

THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE

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Institute for the Deaf, 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit, Michigan

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Deaf Children Now on Their Vacation

Anxious to see New Building in the fall

Each year when June arrives, the pupils of our Institute for the Deaf are anxious to go home and to be with their parents again. They love the train or bus ride which takes them to their parents and to the members of their family.

However, when September comes, they are just as eager to return to their school in Detroit because they look upon it as a sort of a second home and they consider their schoolmates as so many brothers and sisters. Parents write that already several weeks before it is time for their children to leave for school, they look for their suitcases and begin preparations

for their return. This is an indication that our pupils are happy to be with us at our Institute for the Deaf.

A number of pupils of the school could not go home this summer for their vacation. They had to stay at the school because the Institute happens to be their only home. But they are also enjoying their vacation. Right now they are greatly interested in watching the building operations of their new home. They too will be happy when their playmates return. No doubt, they will have much to tell them about the big shovel, the trucks, and all the various activities connected with the building program.



**Ready to receive your gifts for the New Building.
Please do not fail to make your contribution.**

Joyce Nagel of Lincoln Park, Michigan, William Ludwig of Evanston, Wyoming, and Suzanne McCreary of Detroit.

These four- and five-year-old youngsters, kindergarten pupils of our school, are happy at the prospect of seeing a safe and comfortable school, which will also be their home, when they return in the fall. We feel confident that every member of the Synodical Conference will want to contribute something for this important building program. We must not let this task unfinished.

Deafness Is a Real Cross

Wisconsin Editor Points Out

Merrill, Wis. Speaking for those who are unable to speak for themselves the Rev. E. H. Bertermann, editor of the No. Wisconsin District Bulletin, writes that the handicapped people, the blind and the deaf, ask sympathy from nobody. They wish to earn their daily bread themselves. They do not want to spend their days as beggars and their lives reduced to inactivity and uselessness.

"Several years ago," pastor Bertermann says that he listened to a prominent blind actor who made the claim that "being blind wasn't so bad at all." It has its "sensorial compensation." A blind man can read the best of literature in Braille, play almost any musical instrument and make his own living in a dozen different ways. It is true, being blind has its drawbacks, but when you want to speak of a real cross you must think of something like deafness." Being deaf, this blind actor stated, is a thousand times worse than being blind.

Let Us Offer Our Help

The statement of this cheerful and courageous blind actor may come as a surprise to those of us who are able both to see and to hear but strange as it may seem, it is a statement which is frequently made. All the more reason for every reader to thank God "that he has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses and still preserves them," and in the words of pastor Bertermann "We hope you may never need a school like this for your child. But if you did, would you not be happy if your child, made to pass all its days in the great unbroken silence, could be put to bed at night in a room where, humanly speaking, it would not become a victim of searing flames? The Lord had pity upon the deaf, restoring their hearing to many. Let us offer our help to the Detroit school in the name of Him who said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."



Vice-President Lankenau Turns Sod Ground-Breaking Service

Detroit, July 10. "In Christ's physical ministry to the deaf and the dumb and others we have the germ of the good works the Christian Church has done through the ages," the Rev. F. J. Lankenau, D.D., first vice-president of the Missouri Synod, declared to several thousand listeners just before he broke ground for the new dormitory for our Institute for the Deaf in Detroit.

No Charitable Institutions Without Christianity

"I venture to say that if the Lord Jesus had not come into the world, the lot of the deaf and the dumb would be unmitigated misery from the cradle to the grave. As a result of His ministrations we have institutions like this, hospitals, and houses of charity. The world would have known nothing of these things if Christ Jesus had not come to minister to the deaf, and the dumb and the sick.

"We cannot do what Jesus did. We cannot unstop the ears of the deaf, nor make the tongue of the dumb sing. Yet we can by practical charity do something near to what He did. We can found such institutions as this, and support them."

Dr. Lankenau suggested that the

most important blessings which the deaf-mute institute and other Christian institutions render is spiritual rather than physical.

Officers Take Part in Service

The Rev. E. C. Fackler, Pres. of the Board, was in charge of the service. The Rev. O. E. Marohn of St. Mark's Church read the Scripture lesson. The Rev. W. F.

Hagen of Stephanus Church gave the invocation, and the Rev. C. J. Krahnke of Trinity Church, Wyandotte, spoke the prayer.

After the service the entire assembly followed the pastors and members of the Board of Management for the ground-breaking ceremony. Dr. Lankenau was the first to turn the sod. He was fol-

lowed by a number of pastors, officials and friends of the Institution. The Rev. John Schinnerer, Pres. of the Michigan District, closed the ceremony with a suitable prayer. Immediately after the service a large motor-driven excavator raised a few cubic yards of soil to show that the work had actually begun.

Convention Crowds See Benefit of Institution

Exhibits at St. Louis and Pittsburgh

During the regular convention of the Delegate Synod assembled in St. Louis early this summer, thousands of visitors and delegates had the opportunity to view the 56 foot long illuminated exhibit of our Institute for the Deaf. It was composed of eighteen large murals setting forth the dire need for a new building.

Daily demonstrations of the instruction received in their school were given by five-year-old Joyce Nagel of Lincoln Park, Michigan, Clarence Allmandinger, aged 10, of Detroit, and 13-year-old Norman Hollrah of St. Charles, Missouri.

Joyce showed the first steps of instruction which taught her to speak and to read lips.

Clarence demonstrated his ability in lip reading and mathematics. His greatest joy was to out-add all comers.

Norman proved that our deaf children receive a thorough religious education. He repeated many parts of the catechism and amazed all who witnessed his recitations. His broad smile left no doubt in the minds of the visitors

that he enjoyed the convention as much as they.

The exhibit itself received many fine comments. Mr. Walter Bellhorn, deserves much credit for the fine manner of presenting the work of the school.

Exhibit at Walther League Convention

The same exhibit was also shown at the International Walther League Convention which met in Pittsburgh in the latter part of July. Again Mr. Bellhorn with three deaf children demonstrated to the Walther Leaguers and many visitors of the convention the benefits and needs of the School for the Deaf. Again the visitors were impressed and their expressions were much like those heard at Synod's Convention in St. Louis.

The appearance of Rev. E. T. Bernthal on the convention floor with little five-year-old Joyce Nagel certainly stamped the one great purpose of our Institute deeply into the hearts of the assembled delegates. A resolution was enthusiastically passed that all societies of the Walther League should support the Institute Building Program.



Part of the exhibit shown at St. Louis. From left to right: Rev. John Kempf, Mr. W. Bellhorn and three children of the Institute. The same exhibit was shown at Pittsburgh.



Standing, from left to right: Anna Nissen, Grant Park, Illinois; Norwin Last, Plymouth, Michigan; Clifford Schaeg, Chesterfield, Missouri; Mearl Kutzner, State Center, Iowa; Bernidean Berkey, formerly of Illinois now of Detroit, Michigan. (seated) Alberta Moore, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Director J. A. Klein; Rev. N. E. Borchardt; Loretta Kling, Otsego, Michigan. Wilbur Bruns, the eighth member of the class does not appear on the picture.

Eight Pupils Take Confirmation Vows Largest Class in Recent Years

Sunday, April 24, was a happy day for our pupils and their parents and five members of the class who were examined and confirmed in a service conducted in Bethlehem Church of Detroit. These pupils were examined in the chief parts of the Christian doctrine by the Director of the school, Mr. J. A. Klein, who used both the sign and the oral language, after which they were confirmed by Rev. N. E. Borchardt, pastor of Our Savior (Deaf) Congregation. These five were Alberta Moore of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Anna Nissen of Grant Park, Illinois, Norwin Last of Plymouth, Michigan, Clifford Schaeg of Chesterfield, Missouri, and Bernidean Berkey, formerly of Illinois, now of Detroit, Michigan. The parents of these children, who were present to witness this sacred act, were pleased to hear their afflicted children make confession of their faith.

Several Members Confirmed at Home

Two members of the class were confirmed in their home congregations. Mearl Kutzner of State Center, Iowa, by the Rev. W. J. F. Zabel and Loretta Kling of Otsego, by the Rev. L. G. Meyer of Allegan, Michigan.

The eighth member of the class, Wilbur Bruns of Longmont, Colorado, was confirmed one week earlier than the other members of the class. This was done in order that he might go to the funeral of his two older brothers who were killed in an auto accident.

"Be Thou Faithful!"

This year's Confirmation Class was the largest class in recent years. It is hoped that these new members of the Church "remain faithful unto death" and "thus obtain the crown of life." Christian parents, who have the spiritual welfare of their deaf children at heart, will be glad to send them to this Institution where they are taught the wisdom necessary for this life and for the life to come.

Children Send Greetings

Pupils of the day and Sunday-schools of various sections of the country send greetings and individual letters to the deaf children of our school.

A number of weeks ago, the individual members of a Sunday-school class of the First Lutheran Church of Long Beach, California, sent letters to every one of the

children of our school. Director Klein reports that the children were highly elated to receive letters from friends so far away and it made them happy to know that so many of their hearing friends were so interested in them and their school. They were glad to answer these letters and give them all the information desired concerning their school.

Another letter comes from the Junior class of the Trinity Lutheran Sunday-school of Grand Mound, Iowa.

The pupils "are wondering what kind of Christmas celebration you have? We always give a program for the whole congregation either on Christmas Eve or Christmas Night." It is hard for hearing children to picture for themselves how a Christmas service could be conducted without music and songs. For the information of these children, as well as others who are interested, here is how our Christmas service is conducted. We want our friends to know that our children have similar services as in

most of our churches. Instead of singing the songs our children sign them and as our celebration is always held in one of our local hearing churches, the other children of the church where the service is being held, sing the songs.

Church Organist Sends Monthly Pay Check

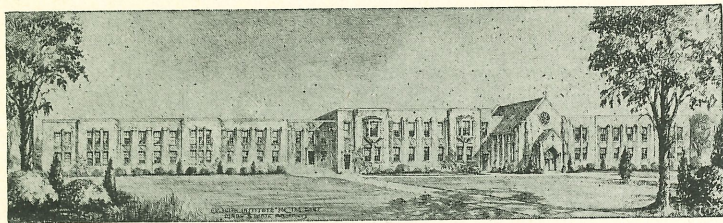
Hamilton, Mont. The Rev. D. R. Boernke, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, reports that the monthly wage check of the organist has been turned over to the Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf. "Instead of accepting it this month, pastor Boernke writes, the organist "has asked our treasurer to make it out to you so that you may be helped towards the new building."

Many such fine acts of sacrifice and self-denial come to us from many parts of the country. May this example be followed by others.



Societies Come to the Rescue

Have the various organizations in your church joined your congregation in taking up a collection for the building Fund?



Building Progress

Since the Ground Breaking Service on July 10 there has been much activity at our Institute. The excavations for the buildings were completed in a week's time. At this writing the footings have all been poured and a good part of

the basement walls have been laid. If this progress continues at the same rate, we shall soon have to make arrangements for the cornerstone-laying service. It is to be hoped that many congregations will join those who are collecting to meet the payments on the building as they come due.

Sixty-Sixth School Year Opens

The opening of the new school year of the Ev. Lutheran Institute for the Deaf is scheduled for the Wednesday after Labor Day, September 7th.

The purpose of the Institute is to give all Lutheran and other deaf and hard of hearing children a thorough secular and religious education and training.

The courses comprise the teaching of the English language, arithmetic, geography, history, penmanship, drawing, hygiene, and above all the teaching of the chief Bible doctrines preparatory for confirmation and communicant church membership. The school employs the oral method of instruction, teaching speech and lipreading to all deaf capable of learning it. The manual method and writing are used for such as are unable to learn to speak and read lips.

The Institute is open to all healthy children whose parents desire a truly Christian education and training for them in homelike environment.

Application blanks and further information can be obtained by addressing Director J. A. Klein, 6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Which School for My Child?

On Wednesday, September 7, our new school year begins. We have a long list of prospective pupils and we sincerely hope that the parents of these children will decide to enroll them in our Christian school. If it is important that hearing children be thoroughly indoctrinated before confirmation, it is even more important that the deaf child, who is so greatly handicapped with a very

limited vocabulary, receive systematic and thorough instruction in the chief Bible doctrines and preparation for communicant church membership.

Our Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, the only Protestant school for deaf children in America, is maintained by our Lutheran Churches for the sole purpose of giving religious training and education to deaf children in a truly Christian environment. Here besides being taught all the secular subjects taught in other schools, deaf children are daily brought in close contact with their Savior through Bible history and catechism instruction, daily devotions and the example of Christian lives. Surely the school which prepares the child not only for this life but also for the life to come is the best school for your deaf child. "For what is man benefited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul"? "Train up the child in the way he should go and when he is old he shall not depart from it."

Notes and News

Many of our children come from broken-up families. Some actually are orphans whose only home is the Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf.

A Detroit street car conductor endorsed his entire weekly pay check and sent it in as a gift for the new building.

More than a score of contributions have been received from retired pastors of our Synodical Conference. In almost every instance such gifts involved a real sacrifice.

Contributions have reached us from many congregations of the Wisconsin Synod. We are deeply grateful to these brethren. Every

congregation of the Wisconsin Synod in Greater Detroit is participating in the collection. We appreciate this all the more since several children of the Wisconsin Synod are enrolled at the Institution.

We are happy to hear that many patients at the Wheat Ridge Sanatorium are collecting for our new building.

One pastor from Texas writes,

"Our members are poor including the pastor, nevertheless here is our check. We will send more later."

* * *

"A five-year-old inmate of our Lutheran School for the Deaf was voted exhibit No. 1 for the interesting way in which she presented to daily large groups the benefits at the School for the Deaf." This comes from the American Lutheran report on the Centennial Convention at St. Louis.

IN MEMORIAM

No doubt, the readers will remember the photograph of the group of children surrounding Director Klein and the Mailman in our last issue of the Deaf Child's Advocate. This particular photograph caused wide comment, especially the little boy William Ludwig who was caught peeking into the mail carrier's pouch.

It grieves us to report that this mail carrier, Arnold Steinhilb, member of Epiphany Lutheran Church, has suddenly passed away. He was deeply interested in the Institution. Shortly before his death Mr. Steinhilb made a very generous gift to the Building Fund of the Institute. The photograph taken at the Institute is the last picture in which he appeared. He was widely known for his friendly disposition and when he was laid to his rest a large number of his mail carrier friends paid respects to his memory by following his casket to the grave.

Institute Worker Deplores Lack of Christian Instruction

Tucson, Ariz. A teacher of the deaf and blind pupils at the State Institution of Arizona, Anna D. Ahrens, deplors that these afflicted and unfortunate members of society are not under the shadow of the Gospel.

Her letter enclosing her gift for the new building for the Institute for the Deaf also contained the following beautiful sentiment:

"Only God's word can be the right instruction and teaching that will last into eternity. All other methods fail to build character no matter how excellent and brilliant they may be. May there be enough funds so that the work at our Lutheran Institute for the Deaf may continue. Above all, may God grant teachers and supervisors whose teachings are permeated with the Gospel."

We are sure that all of our readers heartily agree with Miss Ahrens.

Many people, from all parts of the country, who come to Detroit for their summer vacation stop and visit the Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf. Among those of the last few days, we note the following:

Rev. and Mrs. P. Kretzschmar, Brighton, Colo.

Rev. and Mrs. W. K. Pifer, Kenosha, Wis.

Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Biegner, Mont Vernon, N. Y.

Teacher B. M. Krueger, Cleveland, Ohio.

* * *

When home is ruled according to God's Word, angels might be asked to stay with us, and they would not find themselves out of their element.—*Spurgeon.*

* * *

"Boys flying kites haul in their white-winged birds; you can't do that when you're flying words."

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