the Lutheran World Federation?

Of the thirteen articles of the Constitution of the Lutheran World Federation, we quote only Articles II and III, which are the most pertinent:

II. Doctrinal Basis

The Lutheran World Federation acknowledges the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the only source and the infallible norm of all church doctrine and practice, and sees in the Confessions of the Lutheran Church, especially in the Unaltered Augsburg Confession and Luther's Catechism, a pure exposition of the Word of God.

III. Nature and Purposes

1. The Lutheran World Federation shall be a free association of Lutheran churches. It shall have no power to legislate for the churches belonging to it or to interfere with their complete autonomy, but shall act as their agent in such matters as they assign to it.

2. The purposes of the Lutheran World Federation are:

a) To bear united witness before the world to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the power of God for salvation;

b) To cultivate unity of faith and confession among the Lutheran churches of the world;

c) To promote fellowship and co-operation in study among Lutherans;

d) To foster Lutheran participation in ecumenical movements;

e) To develop a united Lutheran approach to responsibilities in missions and education; and

f) To support Lutheran groups in need of spiritual or material aid.

3. The Lutheran World Federation may take action on behalf of member churches in such matters as one or more of them may commit to it.

The statement of doctrine in Article II can be regarded as the confession of true Lutheranism. However, when we explore the question of membership in the Lutheran World Federation, it is incumbent upon us to determine the extent to which these federated Lutheran church bodies subscribe to the confession in Article II, in faith as well as in practice.

a) Are we to assume that large church organizations which in the past emphasized their "unconfessional" character can promptly transform themselves into abiding "confessional" Lutherans by signing a document?

b) What is to be our attitude to the documented statements and actions of individuals, groups, and entire church bodies within the Lutheran World Federation who manifest a disruptive divergence in regard to

a. the inspiration of Scriptures
b. predestination
c. justification
d. grace (*sola gratia*)
e. chiliasm
f. millennialism
g. the Church
h. syncretism
i. unionism
j. indifference to purity of doctrine
k. an unwillingness to conduct free conferences which could lead to doctrinal unity?

The Church of Sweden has been one of the chief protagonists of the organization of the Lutheran World Federation. A member of that Church was a recent Federation president. The Church of Sweden claims to be Lutheran. It has signed the constitution of the Lutheran World Federation. How can it reconcile this action with its pulpit and altar fellowship with the Church of England? Can we have confidence in the Church of Sweden that it really means what it says when it signed the constitution of the Lutheran World Federation?

At the opening service of the Hannover Conference last year practically every representative of member churches in the Lutheran World Federation participated in a joint Communion service.

Many of the bodies which these leaders represented do not countenance pulpit and altar fellowship with each other; yet these same leaders knelt side by side at the altar in Hannover. We pose the question: Does such action speak louder than the formal signing of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession?

At the Hannover Conference, some of the leading theological men in the Lutheran World Federation questioned, to the point of disavowal, the efficacy of Infant Baptism. They openly asserted that the doctrine of the real presence in the Lord's Supper was not Scriptural. Shall the Missouri Synod become a member of an organization in which such glaring divisions are an undeniable reality? Is this to be the response to the Lord's prayer "that they may all be one"? "that they all speak the same thing"? "that there be no division among them"? "that they be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment"?

This, however, does not mean that we cannot co-operate with the Lutheran World Federation in matters that are not contrary to Biblical doctrine and practice. Such co-operation need not presuppose nor demand formal membership in the Lutheran World Federation. Co-operation in externals in some fields would be of mutual help to us and to the Lutheran World Federation. We could entertain some form of consultative relationship to the Lutheran World Federation which would make co-operation in externals possible without violating any Biblical principles in doctrine or practice. Our interest in the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world; our obligation for the expansion of the Kingdom; our recognition of our responsibility to foster God-pleasing ecumenicity and fellowship; our eagerness to do everything within our strength and means to give heed to the world call, which the Lord and Bishop of the Church is addressing to the Lutheran Churches of the world today, makes us eager to do anything and everything — within limits of our conscience bound by the Word of God — to foster a closer relationship with all Lutheran Churches throughout the world and especially those in the Lutheran World Federation, whether that be within or without any kind of formal or informal relationship.

The membership invitation of the Lutheran World Federation should receive the studious consideration of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in the Scriptural light of the need for oneness as well as in the Scriptural light of the need for doctrinal faithfulness, in order that a God-pleasing answer may ensue at our 1956 convention.

THE COMMITTEE ON N. L. C. AND L. W. F.
J. W. BEHNKEN
L. MEYER
LOUIS J. SIECK †

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 2

WHEREAS, The Executive Committee of the Lutheran World Federation has issued an invitation to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to accept the privileges and responsibilities of membership in the Lutheran World Federation; and

WHEREAS, The constitution of the Lutheran World Federation with its objectives and the practical implications of membership on the part of Synod in this body should be carefully examined before this invitation is either accepted or declined; and

WHEREAS, The next convention of the Lutheran World Federation will not be held until 1958; be it therefore

Resolved, That the *Praesidium* of Synod appoint a committee of three to

1) study the constitution and objectives of the Lutheran World Federation;

2) evaluate the practical working of this body in the light of Scriptural doctrine and practice;

3) make recommendations with respect to action by Synod in the matter of the invitation to membership in the Lutheran World Federation or the extent of possible co-operation with the same;

4) submit its findings and recommendations to the College of Presidents by September, 1954, for study and possible amendment, after which they shall be submitted to all pastors and congregations of Synod by January 1, 1955, for study with a view to action at Synod's general convention in 1956.

Questions Regarding the Doctrinal Position of Synod

(Unprinted Memorial 60)

The undersigned respectfully request Synod at its Houston Convention to give its members the following assurance:

1. That Synod still holds that the doctrine of the Antichrist, namely, that "the Pope is the very Antichrist" (Smalcald Articles) is an *article of faith,* though non-fundamental (*Proceedings,* Northern District, 1876, p. 36 f.; *Brief Statement,* pars. 43 and 44);

2. That when Synod confesses in the *Brief Statement* (par. 44) that "the doctrine of the Antichrist" is "clearly defined ("entschieden") in Scripture," it is referring to what it confesses about the Antichrist in par. 43, especially this conclusion: "We teach that the prophecies of the Holy Scriptures concerning the Anti-

christ . . . have been fulfilled in the Pope of Rome and his dominion . . .";

3. That Synod still holds that the teaching, as such, of a general conversion of the Jewish nation is rejected by clear passages of Scripture (Rom. 11:25; 2 Cor. 3:14; Rom. 11:7; 1 Thess. 2:16, and others), and is therefore a false teaching (*Proceedings*, General Synod, 1857, p. 25, cf. p. 42);

4. That Synod still holds that the teaching of a physical resurrection of a number of departed Christians or martyrs before the general resurrection on Judgment Day on the basis of Rev. 20:4 is not only unscriptural because Rev. 20:4 does not speak of a physical resurrection, but is also rejected by John 5:28 and John 6:39, 40, since these passages clearly teach that there will be but one resurrection of the dead (*Proceedings*, Gen. Synod, 1857, pp. 80, 85);

5. That Synod still holds, that to speak of the use of the means of grace as a visible side of the Church when defining its essence, that is, that of which the Church consists ("ihren Bestand"), as the American Lutheran Church does, is a doctrinal error and not merely a question of terminology;

6. That Synod still rejects as contrary to Scripture all views which in any way contradict or disagree with the Scriptural position confessed in the five points mentioned above, holding that such views cannot be tolerated in its midst.

The consciences of members of Synod are being sorely troubled by the question whether Synod still holds to the Scriptural position stated above. We therefore petition Synod to assure its members by a formal vote that it still holds to this position, urging that this be done before the adjournment of the Houston Convention.

PAUL H. BURGDORF — H. W. ROMOSER
A. V. KUSTER — THEO. DIERKS
PAUL G. KOCH — A. T. KRETZMANN

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 3 Synod *resolved*, with 8 negative votes:

Resolution 5

This memorial requests of this Convention certain assurances in regard to the teaching of our Church on the Antichrist, the general conversion of the Jewish nation, a physical resurrection of the martyrs, and on a "visible side of the Church when defining its essence."

WHEREAS, Our Synod adopted the *Brief Statement* in 1932 (cf. *Proceedings* 1932, pp. 154, 155) as a statement of the doctrinal position of the Missouri Synod on the points set forth; and

WHEREAS, Our Synod has in 1947 reaffirmed its acceptance of *Brief Statement* as a correct expression of its doctrinal position (*Proceedings* 1947, p. 476); and

WHEREAS, The points referred to in Unprinted Memorial 60 are ted in the *Brief Statement;* be it

Resolved, That Synod regard the acceptance and reaffirmation he *Brief Statement* as its response to the request made in this morial.

ticles of Agreement Between the Armed Services Commission and the Bureau of Service, National Lutheran Council

(Unprinted Memorial 31)

Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 13

Unprinted Memorial 31 expresses dissatisfaction with the Articles of Agreement between the Armed Services Commission of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the Bureau of Service to Military Personnel of the National Lutheran Council, and asks that this agreement be either "disavowed" or "properly amended" by Synod.

WHEREAS, Committee 3 examined the Articles of Agreement and finds that they safeguard Synod's Scriptural position with regard to unionism, and at the same time recognize exceptional cases that may arise due to military service and that properly fall into the realm of casuistry; be it

Resolved, That Synod decline the request of Unprinted Memorial No. 31; and be it

Resolved, That Synod urge all pastors to instruct their members entering the service with respect to our Scriptural position on unionism, so that exceptional cases arising in military life may not become the rule and gradually undermine sound practice in our congregations.

Resolutions Concerning Other Lutheran Church Bodies

Committee 3 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 23

WHEREAS, This Convention has adopted a number of resolutions pertaining to Intersynodical and Doctrinal Matters which concern not only our sister synods in the Synodical Conference, but also the American Lutheran Church; and

WHEREAS, The President of Synod is the official who is duly authorized to carry out the directives of Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention request the President of Synod to bring the respective resolutions that pertain to the constituent synods of the Synodical Conference and to the American Lutheran Church to the attention of these church bodies.

Report of Commission on Fraternal Organizations

(Memorial 628)

In the past triennium, the Commission on Fraternal Organizations continued its work in terms of Synod's position concerning lodges (*Handbook* 13.01). Our main task was to supply inquiring pastors with the most recent information on fraternal organizations. In many instances we were approached to render an opinion in specific cases. We also carried on considerable correspondence with a number of fraternal organizations and received from them further particulars regarding the purpose and nature of their rituals. We also had meetings with top officials of several fraternal organizations. We attempted in these meetings to clarify for these officials our objections to their rituals and to have them modify or declare the rituals optional. In every instance we were cordially received, and, though we are not able at this time to give these organizations a clean bill of health, we believe that we have made progress in the direction of the goals we are trying to reach.

It is evident to us that our pastors and congregations are still manifesting a genuine concern regarding the evil nature of secret oath-bound fraternal organizations. An illustration of that fact is a questionnaire brought to our attention the past year by one of the large pastoral conferences in the Midwest, which polled its constituency to ascertain the lodge policy pursued by individual pastors and congregations in its midst. From almost complete returns, the poll revealed that the great majority of congregations was lodge free, and in all instances where members had affiliated with an objectionable organization they were being dealt with conscientiously. As additional evidence that our pastors in general are alert to the menace of lodgery, we submit that requests for information or advice come to us from all parts of the country. We are glad to report also that occasionally we receive requests for information from Lutheran pastors not affiliated with our Synod.

But we must also record that some areas in our Church have not contacted us. This makes your Commission wonder whether the lodge problem does not exist in these areas. Wherever the members of your Commission have spoken at L. L. L. seminars and other gatherings, discussion revealed that our congregations in both rural and urban communities commonly meet with pressure

[illegible] one or more local secret orders that our members affiliate [illegible] anti-Scriptural societies. It is our conviction that unless all [illegible] pastors and congregations remain alert to the dangers of the [illegible]dge evil, we shall in the course of time find it difficult to hold [illegible]e line. It should be evident to all our people that in our recent [illegible]otiations with the Commissioners of the American Lutheran [illegible]urch regarding the lodge matter, the position of our Church [illegible]ould be far more compelling and convincing if we could show [illegible]at throughout our Synod all pastors and congregations are not [illegible]ly aware of the lodge evil, but are also, with God's help, grap[illegible]ling with the problem and doing all within their power to preserve [illegible]eir congregations from the inroads of secret oath-bound organ[illegible]zations.

A most significant development with respect to the Church's relation to lodges occurred in the last two years in England. There a rector by the name of the Rev. Walton Hannah has, through an article and a substantial volume, made the Church of England aware of the inconsistency of members of the Anglican Church being at the same time members of the Masonic Order. Rev. Hannah's testimony to the truth had repercussions throughout the English-speaking world. The Church of England therefore finds itself in an embarrassing dilemma. It must decide whether it wishes to continue to condone membership in Freemasonry or whether it wishes to make an all-out effort to disassociate itself from this organization. Rev. Hannah's book *Darkness Visible* is widely read and studied thoughout England. Concordia Publishing House has purchased 1,400 copies. Our Commission believes that our congregations will make a good investment by purchasing copies of this book for the pastors and officers of the congregation.

With respect to the Boy Scouts of America and the fact that a number of our congregations sponsor Boy Scout troops under Lutheran Scout leadership, our Commission has only little to report. Within the last years, scores of our Lutheran boys have qualified for, and been awarded, the *Pro Deo et Patria* award. This award is given in recognition of special services by a Boy Scout under the direction of the local pastor. The members of your Commission served with other representatives of our Synod on a subcommittee on Scouting and met periodically with delegations of the other bodies affiliated with us in the Synodical Conference in an effort to remove the differences of attitude and practice within this body regarding Scoutism. Our inability to reach an agreement in this matter was reported to the St. Paul Convention of the Synodical Conference, which, in turn, referred the problem to the seminary faculties in the Synodical Conference.

On November 15, 1950, your Commission sustained a most

serious loss when Dr. Th. Graebner was called to his heavenly home. It must be said to the glory of God that Dr. Graebner did more to awaken our own Church, and the Lutheran churches in general throughout the country, to the dangers of the lodge evil than any other individual. His last major work, titled *A Handbook of Organizations* (Concordia Publishing House, 1948), is a gold mine of information on almost two hundred fraternal organizations. It also contains in its initial chapters clearly formulated principles and policies which should enable the pastor to proceed Scripturally and evangelically with lodge members. Dr. Graebner's files on lodges, which accumulated over a period of nearly thirty years, were presented by his family to Synod's Commission on Fraternal Organizations.

The Commission wishes to thank Synod for allowing a modest budget year after year so that the Commission could carry out its assignments. It also thanks the pastors who in their communications provided valuable information for the benefit of the Commission. It is our prayer that our Church may continue unswervingly and steadfastly to voice its objections to the false teachings of secret oath-bound organizations, to remain loyal to its position, and to make all our members more and more aware of the glory and privilege of being members in the body of Christ.

JULIUS W. ACKER
PAUL M. BRETSCHER, *Chairman*

ACTION

Committee 7 recommended the following resolutions, which were *adopted:*

Resolution 1

WHEREAS, The Commission on Fraternal Organizations during the past triennium has faithfully performed the duties assigned by Synod and has been helpful to many who have sought its counsel; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the Commission for its service to the Church; and be it further resolved

Resolved, That we encourage all our pastors and members to seek the aid and advice of this Commission.

Resolution 2

WHEREAS, The Commission on Fraternal Organizations serves as a clearinghouse on information concerning orders and societies of a questionable nature; and

WHEREAS, Our pastors and laymen frequently come into possession of valuable documents and information that will be useful to our Commission; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the interest of improving the services of our mission we urge our brethren to co-operate by transmitting to our Commission such literature and information.

Resolution 3

WHEREAS, The now sainted Dr. Theodore Graebner, who for many years had raised his voice in warning against the evils of unchristian associations, served our Church with distinction as a member of the Commission on Fraternal Organizations; and

WHEREAS, The family of the deceased has presented to this Commission his valuable files on lodges accumulated over a period of nearly thirty years; therefore be it

Resolved, That we gratefully recognize the outstanding service of Dr. Graebner in this area; and be it further

Resolved, That we request the secretary of this Commission to transmit to the family of Dr. Graebner the foregoing resolution together with the expression of Synod's thanks for the valuable gift.

Elimination of Objectionable Religious Features in Lodges

(Memorial 629)

WHEREAS, Our Commission on Fraternal Organizations has so far been unable to carry out the recommendations of the 1951 convention of the English District relative to the Masonic Order; and

WHEREAS, The current expansion of lodges exerts increasing pressure upon pastors and congregations to relax sound Biblical principles in dealing with the lodge evil; and

WHEREAS, Our Commission on Fraternal Organizations has succeeded in making considerable progress in dealing with authorities of several objectionable orders; be it therefore

Resolved, That our Commission on Fraternal Organizations be urged to continue to put forth every effort to eliminate the objectionable religious features in all lodges, notably the Masonic Order; and be it further

Resolved, That all our congregations and pastors continue to take an evangelical but definite stand on the question of membership in objectionable fraternal organizations.

ENGLISH DISTRICT
REV. C. F. DANKWORTH, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 7 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 4

WHEREAS, The Commission on Fraternal Organizations has again made contacts with officials of a number of fraternal organizations with good results; and

WHEREAS, This Commission has in prospect further meetings of such nature; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage this Commission to carry out the request of this memorial to the best of their ability and that we wish them God's blessing; and be it further

Resolved, That all our congregations and pastors take to heart the second resolution of the English District in this memorial:

"*Resolved,* That all our congregations and pastors continue to take an evangelical but definite stand on the question of membership in objectionable fraternal organizations."

Synod to Warn Against RSV as Bible of Modernism

(Memorial 630)

WHEREAS, In the Bible of the "National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.," known as the Revised Standard Version, the "lines along which the revision proceeded" (Preface, p. iv) are the lines of Modernistic unbelief and disbelief, as shown, e. g., by the Revision Committee's *Introduction to the RSV of the Old Testament* (p. 74, par. 3, and p. 77, par. 2; etc.), to wit:

"The writer [of the Book of Ecclesiastes] does not deny the existence or the power of God, yet his is not the God of Judaism but a ruthless and capricious Fate. Logically we should expect him to recommend suicide, since he had nothing to fear beyond the grave. Surprisingly, on the contrary, he repeatedly advises moderate enjoyment (cf. 1:17b) of whatever outward blessings life happens to afford (2:24; 5:18; 8:15; 9:7-9). The extreme skepticism of the book is alleviated somewhat by a few interpolations and editorial additions. These and the ascription to Solomon help to account for its inclusion in the canon."

"There are at least two reservations which the modern preacher may properly allow himself in preaching from the prophets. The repeated reference to the harlotries and adulteries of Judah and/or Israel does not furnish serviceable metaphors for contemporary edification. And one is struck by the savage and vindictive vengefulness visited upon enemies round about. The sword of the Lord is constantly drunk with the blood of Edom and the like. It may be that the writer of Hosea 13:16 was not the tender and forgiving author of the earlier part of the book; but the brutal hope that the little children of Samaria may be 'dashed in pieces' and 'their

nt women ripped open' leaves something to be desired lly." And

WHEREAS, There are imbedded in the very text of this version ll as in its footnotes perversions of Holy Scripture which usly impair the foundation of Christian faith, e. g.:

While the Holy Spirit in Matt. 1:22, 23 expressly testifies that as spoken of the Lord by the Prophet, saying: Behold, a virgin l be with child," etc., the RSV in the text of the Prophet Isaiah 14) reduces the word "virgin" to "young woman." In Luke 1:34 ry is falsely made to say to the angel: "I have no husband." d Matt. 1:25 is made to read simply that Mary bore "a son"; t, "her first-born son."

God's promise that He was to bless the world through a single ed of Abraham, "which is Christ" (Gal. 3:16) is perverted to mere promise of God's blessing the world through Abraham's descendants" — the Jews (Gen. 22:18; 26:4; 28:14).

The Messianic character of Ps. 2:12 is subverted by the removal of the words "the Son" from the text of Scripture and substitution of the words "his [God's] feet" without any foundation whatever, such perversions of the text being designated by the euphemism "correction" by the RSV Committee. (Cp. also *Introduction to the RSV, OT,* p. 58, par. 1.)

In Hab. 2:4, one of the foundation passages of the central Christian doctrine, justification by faith, a passage which meant so much in Luther's life and work — "the righteous shall live by his faithfulness," is proposed in a footnote as a correct reading of the text. Concerning this passage Dr. Theo. Laetsch in his recently published Bible Commentary on *Jeremiah,* a publication of Synod's official publication house (1953), rightly testifies (p. 73): "To deny that the only correct translation of Hab. 2:4 is 'faith,' and not 'faithfulness,' i. e., faithful performance of one's duty, is to deny not only the correctness of Paul's translation of this term in Rom. 1:7; it would undermine his entire argument for the doctrine of justification, not by any works of man, but solely through faith in the vicarious atonement effected by Christ Jesus. He would base his argument for this thesis on a Scripture passage which in fact teaches the exact opposite: Salvation by faithful performance of one's duty. The Holy Spirit, speaking through Paul, certainly knew what He meant by *emunah* when He spoke Hab. 2:4 through His Prophet. (Cp. 1 Peter 1:10, 11.)"

The meaning of the great passage Job 19:26, which serves as a foundation of our faith in the resurrection of the flesh, is declared "uncertain," and the words "without my flesh I shall see God" are substituted for "in my flesh shall I see God."

The passages 1 Tim. 3:2, 12; 5:9; Titus 1:6 are so perverted as

to teach the false doctrine that bishops, that is, pastors, or elders, and deacons as well as deaconesses are to be "married only once."

Other passages subversive of Scripture are so numerous that we refrain from recounting them here, but refer instead to a further enumeration of them in the March-April (1953) issue of the *Confessional Lutheran,** which is subjoined as a part of this memorial. And

WHEREAS, The use of the RSV is being urged upon our people; and

WHEREAS, The use of the RSV by our people would constitute a menace to their souls and to their final salvation; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod insistently warn our people against the RSV as the Bible of Modernism, in its official publications, and call on all pastors and congregations of Synod to do likewise.

Respectfully submitted by resolution of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Clinton, Iowa.

PAUL H. BURGDORF, *Pastor and Chairman*
JOHN G. WULF, *Recording Secretary*

Revised Standard Version of the Bible

(Memorial 631)

Upon instruction of the Boston Pastoral Conference of Circuits "A" and "B," I am submitting the following memorial to Synod.

Pursuant to the instruction of the Boston Pastoral Conference, in session at Boston, Mass., February 10, 1953, I respectfully submit the following memorial:

WHEREAS, The Revised Standard Version of the Holy Scriptures has been carefully studied and compared with the original languages and translations; and

WHEREAS, There are many passages which could be translated to a closer degree, and there are changes made in the original texts which are not indicated, and other variations; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod should hold discussions with the publishers of the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Scriptures about making changes in the edition. If this fails, Synod should make some provision for these corrections to be inserted or otherwise made available for use with the Revised Standard Version.

BOSTON PASTORAL CONFERENCE
H. J. LINCKS, *Secretary*

* A copy of this issue of the *Confessional Lutheran* was made available to the Floor Committee. — J. W. Behnken.

ACTION

Other unprinted memorials on this matter were Numbers 11, 44, 45, and 48. After considering all these overtures, Committee 8 recommended and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 9

INTRODUCTION: During the past triennium several agencies of Synod have concerned themselves with the problem of Bible versions. In recent months considerable interest and agitation has resulted from the publication of the Revised Standard Version in complete form. Committee 8 has reviewed Memorials 630 and 631 and Unprinted Memorials 11, 44, 45, and 48 and has heard presentations of a number of interested individuals at this Convention. In order to provide for suitable action by this Convention, the action and principle of the synodical agencies in the field is spread on this record as a preface for recommended resolutions.

At the synodical convention of 1950 the Board for Parish Education was instructed to appoint an Advisory Committee on Modern English Versions of the Bible. It reports to this Convention:

The Advisory Committee on Modern English Versions of the Bible, appointed by the Board for Parish Education, takes leave to make the following report:

1. During the last three years the Advisory Committee held numerous meetings for consultation and deliberation.

2. In order to comply with the directive: "to give guidance to the Church in the matter of modern English versions" (synodical *Proceedings,* 1950, p. 394), the Committee

a. adopted the Opinion of the St. Louis faculty on the R. S. V. as representing the viewpoint of the Committee by which the Church should be guided in evaluating the R. S. V.;

b. assigned or suggested various articles for publication in the *Lutheran Witness* and the *Concordia Theological Monthly:* William F. Arndt, "Revised Standard Version of the New Testament," *LW* (December 9, 1952); Martin H. Franzmann, "Some Reactions to New Bible Translation," *LW* (December 9, 1952); George V. Schick, "Revised Standard Version of the Old Testament," *LW* (December 9, 1952); E. J. Saleska, "Our English Bible," *CTM* (January, 1953); George V. Schick, "The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, *CTM* (January, 1953); A. F. Fergin, "A Critical Review of the Revised Standard Version of the New Testament," *CTM* (March, 1953); Arthur F. Katt, "Thinking Clearly on the R. S. V.," *CTM* (April, 1953); Carl Gaenssle, "Another Look at 'Almah,' Is. 7:14," *CTM* (June, 1953); Alfred von

Rohr Sauer, "The Almah Translation in Is. 7:14," *CTM* (July, 1953).

3. On the basis of its deliberations the Committee makes the following suggestions:

a) That Synod, in conformity with its previous practice, refrain from adopting any version as its official Scripture;

b) That new versions be used with proper caution and safeguards;

c) That the Literature Board be encouraged to make available translations and paraphrases of the Bible as educational aids for the reading and understanding of Scripture;

d) That the attention of the translators of the R. S. V. be called to inaccurate and objectionable renderings and be requested to make changes in forthcoming reprints or revisions;

e) That the public criticism of new versions be made on an objective basis. This should be done out of fairness and in order that the criticism be heard and not brushed aside as subjective prejudice;

f) That the Board for Parish Education be encouraged to appoint a similar advisory committee for the next triennium;

g) That this Committee, with the help of pastors and professors, continue the task of examining especially the R. S. V.

The Opinion of the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, referred to in the above, was prepared in response to requests from the *Praesidium* of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and of a number of individuals in the field, and was adopted by it December 2, 1952.

In response to your request for the St. Louis faculty's Opinion of the Revised Standard Version permit us to submit the following:

In general, we recognize that the Revised Standard Version which is based on the original King James Version and its later British and American Revisions very successfully transmits to the modern English reader the message of God's Word in an idiomatic and readily understandable form. There is no evidence for the charge that this new version has for its special objective an attack on our Christian faith.

Nevertheless, we must add that there are instances where we cannot agree with the translations offered by the Revised Standard Version. Some of the conjectures which it adopts, e. g., in Psalm 2:11, are utterly without support either in the Hebrew text or in the ancient versions. Neither do we approve the appearance of "young woman" in Isaiah 7:14 in the body of the text and the relegation of "virgin" to the footnote. In Job 19:26, "without my

[illegible] rather than "from my flesh" or "out of my flesh," fails to [illegible]e with the following verse. In many instances, too, the Old [illegible]tament section of the Revised Standard Version leans too [illegible]vily on emendations of the Hebrew text suggested by the [illegible]ient versions, i. e., the Septuagint, the Targums, the Vulgate, [illegible] the Syriac. In the New Testament section of the Revised [illegible]ndard Version the subjective paraphrase "married only once" [illegible]mains in 1 Timothy 3:2, although the 1952 revision adds a foot[illegible]te stating that the Greek has: "the husband of one wife." [illegible] Romans 9:5 we would unequivocally express our preference [illegible] the words now found in the footnote. We realize, of course, [illegible]hat a question of punctuation is involved in this passage and that [illegible]he oldest manuscripts of the New Testament have no punctuation [illegible]arks of any kind.

From these statements it is clear that we by no means regard the Revised Standard Version as perfect. There has never been, and there will never be, a translation of the Scriptures which will measure up completely to every demand, but we believe that the new version may be helpful in presenting God's own message to our people in a more readable form than the King James Version offers. We do not believe that its use will undermine the faith of our members in any doctrine of the Scriptures.

Whether the Revised Standard Version is to be used in our religious instruction classes and in public worship services must be left to the good judgment of our pastors, teachers, and congregations, since, unlike other church bodies, our Synod has never officially adopted any version as its own. It is our conviction, however, that the Authorized Version, to which our people have become accustomed, will remain the most generally used Scripture text in our circles for some time to come.

The synodical Literature Board had a special Committee on Bible Versions which operated with the following principles:

1. We hold to the time-honored position of the Missouri Synod that we as a Church do not formally endorse a Bible translation as the official translation of the Church, and therefore feel that it is not expedient to prepare a new standard Bible translation as that of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

2. However, we do not discourage the publication of individual and independent Bible translations.

WHEREAS, Much interest and concern in translations of the Bible has been aroused in our country and within our own Church in recent years, affording the opportunity for improved study of the Scriptures and review of their basic doctrines; and

WHEREAS, Members of our Church are properly concerned that

no harm should be done to the faith and knowledge of its members through defective translations; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod reaffirm its principle that the original texts of the Scriptures constitute the authority for its doctrine, and that it therefore encourage

1. Its pastors to apply themselves diligently to the ascertaining of the intended meaning of the Scriptures through individual study and through conference with others;

2. Its pastors to guide their congregations into the understanding of the Scriptures through sermons, catechetical instruction, and Bible classes, helping their people to weigh the merits of the various versions and to recognize their advantages and disadvantages.

3. The agencies of the Church, especially the Advisory Committee of the Board for Parish Education, the synodical Literature Board, and its theological professors and editors, to continue the program already begun of study, publication, and conference with translators and publishers aiming at improvements of erroneous translations.

VII. PUBLICATION MATTERS

Report of Concordia Publishing House

(Memorial 701)

We are happy to report a successful triennium of service to the Savior and to His Church. Under the capable management of Mr. O. A. Dorn, and on the basis of increased authorization by Synod, the growth of Concordia Publishing House has been a pleasant phenomenon. Operating as a mission agency with the combined purpose of aiding and edifying a growing Church, Concordia Publishing House has responded to the need for additional manufacturing space. An addition was erected joining our main factory building, providing an extra 79,460 square feet of space. The total cost of the building was $687,324.07. This additional building increases the total number of square feet in the entire Concordia Publishing House plant to 227,168. Included in this figure are areas comprising 11,910 square feet of space occupied by the Lutheran Hour and the Lutheran Laymen's League.

In order to cope with modern production methods it was also necessary during the past triennium to add new and faster machinery and to provide systems which would keep our prices at the lowest possible point in spite of rising costs. The new building provided much-needed space for the expansion of our packing and mailing facilities so that today we are in a much better position to handle the greatly increased number of orders for merchandise and the mailing of synodical materials.

Because of our considerably increased operation we were able to transfer to the synodical treasury a total of $500,000 during the triennium. Since the convention in 1947 the activities of your publishing house doubled in volume. The sales figures are as follows:

1947	$2,200,579.27	1950	$3,128,977.39
1948	2,636,381.42	1951	3,627,711.27
1949	2,813,034.98	1952	4,148,402.46

It is estimated at this writing that the volume for 1953 will be somewhat higher than 1952. Inasmuch as this report is prepared prior to the close of our fiscal year, the complete financial report for the triennium will be presented separately at the Houston Convention.

One of the important factors at Concordia Publishing House is the rapidly increasing personnel. At present 423 men and women are employed in the various departments. Practically all of them are members of Missouri Synod congregations in and near Saint Louis. Many of them have long records of faithful employment and

are well acquainted with the Church and its activities, giving them an opportunity to take a deeper interest in the things they produce for the Church. Some years ago Synod adopted a lay retirement plan in which Concordia Publishing House employees also are enrolled. Several have already taken advantage of the program. Concordia Publishing House employees are also provided with a very well-arranged hospitalization, sickness, and insurance program.

The transfer of the synodical offices to the new Lutheran Building in downtown St. Louis has provided 9,000 square feet of additional office space. Our rapidly expanding activity, however, makes larger and more modern office quarters necessary. Plans are now under way to provide adequate facilities.

The members of the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House who have served during the past triennium are: Chairman, Mr. R. C. Obermann, vice-president of the Mercantile Trust Company, St. Louis; vice-chairman, Mr. Wm. A. Lahrmann, vice-president of Universal Match Company, St. Louis; secretary, the Rev. Kenneth R. Hoffmann, pastor of Trinity Church, Hyattsville, Md.; assistant secretary, Mr. Theodore Gassner, principal, Trinity Lutheran School, St. Louis; Mr. Alfred T. Leimbach, vice-president, Edison Brothers, Inc.; Mr. A. J. Meyer, president, A. J. Meyer Realty Company, St. Louis; Mr. Harvey Kopp, president, Wolff's Clothiers, Inc., St. Louis. At the time of the Houston Convention the terms of office of the following will expire: Mr. R. C. Obermann, Mr. A. J. Meyer, and Mr. Alfred T. Leimbach.

During the early part of the closing triennium it became necessary to increase prices on a large number of items because of the inflationary trend in the cost of labor and materials. However, during the latter part we refrained from making general price increases, in spite of the continuation of this trend, hoping that the increased costs could be absorbed. But because of these higher costs the net income was correspondingly reduced.

During the past triennium, Concordia Publishing House has worked closely with all synodical committees and agencies, planning and producing materials according to their various needs.

Manuscripts have been provided by the Centennial literature committee for the completion of Dr. F. Pieper's *Dogmatik* in English. This is a series of three volumes, and plans are under way for the production of an index in a fourth volume.

On the basis of prior convention resolutions, Concordia Publishing House is continuing to subsidize the editing and publication of the proposed Scholarly Commentary. The first volume of this series was issued during the past year. Dr. Laetsch completed his work on *Jeremiah*, which is now on the market. The manuscript

second volume by Dr. Laetsch on the Minor Prophets is currently in the hands of the Seminary faculty for censorial reading.

Additional subsidy has been provided by Concordia Publishing House for a new and considerably enlarged edition of the *Concordia Cyclopedia*, henceforth to be known as the *Lutheran Cyclopedia*, which is now in the process of production. It is our plan to place this book on the market late in 1953.

Another volume has been issued in the previously announced Concordia Historical Series, namely, *Zion on the Mississippi*, by Dr. Walter O. Forster. It has been decided by the Literature Board that the series as such be abandoned, but that various treatises be issued as monographs.

Other items of an important nature have been issued during the triennium, such as *Luther and His Times* by Dr. E. G. Schwiebert and *The Flood* by Dr. Alfred Rehwinkel. The complete listing of publications produced is as follows:

PUBLICATIONS, 1950

Books

Bangert, Miss Dorothea: *Workbook in Primary Religion, Grade 1*
Bloedel, Miss Verona: *Workbook in Primary Religion, Grades 2 and 3*
Boettcher, Henry J., Ph. D.: *The New Life*
Buszin, Walter E., M. S. M., S. T. M.: *The Doctrine of the Universal Priesthood*
Colba, Frank H.: *Manual for Workbook in Primary Religion*
Fergin, Arthur F.: *And the People Came*
Feucht, Oscar E., and Erich H. Heintzen: *Practical Christianity*
Feucht, Oscar E.: *More and Better Bible Study Charts*
Geiseman, O. A., S. T. D.: *Old Truths for a New Day, Vol. II*
Gockel, H. W.: *But How Can I Know?*
Jahsmann, Allan Hart: *Leading Children into the Bible*
Kramer, William A., M. A.: *Treasury of Christian Literature*
Kretzmann, P. E., Ph. D., D. D., Ed. D.: *What Lutheran Sunday School Teachers Should Know* (Revised)
Lutheran Education Yearbook: *Public Relations for Lutheran Education*
Lutheran Education Tracts:
Young People Need the Bible
My School — A Statement
Soul Accounting Record Cards
Little, C. H., D. D.: *Explanation of the Book of Revelation*
Miller, Arthur L., Ph. D.: *Individual Memory Course for Grades 1 to 7*
Miller, Arthur L., Ph. D.: *Instruction Book for Individual Memory Course*
Miller, Arthur L., Ph. D.: *Record Cards for Individual Memory Course*
Mueller, J. Theo., Ph. D., Th. D.: *Doctrina Christiana*, Vol. I (Spanish translation by Rev. A. Melendez)
Pelikan, J. J., Jr., Ph. D.: *From Luther to Kierkegaard*
Pieper, F., D. D.: *Christian Dogmatics*, Vol. II (Translated by Dr. Theo. Engelder)
Polack, William Gustave, Litt. D.: *Beside Still Waters*
Rein, R. C.: *Building the Sunday School*
Romoser, Harold W., B. D., M. A.: *Christ's "No"*
Schmidt, O. H., M. A., D. D.: *St. Paul Shows Us How*
Schoenfeld, Lois: *A Confidential Chat with Sunday School Teachers*
Schwartzkopf, Louis J.: *The Lutheran Trail*
Schwiebert, Prof. Ernest G., B. D., Ph. D.: *Luther and His Times*

Weidenschilling, John M., M. A., S. T. D.: *The Early Christian Church According to the Book of Acts* (Pupil's Guide)
Weidenschilling, John M., M. A., S. T. D.: *The Early Christian Church According to the Book of Acts* (Teacher's Guide)
Vacation Bible School Material (Fourth Series):
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: *Manual for Vacation Bible Schools*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Beginner's Workbook: *Jesus Loves Us*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Primary Workbook: *Jesus, Friend of Children*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Junior Workbook: *Our Wonderful Savior*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Senior Workbook: *Jesus, the Light of the World*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Beginner Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Primary Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Junior Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Senior Department
V. B. S. Banners; V. B. S. Daily Reports; V. B. S. Post Cards; V. B. S. Dodgers; V. B. S. Posters; V. B. S. Certificates; V. B. S. Registration Cards
Concordia Pulpit, 1951
Lutheran Annual, 1951
Kalender, 1951
Letters of Transfer (Revised)
Pastor's Companion

Devotional Booklets

No. 95 *Complete in Him*, C. A. Behnke, D. D.
In Gottes Hand, N. P. Uhlig
No. 96 *Christ for Us*, E. L. Wilson
Jesus Christus unsere Hoffnung, Theo. L. Blanken
No. 97 *Pictures of Heaven*, Walter F. Troeger
Wir wissen, Armin H. Guettler
No. 98 *Through Cloud and Sunshine*, T. A. Weinhold
Die sieben Leuchter und Sterne, William Lochner
No. 99 *Portals of Prayer*, Alfred Doerffler
Moses, der Fuehrer seiner Zeit, R. Herrmann
No. 100 *Portals of Prayer*, Henry F. Wind, D. D., and George C. Koenig
Jesus Christus, die Wahrheit, E. C. Krause
No. 101 *Portals of Prayer*, Various Authors
Lobet den Herrn mit Psalmen, August H. Lange

Music

Bunjes, Paul G.: All My Heart This Night Rejoices
Buszin, Walter E., M. S. M., S. T. M.:
Anthology of Sacred Music Series:
Vol. III, J. S. Bach Memorial Collection
BA-26 Eight Chorales
O Father Almighty
Pastorale in F Major
OS-211 Prelude in C Major
OS-212 Chorale Partita, All Glory Be to God on High
OS-213 How Lovely Shines the Morning Star
OS-214 Fantasy in G Major
OS-215 Concerto in C Major
OS-216 Fugue in F Major
OS-217 Concerto in F Major

Concordia Church Choir Series:
CH-65 O God, Forsake Me Not, E. H. Aufdemberge
CH-66 When in the Hour of Utmost Need, E. H. Aufdemberge
CH-67 Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay, Matthew N. Lundquist
CH-68 O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee, Matthew N. Lundquist
CH-69 Of the Father's Love Begotten, Matthew N. Lundquist
CH-70 A Prayer, Matthew N. Lundquist
CH-71 The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, is Ended, Matthew N. Lundquist
CH-72 Like as the Hart, Healey Willan
CH-73 I Will Lay Me Down in Peace, Healey Willan

Concordia Motet Series:
MS-1001 Hosanna to the Son of David, Theo. P. Klammer
MS-1002 Your Sorrow Shall Be Turned into Joy, Theo. P. Klammer
MS-1003 Jesus, Thou the Only Pure One, Matthew N. Lundquist
MS-1004 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now, Matthew N. Lundquist
MS-1005 Labor, Suffer, Matthew N. Lundquist
MS-1006 On God, and Not on Human Trust Matthew N. Lundquist
MS-1007 Stir in Us a Holy Yearning, Matthew N. Lundquist
MS-1008 Hope, Israel, in the Lord, Matthew N. Lundquist

Concordia Treble Series:
CTS-28 Beloved, It is Well
CTS-29 All Glory, Laud, and Honor
CTS-30 Lord Jesus, Who Dost Love Me
CTS-31 Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices
CTS-32 Am I a Soldier of the Cross
CTS-33 Take My Life and Let It Be
CTS-34 In Loud Exalted Strains
CTS-35 Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand
CTS-36 Come, Thou Almighty King
CTS-37 On the Mount of Olives
CTS-38 Go Ye into All the World
CTS-39 The Eyes of All Wait upon Thee
CTS-40 Oh, Praise the Lord, All Ye Nations
CTS-41 It Is a Good Thing

Concordia Trebalto Collection:
No. 120 From Heaven Above
No. 121 Dear Christians, One and All

Wienhorst, R. W.:
Choice Chorales and Hymns for Band — Conductor's Score
Choice Chorales and Hymns for Band — Instrumentation
IN-601 Flute
IN-602 1st Clarinet
IN-603 2d Clarinet
IN-604 3d Clarinet
IN-605 Alto Clarinet
IN-606 Bass Clarinet
IN-607 Oboe
IN-608 Bassoon
IN-609 Alto Saxophone
IN-610 Tenor Saxophone
IN-611 Baritone Saxophone
IN-612 1st Cornet
IN-613 2d and 3d Cornet
IN-614 1st and 3d Horns in E Flat
IN-615 2d and 4th Horns in E Flat
IN-616 Baritone (Treble Clef)

IN-617 Baritone (Bass Clef)
IN-618 1st and 2d Trombone
IN-619 3d Trombone
IN-620 Basses

Healey Willan Music:

OC-220 Six Chorale Preludes
HA-2001 Rise, Crowned with Light
HA-2002 Round Me Falls the Night
HA-2003 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
HA-2004 Hosanna to the Living Lord
HA-2005 Father of Heaven, Whose Love Profound
HA-2006 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky

Programs

The Wonders of Christmas, Allan Hart Jahsmann
To Shepherds as They Watched Their Flock, A. C. Mueller
Spreading the Good News (Rally Day Program), Allan Hart Jahsmann
The Birth of Jesus (A Christmas Pageant), W. F. Beck
Come and See (A Christmas Pageant)

Tracts

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians: Tract No. 169, Prof. Ewald M. Plass, S. T. M.
How We Got Our Bible: Tract No. 170, John M. Weidenschilling, M. A., S. T. D., D. D.
Lutheran by Conviction: Tract No. 171, Prof. Alfred von Rohr Sauer, Ph. D.
Christianity Fact or Fiction: Tract No. 172, Prof. J. J. Pelikan, Jr., Ph. D.
Faith Healing: Tract No. 173, Prof. Theodore Graebner, D. D.
What Do You Mean — The First Church: Tract No. 174, H. W. Gockel
Building a Christian Home: Tract No. 175, Rev. O. E. Feucht
Calling All Christians: Tract No. 176, Rev. Allan Hart Jahsmann
Should a Christian Drink: Tract No. 177, William A. Kramer, M. A.
Mistaken Beliefs: Tract No. 178, Rev. Wm. G. Kennell
Christian Courtship: Tract No. 179, Rev. Erdmann W. Frenk, Ph. D.
Proclaiming Fiction a Fact: Tract No. 180, Rev. H. W. Gockel

Spanish Tracts:

No. 1001 *La Sensación*
No. 1002 *La Decisión Más Grande*
No. 1003 *La Victoria Más Grande*
No. 1004 *La Pregunta Más Importante*
No. 1005 *La Tragedio Más Grande*
No. 1006 *El Libro Más Grande*

Periodicals Published by Synod

(Eighteen publications)

Lutheraner	21,700
Lutheran Witness	306,700
This Day	50,000
Child's Companion	60,000
Tiny Tots	30,000
Young World	38,000
Bible Stories in Pictures	48,000
Lutheran Education	2,050
Parish Education	8,800
Theological Monthly	2,800
	568,050

Sunday School Literature:

Beginner	100,000
Primary Leaflets	113,000
Junior Lessons	102,000
Intermediate Lessons	87,000
Senior Lessons	73,000
Teacher's Quarterly	50,000
Bible Student	31,000
Bible Teacher	2,800
	558,800

Total Subscriptions, 1,126,850

PUBLICATIONS, 1951

Books

[illegible]nken, John W., D. D.: *Mercies Manifold*
[illegible]mmerer, Prof. Richard R., M. S. T., Ph. D., and Prof. Jaroslav J. Pelikan, Jr., Ph. D.: *The Cross for Every Day*
[illegible]a, Frank H.: *Workbook in Primary Religion, Grades II and III, New Testament*
[illegible]lmann, W., D. D.: *Martin Luther* (Revised)
[illegible]cht, Rev. Oscar E.: *Christ and His Church*
[illegible]ebner, Prof. Theo., D. D.: *The Borderland of Right and Wrong* (Revised)
[illegible]rmann, Rev. John E.: *The Chief Steward*
[illegible]g, Rev. Paul H. D.: *The Lutheran Order of Service*
[illegible]ier, Walter A., Ph. D., D. D.: *Go Quickly and Tell*
[illegible]urer, Rev. B. A.: *The Ten Commandments Will Not Budge*
[illegible]per, F., D. D.: *Christian Dogmatics, Vol. II* (Translated by Drs. Theo. Engelder and J. T. Mueller)
[illegible]ass, Prof. Ewald M., S. T. M.: *St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians*
[illegible]lhwinkel, Prof. Alfred M., M. A., B. D., LL. D.: *The Flood*
[illegible]arnivaara, Uuras: *Luther Discovers the Gospel*
[illegible]Weidenschilling, John M., D. D.: *The Beginnings According to the Book of Genesis* (Pupil's Guide)
Weidenschilling, John M., D. D.: *The Beginnings According to the Book of Genesis* (Teacher's Guide)

Lutheran Education Tracts:

A Call to Service in the Sunday School
Building Better Bible Classes
The Lutheran Elementary School

Vacation Bible School Material: Second Series — Revised

Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: *Manual for Vacation Bible Schools*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Beginner Workbook: *We Learn About God*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Primary Workbook: *Our Heavenly Father*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Junior Workbook: *The God We Worship*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Senior Workbook: *The One Eternal God*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Beginner Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Primary Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Junior Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Senior Department
V. B. S. Banners; V. B. S. Daily Reports; V. B. S. Post Cards; V. B. S. Dodgers; V. B. S. Posters; V. B. S. Certificates; V. B. S. Registration Cards

Concordia Pulpit, 1952
Lutheran Annual, 1952
Kalender, 1952
Teaching Pictures for Primary S. S. Lessons
Teaching Pictures for Beginner S. S. Lessons
Toolkit for Bible Class Workers
General Family Packet (A series packet for the pastor and church worker)
Nursery Packet

Tuck-A-Tabs:

No. 64-1050 Jesus Blessing Little Children

No. 64-1051 Manger Scene
No. 64-1052 The Good Shepherd
No. 64-1053 Sepulcher Scene
Parents' Guide I
Parents' Guide II
Stewardship Pledge Cards — Form A
Stewardship Covenant Cards — Form B
Memorial Wreath Folders No. 4230

Portals of Prayer

No. 102 *Portals of Prayer:* Charles A. Behnke, D. D.
Heilige Gottesworte: Otto F. Hattstaedt, D. D.
No. 103 *Portals of Prayer:* Rev. Rudolph Prange
Jesu Leiden, Tod und Auferstehung: Rev. Theo. F. Siemon
No. 104 *Portals of Prayer:* Various Authors
Das Wort vom Kreuz im christlichen Leben: Carl A. Gieseler, Th. D.
No. 105 *Portals of Prayer:* Martin Walker, D. D.
Quelle des lebendigen Wassers: Theodore Laetsch, D. D.
No. 106 *Portals of Prayer:* William A. Kramer
Ganz freie Gnade in Christo fuer alle Welt: Carl M. Zorn, D. D.
No. 107 *Portals of Prayer:* Various Authors
Gesetz und Evangelium: Rev. John Hartmeister
No. 108 *Portals of Prayer:* Herman W. Bartels, LL. D.
Die Rechtfertigung: Heinrich J. Bouman, D. D.

Filmstrips

King Hezekiah
If Books Could Talk
Solomon, King of Israel
Jesus Before Annas and Caiaphas
The Emmaus Disciples
The Prodigal Son
The Stilling of the Storm
Three Men in the Fiery Furnace
The Wise Men
The Great Flood
Story of Pentecost
Creation
Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem
Naaman and the Little Maid

Music

Willan, Dr. Healey: Six Chorale Preludes, Set II

Anthology of Sacred Music:

BA-27 Before Thy Throne I Now Appear
BA-28 One Thing's Needful
BA-29 Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
BA-30 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
BA-31 Peace Be unto Israel
BA-32 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice
BA-33 From Death Arose Our Lord
BA-34 Jesus Is My Heart's Delight
BA-35 Thank and Praise God, Laud, Extol
BA-36 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Concordia Church Choir Series:

CH-74 Three Chorales for Advent
CH-75 Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer

Concordia Treble Series:

CTS-42 O Holy Spirit, Enter In
CTS-43 O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe
CTS-44 O Word of God Incarnate
CTS-45 All Depends on Our Possessing
CTS-46 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

CTS-47 I Fall Asleep in Jesus' Wounds
CTS-48 When Streaming from the Eastern Skies

Series:

MS-1009 Christ Our Passover, Healey Willan
MS-1010 When My Last Hour, Healey Willan
MS-1011 Woe, Fear, and Tribulation, Healey Willan
MS-1012 Fear Thou Not, for I Am with Thee, Healey Willan
MS-1013 The Spirit of the Lord, Healey Willan

damus Dominum Series:

LD-13 When o'er My Sins I Sorrow
LD-14 All Glory Be to God on High
LD-15 Before Thy Throne I Now Appear
LD-16 Lord Jesus Christ, Hear My Complaint

minary Edition:

UN-28 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Programs

Rally Day Service
Christmas Joys
Joy to the World
Little Children Worship Jesus

Tracts

We Go to Church: Tract No. 181, Martin Walker, D. D.
The Seventh-Day Adventists: Tract No. 182, Rev. H. G. Brueggemann
The Apostles' Creed: Tract No. 183, Rev. Rudolph Ressmeyer
The Lutheran Reformation: Tract No. 184, John T. Mueller, D. D.

Periodicals Published by Synod

(Twenty publications)

Lutheraner	20,000	Sunday School Literature:	
Lutheran Witness	306,775	*Beginner*	120,000
This Day	70,000	*Primary Leaflets*	120,000
Child's Companion	52,000	*Junior Lessons*	118,000
Tiny Tots	48,500	*Intermediate Lessons*	98,000
Young World	38,000	*Senior Lessons*	84,000
Bible Stories in Pictures	45,000	*Teacher's Quart'ly, Upper*	37,000
Lutheran Education	2,100	*Teacher's Quart'ly, Lower*	28,000
Parish Education	10,000	*Bible Teacher*	5,000
Theological Monthly	2,300	*Bible Student*	35,000
		The Bible Student	4,000
	594,675		649,000

Total Subscriptions, 1,243,675

PUBLICATIONS, 1952

Books

Gockel, Rev. Herman W.: *This Is the Life*
Huedepohl, Elmer H., and Schroeder, Morton August: *Study Guide for Treasury of Christian Literature*
Kramer, Adolph H., M. A.: *Sunday School Leader's Handbook*
Kramer, William A., M. A.: *Living for Christ*
Kramer, William A., M. A.: *Facing the Day*
Kramer, William A., M. A.: *Happiness Can Be Yours*
Kraeft, Prof. Walter O.: *Our Church at Work — Textbook*
Kraeft, Prof. Walter O.: *Our Church at Work — Test Sheets*
Laetsch, Theodore, Dr.: *Bible Commentary, Jeremiah*
Lieder, Rev. Walter: *Lutheran Dictionary*

Stoeckhardt, G., D. D.: *Commentary on St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians* (Translated by Martin S. Sommer, Litt. D.)
Stuenkel, Prof. Omar: *Old Hank Ferris Looks at Christmas*
Weidenschilling, John M., M. A., D. D.: *The History of Israel — Teacher's Guide*
Weidenschilling, John M., M. A., D. D.: *The History of Israel — Pupil's Guide*
Wind, G. L.: *House of Dreams*
Young, Rosa: *Light in the Dark Belt* (Revised Edition)

Lutheran Education Tracts:

The Lutheran Elementary School — What Is It?
Do You Know the Sixty-Six Sacred Books?
Organizing the Nursery Roll (Revised)

Parents' Guide, Series No. 1: *Your Child and You*

Vacation Bible School Material: *Third Series — Revised*

Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: *Manual for Vacation Bible Schools*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: *Beginner Workbook*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: *Primary Workbook*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: *Junior Workbook*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: *Senior Workbook*
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Beginner Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Primary Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Junior Department
Gross, Arthur W., M. A.: Handicraft Projects, Senior Department
V. B. S. Banners; V. B. S. Daily Reports; V. B. S. Post Cards; V. B. S. Posters; V. B. S. Certificates; V. B. S. Registration Cards; V. B. S. Dodgers

Concordia Pulpit, 1953
Lutheran Annual, 1953
Tru-Text Coloring Book No. 1
Tru-Text Coloring Book No. 2
Tru-Text Coloring Book No. 3
Tru-Text Coloring Book No. 4
Attitude Inventory, Form Y
Attitude Inventory, Form X
Attitude Inventory, Summary Sheets for Form Y
Attitude Inventory, Summary Sheets for Form X
Attitude Test Scoring Sheets for Form Y
Attitude Test Scoring Sheets for Form X
Bible Class Enrollment Cards
Bible Class Visitor's Cards
Bible Class Attendance Booster Post Cards, Form A
Bible Class Weekly Report on Group Cards
Bible Class Attendance Record Cards
Bible Class Weekly Report on Class Attendance Cards
Bible Class Group Captains Weekly Reports
Bible Class Attendance Booster Cards, Form B
Church Membership Cards
Spanish Bible Stories in Pictures
Solemn Agreement in the Appointment of a Woman Teacher
Quotations and Illustrations

Filmstrips

Jacob and Esau
Joseph Sold into Egypt
The Woman of Samaria
The Joys of Christmas
Mary Anoints Jesus
The First Easter
The Ascension of Jesus
Peter Delivered from Prison

Feeding of the Five Thousand
Wedding at Cana
Man Sick of the Palsy
The Fall of Man
The Call of Abraham
Emmanuel

Music

28 Organ Score — The Seven Words of Christ on the Cross, R. T. Gore
29 Complete Score — The Road to Calvary, John Cozens
30 Choral Section — The Road to Calvary, John Cozens
-17 O Christ, Who Once Hast Deigned, Henry Loyd
-18 Wedding Blessings, Paul G. Bunjes

ncordia Church Choir Series:

CH-76 Three Chorals for Easter and Ascension
CH-77 Five Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century Chorals
CH-78 O Holy Child, We Welcome Thee
CH-79 O Virgin Most Pure
CH-80 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
CH-1022 By the Waters of Babylon
CH-1023 O Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me Out
CH-1024 Thou, O God, Art Praised
CH-1025 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, Alleluia

Organ Collections:

OC-225 Four Organ Chorales, Ludwig Lenel
OC-226 Wedding Music, Part II, Hymn Tune Preludes
OC-227 Wedding Music, Part I, Processionals and Recessionals
OC-228 Seven Preludes on Advent Hymns
OC-229 Seven Preludes on Christmas Hymns
OC-230 Six Chorale Preludes, Set II

Hymn Anthems:

HA-2007 God of Mercy, God of Grace
HA-2008 Forth in Thy Name

Motet Series:

MS-1014 Grant Us Thy Light, Healey Willan
MS-1015 Worthy Art Thou, O Lord, Healey Willan
MS-1016 Hosanna to the Son of David, Healey Willan
MS-1017 I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes, Healey Willan

Portals of Prayer

No. 109 *Portals of Prayer:* Rev. William Henry Eifert
Wir sahen seine Herrlichkeit: Rev. William Lochner

No. 110 *Portals of Prayer:* Rev. Alfred Doerffler
Das Wort war Gott: Rev. Nathanael Paul Uhlig

No. 111 *Portals of Prayer:* Rev. Charles A. Behnke, D. D.
In deinem Licht: Rev. Otto Nieting

No. 112 *Portals of Prayer:* Rev. L. Buchheimer, Rev. J. Acker
Edelgestein aus Gottes Schatzkammer: Rev. M. H. Bertram

No. 113 *Portals of Prayer:* Prof. Thomas Coates, S. T. D
Rev. Wm. von Spreckelsen
Rev. Elmer E. Maschoff
Das christliche Glaubensbekenntnis: Rev. L. J. Roehm

No. 114 *Portals of Prayer:* Rev. Herman William Gockel
Er redet in Gleichnissen: Rev. Titus Lang

No. 115 *Portals of Prayer:* Rev. Stratford Eynon
Lese aus den Kleinen Propheten: Rev. Herman Harms, D. D.

Programs

Rally Day Service Program
Our Savior's Birthday — Christmas Program
Emmanuel — A Children's Christmas Program

Tracts

Our Family Worship, Tract No. 185, Rev. Daniel E. Poellot
God's Way of Salvation for You, Tract No. 186
Our Family, Tract No. 187, Prepared by Family Life Committee
The Lord's Prayer, Tract No. 190, Rev. William Beck

Periodicals Published by Synod

(Twenty publications)

Lutheraner	19,000
Lutheran Witness	320,650
This Day	70,000
Child's Companion	50,000
Tiny Tots	77,000
Young World	57,000
Bible Stories in Pictures	40,000
Lutheran Education	2,500
Parish Education	10,500
Theological Monthly	3,000
	649,650

Sunday School Literature:

Beginner	135,000
Primary Leaflets	135,000
Junior Lessons	123,000
Intermediate Lessons	103,000
Senior Lessons	89,000
Teachers' Quart'ly, Upper	40,000
Teachers' Quart'ly, Lower	31,000
Bible Teacher	4,000
Bible Student	35,000
The Bible Student	4,000
	699,000

Total Subscriptions, 1,348,650

In view of an increasing demand and numerous requests for recommended books for general reading we developed the Concordia Book Club in 1952. It is gratifying to report that the club was well received and at present has a membership of 2,273. The many fine reports received from members encourage us to suggest that more pastors recommend this book club to members of their congregation.

The vacation Bible school material as prepared by the Board for Parish Education continues to be in excellent demand. Because this material is Bible-centered, it is used a great deal by other denominations also.

Another gratifying development is the steady increase in the sale of the Missouri Synod devotional booklets, *Portals of Prayer*. At this writing the editions are printed in quantities of 650,000 copies.

We are happy to report that during the last three-year period the Visual-Aids Department was developed further, and additional films and filmstrips were prepared. In keeping with a suggestion of the Board of Directors of Synod, Concordia Publishing House has handled all phases involved in the financing and distribution of audio-visual materials. This has been in consultation with the Board for Audio-Visual Education. Substantial capital investments have been made by Concordia Publishing House in terms of new productions and general operating costs. This department continues to enjoy the reputation of being one of the outstanding and more progressive visual-aids departments in religious circles. The department is co-operating with Synod's television production

in the distribution of "This Is the Life" program, originally red for television showing. The department is also about lease an entirely new series of Sunday school filmstrips in color. These pictures were taken on location by professional lywood producers especially for our department. At present are also co-operating with the synodical Stewardship and sionary Education Department in the production and distribu- of additional mission films. New films and filmstrips prepared ing the triennium include the following:

1. Tammy (Witnessing for Christ)
2. Torn Between These Two (Selfishness)
3. All That I Have (Stewardship)
4. Bringing Light (Africa)
5. Another Door Is Opened (New Guinea)
6. Shades of Darkness (Mexico)
7. The Unfailing Light (India)
8. Song of Ruth (Guatemala)
9. The Greatest Gift (Christmas)
10. The Flickering Flame (Disappointment)
11. Power of Prayer (Prayer)
12. The Shield of Faith (Temptation)
13. As for Me and My House (Marriage)
14. As the Twig Is Bent (Christian Training)
15. Beginning of the Rainbow (Christian Happiness)
16. Give Thanks Always
17. The Higher Pardon (Divine Forgiveness)
18. My Brother (Christian Answer to Race Prejudice)

The following are in various stages of preparation and production:

1. Family Worship
2. Documentary on Mexican and Latin American Educational Institutions
3. Documentary on Philippine Missions
4. Documentary on Japan Missions
5. Documentary on Home Missions
6. Documentary on South American Missions
7. An Inspirational Film on the Sunday School
8. A Training Film for the Sunday School

Production on the following filmstrips has been completed:

1. The Last Supper
2. Jesus in Gethsemane
3. Jesus Before Annas and Caiaphas
4. Christ Before Pilate
5. The Crucifixion and Burial of Jesus
6. The Wise Men
7. Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem
8. The Emmaus Disciples
9. The Prodigal Son
10. When Jesus Was Twelve
11. The Story of Pentecost
12. The Stilling of the Storm
13. The Woman of Samaria
14. Christmas Joys
15. The Feeding of the Five Thousand
16. The Wedding at Cana
17. The Man Sick of Palsy

18. Mary Anoints Jesus
19. The First Easter
20. The Ascension of Jesus
21. Peter Delivered from Prison
22. Emmanuel
23. He Is Risen
24. Solomon, King of Israel
25. Naaman and the Little Maid
26. The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace
27. The Creation of the World
28. King Hezekiah
29. The Great Flood
30. Jacob and Esau
31. Joseph Sold into Egypt
32. The Fall of Man
33. The Call of Abraham

With the co-operation of the Board for Parish Education, holding membership on the intersynodical Committee on Visualizing Luther's Catechism, the following filmstrips have been distributed:

1. Ten Commandments
2. Creation
3. Redemption (2 filmstrips)
4. Sanctification (3 filmstrips)
5. Christian Prayer
6. The Lord's Prayer (4 filmstrips)
7. Holy Baptism
8. The Lord's Supper (ready September, 1953)

Additional releases:

1. Pushing Doorbells with a Purpose
2. Pioneering in the Philippines
3. Missions in Mexico
4. Japan Has Open Doors
5. Cross over New Guinea
6. Go and Grow
7. Teaching the Bible to the Preschool Child
8. Teaching the Bible to Children, Ages 6—11
9. Teaching the Bible to High School Youth
10. Teaching the Bible to Adults

Additional areas of interest are at present under consideration for possible filmstrip production in keeping with the needs of our Church.

In a modern printing plant which is carrying on as diversified an activity as Concordia Publishing House a rather extensive Design and Art Department is a necessity. During the past three years such a department was established to prepare for publication all of the materials produced by Concordia Publishing House, including Sunday bulletins, *This Day* magazine, Sunday school lessons, books, advertising material, periodicals, book jackets, and many other items. It is a distinct pleasure to report that many of the materials emanating from Concordia Publishing House are considered among the foremost items of printing and designing by leading critics in this field. Several items produced by Concordia Publishing House were given awards and honorable mention.

This Day continues to be the outstanding religious family magazine of our day. With its beautiful color printing, which is largely produced in our plant, and its excellent contents of interest to the entire family, the magazine has won a national reputation. Other periodicals, such as the Sunday school quarterlies, prepared by the Board for Parish Education, continue to grow in circulation. During the triennium, *Tiny Tots*, a periodical for beginners, was added to the Sunday school series.

We are also happy to report that the excellent music produced by our Music Department has won for Concordia Publishing House an enviable reputation. Leaders in this field throughout the country have repeatedly commended Concordia Publishing House for the production and distribution of some of the finest sacred music.

Another department that has been developed to a high degree during the past three years is our Ecclesiastical Arts Department. It features quite a number of items, such as Communion ware, altar ware, ministerial gowns, choir gowns, altar paraments, and the like. Many congregations have been making use of this fine service.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE
KENNETH R. HOFFMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 8 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 1

WHEREAS, The report of Concordia Publishing House indicates a triennium of progress in the production and distribution of valuable publications of various types, especially in the area of church music, visual aids, periodicals, and Bible school materials; and

WHEREAS, the continued production of such works as the first volume of the Scholarly Commentary, *Jeremiah,* has met a real need in our Church; be it

Resolved, That the Convention gratefully acknowledge this continued outstanding service, especially in the areas mentioned above; and be it

Resolved, That the work of the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House, the Manager, Mr. O. A. Dorn, and the entire staff be commended in the highest terms.

Resolution 2

WHEREAS, The transfer of the synodical offices to the Lutheran Building has provided additional office space which, however, is

not adequate to accommodate satisfactorily the rapidly expanding activities of Concordia Publishing House; be it

Resolved, That this Convention encourage Concordia Publishing House to improve its office facilities, under proper authorization of the Board of Directors of Synod.

Report of the General Literature Board

(Memorial 702)

The Synodical *Handbook* lays down the following directive for the General Literature Board of Synod: "To study the needs of the Lutheran Church, particularly of Synod, to determine what literature may be required, and also to select authors to undertake literary tasks." During the past triennium your Board has again earnestly endeavored to comply with this directive.

To provide needed and helpful literature, the Board periodically reviews the theological scene with its implications for our clergy and re-examines the various aspects of Christian life. Having so determined specific needs, it makes assignments to authors competent to write on subjects indicated. In the course of a triennium the Board reads numerous manuscripts, not only such as have been solicited, but also unsolicited manuscripts, and among the latter it has found some of exceptional merit. Since it is often a serious problem to secure authors qualified for particular assignments, the Board is always on the alert for new writers.

The censorship of all manuscripts to be printed by Concordia Publishing House, as to their doctrinal content, is in the hands of the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Careful reading of these manuscripts entails a considerable volume of work for the professors in addition to their regular duty of teaching. They deserve commendation for the faithful manner in which they fulfill this obligation. Mr. O. A. Dorn, who as manager of Concordia Publishing House is an advisory member of the Board, is also to be commended for his judicious counsel and many helpful suggestions to the Board.

During the interval since the last convention several long-awaited projects have materialized. They are the following:

Luther and His Times by Dr. E. G. Schwiebert
The Flood by Dr. A. M. Rehwinkel
Bible Commentary — Jeremiah by Dr. Theo. Laetsch

First, in point of time, was Dr. Schwiebert's *Luther and His Times*. This volume represents years of Luther study and research and will be a reference work of permanent value. *The Flood* by Dr. Rehwinkel met with a favorable reception on the part of our

ing clientele, and also outside the bounds of the Missouri od. It has already gone through several editions. The *Bible mentary — Jeremiah* by Dr. Laetsch was the first volume of projected Lutheran Commentary to be placed on the market. a scholarly work and merits a wide circulation.

A word needs to be added regarding the Lutheran Comtary. The production of this Commentary is a monumental dertaking. Nine years have elapsed since Synod placed this ject on the Board's agenda. The first volume has now appeared. om this it can be deduced that it will require many years to plete the Commentary. The slow progress does not stem from ack of scholarship to produce a work of this kind, but from the ability of authors to whom assignments have been made to find me for concentrated effort on their tasks.

In addition to the foregoing works, on the docket already at e last convention, we present a list of other volumes that have been published:

Luther Discovers the Gospel by Dr. Uuras Saarnivaara
From Luther to Kierkegaard by Dr. J. J. Pelikan
Zion on the Mississippi by Dr. W. O. Forster
The Great Quest by Dr. Ad. Haentzschel
Explanation of the Book of Revelation by Dr. C. H. Little
Mercies Manifold by Dr. J. W. Behnken
Beside Still Waters by Dr. W. G. Polack
The Ten Commandments Will Not Budge by Rev. B. A. Maurer
Happiness Can Be Yours by Wm. A. Kramer
The Secret of Beautiful Living by Rev. Oswald Riess

All these volumes reflect high scholarship and deep devotion to the truth as it is in Christ Jesus.

Two major items, in the making for some time, will come off the presses in the foreseeable future. Under the general editorship of Dr. E. L. Lueker of Concordia, Mo., the *Concordia Cyclopedia*, henceforth to be known as the *Lutheran Cyclopedia*, has been revised and enlarged. A new work on comparative religion, titled *American Churches*, by Dr. F. Mayer, is in the final phase of preparation for the press.

A new translation of the Book of Concord is being prepared by Doctors F. E. Mayer and J. J. Pelikan of Concordia Seminary and T. G. Tappert of the United Lutheran Church.

The report of the Board to the previous convention referred to a new translation of the New Testament by a member of our clergy, the Rev. Wm. F. Beck. To sound out the sentiment of our professors, pastors, and teachers, a copy of the translation of the Epistle to the Galatians was mailed to them with the request for their reaction. Some 300 replies were received. After carefully weighing all the issues involved the Board resolved to request

a group of scholars to assist Pastor Beck in preparing the manuscript for possible publication.

From time to time requests have come to the Board for translations of valuable writings of our synodical fathers, as well as for translations of outstanding, contemporary theological works published in Europe. The Board is giving serious thought to these requests and has begun a program of translations by publishing Dr. G. Stoeckhardt's *Commentary on the Epistle to the Ephesians*, translated by Dr. M. S. Sommer.

At this time the Board is also focusing its attention on the problem of translating *Luther's Works*. The word *"problem"* is used advisedly, because the venture poses a number of questions. Faculty members from St. Louis and Springfield and pastors have met with the Board to decide on a course of action.

The devotional booklets, *Portals of Prayer*, have achieved a new high in circulation, which is a definite proof of their popularity. No. 117, the Lenten booklet for 1953, sold 695,811 copies. The circulation of the German counterpart, the *Andachtsbuechlein*, averages about 33,000 copies.

The value of tracts and studies in church work also was not overlooked by your Board. Concordia Publishing House has developed a large assortment of tracts to meet various needs, evangelistic, doctrinal, and apologetic.

The personnel of the Board has remained unchanged since the last convention. It consists of the following: the Rev. A. Doerffler, chairman; the Rev. O. Nieting, secretary; Mr. O. A. Dorn, advisory member; the Rev. Wm. H. Eifert; the Rev. W. E. Hohenstein; Mr. Wm. A. Kramer. The Rev. J. W. Acker was requested to assist the Board in the absence of Pastor Hohenstein, who has been confined to his home for some time by illness.

GENERAL LITERATURE BOARD
O. NIETING, *Secretary*

Upon recommendation of Committee 8 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 3

WHEREAS, The report of the General Literature Board indicates that it has faithfully and conscientiously studied the needs of our Church with respect to literature requirements; and

WHEREAS, The productions appearing during the past triennium reflect this careful planning and judicious assignment; be it

Resolved, That this Convention express its commendation of this valuable work and encourage the General Literature Board to continue its efforts particularly in planning and arranging for additional volumes of the *Commentary of the Bible* and in attacking the problem of a translation of *Luther's Works.*

Report of Young People's Literature Board

(Memorial 703)

Since the last convention of the Missouri Synod at Milwaukee the Young People's Literature Board has continued its work of reviewing books of all kinds that have been published in the last three years, has considered manuscripts that were submitted with a view to having them published by our Concordia Publishing House, and has taken care of sundry matters pertaining to the duties of establishing bases for Christian literature.

Working under the gracious hand of God, the members of the Board have found the work both pleasant and rewarding. Under the leadership of the Board chairman, Dr. John Theodore Mueller, the Board consumed a considerable amount of time and energy in carrying forward the program of providing our Missouri Synod with the best in reading materials. Dr. Mueller has been with the Board 23 years and has witnessed quite a few changes in the personnel of the Board. Just in the past three years Mr. Clarence Tucker, a teacher member, tendered his resignation because of health and much work. Regretfully the Board accepted his resignation and petitioned the President of Synod, Dr. J. W. Behnken, to appoint a successor. Mr. Delbert Pranschke, teacher at St. John's School in St. Louis, was chosen as the new member. Very recently Pastor John Ott also asked to be relieved, and Dr. Behnken chose Pastor Francis Roschke of Peace Congregation, Lemay, Mo., as the new member. At times the Board has expressed the opinion that an additional member ought to be placed on the Board because of the increase in the amount of work. The other two members of long standing are the vice-chairman, Pastor A. H. Herpolsheimer of Edwardsville, Ill., and the secretary, A. H. Stellhorn, principal of St. John's School in St. Louis, Mo.

When previous reports are studied, it becomes obvious that the volume of printed matter, particularly stories for children and young people, has been on the increase. It seems that about every three years the number of books reviewed rises. Whereas in other years only some 600 to 700 books were read, the Board has read close to 800. While the number of rejections for reasons of doctrine, language, or cost is about the same, more and more books are being listed in the doubtful class. That is, a book may be excellent for educational purposes, may be delightful reading, or even measure up to our other standards, and yet the book may be prohibitive in cost or contain words or a few sentences which are objectionable. In actual figures the Board has rejected 80 books and placed 152 into the doubtful class. The actual criticism of a book is placed on a number of cards, and although the publishers

receive notice of these criticisms, there has been little response in the way of objection to unfavorable reviews.

The number of manuscripts for book publication has for some reasons decreased. During the previous three years the Board reviewed 40 manuscripts, while during the past three years not quite 30 have passed before the Board. The quality of manuscripts has improved somewhat, but in almost everyone there was objection to lack of plot, tedious development, muddled story content, and the usual irregularities in matters of doctrine and practice. Standing out among all the manuscripts was the fine story by our well-known author G. L. Wind, whose book *House of Dreams* was recently published by Concordia Publishing House. It is apparent that some of our would-be authors lack writing experience and especially the training and schooling which are necessary for successful story writing. Some of the manuscripts received by the Board have been rejected previously by other publishers. It is unfortunate that not more of the manuscripts could be accepted. Unless these stories are so well written that they will have a widely accepted appeal, it is impracticable for Concordia Publishing House to put these manuscripts into print.

The Board is also aware of trends in present-day book production and consumption. At various times the Board has studied reviews found in other church periodicals. The Board has encouraged a greater dissemination of book reviews. There should be a greater circulation of new book reviews. Despite the inroads television, movies, and radios have made upon the reading public, the booksellers have not suffered measurably. It is imperative, therefore, that our Christian friends become acquainted with the best in reading.

Your Board would again recommend that Synod in session would encourage our people to choose their reading matter cautiously and investigate novels and stories with great care. We feel that our readers need more and more guidance in the selection of books for the home, school, Sunday school, and church libraries.

Your Board also urges that Synod consider the possibility of circulating more book reviews on worth-while books. There is certainly a need for such information. It is quite impossible that all books can be chosen in each local parish with such care.

Finally, your Board would petition Synod in convention to plead for good stories that could be published. The Board would submit the recommendations of Mr. Dorn, who has so generously assisted your Board, that were stated in one of the meetings: Mr. Dorn states an acceptable manuscript should be a story that is wholesome, readable, entertaining, and not too far away from

ristian point of view. The story need not necessarily be hristian theme. Your Board feels that information of these ifications should be publicized so that future writers may have delines by which to direct their story. Your Board also grate- acknowledges the helpful suggestions and co-operation of Paul Struessel and Miss Julia Koenig of the Concordia Pub- ing House staff. Their timely suggestions have been of great it to the Board.

May the honorable Synod see fit to continue its support of the rk of the Young People's Literature Board and in every possible y make the work of the Board more effective in the spread of olesome, Christian literature.

JOHN THEODORE MUELLER, *Chairman*
A. H. STELLHORN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 8 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 4

WHEREAS, The Young People's Literature Board has labored faithfully in reviewing a larger number of books than in the preceding triennium; and

WHEREAS, Their conscientious study has indicated that a large percentage of the books reviewed are of either an objectionable or doubtful nature; and

WHEREAS, There is a lack of acceptable manuscripts submitted for possible publication by our own publishing house in this field of literature; be it

Resolved, That this Convention gratefully acknowledge the faithful service rendered by the members of the Young People's Literature Board; and be it

Resolved, That this Convention encourage the people of our Church to choose their reading matter cautiously and to investigate novels and stories with great care, calling their attention to the offerings of the Concordia Book Club; and be it

Resolved, That the circulation of reviews of worth-while books be emphasized in our periodicals and the publications of synodical boards; and be it finally

Resolved, That Concordia Publishing House and the Young People's Literature Board be encouraged to solicit and stimulate the submission of suitable manuscripts in this field of literature.

Report of the "Lutheran Witness" Editorial Board

(Memorial 704)

The 41st regular convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod referred the resolutions of its floor committee concerning the appointment of a *Lutheran Witness* Editorial Board "to the *Praesidium*, the faculty at St. Louis, and the Board of Directors for further study, with power to act." Consultations among these three groups resulted in the regulation found in the *Handbook* of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, Section 11.87: "An Editorial Board, etc.," and the appointment of the following *Lutheran Witness* Editorial Board: Profs. G. V. Schick and L. W. Spitz; Pastors Alfred Doerffler and Theo. F. Nickel; Dr. Paul W. Lange; Dr. Louis P. Lochner, and Mr. Leon Wengert, all of whom accepted their appointment.

The Editorial Board met for its first meeting on October 29, 1951. Pastor Doerffler was elected chairman, and Dr. George V. Schick, secretary. At this meeting the Board considered the areas which would come within the Board's jurisdiction as well as the prime objective of our English church organ. In its second meeting on December 3, 1951, the Board took notice of the fact that Pastor W. C. Birkner had declined the call to serve as full-time Editor of the *Witness* and in this connection discussed the qualifications necessary for an editor's success in religious journalism. A further item was the question of the jurisdiction of the Board of the *Lutheran Witness* staff as then constituted. The opinion prevailed that the full-time editor under the jurisdiction of the Board had not yet taken over and consequently the Board was not competent to issue directives to the existing *Witness* editorial staff. The meaning of the term "official" in connection with the *Lutheran Witness* was also discussed at some length.

A third meeting of the *Lutheran Witness* Board occurred September 22, 1952, after Dr. L. Blankenbuehler had accepted the call as full-time editor of the *Witness*. At this meeting the appointment of associate editors to assist the full-time editor in his work was considered. The Board approved the appointment of three professors of the St. Louis Seminary, two pastors, and one teacher to serve as associate editors, their names to appear on the inside of the front cover of the *Witness*. Matters of policy of the *Lutheran Witness* received attention, and the Board also heard a report on various matters by Dr. L. Blankenbuehler.

GEORGE V. SCHICK, *Secretary*

Other memorials regarding this matter were:

Make "Lutheran Witness" a Weekly Publication

(Memorial 705)

The undersigned respectfully submits to the 1953 triennial convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod the suggestion that the official organ of the Synod, the *Lutheran Witness*, be made a weekly, instead of the present biweekly, publication.

By the grace of God our church body has greatly grown in membership. New congregations and mission stations have been opened in all sections of the United States and Canada. The demand has increased for space in our official organ to publish news stories and reports of important events throughout Synod. The progress and expansion of Synod's work call for more frequent publication in order to secure more adequate coverage of synodical activities than is possible under the present arrangement.

Other Lutheran bodies have long ago established weekly publications, e. g., the *Lutheran* (ULCA), the *Lutheran Standard* (ALC), the *Lutheran Herald* (ELC), and the *Lutheran Companion* (Augustana).

Format and size of a new weekly publication, naturally, must be determined by the staff of the *Lutheran Witness* and the synodical board in charge of *Lutheran Witness* policy, in co-operation with Concordia Publishing House.

I further petition Synod to consider establishing the policy of including a representative of Synod's Department of Public Relations on the *Lutheran Witness* Editorial Board.

JULIUS F. E. NICKELSBURG
Queens Village, L. I., N. Y.

Improvements in the "Lutheran Witness"

(Memorial 706)

WHEREAS, It seems evident that the problem of securing greater readership of synodical publications, particularly the *Lutheran Witness*, deserves the wider study possible by a synodical committee rather than a committee in a District of Synod; and

WHEREAS, It appears that this is becoming a more pressing problem with each passing year; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Western District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod memorialize the next convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod at Houston, Tex., to appoint a committee to make a thorough study of further improvements in the *Lutheran Witness* which would increase reader appeal.

THE WESTERN DISTRICT
T. A. WEINHOLD, *President*
WALTER J. WARNECK, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 8 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 13

WHEREAS, The report of the *Lutheran Witness* Editorial Board indicates that the resolutions of the 1950 convention directing the *Praesidium,* the faculty at St. Louis, and the Board of Directors to establish such an Editorial Board have been carried out; and

WHEREAS, Synod has been successful in issuing a call to the editorship of the *Lutheran Witness,* which position has been filled by the acceptance by Dr. L. Blankenbuehler of this call; and

WHEREAS, The policies developed by this Editorial Board and executed by the editor have had but a short period of trial and operation; be it

Resolved, That the suggestions as to frequency of publication be referred to this Editorial Board for study and consideration with due consideration for the effect that any change may have on the total circulation and on the increase in size of the District Supplement plan; and be it

Resolved, That the Editorial Board and the Stewardship Department shall co-operate in effecting an inclusion of the material now offered in the *Mission Call* in any way that will further both the cause of missions and reader appeal for the *Lutheran Witness;* and be it

Resolved, That any other suggestions for the improvement of the *Lutheran Witness* be submitted to the Editorial Board.

This also disposes of Memorial 801, paragraph 11.

Report of the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics

(Memorial 707)

That we are living in an era of storm and stress becomes evident, too, when one views much of the worship life and activity of Christian churches of our day. In days of unrest and insecurity, people easily go to extremes in their corporate worship activities and insist upon practices and standards which ignore the decency and order required of us as worshipers of God. 1 Cor. 14:40. Bearing in mind that extremism of any kind and a healthy type of Lutheranism are usually incompatible with each other, your synodical Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics has been making it a point to note the hymnological and the liturgical tendencies of our day, already for the purpose of helping to prevent undesirable tendencies from making dangerous inroads into the worship life of our Church. Various members of your Committee have examined many liturgical publications and hymnals which have been made

available and have been introduced in various churches in America and in Europe in recent years. We are happy to note that worship standards are rapidly rising in Christian churches of America today and that more and more people, particularly the youth of our land, object to the vulgarism and indignities to which much Christian worship has been subjected in their churches. On the other hand, the average American is not interested in an extreme type of "high church" activities.

Because of the excellency and the vastness of our Lutheran heritage in church music, hymnody, and liturgics, others often look to us Lutherans for guidance and for help. Concordia Publishing House informs us that it sells very much of its church music to non-Lutherans who desire good materials. The noted American hymnologist Henry Wilder Foote, D. D., in a recent (1952) publication of The Hymn Society of America which bears the title *Recent American Hymnody,* states in his opening sentence: "The last fifteen years have seen the publication of more well-edited American hymnbooks than appeared in any like period in our earlier history. . . ." Among these hymnbooks he lists our *Lutheran Hymnal,* concerning which he remarks on p. 16: ". . . the book has excellent qualities. It is probably the best available collection of translations of classic Lutheran hymns from many sources. . . . Congregations outside the Lutheran tradition have generally been slow to accept chorales, except a few well-known ones, but future hymnal editors will do well to examine carefully the musical treasures here presented." In his recent (1952) book, *Church Music — Illusion and Reality,* Archibald T. Davison, former dean of the School of Music of Harvard University, sings the praises of Lutheran chorales as ideal worship hymns; he also states (p. 114), however, that time has to a great extent expunged hymns which are sensuous, sentimental, and intensely emotional in character, the very type of hymns which the editors of the best hymnals published in America within the past fifteen years, including the *Lutheran Hymnal,* have not incorporated into their hymnals.

In compliance with Synod's resolution of 1950, your Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics has co-operated with the Board for Parish Education in preparing a children's hymnal. Bearing in mind that training the youth of the Church and cultivating its taste for good hymnody is of great importance and affects the worship attitudes of those who will one day be adult worshipers of the Church, your Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics has been glad to give the Board for Parish Education the benefit of much of the experience it derived from preparing the *Lutheran Hymnal,* from which the hymnal for children will derive much of its material and to which it should be related quite intimately.

The Pastor's Companion is the only new publication made

available by Concordia Publishing House during the past triennium which had been prepared by your Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics. However, a new edition of the *Lutheran Hymnal* has appeared in which various errors made in previous editions have been corrected by members of the Committee. A new edition of *The Music for the Liturgy* is needed, since the supply of the first edition has been exhausted. The new edition will include corrections and other necessary and desirable changes. It is yet the duty of the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics to prepare for publication a collection of canticles and also a collection of Psalms, both of which are to include musical settings suitable for our services of worship.

It will be necessary to make other liturgical and hymnological materials available as time goes on, since the demand for these is increasing within our own ranks as well as among those who are not members of the Synodical Conference, but who depend strongly upon us to supply their need. Liturgical literature which deals with the problems of corporate and private worship should be made available through your Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics; the same applies to books and pamphlets on church music and hymnology. Such materials and literature should be prepared by men who have had advanced training in liturgics, hymnology, and church music, who are acquainted with present-day practices and the modern approach, and who are thoroughly at home in these fields, since great advances have been made in these areas also in America and since a sound, scholarly background and understanding is today taken for granted.

It is as yet too early and likewise unwise and unnecessary to begin to agitate for a new hymnal. However, your Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics hereby calls attention to the fact that our *Lutheran Hymnal* is already twelve years old and that the average American hymnal is in use for only about one generation, that is, for twenty-five or thirty years. At present, the problems which confront a committee like ours are vexing indeed. We are grateful that we are not required to publish a new hymnal in days like the present; as is being experienced today by others, days of tension and turmoil are not ideal for publishing new hymnals, especially if the committee desires to maintain healthy and wholesome standards and avoid unfortunate extremes.

In closing, permit us to call attention to the fact that many congregations and many individuals of Synod contact your Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics for the purpose of obtaining counsel and advice. This not only acquaints us with the needs and desires of our parishes, but it likewise stimulates us to keep ourselves posted on the past practices of the Church as well as on the best and most wholesome developments and practices of

own day. Your Committee considers it a privilege to be of stance to our congregations and our people, and it is our hope prayer that God will give us the wisdom and the ability to e well, to the glory of Him whom alone we are to worship and he upbuilding of His most glorious kingdom.

WALTER E. BUSZIN, *Chairman*
B. SCHUMACHER, *Secretary*

Committee 9 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 1

WHEREAS, The report submitted by Synod's Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics clearly indicates that said Committee is attempting seriously and painstakingly to alert itself to noteworthy hymnological and liturgical developments of our time in order that it might render services to our Synod which take the pertinent and steadily rising standards and practices of our day into consideration; and

WHEREAS, Your Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics has made available *The Pastor's Companion* and, in keeping with Synod's resolution of 1950, has co-operated with the Board for Parish Education in preparing a children's hymnal; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod, in convention assembled, commend and thank its Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics for the work it has done for the Church in the interest of Christian worship.

The Further Publication of Liturgical and Hymnological Materials

(Memorial 707 and Unprinted Memorial 33)

Committee 9 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 2

WHEREAS, It is necessary and feasible to make other liturgical and hymnological materials available which will help to integrate, edify, and establish our people and the many parishes of Synod in their worship practices; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention encourage its Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics to continue to make such materials available.

Pocket-Size Word Edition of "Lutheran Hymnal"

(Memorial 708)

The following resolution was adopted: "We humbly petition Synod to have our *Lutheran Hymnal* printed in an inexpensive *pocket-size w o r d edition.*" For reasons for a *w o r d* edition (for sake of brevity) cf. memorials to Synod since 1941.

We also note that when our Synod was yet small, it even then had the German hymnal printed in three (3) sizes. The *Grossformat*, about half the weight of our *Lutheran Hymnal*, was chiefly for the benefit of the older members, who were not to be neglected. Now, with Synod's greatly blessed expansion and participation of the Synodical Conference, the above undertaking should be, relatively, a simple matter.

Pastors serving preaching places have a heavy and bulky burden to carry even with a minimum of 12 copies of the *Lutheran Hymnal*.

That there is a strong demand for a word edition the memorials to Synod since 1941 seem to indicate.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ZORRA, SASKATCHEWAN
VAL. KAUK, *Secretary*, MacNutt, Sask.
ALEX DIEHL
WILLIAM BAUMUNG
REV. JOHN H. LUCHT, D. D., MacNutt, Sask.

Publication of "Lutheran Hymnal" in Smaller Format

(Memorial 709)

WHEREAS, The *Lutheran Hymnal* is available in only one size; and

WHEREAS, This size (5¾×8¼) is rather bulky and heavy, especially for the aged folk, the children, and mothers with small children; and

WHEREAS, Only the notes which give the melody of the hymn serve a purpose for the average worshiper; and

WHEREAS, The size of the *Lutheran Hymnal* would be greatly reduced if an edition with such an arrangement were prepared; and

WHEREAS, A smaller hymnbook would permit more space for Bibles in the book racks;

Therefore we respectfully petition Synod, assembled in convention in Houston, Tex., June 17—27, 1953, to authorize and order the preparation and publication of a smaller hymnbook with the same content and size of print as the *Lutheran Hymnal*.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CONGREGATION
NEW MINDEN, ILL.
RUFUS E. HOFFMAN, *Chairman*
P. F. HARRE, *Pastor*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 9 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 3

WHEREAS, Various congregations, conferences, and individuals have requested that the *Lutheran Hymnal* be published also in smaller format in which the texts of our *Lutheran Hymnal*, together with the melody only, are included; and

WHEREAS, The publication of this version of the *Lutheran Hymnal* would by no means preclude the use and availability of the complete music edition used and published to date; and

WHEREAS, The publication of the *Lutheran Hymnal* in a smaller format will encourage a wider and more general use of the *Lutheran Hymnal;* and

WHEREAS, Other church bodies in America as well as in Europe have deemed it expedient and wise to make their hymnals available in two editions, one with the harmonized music, the other with text and melody only; and

WHEREAS, In this melody edition the unbroken text will help better to view and study the text as a whole and as a unit; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dorn, the manager of Concordia Publishing House, concurs in the opinion of the Committee and is certain that the publication of this edition of the *Lutheran Hymnal* will more than pay for itself and likewise induce more people to use the *Lutheran Hymnal;* and finally

WHEREAS, The publication of the *Lutheran Hymnal* was authorized by the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod urge the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics of the Synodical Conference to make the *Lutheran Hymnal* available in an edition of a smaller format which will include all the texts of said hymnal, together with the tunes of its hymns.

Include Luther's Small Catechism and Passion History in Hymnal

(Memorial 710)

In order that Luther's Small Catechism, with its Preface, and the Passion History according to the four Evangelists may be readily available to our members and guests for reference, review, and meditation before and during services and church school sessions as well as in their homes, we respectfully request Synod to seek to arrange, in consultation with our sister synods, for the inclusion of these materials in future editions or printings of the *Lutheran Hymnal.*

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OAK PARK, ILL.
J. E. BLUM, *Chairman*
E. L. KREFT, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 9 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 4

WHEREAS, More should be done by the Church to enable our people to retain the texts and truths of Luther's Small Catechism; and

WHEREAS, The Passion Harmony according to the four Evangelists has played a most important and salutary part in the worship life and practices of our Lutheran Church and her members; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod request the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics of the Synodical Conference to make said materials available and, if possible, include same in all forthcoming editions of the *Lutheran Hymnal.*

New Translation of Luther's Small Catechism

(Unprinted Memorial 17)

Upon recommendation of Committee 8 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 15

Resolved, That requests concerning a new translation of Luther's Small Catechism be referred to Synod's Board for Parish Education.

Materials for Concordia Pulpit

(Unprinted Memorial 4)

Upon recommendation of Committee 8 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 14

Resolved, That requests for the inclusion of translations of German sermonic material not now available in the *Concordia Pulpit* be referred to the Synodical Literature Board.

Additional Manpower to Prepare Theological Materials

(Memorial 711)

During the past triennium your Literature Board has given considerable study to the problem of providing theological and devotional materials of particular value to the professional as well as non-professional members of the Church. To carry out some of its objectives the Board made special assignments to men qualified for work in their fields of study. This program was followed with regard to the preparation of manuscripts for the *Scholarly Commentary* and other theological materials.

In its effort to find men who could prepare manuscripts the

[illegible] quite consistently experienced great difficulty. Qualified [illegible]ors were unable to produce because of their regular heavy [illegible]s at our seminaries, colleges, and in congregations. Some [illegible] ago Concordia Publishing House asked that certain professors [illegible]eleased to prepare manuscripts. Because of heavy schedules [illegible]lack of sufficient professors the faculties were unable to grant [illegible]ases.

The continued preparation of sound theological materials is [illegible]ly important to the welfare of our Church. I would, therefore, [illegible]ently suggest that the faculties of our seminaries and colleges [illegible]authorized to provide the necessary additional manpower so [illegible] qualified men may be released to complete assignments for [illegible] *Scholarly Commentary* and/or the writing of other needed [illegible]eological materials, and that Concordia Publishing House be [illegible]uthorized to subsidize the editorial work out of its surplus.

O. A. DORN, *General Manager*
Concordia Publishing House

ACTION

Committee 8 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 5

WHEREAS, The prolonged delay in preparation of material by qualified men for the projected *Scholarly Commentary* has been caused by heavy teaching schedules; and

WHEREAS, The providing of such theological materials is of great value to the professional and lay members of our Church; be it

Resolved, That the boards of control of our seminaries and colleges and the Board for Higher Education be encouraged to arrange for and approve decreased teaching loads or leaves of absence for such men to whom assignments for the *Scholarly Commentary* and other approved needed theological materials have been made, and with the financial aid of Concordia Publishing House to arrange for the necessary substitute teaching personnel.

Combined Journal of Practical Church Work

(Memorial 712)

WHEREAS, The magazine *Today,* while it was still published, enjoyed wide acceptance in the field; and

WHEREAS, The Home Mission Department strongly feels the need for again publishing such a magazine; and

WHEREAS, The Stewardship Department believes it must also

have a similar magazine to effectively promote its program in the congregations of Synod; and

WHEREAS, Expressions from the field as well as the investigation of the matter by our various departments stress the desirability of presenting an integrated and unified program to our congregations on the part of the Departments of Missions, Stewardship, and Parish Education; and

WHEREAS, A preliminary study by these three departments indicates that a single magazine in which they would each share is not only possible, but desirable; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Parish Education is favorably inclined to merge *Parish Education* into such a single magazine; and

WHEREAS, The cost of such a magazine would not exceed the cost of the former magazine *Today* and *Parish Education,* which items now appear in the budgets of the respective departments, and an additional journal which the Stewardship Department now contemplates; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod authorize the publication of a journal of practical church work to permit the Departments of Missions, Stewardship, and Parish Education to present and promote a unified program of Kingdom work on the parish level, to be sent gratis to pastors, called teachers, and the chairmen of the congregational Mission, Education, and Stewardship committees, and to all others on a subscription basis; and be it further

Resolved, That each of the three departments be asked to appoint two representatives to a six-man Editorial Committee who shall determine the over-all policies of the journal; and be it further

Resolved, That the *Praesidium,* in consultation with the Editorial Committee, appoint an editor for the magazine who shall work with, and be responsible to, the Editorial Committee, but not be a member of any of the three departments; and be it finally

Resolved, That the cost of publishing this magazine (approximately $32,000) be distributed equally over the budgets of the three departments.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
M. F. KRETZMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 8 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 6

WHEREAS, The Departments of Missions, Stewardship, and Parish Education concur with the Board of Directors of Synod in the suggestion that the services offered by the former publication *Today* and the publication *Parish Education* could be effectively combined; and

WHEREAS, Workers in the field indicate the need of such a ined, practical publication; and

WHEREAS, Costs would not be increased by such a proposed ination; and

WHEREAS, This proposed combination would result in a more tive distribution of this material, we recommend the adoption ggestion of the Board of Directors; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod authorize the publication of a journal ractical church work to permit the Departments of Missions, wardship, and Parish Education to present and promote a uni- program of Kingdom work on the parish level, to be sent tis to pastors, called teachers, and the chairmen of the congre- ional Mission, Education, and Stewardship Committees, and ll others on a subscription basis; and be it further

Resolved, That each of the three departments be asked to point two representatives to a six-man Editorial Committee o shall determine the over-all policies of the journal; and be further

Resolved, That the *Praesidium,* in consultation with the Edi- rial Committee, appoint an editor for the magazine who shall ork with, and be responsible to, the Editorial Committee, but not be a member of any of the three departments; and be it finally

Resolved, That the cost of publishing this magazine (approximately $32,000) be distributed equally over the budgets of the three departments.

Blanket Subscriptions of Professional Magazines

(Memorial 713)

WHEREAS, There is no blanket subscription of professional magazines for the pastors and teachers of Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That we memorialize Synod at its Houston Convention to issue, gratis, a subscription for the *Concordia Theological Monthly* to all pastors and for *Lutheran Education* to all teachers.

THE COLORADO DISTRICT
HAROLD D. HAGEMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 8 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 7

WHEREAS, A blanket subscription to the professional magazines for all pastors and teachers issued gratis by Synod would prove to be too costly for Synod; be it

Resolved, That Synod recommend to all congregations and

salary-paying boards that they bear the expense of subscriptions to the respective professional magazines (*Concordia Theological Monthly, Lutheran Education*) for all pastors, missionaries, and teachers.

Report of the Synodical Centennial Committee

(Memorial 714)

The 1941 convention provided for a committee to formulate plans for a fitting celebration of Synod's Centennial.

The work of the Committee embraced definition of the spiritual objectives of the commemoration, preparation, and publication of appropriate doctrinal, historical, and devotional materials, suggestion of a program of pertinent articles in synodical periodicals, and formulation of general plans for a Synod-wide observance of a Centennial Sunday, for radio broadcasts, for a mass celebration during the Chicago Convention, and for a Centennial Thankoffering.

Members of the committee have been Dr. Theo. Hoyer (chairman, 1941—47), Dr. L. Fuerbringer (1941—47), Dr. E. T. Lams (1941—), Dr. H. B. Hemmeter (1941—48), Prof. F. H. Schmitt (1941 to 1944), Pastor H. W. Romoser (1941—), Messrs. G. A. Fleischer (1941—), and A. H. Kramer (1944—), and Dr. H. M. Zorn (1947 to 1950).

The following publications have been planned and issued:

Pieper, *Christian Dogmatics, Vol. I* (Th. Engelder-W. W. Albrecht)
Pieper, *Christian Dogmatics, Vol. II* (Th. Engelder-J. T. Mueller)
Pieper, *Christian Dogmatics, Vol. III* (W. W. Albrecht-Th. Engelder)
The Abiding Word, Vol. I (doctrinal essays, 1945) Th. Laetsch, editor
The Abiding Word, Vol. II (doctrinal essays, 1946) Th. Laetsch, editor
H. O. A. Keinath, *My Church* (a history of Synod for young people)
W. A. Baepler, *A Century of Grace* (adult history of Synod)
A. Doerffler-M. F. Kretzmann, *The Devotional Bible, Vol. I* (Matthew-Mark)
Th. Hoyer-H. W. Gockel, *The Devotional Bible, Vol. II* (Luke-John)
A. H. Kramer, *The Missouri Synod Schools at the Threshold of the Second Century* (an essay for teachers' conferences)
R. C. Neitzel, *Homiletical Materials for the Centennial English and German Orders of Jubilee Services*
J. A. Koss, *Built on a Rock* (a children's service)
J. A. Koss-W. T. Graf, *Rise, Ye Lion-Hearted* (a centennial pageant)

The Centennial Series has been accorded a gratifying reception. Continuing sales demand has necessitated two reissuances of *The Abiding Word, Vol. I,* and reprints of *The Abiding Word, Vol. II, The Devotional Bible, Vol. I,* and *A Century of Grace.* Several other publications in the series have been sold out or are approaching exhaustion.

...e third volume of the translation of Dr. Francis Pieper's ...ve *Christian Dogmatics* will have appeared before the con... meets. An *Index* to the entire work is being prepared ...of. Walter W. F. Albrecht. The Committee requests that it ...ven opportunity to bring this *Index* to publication, as the final ...of the work Synod assigned to it.

THE SYNODICAL CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
H. W. ROMOSER, *Chairman*
A. H. KRAMER, *Secretary*
E. T. LAMS
G. A. FLEISCHER

ACTION

...Committee 8 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 8

WHEREAS, The Synodical Centennial Committee has brought ... a successful completion the publication of a series of most ...luable doctrinal, historical, and devotional materials; be it

Resolved, That Synod gratefully acknowledge the faithful work ...this Committee; and be it

Resolved, That, in order to bring its work to a final conclusion, ...he Committee proceed to publish an *Index* to the translation of ...Dr. Francis Pieper's *Christian Dogmatics,* and that for this purpose ...he Committee be continued until that work can be completed.

VIII. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Report of the Board of Directors

(Memorial 801, 1-11)

With sincere gratitude toward the Lord of the Church for His guidance and blessing the Board of Directors herewith submits its triennial report to the Forty-Second Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

The Board of Directors as elected by the convention in Milwaukee in 1950 was constituted as follows: President, J. W. Behnken; secretary, M. F. Kretzmann; treasurer, W. H. Schlueter; Pastors E. J. Friedrich, O. A. Geiseman, and O. R. Harms; and Messrs. Clarence Amling, J. W. Boehne, Jr., Henry Buck, E. J. Gallmeyer, and Theo. H. Schlake. The four Vice-Presidents, H. H. Harms, F. A. Hertwig, W. F. Lichtsinn, and A. H. Grumm, served as advisory members.

Organization

1. In its first meeting of the triennium, held July 24 and 25, 1950, the Board organized by choosing President Behnken as its chairman, the undersigned as its secretary. and Mr. W. H. Schlueter as its treasurer. As to the divisional committees of the Board, the new reorganization plan was reviewed, under the leadership of Vice-President Grumm, on the basis of the outline in the *Reports and Memorials*, 1950, page 387ff. It was decided to strike out in point 8, page 390, the words "through the Planning Counselor of the Board of Directors." Page 391 d becomes e, e becomes f, and f becomes d. The plan as outlined and amended was then adopted. A committee was then appointed to work out the details as to the methods to be followed and as to the men to be assigned to the various positions. Accordingly, at the next meeting the following divisional committees were set up: Missions: Dr. O. A. Geiseman, chairman, Vice-President H. H. Harms, and Mr. Henry Buck; Parish Education: Dr. E. J. Friedrich, chairman, Vice-President F. A. Hertwig, and Mr. Clarence Amling; Synodical Services: Mr. John W. Boehne, Jr., chairman, Vice-President A. H. Grumm, and Mr. E. J. Gallmeyer; Higher Education: the Rev. O. R. Harms, chairman, Vice-President Lichtsinn, and Mr. Theo. Schlake. The President is *ex officio* member of all divisional committees. The Secretary and the Treasurer serve as consultants to the divisional committees upon request.

2. Regular meetings, eighteen in number, were held, usually lasting two days. Since according to the new plan matters were, as a rule, studied by the respective subcommittee, which brought in its recommendations to the Board in plenary session, the new

up is proving its worth, and we recommend that the regulations now in force be continued and given further study. (Cf. *Proceedings* 1950, page 509, D, and *Handbook* Section 2.81.)

Appointments

3. Synod created the office of a Planning Counselor. (*Handbook* Section 2.97.) This appointment was filled by the appointment of Dr. L. Meyer.

4. Synod resolved that a Synodical Controller be appointed by the Board of Directors. (*Handbook* Section 2.95.) After unsuccessful efforts to secure a man qualified for this office, the arrangement was made that the Treasurer of Synod assume the duties of this position and that he engage the services of a competent assistant, looking toward his eventual appointment as Controller. This position was offered to and accepted by Mr. Raymond Rauscher.

5. In accordance with *Handbook* Section 2.99, the Board of Directors appointed the Rev. J. E. Herrmann as Stewardship Counselor. The Rev. W. C. Birkner had been offered but had declined the position as Executive Secretary of the Department of Stewardship. However, he assisted in this Department until the Rev. Waldo Werning was appointed as Assistant Stewardship Counselor.

6. Other appointments were made according to the *Handbook*. Mr. Theo. W. Eckhart was reappointed Assistant Treasurer. Upon his voluntary retirement the Board appointed Mr. Chas. E. Groerich. Mr. A. W. Huge was reappointed as Auditor, but became seriously ill. His duties were temporarily taken over by Mr. Groerich, then by Mr. Ed. Streufert, now appointed as Internal and Field Auditor of Synod under the supervision of the Assistant Controller. Official audits were made at various times by certified public accountants. Mr. Huge is again working in the Department although unable to take over his former duties. Other reappointments were: The Rev. Armin Schroeder as Statistician and Chronicler; Dr. Martin Piehler as Transportation Secretary; the Valparaiso Advisory Committee, Dr. M. F. Kretzmann, Pastor O. Fedder, and Mr. E. W. Tatge. The General Relief Board, composed of the Rev. Edwin A. Nerger, the Rev. Fred Wambsganss, and Mr. Paul E. Wolf, was recently augmented by the addition of several members, the Rev. E. T. Bernthal and Messrs. Wm. F. Fenske and Al. Wilson, in order to carry on a systematic relief program on a larger scale. No doubt the report of the Board of Relief will give further details.

7. Very special mention should be made of the Board of Trustees of Synodical Trust Funds, who will render their report directly to Synod. Few people of Synod realize fully how much time and effort is spent by these men so highly qualified for the task of making profitable but safe investments of the millions of

dollars set up in trust. The present members of this board are: President Behnken and Treasurer Schlueter, *ex officio,* and Messrs. Richard H. Waltke, Chr. Garbers, W. H. Kroehnke, August J. Luedtke, Theo. Schroeder, John A. Sauerman, and Chas. E. Groerich, secretary. As the time of the one or the other member of this board expires, the Board of Directors fills the vacancies. (*Handbook,* Sections 9.23 and 9.25.)

General Synodical Matters

8. Our minutes bear out that the Board of Directors was conscious of its duty to prepare the annual synodical budget, which was then fixed by the Fiscal Conference. The members of the Board of Directors being "the custodians of all property of Synod," and upon them being "incumbent the general management and supervision of all the business affairs of Synod," much time and attention was given to financial matters. Pertinent action will be reflected in the report of the Treasurer and in practically all the reports of the various departments. Our minutes indicate how the financial matters referred to the Board of Directors at its last convention have been taken care of, such as the salaries of professors and other synodical employees. Synod gave instruction to the Board of Directors to look after the financial needs of the various departments, such as the Student Service Commission, the colleges, the missions, etc. This will be brought out in the respective reports.

9. The greatest financial undertaking of the triennium was what the last Synod knew as the "Ten Million Dollar Offering," later known as the "Conquest for Christ" offering. For the sake of the record it should be said that this was initiated in the fall of 1950 under the immediate direction of Committee 3 of the Board and with the advice of a large advisory committee. In the February meeting, 1951, a Central Committee was appointed, with Mr. E. J. Gallmeyer as chairman. At the same time the Rev. John C. Baur was appointed as director of the campaign and given the necessary help. The organization extended into all Districts, circuits, and congregations of Synod. When it was certain that the $12,000,000 mark would be exceeded, the Board of Directors allocated that amount to higher education and mission expansion on a 65% to 35% basis. Later another million dollars of the offering was likewise allocated. Much of the cost of the campaign will be covered through the interest on the invested unexpended balances in the fund. In making allocations, the Board is, of course, guided by the instructions of Synod.

10. Another matter, closely connected with the "Conquest for Christ" offering, was the establishment of the Senior College, definitely decided upon by Synod in 1947 and 1950. Details on this

er appear in the report of the Board for Higher Education. The tion of the proposed Senior College was decided upon by the mittee set up in accordance with the synodical resolution. (Cf. *eedings* 1950, page 241.) Why the carrying out of the resolu- regarding the establishment of the school was delayed will ear from the report of the Board for Higher Education.

11. Among the matters referred to the Board of Directors was question of the editorship of the synodical organs. (Cf. *Pro- dings* 1950, page 543ff.) Accordingly the matter was referred the *Praesidium,* the St. Louis faculty, and the Board of Directors. er much consultation on the part of the representatives of these ee bodies, the following report of our committee was adopted the agreement established:

"a. The vacancy caused by the retirement of Dr. Theo. Graebner from the editorship of the *Lutheran Witness* shall be filled by calling a full-time editor of the *Lutheran Witness* who shall become a member of the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. In this selection the procedure established by Synod for the election of professors is to be followed except that in this case a committee of three, representing the President and Vice-Presidents, the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and the Board of Directors shall make the recommendations provided for in 6.103 of the synodical *Handbook.*

"b. The editor of the *Lutheran Witness* shall be permitted to teach, but not more than two clock hours per week nor more than one semester per academic year.

"c. An editorial board for the *Lutheran Witness* shall be appointed by the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, together with the President and Vice-Presidents of Synod, each group having one collective vote, and shall consist of two professors from the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, two pastors, one teacher, and two laymen.

"All editorial policies shall be fixed by the editorial board.

"d. The editorial board upon recommendation of the editor shall appoint associate editors. The editorial board shall be empowered to terminate such appointments. Members of the editorial board shall not be eligible to serve as associate editors.

"e. The responsibility of the editor as a member of the faculty is established by the synodical *Handbook;* 6.91 (d) and (f).

"For their editorial work the editor and all associate editors of the *Lutheran Witness* shall be responsible to the editorial board.

"f. Censorship of doctrinal contents of the *Lutheran Witness* shall be the responsibility of the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

"g. Concordia Publishing House shall pay all expenses of the

editors and the editorial board, but the salary of the editor as a member of the faculty of Concordia Seminary shall be paid by Synod.

"h. With respect to *Der Lutheraner* we recommend that the present arrangement continue." (Cf. synodical *Handbook*, 11.81 to 11.97.)

ACTION

Committee 11 offered the following resolutions, which were *adopted:*

Resolution 1

WHEREAS, The important and difficult work of the Board of Directors has been carried on faithfully and conscientiously by men elected to this Board; and

WHEREAS, These services were cheerfully given without financial remuneration; and

WHEREAS, Laymen and pastors have taken time away from their business or parish work to perform the duties assigned to them; therefore be it

Resolved, That we offer our sincere thanks to the members of the Board of Directors for giving their time and talents to our Synod's work, and that we express our deep appreciation to the congregations which allowed their pastors to be absent in order to serve on this Board.

Resolution 2

APPOINTMENT OF COMPTROLLER

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors was unable to secure a man qualified for the office of synodical Comptroller; be it

Resolved, That we approve the action of the Board of Directors in making the arrangement that the Treasurer of Synod assume the duties of synodical Comptroller, and that we engage a competent assistant, looking toward his eventual appointment as Comptroller.

Resolution 3

"CONQUEST FOR CHRIST" OFFERING

WHEREAS, The "Conquest for Christ" offering was highly successful under God's rich benedictions and with the splendid work of Synod's committee and the loyal co-operation of pastors, teachers, and the men, women, and children of the congregations of Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That we offer our sincere thanks to the Lord of the Church for the blessings bestowed, and that we commend those who served as leaders in this important effort, and that we express our deep gratitude for the ready response displayed by our people in surpassing the anticipated amount of the offering.

(Memorial 801, 12-18)

12. Another matter referred to the Board of Directors was that the Co-ordinating Council of non-synodical agencies who draw their support from the members of Synod. (Cf. *Proceedings* 1950, pages 767ff.) Regulations for what is now called the Council of Lutheran Agencies have been set up. The Council is a voluntary organization and has no jurisdiction over member agencies. The Board of Directors is to determine the eligibility of an agency in this organization.

13. The Board of Directors, in conjunction with the Board for Social Welfare, was authorized to draft the necessary regulations for this new board. (Cf. *Proceedings* 1950, page 740.) A new section was set up for the *Handbook* under the heading, *"Department of Social Welfare,"* Sections 13.01, 13.03, 13.05, and 13.07. A correction should be made in Section 13.05, in the second-last line, by inserting after the word "out" the words: "their task, recognizing" —.

14. The problem turned over to the Board of Directors in connection with the Board of Visual Aids (*Proceedings* 1950, page 816) was taken care of in the fall of 1950 by the adoption of the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, The past years have demonstrated that a Department of Visual Education on the basis of sound business administration and policies of production and distribution can be a self-supporting project; and

"WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House is Synod's official and only agency for the production and distribution of marketable materials; be it therefore

"*Resolved,* That all projects and transactions involving physical production, buying, selling, rental, and distribution of visual-aid material be made the responsibility of Concordia Publishing House in consultation with the Visual Education Board; and be it further

"*Resolved,* That Concordia Publishing House be requested to make available to the Visual Education Board an annual budget allowance out of the proceeds of its visual educational materials sufficient to permit it to carry out paragraphs four and five of its instructions from Synod, which planning and promotion shall be done in consultation with Concordia Publishing House."

15. In accordance with the resolutions of Synod, financial help as indicated on pages 410 and 416 of the 1950 *Proceedings* was made available for the Walther League leadership training program and the Student Service Commission.

16. Our report would not be complete without a mention of our new office building at 210 North Broadway in St. Louis. All departments except those which must have their headquarters

elsewhere because of their contacts, i. e., Armed Services Commission, Public Relations Department, and Student Service Commission, are now together in one building. The advantages of this arrangement are obvious. The dedication of this building took place on Sunday, September 16, 1951, with appropriate ceremonies. Since the additional room is needed, the sixth floor is at the time this report is written being prepared for occupancy. Exclusive of the sixth floor, the cost of the building, completely furnished, was $541,057.15. The excess cost above the appropriations was taken from memorials and estates not specifically designated for any particular purpose.

17. After a thorough study of the mission opportunities of television had been made by a committee appointed by the Board of Directors, the Board became convinced that this medium of reaching millions of unchurched people should not be neglected. Although this involved considerable cost, the Board felt that Synod would heartily approve its action in seizing the opportunity to reach out into the world with the Gospel message, all the more since our people gave so much more for the "Conquest for Christ" offering that it was possible to take the necessary funds from the mission section of this offering. The Fiscal Conference went on record as commending the Board of Directors for its action and placed the necessary amount into the budget to continue this work.

We *recommend* that for the time being the Lutheran Television Production remain a committee appointed by the Board of Directors, and that the Board of Directors continue its work on co-ordination of radio and television activities and be empowered to take such steps as would foster the best interests of Synod to achieve such co-ordination.

18. The Board of Directors approved the suggestion of the Board for Higher Education that participation in the Lay Pension Plan on the part of the individual employer of Synod be on a voluntary basis, except at the St. Louis Seminary. This was done in view of the new amendments to the Social Security Statutes, permitting the inclusion of lay workers of churches. The Board passed the following resolution: "Inasmuch as all lay employees of Synod are covered under the Lay Retirement Plan as now written, and consequently the contributions to the plan should be made as provided therein, and that several colleges are not now making their full contribution, it was resolved that this situation be permitted to continue until the Houston Convention and to ask Synod to modify the plan by authorizing exclusion."

ACTION

Matters in this section of the report of the Board of Directors, regarding Radio and Television, were taken care of in Resolution 15

Committee 13 on Memorial 1001 and Resolution 16 on Memorial 1004.

As to paragraph 15, Committee 13 recommended and Synod *Resolved:*

Resolution 26

FINANCIAL HELP FOR THE WALTHER LEAGUE LEADERSHIP-TRAINING PROGRAM AND THE STUDENT SERVICE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Financial help as indicated on pages 410 and 416 of the 1950 *Proceedings* was made available for the Walther League leadership-training program and the Student Service Commission; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod's Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference be commended for faithfully carrying out these resolutions of Synod.

As to paragraph 16, Committee 13 recommended and Synod *Resolved:*

Resolution 21

OFFICE BUILDING

WHEREAS, Synod's new office building at 210 North Broadway in St. Louis has now been completed; and

WHEREAS, The dedication of this building took place on Sunday, September 16, 1951, with appropriate ceremonies; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod render thanks unto the Lord for this building and pray Him to hold His protecting arm over it.

(Memorial 801, 19-27)

College Matters

19. Matters pertaining to our educational institutions were given attention at every meeting of the Board of Directors. All these matters will be covered by the report of the Board for Higher Education.

Mission Matters

20. Much time was spent in every meeting of the Board to consider financial requests pertaining to our various missions. These matters will be presented as the Mission Boards make their reports to Synod.

Constitutional Matters

21. The Retirement Plan for Lay Employees, formerly in the *Handbook* under Sections 10.61 to 10.93, was, with the approval of the Committee on Constitutional Matters, removed from the *Handbook,* since these regulations are of interest to a small group only and must often be changed.

22. As to the regulations for the Department of Social Welfare, see Section 13 of this report.

23. Owing to the urgency of an enlarged and intensified pro-

gram for relief, the Board of Directors felt constrained to add additional members to the Board for Relief. They are the Rev. E. T. Bernthal, Messrs. Wm. Fenske and Alfred T. Wilson. We *recommend* that Section 9.61 of the *Handbook* be amended so that six instead of three members be appointed to this board, three pastors and three laymen.

24. We *recommend* that it be made a matter of policy for Synod that all property paid for by Synod should be taken in the name of Synod under its corporate title, except in cases where the property to be acquired is to be purchased for the use and benefit of a seminary or college which has been separately incorporated as a domestic corporation under the synodical resolution of 1935 and to which corporation the present real estate holdings have been conveyed with the necessary reversionary clause.

25. The 1950 convention of Synod had before it an amendment proposed by the Board for Support and Pensions, reading as follows: "Participation in Synod's Pension Fund shall be required of every pastor, professor, missionary, teacher, deaconess, or other full-time church worker who after July 1, 1950, accepts a position in, and receives his salary from, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, or from a District in Synod." We *recommend* that this paragraph be added to the Pension Plan regulations.

26. Upon the suggestion of the Executive Secretary of the Board for Support and Pensions, the Board of Directors passed the following resolution in its April meeting, 1951: "Because the increase in the cost of living has made inadequate the provision of 10.47 b3 *(Handbook)* for a $90.00 a month ceiling on additional earnings from church and/or secular work for a retired worker receiving Old Age Benefits, the Board for Support and Pensions is instructed to recognize a ceiling of $120.00 a month for such additional earnings until Synod itself can take definite action in this matter." We *respectfully* ask that Synod approve this action and change its regulations (10.47 b3) accordingly.

27. The Board of Trustees of Synod's Funds called our attention to the fact that Section 9.27 b of its regulations is not workable. The Treasurer is our Legacy Officer and handles all legacies and estates while in probate, with the assistance of our attorney. These legacies do not become trusts until paid to Synod. We therefore *recommend* that Section 9.27 b be stricken from the *Handbook*.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SYNOD
M. F. KRETZMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Constitutional Matters in this report were referred to Committees 10 and 13. (Resolution 23 of Committee 6, which covers paragraphs 21, 24, and 27.)

Report of the Treasurer of Synod

BUDGET RECEIPTS

	District	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
1.	Alberta and British Columbia	$ 7,119.72	$ 10,277.98	$ 8,902.07	$ 10,491.84	$ 14,000.00	$ 14,000.00
2.	Argentina	257.00	62.00	268.00	156.00		
3.	Atlantic	81,912.22	75,170.21	71,059.03	98,561.49	111,732.35	132,954.86
4.	Brazil	5.43			12.08		
5.	California and Nevada	11,551.28	18,245.54	20,408.92	28,306.97	38,301.22	44,807.56
6.	Central	310,210.83	362,151.52	363,106.00	406,020.44	438,536.58	466,990.00
7.	Central Illinois	135,389.43	138,968.31	143,454.37	153,060.30	164,068.75	165,616.15
8.	Colorado	17,446.25	21,268.66	21,487.51	27,776.93	29,238.58	28,838.68
9.	Eastern	65,045.20	82,702.48	81,006.83	99,007.72	106,993.97	114,737.54
10.	English	134,843.77	156,644.72	185,520.48	195,131.07	228,569.45	251,378.09
11.	Florida-Georgia		5,419.19	6,423.14	7,927.25	9,056.81	9,420.87
12.	Iowa East	40,500.00	60,388.40	67,799.06	82,473.93	98,229.27	113,830.00
13.	Iowa West	127,817.43	168,756.23	147,051.49	180,274.05	185,000.00	210,000.00
14.	Kansas	62,437.32	81,921.01	84,076.65	115,244.76	132,500.00	141,586.19
15.	Manitoba and Saskatchewan	4,302.28	6,820.00	6,225.56	7,971.63	10,119.79	11,108.36
16.	Michigan	333,154.20	352,389.15	351,732.54	400,000.00	440,000.00	448,243.61
17.	Minnesota	187,666.17	202,223.16	218,932.21	317,235.93	360,000.00	390,696.06
18.	Montana	5,041.59	8,509.45	10,033.74	13,311.76	15,200.07	18,909.54
19.	North Dakota	17,355.92	30,139.25	32,385.41	47,023.76	58,628.38	65,000.00
20.	North Wisconsin	129,487.31	154,631.32	155,498.03	180,089.12	194,167.87	218,438.76
21.	Northern Illinois	300,929.50	352,030.04	383,509.34	411,550.19	422,843.39	456,754.10
22.	Northern Nebraska	36,000.00	47,100.69	54,869.08	60,000.00	72,000.00	80,004.00
23.	Northwest	30,000.00	38,906.13	41,632.87	59,377.63	63,149.40	73,040.00
24.	Oklahoma	9,083.29	13,806.94	14,832.82	20,604.68	25,142.08	28,110.01
25.	Ontario	14,056.33	28,014.82	27,291.88	28,370.77	31,568.92	26,243.50
26.	South Dakota	19,414.96	29,974.30	29,299.38	37,183.87	51,413.19	51,842.77
27.	South Wisconsin	175,918.55	233,000.10	210,003.88	265,920.35	284,806.62	299,316.48
28.	Southeastern	23,081.83	29,767.39	33,503.93	38,298.43	51,012.93	56,528.69
29.	Southern	19,928.46	10,819.84	11,061.35	11,469.81	11,457.75	15,417.81
30.	Southern California	15,000.00	18,819.75	25,720.23	37,678.99	45,000.00	52,450.00
31.	Southern Illinois	63,865.98	75,206.36	75,455.59	92,065.06	100,000.77	107,000.00
32.	Southern Nebraska	41,028.71	69,105.85	84,466.00	96,850.75	110,433.09	118,131.95
33.	Texas	39,309.96	44,935.37	52,930.78	59,736.46	67,615.39	70,086.89
34.	Western	222,747.20	271,514.27	285,262.44	339,124.79	364,124.00	370,823.21
35.	Total Receipts from Districts	$2,681,908.12	$3,199,690.43	$3,305,210.61	$3,928,308.31	$4,334,910.62	$4,652,305.68
36.	Concordia Publishing House	100,000.00	100,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00	200,000.00
37.	L. L. Endowment Fund Earnings	76,928.98	72,388.80	64,775.28	64,478.25	67,254.68	70,753.18
38.	Permanent Support Fund Earnings	5,937.35	5,971.15	5,991.48	6,045.02	6,053.13	6,084.38
39.	Legacy Earnings	6,788.46	6,839.00	7,009.74	15,275.07	15,983.23	16,388.73
40.	Bequests	25,853.90	51,319.48	77,443.38	60,389.41	30,432.31	25,581.93
41.	Miscellaneous Receipts	18,754.84	30,962.96	24,357.13	25,638.53	41,316.41	31,357.08
42.	GRAND TOTALS (Exh. "C," Line 9)	$2,916,171.65	$3,467,171.82	$3,634,787.62	$4,250,135.09	$4,645,950.38	$5,002,470.98

BUDGET DISBURSEMENTS

Exhibit "B"

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Missions						
1. Blind Missions	$ 79,500.00	$ 10,158.50	$ 13,677.65	$ 14,225.30	$ 10,367.68	$ 16,944.02
2. Deaf Missions	35,000.00	90,000.00	85,000.00	93,000.00	110,000.00	134,000.00
3. European Missions	498,731.34	45,000.00	54,140.83	53,833.34	66,283.90	81,288.08
4. Foreign Missions		574,885.20	600,000.00	648,870.71	739,961.74	764,117.40
5. Foreign Missions — Land and Buildings	124,835.07				50,000.00	
6. Negro Missions in North America	47,814.55	122,500.00	139,463.83	149,104.34	161,410.87	288,000.00
7. Negro Missions in Africa	532,491.62	52,492.10	75,000.00	80,000.00	104,618.60	
8. North and South American Missions	20,000.00	548,480.62	550,915.00	524,769.79	657,648.78	692,309.64
9. Student Service Commission	14,191.30	25,055.19	24,389.43	23,000.00	35,134.38	32,513.50
10. Secretary of Missions	9,337.85	13,242.61	14,959.38	14,432.50	14,442.79	13,884.77
11. Wartime Mission and Conservation Fund		8,300.28	5,153.93			
12. Medical Missions					2,920.93	5,508.08
13. Total for Missions ("C" — Line 1)	$1,361,901.73	$1,490,114.50	$1,562,700.05	$1,601,235.98	$1,952,789.67	$2,028,565.49
Higher Education						
14. Colleges and Seminaries, Operating Costs	$ 740,626.34	$ 879,070.98	$ 947,574.09	$1,280,001.78	$1,444,361.12	$1,648,066.84
15. Colleges and Seminaries, Maintenance	236,402.75	261,932.90	249,345.63	18,602.67	20,277.44	21,633.77
16. Board for Higher Education	13,726.15	14,799.28	16,500.63		97.25	1,058.52
17. Meetings of Educational Personnel						
18. Teaching Course for Seminary Students	4,379.70	3,014.83	3,821.34	368.73	1,563.43	1,176.97
19. Accounting System Introduction		1,434.36	971.35	1,189.62	689.03	221.48
20. Accreditation		1,267.14	700.00	1,039.04	8,539.38	3,543.15
21. Introduction of Senior College			192.13			12,356.79
22. Professors' Conference						
23. Total for Higher Education ("C" — Line 2)	$ 995,134.94	$1,161,519.49	$1,219,105.17	$1,301,201.84	$1,475,527.65	$1,688,057.52
Support and Pensions						
24. Support and Executive Office	$ 445,094.22	$ 547,246.90	$ 547,757.48	$ 561,014.53	$ 610,224.24	$ 669,006.75
25. Candidate Subsidy	6,463.22	8,657.25	10,635.51	10,022.91	12,678.88	16,064.22
26. Death Benefits	9,950.00	12,275.00	13,275.00	14,725.00	22,575.00	29,875.00
27. Accounting in Fiscal Office	13,158.56	13,717.62	14,869.25	16,965.05	21,514.58	22,826.93
28. Special Pension Premiums	286.85	960.02	466.50	2,053.89	1,255.25	627.80
29. Total for Support and Pensions ("C" — Line 3)	$ 474,952.85	$ 582,856.79	$ 587,003.74	$ 604,781.38	$ 668,247.95	$ 738,400.70

BUDGET DISBURSEMENTS (Continued)

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Parish Education						
30. Parish Education, Board for	$ 52,072.24	$ 60,076.02	$ 65,826.49	$ 70,417.14	$ 75,295.79	$ 86,380.17
31. Board for Young People's Work				4,785.98	8,143.43	9,194.45
32. Special Library Account					490.77	126.19
33. Total for Parish Education ("C" — Line 4)	$ 52,072.24	$ 60,076.02	$ 65,826.49	$ 75,203.12	$ 83,929.99	$ 95,700.81
Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion						
34. Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion	$ 87,528.63	$ 92,588.29	$ 108,881.64	$ 157,020.82	$ 130,164.30	$ 119,557.05
35. Stewardship Council			40,023.10	35,839.01		
36. Stewardship Film				65,636.45		
37. Total for Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion ("C" — Line 5)	$ 87,528.63	$ 92,588.29	$ 148,904.74	$ 258,496.28	$ 130,164.30	$ 119,557.05
Administration						
38. Appeals, Board of	$ 3,703.90	$ 253.77	$ 1,262.00	$ 1,170.15	$ 131.44	$ 596.80
39. Auditing Department	5,483.24	6,106.08	6,110.48	6,426.32	8,578.31	31,456.45
40. Chicago Office	1,056.98	780.00	720.00	720.00	720.00	720.00
41. Collection Materials	6,231.58	2,213.61	2,298.31	2,893.18	1,455.77	1,568.93
42. Convention Expenses	22,589.87			42,404.41		
43. "Convention Proceedings"	7,738.91					
44. Comptroller's Department						7,874.36

BUDGET DISBURSEMENTS (Continued)

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
45. Directors, Board of	3,065.58	4,037.80	3,746.70	5,185.05	5,280.20	4,966.69
46. Equipment, Office	6,419.66	5,902.93	7,848.43	5,639.99	5,515.45	9,071.45
47. Fidelity Bond (Three-Year Premium)	(4.43)		1,036.64			1,037.67
48. Fiscal Conference	4,213.74	6,559.62	12,257.47	7,460.22	9,243.27	12,519.10
49. Fiscal Office	21,161.02	23,866.06	23,131.63	21,843.62	29,071.58	30,795.49
50. Fiscal Office — Automobile						1,111.80
51. Foreign Exchange	(3,714.87)	(1,277.26)	(213.49)	285.21	317.73	(723.72)
52. Government Relations	1,798.16	1,696.87	675.00			
53. Legal Department	2,036.10	1,790.59	2,551.66	4,204.70	3,636.70	5,134.61
54. Lutheran Service for Refugees						16,796.87
55. Mailing Department						2,999.14
56. Mimeograph and Supplies						2,485.99
57. Office Building Maintenance					11,800.96	36,087.63
58. Office Building, Moving Expense					2,050.08	
59. Periodicals — Gratis	28.55	62.85	68.06		73.12	86.03
60. Planning Counselor					15,106.28	16,159.75
61. Presidents, College of	3,467.85	2,409.37	5,067.37	4,053.02	3,275.42	2,135.26
62. President's Office	14,061.02	13,780.75	14,007.16	4,657.56	18,503.28	19,779.91
63. Public Relations, Department of		11,995.10	27,520.60	14,675.66	37,070.23	41,386.09
64. Reserve for Fire and Tornado Insurance	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	37,026.46	25,000.00	25,000.00
65. Secretary's Office	3,818.08	4,144.57	4,022.53	25,000.00	4,254.85	4,620.03
66. Statistical Bureau	8,296.29	9,054.07	8,754.47	4,289.11	10,218.18	11,547.36
67. "Statistical Yearbook"	5,048.10	6,368.70	7,413.48	10,352.35	9,442.74	11,438.91
68. Transportation Department	1,834.70	2,151.49	1,624.71	7,422.54	1,936.82	1,928.54
69. Trustees, Board of	337.44	484.04	473.19	2,259.08	290.30	471.04
70. Vice-Presidents' Allowance and Expense	8,819.05	13,298.20	11,925.03	367.81	17,272.54	18,721.66
71. Total for Administration ("C" — Line 6)	$ 152,490.52	$ 140,679.21	$ 167,301.43	$ 221,306.35	$ 220,245.25	$ 317,773.84

BUDGET DISBURSEMENTS (Continued)

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Standing and Special Committees						
72. Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice	$	$	$	$	$ 752.57	$ 314.49
73. Catechism Revision Committee	163.18	4,538.30	456.99		344.16	100.99
74. Centennial Committee	13,635.41	23,151.03	4,131.95	8,208.90	23,910.44	483.49
75. Church Architecture Committee	885.10	887.20	908.40	972.13	871.74	915.15
76. Concordia Historical Institute	2,000.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	5,001.31	6,500.01
77. Constitutional Matters, Committee on			118.82	370.43	559.99	
78. Co-ordination, Committee on		612.18	453.59			
79. Doctrinal Unity Committee	757.81	597.23	598.51	1,658.32	2,404.57	2,996.66
80. English District Amalgamation Expense						482.09
81. Colloquy Committee						106.60
82. Finnish Church Committee	32.32	10.00	12.50	25.00	56.79	72.86
83. Emergency Planning Council				571.06		
84. Fraternal Organization, Committee on	1,151.60	1,329.12	1,557.83	1,174.63	543.94	428.20
85. "Handbook" Revision and Review	1,666.25		17,917.46		4,348.72	3.49
86. Hymnology and Liturgics	441.76	353.64	226.87	350.09	230.58	361.35
87. Intersynodical Relations	1,285.17	690.36	738.32		841.22	1,229.82
88. Non-Budget Committee					65.15	
89. Lay Enlistment Committee					1,931.21	2,112.80
90. Press Committee	5,405.96	373.87				
91. Radio Station KFUO			8,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	8,000.00
92. Scholarly Research Committee						5,000.00
93. Simplify Elections					167.13	
94. Social Welfare Committee					4,853.36	12,836.57
95. Statement Committee	63.29		191.89			
96. Status of Parochial School Teachers					228.60	309.48
97. Sunday School Teachers' Training	196.03	135.01	50.22	10.00		
98. Sundry Items	1,404.95	2,563.34	2,073.61	4,334.13		
99. Synodical Radio and Television Committee		4,104.72	4,817.45	2,998.85	5,942.47	5,047.64
100. Teachers' Placement Committee	207.87	880.33	372.93	379.74		2,604.86
101. Tract Distribution Committee					64.64	
102. Young People's Work, Committee on	1,915.94	2,214.81	1,415.36			
103. Totals for Standing and Special Committees ("C" — Line 7)	$ 31,212.64	$ 45,941.14	$ 47,542.70	$ 34,553.28	$ 63,118.59	$ 49,906.55

BUDGET RECAPITULATION

Exhibit "C"

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
1. Missions	$1,361,901.73	$1,490,114.50	$1,562,700.05	$1,601,235.98	$1,952,789.67	$2,028,565.49
2. Higher Education	995,134.94	1,161,519.49	1,219,105.17	1,301,201.84	1,475,527.65	1,688,057.52
3. Support and Pensions	474,952.85	582,856.79	587,003.74	604,781.38	668,247.95	738,400.70
4. Parish Education	52,072.24	60,076.02	65,826.49	75,203.12	83,929.99	95,700.81
5. Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion	87,528.63	92,588.29	148,904.74	258,496.28	130,164.30	119,557.05
6. Administration	152,490.52	140,679.21	167,301.43	221,306.35	220,245.25	317,773.84
7. Standing and Special Committee	31,212.64	45,941.14	47,542.70	34,553.28	63,118.59	49,906.55
8. Total Budget Disbursements	$3,155,293.55	$3,573,775.44	$3,798,384.32	$4,096,778.23	$4,594,023.40	$5,037,961.96
9. Total Budget Receipts	2,916,171.65	3,467,171.82	3,634,787.62	4,250,135.09	4,645,950.38	5,002,470.98
10. Operating Surplus	$	$	$	$ 153,356.86	$ 51,926.98	$
11. Operating Deficit	239,121.90	106,603.62	163,596.70			35,490.98

COLLEGES AND SEMINARIES — OPERATING COSTS

Exhibit "D"

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
1. Austin	$ 16,481.14	$ 18,565.71	$ 19,698.81	$ 26,089.82	$ 31,461.22	$ 37,392.23
2. Bronxville	49,152.64	54,171.42	57,190.35	78,125.11	67,617.33	94,220.53
3. Buenos Aires	6,010.14	5,514.39	9,175.74	4,503.21		
4. Concordia	28,720.98	34,747.15	36,958.71	52,528.41	51,252.24	69,651.99
5. Crespo	3,662.86	7,653.75	3,790.53	3,750.47		
6. Edmonton	19,115.65	22,901.40	24,792.16	30,601.63	34,908.82	35,755.87
7. Fort Wayne	54,827.67	65,811.13	65,509.42	89,022.39	111,888.91	139,188.71
8. Milwaukee	59,626.78	63,783.58	67,939.36	113,479.93	97,929.91	118,309.56
9. Oakland	26,945.95	30,240.06	32,782.62	43,557.87	58,355.82	54,292.68
10. Portland	18,208.72	26,957.12	25,533.01	32,602.09	49,956.71	63,304.17
11. Porto Alegre	13,033.08	22,365.92	34,311.13	49,686.95	5,450.57	
12. River Forest	119,326.63	141,339.56	156,654.41	196,506.63	241,935.60	253,163.13
13. St. Louis	121,540.22	134,433.80	145,771.94	179,109.11	184,226.18	246,457.94
14. St. Paul	48,272.43	54,045.23	54,800.06	82,554.84	83,593.71	81,388.58
15. Seward	56,504.62	77,380.88	80,803.35	112,373.95	185,415.31	238,371.82
16. Springfield	42,095.40	46,730.22	52,962.43	71,725.05	95,398.02	100,798.97
17. Winfield	41,138.39	45,794.60	52,707.39	68,054.14	90,223.79	91,883.54
18. Gross Operating Costs	$ 724,663.30	$ 852,435.92	$ 921,381.42	$1,234,271.60	$1,389,614.14	$1,624,179.72
19. Less Rent and Tuition Received	23,443.84	22,429.78	31,239.84	20,203.67	15,640.97	54,200.65
20. Net Operating Costs	$ 701,219.46	$ 830,006.14	$ 890,141.58	$1,214,067.93	$1,373,973.17	$1,569,979.07
21. Rents Paid for Professors' Residences	18,239.80	14,823.46	13,716.12	15,646.46	14,653.90	13,545.77
22. Rental Payments on Bldg. and Loan Plan	21,167.08	34,241.38	43,716.39	50,287.39	55,734.05	64,542.00
23. Totals (See Exhibit "B," Line 14)	$ 740,626.34	$ 879,070.98	$ 947,574.09	* $1,280,001.78	* $1,444,361.12	* $1,648,066.84

* 1950, 1951, and 1952 totals include repairs and maintenance costs

SPECIFIC FUNDS

February 1, 1950, to January 31, 1953

Exhibit "E"

	Totals	Scholarly Research Fund	Advanced Scholarship Fund	Armed Services Commission Fund	Blind Literature Fund	Peace Thank-offering Fund	Centennial Thank-offering Fund	Relief Funds General	Relief in Europe and Asia Fund	"Conquest for Christ" Fund
Balances, February 1, 1950	$10,357,882.21	$ ——	$ ——	$ 419,719.37	$ 4,060.59	$4,680,884.06	$1,243,103.24	$ 39,224.75	$3,970,890.20	$ ——
Add										
Receipts During Fiscal Year 1950	61,297.78	——	——	1,393.28	——	108.50	26.50	——	59,269.50	500.00
Receipts During Fiscal Year 1951	670,889.68	——	——	440,410.87	1,033.00	1,355.55	309.44	136,322.42	28,773.07	60,235.33
Receipts During Fiscal Year 1952	13,159,642.80	5,000.00	2,450.00	9,610.21	3,465.10	——	——	3,344.72	18,668.43	13,118,704.34
Total — Receipts plus Beginning Balance	$24,249,712.47	$ 5,000.00	$ 3,300.00	$ 871,133.73	$ 8,558.69	$4,682,348.11	$1,243,439.18	$ 178,891.89	$4,077,601.20	$13,179,439.67
Deduct										
Disbursements, Fiscal Year 1950	$ 9,130,740.10	$ ——	$ ——	$ 115,005.87	$ ——	$4,352,797.51	$ 745,226.64	$ ——	$3,917,710.08	$ ——
Disbursements, Fiscal Year 1951	717,456.00	——	——	371,086.87	783.19	93,256.80	77,867.05	43,435.98	131,026.11	——
Disbursements, Fiscal Year 1952	8,985,901.54	670.07	——	341,417.14	515.16	133,211.30	195,541.43	16,049.90	17,437.27	8,281,059.28
Total Disbursements	$18,834,097.64	$ 670.07	$ ——	$ 827,509.88	$ 1,298.35	$4,579,265.61	$1,018,635.11	$ 59,485.88	$4,066,173.46	$ 8,281,059.28
Balances, January 31, 1953	$ 5,415,614.83	$ 4,329.93	$ 3,300.00	$ 43,623.85	$ 7,260.34	$ 103,082.50	$ 224,804.07	$ 119,406.01	$ 11,427.74	$ 4,898,380.39

"CONQUEST FOR CHRIST" FUNDS — GRANTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

January 31, 1953

	Total	Television Fund	Foreign Missions	Negro Missions	North and South American Missions	Stewardship Department	Medical Mission Scholarship Fund
Appropriations ("Conquest for Christ")	$3,223,250.00	$ 750,000.00	$ 278,250.00	$ 319,500.00	$1,810,500.00	$ 65,000.00	$ ——
Receipts During Year Ended January 31, 1953	8,311.97	7,585.94	——	——	——	——	726.03
Total	$3,231,561.97	$ 757,585.94	$ 278,250.00	$ 319,500.00	$1,810,500.00	$ 65,000.00	$ 726.03
Deduct							
Disbursements or Transfers to January 31, 1953							
Television Production Expenses	$ 757,585.94	$ 757,585.94					
Chapel in Trivandrum, India	10,000.00		$ 10,000.00				
Purchase of Car for Hong Kong Mission	2,000.00		2,000.00				
Residential Property in Taipeh	5,000.00		5,000.00				
India — Students' Quarters, Chapels, Workers' Homes	19,550.00		19,550.00				
Land and House in Hanno, Japan	8,500.00		8,500.00				
Tokyo Mission Residence	22,000.00		22,000.00				
Totsuka, Japan, Residence	10,000.00		10,000.00				
Nagercoil, India, Seminary Church	9,000.00		9,000.00				
Ambur, India, High School	4,500.00		4,500.00				
Ambur, India, Training School Hostel	7,500.00		7,500.00				
Wandoor, India, Dispensary and Reading Room	3,500.00		3,500.00				
Urawa, Japan, School	5,000.00		5,000.00				
Nakano-Cho, Japan, Garage	600.00		600.00				
Sapporo, Japan, Garage	1,000.00		1,000.00				
New Wing Addition to Chapel, Selma, Ala.	13,734.30			$ 13,734.30			
Renovation of Girls' Dormitory, Selma, Ala.	6,265.70			6,265.70			
Boys' Dormitory, Selma, Ala.	17,000.00			17,000.00			
Chapel, Kannapolis, N. C.	20,000.00			20,000.00			
Chapel, Washington, D. C.	20,000.00			20,000.00			
Mission Church Building, Milwaukee, Wis.	25,000.00			25,000.00			
Schools in Nigeria	10,000.00			10,000.00			
Motorization in Argentine District	7,500.00				$ 7,500.00		
Argentine District for Montevideo	5,000.00				5,000.00		
Gymnasium, Porto Alegre, Brazil	15,000.00				15,000.00		
Transferred to Church Extension Capital	250,000.00				250,000.00		
Loan to Church Extension Fund	150,000.00				150,000.00		
Transferred to Home Mission Reserve	350,000.00				350,000.00		
Loan to Burlington, Vt., Atlantic District	35,000.00				35,000.00		
Total Disbursements and Transfers	$1,790,235.94	$ 757,585.94	$ 108,150.00	$ 112,000.00	$ 812,500.00	$ ——	$ ——
Balances, January 31, 1953 (To Exhibit "A")	$1,441,326.03	$ ——	$ 170,100.00	$ 207,500.00	$ 998,000.00	$ 65,000.00	$ 726.03

"CONQUEST FOR CHRIST" FUND

Exhibit "E-II"

Balance, February 1, 1952		$ 60,735.33
Add	**Receipts**	
Districts	$13,008,931.18	
Sundry	20,877.70	
Interest Earned on Investments	88,895.46	13,118,704.34
		$13,179,439.67
Deduct	**Disbursements and Appropriations**	
Collection Expense	$ 335,597.45	
Mission Fund Grants	3,223,250.00	
Educational Fund Grants:		
Buildings $4,656,711.83		
Equipment 65,500.00	4,722,211.83	8,281,059.28
Balance, January 31, 1953		$ 4,898,380.39

CONTINGENT RESERVE FUND

Exhibit "F"

1. Balance, February 1, 1950		$ 83,928.30
Add		
2. Interest, General Investments, Fiscal Year 1950	$ 54,344.72	
3. Support Check Canceled, Fiscal Year 1950	50.00	
4. Trailer Supplies Sold, Fiscal Year 1950	25.00	
5. Transfer of Postwar Reserve Fund, Fiscal Year 1951	613,159.29	
6. Return from "CFC" Fund of Advances Made to Rehabilitate College Properties, Fiscal Year 1952	270,000.00	
Return from "CFC" Fund of the Following Advances:		
7. River Forest — Overdraft	14,283.41	
8. Bronxville — Parking Lot	2,250.00	
9. Seward — Remodeling	88,000.00	
10. Oakland — Plastering	17,962.00	
11. St. Louis — Equipment	10,099.50	
12. Portland — Luther Hall	3,300.00	
13. Portland — Four Lots	2,800.00	
14. Fort Wayne — Equipment	4,278.00	
15. St. Louis — Convert Electricity	18,000.00	
16. Portland — Deficit	17,609.48	
17. Austin — Overdraft	2,697.21	1,118,858.61
18.		$ 1,202,786.91
Deduct		
19. Refund of Budget Item, Fiscal Year 1950	$ 100.00	
20. Subsidy, "Church Through the Ages"	4,666.00	
21. Subsidy, "Treasury of Christian Literature"	5,466.50	
Transfer to Synodical Building Fund, Fiscal Year 1951	178,582.39	
Grant, Hospital at Antigua, Guatemala	20,000.00	
Grant, Missionary Board — Automobile Revolving Fund	6,000.00	
Special Appropriation for Parish Education Week	6,746.68	
Drawing Account Established for Family Worship Hour, Fiscal Year 1952	50,000.00	
Grant, Concordia Historical Institute	30,000.00	
Grant, Resettlement Project in Germany	90,990.00	
Grant, Foreign Mission Building in Japan	41,053.31	
Grant, Chapel in Austin, Tex.	2,697.21	
Loan, Normal and High Schools in Nigeria, W. Africa	2,500.00	
Appropriation for Portland, Oreg., Improvements	2,950.71	
Death Benefit Allowance	500.00	442,252.80
Balance, January 31, 1953		$ 760,534.11

Exhibit "G"

INSURANCE RESERVE

February 1, 1950, to January 31, 1953

Balance, February 1, 1950		$ 102,434.80
Add		
Receipts, Fiscal Year 1950	$ 27,560.87	
Receipts, Fiscal Year 1951	28,228.69	
Receipts, Fiscal Year 1952	28,920.18	84,709.74
		$ 187,144.54
Deduct		
Disbursements, Fiscal Year 1950	$ 847.93	
Disbursements, Fiscal Year 1951	569.06	
Disbursements, Fiscal Year 1952	490.00	1,906.99
Balance, January 31, 1953		$ 185,237.55

Exhibit "H"

CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Receipts

1.	Repayment of Notes Receivable: 1947	$ 72,859.97	
2.	1948	121,762.42	
3.	1949	159,055.66	
4.	1950	269,125.94	
5.	1951	183,988.06	
6.	1952	230,214.27	
7.	Total Repayments		$ 1,037,006.32
8.	Administration Fees: 1947	$ 5,468.04	
9.	1948	8,694.79	
10.	1949	12,262.50	

11.	1950		12,914.54
12.	1951		13,878.74
13.	1952		16,228.42
14.	Total Administration Fees		69,447.03
15.	Contributions: 1947	$ 6,354.63	
16.	1948	6,824.81	
17.	1949	4,054.42	
18.	1950	8,905.70	
19.	1951	4,593.63	
20.	1952	3,278.78	
21.	Total Contributions		34,011.97
22.	Notes Payable: 1950	$ 325,101.10	
23.	1951	43,688.12	
24.	1952	52,050.00	
25.	Total Notes Payable		420,839.22
26.	Loan Adjustment, E. P. C.		23,950.00
27.	Loan from Home Mission Reserve		150,000.00
28.	Appropriation from CFC Fund		250,000.00
29.	Total Receipts		$ 1,985,254.54

Disbursements

30.	New Loans: 1947	$ 446,500.00	
31.	1948	392,942.00	
32.	1949	304,046.00	
33.	1950	265,836.70	
34.	1951	470,692.80	
35.	1952	604,020.00	
36.	Total New Loans		$ 2,484,037.50
37.	Expenses: 1947	$ 1,234.54	
38.	1948	1,176.89	
39.	1949	518.31	
40.	1950	744.30	
41.	1951	591.65	
42.	1952	625.22	
43.	Total Expenses		4,890.91
44.	Total Disbursements		$ 2,488,928.41

Recapitulation

45.	Total Disbursements (Line 44)	$ 2,488,928.41
46.	Total Receipts (Line 29)	1,985,254.54
47.	Net Disbursements	$ 503,673.87
48.	Balance, January 31, 1947	$ 958,044.81
49.	Net Disbursements (Line 47)	503,673.87
50.	Balance, January 31, 1953	$ 454,370.94

PENSION FUND

	1944	1946	1948	1950	1951	1952
Pension Fund Assets						
1. Investments	$ 1,962,531.00	$ 3,413,194.00	$ 5,373,301.00	$ 7,606,325.00	$10,086,036.15	$12,194,676.54
2. Amortization	1,557.07	792.44	5,446.72	35,891.94	92,054.97	93,058.85
3. Cash	15,449.82	79,322.56	(19,418.35)	(22,086.93)	254,172.58	118,291.50
4. Interest Accrued on Investments					58,553.51	76,523.27
5. Total Pension Fund Assets	$ 1,979,537.89	$ 3,493,309.00	$ 5,359,329.37	$ 7,620,130.01	$10,490,817.21	$12,482,550.16
Pension Fund Liabilities						
6. Pension Fund	$ 1,828,839.06	$ 3,192,382.49	$ 4,902,733.05	$ 6,915,269.82	$ 9,431,218.75	$11,289,796.04
7. Annuity Reserves	12,334.53	16,805.88	23,217.84	39,097.18		
8. Contingent Fund	22,824.03	45,337.27	64,703.22	99,449.60	156,320.69	180,283.88
9. Retirement Reserve	80,513.37	150,736.39	252,263.83	440,461.68	697,432.03	841,255.22
10. Investment Depreciation Reserve	12,782.12	34,141.31	34,141.31	34,466.31	41,126.91	109,055.99
11. Earnings, Current	18,270.81	29,820.27	61,992.99	74,600.47	151,789.75	62,159.03
12. Earnings, Deferred	3,973.97	24,085.39	20,277.13	16,784.95	12,929.08	
13. Total Pension Fund Liabilities	$ 1,979,537.89	$ 3,493,309.00	$ 5,359,329.37	$ 7,620,130.01	$10,490,817.21	$12,482,550.16

Pension Fund Earnings

Fiscal Year 1941	$ 16,404.30	Fiscal Year 1948	$ 135,337.43
Fiscal Year 1942	23,338.88	Fiscal Year 1949	149,427.44
Fiscal Year 1943	34,173.96	Fiscal Year 1950	219,521.53
Fiscal Year 1944	42,968.92	Fiscal Year 1951	242,806.10
Fiscal Year 1945	67,343.35	Fiscal Year 1952	300,696.87
Fiscal Year 1946	91,292.48		
Fiscal Year 1947	117,606.10	Total	$1,440,917.36

Exhibit "J"

SYNODICAL BUILDING FUND

January 31, 1953

APPROPRIATIONS

	"Conquest for Christ"	Other Appropriations	Total Appropriations	Expended	Unexpended Balances
Advance Made to Rehabilitate College Properties — Returned to Contingent Reserve Account			$ 270,000.00	$ 241,465.34	$ 28,534.66
Advances Made to Carry out Provisions of the "Building for Tomorrow" Program	$ 270,000.00	$ —			
Advances Made from the Contingent Reserve Account to Carry Out Provisions of the "Building for Tomorrow" Program	779,034.98	—	779,034.98	726,453.42	52,581.56
District Contributions					
Austin	181,279.60	—	181,279.60	166,106.49	15,173.11
Bronxville	—	141.60	141.60	—	141.60
Concordia	215,000.00	—	215,000.00	32,750.00	182,250.00
Edmonton	55,000.00	—	55,000.00	—	55,000.00
Fort Wayne	285,000.00	—	285,000.00	—	285,000.00
Milwaukee	250,000.00	57,584.28	307,584.28	120,855.89	186,728.39
Oakland	360,000.00	—	360,000.00	2,104.72	357,895.28
Portland	400,000.00	—	400,000.00	—	400,000.00
River Forest	—	906.23	906.23	652.43	253.80
St. Louis	110,000.00	9,109.28	119,109.28	18,494.50	100,614.78
St. Paul	493,500.00	—	493,500.00	94,265.97	399,234.03
Seward	563,772.07	—	563,772.07	154,147.82	409,624.25
Springfield	50,000.00	—	50,000.00	—	50,000.00
Winfield	280,000.00	—	280,000.00	—	280,000.00
Totals	297,625.18	14,725.00	312,350.18	4,050.04	308,300.14
	132,000.00	—	132,000.00	—	132,000.00
	$4,722,211.83	$ 82,466.39	$4,804,678.22	$1,561,346.62	$3,243,331.60

Exhibit "K"

BALANCE SHEET

January 31, 1953

ASSETS

Current Funds

Current Assets:			
Petty Cash Funds	$ 4,352.13		
nces, Sundry and Travel	3,185.53		
ry Deposits	56,920.97		
unts Receivable	3,335.27		
Estate Sales,			
Contracts Receivable	75,960.55		
stments, General	421,220.46		
stments, Foreign (Sperrmarks)	189,005.00		
ege Deposits Receivable	54,780.85		
Due from Other Funds	803,196.76	$ 1,611,957.52	
Deferred Charges:			
ions Prepaid	$ 69,516.21		
Life of Martin Luther Film	135,271.41		
motional Materials	9,775.80		
quipment, etc.	33,749.56	248,312.98	$ 1,860,270.50

Specific Funds

"Conquest for Christ":			
Cash	$ 27,115.01		
Investments	4,871,265.38		
Notes Receivable, Loan Grants	35,000.00	$ 4,933,380.39	
Other Specific Funds:			
Cash	$ 1,841,472.82		
Notes Receivable, Relief Loans	11,150.00		
Cash Due from Current Funds	266,558.50	2,119,181.32	
Church Extension Fund:			
Cash	$ 454,370.94		
Notes Receivable (Less Reserve of $7,752.60)	2,053,289.53	2,507,660.47	9,560,222.18

Other Assets

Concordia Publishing House	$ 2,916,532.96	
Radio Station KFUO	497,171.29	3,413,704.25

Plant Funds

Unexpended Plant Funds:			
Cash	$ 43,331.60		
Investments	3,200,000.00	$ 3,243,331.60	
Invested in Plant:			
Colleges and Seminaries	$15,737,620.55		
St. Louis Office Building	552,412.05		
Sundry Residences	331,532.54	16,621,565.14	19,864,896.74

Trust Funds

Pension Fund	$12,482,550.16	
L. L. L. Endowment Fund	2,849,346.05	
Sundry Trust Funds	2,265,796.82	
Lay Retirement Fund	517,704.16	18,115,397.19
		$52,814,490.86

BALANCE SHEET

January 31, 1953

LIABILITIES

Current Funds

Current Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	$ 4,966.43		
College Deposits Payable	254,466.67		
Cash Due to Specific Funds	266,558.50	$ 525,991.60	
Deferred Income Credit:			
Television Production Income		65,835.66	
Reserves:			
Home Mission Reserve	$ 363,616.47		
Unexpended Appropriations, Contingent Reserve	125,990.00		
Contingent Reserve (Of which $594,585.64 of the funds representing this reserve have been expended for physical properties)	760,534.11	1,250,140.58	
Budget Surplus, 1951 Operations	$ 53,793.64		
Less —			
Budget Deficit, 1952 Operations	35,490.98	18,302.66	$ 1,860,270.50

Specific Funds

"Conquest for Christ":			
Fund Balance	$ 4,898,380.39		
Loan Fund Capital	35,000.00	$ 4,933,380.39	
Other Specific Funds:			
Mission Funds	$ 1,441,326.03		
Other Specific Funds	517,234.44		
Transitory Funds	160,620.85	2,119,181.32	
Church Extension Fund:			
Notes Payable	$ 420,839.22		
Loan Payable, Home Mission Reserve	150,000.00		
Capital Account	1,936,821.25	2,507,660.47	9,560,222.18

Other Assets

Concordia Publishing House, Net Worth		$ 2,916,532.96	
KFUO, Net Worth		497,171.29	3,413,704.25

Plant Funds

Unexpended Appropriations:			
"Conquest for Christ"		$ 3,243,331.60	
Invested in Plant:			
Cash Due to Current Funds (Of which $82,601.86 is for Saint Louis Office Building)	$ 699,093.26		
Mortgage Payable	2,892.32		
Net Investment in Plant	15,919,579.56	16,621,565.14	19,864,896.74

Trust Funds

Pension Fund		$12,482,550.16	
L. L. L. Endowment Fund		2,849,346.05	
Sundry Trust Funds		2,265,796.82	
Lay Retirement Fund		517,704.16	18,115,397.19
			$52,814,490.86

ACTION

Committee 11 submitted the following resolutions, which were *opted:*

Resolution 4

Your Committee has carefully examined the financial report the Treasurer of Synod as printed on pages 460 to 475 of *eports and Memorials* and wishes to make the following recommendations:

1. That we adopt the Treasurer's report; and

2. That Synod commend our Treasurer, Mr. W. H. Schlueter, e Assistant Treasurer, Mr. Charles E. Groerich, and the entire inancial Department of Synod for their faithful and efficient ervice.

Report of Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds

(Memorial 804)

For the information of the Houston Convention and the Board of Directors of Synod, the Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds submits herewith a report of its operations for the past triennium.

The personnel of the Board has remained unchanged during the past three years, and its members are: President, John W. Behnken, or one of the Vice-Presidents of Synod as an alternate; Walter H. Schlueter, treasurer; C. H. Garbers; Walter H. Kroehnke, vice-chairman; John A. Sauermann; Theodore Schroeder; Richard H. Waltke, chairman; August J. Luedtke, advisory member; Charles E. Groerich, secretary. The members of the Executive Committee are: Richard H. Waltke, chairman; Walter H. Kroehnke, vice-chairman; Walter H. Schlueter; Theodore Schroeder; Charles E. Groerich, secretary.

The Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds meets quarterly, and during the interim the Executive Committee carries out the resolutions of the Board and transacts all other business requiring immediate and prompt attention. All purchases and sales and other administrative acts transacted by the Executive Committee require the approval of Synod's Trust Funds Committee at a subsequent meeting.

The Trust Funds are itemized in the following schedules:

	January 31, 1951	January 31, 1952	January 31, 1953
Pension Fund	$ 8,898,048.06	$10,490,817.21	$12,482,550.16
L. L. L. Endowment Fund	2,827,711.95	2,845,345.34	2,849,346.05
Sundry Trusts	2,309,824.80	2,242,938.15	2,265,796.82
Lay Retirement Fund	357,034.88	432,188.77	517,704.16
	$14,392,619.69	$16,011,289.47	$18,115,397.19

Diversification of Trust Funds — January 31, 1953:

	L. L. L. Endowment Fund Per cent to Total	Sundry Trusts Per cent to Total	Pension Fund Per cent to Total	Lay Retirement Fund Per cent to Total
U. S. Government Bonds	100.00%	83.22%	51.29%	84.95%
Public Utility Bonds		10.35	30.49	13.05
Railroad Bonds		.40	3.12	2.00
Industrial Bonds		.23	14.48	
Real Estate Mortgages		5.80	.62	
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

It is interesting to note from the above figures that the Pension and Lay Retirement Funds have shown a steady and substantial growth, while the L. L. L. Endowment Fund increased nominally and the Sundry Trust Fund decreased slightly.

The regulations under which your Board operates require that no less than 50 per cent of Synod's Trust Funds shall be invested in the full obligations of the U. S. Government. The Pension Fund has almost reached this point, and the Committee is planning to reduce U. S. Government Bond holdings in the other Trust Funds closer to minimum requirements when money for investing is available. This long-range policy should increase the earnings of the Trust Funds, if the trend of higher interest rates continues.

The difficult problem of investing money under the very conservative rules and regulations governing Synod's Trust Funds and still maintain net earnings for the Funds, excluding the Lay Retirement Fund, at the rate of 2½% annually or better, has been solved because of a slow but steady rise in interest rates and increased increments on U. S. Savings Bonds. In 1949 and the first half of 1950, on the average, U. S. Government Bonds yielded about 2.28%, and other high-grade bond investments yielded approximately 2.64%. Today, these same investments can be purchased to yield 2.90% and 3.20%, respectively. This improvement in interest rates and increased increments on U. S. Government Savings Bonds has increased the earnings of all Trust Funds. In the fiscal year ended January 31, 1953, the Pension Fund earned 2.73%, the L. L. L. Endowment Fund 2.76%, and the Sundry Trust Fund 2.94%, the Lay Retirement Fund 2.29%. The low percentage of earnings of the Lay Retirement Fund is due to the fact that the major portion of the investments is represented by U. S. Savings Bonds, Series F, which are less than five years old. The earnings of these Bonds, of course, will improve as they grow closer to maturity and should increase the income of this Fund in the future more in line with the other Trust Funds.

The Investment Depreciation Reserves of the Trust Funds are: L. L. L. Endowment Fund 3.99%, Sundry Trust Fund 2.78%, Pen-

sion and Lay Retirement Fund is less than 1% of invested capital. Synod's Trust Funds Committee believes it to be prudent investment management to increase the Investment Depreciation Reserves of the Pension and Lay Retirement Funds, which is inadequate, up to at least 2½% of invested capital. When these reserves are established, then larger disbursements can be credited to the earnings accounts of these Funds, provided interest rates remain favorable.

In the 1950 report, your Board gave a valid reason for refusing to invest Trust Funds, particularly Pension Fund money, in Church Extension loans. Since then, it has been suggested by several sources that we reconsider our decision with a view toward investing a substantial part of Pension Funds for Church Extension purposes. Your Committee is still of the opinion that we cannot legally lend Trust Funds for this purpose, and we shall continue to govern our investment policy accordingly. We again quote the paragraph contained in the 1950 report covering the subject:

"A number of times your Board has been importuned to set aside a substantial part of the Pension Fund for Church Extension purposes. This matter was referred to Synod's counsel. It was his studied opinion, based upon the law and many court decisions, that it would be illegal for Synod to lend any part of the Pension Fund to either Districts or congregations. Your Board agrees with Synod's counsel and intends to be governed by his opinion."

The total Trust Funds entrusted to the Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds amount to $18,115,397.19 as of January 31, 1953, and are increasing at the rate of about $150,000 monthly, mostly owing to regular contributions paid into the Pension Fund.

Your Board is fully aware of its responsibilities and is taking adequate safeguards for investing, conserving, and protecting Synod's Trust Funds. The Committee operates under conservative rules and regulations governing Synod's Trust Funds. These regulations were approved by the Board of Directors of Synod and have remained unchanged. The Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago and Mercantile Trust Company of St. Louis are custodians of the Trust Funds, and all securities are stored in safekeeping in the depository of these two institutions. In addition, Moody's and Continental Illinois National Bank advisory services are used to counsel and advise the Committee in the purchase and sale of securities. These services also include periodic reviews of all investments in the portfolios of Synod's Trust Funds.

The Trust Funds are kept fully invested, and all principal and interest payments are current. There are no investments in default

in any of Synod's Trust Funds. The Treasurer of Synod keeps accurate and complete records of Synod's Trust Funds, and all accounts are audited annually by a certified public accountant appointed by Synod's Board of Directors.

RICHARD H. WALTKE, *Chairman*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 11 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 5

WHEREAS, The important and complex work of the Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds has been carried on faithfully by the men appointed to this office by the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, These services have been cheerfully given without financial remuneration; and

WHEREAS, The members of this Board have carried on this work at the sacrifice of their own time and energies; therefore be it

Resolved, That we offer our sincere thanks to the Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds.

Modify the Synodical Policy of the Financing of Capital Investments

(Memorial 805)

Synod, under God's grace, has a debt-free capital investment whose potential is not being used for the expansion of Christ's kingdom. Other enterprising church bodies may well serve as contrasting lessons to us in this regard. We do not believe that current income should be made to pay the cost of buildings which are to serve for a generation or more.

Accordingly, we urgently recommend to Synod:

1) that it change its system of financing capital improvements from a cash policy to one which uses the advantages of Synod's credit position; and

2) that the President of Synod appoint a committee of five laymen of our Church especially competent in banking and financial practices to develop sound policies and standardized procedures; and

3) that the Treasurer of Synod and its Board of Directors thereupon put this program into immediate effect, with an evaluative report to each succeeding synodical convention.

THE BOARD OF CONTROL
ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE, CONCORDIA, MO.
O. G. TIEMANN, *Secretary*

ACTION

In this connection Committee 11 also considered Unprinted Memorial 28, read to Synod by Mr. J. W. Boehne, Jr. After a number of amendments had been made, Synod *adopted* the following resolutions:

Resolution 13

WHEREAS, The unprinted memorial of Synod's Board of Directors, Unprinted Memorial 28, appearing on pages 24 to 26 of "Today's Business," was received by Committee 11 only after the committee was organized for this convention; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of Synod, in this Unprinted Memorial 28, points out that millions of dollars are needed by the Church in its missionary and higher educational work; and

WHEREAS, The issues involved are of such far-reaching importance to the Church; and

WHEREAS, The complexity of the problems presented by this memorial requires more study than is possible at this convention; and

WHEREAS, Some church members and congregations are still making contributions to the "Conquest for Christ" offering; and

WHEREAS, Some of the Districts of Synod and local areas have embarked upon long-range major projects in the interest of the kingdom of Christ which had been delayed because of the "Conquest for Christ" offering; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors, in Unprinted Memorial 27, recommends that Synod recognize the need of a Survey and Findings Committee to make a thorough study of the over-all financial needs of Synod for the years 1957, 1958, 1959; and

WHEREAS, Our Lord has greatly blessed our Church and is continually presenting open doors of opportunity for Kingdom growth; and

WHEREAS, Every Christian most earnestly desires and fervently prays for such progress in the Savior's kingdom; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod authorize a Survey and Findings Committee to be composed of the Board of Directors of Synod, and a like number of District representatives chosen by the voting members at the meeting of the 1953 Fiscal Conference of Synod, the Planning Counselor of Synod, the Comptroller of Synod, the Assistant Treasurer of Synod, and the four Vice-Presidents of Synod to be considered as advisory members; and be it further

Resolved, That this committee, as soon as possible after the 1953 meeting of the Fiscal Conference of Synod, make a careful and detailed survey of the present financial program of our Church

and its financial requirements for the future, as far as they can be determined; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors, upon approval of this committee, be authorized to set up a Capital Investment Fund, the amount to be determined by this committee, to be used for missionary and higher educational work as carried on by Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That the allocations from this fund be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors, as to project, priority, amount, and time; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors, upon approval of this committee, be authorized to borrow moneys not to exceed $6,000,000 for the Capital Investment Fund in such amounts as in the committee's findings are necessary to meet the most critical needs; and be it further

Resolved, That this committee be empowered to devise ways and means for raising these funds, subject to the approval of the Fiscal Conference; and be it further

Resolved, That this committee serve in the afore-mentioned capacity for the next triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That this committee be known as the Survey and Findings Committee of Synod; and be it finally

Resolved, That all matters pertaining to the inclusion of capital investment funds in the 1954 synodical budget be referred to the meeting of the Fiscal Conference of Synod in 1953.

NOTE: Matters presented in Unprinted Memorials 5, 10, 13, 19, and 27, and the recommendation on Capital Investment Funds (page 168 of *Reports and Memorials,* Resolution 12, pages 32 and 33 of "Today's Business"), and the petition of the Church Extension Board (*Reports and Memorials,* page 257), and Memorial 805 on page 478 of the *Reports and Memorials,* and the recommendation submitted to Committee 11 by Committee 2 at this Convention, are covered by this resolution.

Report of the Department of Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion

(Memorial 806)

The Department of Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion is a creation of the 1950 convention of Synod. It includes the work formerly specifically assigned to the Department of Publicity and Missionary Education. The undersigned was appointed Stewardship Counselor of Synod by the Board of Directors soon after the 1950 convention. In May, 1952, the Rev. Waldo J. Werning was appointed by the Board of Directors of Synod to serve as Assistant Stewardship Counselor.

The functions of this Department are threefold:

1. To promote a sustained program of Christian stewardship during the total life of our members, particularly as these lives into the programs of our congregations and of Synod.

2. To promote missionary education and information so that membership is the more informed concerning Synod's great sionary program.

3. To promote evangelical ways and means of gathering sufent offerings from our members to supply the growing needs of Church's expanding program.

To achieve these three general aims, even in a limited degree, Department must endeavor to keep in close touch with the ld through many and varied contacts with District leaders and leaders of at least a number of our congregations. Warm and nvincing literature must be prepared and made available. Effective visual-aid materials must be produced for general distribution. he demand for such materials is on the increase. Time and again e were forced to make reprints. This is a good sign. Our people re becoming more stewardship-conscious. Yet no one will deny hat our people are lagging far behind what they could and should be doing for their congregations, their Districts, and Synod. They need help!

A Synod-Wide Stewardship Program

In order to meet the needs of the local parishes, the stewardship leaders of our Districts and Synod met at Lake Okoboji (Iowa) last summer and planned an over-all and comprehensive stewardship program. The Board of Directors of Synod made this meeting possible through a special grant. *In this program the laity are to play a vital role.* Thousands of laymen are being enrolled on District, circuit, and congregational levels in order to make this program effective. The program is to be a sustained venture, a year-round, a year-upon-year effort. In many sections of Synod this program has already taken a firm foothold. It is our hope and prayer that all of the congregations of Synod will participate in this program as their circumstances may require.

Basic Aim of Program

The basic purpose of the entire stewardship program is to build more functional congregations — congregations fulfilling their high and God-given mission in such a day as this. The chief parts of the program are:

1. Greater consecration on the part of our members to Christ in order that they might serve better as living members of His body.

2. A deep appreciation of the why and wherefore of Christian

congregations, stressing especially the privileges and duties of membership in a Christian congregation.

3. The planning of solid spiritual programs in our congregations, geared to meet the spiritual needs of our members and the community where the church is located.

4. Enlisting and training our members for spiritual service in and through our congregations.

5. Fully informing our members of their local congregation's work and its missionary outreach in District and Synod.

6. Giving our congregations a vision of the world's need of Christ and how they can supply that need.

7. Instructing our people in the grace of giving as God has prospered them.

These, and other related needs, the newly organized stewardship program of Synod strives to supply.

Giving to Missions
(Through Synod)

Year	Synod's Goal	Budget Receipts (Total)	Receipts (Per Comm.)
1943	$2,200,000	$2,312,409	$2.09
1944	2,500,000	2,580,628	2.32
1945	2,500,000	2,776,985	2.36
1946	2,750,000	2,864,601	2.47
1947	2,900,000	2,916,171	2.49
1948	3,600,000	3,467,171	2.90
1949	4,000,000	3,634,787	2.91
1950	4,250,000	4,250,135	3.33
1951	4,750,000	4,645,950	3.72
1952	5,250,000	4,933,625	3.88
1953	6,500,000	?	5.18 (needed)

Per-communicant giving to Synod's Kingdom program:

1927 ——— $2.73 1952 ——— $3.88

Considering the devaluation of the dollar, are our people actually giving *more* to missions than they did in 1927?

Our budgetary goals from 1943 to 1948 were far too low. Only the special offerings through the Peace Thankoffering, the Centennial Thankoffering, and the "Building for Tomorrow" offering prevented a severe lag and bog in our Church's over-all program.

Synod's goal for 1953 is $1,250,000 higher than it was last year. It is our considered opinion that because of Synod's rapidly expanding program and because of the expenditure of "Conquest for Christ" funds we shall find it necessary to increase the budgets of Synod for the next three years at least $1,250,000 per annum. In other words, our Church should have available a minimum of

$7,750,000 for 1954 $9,000,000 for 1955 $10,250,000 for 1956

through regular budgetary channels.

These figures should make us think as well as blink. When the convention of Synod voted the "Conquest for Christ" offering, perhaps without realizing it — also voted for considerable increases in the future budgets of Synod. You cannot invest thirteen million in capital expenditure without appreciably increasing current costs. And the Lord has supplied our people with the means to do so. Surely with a per-capita income of approximately $2,000 in 1952 our people cannot plead poverty. Last year the average communicant member gave to the Lord about $3.00 for District purposes, $3.88 to Synod's mission program, and $10.87 to the "Conquest for Christ" effort. That's a total of $17.75. This year a minimum of about $8.54 per member is asked of the average member to meet District and Synod's missionary needs. That's a little less than half of what the average member gave last year. Surely we can do better than that!

We cheer the man who, tired of the pro and con of debate concerning his congregation's giving to missions, stood up in the meeting and cried out: "Mr. Chairman, I move that in Christ's name we finally begin to move the world!"

Recommendations

1. We urge that all congregations of Synod seriously study the newly launched Synod-wide stewardship program with the view in mind of adopting it and adapting it to their own peculiar needs and circumstances. The program includes stewardship education for all of life, missionary education, and growth in the grace of giving to Kingdom purposes in the parish, the District, and Synod. The organizational plan is closely tied in with that of Synod itself.

2. *Mission Call* is a mission publication covering all of the missionary work carried on by Synod at home and abroad. Efforts should be made by our congregations to see to it that this new publication is read by as many of their members as possible. *Mission Call* will give our members the information they must have if we expect them to give more liberal support to missions. This bimonthly publication costs only 75 cents per year. In bulk it costs only 50 cents per year if mailed to a single address.

3. To better inform our people about the mission work of our Church, the new mission movies on New Guinea, Nigeria, India, Guatemala, Mexico, etc., ought to be shown in the congregations of Synod. More movies will be available soon. Use these films!

4. Many of our congregations have only one mission festival each year. We urge the observance of two mission festivals, one

in the first half, the other in the second half of the year. If the mission of the Church is missions, our people must be informed and inspired more frequently.

5. We recommend that our congregations strive toward the minimum goal of giving one dollar for missions to every two for home purposes. Many of the major denominations in America are asking their people to give one dollar for missions to every dollar used in the local parish. While we recognize that a minority of our congregations are already giving this amount and more, by far the majority are giving much less. At the present time most of our congregations are giving only 10 to 12 per cent of their current income for missions, while a number are giving still less — some, much less. If our congregations would strive for the minimum goal suggested, we would in a few years have double the funds now available for the mission programs of District and Synod. Where congregations have the single-pocket envelope and use the unit budget system, and where their mission remittance is relatively low as compared with current home expense, we especially urge sizable percentage increases for missions annually until at least the ratio of one dollar for missions to every two spent for *current* home expenses is attained.

6. Synod in convention some years ago passed the resolution that the congregations of Synod consider the annual observance of a Synodical Sunday. The program and purposes of our large corporation, known as The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, are not too well fixed in the hearts and minds of too many of our members. Synodical Sunday provides a splendid opportunity to bring to our people the advantages and responsibilities which are theirs as members of Synod. We again bring this resolution to the attention of the delegates attending this convention, trusting that they will encourage their congregations to observe Synodical Sunday annually.

7. Should it be the policy of Synod to include, wherever possible, necessary capital investments in its annual budget? While our "Conquest for Christ" effort was indeed a glorious project and provided for urgent and large capital expenditures which could not well be included in the budget of Synod for any given year or years, we ought to plan our program on a long-range basis, thus obviating special Synod-wide offerings every two or three years. We do not believe that *frequent* special offerings are the answer to our growing needs, but rather a Christ-centered, spiritual program of stewardship including proportionate giving. Such a program, promoted on a sustained basis and in an evangelical manner,

according to the Lord's promise provide ever more funds to y on the expanding program of our Church. This is one of the poses and goals of the Synod-wide stewardship program adopted ake Okoboji last summer. Its results are already becoming dent. In the next few years, under God's blessing, its effect also the mission offerings will make itself felt in an ever-increasing asure.

This is not to be construed as though we're against *all* special erings as such. The "Conquest for Christ" effort definitely was great boon to our Church's ongoing program. Its stewardship -products are bound to have a profound effect upon many of r people at least for some years to come. There will be times hen such special offerings will be necessary, but we do not believe at they should be necessary every two or three years — if we lan wisely and train our people more and more to give as God has prospered them. A growing number of congregations, as well as several major denominations, have had this happy experience. We now have a program gauged to produce similar results. Why not give it a chance to prove its worth? It's not a question whether our people have the money; rather it's a question of what they have the money *for*.

J. E. HERRMANN
Stewardship Counselor of Synod

Committee 11 also considered Memorial 807 in this connection.

Long-Range Stewardship Planning

(Memorial 807)

WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, in these fateful years is challenging our congregations in their work at home and in the world at large with great opportunities for Kingdom service and missionary expansion; and

WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus must receive a greater portion of our incomes so that we shall be enabled to fulfill the demands which He is daily placing before us; and

WHEREAS, Frequent special collections are not the best stewardship, inasmuch as they often delay needed expansion and capital investments, sometimes meet with unfavorable reactions on the part of our people, and generally pave the way for more special collections, and ought therefore be reduced to a minimum; and

WHEREAS, Wise, long-range planning will anticipate future demands and make it possible to spread the load over a greater number of years, thus eliminating the necessity of immediate large drives; and

WHEREAS, A greater response of co-operation and regular,

liberal support will be gained if our people are more effectively informed of the demands of the Kingdom; and

WHEREAS, A more widespread participation of our lay people must and can be obtained toward the promotion of the program of the Church and has even now been successfully achieved in the extended "Conquest for Christ" effort; therefore be it

Resolved

1. That our District study and promote ways and means of bringing the Program of District and Synod to all of our people more effectively through specially prepared literature, visual-aid materials, home visitation, and the use of more laymen on the District, circuit, and congregational levels.

2. That our District Stewardship and Finance Committee, together with the Visitors, plan such a District program as soon as possible.

3. That Synod's Department of Stewardship, Missionary Education, and Promotion be informed of this our action and asked to be helpful to the District Stewardship and Finance Committees in developing and carrying out such a program.

4. That our District Stewardship and Finance Committee, together with our Board of Directors (District officials), be authorized to set up a District budget which will more fully meet the growing demands of our District and Synod.

5. That in view of all this, Synod be asked to plan its budget on a long-range basis, include in its annual budget such items as generally are included in special church-wide collections, and thus endeavor to eliminate such Synod-wide collections as much as possible.

THE WESTERN DISTRICT
T. A. WEINHOLD, *President*
WALTER J. WARNECK, *Secretary*

ACTION

The following resolution submitted by Committee 11 was *adopted* by Synod:

Resolution 6

WHEREAS, It is apparent to all that the only effective solution to the many financial problems confronting our Church is a wider and greater participation on the part of all our people; and

WHEREAS, Our laity must be encouraged and given every opportunity to execute its right of the royal priesthood; and

WHEREAS, It is equally apparent that the necessary degree of participation cannot best be achieved by the constant pleas for funds; therefore be it

Resolved, That the congregations of Synod, for their growth in the stewardship life, adopt the plan of our Stewardship Counselor (*Reports and Memorials,* pages 482—484); and be it further

Resolved, That the congregations of Synod encourage their members to subscribe to *Mission Call,* make fuller use of the mission films, strive to obtain a minimum goal of one dollar for missions out of every three dollars collected (work at large), observe Synodical and Mission Sundays in a manner most beneficial to their members and the missions of the Church, and by regular proportionate giving eliminate the need of frequent special drives for funds; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend the Stewardship Counselor for his faithful and efficient service.

Report of Board of Support and Pensions

(Memorial 808)

1. The Board of Support and Pensions herewith submits to the Honorable Convention its report for the past triennium, 1950 to 1953.

2. We wish to express to Synod our sincere appreciation for the privilege and opportunity of rendering service to the veterans of the Cross and their dependents. We thank Synod itself, and all its members, for the financial assistance it has given to the retired and disabled servants of the Word and to their widows and orphans through our service. It is no small matter each month to remit to at least 1,275 beneficiaries a total of approximately $60,000 in Pension and Support benefits.

3. The Executive Committee of your Board met at least five times each year during the past triennium to transact the routine business of the Board, which consists primarily in granting Pension and Support benefits to the individual applicant after his request has received the recommendation of the respective District board.

4. We take this opportunity to thank the District boards for their willing and efficient co-operation not only with regard to Pension and Support matters, but also with regard to enlisting new Pension Fund members in their individual Districts.

5. This Board met in plenary session twice each year during this past triennium for the purpose of discussing and determining the policies which guide the Executive Committee in the performance of their duties and also to prepare recommendations and overtures for the improvement of the Pension Fund,

as you will see from the proposed amendments farther along in this report.

6. A meeting with all District chairmen, except three who were unable to come, was held February 12 and 13, 1952, at the Lutheran Building in St. Louis. The purpose of this conference was to acquaint all District chairmen with the complete program of the Pension Fund and its benefits. Papers were prepared and read by a number of District chairmen. Dr. George A. Huggins, our actuary, who lends invaluable aid to our Board throughout the year, was also present. The conference was a success in every way and well worth the cost.

7. Your Executive Secretary again attended numerous conventions. In 1951 he was present at nine District conventions and in 1952 at five other District gatherings. He also met with smaller groups at conferences and the like. That the graduates of our seminaries and teachers' colleges may be better informed in Pension matters, the Executive Secretary has been visiting twice each school year at the teachers' college at River Forest and the seminaries at Springfield and St. Louis. And during 1952 he twice met with the graduating classes at our teachers' college in Seward.

8. For the information of all concerned we submit a tabulation of all Pension and Support benefits remitted by this Board from 1918 to January 31, 1953. You will observe that there is a large bare space on the left-hand side of the tabulation for the years 1918 to 1937. This represents those years during which Synod, in an organized way, granted Support only, and that upon formal annual application. The Pension Fund was inaugurated October 1, 1937, and beginning the very next year, this Board was in a position to initiate the payment of Pension benefits, which even at this time, after 15 years, are still largely subsidized by Synod.

9. In the center of the tabulation under the heading "Pension Credits," you will see listed the actual earned annuities payable to the 981 Pension beneficiaries on the basis of the Pension Fund accumulations of the retired or deceased Pension Fund members. The subsidy necessary to make payment of the Pension benefits listed in the column at the left of the Pension credits is taken from Synod's appropriation in behalf of the Board of Support and Pensions. As time goes on, the annuities earned will eventually be sufficient to provide for the needs of the Pensioner. It very likely will take at least another fifteen years before the accumulations to the credit of retiring Pension Fund members will provide pensions to which no subsidy will have to be added.

10. Tabulation of Pension and Support Benefits

Year	Workers	Widows	Orphans	Total Support Cases	Support	Retired Workers	Disabled Workers	Widows	Annuity Only	Total Beneficiaries	Pension	Pension Credits	Total
1918	124	218		342									$ 75,842.83
1919	126	252		378									88,653.00
1920	135	253		388									107,160.00
1921	160	255		415									137,248.02
1922	162	300		462									164,523.15
1923	175	315		490									189,079.49
1924	193	348		541									214,338.13
1925	208	349		557									231,535.83
1926	214	378		592									242,669.68
1927	230	395		625									270,960.18
1928	240	410		650									284,283.50
1929	256	420		676									296,814.70
1930	265	434		699									302,245.68
1931	273	448		721									305,515.62
1932	288	476		764									289,371.44
1933	277	440		717									212,459.38
1934	286	461		747									207,285.84
1935	300	467		767									233,793.89
1936	303	468		771									223,295.94
1937	305	487		792									229,357.34
1938	308	494	22	824	$239,249.66								240,839.66
1939	383	524	19	846	235,702.23								244,909.23
1940	307	522	16	845	236,793.24								257,024.74
1941	302	523	19	844	230,257.83								261,561.83
1942	272	512	23	807	247,613.84							$ 7,367.17	313,285.69
1943	259	509	24	792	249,975.62							9,423.71	334,644.66
1944	232	506	22	760	251,529.23							14,846.03	358,492.12
1945	221	506	23	750	255,747.70							20,350.06	401,251.01
1946	220	502	19	741	243,038.18							25,675.09	412,293.22
1947	220	501	20	741	250,610.59							29,803.37	437,886.89
1948	213	520	20	753	298,654.84							36,969.49	545,969.17
1949	213	508	21	742	270,389.14							45,589.96	549,282.48
1950	198	493	22	713	265,873.46							53,777.46	561,014.53
1951	[2] 119	[2] 334	24	[2] 477	195,998.44						$ 1,590.00	56,208.28	[4] 646,959.03
1952	81	290	20	391	234,341.99						9,207.00	[3] 68,441.70	[4] 715,651.49
						14				14	20,231.50		
						43				43	31,304.00		
						65			11	76	65,671.85		
						85		7	19	111	84,669.04		
						146		16	18	180	106,962.89		
						166		31	17	214	145,503.31		
						191		43	25	259	169,255.04		
						228		60	24	312	187,276.30		
						255		71	36	362	[1] 274,314.33		
						265		84	38	387	278,893.34		
						309		101	41	451	295,141.07		
						323		126	55	504	[2] 432,470.59		
						337		150	35	522	[3] 462,634.50		
						363	[2] 51	[2] 413	[2] 16	843			
						418	63	481	19	981			

In further explanation of above tabulation we submit the following footnotes:

11. [1] The increase in Pension benefits of $87,000 in 1948 over the previous year is accounted for by the fact that Synod at the convention in Chicago in 1947 increased the minimum Retirement Pension from $50 to $60 a month.

12. [2] Synod in 1950 at the Milwaukee Convention resolved to grant a Disability Pension of $60 a month to all disabled Pension Fund members, effective February 1, 1951. Previously these disabled servants of the Word were listed as Support beneficiaries. In 1951 they were transferred to the column "Disabled Workers," under Pension benefits, receiving the Disability Pension of $60 a month. The number of workers receiving Support was correspondingly decreased.

13. Furthermore, because Synod at Milwaukee also resolved to pay a minimum Pension of $30 a month to the widows of Pension Fund members, more than 152 widows, heretofore classed as widows receiving Support, were reclassified as widows receiving the Widows' Pension. Thus, the number of Support widows was lowered from 497 to 334, and the number of widows receiving Pensions increased from 150 to 413. We have other widows who had been receiving only their Widow's Annuity who began to receive the minimum Widow's Pension instead.

14. These Disability and Widows' Pensions were largely the reason why Pension benefits increased from $295,000 in 1950 to $432,000 in 1951. Support benefits in 1951 therefore showed a decrease.

15. [3] Because the accumulations of retired or deceased Pension Fund members provided less than 20% of the minimum Pension of $60 to retired and disabled men and $30 to widows for a total of only $68,441.70, a subsidy of almost $400,000 from the treasury of the Board of Support and Pensions was necessary to make possible the payment of Pension Fund benefits totaling $462,634.50.

16. [4] Included in the total cost (last column) for 1951 and 1952, but not included in any other column, are the Christmas bonus payments of $18,490 in 1951 and $18,675 in 1952.

17. We submit now a number of statistical reports regarding our Old Age Pensioners, Disability Pensioners, Widows receiving the Pension, Support cases to workers who were not members of the Fund, and to the widows and orphans of non-members of Pension Fund as well as a report on deaths among Pension Fund members and Support beneficiaries.

Old Age Pensioners

18. Since the Pension Fund was inaugurated October 1, 1937, we have paid an Old Age Pension to 609 workers in Synod who retired after age 65. Of these pensioners 375 are still receiving the Old Age Benefit of $60 a month, or $720 a year. During the past fifteen years the Lord called 214 in death, and 20 have either become active again as servants in the Church or have otherwise secured gainful employment, earning more than $120 a month and are now receiving only the actual earned retirement annuity on their Pension Fund credits.

19. During 1952 we entered upon our list of Pension beneficiaries, 37 retiring workers whose average age was 69 years; 23 pastors, average 70; 2 professors, average age 70; and 16 teachers, average age 67. These servants of the Church had rendered an average of 44 years of service to the Lord.

20. Their average Pension Fund accumulation from personal and employer's contributions is $2,580.48. The retirement annuity is $227.26 a year, or $18.92 a month, yet 35 receive the $60 Retirement Pension a month, 1 $52.50 and 1 $30 a month. Synod supplies from its appropriation to the Board of Support and Pensions a subsidy sufficient to provide an Old Age Pension of $60 a month when all personal and employer's Pension Fund contributions have been made from October 1, 1937, to the date of retirement.

Retirement Annuity Only

21. Four other men, 1 pastor and 3 teachers who also retired in 1952, are receiving only the earned retirement annuity which averages $17.36 a month, because their wages from part-time work are greatly in excess of the ceiling of $120 a month. Nine other retired men receive only the Retirement Annuity. One disabled woman receives only her Disability Annuity and five pastors' widows, or former widows of pastors, receive only their Widows' Annuity.

Disability Pensions

22. Because of disability, during 1952, 19 servants of the Word under age 65, 17 pastors and 2 teachers, resigned and became eligible to receive the Disability Pension which Synod promises its workers who participate in the Pension Fund with their employers. The cause of their retirement was: Nervousness, 6; heart ailments, 5; tuberculosis, 4; other causes, 4.

23. Their average accumulation from personal and employer's contributions was $1,869.50. Their Disability Annuity was $98.52, or $8.21 a month. Yet Synod is paying a Disability Pension of $60 to 12 of these 19. Others receive less than $60 a month because either the workers themselves or their congregations or boards did

not participate in the Pension Fund in full from October 1, 1937, to the date of their resignation. Some of these disabled workers have greater needs because of dependents. Additional Support has been granted to 8 of them, averaging $111.78 a month. The average age of these 19 men is 47 years. They rendered an average of 23 years of service.

24. A number of our disabled pensioners who had resigned prior to 1952 have since reached age 65 and now are regarded as Old Age Pensioners. Following is a tabulation of the veterans of the Cross who today are receiving the Old Age Benefit:

25.

Year Retired	Number Who Retired	Still Receiving Pension	Former Pastors	Profs.	Male Teach.	Female Teach.	Years of Ret.	Present Aver. Age
1938	15	2	2				14	87
1939	28	9	4		4	1	13	83
1940	33	8	6		2		12	80
1941	34	16	10	1	5		11	83
1942	61	31	18	1	12		10	80
1943	31	19	14		5		9	78
1944	43	23	14		9		8	78
1945	49	25	17		8		7	76
1946	54	31	19	2	8	2	6	75
1947	31	26	15	4	6	1	5	74
1948	56	39	25	3	11		4	73
1949	48	43	28	3	11	1	3	72
1950	33	23	17		6		2	71
1951	52	47	32	2	11	2	1	70
1952	41	33	21	1	10	1		69
	609	375	242	17	108	8		

Deaths of Pension Fund Members

26. During the 1952 fiscal year, February 1, 1952—January 31, 1953, 64 deaths of Pension Fund members were recorded, which called for the payment of $30,175 in death benefits.

27. Included among these 64 deaths were 32 Old Age Pensioners, 21 pastors, 2 professors, and 9 teachers, who had served an average of 47 years. Their average period of retirement was 8 years, and their average age at death was 82. The cause of death in 20 cases was a heart ailment, 5 died of a stroke, 1 of cancer, and 6 of other causes. 23 were suvived by a widow. Their average Pension Fund accumulation was $876.64, which provided an average earned annunity of $6.78 a month. Yet they received a pension of $60 a month because Synod added a subsidy from Support Funds. The total average benefits paid to each pensioner was $5,266.41.

28. Seven servants of the Word, 5 pastors and 2 teachers, who had resigned because of disability, at an average age of 58, after

ving served an average of 34 years, were delivered from their liction after an average of only 1 year of retirement. In all but e case the cause of death was heart trouble. Their average nsion Fund accumulation was $1,857. The average disability nuity was $8.15 a month. Yet, in most cases, they received a isability Pension of $60 a month. All seven men were survived y a widow.

29. Twenty-five men passed away while still in the active inistry, 20 pastors, 2 professors, and 3 teachers, at an average ge of 60, after 36 years of service. Cause of death was heart ailent 15, cancer 4, accidents 3, other causes 3. The youngest was 37, the oldest 70. Their average Pension Fund accumulation was 2,814.79, the average widows' annuity is $12.34 a month. 24 men were survived by a widow, 18 of whom receive a pension of $30 a month; 2—$25; 1—$21.25, 2—$17.50; and one of $9. Five of the last referred to receive less than $30 because either the husband or his congregation had not made payment in full of all Pension Fund contributions from date of eligibility to date of death.

Widows' Pensions

30. We listed February 1, 1952, a total of 404 widows who were receiving the Widows' Pension of $30 a month or less. Their husbands had either died after retirement beyond age 65 or prior to age 65 while still active as pastors, professors, or teachers in Synod. During 1952, 17 of these widows died. Because of the death of 32 pensioners, 23 widows were added to this list. Seven disabled pensioners died, leaving 7 widows, and 24 men who died while still active left widows who were also added to the list of widows receiving the Widows' Pension. Thus, of the 64 retired or active Pension Fund members who died, 54 were survived by widows.

31. Several widows remarried, and now no longer receive a pension. As of February 1, 1953, we are paying the Widows' Pension to 435 widows. The greater number of these widows receive $30 pension a month. In a few cases they receive less because either their husbands did not make full payment for the years 1937 to the date of their death or retirement, or their congregations failed to do so.

32. We said above that 17 widows passed away after having received the Widows' Pension of approximately $30 a month. Their average age at death was 85 years. The average Pension Fund accumulation, of the 17 workers was $672.85. In most cases the husband and his widow received benefits, and in 7 cases only the widow. The average to these 17 cases was $3,562.63.

33. Tabulation of Widows Receiving Pensions

Year Pens. Began	Rec. Pens. 2-1-53	Aver. Pens. per Mo.	Aver. Age	Widows of			Husb. Died While Active			Husb. Died After Ret.			
				Pas.	Prof.	Teach.	Aver. Yrs. of Serv.	Aver. Age at Death		Aver. Yrs. of Serv.	Aver. Pens. Per. Yr.-Mo.	Aver. Age at Death	
1937	1	$30.00	75			1	1	40	60				
1938	1	29.37	63	1			1	30	54				
1939	9	27.43	70	7		2	9	40	62				
1940	14	29.37	73	6		8	11	38	61	3	43	4	68
1941	15	28.37	70	11		4	13	34	60	2	40	1-5	63
1942	22	29.20	70	19	1	2	14	38	61	8	41	1-1	65
1943	23	28.69	66	16	2	5	15	30	57	8	44	2-7	69
1944	18	29.01	70	13		5	9	34	58	9	44	2-9	73
1945	36	28.30	66	26	1	9	25	36	59	11	43	2-6	69
1946	23	29.73	64	16		7	10	31	54	13	40	2-5	69
1947	31	28.37	64	23	2	6	19	36	61	12	40	2-5	68
1948	43	27.04	63	36	1	6	26	33	57	17	46	2-7	73
1949	49	28.47	63	39	3	7	33	38	62	16	47	4-3	74
1950	51	28.54	63	35	4	12	24	34	59	27	41	3	68
1951	46	28.11	62	35	2	9	28	33	56	18	42	6	73
1952	53	28.47	64	38	3	12	23	37	54	30	45	5-3	73
Totals	435			321	19	95	261			174			
Averages		$28.43*	65					35	58		43	4-4	71

* Only 292 widows receive the full minimum Widows' Pension of $30 a month. The others receive less because the required Pension Fund contributions had not been made in full for the entire period of eligibility.

Orphans' Pensions

34. Three children of deceased Pension Fund members are receiving Pension and Support benefits averaging $17 a month. Their average age is 15 years. Two became beneficiaries in 1943. When these orphans become 18 years of age, Pension Benefits will cease.

Special Old Age Beneficiaries

35. February 1, 1948, we began paying the Special Old Age Benefit to 41 retired pastors and teachers who had retired beyond age 65 prior to October 1, 1937, when the Pension Fund was inaugurated. As of February 1, 1953, 15 of these veterans are still living and receiving $60 a month special Old Age Benefit. 8 of them receive additional Support averaging $14.29 a month. The average age of these 15 retired workers is 80. The average years of service rendered by these 15 workers is 42. The retired workers, 10 pastors, 3 male and 2 female teachers, have received benefits from the Board of Support and Pensions an average of 13 years.

36. During 1952 four special Old Age Beneficiaries died, average age 84, having received benefits for an average of 20 years and an average of $10,612.50 each.

37. February 1, 1948, we began paying the Special Old Age Benefit to 41 widows whose husbands were beyond age 65 at the

they had resigned prior to October 1, 1937. Since February 1, 14 of these widows died, but 9 other widows who survived husbands were added to the list. We therefore now have widows receiving the special Old Age Benefit of $30 a month. husbands of these 36 widows died at an average age of 80. Their rage years of service was 44. They had received Support averg $4,000 during an average of 9 years of retirement. The rage age of these 36 widows is 84, oldest 95, youngest 71. In dition to the $30 Special Old Age Benefit, 16 are receiving Sup- rt averaging $7.76 a month. 30 husbands of these widows were stors, 6 were teachers.

38. In 1952 two widows in this special group died, average e 89 years, having received Support benefits an average of years and an average of $4,829.50 to the husband and widow each case.

Support to Workers

39. Under the heading of Support Benefits you saw in the bove tabulation that we granted Support benefits to 81 former orkers who were not members of the Pension Fund, 290 widows of other non-Pension Fund members, 17 orphans of non-members of the Pension Fund, and 3 whose fathers had identified themselves with the Pension Fund.

40. Beginning February 1, 1953, we were granting Support benefits in Synod, not including beneficiaries in Brazil, Argentina, and Germany, to 66 former veterans of the Cross, 274 widows, and 16 orphans.

41. Of these 66 Support cases, 41 are former pastors, 2 professors, 19 male teachers, and 4 female teachers. Their average age at retirement was 54 years. They rendered average service in Synod of 30 years and now are an average of 73 years old. Of these 66, as many as 37 retired prior to October 1, 1937, when the Pension Fund was inaugurated. The average Support grant in the case of these 66 Support beneficiaries is $49.53 a month. In 1952 three pastors not Pension Fund members applied for and were granted Support for an average of $36.67 a month. Their average age was 65.

42. Three retired veterans not members of the Pension Fund and receiving Support passed away in 1952 at an average age of 80, after having received aid an average of 17 years and total benefits averaging in each case $6,066.

Support to Widows

43. We are presently granting Support to 274 widows of non-members of the Pension Fund. Of these, 204 are widows of former pastors, 5 professors, and 65 teachers. Of these 274 widows, 163 were granted benefits prior to October 1, 1937, and 111 since. Their

average Support grant is $31.84 a month. A number have received Support many years, one each since 1892, 1905, 1913, and 1916, and 20 since 1918, when Synod began to care for the dependents of former veterans of the Cross in an organized manner. During 1952 we added 7 widows of non-members of the Pension Fund to our roll. Their husbands were pastors who rendered an average of 38 years of service in Synod. They receive an average of $28.50 Support a month.

44. During 1952 12 widows of non-members of the Pension Fund receiving Support an average of 21 years died at an average age of 78 years, having received benefits averaging $6,988.10 each.

Support to Orphans

45. We are giving Support to 13 orphans. Their average benefit is $21.50 a month. They had an average age of 50 at the time they began to receive Support. As a rule they are ill or utterly unable to provide for themselves. Support has been given in individual cases 31 years, 26, 25, 22, and 20 years. The average age of these 13 is presently 62 years.

46. Two orphans who had received Support 32 and 23 years respectively passed away during 1952 at the age of 73 and 69. The total benefits paid to the one, including her widowed mother, were $7,242 and to the other alone $5,351.

47. Argentina, Brazil, and Germany

a. In Argentina during 1953 we will provide one widow with a Pension and grant Support to a pastor and a pastor's widow at a cost of $700.

b. In Brazil Pension and Support will be given to one retired pastor, 6 disabled pastors and teachers, 2 widows, and Support only to 1 teacher, 2 widows, and 2 orphans at a cost of $7,500.

c. In Germany we are supporting 1 pastor and 2 pastors' widows, who formerly served in Brazil, at a cost of about $1,000.

We Wish to Increase the Pension

48. Because the Board of Support and Pensions feels the great need to increase the Pension to our retired men and to the widows of our Pension Fund members, we are submitting for your consideration a resolution offered by the Pensions Conference of District chairmen held a year ago. To initiate this increased benefit will necessitate an additional expense to Synod of approximately $96,000 annually.

49. We have 372 Pensioners, 15 men who are receiving the Special Old Age Benefit, and 39 receiving the Disability Pension.

nsioners out of the 372 are already receiving Support, aver- $15.61 a month, in addition to their Pension. 7 of the 15 ial Old Age Beneficiaries are receiving Support, averaging 9 a month, in addition to their Pension. 19 of the 39 disabled ion Fund members are receiving Support averaging $84.28 onth. Increasing all Pensions to these 426 pensioners to an al Pension of $900 a year will entail an additional appropriation 57,600.

50. We have 471 widows receiving a Pension. Of these, 155 eady receive Support averaging well over $18 a month, in addi- to their Pension. To increase the Widows' Pension from $360 450 a year will require a further appropriation of $30,300.

51. We have an average of 25 additional Retirement Pensions add to our roll each year. The additional cost would be $4,500. new Widows' Pensions are usually added to our Pension roll ch year. This would require an additional outlay of $3,600.

52. We believe firmly that Synod wishes our veterans and their idows to receive a more adequate Pension and will therefore not esitate to increase the Pension to $900 a year to the retired orker and $450 a year to the worker's widow even though the tal increased cost is $96,000.

53. We submit for your information our budget appropriation for 1953:

Pension and Support Benefits in 1953	$782,000	
Minus Pension Credits	67,000	
Cost to Synod in behalf of 1,275 beneficiaries		$715,000
Executive Office Operating Expenses		22,000
Candidate Subsidy		15,000
Death Benefits		32,000
Accounting Department		24,000
Our Budget Appropriation for 1953 is		$808,000

Having given you the above information, we now submit for your consideration the following recommendations:

54. Increase of Old Age Pensions, Disability Pension, and Widows' Pension

(Refer to 10.47 b(1), 10.47 c, and 10.47 d)

a. In February, 1952, the chairmen of the District Boards of Support and Pensions throughout Synod met in the Lutheran Building with the Board of Support and Pensions for a two-day conference. This group resolved to submit the following overture, which our Board herewith approves and makes its own.

b. WHEREAS, We, the Pensions Conference of District Chairmen

assembled in St. Louis, Mo., February 12 and 13, 1952, deeply appreciate and are grateful for what Synod has done in behalf of its veterans of the Cross and their dependents, especially since the adoption of the Pension Plan in October, 1937; and

c. WHEREAS, It is also highly gratifying and commendable that our congregations or employers are responding favorably to Synod's suggestion of increasing their contributions to the Fund at the rate of 1% each year, beginning with January 1, 1951, until they all reach 8% by 1954, and after that year continue to contribute at this rate annually; and

d. WHEREAS, We realize that even this last-adopted method, while steadily and gradually increasing the funds for further Pension benefits, etc., still does not adequately meet present-day requirements; and

e. WHEREAS, Present-day economic conditions have resulted in decreasing the purchasing value of the dollar, thus making it exceedingly difficult for our veterans of the Cross and their dependents to live a normal life, especially if they have no other income to meet current expenses besides that of the Pension allowance; therefore be it

f. *Resolved,* That we petition the delegates of the 42d Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, assembled at Houston, Tex., to consider the possibility of increasing the present minimum Pension of $60 to $75 a month for the worker and the present minimum Pension of $30 to $37.50 a month for the widow.

g. Because the appropriation in behalf of our Board of Support and Pensions during 1953 makes no provision for an increased Pension; therefore be it

h. *Resolved,* That the increased Pension go into effect as of February 1, 1954.

55.

Increase of Ceiling on Earnings of the Pensioners 10.47 b(3)

a. WHEREAS, The cost of living has greatly increased these past three years; and

b. WHEREAS, The ceiling adopted by Synod in 1947, namely, $90 a month, on the earnings from part-time activity on the part of a Pensioner no longer is in keeping with living costs; and

c. WHEREAS, Synod's Board of Directors has already, during this interim, permitted the Board of Support and Pensions to operate with a ceiling of $120 a month on the earnings from part-time church or secular work; therefore be it

d. *Resolved,* That 10.47 b(3) be amended to read as follows:

worker retiring at the age of 65 or over shall be entitled to ive his Old Age Benefit in full if his annual earnings from ch work and/or secular work do not exceed an average of a month. If he receives average earnings in excess of $120 onth from church work and/or secular work, a corresponding uction shall be made in his Old Age Benefit.

"e. In all borderline cases the Board of Support and Pensions l be the judge, basing its verdict upon the principles of right, pered with Christian love and charity."

f. It is definitely to be understood that this ceiling has reference a Pension which is provided in part from subsidy out of Synod's pport Treasury.

56.

ension Status of a Pension Fund Member's Widow 10.47 b(1)

a. WHEREAS, It seems to be most unfair and discriminatory to clude the widow of a Pension Fund member from the subsidized enefits of the Pension Fund because she was not his wife for period of ten years prior to retirement; therefore be it

b. *Resolved,* That the words "for at least ten years" in 0.47 b(1) be stricken. Then this sentence will read: "and that is widow was married to him prior to his retirement."

c. It is to be understood, however, "In the event that a worker marries while receiving an annuity, his widow and her children shall have no claim on the benefits of the Pension Fund." (10.45 e.)

57. **Membership Report — January 31, 1953**

Membership: 85% of Synod's workers, 90% of the congregations, and 153 boards.

PENSION FUND REGISTRATION

	Jan. 31, 1952		Jan. 31, 1953	
Pastors	4,194		4,314	
Teachers	1,708		1,796	
Professors	194		207	
Workers serving boards or institutions	455		519	
Female workers	240		252	
Vicars	11		17	
	6,802		7,105	
Members died	567		631	
Members retired, living	346		396	
Members withdrawn	248	1,161	270	1,297
Total active members	5,641		5,808	

Congregations enlisted	4,211
Institutional boards	99
Synod and District salary-paying boards	54
Total employers	4,364

ONE YEAR'S GROWTH

	Workers	Congregations
January 31, 1953	7,105	4,211
January 31, 1952	6,802	4,076
	303 — 4%	135 — 3%

REPORT ON GRADUATES

1951	Total	Members	Non-Members	1952	Total	Members	Non-Members
St. Louis	50	42	8	St. Louis	57	36	21
Springfield	31	26	5	Springfield	66	48	18
River Forest	63	49	14	River Forest	80	30	50
Seward	28	21	7	Seward	29	12	17
	172	138	34		232	126	106

Withdrawals (February 1, 1952—January 31, 1953)

Withdrawals (February 1, 1952—January 31, 1953): Pastors, 4; Professors, 1; Male teachers, 11; Female teachers, 6. Total withdrawals, 22.

58. You will see from the above membership report that the percentage of Pension Fund membership among the pastors and male teachers in Synod has not increased. A larger number of pastors and teachers are active in Synod today. Our Pension Fund membership has also increased numerically, but still there are almost 800 pastors, male teachers, and some professors at our synodical schools who are not members of the Fund. Many of those non-members have not identified themselves with Synod's Pension Fund because they very likely have some other method by which they desire to provide for the day of their retirement.

59. A few have been prevented from joining the Pension Fund because they are financially unable to do so. We wish to make an earnest appeal to all congregations in Synod not providing adequately for their workers to increase their salary. We submit for your information at this time the following facts regarding salaries being paid to our pastors and teachers participating in the Pension Fund as of December, 1952.

PASTORS

96	receive an average of	$125.00 a month
212	receive an average of	165.00 a month
597	receive an average of	200.00 a month
1,231	receive an average of	237.50 a month
647	receive an average of	270.00 a month
561	receive an average of	300.00 a month
319	receive an average of	360.00 a month
3,663	receive an average of	$251.00 a month

TEACHERS

59	receive an average of	$120.00 a month
134	receive an average of	165.00 a month
318	receive an average of	200.00 a month
522	receive an average of	237.50 a month
285	receive an average of	270.00 a month
71	receive an average of	300.00 a month
22	receive an average of	350.00 a month
1,411	receive an average of	$228.00 a month

Thus the average cash salary received by our pastors is $251.00 a month plus free use of a dwelling or a rent allowance.

The average cash salary of our teachers is $228.00 a month plus free use of a dwelling or a rent allowance.

60. We regret also to say that not all graduates from our synodical schools are joining the Pension Fund after their graduation. We deplore this fact. It is our conviction that such as do not join the Pension Fund should not be expected to make demands on Synod's Support Treasury in the event of their disability or at the time of their retirement. The wives of these non-members should also be made aware of the fact that their husbands have not provided for them in the manner devised by Synod for this purpose.

61.

Non-Members of Pension Fund Forfeit Support Benefits

a. WHEREAS, Synod itself has resolved that the Pension Fund shall be and now is Synod's method of providing support; therefore be it

b. *Resolved*, That the workers in Synod who after January 1, 1954, are not participating members of Synod's Pension Plan forfeit all claims to Support Benefits.

62.

Pension Fund Participation of Synodical Workers

a. WHEREAS, Synod has resolved that the Pension Fund shall be and therefore now is Synod's method of providing for its workers at the time of retirement; and

b. WHEREAS, Synod itself has numerous pastors and teachers in its service in executive positions and at our synodical schools; and

c. WHEREAS, Synod desires to make provision for its workers at the time of their retirement because of age or disability, and also for the dependents of such workers at the time of the workers' death, by means of participation in the Pension Fund; and

d. WHEREAS, These Districts also desire to provide by means of the Pension Fund for these workers at the time of their retire-

ment or for their dependents in the event of their death; therefore be it

e. *Resolved,* That participation in Synod's Pension Fund shall be required of every pastor, professor, missionary, teacher, deaconess, or other full-time church worker who after July 1, 1953, accepts a position in, and receives his salary from, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod or from a District in Synod.

The Arrears Problem

63. During the past twelve months the office of our Executive Secretary has made a concerted and organized attempt to inform all those Pension Fund members over age 55 who have either personally not made Pension Fund contributions in full for the period October 1, 1937, to date or whose congregations have failed to do so. The reaction among the men and their congregations has been very acceptable. Former congregations have been appealed to with favorable results. We urge upon all Pension Fund members whose account is not paid in full the advisability of getting their account in order and also asking their employer, even their previous employer, to make payment of employer's arrears so that when the time of retirement comes, each such retiring Pension Fund member will be eligible to receive the full minimum Pension. We will, in the near future, begin making an appeal of this kind to all workers in the age group 45 to 55.

The Delinquency Problem

64. We have the further serious problem of trying to revive the Pension Fund participation of several hundred members who have not made Pension Fund contributions for a year or longer. Very likely they have decided to provide in some other way for the day of their retirement. To such we must say, "You will be eligible at retirement to receive only the actual earned annuity on the accumulation now to the credit of your Pension Fund account. And in the event of your death, your widow will be eligible to receive only the actual earned annuity on your accumulation."

Congregations Are Increasing Rates of Participation

65. It was very gratifying to observe the fine co-operation on the part of the congregations these past three years. 85% of our congregations were remitting at the rate of 6% in 1952. We made a survey of 116 of the largest congregations in Synod and found that only ten had not fully reached a remittance rate of 6% by the end of 1952, but were in the process of eventually remitting at the rate of 8% by January, 1954. We wish to thank all congregations in Synod for this splendid co-operation.

66.

Reduction of Subsidized Pension When Employer's Rate Was Not Increased to 8%

a. Synod instructed this Board to offer a recommendation regarding the deductions from the subsidized Pension benefits where a congregation fails to increase its rate of participation from 6% to the desired 8% beginning January 1, 1954.

b. The regulations of the Pension Fund, 10.47 b (2), now provide that a reduction of the worker's and widow's subsidy is to be made if the worker failed to join within three months after he became eligible for membership or if his salary-paying organization participated not at all or only in part.

c. The Board of Support and Pensions has fixed these deductions at $15 from the annual pension, which presently is $720 a year, for each year during which the worker's contributions were not made in full, and a further deduction of $15 from the annual pension during which the employer's payments were not made in full.

d. Now that Synod has resolved that, beginning January 1, 1954, the employer's contributions should be made at the rate of 8% of the worker's cash salary plus 15% if he has the free use of a dwelling, we recommend to Synod,

e. That after January 1, 1954, an additional reduction of $2.50 shall be made from the annual subsidized pension of a worker for each of the four additional percentages by which the employer's rate of contributions was not increased. Thus, for instance, if after January 1, 1954, the congregation continues to remit at 4%, the additional deduction will be $10 from the minimum subsidized pension for each such year of 4% participation.

f. The deduction from the widow's subsidized pension shall be 50% of the husband's deduction.

Endowments and Gifts

67. The benefits of our Pension Fund would be greatly enhanced if we had, or were to receive, large endowments, as is the case in several Protestant Pension Funds. It is true, we do have the L. L. L. Fund of almost $3,000,000, the earnings of which flow into our annual appropriation for Pension and Support benefits. We have a few other permanent endowment funds which, together with the L. L. L. Fund earnings, during 1952 provided an income of $80,051.27.

68. May we plead with all members of our congregations to give favorable consideration to the making of bequests in behalf of our Pension Contingent Fund or to the current treasury of the

Board of Support and Pensions? Large bequests of this nature have been received not only by other church Pension Funds, but also by our Synod in the support of various educational or mission endeavors. We wish to encourage our members to make bequests of this nature in behalf of our Pension Fund out of gratitude to the Lord and in appreciation of the services rendered by our faithful teachers and pastors throughout Synod.

69. Permit us to remind all members in Synod that bequests made to this cause are not taxable. Furthermore, the percentage of deductible income in the form of donations to church and organized charitable causes has been increased from 15% to 20%. Thus your gifts in behalf of our veterans of the Cross may be listed as deductions from your income in making your income tax return.

70. Another method devised by Synod and used by our Board is that of annuity gifts to the Pension Fund, from which the donor receives an annuity the remaining years of his life with the understanding that any unexpended portion of his gift flows into a permanent Pension reserve, the earnings of which provide additional Pension benefits to our pensioners. We shall be happy to answer questions regarding such annuities and upon your request shall supply you with the annuity rates.

71. Our Board has prepared memorial-wreath cards which our pastors and teachers have made available to members of our congregations and which may be used in bestowing gifts for the Board of Support and Pensions current treasury or preferably for the Pension Contingent Fund. Our income from this source is not large. A total of $412 was received by our office during the past year as memorial-wreath gifts from numerous donors. Many such memorial gifts were made through the District Treasurer directly to Synod's Treasurer, and thus we have no office record of such gifts.

72. Because you realize how important it is that we care for the veterans of the Cross and for their dependents, therefore we feel certain that our cause is being taken regularly to the Throne of Grace in prayer. We plead with you for your continued intercessions and support and pray that also in the future the Lord will enable us to be of service to those servants of the Word who no longer are able to continue in the active teaching or preaching ministry.

73. Your Board has discussed the possibility or advisability of requesting Congress to include our ministers of religion among those who may participate in Social Security taxation and benefits. We have studied the implications of such coverage and have taken

sel with our actuary, Dr. G. W. Huggins, but as yet we are not dy to make any recommendations either for or against such rage. We will, however, continue to study the matter, and e recognize the necessity of a special report to Synod, we offer such a report to the convention itself.

EDWIN A. SOMMER, *Executive Secretary*

74. Report of the Accounting Department

PENSION FUND BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	Sept. 30, 1950	Sept. 30, 1951	Sept. 30, 1952
Investments	$8,326,580.68	$9,650,398.15	$11,338,243.21
Interest Accrued on Investm'ts		74,195.22	85,381.30
Cash	19,820.80	121,644.73	213,881.73
	$8,346,401.48	$9,846,238.10	$11,637,506.24
LIABILITIES			
Pension Fund	$7,445,280.23	$8,932,379.67	$10,522,144.45
Pension Annuities Fund	564,862.61	659,946.40	798,869.87
Pension Contingent Fund	110,481.13	142,557.64	172,836.48
Reserve for Inv. Depreciation	38,606.91	38,626.91	106,555.99
Earnings on Invest. (Undist.*)	187,170.60	72,727.48*	37,099.45*
	$8,346,401.48	$9,846,238.10	$11,637,506.24

FISCAL YEARS

	10-1-49 to 9-30-50	10-1-50 to 9-30-51	10-1-51 to 9-30-52	Three-Year Total
Pension Fund Receipts	$1,047,662.81	$1,321,324.05	$1,570,929.18	$3,939,916.04
Interest Distributed	158,898.35	186,182.15	216,961.04	562,041.54
Graduates' Sub. Credit	10,022.91	12,678.88	16,064.22	38,766.01

75. Receipts — New Money

During the past triennium, Synod's Pension Fund has grown considerably, as is evidenced by the comparative figures above. The schedule shows receipts by fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30. Receipts during the fiscal year ended September 30, 1952, were the largest in the history of the Fund. This vast growth is brought about by increased membership as well as increased employer's contributions as established by the Milwaukee Convention. The graduated scale of employer's rates there agreed upon is as follows: 1951 — 5%, 1952 — 6%, 1953 — 7%, 1954 and thereafter — 8%. It is significant to note that approximately 90% of all employers who are members of the Pension Fund are following this scale of increased rates. Equally significant is the fact that most large congregations, those employing several pastors and as many as six or eight teachers, have adopted the policy of paying Pension Fund contributions in behalf of their

workers at the increased rates. Both of these trends are clearly indicated in a recent analysis of the Pension Fund accounts.

76. The usual office routine of handling and processing receipts is followed; checks and drafts are prepared for deposit, remittance slips made up when necessary (blue for personal — buff-colored for employer's), receipts mailed, and finally the remittances are posted to the various accounts. The Fund is growing at the rate of about $7,000 each business day.

Balance Sheet

77. This schedule reflects all Assets and Liabilities of the Fund as of the close of the fiscal years shown. All investments are made by Synod's Board of Trustees, the membership of which is listed on page 53 of the 1953 *Annual*. All bonds in our portfolio must be rated no lower than AA by two of the investment services, Fitch, Moody or Standard and Poors. Every precaution is taken to safeguard principal, as cash must be available to pay retirement annuities as they become payable.

Earnings on Investments

78. At the close of each Pension Fund fiscal year, interest earnings are distributed and credited to the individual Pension Fund accounts. We now have over 11,000 accounts (6,835 workers and 4,364 employers). Interest of 2½% is computed separately on each account and is then posted to the credit of that account, a task which involves a tremendous amount of detail. During the past few years, the Pension Fund investments have earned approximately 2.6%, slightly more than the amounts credited to the individual accounts.

Year-end Statements

79. After the interest credit has been entered on the accounts, an annual statement is sent to each active member. This statement shows the beginning balance, amount of interest credit for the fiscal year, amounts of personal and employer's contributions received during the fiscal year, and other credits (if any), such as additional deposits and graduate subsidy. A letter accompanies the statement, showing the Balance Sheet in comparative form and requesting members to notify us of any differences that may exist between their personal records and those shown on the statement.

Graduate Subsidy

80. This subsidy was inaugurated in the year 1943 and has been granted since then to all graduates from our seminaries and teachers' colleges who join the Pension Fund within 12 months after they become eligible, on the condition that both their personal

employer's accounts are fully paid at the close of the fiscal September 30. The young graduate personally remits 2% of salary basis during the first two years of his membership, and od supplies the remaining 2% from budget funds. For the two years the worker remits at the rate of 3%, and Synod vides 1%. Thereafter the worker pays the full 4%. During all this time, however, his employing organization remits at the employer's rate established by Synod.

Should you have any questions, we shall make every effort to e your inquiry our prompt and courteous attention.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT
RUSSELL E. ROLLING

THE BOARD OF SUPPORT AND PENSIONS

REV. OSCAR FEDDER, *Chairman*
ADOLPH W. OBERMANN, *Recording Secretary*

NORBERT FLEISCHER	REV. C. PFOTENHAUER
ARTHUR H. HAHN	E. A. GROTH
ARTHUR C. SOMMER	OTTO C. DAVID
REV. B. W. JANSSEN	ALFRED H. HANDRICH

REV. EDWIN A. SOMMER, *Executive Secretary*

Federal Insurance Contributions

(Memorial 816)

WHEREAS, The Pension System of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has become extremely expensive to both congregations and workers, requiring payment of 8% of total earnings plus 15% in lieu of house rental by the congregation, and 4% of the total earnings by the worker; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Insurance Contributions Act (Social Security) requires payment of only 1½% of salary up to a maximum of $3,600.00 per year from both employer and employee, with a possible maximum of 2% from each in 1954; and

WHEREAS, The monthly returns from the Federal Insurance Contributions Act compare very favorably with the Pension System of Synod and also include family benefits in case of the worker's death; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Insurance Contributions Act, as last amended to cover additional classes of workers, requires only eighteen (18) months of eligibility for maximum benefits at retirement; and

WHEREAS, The Government of the United States has indicated

a willingness to extend the act to cover even more classes of workers; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod make efforts through the Congress of the United States to have the Federal Insurance Contributions Act extended to cover all church workers; and be it further

Resolved, That, if this can be accomplished, the payments made by the workers to the Pension System be returned to the workers in lump sum plus accrued interest, and the payments made by the congregations be given to Synod by vote of the congregations for its far-flung mission activities, or the capital fund from the congregations, by vote of the congregations, become a permanent part of the Board of Support funds to give added assistance where needed; or if it is not feasible to discontinue the Pension System entirely, be it then

Resolved, That the contributions of both congregations and workers be reduced by one half, and used as a supplement to the Federal Insurance Contributions Act.

Approved in a regular meeting of Zion Lutheran Church, Seattle, Wash., held on March 15, 1953.

HERMAN L. WILKEN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Memorials 809 and 810 asked that Pensions be increased, while Memorials 811 and 812 favored Social Security for our pastors and teachers.

Upon recommendation of Committee 10 the following resolutions were *adopted:*

Resolution 1

COMMENDATION OF BOARD OF SUPPORT AND PENSIONS AND ITS SECRETARY

WHEREAS, The comprehensive report of the Board of Support and Pensions, as submitted in the *Reports and Memorials,* pages 485 to 505, offers in understandable language a complete survey of the work of the Board and its Executive Secretary; and

WHEREAS, The report reveals an intelligent and sympathetic understanding of the problems involved and efficient and conscientious execution of the duties assigned; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Support and Pensions and its Executive Secretary be commended for the intelligent and faithful administration of their office; and be it further

Resolved, That they be encouraged to continue their efforts to persuade all congregations and workers of Synod not yet participating to support Synod's Pension Plan.

Resolution 2

INCREASE PENSION ALLOWANCE FOR RETIRED WORKERS AND WIDOWS

WHEREAS, We are deeply appreciative and grateful for what Synod has done in behalf of its veterans of the Cross and their dependents, especially since the adoption of the Pension Plan in October, 1937; and

WHEREAS, It is also highly gratifying and commendable that our congregations or employers are responding favorably to Synod's suggestion of increasing their contributions to the fund at the rate of 1 per cent each year, until they all reach 8 per cent by January 1, 1954; and

WHEREAS, We realize that even this last adopted method, while increasing the funds for further pension benefits, still does not adequately meet present-day requirements of the beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, Present-day economic conditions have resulted in decreasing the purchasing value of the dollar, thus making it exceedingly difficult for our veterans of the Cross and their dependents to live a normal life, especially if they have no other income to meet current expenses besides that of the Pension allowance; therefore be it

Resolved, That, beginning with February 1, 1954, the retired worker be granted a minimum of $100 a month and the widow $60 a month, and that adjustments for disabled members be made accordingly.

Resolution 3

INCREASE OF EARNINGS OF THE PENSIONERS, 10.47 b (3)

WHEREAS, The cost of living has greatly increased these past three years; and

WHEREAS, The ceiling adopted by Synod in 1947, namely, $90 a month, on the earnings from part-time activity on the part of a pensioner no longer is in keeping with living costs; and

WHEREAS, Synod's Board of Directors has already, during this interim, permitted the Board of Support and Pensions to operate with a ceiling of $120 a month on the earnings from part-time church or secular work; therefore be it

Resolved, That 10.47 b (3) be amended to read as follows: "A worker retiring at the age of 65 or over shall be entitled to receive his Old Age Benefits in full if his annual earnings from church work and/or secular work does not exceed an average of $120 a month. If he receives average earnings in excess of $120 a month from church work and/or secular work, a corresponding reduction shall be made in his Old Age Benefit; and be it further

Resolved, That in all borderline cases the Board of Support and Pensions shall be the judge, basing its verdict upon the principles of right, tempered with Christian love and charity.

Resolution 4

PENSION STATUS OF A PENSION FUND MEMBER'S WIDOW, 10.47 b (1)

WHEREAS, It seems to be most unfair and discriminatory to exclude the widow of a Pension Fund member from the subsidized benefits of the Pension Fund because she was not his wife for a period of ten years prior to retirement; therefore be it

Resolved, That the words "for at least ten years" in 10.47 b (1) be stricken and that the sentence read: "and that his widow was married to him prior to his retirement." And be it further

Resolved, That it be understood that "In the event that a worker marries while receiving an annuity, his widow and her children shall have no claim on the benefits of the Pension Fund."

Resolution 5

NONPARTICIPATION IN THE PENSION FUND

WHEREAS, There are still about 800 pastors, teachers, and some professors not participating in Synod's Pension System, some because of lack of interest or understanding, but some evidently because of a deplorably low salary; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Support and its Executive Secretary be encouraged to continue their efforts in persuading these non-participating workers to take advantage of the benefits of the Pension Fund; and be it further

Resolved, That all congregations be encouraged to pay their workers a salary sufficiently adequate to make it possible for them to participate in the Pension Fund.

Resolution 6

NONMEMBERS OF PENSION FUND FORFEIT SUPPORT BENEFITS

WHEREAS, Synod itself has resolved that the Pension Fund shall be and now is Synod's method of providing support; therefore be it

Resolved, That the workers in Synod who after January 1, 1954, are not participating members of Synod's Pension Plan forfeit all claims to Support Benefits; and be it further

Resolved, That in all borderline cases the Board of Support and Pensions shall be the judge, basing its verdict upon the principles of right, tempered with Christian love and charity.

Resolution 7

PENSION FUND PARTICIPATION OF SYNODICAL WORKERS

WHEREAS, Synod has resolved that the Pension Fund shall be and therefore now is Synod's method of providing for its workers at the time of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Synod itself has numerous pastors and teachers in its service in executive positions and at our synodical schools; and

WHEREAS, Synod desires to make provision for its workers at the time of their retirement because of age or disability, and also for the dependents of such workers at the time of the workers' death, by means of participation in the Pension Fund; and

WHEREAS, The Districts also desire to provide by means of the Pension Fund for their workers at the time of their retirement, or for their dependents in the event of their death; therefore be it

Resolved, That participation in Synod's Pension Fund shall be required of every pastor, professor, missionary, teacher, deaconess, or other full-time church worker who after July 1, 1953, accepts a position in, and receives his salary from, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or from a District in Synod.

Resolution 8

REDUCTION OF SUBSIDIZED PENSION WHEN EMPLOYER'S RATE WAS NOT INCREASED TO 8 PER CENT

WHEREAS, Synod instructed the Board of Support and Pensions to offer a recommendation regarding the deductions from the subsidized pension benefits where the congregation fails to increase its rate of participation from 4 per cent to the desired 8 per cent, beginning January 1, 1954; and

WHEREAS, The regulations of the Pension Fund, 10.47 b (2), now provide that a reduction of the worker's and widow's subsidy is to be made if the worker failed to join within three months after he became eligible for membership, or if his salary-paying organization did not participate at all or only in part; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Support and Pensions has fixed these deductions at $15 from the annual pension, which presently is $720 a year, for each year during which the worker's contributions were not made in full, and a further deduction of $15 from the annual pension during which the employer's payments were not made in full; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That after January 1, 1954, an additional reduction of $2.50 shall be made from the annual subsidized pension of a worker for each of the four additional percentages by which the employer's rate of contributions was not increased. Thus, for

instance, if after January 1, 1954, the congregation continues to remit at 4 per cent, the additional deduction will be $10 from the minimum subsidized pension for each such year of 4-per-cent participation; and be it further

Resolved, That the deduction from the widow's subsidized pension shall be 50 per cent of the husband's deduction.

Resolution 9

ENDOWMENTS AND GIFTS

WHEREAS, The benefits of our Pension Fund would be greatly enhanced if we had, or were to receive, large endowments or gifts for the benefit of the Pension Fund; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage the various congregations of Synod and their members to make use of the memorial wreath cards which are available and also encourage larger endowments and gifts.

Resolution 10

COST OF ACCOUNTING

WHEREAS, Committee 3 of the Board of Directors recommends that the cost for all accounting of the Pension Fund (which amounted to $22,825.00 in the fiscal year 1952) be charged to the earnings of the Pension Fund instead of Synod's budget account; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Support and Pensions supports this recommendation; therefore be it

Resolved, That beginning February 1, 1954, the cost for all accounting for the Pension Fund be charged to the earnings of the Pension Fund instead of Synod's budget account.

Resolution 11

FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY

Memorial 811 proposes that Synod express itself as favoring Social Security benefits for pastors and teachers.

Memorial 812 proposes that a study be made of the possibility of obtaining these benefits in addition to a modified church pension program.

Memorial 816 recommends that the Federal Social Security program be adopted and that our own Pension System be discontinued.

Unprinted Memorial 30 and the communications received support these memorials.

Social Security benefits are at present not available to ministers and teachers of religion; however, Government bills are

ding which propose the inclusion of pastors, teachers, and other fessional church workers under the Federal Social Security s. Some church bodies have gone on record favoring Social urity for ministers and other church workers. Others have not. r own Church has not yet taken an official stand in this matter.

It is not yet certain what action the Government will take, t in case such a law is enacted, our pastors, teachers, congretions, and Synod itself with its various Districts will be conted with this question.

In considering this problem, it must be borne in mind:

a) That this is a question of practical judgment and wisdom aling with the temporal and material side of life;

b) That it is a question about which intelligent and conientious Christians may differ without offending the conscience f the other.

Those favoring Social Security benefits for church workers rgue:

a) That it would be the law of the land and no moral objections should be raised against it;

b) That this law is intended for the good of all citizens and that it is supported by the taxes of all citizens (pastors and other professional church workers are citizens and taxpayers) and that there are no valid reasons why they should be excluded from the benefits of this law intended for all;

c) That if the law is enacted, most of the pastors and teachers will automatically become eligible for Social Security benefits regardless of any action that Synod might take;

d) That it will be of distinct benefit to the retired pastors and professional church workers and their dependents because it would increase their possible income without an additional burden to the Pension Fund.

Those opposed to Federal Social Security benefits argue:

a) That the Church and its workers should not become the beneficiaries of a secular government;

b) That the advantages of the Federal Social Security benefits for pastors and professional church workers are outweighed by the disadvantages;

c) That the Federal Social Security benefits would "shackle our servants of the Church" and that "the pulpit and the schoolroom should always remain free to declare the truth";

d) That it is the duty of congregations to support their workers during the time of their service and that it is also their duty to care for them when they are no longer able to serve.

Your Committee has carefully weighed the arguments for and against this proposal and submits the following:

Since this is a question of practical wisdom and judgment affecting the temporal and material side of life about which conscientious Christians may differ; therefore be it

Resolved,

1) That Synod decline to take official action urging Congress to include ministers and other professional church workers in the Social Security benefits law;

2) That, if Congress enacts such a law and makes it possible for ministers and other church workers to benefit by the Federal Social Security program and unless this law be mandatory, it be left to the free and voluntary decision of the individual worker, congregation, District and synodical officials and other agencies, whether or not to participate in the Federal Social Security program, but that such action shall in no wise militate against the synodical Pension System or become a substitute for it;

3) That, in the event that individual workers, congregations, District and synodical officials and other agencies decide to participate in the Federal Social Security program and reduce their contributions to the Pension Fund accordingly, the Board of Support and Pensions shall be authorized to make the necessary adjustments and report to the next convention.

(Unprinted Memorial 30 was taken care of by this resolution.)

Use of Pension Fund for Church Extension

(Memorial 813)

The English District convention adopted the following memorial submitted by the Chicago Pastoral Conference:

"The Chicago English District Pastoral Conference hereby requests the English District to memorialize Synod to devise ways and means through which the reserve of the Pension Fund could be used for Church Extension purposes on the same terms as it is placed at the services of the world."

ENGLISH DISTRICT
REV. C. F. DANKWORTH, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 11 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 7

WHEREAS, There have been repeated requests from the Districts of Synod for the use of Pension Fund money for the purpose of Church Extension; and

WHEREAS, There is a difference of opinion regarding the legality investing Synod's Pension funds; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors seek the opinion of itional legal counsel, not connected with our Church, to demine the legality of loaning Pension Funds to our District rch Extension Funds; and be it further

Resolved, That all members of Synod having suggestions or ice with regard to this matter submit the same to the Board Directors of Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That if Pension Funds can be legally invested in the trict and/or the General Church Extension Fund, the Board of istees of Synod's Trust Funds be authorized to proceed with ch an investment.

Report on Synod's Retirement Plan for Lay Employees

(Memorial 814)

Synod's Retirement Plan for Lay Employees was authorized at the Chicago Convention in 1947 and became effective as of January 1, 1948. Copy of the Retirement Plan booklet containing the benefits of the Plan was sent to every agency of Synod.

The Lay Retirement Committee is composed of the following members:

Mr. Walter H. Schlueter, *ex officio* (Treasurer of Synod)
Mr. A. T. Leimbach, chairman
Mr. Charles E. Groerich, secretary
Mr. Wm. C. Krato, (Concordia Seminary)
Mr. Otto Seibel (Concordia Publishing House)
Mr. Milton Voertman (Concordia Publishing House)
Mr. Wm. A. Lahrmann (Concordia Publishing House)
Mr. O. A. Dorn, Advisory (Concordia Publishing House)
Mr. Theo. W. Eckhart, Advisory (Synod)
Mr. Donald B. Warren, Advisory (actuary)

Your Lay Retirement Committee met regularly since it was organized, and conducted all the necessary business of the committee.

Mr. Donald B. Warren of Nelson and Warren, Consulting Actuaries, assisted in the development and administration of the Plan. This firm rendered a complete and comprehensive report for the period ended December 31, 1949, which included a valuation balance sheet. A similar report as of December 31, 1952, is now in process.

As originally adopted, the Lay Retirement Plan provides retirement benefits for all qualifying employees of Synod and its agencies. The Plan is financed entirely by the employers. Synod and Concordia Publishing House made initial contributions of $150,000 toward the cost of founding prior service credits.

Retirement benefits payable to each participant who retires at the normal retirement age of 65 amount to a monthly retirement income for life equal to 1½% of the average monthly compensation during his period of creditable service, multiplied by the number of years of such creditable service up to thirty years. An employee with thirty years of credited service will receive a yearly pension of 45% of his average salary. Creditable service begins after attainment of age 35 and continues for thirty years to age 65 or up to age 70 if such creditable service is less than thirty years.

The Plan provides for no death or withdrawal benefits. Pension payments cease upon the death of the worker unless he elects to provide benefits out of his retirement income for a dependent before he retires. Normal retirement age is 65. Employees with less than 30 years of credited service may, however, continue employment to age 70 if they so desire and are able to perform the duties of their position. Thereafter, employment is on a year-to-year basis and without additional retirement credits accruing.

Synod's Retirement Plan for Lay Employees covers all full-time employees of Synod and its agencies, which, of course, include all colleges and Districts. All agencies are expected to pay into the Fund an amount equal to 6% of the gross salary paid to all full-time lay employees. There are no personal payments by the employees.

Employees for whom payments are to be made are all lay persons regularly employed in a position, the duties of which ordinarily require full-time employment during the year. Temporary, special, or probationary employees are not included.

Effective January 1, 1951, Social Security was extended to include religious employees. As a result the Plan was amended so that the contribution rate of 6% for the Lay Retirement Plan is reduced by amount of tax paid by each employer in connection with Federal Social Security. This rate is now 1½% of all individual salaries up to $3,600 per year. All lay employees of the Church are eligible under the Act, and only those employees of a church body are exempt who are duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of a church in the exercise of their ministry. The Plan was also amended so that benefit payments are reduced by one half of the primary social security benefits which a retiring employee is entitled to receive.

At present eight employees are receiving retirement benefits.

[illegible]o employees died after retirement. That makes a total of ten [illegible]o have retired and have received benefits under the Plan. The [illegible]al payments to the benficiaries under the Plan from the inception [illegible]e amount to $11,500.31.

Only one District is participating and making regular contributions in behalf of its employees, but it should be remembered that [illegible]y a few of our Districts have regular lay employees. All col[illegible]es with the exception of Oakland have made contributions in [illegible]half of their lay employees. However, several colleges are now [illegible] arrears. This situation is apparently due to an assumption that [illegible]e inclusion of employees under the amended Federal Social Se[illegible]rity Act obviated coverage under Synod's Plan. This is not the [illegible]se. The amendment of Synod's Plan recognizes coverage under [illegible]e Social Security Act. The effect is similar to many industrial [illegible]lans which supplement or are integrated with social security ben[illegible]efits. Our Committee discussed the matter at length. It felt that Synod's Plan as amended should prevail. However, in order to [illegible]esolve the matter in an orderly manner, our Committee decided [illegible]o petition the Board of Directors to memorialize Synod for a [illegible]change in the Plan so that certain agencies which do not wish to [illegible]participate may be excluded under prescribed conditions from participation in the Plan.

The investment of the retirement fund is under the supervision of Synod's Board of Trustees, who are charged with the responsibility of managing, investing, and re-investing all of Synod's Trust Funds.

The balance sheet of the Fund as of January 31, 1953, is as follows:

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash	$ 17,376.11	Lay Retirement Fund	$517,704.16
Investments	498,240.00		
Unamortized Premiums and Discounts	1,030.83		
Accrued Interest Receivable on Investments	1,057.22		
	$517,704.16		$517,704.16

A. T. LEIMBACH, *Chairman*
CHARLES E. GROERICH, *Secretary*

Resolutions Proposed by the Retirement Committee Under Synod's Retirement Plan for Lay Employees

(Memorial 815)

WHEREAS, Synod in 1947 authorized adoption of a Retirement Plan for Lay Employees, which Plan became effective as of January 1, 1948, for the benefit of qualifying employees of "Synod,

Concordia Publishing House, and other agencies of Synod as have corporate existence by authority of Synod"; and

WHEREAS, The Plan was amended as of January 1, 1951, so that retirement benefits are reduced by one half the amount of any primary insurance amount to which a retiring employee is entitled or would be entitled under the Old Age Insurance Benefits provisions of the Social Security Act and so that employer contributions into the Retirement Fund are reduced by the amount of any taxes incurred in connection with that Act; and

WHEREAS, Under the provisions of the Plan every employee who is eligible for participation is automatically entitled to the retirement benefits therein provided, irrespective of employer contributions into the Retirement Fund; and

WHEREAS, Certain agencies of Synod have made no contributions into the Retirement Fund and others, particularly some of the colleges and seminaries, have discontinued making such contributions on account of their employees' now being covered under the Federal Social Security Act; and

WHEREAS, The Retirement Committee appointed by Synod's Board of Directors is charged with the administration of the Plan and has no authority to accept any voluntary actions which are inconsistent with the terms and provisions of the Plan; be it therefore

Resolved by this convention of Synod assembled in Houston, Tex., on June 17—27, 1953, that any agency of Synod desiring not to participate in Synod's Retirement Plan for Lay Employees be privileged to file a formal resolution with the Board of Directors of Synod certified by the chairman and the secretary of the board or committee of authority to operate such agency, which certificate in addition to quoting the resolution adopted shall indicate the number of votes cast for and against such resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of Synod be empowered to exclude such agency from the Retirement Plan for Lay Employees with the understanding that such exclusions shall be permanent and binding upon any present and future persons employed by such agency; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of Synod shall determine the date as of which any such exclusion shall be effective and certify such action by filing a written report thereof with the Secretary of the Retirement Committee.

A. T. LEIMBACH, *Chairman*
CHARLES E. GROERICH, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 11 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 8

WHEREAS, The plan presented by the Lay Retirement Committee (*Reports and Memorials,* pages 509, 510) appears to be practical and reasonable; and

WHEREAS, A clarification of this question and a definite ruling by Synod in this matter is greatly desired; therefore be it

Resolved, That we adopt the resolutions of the Lay Retirement Committee.

"Keymen Insurance" for Those Who Travel for Synod

(Memorial 817)

We memorialize Synod to adopt a policy to carry what is known as keymen insurance for those who travel in the interest of Synod.

THE CONCORDIA CIRCUIT PASTORAL CONFERENCE
REV. R. J. DEYE, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 11 recommended and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 9

WHEREAS, This question requires more study than is possible here in convention; and

WHEREAS, Many details of information essential for reaching a decision are lacking; therefore be it

Resolved, That we refer Memorial 817 entitled " 'Keymen Insurance' for Those Who Travel for Synod" to the Board of Directors for further study and action.

Advance Scholarship Fund to Be Made Budgetary Item

(Memorial 818)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod now has an Advance Scholarship Fund to enable prospective professors — with capabilities, but lacking the necessary credits — to obtain such credits through further study; and

WHEREAS, Gifts of $250 to $500 are now solicited from the various Districts to finance this project; and

WHEREAS, This is not a District project, but one of Synod itself; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod make the Advance Scholarship Fund a budgetary item of Synod itself.

This memorial was authorized by the North Wisconsin District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod on June 26, 1952, at Clintonville, Wis.

THE NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT
RONALD W. GOETSCH, *Secretary*

The same proposal was made by the Michigan District (Memorial 819).

ACTION

Committee 11 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 10

WHEREAS, The convention on Thursday, June 18, adopted Resolution 9 of Committee 1 ("Today's Business," pages 31 and 32); and

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of Committee 11 that Memorials 818 and 819, assigned to it, deal with the same subject; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention declare Memorials 818 and 819 as disposed of by the action of the convention referred to above.

Grants for Lutheran High Schools

(Memorial 820)

WHEREAS, In our secularistic world Lutheran high schools have become increasingly necessary as a means of preserving our youth in faith through the doubts and temptations of adolescence, and of training them in Christian service; and

WHEREAS, Experience of our existing Lutheran high schools has shown how richly God has blessed such schools, their students, and our whole Church through them; and

WHEREAS, Communities exist in our Church which are exceedingly desirous of establishing a Lutheran high school for the training of their children, but which do not have the strength to undertake such a huge program without some measure of help; be it therefore

Resolved

1) that Synod set aside $1,000,000 of "Conquest for Christ" funds toward an active program of assistance to communities which desire to establish new Lutheran high schools;

2) that the standing offer be made to match from this fund all funds raised by Lutheran churches in any community for the purpose of establishing (not maintaining) a new Lutheran high school in their community;

3) that the matching funds be given by Synod for such purpose as an outright grant, not a loan;

4) that the Board for Parish Education be asked to study this matter and, in consultation with the principals of our existing Lutheran high schools, establish all other terms under which such grants shall be available, which terms shall be published throughout Synod;

5) that no single grant shall exceed $100,000, in order that a minimum of ten new high schools may be established with such aid;

6) that this offer shall stand for a period of twelve years, or until the funds have been completely disbursed.

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
M. J. HELLMERS, *President*
M. A. WEGENER, *Secretary*

Identical Memorials by:

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
JOHN E. LAU, *Secretary*

REDEEMER EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
JOHN BOTHMANN, *President*
WM. J. KINSLER, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 11 recommended and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 11

WHEREAS, One of the basic assumptions of Memorial 820 (that one million dollars of the "Conquest for Christ" funds is available for the purpose indicated) is hardly valid; and

WHEREAS, The past policy of Synod has been to leave the financing of nonsynodical schools to local congregations and organizations; and

WHEREAS, The principal financial problems of Lutheran high schools revolve not around the initial construction, but rather around the operation and maintenance of the plant and the educational program; and

WHEREAS, Financial support of the type suggested might easily lead to the formation of Lutheran high schools before reasonable certainty of adequate financial backing has been established; and

WHEREAS, Synod in offering to help in the initial construction might actually be rendering a disservice to a local group by encouraging the premature establishment of a high school; therefore be it

Resolved, That this memorial be declined.

Report of General Relief Board

(Memorial 821)

The General Relief Board, after its appointment by the Board of Directors, examined the instruction and directives given in the synodical *Handbook* and came to the conclusion that considerable attention had to be given to a study of the whole matter of physical relief as it concerns our Synod as a responsible Church in a distressed world. During the greater part of the three-year period the Board devoted much time to a careful analysis and evaluation of the problem in order that an efficient and effective program might be undertaken by this Board of Synod. During this time, however, the Board was not idle as far as actual relief work was concerned. In fact, it stepped up considerably the program of aid to suffering fellow men, though, it must be stated, this was still very limited when considered in the light of actual needs and of responsibility.

Meetings were held with various leaders of our Church, and with the Board of Social Welfare, in order that the program of relief to be executed by the Board might be one which would be feasible as well as adequate to the challenge and also commensurate with the ability of our Church and its members. The Board feels that much progress has been made in the development of a program of relief that will result in much good and blessing both for our Synod and for countless sufferers in the world.

Board Enlarged

Up until March of 1953 the Relief Board consisted of three members: Rev. Fred Wambsganss, Rev. Edwin A. Nerger, chairman, and Mr. Paul Wolf, treasurer. In March of 1953 the Board of Directors of Synod, with the concurrence of the Relief Board, enlarged the Board to a total membership of six, three pastors and three laymen. This action was taken because both the Board of Directors and the Relief Board felt that the needs in various parts of the world and the problems of peoples were such that immediate action was necessary. It was also felt that our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was one of the few Protestant church bodies in America which had no systematic relief program on a large scale and that this situation should be remedied. It was further agreed that the members of our Church have the direct responsibility to

feed the hungry, to visit the sick and those who are in prison, to give clothing to those who are naked. The Board of Directors with the assent of the General Relief Board appointed the Rev. E. T. Bernthal, Mr. A. T. Wilson, and Mr. William Fenske to the General Relief Board.

The Board of Directors of Synod also authorized the General Relief Board to procure such help as would be necessary to carry out this program. Pursuant to that authorization the Board obtained the services of Rev. Werner Kuntz of Detroit to serve on a temporary full-time basis to help get the program under way. It is the thinking of the Board to engage someone permanently as an administrative officer. To execute a program of relief such as our Synod should be engaged in requires at least one full-time director, and it is hoped this convention will give approval to such a recommendation.

Relief Administered

During the past three years the General Relief Board actively engaged in a number of larger relief projects and gave assistance to several pastors and teachers and their families.

Two Midwest floods received the attention of the General Relief Board.

The first devastating flood was the one that hit Kansas and Missouri in 1951. The General Relief Board made a grant of $35,000 to the Kansas District, which, together with the amount collected by the District, totaled over $62,000 available for relief to 115 families and six congregations.

The second disaster which received the attention of the General Relief Board was the flood in 1952 which hit the States of Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri. Help was offered to all the Districts along the flooded streams and their tributaries. The Board gave a grant of $5,000 to the Northern Nebraska District for flood relief in this disaster.

In addition to the above relief the following assistance was granted to workers and institutions:

Two congregations (one in the States, one in Brazil)	$ 2,300
Workers in India (to cover effects of inflation)	10,000
Refugees in West Berlin for relief	20,000
Two widows granted relief totaling	925
Four missionaries (for loss sustained returning home)	1,700
Three ministers given grants totaling	2,000
Handling charges for food packages to India	2,000
School for the blind in Kunming, China	130

Future Plans

The Board of Relief is looking forward to a very considerable increase in its activities and will approach the members of Synod regularly to assist in the program of relief which it hopes to carry

out in various areas of the world. The need is particularly great in western Germany and Berlin, in Hong Kong, in India, in Korea, and among the Arabs of Palestine. In this atomic age it is not possible to predict what other areas might become disaster areas to which we as Christian people will be called to give assistance. The Board hopes to effect a program that is so constituted and organized that it may upon short notice bring comfort and aid where needed, and to give effective Christian witness through such aid. The Board feels that it has a great challenge in that it must not only be ready to administer relief, but must also lead our great Church to see its divinely imposed responsibility and the importance and blessedness of helping the unfortunate, the poor and the needy. It shall dedicate its efforts to a greater extent to the realization and the attainment of these objectives. The Board of Relief would like to make the following recommendations to the convention with a request that they be adopted:

1

WHEREAS, The work of the General Relief Board, by authorization of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, as defined in the *Handbook,* is of a world-wide scope, being directed to the problems of people in this country and in foreign countries, be it therefore

Resolved, That the name of the said Board be changed to Board of World Relief, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

2

WHEREAS, The scope and nature of the General Relief Board is such that a larger number of members is required on the Board to formulate and direct the program; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors has recognized the need of a larger personnel on said Board by appointing three additional members; be it

Resolved, That the convention change the official *Handbook* to read: "The Board of World Relief shall consist of six members — three pastors and three laymen — who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. In consultation with the Board of World Relief, the Board of Directors shall fill any vacancy."

3

WHEREAS, The Relief Board has undertaken an enlarged, systematic, and international program of physical relief; and

WHEREAS, This program requires greater attention than the appointed members of the Board of Relief, who also have other duties, can give; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors has authorized the procure-

t of such help that might be necessary to execute the relief gram of our Synod adequately; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Board of Relief be empowered to procure necessary help to properly administer said program, in particular, to establish the office of Executive Director.

PAUL E. WOLF, JR.
A. T. WILSON
WM. FENSKE
REV. E. T. BERNTHAL
REV. FRED WAMBSGANSS
REV. EDWIN A. NERGER, *Chairman*

ACTION

Committee 13 recommended and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 10

I

WHEREAS, The work of the Board for Relief, by authorization of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, as defined in the *Handbook,* is of a world-wide scope, being directed to the problems of the people in this country and in foreign countries; be it therefore

Resolved, That the name of said Board be changed to Board for World Relief, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

II

WHEREAS, The scope and nature of said Board is such that a larger number of members is required on said Board to formulate and direct the program; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors has recognized the need of a larger personnel on said Board by appointing three additional members; be it therefore

Resolved, That the convention change the synodical *Handbook* to read: "The Board for World Relief, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, shall consist of seven members: three pastors and three laymen, who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, and the Executive Secretary of the Board of Social Welfare. The Board of Directors shall fill any vacancy."

III

WHEREAS, Said Board has undertaken an enlarged, systematic, and international program of physical relief; and

WHEREAS, This program requires greater attention than the appointed members of said Board, who also have other duties, can give; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors has authorized the procurement of such help as might be necessary to execute the relief program of our Synod adequately; be it therefore

Resolved, That said Board be empowered to procure the necessary help to properly administer said program, in particular, to establish the office of Executive Director.

Synod-wide Appeal for Relief

To this memorial the following Unprinted Memorial 39 was added by the Board for World Relief:

WHEREAS, The Board for World Relief has already begun in a modified way such projects as an ingathering of clothing and of food commodities and has prepared specific channels through which shipment is being made to, and distributed in, needy areas of the world; and

WHEREAS, In addition, generous sums of money are needed to process and ship clothing and to purchase needed food supplies and medicines; and

WHEREAS, An adequate and strong appeal for funds this spring would have conflicted with other projects of Synod and was therefore withheld; be it

Resolved, That the Board for World Relief be directed to carry out the instructions of the Board of Directors of Synod to make a Synod-wide appeal for money as soon as such an appeal can be effectively made; and be it furthermore

Resolved, That our congregations be encouraged to respond generously in behalf of suffering people throughout the world; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board for World Relief be given the privilege of making an annual appeal for funds, food commodities, clothing, and contributions in kind so long as the need in the world exists.

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 19

WHEREAS, The Board for World Relief has already begun in a modified way such projects as an ingathering of clothing and of food commodities and has prepared specific channels through which shipment is being made and distributed in needy areas of the world; and

WHEREAS, In addition, generous sums of money are needed to process and ship clothing and to purchase needed food supplies and medicines; and

WHEREAS, An adequate and forceful appeal for funds this spring ld have conflicted with other projects of Synod and was there- withheld; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for World Relief be directed to carry the instructions of the Board of Directors of Synod to make ynod-wide appeal for funds as soon as such an appeal can be ctively made; and be it further

Resolved, That our congregations be encouraged to respond erously in behalf of suffering people throughout the world; be it further

Resolved, That the Board for World Relief with the consent the Board of Directors be given the privilege of making an peal for funds, food commodities, clothing, and contributions in nd whenever need therefor exists.

IX. APPEAL MATTERS

Report of Board of Appeals

(Memorial 901)

The 1950 convention elected the following to serve on Synod's Board of Appeals: Rev. H. J. A. Bouman; Rev. Kurt Daib; Mr. L. J. Dierker; Mr. Oscar Doerr; Prof. Paul F. Koehneke; Mr. W. H. Kroeger; Mr. Martin Lobitz; Rev. Martin Mayer; Prof. A. J. Moeller; Prof. Erwin Schnedler; Mr. C. J. Thrun. Professor Koehneke served as chairman, Pastor Bouman as vice-chairman, and Professor Schnedler as secretary. Death summoned three members to the eternal home, namely, Mr. Lobitz, Pastor Daib, and Professor Moeller. The vacancies thus created were filled by Mr. Harry G. Barr, Rev. F. E. Schumann, and Rev. W. J. Stelling.

The Board was called upon to render an opinion in only one case, namely, an appeal of certain members of Bethany Congregation in Chicago from a decision of the English District. A hearing was held in Chicago, and the Board found that the appeal was substantially justified. At this writing a petition for a rehearing of the case is pending.

An appeal reached the Board from a member of the Northern Illinois District, but both this District and the Board of Appeals find that the appellant has no case as defined by the regulations governing Board of Appeals. Accordingly no action has been taken.

PAUL F. KOEHNEKE, *Chairman*
ERWIN SCHNEDLER, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *adopted* the following resolutions:

Resolution 1

COMMENDATION OF SYNOD'S BOARD OF APPEALS

WHEREAS, The hearing of appeals is a tedious and often a very unthankful responsibility; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Appeals has faithfully served Synod in this difficult capacity; therefore be it

Resolved, That we gratefully recognize this efficient and faithful service.

Resolution 20

WHEREAS, The establishment of the Board of Appeals has materially reduced the number of appeals that come to the floor of the Convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the members of the Board of

...ls for their efficient work and that we pray God for His ...ued blessings upon the labors of said Board.

...ommittee 19 submitted the following resolutions, which were ...d:

Resolution 2

...LISH DISTRICT APPEAL IN THE BETHANY, CHICAGO, CASE

...our Committee was asked to review the action of Synod's ...d of Appeals in the case of Bethany, Chicago, English District. ...ng the course of our deliberations the representatives of the ...lish District submitted the following statement:

"Having received satisfactory explanations from the synodical ...d of Appeals to the effect that its report on the Chicago ...hany case does not purport to establish the primary respon...lity for the recent trouble in said congregation and that its ...ommendation should not be considered to be of a mandatory ...ure, but rather a charitable suggestion for a practical solution ...he problem;

"Therefore the English District withdraws its appeal in ... case."

...We recommend that the decision of Synod's Board of Appeals ...upheld in this case.

Resolution 3

...The committee was also asked to pass on two petitions ad...essed to Synod. We find that:

...1. The case of William Meyer of Shobonier, Ill., should be ...ndled on the District level.

...2. The Owensville, Mo., case belongs on the administrative ...evel of Synod. The petitioner is directed to the *Praesidium* ... Synod.

X. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Report of the Board for Audio-Visual Education

(Memorial 1001)

The Board for Audio-Visual Education herewith submits its triennial report.

With sincere and humble gratitude we offer our praise and thanksgiving to God for the manifold blessings which, in His grace, He has bestowed on the activity and accomplishments of this Board.

The past triennium has been a period of productive activity.

Following the 1950 synodical convention, during which it was resolved (Resolution 12, in part) that "the Board of Directors assist the Board of Audio-Visual Aids in co-ordinating its duties in serving the Church and providing the necessary visual aids requested by Synod, its organizations, Districts, congregations, and individuals," a series of meetings was held in order to arrive at a workable basis of operation and eliminate unforeseen organizational difficulties which had arisen in the previous triennium.

The following operating formula, as suggested by the Board of Directors, was agreed upon:

The resolutions of Synod, as adopted in 1947, be carried out, with the changes and additions suggested in the following:

WHEREAS, The past years have demonstrated that a Department of Visual Education on the basis of sound business administration and policies of production and distribution can be a self-supporting project; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House is Synod's official and only agency for the production and distribution of marketable materials; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That all projects and transactions involving the physical production, buying, selling, rental, and distribution of visual-aid materials be made the responsibility of Concordia Publishing House in consultation with the Audio-Visual Education Board; and be it further

Resolved, That Concordia Publishing House be requested to make available to the Audio-Visual Education Board an annual budget allowance out of the proceeds of its audio-visual educational materials sufficient to permit it to carry out paragraphs four and five of its instructions from Synod, which planning and promotion shall be done in consultation with Concordia Publishing House.

Operating under this formula has proved highly satisfactory, with the result that the audio-visual education requirements of the

...h at large, the various boards and committees, and the indi... congregations are being effectively met.

The management of Concordia Publishing House is to be com...ded for its initiative and its forward-looking policies regarding ...otentials of audio-visual education. A complete Audio-Visual ...Service has been augmented at the Publishing House, and its ...wth and increasing services to The Lutheran Church—Missouri ...od are matters of record.

Very substantial capital investments have been made by Con...dia Publishing House in terms of new productions and general ...rating costs of the Audio-Visual Aids Service. Activities of the ...partment have been conducted in consultation with the Board ... Audio-Visual Education, as provided for in the operating ...mula.

Important strides forward have been made in many aspects of ...udio-Visual Education, and it is hoped that during the next tri...nium special attention and effort can be devoted to the area of ...oper utilization of Audio-Visual materials, in addition to main...ining and increasing the schedules of new productions.

We are thankful that the Board for Audio-Visual Education, ...nder the chairmanship of Professor C. T. Brandhorst, has been ...ble to carry on its work throughout the past triennium without ...ny change in membership from those elected at the 1950 synodical ...onvention.

Mr. Melvin F. Schlake, who served as Executive Secretary for the Board for Audio-Visual Education during the greater part of the past triennium, was given a leave of absence from May 1, 1952, through December 31, 1952, to serve in executive capacity with Lutheran Television Productions. Mr. Schlake's experience eminently qualified him for the work in conjunction with "This Is the Life." He was then asked to devote full time to the work of the Television Committee, and accordingly submitted his resignation as Executive Secretary of the Board for Audio-Visual Education, effective December 31, 1952.

Rev. Victor B. Growcock then assumed the duties of acting Executive Secretary, as of January 1, 1953.

The continued prayers of our Church are requested in behalf of the Board membership and its work.

Major activities have been as follows:

I. Film Rental Libraries
II. Motion Pictures
III. Filmstrips
IV. Servicing of Foreign Missions
V. Audio-Visual Equipment
VI. Wholesale Distribution
VII. 35mm. Theatrical Distribution

I. Film Rental Libraries

A. *St. Louis*

The film library in St. Louis continues to be the major film source at the disposal of our churches and schools. All new productions are carefully screened and evaluated before being considered for addition to the film rental library. At present, there are approximately 2,000 prints in our library, and it has been the privilege of the library to serve many congregations, schools, and organizations in all parts of the country. The St. Louis library has successfully distributed the motion pictures in conjunction with Synod-wide activities such as the "Conquest for Christ," the showing of the pilot prints for television, and the Bible Study Advance campaign. The steadily increasing volume in the film library has necessitated moving this particular operation to larger quarters in Concordia Publishing House.

B. *Twin Cities*

Resolution 10 of the 1950 synodical convention placed into the hands of the Board for Audio-Visual Education for study Memorials 1002 and 1003, which requested the establishing of an audio-visual branch office by Concordia Publishing House in the Twin Cities. We are happy to report that such a branch office has been set up at 275 N. Syndicate (Concordia College), St. Paul, Minn. This branch office has a full-time worker, Mr. Albert B. Koch, who is serving our churches and schools of the Minnesota District. A complete inventory of audio-visual materials and equipment is maintained in St. Paul as well as a film library.

C. *Buffalo*

In response to numerous requests a partial library has also been established in Buffalo, N. Y., in conjunction with the offices of the L. L. L. the Rev. E. E. Heuer has been handling this operation. At present only productions of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod are stocked in Buffalo for ready availability to our churches and schools.

D. *Canada*

Customs requirements have often led to difficulties for our Canadian pastors in readily securing motion pictures for rental. In order to alleviate this situation, prints of Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod productions have been deposited in Edmonton, Alta., Kitchener, Ont., and Frobisher, Sask. This has been a great convenience to our Canadian brethren.

E. *England*

It has become expedient to place on deposit in England a selection of synodical productions. The rental operation has been

led from the London office of the Lutheran Hour. The work in nd will be augmented in keeping with sound financial and bution policies.

outh America

The brethren of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Brazil have loned Concordia Publishing House to undertake audio-visual ity in that area. At present this situation is being studied, and opriate action will be taken.

II. Motion Pictures

The following have been produced or acquired during the past nium and are being successfully distributed:

1. Tammy (Witnessing for Christ)
2. Torn Between These Two (Selfishness)
3. All That I Have (Stewardship) *
4. Bringing Light (Africa)
5. Another Door Is Opened (New Guinea)
6. Shades of Darkness (Mexico)
7. The Unfailing Light (India)
8. Song of Ruth (Guatemala)
9. The Greatest Gift (Christmas)
10. The Flickering Flame (Disappointment)
11. Power of Prayer (Prayer)
12. The Shield of Faith (Temptation)
13. As For Me and My House (Marriage)
14. As the Twig Is Bent (Christian Training)
15. Beginning of the Rainbow (Christian Happiness)
16. Giving Thanks Always (Thanksgiving)
17. The Higher Pardon (Divine Forgiveness)
18. My Brother (Christian Answer to Race Prejudice)

B. The following are in various stages of preparation and production:

1. Family Worship
2. Documentary on Mexican and Latin American educational institutions
3. Documentary on Philippine Missions

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* "All That I Have" was given the principal 1952 Freedoms Foundation Award in the 16mm. Motion Picture Category. Dr. J. W. Behnken received the award, which was presented by Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, in a special ceremony at Valley Forge, Pa.

4. Documentary on Japan Missions
5. Documentary on Home Missions
6. Documentary on South American Missions
7. An inspirational film on the Sunday school
8. A training film for the Sunday school

Areas and themes for motion-picture production are constantly under survey in keeping with the needs of the Church. It has been the aim of the Board to increase the quality and audience appeal of each production.

C. *"This Is the Life'*

Under section 2A, ten motion pictures were included as new productions. In response to widespread demand for showings of episodes from the television series "This Is the Life," an arrangement was reached with Lutheran Television Productions by which ten of the first 26 episodes were reworked into proper form for general exhibition. Favorable trends can be seen in the distribution of this series of films. The financial aspects of this arrangement will augment the production and operational budgets of "This Is the Life."

The Audio-Visual Department has handled the distribution of the pilot prints for Lutheran Television Productions and also all shipments of films to the various television stations.

D. *"The Life of Martin Luther"*

In co-operation with the American Lutheran Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church, United Lutheran Church, and the National Lutheran Council, all of whom participated in the production costs, a full-length feature on the life of Martin Luther and a documentary film on Luther are being readied for release. Our Board was very active in this project; Mr. M. F. Schlake, then Executive Secretary of the Audio-Visual Board, was named Associate Executive Secretary of Lutheran Church Productions, Inc., the corporation which was jointly formed for this venture. We were represented by Mr. O. A. Dorn, the Rev. Karl Maier, Dr. L. Meyer, Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, and Mr. M. F. Schlake. The films were produced in Germany, for our American audiences, by Louis de Rouchemont Associates. At present the possibilities of theatrical distribution of the feature film are being explored, which may delay the release of the film for general church showings. The documentary film, however, will be released in 16mm. form for church showings as soon as possible. Hundreds of still pictures were taken during the Luther productions, and these will be incorporated into filmstrips as soon as possible.

III. Filmstrip Productions

Productions Completed

Bible Stories in full color

1. The Last Supper
2. Jesus in Gethsemane
3. Jesus Before Annas and Caiaphas
4. Christ Before Pilate
5. The Crucifixion and Burial of Jesus
6. The Wise Men
7. Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem
8. The Emmaus Disciples
9. The Prodigal Son
10. When Jesus Was Twelve
11. The Story of Pentecost
12. The Stilling of the Storm
13. The Woman of Samaria
14. Christmas Joys
15. The Feeding of the Five Thousand
16. The Wedding at Cana
17. The Man Sick of Palsy
18. Mary Anoints Jesus
19. The First Easter
20. The Ascension of Jesus
21. Peter Delivered From Prison
22. Emmanuel (Christmas)
23. He Is Risen (Easter)
24. Solomon, King of Israel
25. Naaman and the Little Maid
26. Three Men in the Fiery Furnace
27. Creation of the World
28. King Hezekiah
29. The Great Flood
30. Jacob and Esau
31. Joseph Sold into Egypt
32. The Fall of Man
33. The Call of Abraham

Luther's Catechism

With the co-operation of the Board for Parish Education, holding membership on the intersynodical Committee on Visualizing Luther's Catechism, the following filmstrips have been distributed:

1. Ten Commandments (10 black-and-white filmstrips)
2. Creation (color)

3. Redemption (2 b. & w. filmstrips)
4. Sanctification (3 b. & w. filmstrips)
5. Christian Prayer (b. & w.)
6. The Lord's Prayer (4 b. & w. filmstrips)
7. Holy Baptism (b. & w.)
8. The Lord's Supper (b. & w., ready September, 1953)

Additional Releases

1. Pushing Doorbells With a Purpose (b. & w.)
2. Pioneering in the Philippines (color)
3. Missions in Mexico (color)
4. Japan Has Open Doors (b. & w.)
5. Cross Over New Guinea (color)
6. Go and Grow (b. & w.)
7. Teaching the Bible to the Preschool Child (b. & w.)
8. Teaching the Bible to Children, Ages 6—11 (b. & w.)
9. Teaching the Bible to High School Youth (b. & w.)
10. Teaching the Bible to Adults (b. & w.)

B. *Productions in Process*

Arrangements have been made with a West Coast producer to secure the filmstrip rights to his series of 26 New Testament Bible Story Films.

These are presently being worked on, with an anticipated release in September, 1953.

In addition, an option has been secured on the same producer's projected productions of Old Testament films.

Additional areas of interest are at present under consideration for possible filmstrip production, in keeping with the needs of our Church.

IV. Servicing of Foreign Missions

Audio-Visual Aids are becoming of increasing importance to the brethren in the foreign fields, and the department has had the privilege of working closely with the various boards in order to supply the much needed equipment and materials.

As the Audio-Visual Board has studied the various needs, here again it worked in close collaboration with the respective boards in establishing policies for distribution which were practical and equitable.

V. Audio-Visual Equipment

The department continues to suggest the purchase of proper and adequate equipment on the part of our congregations. Inventories are maintained on recommended sound motion-picture equipment, slide-filmstrip projection equipment, recorders, accessories, etc.

Comparative tests of the many and varied types of equipment constantly being carried on by the department in order to advise local congregations in their purchase of equipment.

As numerous requests for identical equipment are received, efforts are made, through large quantity purchases, to pass substantial savings along to the local congregations. This plan has met with good response.

VI. Wholesale Distribution of Materials

Increasing production costs of motion pictures and filmstrips have necessitated the merchandising of our productions through outlets other than our own. This wholesale distribution of our audio-visual productions has become a world-wide operation, and we welcome the opportunity to make our audio-visual productions available to the general church market.

VII. 35mm. Theatrical Distribution

During the past triennium, "Reaching from Heaven," one of our feature films, has been made available to the conventional motion picture theatres.

Public acceptance of the picture has been excellent, and we are looking forward to increased activity in this phase of work.

The missionary potentials of this distribution far exceed the financial considerations, and only eternity will tell how the Word of God has been effectively preached through this type of distribution of "Reaching from Heaven."

First of all, all glory to God for the wonderful work He has permitted us to do.

We acknowledge with sincere gratitude the fine co-operation of all boards with which we have been privileged to work during the past triennium.

And we gratefully acknowledge the loyal support of all pastors, teachers, and members of Synod, without whose loyalty neither the achievements of the past nor the plans for the future could be possible.

THE BOARD FOR AUDIO-VISUAL EDUCATION
PROF. C. T. BRANDHORST, *Chairman*
THE REV. HERMAN BIELENBERG
MR. T. G. EGGERS
THE REV. KARL H. MAIER
MR. WALTER F. STEINBERG
MR. HENRY STOEPPELWERTH
PROF. ERNEST TIEMANN
MR. O. A. DORN, *Advisory Member*
THE REV. VICTOR B. GROWCOCK, *Executive Director*

ACTION

Concerning the various items in this report Committee 13 brought in the following resolutions, which were *adopted:*

Resolution 15

A

Following the 1950 synodical convention, during which it was resolved (Resolution 12, in part) that "the Board of Directors assist the Board of Audio-Visual Aids in co-ordinating its duties in serving the Church and providing the necessary visual aids requested by Synod, its organizations, Districts, congregations, and individuals," a series of meetings were held.

The following operating formula, as suggested by the Board of Directors, was agreed upon:

That the resolutions of Synod, as adopted in 1947, be carried out, with the changes and additions suggested in the following:

WHEREAS, The past years have demonstrated that a Department of Visual Education on the basis of sound business administration and policies of production and distribution can be a self-supporting project; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House is Synod's official and only agency for the production and distribution of marketable material; be it therefore

Resolved, That all projects and transactions involving the physical production, buying, selling, rental, and distribution of visual-aid materials be made the responsibility of Concordia Publishing House in consultation with the Audio-Visual Education Board; and be it further

Resolved, That Concordia Publishing House be requested to make available to the Audio-Visual Education Board an annual budget allowance out of the proceeds of its audio-visual educational materials sufficient to permit it to carry out paragraphs four and five of its instructions from Synod, which planning and promotion shall be done in consultation with Concordia Publishing House.

B

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors by resolution of the 1950 synodical convention (Resolution 12) has suggested an operating formula for the Board for Audio-Visual Education; and

WHEREAS, This operating formula has proved highly satisfactory; be it therefore

Resolved, That the synodical *Handbook* Sections 7:105 c and 107 be changed to conform to the resolutions of the Board of Directors as reported in *Reports and Memorials,* paragraph 14, pages 455 and 456.

C

WHEREAS, Operating under this formula has proved highly satisfactory, with the result that the audio-visual education requirements of the Church and its agencies are being effectively met; be it therefore

Resolved, That we commend the Board of Directors for giving this matter their prayerful consideration; and be it

Resolved, That the management of Concordia Publishing House be commended for its initiative and its forward-looking policies regarding the potentials of audio-visual education; and be it

Resolved, That we recognize the intelligent and well-directed efforts of the Audio-Visual Education Board for having produced and distributed materials of increasingly high standards; and be it finally

Resolved, That Synod, recognizing the effectiveness of mission work and Christian education by audio-visual aids, encourage the Audio-Visual Education Board to continue and expand its efforts in this important work.

Report of the Concordia Historical Institute

(Memorial 1002)

The most important single event for your Concordia Historical Institute during the triennium of 1950—53 was the erection of its own archives and museum building on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. This building, the first of its kind among Lutherans in America, was made initially possible through a $50,000 bequest by Louis H. Waltke. When plans for the building were presented to Synod's Board of Directors, they set aside $30,000 for the project. Since the Western District makes use of the Institute as its own historical depository, it contributed $5,000. The Institute collected a little over $7,000 from its membership in addition to the Polack memorial fund of $1,420.50, and a number of small memorials amounted to $450.00.

The new building comprises a museum room, a research room, administration offices, a vault, a workroom, and a large archives section, in which our valuable collection is housed.

The dedication of this beautiful, yet functional building took place in a service of thanks to God on November 16, 1952. The

service also marked the close of our observance of the 25th anniversary of the Institute.

The building program created renewed interest throughout Synod so that many valuable items have been added to our collection. One of the more significant accessions during the past triennium was a valuable collection of coins and medals related to the Lutheran Church. This collection was a gift of Mr. E. T. Schumm, Oak Park, Ill., who became interested in the work of the Institute through our exhibit at the Milwaukee Convention. We are happy to note that we are receiving important items from the libraries and personal effects of our leaders who have been called to their heavenly home. Thus we have received invaluable materials from the Polack, Graebner, Sommer, Dallmann, and Sieck families. In some instances, synodical and District committees which have been dissolved, have sent their records to the Institute. Among these was the Army-Navy Commission of World War I and the Board for European Missions, which transferred all of their records to our archives.

While not all the accessions can be headlined, we wish to remind the delegates that we are interested in receiving every item which in some way bears on the history of the Lutheran Church in America, on the various areas where the Church is active, or on particular congregations and individuals who have made contributions to the Church. Breaking this down, then, we are interested in receiving the following congregational materials: minutes; orders of services of ground breaking, cornerstone laying, dedication, installation, and anniversaries; histories of congregations, pictures of church and school buildings. May we remind pastors who have in their possession the minutes and records of congregations and conferences that are now defunct to transfer these documents to the Institute to safeguard against their eventual loss.

Now that adequate facilities have been made available and the staff has been increased, we will be in a position to offer even greater service to the Church. The work of the Institute is divided into three major areas: archives, library, and museum. Each area offers rich historical lore both to the specialist and to the casual visitor.

Because of its official position as the historical depository of Synod the Institute is ready at all times to assist in ascertaining historical facts and data, in tracing trends and developments, and in creating and stimulating interest in the background, history, and work of the Lutheran Church. By way of illustration we point to the book by Dr. Walter O. Forster, *Zion on the Mississippi,* which was recently published by Concordia Publishing House.

With our beautiful museum room, we are prepared to depict visually the growth of Synod from a small seedling into a large world-wide body. The Waltke Memorial Room serves as an excellent educational facility, where our Synod's mission program, concentrating in turn on the various fields, becomes meaningful and alive.

Congregations and pastors who wish to publish the history of their local church or community have found the Institute a real boon in their work. Factual information, both of a biographical and congregational nature, is available to the researcher either through our lending library by written request, or directly in our research room.

Students of our seminaries and colleges who are preparing theses and research papers have found in the Institute's collection materials otherwise unobtainable. Bibliographical and other references on Lutheranism in America will be cheerfully furnished to anyone working on such special studies.

Perhaps one of the greatest services the Institute renders is through its *Quarterly,* the only Lutheran periodical of its kind in America. Through its pages interesting and scholarly articles have been brought to the attention of a wide circle of readers. The *Quarterly* is now in its twenty-sixth volume and is being edited by Dr. Arthur C. Repp.

The Institute's usefulness to the Church is determined to a great extent by the financial means placed at its disposal. By the very nature of our interests our membership will always remain relatively small. In recent years Synod has assumed more financial responsibility in support of the work of the Institute and thus has made it possible for us to reach out into a wider area of service. We sincerely hope that some financial assistance will soon be found to make it possible to microfilm many of the precious manuscripts and periodicals now scattered among private collections, libraries, and congregations throughout the nation. In this way Concordia Historical Institute will become an even more important research center for American Lutheranism.

We wish to use this opportunity to express our appreciation to our curator, the Rev. August R. Suelflow, whose work has been so valuable that most of the services of the Institute revolve about his talents and personality. His understanding of history research will be invaluable in the new era to which the Institute is looking forward.

We, the Board of the Institute, expect to use the organization's

regular income, as in the past, in such manner as will serve the more immediate needs of the Institute. For the amounts necessary as a supplement to this income we hope to present our requirements to the Fiscal Conference next fall.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ARTHUR C. REPP, *President*
GEORGE DOLAK, *Secretary*
THEODORE W. ECKHART, *Treasurer*
J. A. WALTHER — J. M. RUNGE
O. A. DORN — ERWIN T. KOCH
EDGAR ELLERMANN — JAROSLAV J. PELIKAN

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 9

I

WHEREAS, The Concordia Historical Institute is the official historical depository of Synod; and

WHEREAS, It serves to remind the members of Synod of the manifold blessings of God showered upon their Church in the past; and

WHEREAS, Under God, the Institute was permitted to complete its beautiful and functional archives and museum building on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.; be it

Resolved, That we thank God for His many blessings of the past, especially for the gift of this much-needed building; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend the Board of Directors of the Concordia Historical Institute and its curator for their faithful service during the past triennium.

II

WHEREAS, The value of the Concordia Historical Institute to the Church grows in direct proportion to the amount and value of the historical materials deposited in the archives and museum building; be it

Resolved, To encourage all concerned to deposit the minutes and records of defunct congregations and pastoral and teachers' conferences with the Institute to safeguard them against eventual loss; and be it further

Resolved, To urge all agencies, commissions, and boards of Synod to deposit materials of historical value to the Church and the records of such agencies, boards, and commissions which are

longer needed by them in the archives of the Institute; and it further

Resolved, That all synodical schools and institutions be urged deposit copies of their printed historical materials in these hives; and be it further

Resolved, To encourage the Institute to enlarge its microfilm llection as finances permit; and be it further

Resolved, To encourage the members of Synod to become embers of the Institute and thereby subscribers to the *Concordia istorical Institute Quarterly;* and be it finally

Resolved, To encourage the Fiscal Conference of Synod to ve favorable consideration to the budget requirements of the stitute during the next triennium.

Report of Department of Public Relations

(Memorial 1003)

Purpose

The Department of Public Relations has one purpose: to identify our church body in the public mind with Jesus Christ.

Our Church has one message: the Gospel of forgiveness in Jesus Christ. It has one mission: to preach and teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Department of Public Relations has attempted to interpret the Missouri Synod to the public, both inside and outside the borders of our 34 Districts in North and South America, as the kind of Church which is devoted to the proclamation of the message of Christ and determined to carry out its mission for Christ.

Operation

Such portrayal of the Missouri Synod has required the dissemination of factual information about our Church. The department has maintained a scrupulous regard for truth in offering information and interpretive assistance to the agencies of communication and to other organs of community life, both nationally and locally. We can report that the seriousness of purpose exhibited by the department, and its diligence in carrying out the duties assigned by Synod, have helped to bring about a new understanding of our Church among both Christian and non-Christian groups.

In all its activities the department has enjoyed the fullest co-operation of synodical and District officials, of other departments of Synod, of ancillary organizations of Synod, and of the congregations of Synod.

Objectives

Specific objectives of the Department of Public Relations were outlined by Synod in a resolution of the Chicago Convention in 1947. The department was asked

1. To correlate the work of the then existing District press committees and otherwise provide for the dissemination of news through press and radio;

2. To present the Lutheran viewpoint on issues of the day;

3. To answer attacks on our Lutheran Church;

4. To keep abreast of legislative developments with a view to preserving our constitutional guarantees of the separation of Church and State, and to maintain contacts with the State Department in the interest of Synod's missionary and educational program.

These objectives have been developed by the department into a working program. The department will propose to this convention a redefinition of these objectives, in order that they may more accurately describe the program of the department after five years of actual operation.

Organization

After the Milwaukee Convention of 1950 the Board of Directors of Synod, in consultation with the President of Synod, reappointed all members of the Board for Public Relations which had organized the new department in 1948. They were the Rev. Adolf F. Meyer, Yonkers, N. Y., chairman; Dr. Albert G. Huegli, River Forest, Ill., secretary; the Rev. Manfred E. Reinke, La Porte, Ind.; the Rev. Herman W. Gockel, St. Louis, Mo.; Messrs. John W. Boehne, Jr., Washington, D. C., George Halter, Cleveland, Ohio, and Frederick Strodel, Chicago, Ill.

Executive Secretary for the Board and Director of Public Relations for Synod is Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffmann, who maintains residence in New York City.

Headquarters of the department are in New York, the hub of communications in the United States. An office for Government relations is maintained in Washington, D. C. The Information Service (News Bureau) is located in St. Louis.

The department, with the co-operation of Synod's Districts in the United States and Canada, has enlisted the services of 500 men and women who serve as District and local public relations representatives. These people give of their spare time to the development and maintenance of good public relations for Synod. They constitute an effective operating arm of Synod and form the backbone of Synod's public relations program. Largely because of their loyal co-operation, Synod's Department of Public Relations enjoys

enviable reputation among both the Protestant and Roman holic church bodies of our country.

Good relations have been established and developed by the artment with the nation's press. The department has been ouraged by increasing willingness on the part of the press to ort news on religion in general and on what the Missouri nod stands for, in particular.

The department has enjoyed the wholehearted co-operation the press associations, Religious News Service, the national eekly news magazines, daily and weekly newspapers, and the urch press. As a result, the work of our Church was presented rough the press in more positive fashion than in any other trien- ium of our Church's history.

Untoward incidents which occurred in several localities have een reported fairly, in most cases. In almost all instances local ublic relations representatives have been given the opportunity y the press to offer public correction of published misinformation.

The Information Service of the department, organized during this triennium under the direction of the Rev. Paul Schulze, has rendered invaluable service in building good press relations. Pastor Schulze came to the department directly from the seminary and has now accepted a call to a mission congregation in Seattle. It is planned to replace him with a layman trained in the field of journalism.

Radio and Television

The Lutheran Hour, sponsored by the Lutheran Laymen's League, has made a vital contribution to better understanding of our Synod during this triennium through its broadcasts at home and abroad. Our department has promoted the work of the Lutheran Hour wherever possible.

"This Is the Life," Synod's television program, has given Synod a great new avenue for making its testimony heard through the happy combination of sight and sound. This bold venture into a new medium, with its clear recognition of the possibilities and limitations of television, is a tribute to the passion for the Gospel which exists in our Synod. The Department of Public Relations has been active in the development of this program since its inception.

Various national television programs have been arranged and produced by the department in co-operation with television networks. They include nationally televised programs of the NBC network ("Frontiers of Faith") and the CBS network ("Lamp unto My Feet"). The production and presentation of local radio and television programs by local congregations has been encouraged by the department in co-operation with Synod's Radio and Television Committee.

Governmental Relations

The department conducts an information service in behalf of the Missouri Synod for Government agencies in Washington, D. C. It also offers information on Government operations, and serves as liaison with Government agencies, for departments and congregations of Synod. These services are so extensive in number and so varied in nature that it is impossible to describe them in this brief report.

The department maintains close watch upon legislation affecting the best interests of the Church. It played an important part in the withdrawal, during the last session of Congress, of legislation which would have created an American Embassy at the Vatican.

Miss Olinda M. Roettger serves as Washington secretary for the Department of Public Relations.

The Director of Public Relations is a member of a five-man National Advisory Committee to the Civil Defense Administration. In this capacity he helped to draw up plans for the Federal Government under which churches will be enabled to carry out their spiritual ministry in accordance with their own principles in the event of a civil disaster. As a result of the department's initiative in this field, Missouri Synod clergymen have been placed in charge of the program for participation of the churches in Civil Defense in several of the key cities of the country, including New York, Jersey City, and Spokane.

"Martin Luther" Film

The department was instrumental in working out arrangements with other Lutheran bodies for the co-operative production of the "Martin Luther" film, a project of such magnitude that it has not been attempted in over a generation. Lutheran Church Productions, Inc., was formed to produce and distribute the film. The Missouri Synod is represented by five members on the Board of Directors of this corporation: Dr. Lawrence Meyer, Mr. O. A. Dorn, the Rev. Karl Maier, Mr. Melvin Schlake (Associate Executive Secretary), and Dr. Oswald Hoffmann (secretary). Synod's Director of Public Relations helped to supervise preparation of the final script and actual filming in Western Germany during an arduous 80-day shooting schedule last summer.

Parish Public Relations

A manual on parish public relations is now under preparation for use by local congregations. The proposed manual will offer, in uncomplicated form, suggestions for the planning and execution of a program for good public relations in the local parish. The possibilities and problems likely to be encountered in planning such a program will be outlined in workable form.

Our Responsibility

The entire organization of Synod's Department of Public Relations has tried to encourage a sense of responsibility among the departments, Districts, congregations, and members of Synod for meeting other Lutheran bodies, other Christian bodies, and non-Christian groups to understand our Church. This feeling of responsibility is growing, particularly in certain areas.

Our Privilege

Our Church has received a great deal from God. We treasure the Gospel we have. We enjoy the gift of Christian love. All of this we are privileged to share with the people among whom we live, whether they belong to our Church or not.

Wherever a member of the Missouri Synod witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, either with a well-spoken word or a kindly act of love, he glorifies Christ. At the same time he is making the most important contribution to public understanding of our Church, for he thereby identifies the Church in the mind of others with what is really greatest and most important in its existence, our crucified and risen Savior Himself.

The development of this kind of good public relations for Synod is a settled policy of the Department of Public Relations. It encourages all members of Synod to share in the joy of speaking and acting for Christ in Synod's behalf.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
OSWALD C. J. HOFFMANN, D. D., *Executive Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 12 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 1

WHEREAS, Your Committee 12 has met with Dr. Adolph F. Meyer and Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffmann of the Department of Public Relations and reviewed in detail the report of the Department of Public Relations as given in Memorial 1003, pp. 528—532 of *Reports and Memorials;* and

WHEREAS, Your Committee is fully in sympathy with the purpose, objectives, and activity of the Public Relations Department, and particularly with its fundamental purpose of identifying our church body in the public mind with the Gospel of forgiveness in Jesus Christ; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage our congregations to recognize their public relations responsibilities to the local communities which they serve; and be it

Resolved, That we encourage our congregations to avail themselves of the help provided by this department through the District departments of public relations; and be it

Resolved, That we commend the District public relations organizations for their interest and co-operation; and be it finally

Resolved, That we commend our synodical Department of Public Relations for so ably conducting this important service of Synod.

Report of Synodical Radio and Television Committee

(Memorial 1004)
(Cf. Memorial 801, 17)

Your Committee during the last triennium has again sought to function in the interest of radio and television broadcasts carried on within the limits of our Synod by pastors and congregations. Various radio helps in the form of instruction in the principles of broadcasting, radio scripts, and recordings were made available for use by our pastors. A number of useful television materials were likewise offered free of charge to pastors who applied for them. The Committee again sponsored Lutheran Radio and Television Week, during which special emphasis was laid on the importance of radio and television in the promotion of Gospel broadcasting. This phase of the Radio and Television Committee's work could have been expanded beyond its present scope if greater financial resources had been available.

As a result of its observations and study of the radio and television situation in our Church, the Radio and Television Committee has the following recommendations to present to Synod.

1. The Synodical Radio and Television Committee as now constituted has been in existence since the 1935 delegate convention of Synod. Since then radio and television has assumed far greater proportions in our modern life than had been visualized during the early days of the Committee's existence. In view of this fact, the Radio and Television Committee is convinced that the work of the Synodical Radio and Television Committee ought to be reorganized so that all of our Church's agencies now active in the field of radio and television may be adequately represented on this Committee. Essential for this reorganization is the creation of the office of a full-time Synodical Radio and Television Director. The delegate convention of Synod in 1950 already authorized the creation of such a department headed by a full-time director, but the sums necessary for carrying out the resolution did not become available.

2. We further suggest that the new Synodical Radio and Television Committee be instructed to serve also as a radio and television co-ordinating council for the purpose of developing a co-ordinated program whereby all areas of work covered by the groups in which there is mutual concern and operation may be considered with a view to attaining voluntary co-operation and in an advisory capacity to assist in avoiding duplication of effort, to exchange ideas, to keep abreast with current trends in these fields, and to conduct such other related business as may profitably serve the interests of the Church to the glory of our Lord.

3. The Committee suggests that the allotment of synodical funds to the Radio and Television Committee be materially increased during the next triennium. The Committee has carefully reviewed the vast possibilities of the service which it may render our Church and believes that the sums suggested below will represent a good investment. In order to make effective operation possible for the Synodical Radio and Television Committee, which has no other source of income, we request Synod to allow from its budget for use by the Synodical Radio and Television Committee for 1954 the sum of $47,000; for 1955, $51,000; for 1956, $57,000. In these sums are included also the necessary funds for the office of a full-time Synodical Radio and Television Director.

THE SYNODICAL RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMITTEE
GEORGE V. SCHICK, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 16

A

WHEREAS, A review of the work of the Synodical Radio and Television Committee shows that it is rendering the cause of the Gospel a most necessary service on which the Lord has abundantly showered His blessing; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the Committee for its work and express to it our sincere gratitude.

B

REORGANIZATION OF THE SYNODICAL RADIO AND TV COMMITTEE AND CO-ORDINATION OF ALL RADIO AND TELEVISION WORK IN THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

A planned unified program promotes good order, good system, and good co-operation in the Church in *any* field of work. We therefore suggest the following:

WHEREAS, Several agencies of the Church have been serving in numerous ways over many years in the field of radio and recently in the field of television; and

WHEREAS, The work performed is varied and is supported in sundry ways, and it is desirable to co-ordinate these efforts for the mutual benefit and greater proficiency of effort; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Synodical Radio and Television Committee as constituted since the 1935 Delegate Synod (personnel of the Committee is identical with the personnel of the KFUO Radio Committee) be reorganized so that all agencies now in the field of radio and television be adequately represented, also those agencies which are not sponsored directly by Synod; and be it

Resolved, That the new Synodical Radio and Television Committee, appointed by the *Praesidium* and serving under the Board of Directors of Synod, carry out the work being done by Synod directly in these fields, namely, the work done hitherto by the present Synodical Radio and Television Committee, by Radio Station KFUO, by Lutheran Television Productions Committee, and by the Department of Public Relations; and be it

Resolved, That the new Synodical Radio and Television Committee also serve as a Co-ordinating Council for the following purposes:

1. To develop a co-ordinated program whereby all areas of work covered by the groups in which there is mutual concern and operation may be considered with a view to attaining voluntary co-operation;

2. To assist in an advisory capacity in avoiding duplication of effort;

3. To exchange ideas, keep abreast with current trends in these fields;

4. To conduct such other business as may profitably serve the interests of the Church, all to the glory of God.

C

RECOMMENDATION BY SYNOD'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGARDING REORGANIZATION AND CO-ORDINATION

WHEREAS, Synod's Board of Directors has given this important matter of reorganization of the Synodical Radio Committee and the co-ordination of all radio and television work in Synod careful consideration during the last triennium; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors, in its official report to Delegate Synod (p. 456, par. 17 b), recommends that ". . . the Board of Directors continue its work on co-ordination of radio and television activities and be empowered to take such steps as would foster the best interests of Synod to achieve such co-ordination"; therefore be it

Resolved, That we concur in its recommendation.

D

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors also recommends "that for the time being the Lutheran Television Production remain a committee appointed by the Board of Directors"; therefore be it

Resolved, That we adopt this recommendation.

E

WIDER USE AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARY OF RADIO AND TV HELPS AND MATERIALS

WHEREAS, The Synodical Radio and Television Committee has provided gratis a large variety of ready-to-use radio scripts of KFUO programs and other radio and television helps and materials for use over local stations everywhere; and

WHEREAS, Requests for this material have come not only from hundreds of our pastors in the United States and Canada, but also from our missionaries in Japan, India, Guatemala, and the Philippines, as well as from our chaplains and from non-Lutheran chaplains and also from other non-Lutheran individuals and groups; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage our pastors and laymen to make even wider use of these materials as opportunity presents itself; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage the Synodical Radio and Television Committee in its effort to build up this growing library of radio and television scripts and helps.

F

FUNDS FOR THE NEXT TRIENNIUM

WHEREAS, The Synodical Radio and Television Committee has carefully reviewed the vast possibilities of service which it may render our entire Church; and

WHEREAS, Larger sums than heretofore made available are necessary for the effective work of the Committee, which has no other source of income; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod allow the necessary funds from its budget for use by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Fiscal Conference.

G

FULL-TIME SYNODICAL RADIO AND TELEVISION DIRECTOR

WHEREAS, The Delegate Synod in 1950 already authorized the office of a full-time radio and television director; and

WHEREAS, The sums necessary for carrying out this resolution did not become available; and

WHEREAS, The need for a full-time synodical radio and television director remains; therefore be it

Resolved, That this resolution be carried out as soon as feasible, subject to the approval of the Fiscal Conference.

H

THANKS TO THE NETWORKS AND INDIVIDUAL STATIONS

WHEREAS, Many radio and television stations have made it possible to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to more people, in some cases by granting free air time; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express our gratitude to the National Broadcasting Company, the Columbia Broadcasting System, the American Broadcasting Company, the Du Mont Television Network, and to the hundreds of local radio and television stations throughout the country for the time on the air given our Synod as such and many of its pastors and congregations as a public service.

I

THANKS TO FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission granted our Station KFUO a channel for television; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express our appreciation to the Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D. C., for its interest in the use of radio and television for religious purposes.

Regarding Unprinted Memorial 67 Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 33

WHEREAS, The TV Bible School in San Antonio, Tex., has proved its great value as a television-teaching program; and

WHEREAS, The great expenditure of time necessary to prepare and produce such a program five days each week makes it a matter of poor stewardship to try to produce such programs only locally in other areas; and

WHEREAS, The tremendous response from the public, from old and young alike, and the favorable response of the TV industry seems to show that this type of program should be used on a Synod-wide basis; and

WHEREAS, Time does not suffice the remaining days of this convention to give this important matter the attention it deserves; therefore be it

Resolved, To commend this program and recommend it to the Synodical Radio and Television Committee and/or The Lutheran Television Productions Committee with power to act; and be it further

Resolved, To commend Mount Calvary Lutheran Congregation, its pastor, the Texas District, the television station, and all others who took part in inaugurating and supporting this program.

Report of the Lutheran Television Productions Committee

(Memorial 1005)

The entire history of the Lutheran Television Productions Committee and of the television program "This Is the Life" falls within the period of the current triennium. After the conclusion of World War II, television came into being as an important part of the American scene. By 1950, 105 television stations were in operation in 63 regions in the United States, and the growth of the television industry was so rapid that the Federal Communications Commission inaugurated the "freeze." This, then, afforded an opportunity during which those interested in the growth, application, and utilization of television within the United States could consolidate their position. After the Milwaukee Convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod it became increasingly apparent that television, a twentieth-century miracle, would constitute a marvelous new medium for the proclamation of the Savior's Gospel throughout this country.

In a meeting at the close of 1950 the synodical Board of Directors created a committee known as the Board of Directors Television Advisory Committee, to study the entire television picture and the possibilities that it might hold for The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. This committee held its first meeting on January 4, 1951, at Concordia Theological Seminary, under the chairmanship of Dean Leonard C. Wuerffel. During the first months of 1951 the Committee met regularly and investigated all possible avenues of approach. On March 3 and 4, 1951, a larger meeting was called at the Palmer House in Chicago, to which some forty representative leaders from within and beyond our Church were invited to study all phases of the television question. In its meeting of May 18, 1951, the Board of Directors Television Advisory Committee made the following recommendations to the synodical Board of Directors:

1. We believe that an effective television program for our Church is a definite possibility. We believe that this medium lends itself well for the promulgation of general Kingdom purposes.

2. We believe that the purpose of any television program, sponsored by our Church, must be to propagate the Christian message.

Our purpose must be the same as that indicated by the slogan "Bringing Christ to the Nations."

3. We believe that our projected television program should be cast into a distinctive framework, allowing for variety of technique, with special emphasis on dramatic presentations, both fictional and documentary, both Biblical and contemporary.

By "distinctive framework" we mean an opening and an ending which would label the program and make it readily recognizable to our audience. It may be that this framework may be so cast as to include our distinctive Gospel appeal.

4. We recommend that our Church use film for the preparation of these programs (1) because of the present situation in the television industry, which makes it impossible for any network to deliver a sizable number of stations; (2) because film programs can be used for later distribution and continue to produce additional revenue.

5. We suggest that our Church proceed with the production of a minimum of 26 films, each for a 30-minute television program.

Pursuant to these recommendations, the synodical Board of Directors thereupon appointed the Lutheran Television Productions Committee. The organization meeting of the Television Committee took place on June 28, 1951, at Concordia Seminary. The dramatic program format was agreed upon, and plans were laid to answer the many questions that would inevitably be associated with so far-reaching a program.

The Television Committee met at regular intervals, laying plans for the telecasts of "This Is the Life." The services of the Rev. Herman W. Gockel were secured as Religious Adviser in the fall of 1951; and in the spring of 1952 Mr. Melvin Schlake joined the organization in the capacity of Executive Secretary.

Two pilot films were prepared in the fall of 1951 for a special showing in January of 1952. On Tuesday, September 9, 1952, the television series "This Is the Life" was formally inaugurated over the television lanes of America. The DuMont stations in New York, Washington, and Philadelphia were the first to carry the programs on Sunday, September 14.

The Financing of the Program

The fiscal year of the Lutheran Television Productions Committee coincides with the fiscal year of Synod.

The costs for the first fiscal year of operation, from September 1, 1952, to January 31, 1953, were covered by a special grant of the synodical Board of Directors in the amount of $750,000, made from the "Conquest for Christ" fund. The actual expenses during this period amounted to $756,979.88. $50,000 of this amount was

urned to the "Conquest for Christ" fund through income received from the pilot-film showings.

The funds for the second fiscal year of operation, extending om February 1, 1953, to January 31, 1954, are to be provided in e following way: The Fiscal Conference of September, 1952, llocated a total of $400,000. This amount is to be supplemented ith an additional total of $300,000, to be secured from sources like e following: The sale and distribution of prints; the income from lm rentals; direct fund solicitation.

Our Present Status

The blessing of the Lord of the Church has rested upon the activities of your Lutheran Television Productions Committee in overflowing measure. Begun as a venture of faith, the program has gained a tremendous amount of public acceptance.

From the viewpoint of *distribution,* "This Is the Life" is currently carried by 81 stations. After having carried the series during the fall of 1952 and the spring of 1953, virtually all of these transmitters are reshowing the first 26 films during the summer of 1953, until the time when they will begin to carry the new, or second, series of 26 films. It should be specifically pointed out that all of the time is granted free of charge by the television stations, on a sustaining basis. The value of the time thus represents an annual cost of $1,275,000.

The *scheduling* of the programs represents a very complex operation. The prints are "bicycled" from station to station so as to secure maximum use of a limited number of prints. Three *special programs,* one for Thanksgiving, 1952, another for Christmas, 1952, and a third for Easter, 1953, were prepared. The Christmas and Easter films employed the format of Biblical drama.

The *mail response* has been most gratifying. As of this writing, 140,000 pieces of mail have reached television headquarters in the Lutheran Building, requesting copies of the eighty-four-page booklet *This Is the Life.*

In a special project called *"Telemission,"* your Committee has arranged for a thorough and systematic follow-up plan. This is conducted through the synodical Board for Home Missions, within the framework of the District Mission Directors. Every name received at television headquarters is thus visited by the nearest pastor, with a view toward bringing him into closer touch with the congregations of our Synod.

Close touch is maintained with the television stations through a monitor system, conducted through the co-operation of the Church's Department of Public Relations.

Negotiations are being conducted for overseas introduction of the telecast in Great Britain, Canada, and Hawaii.

The audience measurement surveys have kept us in close touch with the size of the television audience. Our average pulse rating is 10.5, indicating a weekly total of 1,743,893 homes, or a total of 6,975,572 viewers a week.

Breakdown of audience figures are available at this writing only in tentative and incomplete form. An analysis of 6,704 contacts reveals the following statistical breakdown:

Total number of people reported as unchurched — 8%.

Total number reported as members of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod — 28%.

Total number reported as members of some other Lutheran Church — 6%.

Total number reported as members of other denominations — 57%.

Not found, moved away, incorrect address — 1%.

Your Committee is currently investigating the possibilities of releasing a *radio adaptation* of the television program "This Is the Life." Investigations to date indicate some very interesting possibilities.

The following stations are currently carrying "This Is the Life":

"This Is the Life," Lutheran TV Productions, Station Schedule

City	Station	Day	Time
Albuquerque	KOB-TV	Monday	6:00 P. M.
Amarillo	KGNC-TV	Sunday	3:00 P. M.
Ames	WOI-TV	Sunday	2:30 P. M.
Atlanta	WAGA-TV	Sunday	10:30 A. M.
Atlantic City	WFPG-TV	Sunday	11:05 P. M.
Austin	KTBC-TV	Saturday	6:00 P. M.
Baltimore	WAAM-TV	Sunday	3:00 P. M.
Binghamton	WNBF-TV	Sunday	3:00 P. M.
Birmingham	WAFM-TV	Sunday	11:30 A. M.
Bloomington	WTTV	Sunday	3:00 P. M.
Boston	WNAC-TV	Friday	5:00 P. M.
Brownsville	XELD-TV	Sunday	11:00 A. M.
Buffalo	WBEN-TV	Sunday *	5:00 P. M.
Charlotte	WBTV	Sunday *	10:30 A. M.
Chicago	WGN-TV	Sunday	11:30 A. M.
Cincinnati	WCPO-TV	Saturday	7:30 P. M.
Cleveland	WXEL-TV	Sunday	10:30 P. M.
Columbus	WBNS-TV	Wednesday	8:00 P. M.
Dallas	WFAA-TV	Sunday	10:00 A. M.
Davenport	WOC-TV	Sunday	10:30 P. M.
Dayton	WHIO-TV	Sunday	11:15 A. M.
Denver	KBTV	Saturday	5:30 P. M.
Detroit	WJBK-TV	Sunday	1:30 P. M.
Erie	WICU-TV	Sunday	1:30 P. M.
		Friday	10:00 A. M.

City	Station	Day	Time
Grand Rapids	WOOD-TV	Sunday	2:00 P. M.
Greensboro	WFMY-TV	Saturday	3:00 P. M.
Houston	KPRC-TV	Saturday	Float
		Sunday	11:00 A. M.
Huntington	WSAZ-TV	Sunday	12:30 P. M.
Indianapolis	WFBM-TV	Sunday	9:30 A. M.
Jacksonville	WMBR-TV	Sunday	12:00 Noon
Johnstown	WJAC-TV	Sunday	11:30 A. M.
Kalamazoo	WKZO-TV	Sunday	12:00 Noon
Kansas City	WDAF-TV	Sunday	9:30 A. M.
Lancaster	WGAL-TV	Saturday	11:30 A. M.
Lansing	WJIM-TV	Friday	2:00 P. M.
Lawton	KSWO-TV	Monday	7:30 P. M.
Los Angeles	KNBH-TV	Sunday	2:30 P. M.
Louisville	WAVE-TV	Sunday	10:30 A. M.
		Thursday	1:00 P. M.
Lubbock	KDUB-TV	Sunday	6:00 P. M.
Memphis	WMCT-TV	Sunday	10:45 A. M.
Miami	WTVJ	Sunday	11:00 A. M.
Milwaukee	WTMJ-TV	Sunday	9:00 A. M.
Minneapolis	WCCO-TV	Sunday	10:00 A. M.
Mobile	WKAB-TV	Sunday	8:30 P. M.
Nashville	WSM-TV	Sunday	11:15 A. M.
New Britain	WKNB-TV	Sunday	6:30 P. M.
New Haven	WNHC-TV	Sunday	11:45 P. M.
New Orleans	WDSU-TV	Sunday	10:30 A. M.
New York	WABC-TV	Sunday	9:30 P. M.
Norfolk	WTAR-TV	Sunday	1:00 P. M.
Oklahoma City	WKY-TV	Sunday	10:30 A. M.
Omaha	WOW-TV	Sunday	1:00 P. M.
Peoria	WEEK-TV	Sunday	4:00 P. M.
Philadelphia	WFIL-TV	Monday	8:30 P. M.
	WPTZ-TV	Sunday	11:45 P. M.
Phoenix	KPHO-TV	Sunday	11:30 A. M.
Portland	KPTV	Sunday	12:00 Noon
Providence	WJAR-TV	Sunday	10:30 A. M.
Pueblo	KDZA-TV	Sunday	5:00 P. M.
Reading	WHUM-TV	Sunday	3:30 P. M.
Roanoke	WROV-TV	Wednesday	9:00 P. M.
Rochester	WHAM-TV	Saturday	1:30 P. M.
Rock Island	WHBF-TV	Wednesday	5:15 P. M.
St. Louis	KSD-TV	Sunday	9:30 A. M.
Salt Lake City	KSL-TV	Sunday	11:45 A. M.
		Sunday	10:45 P. M.
San Antonio	KEYL-TV	Sunday	1:30 P. M.
San Francisco	KGO-TV	Sunday	6:00 P. M.
Schenectady	WRGB-TV	Sunday	11:15 A. M.
Seattle	KING-TV	Sunday	11:30 A. M.
Spokane	KXLY-TV	Sunday	6:00 P. M.
Syracuse	WHEN-TV	Sunday	1:00 P. M.
Toledo	WSPD-TV	Sunday	11:00 A. M.
Tulsa	KOTV	Sunday	10:00 A. M.
Utica	WKTV	Sunday	1:00 P. M.
		Wednesday	2:30 P. M.
Washington, D. C.	WMAL-TV	Sunday	9:30 P. M.
Wilkes-Barre	WBRE-TV	Sunday	2:00 P. M.
Wilmington	WDEL-TV	Saturday	6:30 P. M.
York	WSBA-TV	Sunday	9:30 P. M.
Youngstown	WKBN-TV	Sunday	1:30 P. M.

* Every other week

Conclusion

Your Committee joins in giving thanks to almighty God for His outstanding and overflowing benediction on the work of your Lutheran Television Productions Committee. At this writing, television looms even more importantly on the national scene, now that the television "freeze" has been lifted. A total of 157 outlets is operating in the United States, of which 49 are post-freeze stations, 29 VHF and 20 UHF. The total TV authorizations in the United States now stand at 447, including the 108 outlets operating before the "freeze." Post-freeze grants now total 339 — 114 VHF and 225 UHF. The Federal Communications Commission has before it 550 further applications, which are to be acted upon within a year. Thus, with a potential of nearly a thousand television outlets throughout the country within the immediately foreseeable future; with a current count of 21,500,000 television receivers within the country, and a rapid rise due to follow as new areas are open for television, it appears certain that the twentieth-century miracle of television has an even greater potential than appeared possible two brief years ago, when your Lutheran Television Productions Committee came into being.

All glory to God alone!

LUTHERAN TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS COMMITTEE
E. R. BERTERMANN, PH. D., *Chairman*
O. A. DORN, *Treasurer*
EWALD C. GUTZ, *Secretary*
H. HARMS, D. D.
CLARENCE AMLING
PAUL FRIEDRICH
OSCAR P. BRAUER
JOHN A. FLEISCHLI
RICHARD E. MEIER
M. F. SCHLAKE, *Executive Secretary*
H. W. GOCKEL, *Religious Advisor*

ACTION

Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 5

WHEREAS, History has been made, since the 26th Delegate Synod at Milwaukee, by the television program "This Is the Life"; and

WHEREAS, Countless of unchurched people have been reached with a Christ-centered message, produced by the Lutheran Television Productions Committee, each week since its first showing on television, September, 1952; and

WHEREAS, The future of this new mission field of Television is fruitful in winning souls for Christ and adding new members to our Church; therefore be it

Resolved, That we give thanks to Almighty God for His blessing on this new venture and that we gratefully remember all those who had anything to do with its planning and production as well as those who made it financially possible. ("Conquest for Christ" — Courageous action by the Board of Directors.)

Congregations to Support the Lutheran Hour

(Memorial 1006)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Hour, Bringing Christ to the Nations, has, through our heavenly Father's mercy, for twenty seasons proclaimed the saving Gospel throughout the world, in keeping with the Savior's great missionary command to "go . . . into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature"; and

WHEREAS, The visible benediction of our heavenly Father has rested on this radio mission so that it now broadcasts in fifty-six languages over approximately 1,100 stations located in a total of fifty-eight countries; and

WHEREAS, Such broadcasts have rendered substantial service to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod by making it widely and favorably known as a Christ-exalting, Scripture-founded denomination; and

WHEREAS, This tremendous program of broadcasting, involving approximately one and a third million dollars a year, has been carried on without any expense to Synod's treasury; and

WHEREAS, Present-day conditions make the solicitation of funds increasingly difficult; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Lutheran Laymen's League petition The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to urge all of our congregations to support the Lutheran Hour regularly and enthusiastically, so that the blessed work of preaching the Gospel by means of the radio may continue to grow and flourish to the salvation of precious souls, the upbuilding of the Savior's kingdom, and the proclamation of His Gospel throughout the world.

LUTHERAN HOUR OPERATING COMMITTEE
LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

ACTION

Concerning the Lutheran Hour, Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 6

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Hour, "Bringing Christ to the Nations," has, through our heavenly Father's mercy, for twenty seasons proclaimed the saving Gospel throughout the world in keeping with the Savior's great missionary command to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature"; and

WHEREAS, The visible benediction of our heavenly Father has rested on this radio mission so that it now broadcasts in fifty-six languages over approximately 1,100 stations located in a total of 58 countries; and

WHEREAS, Such broadcasts have rendered substantial service to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod by making it widely and favorably known as a Christ-exalting, Scripture-founded denomination; and

WHEREAS, This tremendous program of broadcasting, involving approximately one and a third million dollars a year, has been carried on without any expense to Synod's treasury; and

WHEREAS, Present-day conditions make the solicitation of funds increasingly difficult; be it therefore

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod urge all our congregations to support the Lutheran Hour regularly and enthusiastically so that the blessed work of preaching the Gospel by means of the radio may continue to grow and flourish to the salvation of precious souls, the upbuilding of the Savior's kingdom, and the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world.

Report on Station KFUO

(Memorial 1007)

Radio Station KFUO, on the campus of Concordia Seminary, in the metropolitan area of St. Louis, in the second year of the triennium which the 1953 convention of Synod ushers in, will round out, D. v., three decades of broadcasting the saving Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. God's blessing has visibly rested on this undertaking, which had its beginning in a primitive studio in the attic of the old Concordia Seminary in the days when radio was still in the cat-whisker and earphone stage. Today Station KFUO calls a stately modern building with up-to-date broadcasting facilities its home, the value of which is estimated in the neighborhood of a half million dollars.

The station operates on both AM and FM during the day and on FM after sundown. In harmony with the regulations of the FCC the broadcast of KFUO must represent a public service and therefore include news, forum programs, music, and other non-religious programs, but nevertheless much time remains available

religious programs, which are the chief purpose of KFUO's istence and for which the most favorable hours of the day are erved. The clergy of St. Louis and within a wide radius beyond ve again during the last triennium loyally and liberally conibuted of their time and talent toward the religious programs KFUO in order to dispense comfort to the sick and sorrowing nd to sound the call to repentance for those who have not yet ound the Savior. Pilgrim Lutheran Church, St. Louis, now has ad its two Sunday morning services and other programs on the air or almost 25 consecutive years. Through the week, while the chool is in session, the morning devotions of Concordia Seminary re a popular feature of the station's daily program. In recent months the morning devotions of Lutheran High School have also been broadcast. The station is still functioning as the originating station for the Lutheran Hour. Through these and other programs KFUO has brought God's Word to a large audience and acquainted them with the Scriptural teachings of the Lutheran Church.

The Board of Control of Concordia Seminary is responsible for the administration of the radio station. However, it has appointed a special KFUO Radio Committee, on which the Board is represented, to have charge of the station's affairs. This consists at present of the following men: Dr. J. H. C. Fritz, chairman; Mr. Robert Niedner, vice-chairman; Mr. Paul Weeke, treasurer; Dr. G. V. Schick, secretary; Mr. Theo. E. Heinicke, Mr. Charles S. Lottmann, the Rev. E. L. Roschke, Mr. Wm. Pfaff, Mr. J. Pfitzer, Dean L. C. Wuerffel, Mr. Norman E. Heitner, Mr. Ferdinand Bopp, Mr. Wm. Mansfield, Rev. John Oppliger, *ex officio,* and Station Director H. H. Hohenstein, *ex officio.* This same committee functions also as Synodical Radio and Television Committee.

The most pressing problem which the station faces is financial. Through the gradual expansion of its services, and particularly because of the all-around increase in costs, the annual budget of KFUO is now approximately $160,000. Of this amount Synod has contributed $8,000 in 1952. The remainder came from congregations, Districts, societies, and individuals who had the cause of the station at heart. In spite of its many friends KFUO finds it more and more difficult to keep out of the red in its operations and has found it necessary to draw heavily on a modest reserve that had been set aside for emergencies. The Radio Committee has earnestly studied the problem and has come to the conclusion that one of three procedures will have to be adopted to meet the station's financial crisis: (1) Synod will either have to allot a larger appropriation to KFUO or underwrite its deficit at the end of the fiscal year; (2) Synod will have to take over the station and assume all responsibility for the cost of its operation; (3) the station will

have to become a commercial enterprise and seek to finance itself from the income which paid advertisements will provide.

The Radio Committee pleads with Synod to give these matters most careful attention and to express itself on the best solution of the problem how to make the station financially secure.

In concluding this part of our report we respectfully suggest that Synod express its thanks to all who have so generously supported KFUO with their funds and to all who have served on its programs and encourage them to continue their support also in the future.

Another problem which has confronted Station KFUO was brought to the fore by the tremendous progress made by television. It seems certain that in densely populated areas like St. Louis the new invention will in a large measure crowd out radio as we have known it in the past. In order to be prepared for any emergency, the KFUO Radio Committee, with the full knowledge and consent of Synod's Board of Directors, made an application for a TV channel, which has now been granted by the FCC. It is hardly necessary to add that if KFUO introduces TV into its programs, it can hope to finance itself only by becoming a commercial station. This change, however, involves many problems which will require further careful study before a final conclusion can be reached.

THE RADIO COMMITTEE OF STATION KFUO
GEORGE V. SCHICK, *Secretary*

ACTION

The following two resolutions were submitted by Committee 13 and *adopted:*

Resolution 7

WHEREAS, Radio Station KFUO has for three decades been broadcasting the saving Gospel in a striking and successful manner through its daily broadcasts and through Pilgrim Lutheran Church for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, This Station is still functioning as the originating station for the Lutheran Hour; and

WHEREAS, Radio Station KFUO has for some time been laboring under considerable financial difficulty; therefore be it

Resolved, To commend the personnel of Station KFUO for its faithful and tireless labors in carrying out the original purpose of the Station in proclaiming the Gospel in its truth and purity to the people of the world, and the Board of Directors for its interest in this worthy cause; and be it furthermore

Resolved, That Synod encourage the Fiscal Conference to support Station KFUO liberally.

Resolution 8

WHEREAS, KFUO has received a TV grant from the Federal Communications Commission as a result of an application which was filed with the consent of Synod's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, KFUO-TV will render daily service to a potential audience of 2,000,000; and

WHEREAS, KFUO-TV will render daily service to the entire Synod in the following manner:

a) Serve as a laboratory or experimentation to find the most effective religious program formats;

b) Film or duplicate select KFUO-TV programs and offer them to our pastors, missionaries, and chaplains for use over TV stations everywhere;

c) Prepare select scripts of TV programs and offer them to our pastors, missionaries, and chaplains for use over TV stations everywhere;

d) Feed live programs to TV networks with KFUO-TV as producer and originating station;

e) Serve as a TV school for the students of our Seminary; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors has before it a resolution of the KFUO Radio Committee and of the Board of Control of Concordia Seminary requesting permission to accept the TV grant on a commercial basis; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors is at present making a thorough study of the situation; be it therefore

Resolved, That we commend the Board of Directors for giving this important matter serious and prayerful consideration, and that we encourage it, if it sees fit after further deliberations, to accept and activate the grant on a commercial basis.

Report of the Family Worship Hour, Inc.

(Memorial 1008)

The Family Worship Hour, a fifteen-minute radio program of quiet meditation, music, and prayers, has been blessed abundantly by our heavenly Father. At the present writing the program is heard on over one hundred stations in the United States and Canada and is used in twelve Veterans Hospitals throughout the country.

The program is produced at the National Broadcasting Company's Chicago studios and is sent to radio stations on both transcription disks and tapes. All of the production and mailing expenses are covered by the budget of the Family Worship Hour, and the program is given to the radio stations entirely without charge. The speakers used on these programs are drawn from

various parts of the country and are selected with a view toward a quiet, meditative presentation of the eternal truths of God. The music is supplied by small groups from the Lutheran Choir of Chicago. Both speakers and musicians give their time entirely without remuneration.

Since there is no direct appeal for funds on the program, it is obvious that our financial structure must grow slowly. Contributions have been received from many individuals, congregations, and societies, for which we are indeed grateful. The Rev. Paul C. Barth has been active in bringing this project to the attention of local pastors and congregations. During 1952 the over-all income of the Family Worship Hour was approximately $21,000 from contributions. Naturally, this does not cover the complete cost of producing the program.

The cost of production of the Family Worship Hour has been pared to a minimum, and by the use of tape a series of six fifteen-minute programs can be made for approximately $300. This means that each fifteen minutes of air time costs the Family Worship Hour approximately $50. For this amount of money the Gospel of our Lord is heard in hundreds of thousands of homes throughout the week.

Certainly we must all agree that this is a worthy cause. We pray God's continued benediction on the Family Worship Hour so that many listeners will be brought to the knowledge of their Savior through this medium.

GERHARD P. SCHROTH, *Executive Secretary*

Appended Report of the Family Worship Hour

In 1950 the originators and founders of the Family Worship Hour presented the cause of this latest radio effort to the Synodical Convention. The underlying reason for entering upon this effort was the moral decay, dishonesty, fraud, youth delinquency, divorce, and immorality, which is threatening the very existence of our nation.

As children of God we know that there is but one remedy to stem the tide, to halt the destruction, the utter wreck and ruin of the nation, only one way to salvage the nation and to escape the wrath of God, and this one way is that we return to God. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." As the nation, so the State; and as the cities and communities, so the homes. If the homes had but preserved their integrity, if Christ had ever been the unseen Guest within the homes, the growing boys and girls, and the nation, too, would be spared and enjoy favor with God.

To rehabilitate the homes, a number of laymen and pastors hit upon the idea to go on the air with family devotions. But why

her radio broadcast? Why this duplication of effort and expenditure of money? Being convinced that a family worship hour they visualized and outlined it was not just another radio broadcast or a duplication of effort, these men ventured out and established the Family Worship Hour. It was to be the same old Gospel, but it would be entirely different. It was to be an anonymous program. Their own names were not to be mentioned. They would not seek vain glory. The names of none of the speakers, of the choirs, or choir directors, not even of the broadcast were to reveal the church affiliation of the speakers. All was to be anonymous. The Family Worship Hour was entirely different also because broadcasting stations were to be requested for free radio time. When these men had first recordings made for broadcasting, they courageously went to the broadcasting station and requested them to give the time free of charge. Promptly they were told that an anonymous program featuring no sponsor or speaker could not hope to attract and hold a radio audience, since experience taught that radio audiences were built about the speakers.

Nevertheless the group succeeded in securing free radio time. Today more than 100 broadcasting stations carry 15 minutes of daily devotions, of meditations, and prayer and song. Twelve Veterans Hospitals also carry these devotions every day. It might be interesting to read comments received. Writes the editor and executive secretary of the Board of Education of a large conference of another denomination: "The most significant Christian worship program to be found — comes at 6:15 A. M. over KVOO and is entitled 'The Family Worship Hour.' Listeners to religious broadcasts who have grown weary of religious cant will welcome a program free of it and one that is Christ-centered."

Radio time is free. The only cost to be met is for the production of transcriptions or wire recordings and the cost of the shipment to and from the radio stations. There is no direct appeal for funds on the program. Contributions have been received from many individuals, congregations, and societies. As yet the Family Worship Hour is not fully on a self-sustaining basis. As the Lord will provide the necessary funds, this program could be extended to many more broadcasting stations. May it please the Lord to grant further success to this humble undertaking.

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 2

WHEREAS, The Family Worship Hour has since its beginning brought Christ into the homes of thousands of families who are yet without Christ; and

WHEREAS, Many souls have been won for Christ and His kingdom through this 15-minute program; and

WHEREAS, Pastors and choirs give freely of their time and service so that these programs can be prepared; therefore be it

Resolved, That we highly commend all those connected with the Family Worship Hour for their efforts; and be it further

Resolved, That all congregations be encouraged to give it wholehearted financial support.

Report of the Department of Social Welfare

(Memorial 1009)

The Department of Social Welfare was created by resolution of the 26th Delegate Synod, assembled at Milwaukee, Wis., June 21 to 30, 1950.

Pursuant to the directive given in this resolution, the Honorable President of Synod, Dr. J. W. Behnken, appointed the following to serve as the Board of Social Welfare: Dr. C. A. Behnke, Chairman, Rev. E. B. Glabe, Rev. A. H. Bringewatt, Rev. Martin Ilse, Jr., Mr. Louis Schwanke.

Dr. C. A. Behnke resigned as chairman and member of the Board in 1952, and Prof. Edw. J. Mahnke was appointed by the Board, and approved by the President, to serve in his place.

The work of the Department was organized on November 1, 1951, when the Rev. Henry F. Wind, D. D., Executive Secretary of the Lutheran Service Society of New York, was appointed Executive Secretary of the Department on a part-time basis. He is serving in this capacity at the present time.

A temporary office for the Department was set up in Buffalo, N. Y., and the business of the Department has been transacted from this office until the present time.

Under the guidance and blessing of our gracious Lord, the Department has engaged in the following activities:

1. Lutheran Service to Refugees

First in point of time as well as in importance was the service to refugees organized by the Department. The plight of ten million refugees in western Germany and Austria, almost half of them of the Lutheran confession, could not be ignored without doing violence to our conscience and our sense of love and duty. The action taken was on an emergency level because of the scarcity of time remaining under the Displaced Persons Act. Informative material and the request for assurances were sent to all congregations of Synod during the closing week of 1951; and to insure

speedy action, the Board of Social Welfare temporarily appointed the Rev. Werner Kuntz, Executive Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare of the Michigan District, as full-time director of the project. With the consent of the officials of the Michigan District, Pastor Kuntz took office on January 1, 1952. He left for Europe on February 1, 1952, and spent approximately three months in Hamburg working at the task of selecting families to match the assurances given by our people. He was assisted in this work by Mr. Alvin Knorr and Mrs. Gertrude Droege of Detroit, who served on a voluntary basis.

We are happy to say that one appeal to the congregations of Synod produced 530 separate assurances. But although the response was so gratifying, it is noted that these 530 assurances originated in less than 5 per cent of the congregations of Synod.

With the assistance of the United States Displaced Persons Commission, Pastor Kuntz established offices at Camp Wentdorf, near Hamburg, where selections were made, on the basis of records made by the Commission, of predocumented Lutheran refugee families. The families were called in for interviews, matched as accurately as possible to the requirements of a specific assurance, oriented with respect to a job, housing, church and community life, and assisted in the processing procedure. Many substitutions had to be made for families who were rejected eventually by examining medical authorities. Sponsoring congregations were notified of the details of our assignments as soon as families received a visa from the consul. Reception and pier service at New York were rendered in our behalf by the staff of the National Lutheran Council at a cost of $5.38 per person. This service included the purchasing of railroad tickets and informing the sponsoring congregation by wire of the exact time of arrival. We are grateful to the National Lutheran Council for this service so excellently rendered. We could scarcely have organized such reception services of our own in so short a time, though women workers from our New York churches rendered efficient volunteer services.

Our refugee families, of German Lutheran background, came from various countries behind the Iron Curtain, chiefly Poland, Romania, and the former states along the Baltic Sea. They fled before the onrushing Red armies in the late months before the Hitler defeat. They abandoned their homes and possessions rather than face the enslavement and brutality for which the Soviet forces are known. Many, especially those of older age, failed to survive the ordeals of the flight. Those who did spilled like floodwaters over the borders of western Germany and sought shelter in camps or elsewhere. German relief funds were inadequate to provide for anything save only the barest necessities of life.

Families chosen out of this tremendous number, upon their free agreement, were assigned to each of our 530 assurances.

The legislation under which we were operating allowed visas for 54,744 people, which had to be issued before June, 1952. However, the number of visas allowed was exhausted by April 22. 271 of our assigned families had not as yet received their visas by that date, though many had completed processing and awaited only the signature of the consul. None of these were able to emigrate. This tragic disappointment could have been averted had we been able to start our work at an earlier date. Many of these families continue to write to us, pleading that we find some sponsor for them under the regular immigration quota. However, 259 family groups succeeded in obtaining visas and arrived in our country during April, May, and June of 1952.

These 259 families were assigned to sponsors in 32 States. Specific jobs were waiting or were soon obtained for those who could accept employment. While there was a great emphasis on farming, people were placed in thirty different job categories.

The problem of adjustment to a new environment was bound to be a very real one to the individual family and in some cases called for heroic attitudes and great fortitude. In spite of this, the large majority of these families succeeded beyond their expectations in adjusting to this new environment, and only very few experienced serious difficulty.

The Board of Directors of Synod had appropriated the sum of $30,600 for this work. However, by March 1, 1953, only $16,943.87 of this sum had been used. It is estimated that, in the final analysis, it will have cost us less than $18.00 per person to resettle these people. This is approximately one quarter of the per-capita amount spent by other agencies operating in the same field.

Pastor Kuntz was released by the Board as of March 1, 1953, but continues to serve on a voluntary basis until all adjustments will have been made and the program brought to a successful conclusion.

In spite of all that has been done, the refugee problem in Germany and Austria is as great today as it was some three years ago, because of the constant influx of escapees from behind the Iron Curtain. Though Germany is somewhat better equipped to deal with this situation today than it was several years ago, the problem continues on such a gigantic scale that western Germany cannot find an effective answer for it. The number of refugees still remaining in Germany is estimated at ten million, of whom a very considerable portion are Lutherans.

Considerable effort was made by interested organizations and

iduals in the spring of 1952 to secure legislation which would w additional numbers of refugees to come to this country. gress did pass the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act, but Act contains no provision for the admittance of refugees outof the quota system. Several new bills, pointed at the reception additional refugees, have been introduced in the present Conss. Should enabling legislation be passed, it is our hope that Synod will be ready with the will and the means to respond ergetically to the new Samaritan call and to reactivate its misn of mercy. To this end the Department of Social Welfare is w preparing tentative plans which can and should be put into eration as soon as enabling legislation is passed.

2. Clinical Training in Pastoral Care

Training in Pastoral Care is not a new endeavor. We have always taught Pastoral Care in our seminaries, and the result has been, under the blessing of God, a ministry which, in the fullest sense of the term, merits the appellation "pastoral."

In the course of the last quarter century, however, a new movement in ministerial education named "Clinical Pastoral Training" has appeared. This movement postulates that if the pastor is to minister effectively to people, he must know not only theology, but people as well, and that he can gain such knowledge of people only by actually working with them. The knowledge of people and their psychological reaction to given approaches is particularly valuable in dealing with the mentally and physically ill, the imprisoned and other institutionalized people. Therefore this training in "interpersonal relationships" is given in a clinical setting, a hospital, prison, or other institution. Actual visiting and consultation with patients under the supervision of a trained chaplain is combined with studies in psychology, psychiatry, hospital administration, medical practice and terminology, and other related subjects. Thus the student is better able to preach and to teach the Word of God to people who are often difficult to reach and who, by reason of infirmities of many kinds, present unusual resistance to the Gospel.

The idea of Clinical Training in Pastoral Care originated with a chaplain in a mental hospital more than a quarter of a century ago. It was then picked up by other chaplains, and the first organization to promote clinical training for pastors, called "Council for Clinical Training," came into being. Some time later another group of chaplains formed the "Institute for Pastoral Care." These two organizations have conducted courses in a number of hospitals for two decades, and many theological students and pastors, among

them also a number of our own men, have been benefited by these courses.

The conviction that all institutional chaplains, in order to discharge their duties efficiently, should have such training, gradually gained ground. The Federal Prison system was the first to require that all chaplains in Federal prisons have clinical training and be accredited as chaplains by the Council for Clinical Training. When chaplaincies were established in State mental hospitals by various States, this requirement was also written into the regulations governing the appointment of these chaplains. Many private hospitals followed suit, and so today there are large areas in which pastors without clinical training simply cannot secure appointments as chaplains in institutions. More and more hospitals are adopting the requirement of clinical training for their chaplains, and in the foreseeable future very few of our pastors will be eligible for chaplaincies in institutions unless they have enjoyed the benefits of such training.

Neither the Council for Clinical Training nor the Institute for Pastoral Care are Lutheran in their orientation. While they have rendered, and will continue to render, valuable service, they are not adequate nor satisfactory to meet our needs.

It is obvious that we must establish our own system of clinical training for our pastors if we wish to continue the great work our Church is doing through its city missionaries and institutional chaplains.

It should also be noted that Clinical Training in Pastoral Care is valuable not only to professional chaplains in institutions, but to every pastor. This training is simply an intensification of the instruction in practical theology which we have given and are giving our pastors at our seminaries.

Recognizing the need for Lutheran training centers, representatives of the Department of Social Welfare and Associated Lutheran Charities, in company with delegations from other Lutheran groups, approached the General Convention of Clinical Training Interests in Boston in the fall of 1951 with the request that a committee be appointed to work out standards of instruction for all clinical training interests so that a uniform accreditation of training centers could be established. A committee of twelve members was elected, three of whom were representatives of our Department of Social Welfare and Associated Lutheran Charities. The standards prepared by this committee were then adopted in the Third National Conference for Clinical Training, held at Bound Brook, N. J., in the fall of 1952. These standards are now being submitted to various centers and schools at which clinical training is offered, and probe acceptance of the proposed code will be reported at this year's tional convention.

In the meantime efforts have been made to set up a program clinical training at Concordia Seminary and in co-operation th the St. Louis City Mission. Professor Mahnke has been offerg classroom instruction in the techniques of pastoral counseling, oth on the undergraduate and the graduate level, to all students, nd has been supervising the program of clinical training in the t. Louis City Mission. These efforts, however, are only the feeble eginning of a program which must be intensified and expanded o meet the high standards of training which will be adopted by ll the various training centers which desire to have their students ccredited as professional hospital chaplains. The Department, in co-operation with Concordia Seminary, has been instrumental in the preparation of plans for the enlarging of our efforts at our seminaries.

These plans envision opportunities for the training of theological students as well as pastors who desire to improve their skills in pastoral care. We hope soon to make real progress by setting up several training centers staffed with accredited supervisor chaplains and by persuading our seminaries to offer more classroom instruction in these subjects. This will insure a continuance of the extensive and blessed work in institutional missions in which over 80 pastors are engaged as full-time chaplains and some 600 pastors are giving part-time service.

3. Surveys and Studies

The Department of Social Welfare offers its services to synodical Districts, mission boards, institutional mission societies and agencies, and institutions of charity in making surveys or studies of existing needs and opportunities for doing institutional mission and welfare work in any given area. The Department is also offering to render aid to institutions and agencies which wish to improve or enlarge the services they are rendering our people. This service evidently has filled a very real need, since the Executive Secretary, aided by a score of part-time consultants, has been busily engaged responding to such requests.

The following synodical Districts requested a study of needs and opportunities for institutional mission or welfare work in their respective areas:

Southern California, Florida-Georgia, Northwest, California and Nevada, Central Illinois.

The following agencies and institutions requested, and have received, studies and evaluations of their work and suggestions for expansion and improvement:

The Lutheran Home-Finding Society of Iowa, the Lutheran Children's Home Society of Nebraska, the Lutheran Action Council of Washington, D. C., the Boys Ranch Association of Fargo, N. Dak., the Lutheran Orphans' Home and the Lutheran Children's Friend Society of Missouri, the Redwood Boys Ranch Association of Napa, Calif., the Society of the Evangelical Lutheran Church for Works of Mercy, in Boston, Mass.

Many other agencies and institutions requested and received consultation service, relating to the various phases of their work, by mail.

It is believed that, under the blessing of God, these activities were instrumental in advancing the cause of institutional mission work and Christian charity in many areas. In making their recommendations, workers for the Department, however, by no means always advocated the setting up of new agencies and the expansion of the work of existing agencies, even in cases in which local promoters of these causes seemed strongly inclined to favor such expansion of their work. Certain criteria were always applied in such cases, as: Is there a real need for the projected work? Is it possible to establish the work according to the highest standards in that field of endeavor? Can our people afford to engage in the projected activity without curtailing other projects of the Church? etc. We feel, therefore, that the Department has rendered the Church a real service, even in those cases in which it advised against the expansion of existing services and the setting up of new services.

The Department is planning for the future extended studies covering the whole scope of our welfare and institutional missions activities. An over-all picture of our work in these areas is urgently needed. Beyond the gathering of bare statistics little has been done to gain a clear understanding of the scope and quality of our work. The Department hopes presently to be able to give an answer to many questions concerning this work which must now remain unanswered. We hope also that these studies may materially aid in establishing higher standards of performance in all our charitable agencies.

4. Institutes and Seminars for Workers

Since its establishment the Department has co-operated wholeheartedly with other agencies within Synod in planning and conducting meetings, institutes, and seminars for workers. It has participated in the Regional Meetings of Associated Lutheran Charities as well as in its National Convention. It took part in the Social Work Institute in Valparaiso University, and the Human

tions Institute conducted by the same school. The Executive retary and members of the Board as well as a number of consants represented the Department at pastoral conferences and various meetings conducted by voluntary agencies and departnts of Synod.

Outside of our circles, the Department, through the Executive retary, participated in the activities of the White House Conence for Children and Youth, the National Social Welfare sembly, the National Conference of Social Work, and other gencies. In the meetings of these organizations it was possible, or the first time, to give expression to the principles and to explain e practices of our Church. We are happy to say that our testiony was always received in a kindly spirit and was much ppreciated.

Other associations in which the Department, through the Executive Secretary, holds membership are: the American Prison Association, the Conference on American Citizenship, Community Chests and Councils, the Council of Lutheran Agencies, and others. There are many other agencies, both voluntary and governmental, in which we must still seek membership, both to improve the quality of our own work by learning of others and to contribute our ideas and motivations for the common good.

The Department is also planning institutes and seminars of its own for various types of workers. Committees have already been set up to arrange extensive workshops for institutional chaplains and for Lutheran social workers. We hope by this means to establish a well-rounded in-service training program for all our workers.

5. Convention of the Lutheran World Federation

The present chairman of the Board of Social Welfare and the Executive Secretary attended the meeting of the Lutheran World Federation in Hanover, Germany. In addition to the general sessions they attended the sessions of Section Three, in which inner mission work and charitable endeavors were discussed. Although they had neither voice nor vote in these sessions, they profited greatly by the experience, and we believe this gain will be reflected in the work of the Department in the coming years.

After the conclusion of the meetings of the Lutheran World Federation, our representatives, upon the invitation and under the auspices of the Association for Inner Missions of Bavaria, inspected the institutions and agencies of the Lutheran Church of Bavaria. An intensive study of the methods and techniques employed in this work produced much information which will be of benefit to us in our missionary and charitable work. On the other hand, our

representatives were able to contribute much to the German effort by many discussions of our own methods and practices. The members of the Board of Social Welfare are very grateful for this opportunity to learn and to be of service.

6. Recruitment and Training of Social Workers and Chaplains

One of the great difficulties which confront us in the promoting of the work of our agencies of mercy is the lack of adequately trained and well-qualified social workers. The standards of performance in most of our agencies have risen rapidly under the impetus of generally rising standards in social work and of State and Federal laws regulating social work agencies. Production of Lutheran workers has not kept step with the rising tide of demand for qualified workers, and many of our agencies either must curtail their work of mercy or perform it with a staff of non-Lutheran workers. There is a very real need for the recruitment of young Lutherans for this field of service and of aiding them by the awarding of scholarships both on the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Wheat Ridge Foundation and a number of local agencies of our Church have pioneered in this area, and the Board of Social Welfare hopes that within the near future it may engage actively in the recruitment of workers by setting up scholarship grants for students to aid them in obtaining the necessary training. These workers must still be trained in secular and non-Lutheran schools, and the Department hopes eventually to be instrumental in the task of establishing a Lutheran School of Social Work in one of our own institutions.

With reference to institutional chaplains, as we already pointed out, there is also a dearth of men adequately trained to meet the requirements established by hospitals and other institutions. Many pastors desire to obtain the necessary clinical training in pastoral care to qualify them for chaplaincies, but they are unable to defray the cost of such training. The Board of Social Welfare has therefore included the sum of $1,500 in its budget for 1953, which is to be used for the granting of subsidies to chaplains who desire to obtain clinical training in pastoral care. The Board is now giving consideration to the setting up of the machinery for the administration of this fund.

7. Participation in the Work of Other Synodical Agencies

In accordance with the directives given to the Board of Social Welfare, the Department is to be the general correlating agency for the Church in all welfare projects. Since the Department is thereby also directed to participate in the work of relief, the Executive Secretary was appointed a member of the Board of Relief by the Board of Directors of Synod. The Board of Social

fare also maintains close contact with the Family Life Committee, the Committee for a Research Project on Psychology and Religion, the National Council of Lutheran Agencies, various committees and agencies of Synod, and others. It is hoped that through participation in the work of these boards and committees greater unity of purpose and better correlation of efforts will result.

8. Public and Private Welfare Agencies

In common with many citizens, particularly with members of the Christian Church, members of the Board of Social Welfare have viewed with concern the rapid rise and development of public welfare agencies. While conceding their necessity and the worthwhileness of their efforts, we believe that public or tax-supported agencies must never supplant agencies of mercy established by the Church, nor usurp their functions. To permit our agencies of mercy to die would be to rob our Church of its most effective testimony, the testimony of "faith that worketh by love," and to deny our members the opportunity to "do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

The Board of Social Welfare is therefore planning an intensive study of the whole problem of the relationship between public and private welfare agencies, in the hope of eventually recommending appropriate action to safeguard the work of our agencies of mercy.

9. The Office of Executive Secretary

The chairman of the Board of Social Welfare, the Rev. E. B. Glabe, has authorized the following announcement:

"We are happy to announce that the Rev. Henry F. Wind, D. D., for the past 34 years Executive Secretary of the Lutheran Service Society of New York and President of Associated Lutheran Charities, who has served the Board as part-time executive on a temporary basis without compensation since November 1, 1951, has now accepted the appointment as full-time Executive Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare, with an office in the Lutheran Building in St. Louis. He will enter upon his new duties as soon as satisfactory arrangements can be made for his removal to St. Louis.

"Now that the Department is fully staffed, we hope and believe that we will be enabled to fulfill our assigned tasks with renewed energy and zeal, to the glory of our Lord and the welfare of His children."

H. F. WIND, *Executive Secretary*
BOARD OF SOCIAL WELFARE

ACTION

Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 1

WHEREAS, The Department of Social Welfare, created by resolution of the 26th Delegate Synod, assembled at Milwaukee, Wis., June 21 to 30, 1950, was organized on November 1, 1951, when the Board of Social Welfare, appointed by the Honorable President of Synod, Dr. J. W. Behnken, pursuant to the directive given in this resolution, in turn appointed the Rev. Henry F. Wind, D. D., Executive Secretary of the Department on a part-time basis; and

WHEREAS, The Rev. Dr. Henry F. Wind is about to devote his full time to this Department; and

WHEREAS, This Department has already demonstrated its competence and value in the work of Christian charity; therefore be it

Resolved, That we invoke God's continued blessing on this Department, its Board, and Executive Secretary.

Maintaining and Operating But One Welfare Department

(Unprinted Memorial 66)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has established a Department of Social Welfare; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has charged this Department with the responsibility of co-ordinating, developing, and promoting services of all types, including general relief locally, nationally, and internationally, among agencies and organizations operated by, or affiliated with, said Synod; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Social Welfare, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, has an able and competent executive to act on these responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, It is logical and in the interest of efficient, economical, and good stewardship to group these responsibilities under the administrative organization of one department; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of one board and staff provides for the possibility of the greatest continuity and flexibility in adjusting to existing problems as well as to changing and new problems through adjustments in staff assignments and the co-ordination of competent and qualified volunteers without the overhead of duplicating administrations for specialized functions; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Associated Lutheran Charities of the Synodical Conference, duly assembled on this, the 20th day of May, 1953, in the city of Chicago, respectfully urge The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to maintain and operate but one board and welfare department in said Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That the secretary of the Associated Lutheran Charities be instructed to convey this resolution in writing to appropriate individuals and committees at the Houston convention of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in June of 1953.

THE ASSOCIATED LUTHERAN CHARITIES
WITHIN THE SYNODICAL CONFERENCE
A. H. BRINGEWATT, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 13 brought in the following resolution, which was *adopted:*

Resolution 32

WHEREAS, This memorial is dated June 18, 1953, and therefore does not appear in *Reports and Memorials,* so that it could be adequately studied by the delegates at this Convention; and

WHEREAS, The combination of the departments referred to in this memorial deserves more thorough consideration than can be given it at this time; therefore be it

Resolved, That the memorial be declined.

A Program of Theological Research

(Memorial 1011)

WHEREAS, A planned and continuing program of theological research is vital to the full effectiveness of our Church's witness to our generation; and

WHEREAS, At present no such program of research exists within our Church; and

WHEREAS, This need is normally met in other denominations by research funds made available by their respective Church-controlled publishing houses; be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be directed to allocate 10 per cent of the annual net profits received from Concordia Publishing House toward the development of such a program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Committee on Allocating Scholarly Research Funds be directed to develop such a program and to administer the funds made available by the Board of Directors to it.

THE LUTHERAN ACADEMY FOR SCHOLARSHIP
MARTIN H. SCHARLEMANN, *President*
FRANCES H. ELLIS, *Secretary*

ACTION

This matter was taken care of by Committee 6 under Resolution 29.

University Staff Service Program

(Memorial 1012)

WHEREAS, The number of men and women from our Church joining the staffs of secular colleges and universities is rapidly growing; and

WHEREAS, Our Church is concerned with the problem of adequate contact with such individuals in a manner suited to their professional and academic background and status; and

WHEREAS, No agency is presently assigned to this responsible task; be it

Resolved, That the Lutheran Academy for Scholarship be designated as the agency to develop and carry out an effective program in this area; and be it further

Resolved, That no more than $1,000.00 per year be allocated in the synodical budget to the Academy for purposes of partially underwriting such a program.

THE LUTHERAN ACADEMY FOR SCHOLARSHIP
MARTIN H. SCHARLEMANN, *President*
FRANCES H. ELLIS, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 8 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 12

WHEREAS, No agency of our Church is at present directly concerned with reaching, co-ordinating, and utilizing the men and women from our Church who are on the staffs of secular colleges and universities of our country; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Student Service Commission, in co-operation with the Lutheran Academy for Scholarship, develop a program in this area; and be it further

Resolved, That the sum of $1,000 be added to the budget of the Student Service Commission for this purpose.

Restudy Stewardship of Manpower

(Memorial 1013)

WHEREAS, There is now and has been for a long time a critical shortage of missionaries in our fields in Southeast Asia, to wit: Hong Kong has a token force of one man; Formosa likewise has a token force of one man; the Philippines have eight men attempting to reach some of the 20 million people; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Asia with its large, awakening population

0 million people presents an immediate challenge, which must et; and

WHEREAS, The Lord has given us in these days wonderful s for reaching people more quickly: radio, vastly improved unications, the rising educational standard, available Bible lations, teaching aids, and improved living conditions for misaries; and

WHEREAS, Satanic ideologies and their material forces are hing out for these people; and

WHEREAS, Hong Kong has asked for nine missionaries and eived one consecrated woman; Formosa has asked for six misnaries and received a promise of two; and the Philippines lost e men, called eight, and received only one; and

WHEREAS, In America some pastors serve small congregations actically in the shadow of the steeple of a neighboring church; and

WHEREAS, Theologically trained men are doing desk and clerical ork which could be done by consecrated laymen; and

WHEREAS, The Lord will hold our Church responsible for its ewardship of its manpower; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod be urged to restudy its stewardship challenge on a world-wide scale; and be it further

Resolved, That the *Praesidium* appoint a special committee to estudy the whole question of the disposition of Synod's manower; and be it further

Resolved, That congregations study the possibilities of economizing on manpower and that the Stewardship Secretary publicize this resolution among the congregations of Synod.

CONFERENCE OF LUTHERAN PASTORS AND MISSIONARIES IN THE PHILIPPINES
THE REV. ROBERT PLAGENS
THE REV. LORENZ NIETING
THE REV. JOHN SCHOLZ
THE REV. HERMAN MAYER
DR. ROY SUELFLOW, Formosa (*Visitor*)
THE REV. ALVARO CARINO
THE REV. ENRIQUE ARADANAS
THE REV. GUILLERMO DIONISIO
THE REV. HERBERT HINZ, Hong Kong (*Visitor*)
THE REV. NORBERT BECKER
THE REV. NORBERT BECKER, *Secretary*
Lutheran Philippine Mission

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 23

WHEREAS, Synod is fully conscious of the critical shortage of missionaries in various fields and its various officials and boards are aware of the importance of the stewardship of manpower, as again manifested by various expressions and resolutions at this Convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That this memorial be declined.

Efficiency Committee

(Memorial 1014)

WHEREAS, Good stewardship of time, talents, money, and men includes making the most effective and efficient use of these for the building and the extension of the Lord's kingdom; and

WHEREAS, There has been an increasing evidence of duplication of effort and ever-increasing sums of money spent for administration in the synodical budget for full-time men and secretaries for the same; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod, assembled in its convention in Houston, Tex., effect the appointment of an "efficiency committee" to study and recommend ways and means by which Synod's work can be carried on more effectively and efficiently and economically; and be it further

Resolved, That this study be made of all extrasynodical agencies and institutions, such as Station KFUO, Concordia Publishing House, and all agencies asking for District and synodical offerings; and be it further

Resolved, That this "efficiency committee" include at least three (3) laymen who have had extensive experience in effective business management; and be it further

Resolved, That this committee report its findings to Synod's Board of Directors, who in turn have the power to enact whatever measures are necessary to effect more economy in time, talents, men, and money.

THE PASTORAL CONFERENCE OF REGION VI
TEXAS DISTRICT
ARTHUR T. KOLLMEYER, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 24

WHEREAS, According to the *Handbook* of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (2.81, "Co-ordinating Synod's Work") Board of Directors shall appoint from its membership four committees to help co-ordinate the work of Synod; and

WHEREAS, Synod is at present co-ordinating various extrasynodical agencies and institutions; therefore be it

Resolved, That this memorial be declined.

Properly Advertising Missouri Synod

(Unprinted Memorial 1 a)

Upon recommendation of Committee 13, Synod *resolved:*

WHEREAS, Many congregations of Synod are not fully conscious of what it means not to show their synodical affiliation on all their advertising such as newspaper ads, Sunday bulletin, letterheads, programs, outside bulletin boards, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Failure to do so may give the impression that all Lutheran churches are the same and thus cause some people to join another Lutheran church; therefore be it

Resolved, That we earnestly encourage all congregations to include the official name of our Synod "The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod" in their church advertising.

Establishing Courses for Non-Lutherans

(Unprinted Memorial 1 b)

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 18

WHEREAS, This memorial suggests establishing a course for non-Lutherans in all of our cities and towns, such as the Roman Catholic Church has to win converts for its church; and

WHEREAS, In all of our congregations courses are offered for adults who desire knowledge of Lutheran doctrine, practice, and history; therefore be it

Resolved, That this part of the memorial be declined.

Conscientious Objectors in Time of War

(Unprinted Memorial 2)

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 11

WHEREAS, The author of this memorial has withdrawn it, but has expressed the wish that Synod declare its position regarding conscientious objectors in time of war; and

WHEREAS, This might in the future be helpful to other members of our Synod as well as to officials of our Government; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention respectfully ask the Honorable President of Synod, Dr. J. W. Behnken, to direct a theologian of our Church to prepare a clear and concise statement on "A Christian's Attitude Towards War"; and be it further

Resolved, That this statement be published in the *Concordia Theological Monthly,* the official theological journal of our Church, and in the *Lutheran Witness.*

American Lutheran Publicity Bureau

(Unprinted Memorials 8, 9, and 15)

Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 3

WHEREAS, The American Lutheran Publicity Bureau will observe its 40th anniversary in January, 1954; and

WHEREAS, The Bureau has been serving The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for almost forty years; and

WHEREAS, The work of the Bureau in distributing Gospel tracts, promoting advertising through various media, sponsoring National Lutheran Publicity Week, National Sunday School Week, and Reformation Week, and publishing the *American Lutheran* Magazine, besides its many other functions, has been a labor of love and a blessing to many; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend and thank the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau for its work in the past; and be it further

Resolved, That we give the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau our wholehearted support, both financially and prayerfully, so that it may continue its task under the Lord with success.

Report of the Armed Services Commission

(Memorial 408)

During the convention in 1950 the Korean war started, and since that time the activities of the Armed Services Commission have again increased.

During the Milwaukee Convention Pastor Karl Schleede, a member of the Commission since its beginning, suffered a fatal heart attack. Pastor O. C. Busse of Decatur, Ind., was appointed to succeed him. The Commission is now composed of the following personnel: Dr. P. L. Dannenfeldt, chairman; O. A. Sauer, secretary; O. C. Busse; F. C. Proehl; O. E. Sohn; O. C. Rentner; Theo. Schlake. Kenneth L. Ahl is the Executive Secretary. Walter E. Kraemer is associated with him and directs the affairs which we carry on jointly with the National Lutheran Council. Lambert Brose is in charge of publications.

Program Expansion

An idea of the increase in our activities can be gleaned from the following figures:

	1950	1952
New addresses	4,972	11,263
Change of addresses	3,089	30,212
Return mail	4,762	30,788
Killed	40	124
Discharged	1,286	6,085

Cost of Operation Increased

With the increase in the military, our operating expenses had to rise. Three years ago we had 5,000 names of men in service, now we have around 35,000. In 1949 $100,000 paid the operating costs; in 1952 $352,000 was spent. In our office we have 3 pastors, 23 full-time workers, and 5 part-time workers. 45,000 copies of *Loyalty — Christ and Country* are printed monthly. *The Lutheran Chaplain* is published six times a year, and *Double-Time* four times. Thousands of our prayer books and tracts have been distributed among the service personnel.

Service and Parish Centers

There are 45 such centers in operation, and some more are to be added. These are operated jointly with the National Lutheran Council so far as the physical property is concerned. We bear 40% of this cost. Each group serves its own people in a spiritual way. We believe this plan is a part of good stewardship. There are about 600 military installations in this country.

Finances

At the close of 1952 our financial resources were about exhausted. The Board of Directors proposed to the Fiscal Conference that the expenses of the Armed Services Commission become an item in Synod's budget, since the work appears to be of a permanent nature. But the Fiscal Conference felt that the inclusion of all the items proposed by the Board of Directors would make too large a budget, and then authorized a special Mother's Day collection. We hope our Christians will contribute liberally toward this collection. We not only need $320,000 for the work of the Armed Services Commission and $132,000 for the activities of the Lutheran Service Commission during 1953, but we ought to collect enough to take care of expenses until Mother's Day, 1954, plus about $150,000 for the purchase of an office building in Washington.

Chaplains

We have 102 chaplains on active duty: 3 in the Navy; 38 in the Army; 48 in the Air Force; and 3 are in the Canadian Army. These people get their pay from the Government. We also have 9 full-

time and 10 part-time Veterans Administration chaplains whose salaries are paid by the Government. We also have 3 full-time V. A. chaplains who have been called by us, and these are on our pay roll. There are also 136 hospital pastors who serve those in V. A. hospitals when the names of such patients are brought to their attention. These get no pay, only expenses.

The procurement of chaplains presents somewhat of a problem today. The Commission has now adopted a policy of also calling qualified men rather than waiting for pastors to make application. Thus we hope to be able to supply our quota of chaplains.

It would be well for the convention again to remind our people of the importance of sending the names and addresses of military personnel and V. A. patients to our Washington office.

Expenditures

For the sake of general information we list here some of the chief items of expenditure for the year 1952:

Field Service:	
Chaplains' expenses	$ 1,144.00
Contact pastors	7,087.00
Lutheran Service Commission	109,030.00
Service and hospital pastors	18,133.00
Pension Fund payments	12,933.00
Publications and Literature:	
"Loyalty"	8,149.00
"The Lutheran Chaplain"	10,204.00
"Double-Time"	14,542.00
Tracts and literature	7,196.00
Service prayer books and identification tags	7,771.00
Administrative and General:	
Commission meetings	2,554.00
Contribution to building maintenance	2,693.00
Office rent	6,333.00
Office salaries	60,244.00
Office supplies	2,372.00
Postage and express	17,496.00
Printing and stationery	6,918.00
Social security and lay retirement	2,883.00
Telephone and telegraph	1,819.00
Traveling and conferences	10,124.00
Auto maintenance and insurance	1,196.00
Chaplain retreat	2,325.00
Residence maintenance and repair	3,979.00
Residence utilities	1,191.00
Special and interim salaries	2,946.00
Purchase of residence in Park Ridge, Ill.	22,000.00

The men in the military are the flower of our youth, and our spiritual conservation program is a good investment. "Earnestly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that the mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away." — *A. Lincoln.*

O. A. SAUER, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 13 recommended the following resolutions, which were *adopted:*

Resolution 4

I

WHEREAS, The service rendered by the Armed Services Commission of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has greatly increased during the past triennium owing to the preparedness activity of our Government; and

WHEREAS, The Armed Services Commission has rendered excellent service to the Church, especially to the members in the military and to the patients in Veterans Administration hospitals; therefore be it

Resolved, That with thanks to God we express our sincere appreciation to the members of the Commission for the faithful service rendered.

II

WHEREAS, The Armed Services Commission is the agency recognized by the United States Government for the calling and endorsing of chaplains from our Church; and

WHEREAS, There are at present over 35,000 members of our Synod in the military; and

WHEREAS, The Commission is now rendering spiritual service to the sick and disabled in Veterans Administration hospitals through 12 full-time and 10 part-time Veterans Administration chaplains and 136 hospital pastors; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Armed Services Commission be continued and encouraged to carry on its program as outlined; and be it further

Resolved, That we sincerely urge our pastors and congregations to be very prompt in forwarding to the Commission the names and addresses and changes of addresses of men and women in the military and patients in Veterans Administration hospitals.

III

WHEREAS, The administration cost of the Armed Services Commission is considerable — $352,000 in 1952; and

WHEREAS, The Armed Services Commission has no place on Synod's annual budget; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of Synod grant the Commission the privilege of raising a special collection on Mother's Day whenever additional funds are needed.

IV

WHEREAS, Our Church has become aware of the need for chaplains in the light of the nation's preparedness program; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that future chaplains become better acquainted with the needs for chaplains and the special demands of a military ministry; and

WHEREAS, The Commission to this end has instituted a course on the chaplaincy at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; be it therefore

Resolved, That Synod commend the Commission for its activity in this direction and that Synod urge it to develop this program to its fullest extent.

V

WHEREAS, A vast majority of our service people have much leisure time; and

WHEREAS, "Away-from-camp" should be provided for them in order to keep the Church in their hearts; be it therefore

Resolved, That we commend the Commission in opening service centers in various parts of the world in conjunction with the Lutheran Service Commission; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge our Commission to open such service centers in conjunction with the Lutheran Service Commission in overseas countries.

Overtures of Council of Lutheran Agencies

(Memorial 626)

Preamble

The last convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, held in Milwaukee, Wis., during the summer of 1950, passed a resolution calling for the setting up of a co-ordinating council of the various "auxiliary agencies" within Synod. (See *Convention Proceedings,* pages 767—769, with reference to Memorial 805.)

Pursuant to the resolution of Synod, representatives of Synod itself and of the various agencies within Synod falling into the classification of "auxiliary agencies" met to organize "The Council of Lutheran Agencies." This group has conducted regular meetings at stated intervals, has adopted a constitution, and has set up its stated purposes.

The Council of Lutheran Agencies herewith desires to report to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod the action taken in compliance with the last convention resolution and seeks the approval of Synod on its organization and purposes.

To that end the Council of Lutheran Agencies herewith submits two overtures to the triennial convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, assembled in Houston, Tex., in the early summer of 1953.

Overture 1

WHEREAS, In its last convention, held in Milwaukee in 1950, Synod passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a co-ordinating council of the various "auxiliary agencies" within Synod; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to this resolution, the Council of Lutheran Agencies has been established and organized; and

WHEREAS, Its constitution and purposes have been reviewed by the duly authorized officers and representatives of Synod and found in keeping with Synod's principles and practices; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled at Houston, Tex., recognize the Council of Lutheran Agencies and approve its organization and purposes; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod ask God's rich blessing upon the work of the Council, to the end that the Savior's kingdom may thereby come and His good and gracious will be done in the hearts of men.

Overture 2

WHEREAS, Our beloved Church, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, has been singularly blessed by our heavenly Father with a far-reaching awareness of the challenge of our times and with wide and varied opportunities to meet this challenge; and

WHEREAS, Certain phases of the Church's great work are performed in a splendid and God-pleasing manner through agencies not provided for, or included within, the constitutional organization of Synod; and

WHEREAS, The work of these so-called "auxiliary agencies" requires continued and expanding support; and

WHEREAS, The Holy Spirit's power has so touched the hearts of our Church's members with the love of the Lord Jesus Christ that they have been moved to contribute generously and regularly to many fine charitable and educational undertakings conducted within the framework of our Synod; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that the work of these "auxiliary agencies" be called to the attention of our Church's membership, to the end that they may become more fully acquainted with their purposes and activities and that any possible misunderstanding or confusion be eliminated; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled at Houston, Tex., officially recognize that these "auxiliary agencies" are a vital and important part of the

work of the Church notwithstanding their separate corporate identities; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod officially commend these "auxiliary agencies" to its Districts, circuits, congregations, and members and urge them to give them a full measure of financial support, also remembering them in their prayers, so that they may continue to serve our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, to their fullest potential.

THE COUNCIL OF LUTHERAN AGENCIES
W. F. WEIHERMAN, *Secretary*

ACTION

Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 22

WHEREAS, In the last convention, held at Milwaukee in 1950, Synod passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a co-ordinated council of the various intrasynodical agencies within Synod; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to this resolution the Council for Lutheran Agencies has been established and organized; and

WHEREAS, Its constitution and purposes have been reviewed by the duly authorized officers of Synod, and at this Convention by Committee 13, and found in keeping with Synod's principles and practices; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that the work of these intrasynodical agencies be called to the attention of our Church's members, to the end that they may become more fully acquainted with their purposes and activities and that any possible misunderstanding or confusion be avoided; and

WHEREAS, Memorial 511, assigned to Committee 6, has been referred to Committee 13; and

WHEREAS, The provisions of Memorial 511 are being met by the Council of Lutheran Agencies; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled at Houston, Tex., recognize the Council of Lutheran Agencies and approve its organization and purposes; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod officially commend these intrasynodical agencies to its Districts, circuits, and congregations and urge them to give them liberal and continued financial support, also to serve our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, to their fullest potential; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention declare Memorial 511 as disposed of by this action of the Convention.

Report of the Committee on Church Architecture

(Unprinted Memorial 22)

Many new churches have been built during the past three years in spite of the abnormally high cost of construction. These range, of course, from the imposing places of worship of our established congregations to the humble chapels of newly organized missions.

Our congregations are learning gradually that soundness of construction is more important than size and exterior ornament. In one geographical area in particular, the recent church buildings of our Synod have attracted favorable attention because of their permanent materials, neatness of design, and dignity of interior equipment.

A number of large, beautiful photographs of church buildings of recent date were sent in for the convention exhibit of our committee. It was a surprise to observe that so large a proportion of these buildings are of stone construction. In most cases the chancel furnishings and other interior fittings were designed by the architects of the buildings, and in design and scale they harmonize well with the church buildings themselves.

The high cost of new church organs has led a number of our congregations to rebuild old organs. Where such organs were built by firms noted for their use of lasting materials and careful workmanship, the results have usually been entirely satisfactory. Certainly the works of such eminent builders as Henry Erben, E. & G. G. Hook, W. A. Johnson & Son, Hilborne & Frank Roosevelt, J. H. & C. S. Odell, George Hutchings, and Farrand & Votey, who flourished 50 to 100 years ago, are well worth careful restoration. European churches rebuild their organs with great care, and a number of organs of Bach's day still survive.

Mr. John J. Zink of Baltimore, a member of your Committee, died August 10, 1952, at the age of 66, after practicing architecture for 40 years. Mr. A. F. Bernhard of Yonkers, chairman of your Committee from 1923 to 1936, died December 24, 1952, at the age of 82. Both were active Lutheran laymen and prominent in their home congregations and in the general work of Synod in their communities.

At a recent meeting of your Committee, Mr. Harold C. Bernhard of Yonkers was elected chairman. Mr. Bernhard is a member of the firm of Shreve, Lamb & Harmon, who built the Empire State Building. He has specialized in church design and has a number of buildings of recognized merit in New York and vicinity.

F. R. WEBBER, *Secretary*

ACTION

Upon recommendation of Committee 13 Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 25

WHEREAS, The Committee on Church Architecture has faithfully served Synod and many of its congregations during the past years; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention thank this committee for its splendid service.

Earlier Publication Date for Book of Memorials

(Unprinted Memorial 50)

This matter was disposed of by the following *resolution* of Committee 13:

Resolution 27

WHEREAS, The *Handbook* of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (1.25, "Organization, Reports, Memorials") states: "All matters to come before the convention shall, as a rule, be presented to the President in writing ten weeks prior to the convention," and directs that a copy of the book of *Reports and Memorials* shall be mailed four weeks prior to the convention of Synod to each pastor and teacher of Synod and to each elected lay delegate; and

WHEREAS, This time appears ample for a careful study of the various reports and memorials; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House faithfully meets the date line set by Synod; be it

Resolved, That this memorial be declined; and be it further

Resolved, To commend Concordia Publishing House for distributing this year's book of *Reports and Memorials* six weeks prior to the present Convention, or two weeks prior to the deadline.

Objectionable Forms of Entertainment in Church

(Unprinted Memorial 68)

Concerning this matter Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 28

WHEREAS, The purpose of this memorial is to safeguard the Church against the inroads of the world by way of objectionable forms of services and entertainment in the Church; and

WHEREAS, The memorial warns against mixing Church and State; and

WHEREAS, The Lord Himself has urged us to watch and pray; therefore be it

Resolved, To commend the author of this memorial for his serious concern for the Church, and especially for the youth of the Church and the editors of its various periodicals.

Making Convention Essays Available to Districts

Committee 13 recommended, and Synod *resolved:*

Resolution 37

WHEREAS, The essays presented by Dr. John Theodore Mueller and Prof. Frank Kramer were very timely and most certainly deserve to be heard by far more people than here assembled; therefore be it

Resolved, That these essays be printed and sent to every District President of Synod and to the delegates of this Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That we recommend that these essays be made available to all District conventions.

The following **Resolutions of Thanks** were drawn up by Committee 13 and *adopted* by Synod:

Resolution 29

THANKING CONVENTION HOST

WHEREAS, The Texas District has served as an able host to this Convention; and

WHEREAS, The congregations of the city of Houston have contributed nobly of their time, labor, and money in making this Convention successful; therefore be it

Resolved, That we acknowledge with sincere gratitude these efforts in behalf of this Convention.

Resolution 30

THANKS TO RADIO AND TV STATIONS AND PERSONNEL

WHEREAS, The news departments of all Houston radio stations and Houston's television station have been most co-operative in giving top priority to news of our Convention in 30 programs of regularly scheduled newscasts; therefore be it

Resolved, That this assembly tender through its Public Relations Department an expression of thanks to the following stations and program directors: KATL and Mr. John Edwards, KCOH and Mrs. Val Springer, KLBS and Mr. Webb Hunt, KNUZ and Mr. Ken Grant, KPRC-TV and Mr. Frank Sullivan, KTHT and Mr. John Knapp, KTRH and Mr. Tom Jacobs, KXYZ and Mr. Ken Bagwell.

Resolution 31

THANKING THE PRESS

WHEREAS, The following local papers: the *Houston Chronicle,* its reporters, photographers, and especially Louis Alexander; the *Houston Press,* and especially Thomas Mahr; the *Houston Post,* its reporters, photographers, and especially Jack Harwell; and

WHEREAS, The following out-of-State papers and press associations: *St. Louis Post-Dispatch,* which broke a 75-year precedent to send its eminent religion editor, John Stewart, to a denominational convention; the *Milwaukee Journal,* especially its religion reporter, William Bechtel; the *Minneapolis Star* and especially its religion reporter, William Thorkelson; the *United Press* and especially Jack McGlosson; the *Associated Press* and especially Max Skelton; the *International News Service* and especially Ray Gordon, reported faithfully the public events connected with the Convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention extend its thanks to the press of the United States and Canada, to reporters who made wide and accurate news coverage of the Convention possible.

Resolution 12

DEPARTED WORKERS OF THE PAST TRIENNIUM

WHEREAS, Our Lord God in His infinite wisdom has during the past triennium called to their eternal reward the souls of the following pastors, professors, teachers, and laymen who have faithfully served our Synod:

Professors

Prof. Rudolph A. Eifert
Dr. Martin Graebner
Dr. Theodore Graebner
Dr. Herman O. Keinath
Prof. Albert J. C. Moeller
Dr. Richard C. Neitzel
Dr. Leroy C. Rincker
Dr. Louis J. Sieck
Prof. Emil C. Weis

Former Professors

Prof. Herman B. Fehner
Dr. John H. C. Fritz
Prof. Henry C. Gaertner
Dr. Otto F. Hattstaedt
Dr. Edward W. Koehler
Prof. Henry J. Lobeck
Prof. George H. Luecke

Former District Presidents

The Rev. Constantin M. Beyer, Texas
The Rev. F. W. Leyhe, South Dakota
Dr. J. C. Schuelke, Central Illinois

Others

Mr. A. F. Bernhard, Committee on Church Architecture
The Rev. John C. W. Bertram, Electoral Colleges, Springfield, Ill., River Forest, Ill., and St. Paul, Minn.
The Rev. Kurt Daib, Synod's Board of Appeals
Dr. William Dallmann, editor and author and former Vice-President

e Rev. Ernst G. Jehn, Board for European Missions
Ferdinand Korneffel, Board for Missions in North and South America
M. F. Lobitz, Synod's Board of Appeals;
e Rev. Theodore D. Martens, Family Worship Hour
e Rev. George E. Mennen, Board of Trustees, Conover
e Rev. Victor A. Mennicke, Electoral College, St. Louis, Mo.
e Rev. Peter D. Mueller, Electoral College, Winfield, Kans.
F. C. Pritzlaff, Synod's Board of Directors
haplain (Lt. Col.) Karl W. Schleede, pioneer in Armed Services Commission work
e Rev. George A. Schmidt, pioneer in Negro Missions
r. Daniel Schoof, missionary among the Nisei in California
r. Edmund Seuel, manager of Concordia Publishing House
Mr. Otto Steinwart, Board of Missions in North and South America
The Rev. F. W. Weidmann, Synod's Church Extension Board
Mr. John J. Zink, Committee on Church Architecture

therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod offer prayers of thanks to Almighty God for the services rendered by those servants of the Church.

Resolution 13

DR. J. W. BEHNKEN

WHEREAS, Our gracious God has mercifully granted to our venerable President, Dr. J. W. Behnken, health of body and spirit, and has graciously blessed our Synod through his wise and capable administration; therefore be it

Resolved, That we as Synod hereby express our sincere gratitude to God for this splendid and inspiring leadership, and that we furthermore bespeak for him the prayers of the entire membership of Synod.

Resolution 14

OFFICERS OF SYNOD

WHEREAS, The Honorable Vice-Presidents of Synod, Dr. H. H. Harms, Dr. F. A. Hertwig, Dr. W. F. Lichtsinn, and Dr. A. H. Grumm, have rendered willing and able assistance to President Behnken during the past triennium; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary, Dr. M. F. Kretzmann, and his assistant, Prof. Paul F. Bente, as well as the Treasurer, Dr. W. H. Schlueter, and the members of Synod's many boards and committees have given generously of their time and energy in serving Synod; and

WHEREAS, The congregations of these respective officials have willingly shared with Synod the services of their pastors, teachers, and lay delegates; therefore be it

Resolved, That we gratefully acknowledge these services of love and ask divine blessings upon them.

Resolution 34

THANKS TO INDIVIDUALS, SOCIETIES, AND GROUPS (CIVIC AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS) OF CITY OF HOUSTON

WHEREAS, Various individuals, societies, and groups (and civic and governmental organizations) of the city of Houston have made this Convention possible and enjoyable by their contributions to the various needs and accommodations of this Convention — business, cultural, and otherwise; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, as delegates at this Convention, request the chairman of the Convention Committee to extend an expression of gratitude to the following for their particular contributions and services:

The Committee and subcommittees on Arrangements for the 42d Regular Convention, particularly the Rev. Walter Niedner for providing equipment and personnel for the Public Relations Department;

Mr. E. H. Genthe for helping to secure a vital piece of equipment in the press room;

All the preachers, liturgists, organists, choir directors, and choirs; and

All others who helped to make this Convention a success.

Resolution 36

EXPRESSING THANKS FOR PAST SERVICES RENDERED

WHEREAS, Various members of Synod's boards will terminate their time of service at the close of this Convention; and

WHEREAS, These men have rendered very valuable service and given much of their time, and, in many instances, also of their money in order to render such service, doing this as a service unto the Lord; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention gratefully acknowledge the willingness and faithful performance of their duties.

Resolution 35

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO NORWEGIAN SYNOD

WHEREAS, The Norwegian Synod on the 31st of May celebrated its centennial; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod assembled in convention at Houston, Tex., instruct the Secretary of Synod to convey our heartiest congratulations to them and that we join them in thanking God for the manifold blessings He bestowed on their synod.

CONVENTION MINUTES

Session 1

June 17, P. M.

The Forty-second Convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was opened with a deeply moving service in the Music Hall of Houston, Tex. In his sermon on Ps. 67:1 Dr. W. F. Lichtsinn pointed out that the grace which pardons, the goodness which blesses, and the light of God's countenance which encourages alone can qualify us to publish the name of the Lord and His saving health among nations. In fervent prayer the needs of the Church and the Christians throughout the world were presented to the Throne of Grace.

The first business session was opened with the liturgy by Dr. M. F. Kretzmann and the presidential address of Dr. J. W. Behnken. Dr. Behnken urged the convention to take its cue for Kingdom work from the building of the second Temple at Jerusalem and from the early Christian Church, and while legitimately using human agencies to build the Kingdom, to rely not on human might nor on human power, but solely on the Spirit of God.

After the report was made that there were registered 600 voting members out of a possible 676 and 281 advisory delegates, the convention was declared formally organized for business. Prof. Paul Bente was appointed as Assistant Secretary. The message of welcome of the Hon. Roy Hofheinz, mayor of Houston, was read by the Rev. R. Wiederaenders, President of the Texas District, who then added the official welcome of the Texas District. The response to the welcomes was made by the Rev. C. Fickenscher, President of the California and Nevada District. A welcome was extended to the many guests, who were asked to register. The greetings from the Slovak Synod were presented by the Rev. R. Daniel, speaking for the President of the Slovak Synod; those from the Norwegian Synod, by its President, the Rev. C. M. Gullerud; those from our sister Synod of Australia, by the Rev. E. W. Wiebusch, who represented the President of that body. Telegraphic greetings were sent by our Church in India. Followed the President's report, acknowledging outstanding services and reporting changes on boards and other important events. Time of sessions was fixed from 8:30 to 11:45 A. M. and from 1:30 to 5:00 P. M., with a recess from 3 to 3:15. Dr. L. F. Blankenbuehler and Prof. O. E. Sohn were instructed to prepare convention reports for the *Lutheran Witness* and the *Lutheraner* respectively.

Synod resolved that no members of our church body are to

make any statements for publication without first securing the approval of the convention Public Relations Committee and that all announcements to news agencies should be cleared by the Press Room of the Convention. The committee chairmen were asked to follow closely the instructions found on page 9 of "Today's Business."

The following were elected as a Nominating Committee for the Committee on Appeals: Prof. Carl W. Keller of Portland, Oreg.; the Rev. Lothar Braeunig of Iowa East; Laymen Carl Schwulst of Bloomington, Ill., and Carl Heldt of Evansville, Ind.; Teacher Leonard Schulenberg of Janesville, Minn.

On recommendation of Committee 6 Synod fixed the term of office for all officials at three years unless the By-Laws specifically provide otherwise. In order to stagger the term of office for the Boards of Control of colleges and seminaries, the District President is to be elected for a three-year term and the other members for terms of six years, the election to be so arranged that the terms of one half of the members shall expire at each triennial convention. The regulations governing nominations submitted to the convention remain as prescribed in the *Handbook*. The Committee on Elections was authorized to appoint tellers who are not delegates to the convention. These new regulations were put in force for the present convention. The Committee on Elections reported that Dr. Behnken received 502 out of 598 votes. Thereupon the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Dr. Behnken as President. This action was followed by singing stanza 3 of the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God."

After hearing an overview of our mission work from Dr. F. C. Streufert, Synod voiced its gratitude for the blessings upon our mission endeavors by singing the Doxology and resolved to rededicate itself to greater devotion for missions. To conserve ministerial manpower, Synod commended the congregations who are sharing the services of a pastor with a sister congregation and encouraged further combining of parishes where it would prove advantageous. The Mission Boards were commended for developing indigenous churches in our foreign fields and for beginning work in populous areas and then extending such work into the surrounding territories. Synod voiced its gratification over the creation of Mission Councils composed of national pastors, laymen, and missionaries in the foreign fields and encouraged these councils to assume more responsibility in carrying on the mission work.

After hearing an overview of the North American mission fields from the Rev. William H. Hillmer, Synod gave its expression of sympathy to the families of Mr. Otto J. Steinwart of Aurora, Ill., and Ferdinand Korneffel of Detroit, Mich., recognizing their faithservices. Synod resolved to embark on a mission expansion program calling for the opening of at least 120 new stations in North America each year and for a liberal support of Home Missions. Recognizing the responsibilities arising from the changing conditions in downtown areas and in older residential sections as responsibility of the entire Church, Synod instructed the Board for Home Missions to continue studying these areas and to transmit its findings and suggestions to the District Mission Boards for analysis and possible solution of the problems arising there. District Mission Boards are to plan for necessary financial help to enable such congregations to develop a program suited to their changing environment. The Board for Missions and the District Mission Boards were instructed to establish Rural Life Commissions, jointly to work out solutions of rural church problems.

Adjournment followed with the Lord's Prayer.

Session 2

June 18, A. M.

The devotional exercises which opened the second session were conducted by the Rev. H. Kleiner, liturgist. Dr. H. Harms addressed the convention on the importance of heeding the fundamental difference between the Law and the Gospel. The minutes of the preceding session were read and adopted. Dr. J. T. Mueller in the first installment of his essay, "The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the Ecumenical Movement," pointed out that at present this movement was unionistic in all its religious aspects.

In support of the resolutions in "Today's Business," pages 25 and 26, the Hon. Mr. J. W. Boehne on behalf of the Board of Directors presented a visual and graphic picture of the expansion of Synod's work, opportunities, and needs.

The primary elections for Vice-Presidents showed that 571 ballots had been cast and that each of the present incumbents had received a clear majority. The Secretary was thereupon instructed to cast a collective ballot for the present incumbents.

Synod voiced thanks to God for the blessings bestowed upon the training of pastors and teachers and thanked the Board for Higher Education and its Executive Secretary for their efficient and painstaking work. After thanking the faculties for their diligent and consecrated work, Synod invoked for them God's continued strength and wisdom. The experiment at Portland authorized at the previous convention to conduct a school offering junior and senior high school work and freshman and sophomore collegiate work was ordered continued; necessary budget subsidies arising from this experiment were authorized. In order to meet

the growing need for academically qualified and consecrated Christian teachers at our higher institutions, Synod directed the Board for Higher Education to secure from pastors and congregations names of suitable candidates to be kept on file in the Board's office. In answer to a question from the floor the Secretary of the Board for Higher Education stated that this procedure would not in any way modify the regular procedures for electing professors. After July 1, 1954, tuition charges for students who are not preparing for service in the Church were fixed at $80.00 per year in the high school and $120.00 in the college. The question of collecting tuition from all students in our colleges and seminaries was referred to the Board for Higher Education for study, the findings to be reported to the 1956 convention. The Board for Higher Education in consultation with the school administrations was instructed to draw up a procedure for calling instructors or assistant professors to associate professorships at another school and present these regulations to the next convention. Action on the proposal to supplement the pension provisions for professors who cannot be employed in modified service was postponed to the next convention.

Synod resolved to allocate $10,000 annually to the Board for Higher Education in order to enable the Board to support scholarly research by professors and other qualified members of Synod.

On nomination of the committee to nominate candidates for the Committee on Appeals the following were accepted as Committee on Appeals: Pastors W. E. Harms (N. Nebr. Dist.), Geo. Koch (Iowa East), E. A. Krause (West.); Mr. Paul Albrecht (Minn.); Teacher Walter Fritze (Calif.-Nev.). The Committee on Nominations presented candidates for Secretary of Synod, for Treasurer of Synod, and for the Board of Directors; these nominations were adopted after the name of Mr. Alfred Knief of Milwaukee, Wis., had been added to the list of names for the Board of Directors.

General or Regional Mission Conferences at the call of the Board for Missions in North and South America with the approval of the Board of Directors were authorized. The Home Mission Board was instructed to provide necessary helps to enable congregations to evaluate themselves as to their missionary outreach and to train themselves and their members for mission work in their own communities, so that every congregation may look on itself as a mission center for its community and upon every member as a missionary. The Sunday School by Mail was ordered continued, and a vote of thanks extended to all who assisted in this project.

Greetings from the American Lutheran Church were presented by Dr. E. J. Braunlick, speaking for the President of that body.

The congregations and pastors listed on pages 45 and 46 of "Today's Business" were received into the membership of the districts through which they were proposed. The revised constitutions of South Shore Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, Wis., and Faith Lutheran Church, Fair Oaks, Calif., were ratified.

Adjournment with the table prayer.

Session 3

June 18, P. M.

The opening devotional exercises of the third session were conducted by the Rev. Henry G. Hartner, President of the Colorado District. The minutes were read and adopted with the correction of $80.00 for $90.00 on page 4, fourth line from the bottom.

After hearing a survey of mission work in Latin America by the Rev. H. A. Mayer and a further account of the gratifying progress in Argentina with its extension to Chile from President S. H. Beckmann, Synod authorized two professorships at the seminary in Buenos Aires as well as the appointment of necessary instructors, and empowered the brethren in Argentina to provide necessary classroom space at a cost of $1,000 to $1,500. The Board of Directors was empowered to provide a wing, additional dormitory and classroom space, and professors' residences at the seminary in Buenos Aires. Cost of a motorized lawn mower is to be included in the regular budget of the seminary. The Argentina District was instructed to study the possibility of beginning mission work in Chile and to enter the field when the time appeared right. The members of this District were commended for their enthusiasm in expanding the work.

After hearing an account of the thrilling expansion of mission work in Brazil from Dr. Rodolfo Hasse, Synod authorized the separation of seminary training from preparatory education. The details of this program regarding curriculum, safeguarding Synod's interests, building costs for the next five years, additional professors, manner and time of reorganization, tuition, as well as other details are to be studied by the Board for Higher Education of the Brazil District and submitted to the Board for Missions in North and South America. This Board shall, in consultation with the Board for Higher Education, make definite recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is empowered to execute these plans. For the present, temporary instructors shall be appointed at the seminary in Porto Alegre and temporary housing provided for the students. Synod encouraged the brethren in Brazil, after consulting the Board for Missions, to explore and develop the mission opportunities in beaming the Lutheran Hour

to Portugal. Their missionary zeal was commended. Having been commended for its consecrated spirit, the Board for Missions was encouraged to continue bringing the Gospel to Latin America.

The rank of Vice-Presidents was established as follows: First Vice-President, Dr. H. Harms, 1,761 points; Second Vice-President, Dr. A. H. Grumm, 1,462 points; Third Vice-President, Dr. W. F. Lichtsinn, 1,189 points; Fourth Vice-President, Dr. F. A. Hertwig, 1,166 points.

Synod resolved to excuse the Rev. W. E. Harms from serving on the Committee on Appeals and accepted instead the Rev. O. A. Schedler from the Central District.

For the coming triennium, Synod declined to apply for membership in the National Lutheran Council, but agreed to cooperate with that body where that could be done without compromising Scriptural principles. The *Praesidium* was directed to appoint a committee of three to study the constitution and objectives of the Lutheran World Federation and evaluate its practical working in the light of Scriptural doctrine and practice. This committee is also to prepare recommendations on the question of membership in, or the extent of possible co-operation with, the Lutheran World Federation. These recommendations are to be presented to the College of Presidents by September 1954 for study and possible amendment, and are then to be submitted to all pastors and congregations by January 1, 1955, for study with a view to action at the convention in 1956.

Synod declared its agreement with the statement: "a sovereign congregation which has voluntarily joined Synod will also voluntarily abide by the regulations of Synod," after the chairman of the committee had given the assurance that the resolution does not bind conscience.

An additional professorship at Edmonton was authorized. Committee 11 was instructed to study the question of annually impounding $500,000 in a college and seminary building fund. Synod instructed a commission in which the Board of Directors and the Board for Higher Education are represented to propose to the next convention a long-range policy on capital investments at educational institutions. The Board for Higher Education was authorized to conduct an expanded testing program and to enter the cost thereof in its regular budget. Synod declined to change the name "Board for Higher Education." This Board was authorized to gather and disseminate information on the District Student Aid programs and to prepare application blanks. The Districts were asked to study and, if possible, adopt the recommendations of the Conference on Student Aid held at River Forest in 1952. The resolution of 1938, requesting the Districts to require work

in repayment for subsidy, was rescinded. The program is to be a grant-in-aid program. The question of providing financial assistance to professors for purchasing homes is to be studied by the Board of Directors and the Board for Higher Education, their findings to be submitted to the 1956 convention. Colleges and seminaries were directed to conduct commissaries and dormitories on a self-supporting basis if that should prove possible. Capital investments and major remodeling are to be paid by Synod. No action on the proposal for a third seminary was taken. The names of the teachers' colleges are to remain unchanged. For the present the final decision on re-establishing a college in the Southeast was deferred.

Adjournment by singing "Savior, Breathe an Evening Blessing" and the Apostolic Benediction.

Session 4

June 19, A. M.

In the opening devotions conducted by Dr. Ottomar Krueger as liturgist, Dr. Arnold Grumm pointed up the importance of rightly dividing and properly applying Law and Gospel.

The minutes were read and adopted.

Election results: Dr. M. F. Kretzmann, Secretary of Synod, 360 votes; Mr. Walter Schlueter, Treasurer of Synod, 484 votes.

Elected to the Board of Directors: Dr. Oliver Harms, 472 votes, the Rev. E. T. Bernthal, 334 votes, the Rev. A. H. Oswald, in the run-off election, 294 votes; Messrs. J. W. Boehne, 389 votes, E. J. Gallmeyer, 388 votes, T. H. Schlake, 315 votes, Henry Buck, 347 votes.

Dr. J. T. Mueller presented the second installment of his essay and developed the thought that the true ecumenicity of the Church consists in holding all the doctrines of Scripture, which alone are ecumenical doctrines.

Synod declined the proposal to set up a commission on Scriptural peace in doctrine and practice. Before proceeding to vote on the resolutions proposed for Memorial 60, Synod resolved to have this unprinted memorial presented in printed form to the delegates. After accepting by a special vote the preamble to the resolution on the *Common Confession,* Synod resolved to postpone action on Part II of the *Common Confession.*

The resolutions on the sale of the Fort Wayne campus were presented. They were then moved by the Rev. Oscar Heilman and seconded by Mr. Albert Hensel.

The following nominations were accepted: Board for Missions in North and South America as listed in "Today's Business,"

page 81, with the addition of the name of the Rev. L. W. Koehler (Man.-Sask. Dist.).

Board for Missions to the Deaf as listed on page 82; Board for Missions to the Blind as listed on pages 82 and 83; Board for European Affairs as listed on page 83 with the addition of the name of the Rev. Ed. Miller (Atl. Dist.); Board for Missions in Foreign Countries as listed on pages 84 and 85 with the addition of the name of the Rev. Gilbert Wenger (West. Dist.); Church Extension Board as listed on page 85 with the addition of the name of Mr. Aug. Dahne (S. Dak. Dist.).

Dr. M. F. Kretzmann and Dr. J. W. Behnken accepted the election to their respective offices with expressions disparaging their own worthiness, thanking the Convention for its vote of confidence, and looking to God for guidance and help. Profs. Ed. Reim and Carl Lavrenz, representatives of the Wisconsin Synod, were welcomed by the Chair and extended the greetings of our sister synod, invoking God's blessing and guidance upon our deliberations.

Greetings were received from Missionary R. A. Suelflow in Formosa.

Adjournment with the Apostolic Benediction.

Session 5

June 19, P. M.

The opening devotions were conducted by the Rev. W. D. Oetting, President of the Iowa District East. The minutes were read and adopted.

An overview of the glorious and successful work in India and China was given by the Rev. H. H. Koppelmann, Assistant Executive Secretary for Foreign Missions. Followed a presentation of the needs in these fields by Dr. O. H. Schmidt, Executive Secretary of Foreign Missions. On behalf of Trinity Church, Sheboygan, Wis., the Rev. Arthur H. Oswald presented to the Executive Secretary of Foreign Missions a gift of $10,000 as a token of gratitude for a century of grace. The money is to be invested in a chapel in Japan or some other foreign field.

In order to promote systematic prayer for our missionaries, Synod resolved to encourage the printing of such prayers in each issue of *Portals of Prayer*. The President of Synod was asked to send out such prayers for use in our churches on Epiphany, Pentecost, and other festivals. Pastors and laity were encouraged to remember the missionaries in public and private prayers. The convention thanked the Lord for the blessed labors of the Rev. Daniel Chuvala and Miss Betty Rose Wulf and instructed the

Secretary to send suitable expressions of sympathy to the bereaved families. The Board for Missions in Foreign Countries was authorized to begin mission work in Korea when time and opportunity are suitable. Pastors and congregations were asked to engage missionaries on furlough for lectures and sermons. Mission Boards are to continue to publish the names of such available missionaries. In the matter of soliciting gifts all are to abide by the established policy of the Mission Board. Missionary R. Prange from the Philippines presented a stirring plea that missionaries be remembered in our prayers.

The final vote for members of the Board of Directors resulted in the election of Mr. Clarence Amling.

God's continued blessing was invoked on the new Department of Social Welfare, its Board and Secretary. All who make the Family Worship Hour possible were commended, and the congregations were encouraged to support the Family Worship Hour wholeheartedly. The American Lutheran Publicity Bureau was thanked for its past work; congregations and pastors were asked to support it with money and prayer.

Synod voiced its sincere appreciation of the faithful service rendered by the Armed Services Commission, instructed the Commission to continue its program, and urged promptness in sending to the Commission names and addresses and changes of addresses of men and women in the military and of patients in the Veterans Administration hospitals. The Board of Directors was instructed to grant permission for a special offering on Mother's Day when the Commission needs additional funds. The Commission was instructed to develop as far as necessary the program on Chaplaincy instituted at Concordia Seminary. Synod commended the Commission for opening service centers and urged it to continue this practice abroad in conjunction with the Lutheran Service Commission.

The sale of the Fort Wayne campus was discussed. Division of the first resolution was proposed, but was lost by a vote of 234 to 215.

After hearing an earnest warning by Dr. F. A. Hertwig of the dangers threatening the American home and a stirring account of the work in parish education from Dr. A. L. Miller, Executive Secretary for Parish Education, Synod with sincere gratitude recognized the efficient work of the Board for Parish Education for a difficult task well done. The Secretary of Synod was instructed to extend the greetings of the convention to the National Finnish Church now assembled in Cleveland, Ohio.

Adjournment by singing the hymn "Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall" and the votum.

Session 6

June 20, A. M.

The sixth session was opened with devotional exercises, the Rev. C. F. Baase, President of the Alberta and British Columbia District, acting as liturgist. In the meditation presented by the Rev. W. L. Kohn, President of the North Wisconsin District, the speaker showed that to present Christ as a lawgiver instead of a Savior and Redeemer and His message as a new law instead of a message of forgiveness is to turn the life-creating Gospel into a savor of death to the destruction of souls.

Greetings were presented from the Lutheran Laymen's League. The minutes were read and adopted.

In his essay Dr. J. T. Mueller developed the following truth: There is an invisible spiritual fellowship in Christ which unites all believers, even when they err out of weakness because they fail to perceive the full truth. In practicing fellowship we must be governed by the Scriptural principles which oblige us in love to bear firm witness to the whole Christ, or the whole truth, to guard divine truth faithfully, to reject all false, unscriptural doctrine, and to avoid false teachers. These principles prohibit our joining organizations where soul-destroying doctrine is taught, but bid us take every opportunity to give an answer for our faith in meekness and the fear of God.

After hearing from the Rev. Lambert Mehl a survey of the dangers threatening young people today, and an overview of Synod's youth work from Dr. Clarence Peters, Synod acknowledged the blessings which have come about through the program of Christian Youth Mission of the Walther League and its program of sharing the Word of God and disseminating its *Messenger* in foreign schools and libraries. Greetings were ordered extended to the Walther League at its coming convention, and prayerful best wishes were given to the Rev. Elmer N. Witt, the new Executive Secretary of the Walther League, who was presented to the convention. The League was commended for its co-operation with Synod's Board for Young People's Work and urged to continue such co-operation.

Faculties at our seminaries and teachers' colleges were encouraged to introduce courses and workshops in youth work. Providing scholarships to Lutheran Service Volunteer schools was recommended to congregations and societies. The Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League were encouraged to expand the program of leadership training, to which Synod promised adequate support. The Christian Youth Emergency Action Program is to be expanded.

The co-operative efforts of Synod and the English District looking to an amalgamation of the latter with the geographical districts of Synod were ordered continued; the Continuation Committee for this amalgamation is to make a report at the next convention.

After striking the word "growing" from the expression "threats of a growing bureaucracy" ("Today's Business," p. 63, line 7), Synod adopted the resolution to decline Memorial 505, which requested changes in the *Praesidium*. Memorial 506 on ranking the Vice-Presidents was also rejected. The change proposed for *Handbook* Section 2.141 (Memorial 507) was not authorized. However, the words "inviting members and congregations" were added to this section. In *Handbook* Section 6.07 the word "function" was ordered substituted for "duties." The lettering of the following paragraphs was changed as follows: 6.07 i to 6.07 l and 6.07 j, k, l to i, j, k respectively. The changes proposed for 6.07 j and 6.37 d and 2.79 m were adopted. These constitutional changes make the Board for Higher Education the executive agency of the Board of Directors *re* the erection and maintenance of the physical properties of Synod's educational plants.

Greetings were received from the missionaries in Japan, and the Secretary was instructed to return the greetings.

In the course of the discussion of the sale of the Fort Wayne campus the Rev. H. Mueller (S. Ill.) moved the amendment to the first resolution, to strike the words "two year senior college in accordance with the program approved by the synodical convention of 1950" and substitute for it "a four-year college." The motion to submit this amendment in mimeographed form was later on rejected.

The elections resulted as follows:

Board for Missions to the Blind: the Rev. Messrs. G. Bruegge-mann, 351 votes, V. Selle, 327 votes, E. C. Beversdorf, 274 votes, Messrs. E. Boerger, 282 votes, E. Martins, 270 votes.

Board for Missions in North and South America: the Rev. Messrs. W. E. Dorre, 337 votes, Henry Blanke, 328 votes, L. W. Koehler, 274 votes, Harry Krieger, 238 votes, L. H. Deffner, 225 votes; Messrs. Alvin Wulf, 315 votes, E. T. Schumm, 311 votes, P. G. Vetter, 273 votes, Clarence Kremel, 269 votes.

Board for Missions in Foreign Countries: the Rev. Messrs. R. G. Lange, 308 votes, W. A. Raedeke, 295 votes, M. Hartenberger, 293 votes, Paul Mehl, 289 votes, Dr. W. Arndt, 287 votes, Prof. L. M. Petersen, 278 votes; Messrs. Walter Meyer, 331 votes, Louis Prange, 295 votes, Ernest Balke, 290 votes, Louis Dau, 271 votes; Teacher John Runge, 312 votes.

The Nominations Committee placed in nomination for Board for Parish Education the names listed on pages 85 and 86; for Board for Young People's Work the names listed on pages 86 and 87; for Student Service Commission the names listed on page 87; for Board of Appeals the names listed on pages 87 and 88; for Board for Support and Pensions the names listed on pages 88 and 89; for the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House the names listed on pages 89 and 90; for the Board for Audio-Visual Aids the list of names on page 90 with the addition of the names of Mr. Otto F. Stahlke (Mich.) and Dr. Ernest Tieman (Tex.).

In the morning session on June 18 Synod expressed its appreciation to the organizations and individuals who had assisted in making contacts with the unchurched brought to our attention through the Television program "This Is the Life" and urged pastors and congregations to make such contacts immediately upon receiving notice.

Adjournment with the hymn "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" and the votum.

Session 7

June 22, A. M.

The seventh session was opened with devotional exercises in which the Rev. L. W. Koehler, President of the Manitoba and Saskatchewan District, served as liturgist. The Rev. Carl H. Bensene, President of the Northwest District, in his meditation pointed out that it is the solemn duty of the Church to proclaim the Law in all its severity so that unregenerate and regenerate sinners be convinced in their consciences of their guilt; however, when they cry in their despair "What must I do to be saved?" the Church has the blessed privilege to proclaim the full sweetness of the Gospel, which assures the sinner of his pardon in Christ's blood and his righteousness in Christ's merit.

The minutes were read and adopted with the following corrections: the Rev. Elmer E. Witt, to the Rev. Elmer N. Witt; mover of the amendment *re* sale of Fort Wayne campus, the Rev. Herbert Mueller, Northern Illinois District. An error privately pointed out in the fourth paragraph of the minutes was corrected by transposing the phrase "from the Rev. Lambert Mehl" to before "A survey of the dangers threatening young people today."

The following corrections in the number of votes: Board for Missions in North and South America: the Rev. H. Krieger, 238 votes; Board for Missions to the Blind: the Rev. G. Brueggemann, 251 votes.

In the fourth installment of his essay Dr. J. T. Mueller earnestly warned against some dangerous trends that might be appearing in our midst and solemnly urged our Church to build the true ecumenicity of the Church by following in the footsteps of the fathers, adhering to and cultivating the truth, and by avoiding all unscriptural entanglements.

The Rev. W. Storm presented a stimulating overview of our growing work for the blind, which he dramatized by introducing Mr. Walter Keith of Houston, who was accompanied by his seeing-eye dog. Synod commended the Board for Missions to the Blind for its zeal and authorized continued publication of Christian literature for the Blind. The Board of Directors was encouraged to support meetings of contact pastors with the Board. The volunteer Braille transcribers were asked to unify and consolidate their efforts. Funds for this work shall be solicited with the approval of the Board.

Dr. J. Salvner presented an overview of the work among the deaf. Thereupon Synod voiced its thanks to God for His blessings upon this work and expressed its appreciation of the leadership provided by the Board for Missions to the Deaf. Congregations and groups who help to further this work were given a vote of thanks. The Board was urged to explore and develop work among the deaf in promising foreign fields.

All who have made possible the work of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association were given a vote of thanks. The Mission Boards active in Medical Mission work were encouraged to appoint the medical adviser of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association to an advisory position on their Boards. The Board of Directors was authorized to continue to assist this program financially. New developments in this area are to be presented to the Board of Directors. The Medical Mission Association was asked to place its work on a self-sustaining basis at an early date.

The suggestion of Overture 403 to abolish the present Board for Missions in North and South America was declined. This Board was requested to consider the appointing of a subcommittee to study the special Latin American Mission problems.

Mr. E. J. Gallmeyer, chairman of the "Conquest for Christ" Committee, introduced Dr. John C. Baur, executive secretary of the "Conquest for Christ." The latter reported that there had been subscribed $13,982,229.39, of which $13,481,558.71 was paid in, leaving an unpaid balance of $500,670.68. Forty-two parishes (11,739 communicants), or .73 of 1%, have postponed the offering. No reports were received from 36 churches (5,742 communicants), or .46 of 1%. Fourteen churches (3,535 communicants), or .24 of 1%, declined to participate. This means a total completed participation of 98.39% and a potential total participation when

the postponed offerings are reported of 99.12%. 99.26% of our communicant members took part in this offering. Dr. Baur added that the greatest blessing was the fact that God loved us because we did this cheerfully.

Mr. Walter H. Schlueter, Treasurer of Synod, presented a report stressing the highlights of his complete report in *Reports and Memorials*. He stressed the fact that available funds are all allocated and that resolutions for expansion ought to include recommendations for providing the money. When necessary, unspent money of some funds is temporarily used to defray expenses of other funds; Trust Funds, however, cannot and are not used for any emergency. Unspent funds of the "Conquest for Christ" are invested in short-term Government bonds. Synod, he pointed out, is truly big business, $30,000,000 being handled in and out of the Treasurer's office annually, every dollar of which can be traced from its appearance to its disbursement.

Synod voiced its thanks to the members of the Board of Directors for their unremunerated services and to the congregations who allowed their pastors to be absent in order to serve on the Board of Directors. The action of the Board of Directors of having the Treasurer assume the duties of synodical Comptroller and of engaging a competent assistant, who is eventually to become Comptroller, was approved. With thanks to God, Synod commended all leaders in the "Conquest for Christ" offering. The Treasurer's report (Memorials 460—475) was adopted. The entire financial department of Synod was commended for faithful and efficient service. The Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds was given a vote of thanks. Congregations were urged to adopt the plan of stewardship set forth in Recommendations 1—7, pages 482 to 484, *Reports and Memorials,* to encourage subscriptions to the *Mission Call,* to make fuller use of mission films, to strive for a goal of $1.00 for missions out of every $3.00 collected, to observe Synodical Mission Sundays, and to achieve proportionate giving by their members. The Stewardship Counselor was commended for his services. The resolutions presented on using Pension Funds for Church Extension were divided, whereupon points a and b, instructing the Board of Directors to seek legal counsel not connected with our Church in determining the question of the legality of loaning Pension Funds to the District Church Extension Funds, and urging all members to present their suggestions and advice to the Board of Directors of Synod, were adopted. Point c was not voted upon.

Election results for Board for European Affairs: the Rev. Messrs. L. Buchheimer, 330 votes, W. C. Daib, 285 votes, Alfred Trinklein, 224 votes; Messrs. C. A. Baier, 297 votes, W. Hanser, 271 votes.

Church Extension Board: the Rev. Messrs. A. W. Born, 298 votes, H. Zehnder, 282 votes; Teachers G. Bode, 281 votes, F. Lietz, 263 votes; Messrs. Leo Kuhlman, 235 votes, H. W. Krieger, 226 votes.

Board of Missions to the Deaf: the Rev. Messrs. Ernst R. Drews, 296 votes, W. A. Buege, 294 votes, E. Schroeder, 281 votes; Messrs. J. P. Miller, 311 votes, C. F. Kruse, 281 votes.

Adjournment with the votum.

Session 8

June 22, P. M.

The eighth session was opened with devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. C. F. Kellermann, President of the Florida-Georgia District. The minutes were read and adopted with the substitution of the word "offering" for "collection" with reference to the "Conquest for Christ."

Synod commended Concordia Publishing House, its Board of Directors, its manager, and staff for outstanding service. Under proper authorization of the Board of Directors CPH was encouraged to improve its office facilities. The General Literature Board is to continue planning for additional volumes of the Commentary of the Bible and for a translation of Luther's Works. Acknowledging the faithful service of the Young People's Literature Board, the convention urged Synod's members to choose their reading matter cautiously. Reviews of worth-while books are to be circulated, and suitable manuscripts are to be solicited. Decreased teaching loads and leaves of absence were recommended for men to whom the preparation of necessary theological materials has been assigned, substitute teachers to be provided with the financial aid of Concordia Publishing House.

Synod authorized the publication of a Journal of Practical Church Work to be edited by an editor assisted by a six-man editorial committee from the Departments of Missions, Stewardship, and Education. The editor is to be appointed by the *Praesidium.* The magazine is to be distributed gratis to pastors, called teachers, and congregational chairmen of the committees in question. The cost is to be distributed over the budgets of the three departments.

Synod recommended that congregations and salary-paying boards subscribe to *Concordia Theological Monthly* or *Lutheran Education* for pastors, missionaries, and teachers. The Synodical Centennial Committee was commended for its faithful work and instructed to publish an index to Pieper's *Christian Dogmatics.*

Synod adopted the resolution on Bible translations, declined

formally to endorse a single translation, urged pastors by diligent study to ascertain the intended meaning of the Scriptures, which in their original texts constitute the authority for doctrine. Pastors were urged to guide their congregations in weighing the merits and demerits of the various versions. The program of study, publication, and conference with translators and publishers aiming at improvement of erroneous translations is to be continued.

Congregations were encouraged to recognize their public relations responsibilities in their communities, to avail themselves of the District departments, which were commended for their interest and co-operation in public relations. The Synodical Department of Public Relations was commended for its ability in conducting this difficult work.

All congregations were called upon to support the Lutheran Hour enthusiastically. Synod gratefully acknowledged the blessings of God on the Television program and thanked those who made it possible.

Dr. Hanns Lilje, Landesbischof of Hannover, saluted Synod with Dr. Martin Luther's greeting "Gott zum Gruss und unsern Herrn Jesus zum Trost!" He expressed the gratitude of German Lutherans for the spiritual and material gifts which our Church had given them. He reported further that the pressure and persecution had brought to the German Lutherans the experience of the riches of God's grace and of the power and strength of God's Word. He added furthermore that as conditions in Western Germany grow more normal, the people, as usual, tend to forget God, which situation requires the Lutheran Church to feel a deep sense of missionary obligation. In conclusion he asked our people to remember them in our intercessions as they would remember us, which prayer would prove a decisive force in the present dangerous situation.

Re Unprinted Memorial 60, asking a declaration on the doctrines of Antichrist, the general conversion of the Jewish nation, and the physical resurrection of martyrs, Synod resolved to "regard the acceptance and reaffirmation of the *Brief Statement* as its response to the request made in the memorial." The question was put from the floor whether the resolution meant that the *Brief Statement* and Memorial 60 are in agreement. The committee chairman answered: "The *Brief Statement* gives answer to Memorial 60." Eight negative votes were cast. The Rev. Arnold Gebhardt said in explanation of his negative vote: "I voted against the resolution, not because I do not agree with the *Brief Statement,* but because the resolution fails to face the issue squarely and decide it."

Greetings were received from the Pastors' and Teachers' Conference of the Michigan District of the Wisconsin Synod, assuring us of their prayers.

The Board of Support and Pensions and its Executive Secretary were commended for their intelligent and faithful work and urged to continue their efforts to persuade all congregations and workers of Synod to support Synod's Pension Plan. Synod further resolved that beginning February 1, 1954, a retired worker be granted a minimum of $100.00 a month and the widow $60.00 a month and that adjustments for disabled members be made accordingly. Mr. Harry Siemann of the Federal Department of State addressed the convention briefly.

Adjournment with the hymn "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word" and the votum.

Session 9

June 23, A. M.

The ninth session was opened with devotions in which the Rev. Philip Mueller, President of the South Dakota District, served as liturgist. In his meditation the Rev. A. H. Oswald, President of the South Wisconsin District, pointed out that the Law must be preached in all its severity to bring secure sinners to a realization of their guilt, and that the Gospel of salvation by faith alone must be the answer to the question of the despairing sinner: "What must I do to be saved?" Such preaching of the Law will not make The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod popular with sinners, and such preaching of the Gospel will gain us no favor with certain other church bodies, but this preaching makes The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod the Bible Church, the true visible Church on earth. The minutes were then read; a change was ordered, substituting the words "gives answer to Memorial 60" for the words "furnishes the assurance requested in Memorial 60." Thereupon the minutes were adopted.

Prof. Fred Kramer read the first installment of his essay, "A Church Works with Her Eyes Fixed on Christ's Second Coming." At the hand of Matthew 24 the essayist pointed out how sign after sign of the nearness of Christ's coming was in our day being fulfilled in unusually striking fashion. All such fulfillment calls to the Church to awake and realize that the Second Coming is not far off, even though these signs do not tell us how near, since they were not meant to give that information. Thus the paramount obligation of the pastors is to teach their parishioners to be sober and to avoid the love of the world so that in sanctification and righteousness they may await the dawn of the great Judgment.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in England was permitted

to effect an independent status in fellowship with our Synod. This Church was commended for her aggressive mission program, and adequate financial support was promised for its work. In France Synod authorized the establishment of a theological training center. The work in Denmark is to be continued in the manner dictated by wise stewardship of management and funds. The problems of our brethren in Finland were referred to the Finnish National Evangelical Lutheran Church; however, financial support was authorized. The Board for European Affairs was authorized at an opportune time to establish a Lutheran Council in Europe and to appoint a Field Representative for Europe. All missionaries were cautioned carefully to observe the Scriptural principles of fellowship, lest co-operation in externals lead to co-operation in essential church work. Synod encouraged the establishment of a Mission Council composed of representatives from the agencies listed in "Today's Business," p. 130. Amendments to add to this list the Board for Audio-Visual Aids and the Board of Relief were lost.

Synod by resolution placed in nomination the names submitted by the Committee on Nominations for the Boards of Control of Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis; Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield; Concordia Teachers College, River Forest; Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr. It was pointed out that these candidates were to be elected for a term of six years.

Reporting on Memorial 614 and the protest of the Rev. J. R. Sheppard, Committee No. 6 presented its resolutions *re* the action of the 1950 convention on the *Common Confession*. On appeal from the floor the Chair ruled that the point at issue was the constitutionality of the Chair's ruling at the 1950 convention that the *Common Confession* was adopted. This ruling was sustained by the body. After further discussion the Convention adopted the resolutions presented, to wit: that the opinion of Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters dated September 28, 1951, be approved and that Memorials 614 and the protest of the Rev. J. R. Sheppard be declined. A rising vote revealed that this was adopted, 17 votes being cast in the negative.

The amendment to the first resolution concerning the sale of the Fort Wayne campus providing that a four-year school instead of a two-year school be erected was discussed. Synod resolved to close the debate. No vote was taken.

Dr. Frank W. Langham of the American Bible Society presented a thrilling account of the world-wide spread of the Bible in whole or in parts. Parts of the Bible are being translated at the rate of one new language a month.

Adjournment with the table prayer.

Session 10

June 23, P. M.

The opening devotional services took the form of a memorial service in which the Rev. M. H. Holls, President of the Southern District, addressed the Convention on Heb. 11:13. In remembering our departed fellow workers in Christ we follow the example of the holy writer. We remember these departed brethren because they followed faithfully in the footsteps of the Master and did the work of the Master in a world where ungodliness runs riot, where error is propagated and insidiously creeps in even where the truth is preached. They leave behind for us the message that we are still on earth because God's work must still be done and we are here to do it. Hence let us speak as the oracles of God, work while it is day together with our synodical brethren, and, in correcting what is wrong, be careful not to destroy what is good. Such correction can most safely be made when we use the established rules and regulations. Only faithfulness in all things will at last bring us the crown now worn by our departed brethren.

Synod placed in nomination the names for Boards of Control for all of our colleges in North and South America as set forth in "Today's Business," pages 160 to 171, except that to the list for the Minnesota Concordia there was added the name of the Rev. Reuben Langhans (Eng. Dist.) and to the Bronxville Concordia the name of the Rev. Herman Meier, Lockport, N. Y. The Committee on Nominations was discharged.

Election returns for Board for Parish Education: Dr. Paul M. Bretscher, 347 votes, the Rev. C. T. Spitz, 294 votes, Dr. Martin Scharlemann, 264 votes; Teachers Paul Lange, 370 votes, A. R. Brandhorst, 247 votes, Herman H. Koehler, 299 votes; Messrs. Robert E. Steinmeyer, 328 votes, Fred Kuhlman, 252 votes, Carl Dauten, 270 votes.

Board for Young People's Work: Dr. Clarence Peters, 332 votes, Dr. L. W. Spitz, 299 votes; Teachers H. C. Gruber, 319 votes, L. Ramming, 276 votes; Mr. Gilbert Muchow, 267 votes.

Student Service Commission: the Rev. Richard Jesse, 310 votes, Prof. E. M. Plass, 273 votes; Mr. W. H. Gross, 319 votes.

Board of Appeals: Profs. Paul F. Koehneke, 385 votes, Erwin Schnedler, 299 votes; the Rev. Messrs. H. J. Bouman, 288 votes, Paul Koenig, 338 votes, Wm. F. Krueger, 274 votes, Erwin Kurth, 309 votes; Teachers Leonard Dierker, 327 votes, Henry Felten, 306 votes; Messrs. Eugene Wengert, 309 votes, John Luecke, 270 votes, Otto Scheimann, 297 votes.

Board for Support and Pension: the Rev. Messrs. Oscar Fedder, 323 votes, Carl Pfotenhauer, 312 votes, Julius Acker, 289 votes;

Teachers A. W. Obermann, 297 votes, Elmer Roth, 272 votes; Messrs. Otto C. David, 318 votes, N. Fleischer, 323 votes, Arthur H. Hahn, 323 votes, Louis Bartelt, 300 votes, George Bettinghaus, 330 votes.

Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House: Messrs. R. C. Obermann, 336 votes, Alfred Leimbach, 279 votes, A. J. Meyer, 308 votes.

Board for Audio-Visual Aids: the Rev. Messrs. H. A. Bielenberg, 263 votes, Otto F. Stahlke, 230 votes; Teachers C. T. Brandhorst, 276 votes, Walter F. Steinberg, 307 votes; Messrs. T. G. Carl Schroeder, 319 votes, W. C. Dickmeyer, 312 votes, Col. L. W. mann, 259 votes.

Selections Committee for Nominations Committee for 1956: the Rev. Messrs. C. W. Berner, 350 votes, R. E. Meinzen, 271 votes, William Dau, 291 votes; Teacher Walter Redeker, 273 votes; Messrs. Carl Schroeder, 319 votes, W. C. Dickmeyer, 312 votes, Col. E. H. Meinzen, 298 votes.

Synod resolved to strive for a goal of 50 per cent of our children in day schools by urging congregations to set themselves the same goal. To this end congregations were urged to organize Christian day schools wherever possible and necessary, to share existing schools with other parishes, to establish more consolidated schools, and to make use of the findings of the Board for Parish Education. The teachers' colleges were encouraged to explore the possibility of extending their summer school programs to other areas of Synod. Teachers were encouraged to enroll in correspondence courses with our teachers' colleges, attend local universities and teachers' colleges. The District Boards of Education were urged to establish educational workshops and congregations to make attendance possible from a time and financial standpoint. Congregations were urged to arrange for weekly or at least biweekly meetings for Sunday school teachers, and to make regular use of Synod's teacher-training course. When the resolutions concerning the status of the teacher had been moved, the words "elected or appointed" in Section e ("Today's Business," p. 174) were stricken. Thereupon the resolutions, commending the committee for its report, urging continued study of the doctrinal content of the report, reaffirming the full right of the congregation to call ministers of the Word, having Synod recognize as "Ministers of the Word" those called by congregations for such activities as are included in the ministry of the Word, and declaring this designation applicable to those called to similar positions by the church at large, were adopted.

The motion to regard Parts I and II of the *Common Confession* as one document was recommitted. The motion to take no action

on the overtures pertaining to Part I of the *Common Confession* but to urge earnest study of this document was before the house subject to the following amendment:

"That we urge all pastors, teachers, and laymen to study privately, in conference, and in adult Bible classes *the Scriptures* as referred to in the *Common Confession* in its present form, asking the Holy Ghost for our Savior's sake to enlighten us on these teachings through His gracious Word, encouraging the membership to report their Scriptural findings to our Synod's Unity Committee in sufficient time to have them included in their written report to the next convention."

Section C of the resolution on the use of Pension Funds for Church Extension was amended and passed in the following form: "That if Pension Funds can be legally invested in the District Church Extension Funds and/or the General Church Extension Fund, the Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds be authorized to proceed with such an investment." After the committee had presented its recommendations on ways and means to provide funds to meet the demands of educational and mission work by setting up a Capital Investment Fund and to authorize the Board of Directors to borrow money for this fund, the recommendations were moved and seconded. Mr. J. W. Boehne then presented a substitute motion providing for the borrowing of approximately $6,000,000 for capital investments and looking to a possible special financial effort in 1957. This substitute motion was duly moved and seconded. No vote was taken. The substitute motion is to appear in Wednesday's "Today's Business."

The session was closed by singing Hymn 36, "Now Thank We All Our God," and with the votum.

Session 11

June 24, A. M.

The eleventh session was opened with devotional exercises in which the Rev. R. Wiederaenders, President of the Texas District, served as liturgist. In his meditation the Rev. A. E. Mueller, President of the Southern California District, stressed the fact that over against today's chief doctrinal error that man must by his own effort climb the spiritual ladder in order to attain the blessings Christ has earned, we must preach with all emphasis that faith is a gift of God as it is gloriously set forth in Luther's explanation of the Second Article. The minutes were then read. The following names having been corrected, Herman H. Koehler and the Rev. Otto F. Stahlke, the minutes were adopted.

In the final installment of his essay, Prof. Fred Kramer urged

the pastors to follow the example of St. Paul, who, conscious of the Judgment to come, in spite of physical weakness, dedicated himself to the ministry of reconciliation. Two signs may deter the Church in its great mission: the fear of persecution and the spirit of materialism. Though persecution is bound to come and cause those who are fearful to withdraw and others to betray their brethren, yet the Church dare not fold up when Satan growls, but must preach where God opens doors. Pastors were called upon to dedicate themselves and resist in their own lives the infection of materialism that they might inspire their hearers with the zeal to conquer so the Church's work can be accelerated. If the pastors and the people and seminary graduates are wholeheartedly dedicated, the talents which God has given to the Church will be put to work, and so the great Day will be hastened on which the Church, delivered from all ills, will be triumphant in glory.

It was reported that Dr. Fred E. Mayer of the St. Louis seminary has been committed to a hospital in a most critical condition. Recognizing his valuable services to Synod, the Convention conveyed its greetings to him, assuring him of its prayers and commending him into the everlasting arms of Him who does all things well.

It was also announced that Dr. M. Piehler was flown home to receive necessary medical attention, whereupon Synod wished him God's blessings for a speedy recovery.

The amendment to establish a four-year college instead of a two-year senior college was rejected. After receiving the assurance that the experimental program presently conducted at Fort Wayne would be continued at another institution, the resolutions establishing a two-year senior college and governing the disposition of the Fort Wayne campus were adopted. Thereupon the Chair urged all wholeheartedly to co-operate in working for the two-year senior college.

Synod resolved to amend *Handbook* Section 10.47 b (3) as proposed in "Today's Business," page 139, permitting retired workers to earn up to $120.00 a month. Borderline cases were referred to the Board of Support and Pensions for decision. *Handbook* Section 10.47 b (1) was amended to read: ". . . and that his widow was married to him prior to his retirement." It was also ordered that the widow who marries a worker receiving an annuity and her children have no claim on the "benefits of the Pension Fund." The Board of Support and Pensions was encouraged to continue its efforts in persuading nonparticipating workers to join the Pension Fund. Congregations were encouraged to pay their workers enough to enable them to join. Workers who after

January 1, 1954, have not joined the Pension Plan are to forfeit all claims to Support benefits, borderline cases to be decided by the Board of Support and Pension. Workers who after July 1, 1953, accept positions in which they receive their salaries from The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod shall be required to participate in the Pension Plan.

All members of Synod, especially conferences, were urged seriously to consider the doctrine of the call and to include this study in their programs for the next triennium. Every congregation was encouraged to enlist all members, adults, young people, and children (the last item inserted by amendment) into Bible classes and to make Bible study progressive by providing additional Bible classes as communicant membership increases.

Results of elections for Boards of Control:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis: Dr. F. Niedner, 377 votes, for six years; the Rev. Messrs. E. L. Roschke, 345 votes, for six years, John Oppliger, 308 votes, for three years; Messrs. Oscar P. Brauer, 424 votes, for six years, J. A. Fleischli, 323 votes, for six years, Theo. Heinicke, 293 votes, for three years, Robert Steinmeyer, 281 votes, for three years, Carl J. Mueller, 251 votes, for three years.

Concordia Seminary, Springfield: Dr. B. Selcke, 301 votes, for six years; Messrs. H. M. Olsen, 366 votes, for six years, J. C. Rodenburg, 364 votes, for three years, O. H. Droste, 241 votes, for three years.

Concordia at River Forest: the Rev. Erwin L. Paul, 325 votes, for six years; Teachers E. H. Rupprecht, 316 votes, for six years, Alvin Roschke, 279 votes, for three years; Messrs. Dr. Waldemar Link, 415 votes, for six years, Lawrence Foerster, 310 votes, for three years, Edgar Elbert, 228 votes, for three years.

Concordia at Seward: the Rev. O. A. Graebner, 324 votes, for six years; Teachers E. Chas. Mueller, 303 votes, for six years, Fred Koltermann, 339 votes, for six years; E. T. Miessler, 258 votes, for six years. The following were recognized as serving for three more years on the Seward Board of Control: Teacher E. A. Buchholz, Columbus, Nebr., Messrs. E. A. Bek, Seward, Nebr., L. C. Heine, Omaha, Nebr., W. A. Leppin, Kearney, Nebr.

Concordia, Fort Wayne: the Rev. Edgar P. Schmidt, 300 votes, for six years; Messrs. Robert Moellering, 340 votes, for six years, Clarence Brenner, 323 votes, for three years, Robert Berning, 290 votes, for three years.

Concordia, Milwaukee: the Rev. H. Brueggemann, 268 votes, for six years; Messrs. Ed. Pritzlaff, 345 votes, for six years, E. Erdmann, 335 votes, for three years, John Sichling, 259 votes, for three years.

St. Paul's, Concordia, Mo.: the Rev. O. Tieman, 299 votes, for

six years; Messrs. Edwin Pape, 296 votes, for six years, Alfred Schreiner, 294 votes, for three years, O. L. Viets, 273 votes, for three years.

Concordia, Bronxville: the Rev. Herman Meier, 229 votes, for six years; Messrs. Charles Nehrig, 332 votes, for six years, Fred Schuermann, 310 votes, for three years, L. W. H. Rabe, 289 votes, for three years.

A correction was entered into the report of elections for Board of Support and Pensions: the name Elmer Roth was substituted for E. A. Groth.

Dr. O. A. Geiseman informed the Convention that the Acting Ambassador of West Germany had reported the fact that the government of West Germany has awarded to President J. W. Behnken *das Grosse Kreuz* in recognition of the service which under his leadership The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod had rendered to the war-stricken people of Europe, especially of Germany. Our Church was first among Protestant bodies to provide financial aid, to meet with the church leaders of Germany, to make available books for the rehabilitation of Germany's religious life, to plead with President H. S. Truman for permission to initiate a program of sending packages to people in need. Dr. Geiseman pointed out that our chaplains played a large part in pointing the way for this humanitarian service and referred to the deep feeling of gratitude found among the German people. In conclusion he extended congratulations to Dr. Behnken, beseeching the mercies of God to continue to help our President in furnishing leadership. Dr. Behnken acknowledged the honor and good wishes with a pledge of further service to God and mankind.

The Rev. A. F. Krentz, reporting on Deaconess training, voiced two pleas: 1) to send many girls of the highest type; 2) in view of the desperate need of a new dormitory on the Valparaiso campus to support the collection of $250,000 authorized by the Board of Directors.

It was reported that Mr. R. Steinmeyer had been elected to two boards.

Adjournment with the table prayer spoken in unison.

Session 12

June 24, P. M.

The opening devotions of the twelfth session were conducted by Dr. F. A. Hertwig, Second Vice-President of Synod. The cause of the Armed Services Commission was presented to the Convention, showing that need for this work will in all probability continue at least until 1975 since our best youth will be called out in its most impressionable years and the Church must accompany them with Word and Sacrament so they may return and become useful members of our churches. It was also pointed out that our Synod was not furnishing its quota of chaplains for the Navy. The chairman of the Commission, Dr. Paul Dannenfeldt, reported that spot reports indicated that the recent Mother's Day collection was going over the top. He referred to the consecrated and efficient service of our chaplains which had brought to many of them excellent and superior ratings. Chaplain Major General Charles I. Carpenter voiced appreciation of the fact that our Synod was doing more than giving chaplains since it was keeping in touch with our youth in the military. The situation, he pointed out, confronts the Church with three challenges: 1) American young people are everywhere in the world and are often being tempted by different standards of morality and must make their decisions without the restraining influence of their Church, parents, or friends. 2) Since one million young men are being called into the military, the question arises whether they go out of the Church as they go into service. 3) The Armed Services are the greatest mission field of the Church today since many of their members have never heard the message of a saving Christ. The Christian youth in the Armed Services are the greatest missionaries, whose conduct preaches impressive sermons. They have strengthened Christianity in many places. They must be prepared for this missionary service and be taught to represent Christ wherever they walk and in whatever they do. Particularly responsible in preserving the youth for the Church is the local pastor. Chaplain Carpenter concluded with a plea for greater dedication in serving the youth in the military. In acknowledging with thanks his inspiring words, Dr. Behnken asked God to grant us full responsibility for this work.

Synod resolved in future to designate the General Relief Board as Board of World Relief, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. It shall consist of three pastors and three laymen to be appointed by the Board of Directors and of the executive secretary of the Board for Social Welfare. This Board was instructed to procure necessary help and to establish the office of Executive Director. This Board is authorized to appeal for funds at a convenient time, congregations being encouraged to respond generously to alleviate suffering throughout the world. The Board is to appeal for funds, food, and clothing when need therefor exists. The Rev. E. A. Nerger pointed out that dire need exists in Germany, Palestine, Yugoslavia, India, Hong Kong, Formosa, and Korea. President C. F. Baase of the Alberta and British Columbia District reported briefly on the blessed results of Canadian Lutheran World Relief.

The personnel of KFUO was commended for diligent work,

the Board of Directors for their interest in KFUO, and the Fiscal Conference was encouraged to support Station KFUO liberally.

Mr. Charles Dickmeyer presented a stirring plea for Valparaiso University. He pointed out that we must train the lay leaders of tomorrow and that nothing can be more important than to develop in our youth a philosophy of life which teaches them to place their burdens on God and to understand their relations to God and their obligation to the Church. Valparaiso, he said, by teaching our youth to know the truth gives them a grant of freedom. He asked that 400 additional freshmen be sent and that the institution be given financial support.

The resolution to urge all pastors, teachers, and laymen to study the *Common Confession* in its present form together with the amendment reported in the minutes of the previous session, and also found in "Today's Business," page 232, was adopted. The criticisms and suggestions found in Memorials 602, 621, 35, and 61 were referred to the *Praesidium* for further consideration and study. The questions proposed in the essays mentioned in Memorials 623, 605, and 606 were referred to the *Praesidium* since the questions proposed in these essays are under discussion by the *Praesidium*. A standing Committee on Doctrinal Unity was ordered appointed, its duties to be listed in the *Handbook*. Synod urgently recommended joint study of the Scriptures, particularly when the Church is disturbed by differences in doctrine and practice. While declining the request of Memorial 31, Synod urged all pastors to instruct their members entering military service in our Scriptural position in unionism, so exceptional cases in military life may not undermine sound practice in our congregations. The Convention urged the Committee on Doctrinal Unity to continue discussions with the representatives of the American Lutheran Church and authorized further meetings of this committee of our *Praesidium* and District Presidents with corresponding representatives of the American Lutheran Church. An amendment to include other Lutheran bodies of the United States was rejected since it was held to be out of order at this place. Ten negatives were recorded. A motion to limit all future discussions to three-minute presentations was rejected.

Synod declined to answer the questions posed in Memorial 59 *re* unanimous agreement on matters of doctrine and conscience and final acceptance of the *Common Confession*. Twenty-one negative votes were noted.

In the previous session, Synod by a rising vote of thanks expressed its appreciation of the conscientious work of the two essayists.

Election returns for Boards of Control:

St. Paul, Minn.: the Rev. Henry W. Brill, 226 votes, for six years; Messrs. Henry Neils, 296 votes, for six years, Eugene Heuer, 289 votes, for three years, Wilbur Decker, 283 votes, for three years.

Austin: the Rev. W. E. Meyer, 279 votes, for six years; Messrs. Albert Schultz, 316 votes, for six years, Paul Nerger, 304 votes, for three years, F. R. Leschberg, 231 votes, for three years.

Winfield: the Rev. Leo J. Fenske, 326 votes, for six years; Messrs. Walter H. Wulf, 354 votes, for six years, L. L. Sauer, 352 votes, for three years, Walter Helberg, 260 votes, for three years.

Portland: the Rev. Edward C. May, 261 votes, for six years; Messrs. Richard Brandon, 297 votes, for six years, George W. Udy, 279 votes, for three years, Gordon Jones, 245 votes, for three years.

Buenos Aires: the Rev. J. P. Horn, 349 votes, for six years; Messrs. R. Kraemer, 313 votes, for six years, F. Ahnert, 282 votes, for three years; M. Donner, 278 votes, for three years.

Porto Alegre: the Rev. George Muller, 275 votes, for six years; Messrs. Adalbert Nickel, 320 votes, for six years, Oswaldo Kraemer, 314 votes, for three years, Hugo Wagner, 314 votes, for three years.

Oakland: the Rev. Paul Huchthausen, 292 votes, for six years; Messrs. Albert Theiss, Sr., 333 votes, for six years; Herbert Lemke, 290 votes, for three years, Edwin Meese, Jr., 282 votes, for three years.

Edmonton: the Rev. N. J. Bruer, 299 votes, for six years; Messrs. Clarence Kuhnke, 292 votes, for six years; A. C. Lechelt, 266 votes, for three years; John Unterschultz, 241 votes, for three years.

Mr. Robert Steinmeyer was declared to be a member of the Board for Parish Education and Mr. W. J. Rasmussen, a member of the Board of Control of Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis. It was resolved to meet from 7 to 9 P. M. this evening.

Synod closed by singing from the hymn "Preserve Thy Word, O Savior" and the votum.

Session 13

June 24, Evening

The opening devotion for the thirteenth session was conducted by Dr. W. F. Lichtsinn. The minutes were read and adopted. According to instructions the paragraph on the Doctrinal Unity Committee was changed to read: "A standing Committee on Doctrinal Unity was ordered appointed, its duties to be listed in the *Handbook*."

The substitute motion of Mr. J. W. Boehne for Resolution 13 of Committee 11 was rejected. There is now before the house Resolution 13 of Committee 11.

Synod commended the Commission on Fraternal Organizations and encouraged pastors and members to seek its aid. Members of Synod who come into possession of valuable documents and information useful to the Commission were urged to send it to the Commission. The secretary of the Commission on Fraternal Organizations was instructed to send to the family of the sainted Dr. Th. Graebner notice of Synod's grateful recognition of his services and thanks for the gift of his valuable files. The Commission was encouraged to contact officials of fraternal organizations in order to eliminate objectionable religious features in lodge rituals. All congregations and pastors were urged to continue taking an evangelical but definite stand on membership in objectionable fraternal organizations. Paragraph 14.03 f was amended to read: "It is, and shall be, the practice of Synod not to administer Holy Communion to members of such lodges nor to admit such persons to communicant membership in our congregations." Paragraph 14.03 g is to be written so as to define more clearly the nature of the exceptions mentioned in paragraph f. The congregation which asked for a clarification of Synod's policy on Scouting (Memorial 611) was referred to the Commission on Fraternal Organizations. Congregations were urged to avoid extremes in the matter of Scouting lest conscience be burdened.

Synod adopted the proposals for a more adequate supply of women teachers, found in *Reports and Memorials,* page 150. Schools conducting the teacher-training program were authorized to include in the regular budget additions in equipment or teaching staff necessitated by this program. The teacher-training program at the junior colleges is to be supervised by a joint committee of the teachers' colleges and the Board for Higher Education. Representatives of the teachers' colleges, the synodical school office, and the Board for Higher Education are to develop a workable procedure to certificate women students and graduates. Rules for certification of women students not trained in our system are to be drawn up by this committee as well as regulations governing transfer of women teachers from one congregation to another. These studies shall be reported to the College of Presidents. Concordia College of Austin was authorized to inaugurate a two-year teacher-training program provided the Texas District offers a dormitory to accommodate 80 girls. The cost of operation is to be included in the college budget. Since Valparaiso offered to train teachers for our Church, Synod expressed its appreciation of this offer and directed the *Praesidium,* the Board for Higher Education, and the presidents of our teachers' colleges to make the necessary arrangements for training women teachers at Valparaiso under synodical control so as to meet Synod's expectations, if such arrangements upon investigation prove to be possible.

The session was closed by singing the hymn "Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow," with Luther's Evening Prayer, and with the votum.

Session 14

June 25, A. M.

The fourteenth session was opened by devotional exercises in which the Rev. T. A. Weinhold, President of the Western District, served as liturgist. In the meditation based on Rom. 3:24, 28, the Rev. H. J. Rippe, President of the Atlantic District, pointed out that faith is more than a mere belief in the existence of God, but a complete reliance and trust on the merit of Christ. We are justified freely by grace alone. The promises of the Law are conditioned on obedience; the promises of the Gospel are unconditional; hence, to speak of salvation on account of or in view of faith, which would presuppose some exercise of will power on man's part, does violence to Scripture, which makes salvation the unconditioned and unmerited gift of divine grace. The minutes were then read and adopted.

The Rev. Herman Meier of Lockport, N. Y., was excused from serving on the Bronxville Board of Control, and the Rev. Louis Wagner was elected to that position for six years.

Synod separated the office of Secretary of Missions from the Executive Secretary of Missions for North and South America and authorized a re-alignment in the duties of the personnel of the Board for Missions in North and South America so as to have appointed a Secretary for North American Missions, for Latin American Missions, and for Evangelism. One of these secretaries is to serve as Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions in North and South America. Areas of responsibilities of the secretaries are to be defined by the Mission Boards and the Board of Directors.

Synod voiced thanks to God for His blessings upon our laborers in Africa, commended the Missionary Board of the Synodical Conference and our missionaries, and besought a safe homeward journey for Dr. Karl Kurth. All Districts were asked to receive Negro congregations. Those unable to finance this work are to be granted subsidies.

Approximately 3 per cent of the estimated building costs is to be added to the appropriations submitted to the Convention. Resolution 45 of Committee 1 was moved and seconded but not acted upon.

The Board of Directors was commended for the consideration

it had given to the KFUO-TV proposition and was authorized to activate the grant of the Federal Communications Commission on a commercial basis. After commending the Synodical Radio and Television Committee, Synod ordered the committee reorganized so all agencies working in radio and television will be adequately represented. This new committee is to carry out work of the Radio and Television Committee, KFUO Committee, Lutheran Television Productions, and Department of Public Relations. It was pointed out that this resolution did not mean that the work of the Department of Public Relations should be merged with this committee. The new Radio and TV Committee is to co-ordinate the work of the afore-mentioned groups in order to help avoid duplications, bring about exchange of ideas, and conduct such other business as may be profitable to the Church. The Board of Directors was authorized to continue its work in co-ordinating radio and TV activities. For the time being the Lutheran TV Productions Committee remains a committee appointed by the Board of Directors. Pastors were encouraged to utilize on local stations radio and TV helps prepared by the synodical Committee, which is to continue building its library of scripts. Subject to the approval of the Fiscal Conference, the Radio and TV Committee is to be granted additional funds and appoint a director. Synod voiced gratitude to all stations which had given free time and to the Federal Communications Commission.

With thanks to God, Synod acknowledged the gift of the Concordia Historical Institute Building, commended the Board of the Institute and its curator, encouraged the Institute to enlarge its microfilm collection, called upon all agencies to deposit with the Institute records no longer needed by them, asked all who had in their possession minutes and records of defunct congregations and of pastoral and teachers' conferences to do the same. Synodical schools and institutions were urged to deposit copies of their printed historical materials in these archives. Members of Synod were encouraged to join the Institute and the Fiscal Conference to grant budget subsidies.

Synod instructed its President to have a theologian prepare a clear and concise statement on "A Christian's Attitude Toward War," which is to be published in *Concordia Theological Monthly* and the *Lutheran Witness*.

Prayers of thanks were offered in memory of the fellow workers who had departed to their heavenly home in the preceding triennium. By a rising vote Synod expressed its appreciation of the leadership of Dr. Behnken and of the services of the Vice-Presidents, Drs. Harms, Hertwig, Lichtsinn, and Grumm, the Secretary, Dr. Kretzmann, his assistant, Professor Bente, the Treasurer, Dr. Schlueter, and of the many boards and committees, beseeching divine blessings upon all of them.

Concordia Publishing House was charged with the responsibility of procuring and disseminating Visual Aid materials so that the Visual Aid project might be self-supporting. Synodical *Handbook* Sections 7.105 c and 7.107 were ordered changed to conform to the resolutions in *Reports and Memorials*, pp. 455, 456, paragraph 14. The Board of Directors and the Board of CPH were commended for their policies in connection with Audio-Visual Education, for distributing material of high standard. The Board for Audio-Visual Aids was encouraged to expand its efforts.

The recommendations for membership of congregations, pastors, and teachers listed in "Today's Business," pp. 112 and 239, as well as that of Candidate Rolland Bentrup were adopted.

The resolution on Memorial 607, *re* "Unanimous Agreement to the Word of God," was recommitted. Synod authorized the appointment of a Committee on Allocating Research Funds and adopted the resolutions presented in "Today's Business," pp. 184, 185, with the addition of paragraph c of Resolution 12 on p. 181. In future each member of the faculties of Springfield and St. Louis was ordered to attend the conventions of Synod "at least every nine years."

Memorial 802 requesting expansion of the Board of Directors was declined. The recommendation that future committees on nominations in presenting candidates for this Board are to keep in mind the different areas of Synod was referred to the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters. The question of determining the boundary line between the Atlantic and Eastern Districts was referred to the District officials who are involved.

Committee 12 reported that its work was completed, and was excused with thanks.

The Board of Directors was authorized to appropriate our proportionate share for buildings at Selma, Ala.

The 60th anniversary of the Board for Foreign Missions was recognized by expressions of gratitude for the success God has bestowed upon our Church's work and by rededicating ourselves to the glorious privilege of making disciples of all nations. Synod by a rising vote recognized with gratitude to God the blessed service of Dr. F. C. Streufert. Committee 2 was excused with thanks.

One thousand dollars was added to the budget of the Student Service Commission to enable it in co-operation with the Lutheran Academy for Scholarship to develop a program which would draw into service men and women of our Church who are on the staffs of secular colleges and universities.

The question of issuing the *Lutheran Witness* in a weekly edition was referred to the Editorial Board for study and consideration. This Editorial Board "and the Stewardship Department" shall "co-operate in effecting an inclusion of the material now offered in the *Mission Call* in any way that will further both the cause of missions and reader appeal for the *Lutheran Witness.*" Other suggestions for improving the *Lutheran Witness* were referred to the Editorial Board. Requests to include German sermonic material in *Concordia Pulpit* were referred to the synodical Literature Board; those for a new translation of Luther's Small Catechism, to the Board for Parish Education. Committee 8 was excused with thanks.

Adjournment with the prayer "The eyes of all wait upon Thee."

Session 15

June 25, P. M.

The fifteenth session was opened with devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. H. C. Welp, President of the Southern Illinois District. The minutes were read and adopted. Committee 3 was excused with thanks.

Synod thanked the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics for its work in the interest of Christian worship and encouraged the committee to make available additional liturgical and hymnological materials. A text edition with tunes of the *Lutheran Hymnal* was authorized. Future editions of the *Lutheran Hymnal* are to include Luther's Small Catechism and the Passion History. Committee 9 was excused with thanks.

Synod adopted the appropriations for colleges and seminaries as presented on page 245 and the revised tabulation. The vote was unanimous. After the vote had been taken, the chairman pointed out that this was a program in which the souls of men are at stake — souls dearly bought. In carrying this message home the representatives are to make that fact a talking point as well as the fact that the resolution was adopted with enthusiasm. The Convention rose and sang "Now Thank We All Our God." The Board for Higher Education was instructed to continue study and recommendation looking to a balance between the production of pastors and teachers and the needs of our Church. The Board was authorized and directed to appoint an Assistant Secretary who is to carry out the duties set forth in *Reports and Memorials,* p. 145, and in "Today's Business," p. 72.

Synod passed the regulations governing reduction of subsidized pensions when the employer's rate is not increased to 8 per cent. Congregations and individuals were encouraged to make use of

Pension Fund Memorial Wreaths as well as larger endowments and gifts. Synod declined to take official action on the matter of urging Congress to extend Social Security benefits to professional church workers. Should Congress enact such a law without making it mandatory, workers and congregations shall be left free to decide about entering the Federal program, but such action shall not militate against the synodical Pension Plan or become a substitute for it. The third resolution was amended and passed as follows: "In the event that individual workers, congregations, District and synodical officials, and other agencies decide to participate in the Federal Social Security program and reduce their contributions to the Pension Fund correspondingly, the Board of Support and Pension shall be authorized to make the necessary adjustments and report to the next convention." Committee 10 was excused with thanks.

Synod voted thanks to the Rev. J. E. Herrmann for getting films ready for use after the convention.

Synod declared that it does not consider joint prayers at intersynodical meetings unionistic provided such prayer does not imply denial of truth or support of error. Seven negative votes were counted. Synod reaffirmed the resolution of the Milwaukee Convention warning all members of Synod against any action which would overlook the fact that we are not yet united with the American Lutheran Church. The memorials dealing with the issues raised by "A Statement" were referred to the *Praesidium* for the purpose of obtaining furtherance of agreement on the issues raised. Two negative votes were heard. The Convention asked the *Praesidium* to continue its attempts to settle in a God-pleasing manner the matters in the request of the Wisconsin Synod (Memorial 610, point 3) and to have the Wisconsin Synod informed of this action. For purposes of study Parts I and II of the *Common Confession* are to be treated as one document with the understanding that Part II has not yet been adopted. One negative vote was recorded. The request that our sister synods for purposes of study treat Parts I and II of the *Common Confession* as one document was under discussion when the Convention closed.

Adjournment with the votum.

Session 16

June 25, Evening

The evening devotions were opened by Vice-President Grumm. An item omitted from the preceding minutes: Since information was brought that the question concerning "Lutheran Men in America of Wisconsin" was being dealt with locally, Synod took

no action but implored the blessings of God upon the efforts to resolve this matter in a God-pleasing manner. Synod requested the sister synods of the Synodical Conference to treat Parts I and II of the *Common Confession* as one document. Twelve negative votes were cast. The Synodical Conference was asked to postpone action until Part II of the *Common Confession* had been acted upon by our Synod. Synod concluded these resolutions with the prayer that concluded the report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity. The theological faculties are to study the question "What Is a Doctrine?" Resolutions concerning other Lutheran church bodies are to be transmitted by the President. Committee 3 was dismissed with thanks.

New professorships shall in future be created by the Board for Higher Education and the Board of Directors. The graduate study program was recommitted. The proposed changes in certification of our teachers found in "Today's Business," pp. 247, 248, were adopted. Synod authorized participation in the expansion of St. John's School at Seward. Recommendations governing the training of high school teachers are to be prepared for the 1956 convention. Co-education in the high school department at St. Paul was denied. No further action was taken on Memorials 117, 118, 119, and 126. Memorial 129 was declined. The teacher-training program is to be conducted as set forth in "Today's Business," p. 250, Resolution 58. A report on establishing a seminary on the West Coast is to be submitted to the 1956 convention. A teacher-training course was authorized at Edmonton, details to be worked out by the Board for Higher Education. In order to insure uniformity in placement policies, Section 6.62 of the *Handbook* was revised to read as follows: "All institutions which train professional workers for service in Synod shall be held to conform placement policies for the ministry and teaching profession."

The resolution authorizing adjustments and budgetary provisions for the teacher-training program at Valparaiso University was adopted with the following amendment: ". . . and that no capital expenditures be made at Valparaiso University prior to 1956."

Synod next took up the discussion of the recommendations of Committee 11 regarding the capital investment fund as presented on pages 182 and 183. Resolution (a) was amended to read: "that Synod authorize a Survey and Findings Committee to be composed of the voting members of the Board of Directors and a like number of District representatives chosen by the voting members at the meeting of the 1953 Fiscal Conference of Synod and that the Planning Counselor of Synod, the Stewardship Counselor of Synod, the Controller of Synod (when appointed), and

the Assistant Treasurer of Synod be considered as advisory members." Resolution (d) was stricken. Resolution (f) was amended by inserting after the word "moneys" the words "not to exceed $6,000,000." Item (g) was amended by inserting after the word "funds" the words "subject to the approval of the Fiscal Conference." Thereupon the amended motion was unanimously adopted.

The meeting closed by singing "Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow," joining in Luther's Evening Prayer, and the votum.

Session 17

June 26, A. M.

The seventeenth session was opened with devotional exercises in which the Rev. W. H. Cordts, President of the North Dakota District, served as liturgist. In the meditation based on 2 Cor. 3:6, the Rev. Walter Homann, President of the Northern Nebraska District, developed the thought that the Gospel alone motivates godliness. He pointed out that the Law never produces life and never changes the heart of man. Even when it produces some good works, nothing is accomplished. The Law creates only wrath and resentment. It serves its complete purpose when it produces the knowledge of sin. The Gospel, on the other hand, makes alive and frees men from their burdens so they can cheerfully walk God's way. To know Jesus and have comfort in Him is the only motivation to godliness.

The Rev. J. W. Acker was excused from serving on the Board for Support and Pensions, and the Rev. Louis H. Koehler was elected to that Board. Mr. John Luecke was excused from serving on the Board of Appeals, and Mr. Harry Barr (West. Dist.) was elected in his place.

The minutes were read and adopted.

The following items were referred to the Board for Higher Education: Setting up criteria for admission to the St. Louis Seminary ("Today's Business," 70:23); Minimum residence requirement at synodical schools (71:24); Calling Assistant Professors to Associate Professorships (103:27); Graduate study at teachers' colleges ("Today's Business," 246b:48, Memorials 122, 123); Unprinted Memorial 29 b (253:65); Unprinted Memorial 20 on exchange professors of seminaries (253:68); Unprinted Memorial 70: Training for pastors in church music appreciation (265:72).

The following changes were ordered made in the synodical *Handbook:* In Section 6.07 as set forth in "Today's Business," 104:28; in Section 6.54 as set forth in "Today's Business," 104:29; in Section 6.53 as set forth in "Today's Business," 105:30; in Sec-

tion 6.51 b as set forth in "Today's Business," 105:31; in Section 6.69 as set forth in "Today's Business," 178:37; in Section 6.145 c as set forth in "Today's Business," 178:38; in Section 6.117 as set forth in "Today's Business," p. 212:42; in Section 2.147 as set forth in "Today's Business," p. 118:III; in Section 2.155 as set forth in "Today's Business," p. 119:iv.

The following additions were ordered: To every paragraph governing the appointment of executive secretaries the words: "with the approval of the President of Synod" (120:vii); to 2.127 as stated p. 121:ix; to 1.53 as stated p. 121:X; to 2.129 as stated p. 235:38; to the regulations for electoral circuits for advisory members as stated in "Today's Business," 121:xi.

The Lay Retirement Plan presented in Memorials 509 and 510 was adopted (143:8).

The question of keymen insurance was referred to the Board of Directors (143:9).

The action of the Board of Directors, removing from the *Handbook* the regulations governing the Retirement Plan for Lay Employees was ratified (145:23). The recommendation found in *Reports and Memorials,* p. 457:24, was adopted: the provision is to be placed in the *Handbook* at the proper place (145:23). Section 9.27 b was repealed (145:23). The changes governing the Department of Public Relations as set forth in "Today's Business," p. 234:34, were adopted. The Constitutional Committee was instructed to draw up regulations for executive secretaries and assistants (235:37). Synod reserved to itself the right to establish full-time offices (236:39). Memorial 501 was adopted, and the suggested clarifications were ordered incorporated in the *Handbook* (239:41). Changes in the *Handbook* for the Board for Missions in North and South America set forth in "Today's Business," p. 236:40, were adopted. A simplified procedure for certificating lay delegates is to be developed and incorporated in the *Handbook* (235:36).

Synod resolved to retain the high school at Seward (79:40). The Board of Directors was authorized to empower the Board for Higher Education to make any necessary adjustments in priority of construction projects (212:43). Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lenzburg, Ill., author of Memorial 7 dealing with Status of Field Work Director, Librarian, etc., was referred to the respective local Boards of Control (253:69). The request for lowering the entrance age to the Springfield seminary by the Gamma Delta members of Tech College, Lubbock, Tex., was declined; however, Synod gratefully acknowledged the interest in church work shown by this group and asked them to explore other methods of securing more trained church workers (254:70). The author of

Memorial 28, warning against movies in church services, objectionable entertainment, political comments in church papers, was commended for serious concern for the Church and its youth.

The College of Presidents was instructed to draw up criteria which are to serve as guidelines in setting up new Districts (184:28).

Churches were urged to include the official name of Synod in their advertisements (219:17). The convention essays are to be printed, sent to every District President, the delegates to this Convention, and are to be made available at all District conventions. Synod expressed its gratification with the new Lutheran Building and invoked God's protection over it.

The Secretary was instructed to congratulate the Norwegian Synod (241:35).

The Board of Directors was given power to act with reference to the program "This Is the Life."

After amending the first resolution to read: "to commend this program and recommend it to the synodical Radio and Television Committee and/or the Lutheran Television Productions Committee with power to act," Synod adopted the recommendations *re* the TV Bible School in San Antonio, Tex., and commended all who have a part in the program (240:33).

Congregations were encouraged to give special emphasis to family worship (172:5), supply practical helps for fruitful family worship, employ to this end the film "Faith of Our Families," to encourage various groups to sponsor family worship (172:5), and to organize parent guidance groups to stimulate parents to carry out their teaching mission (172:6). The Family Life Committee was instructed to provide pertinent information on the question of marriages with Roman Catholics so this problem can be dealt with in a firm and evangelical manner. The last "whereas" was amended by striking the word "continue" (213:10). The findings of the Family Life Research project are to be submitted to a number of pastoral conferences for careful scrutiny (214:12). Congregations were urged to provide the best possible facilities for their day and Sunday schools (214:13), to maintain nursery rolls (214:14), to consider all part-time agencies as the minimum for children not enrolled in Christian day schools (215:15). Synod reaffirmed its position on State aid to nonpublic schools (215:16). Where possible, leadership schools for laity are to be established (215:17, 216:18). Congregations were asked to give careful consideration to the question of co-ordinating parish work and to avail themselves of the help of District Boards when possible (216:19). Synod encouraged early completion of the projects mentioned in

Memorial 1010. Congregations which call teachers were asked to remember the Christian law of love.

The President was instructed to appoint a committee of five members who are to make a thorough study of all the texts pertinent to the question of woman's suffrage in the church; congregations are to continue restricting voting membership to male communicants (147:V). Thereupon Synod by a rising vote voiced its appreciation of women's service in the Church.

To Memorial 607 Synod gave the following answers:

1. Obviously we should at all times strive for unanimous agreement to the Word of God;

2. The application of this principle to any situation or resolution before the Convention is subject to the circumstances surrounding the case, and no case of casuistry can be answered in advance (263:33).

The President was instructed to appoint a committee which is to study the question of making the College of Presidents the ranking policy-forming group between conventions and report to the next convention (234:35).

Congregations were urged to strengthen their youth programs (99:5), Synod to provide adequate support (99:6). The Student Service program is to be expanded (100:9). Long-term loans to synodical Districts for Student Service facilities were authorized (100:10). Congregations and pastors were urged to co-operate in the survey of youth work (242:12).

The decision of the Board of Appeals was upheld in the Bethany, Chicago (Eng. Dist.), case since the English District had withdrawn its appeal upon receiving assurance that the decision does not purport to establish the primary responsibility, but is rather a charitable suggestion for solving the problem (238:2). The case of Mr. Wm. Meyer, Shobonier, Ill., was referred to his District. That of Owensville, Mo., was referred to the *Praesidium* (238:3).

Votes of appreciation were voiced to: Concordia Publishing House for issuing *Reports and Memorials* before the deadline (222:27); the Board for Young People's Work and its chairman, Dr. C. Peters (99:5); the Student Service Commission and its Executive Secretary (100:11); the Rev. W. C. Birkner and Prof. E. M. Plass for services on the Student Service Commission (99:8); the Church Architecture Committee (222:25); the Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference (222:26); the boards of Synod terminating their time of service (242:36); the covention host, by a rising vote (223:29); the Board of Appeals (220:20); the radio and TV stations and personnel (223:30); the press and reporters

(224:31); individuals, civic groups, the city of Houston; and the convention preachers (241:34).

No action was taken on the following memorials: 117 (249:54), 119 (249:55), 148 (251:61), 136 (252:62), 25 (253:66), 6 (253:67), and on the report of Committee 6 that Memorial 511 is covered by the recommendations of Committee 13 relative to Memorial 626 (120:viii).

Declined were the following memorials: 50 (222:27), 507 (118:iii), 508, 509, 510 (119:v; 120:vi, vii), 818, and 819 (covered in Resolution 9, "Today's Business," 32; 144:10), 820 (144:11), 1b (219:18), 1013 (221:23), 1014 (221:24).

The recommendation that the Committee on Parish Education meet prior to the opening session of Synod was rejected (217:21).

In the course of the session the following committees were excused with thanks: Nos. 1, 13, 11, 6, 5, 4.

The report of the Committee on Excuses was adopted.

The solemn rite of installing the President and Vice-Presidents for the coming triennium was performed by Dr. M. F. Kretzmann.

Before officially closing the convention Dr. J. W. Behnken thanked the floor committees, all who had helped to make the convention a success, and the delegates for their faithful attendance. The next convention will be held in St. Paul, Minn.

The convention was closed by singing "Abide, O Dearest Jesus," and with prayer and the Apostolic Benediction.

PAUL F. BENTE, *Assistant Secretary*

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