

THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE

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

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GOOD NEWS

On the occasion of his sixtieth birthday, Mr. W. S. Knudsen, President of the General Motors Corporation, announced a gift of \$60,000.00 to the Building Program of the Ev. Lutheran Institute for the Deaf. Mr. and Mrs. Knudsen and their family are communicant members of the Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, Detroit, Michigan, Rev. E. T. Bernthal, Pastor.

This splendid gift will cover approximately two-thirds of the cost of a proposed new Chapel and Administration Building. The new structure will replace the sixty-five year old building which was condemned by city and state authorities. The new chapel, in gothic style, will serve also as the church building for Our Savior Lutheran Congregation for the Deaf. Needless to say, every one of our boys and girls and teachers, as well as our many friends throughout the country will be happy to learn of this gift, and we feel confident that readers of the Deaf Child's Advocate and their friends will quickly supply the amount needed to complete the entire project.

The new chapel will be the third large gift made by the Knudsens within the last ten years to churches of our Synod. In 1929 they contributed \$200,000.00 towards the cost of Epiphany Lutheran Church and in 1937 they financed the erection of Outer Drive Faith Lutheran Church at a cost of \$75,000.00. A picture on page three of this copy of the Deaf Child's Advocate gives the architect's drawing of the project as it will appear when completed.

A good thing to remember,
And a better thing to do—
Is to work with the Construction
Gang
And not with the Wreckin' Crew.

THE PASSING OF A LANDMARK

At 6861 E. Nevada Ave. a noticeable change has been taking place during the past few weeks. The old Institute for the Deaf, long a landmark in this part of the city, is being wrecked floor by floor to make room for the new unit which is to take its place this summer. The old ivy covered walls

quarters of a century this work has been carried on. At the end of the first year 17 deaf children were enrolled and gradually the enrollment became too large to be accommodated comfortably in one building. It had been remodeled from time to time to meet the requirements of the local authorities



Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Knudsen

are tumbling down to become merely a pile of bricks.

The old building was erected in 1874 and has given faithful service for the past 65 years. It was first intended to be both an orphanage and a school for deaf children but before it was completed its purpose was changed to that of a Deaf Mute Institute solely. The sainted Rev. Speckhard was its director. He had worked with two deaf children at the Lutheran orphanage, and the church, realizing the need for a school to teach other deaf children the way to salvation, decided to have in this building such a school. Here for nearly three-

but it was finally condemned as being unfit to house deaf children since the entire inner construction was of wood, with only one narrow stairway leading from one floor to the other. Its years of service are over and we have a strange feeling as we see one wall after another coming down in a cloud of brick dust. We are wondering what will be found in the old cornerstone which will soon be shaken loose. One chapter in the life of the Institute is ended and we are looking forward to beginning the next chapter in a new and completely modern home and school.

In place of the old building a

two story school of fireproof construction is to be erected. It will embody all the features required in an up-to-date school. There will be plenty of light and sunshine with special rooms for rhythm, study, and the hearing aids, as well as office space for the director. To the right of the school a beautiful chapel will stand, to be used for daily devotions by our deaf pupils here and also on Sundays by Our Savior Deaf Congregation of Detroit.

We can't help but be grateful to all our generous friends throughout the country and Mr. Wm. Knudsen who have made these beautiful buildings possible and we pray for guidance to carry on this work in the future as well as it was done in the past. E. B.

NEWS OF THE LADIES' AID FOR THE DEAF

The busy, energetic ladies of this society have had a full program in the past few weeks.

April 23rd, the 65th Anniversary was celebrated with a Service at St. Thomas Church. Supper was served by the ladies of this church, with a program following.

April 26th, a play was given by Epiphany ladies which was sponsored by the Ladies' Aid for the Deaf, with all proceeds turned in to our treasury which will exceed \$50.00.

May 2nd, a joint meeting and luncheon with the Macomb Ladies was held at Utica, Michigan. Two buses were chartered from Detroit, with a large group driving private cars. There were 300 ladies present.

The Detroit Society accepted 44 new members in their Aid at this meeting. At the next writing we



will have reached and passed our goal of 1,000 members.

May 10th, the Annual Coffee took place at Trinity Church with an afternoon of pleasure.

Again this Ladies' Aid has appropriated \$675.00 to finish a kitchen in the basement of the new building. A big job was begun and we will, with God's help, finish it.

MRS. EDITH PANKOW, Reporter.

OLD BUILDING RAZED

The picture above shows the old building erected in 1874 and in the upper corners, views of the building as it is being wrecked. For sixty-five years this building has served deaf children of our Synod as home, school building and living quarters. When it was erected it was the best our fathers could afford. But about several years ago the state and city authorities called our attention to the fact that it was a fire hazard of the worst type and that certainly it ought

not be used for the housing and schooling of deaf children who are handicapped to the extent that a fire alarm of any kind would not be heard by them in the school rooms, not to mention what would occur during the night hours when they were asleep.

When the last wall of this building came tumbling down, Mr. Klein, our director, breathed a sigh of relief. We do not believe that he went to sleep any night in the last

few years without breathing a fervent prayer, "Dear Lord, spare us from calamity by fire."

If the friends of our Institute will rally once more to our support and raise the necessary funds to complete our project, our children will be safely housed in a modern, fire-proof institution and our work among the handicapped deaf children will go on for many years to come, without any further building program.

NOTES AND NEWS

When our field secretary, Pastor Kempf, preached recently at Rev. Leimer's congregation in Chicago, a collection was taken for our Building Fund which amounted to more than \$200.00.

* * *

Our institute suffered severe loss through the death of Mr. Julius Knack, member of St. Peter's Congregation, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Knack always had a

warm heart for our Deaf children and shortly before his death made a contribution of \$1,000.00 toward the new building. His son, Mr. Werner Knack, has served as a member of our Board of Directors for many years.

* * *

Congregations which would like to have our moving pictures are requested to write in to the Institute. Pastors who have shown

this picture to their congregations or organizations in the church have pronounced it one of the finest movies available.

* * *

We acknowledge with sincere gratitude the following memorials and dedications received and not printed in the last issue of the Deaf Child's Advocate:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Mr. & Mrs. Calvin J. Gauss | \$1000.00 |
| Trinity Ladies Aid, Detroit | 250.00 |
| Trinity Ladies Aid, Utica | 250.00 |
| St. Andrew's Ladies Aid, Detroit, | 100.00 |
| St. Paul's Ladies Aid, Ann Arbor, | 250.00 |
| Miss Martha Schrieber, Pekin, Ill., | 50.00 |

* * *

(Recent letter received by Mr. Klein)

"My Dear Mr. Klein:

I was so happy to receive your letter, as you were my dear teacher when I was small and I will always remember how kind you were to me.

I surely would like to see the new school building. I think it must be very nice. I hope you will get a lot of deaf children for your new school.

Our daddy has gone to his heavenly home and I prayed with him when he was sick, and he prayed too. He was so good to me. I want to thank you very much for your nice letter and Mother says thank you very much too.

Lovingly,

Your scholar and friend"

* * *

The contract for our building was let to the Henry Martens Construction Company for \$87,245.00. This includes the Administration Building and the Chapel. In order to keep the cost of the project down our Board decided to leave several school rooms, on the second floor, unfinished. The cost of finishing a class room is \$500.00. Perhaps some of our friends who read this item will be able to help us complete the entire project. Perhaps a group of Ladies' Aid Societies in some of our larger cities would like to dedicate such a room.

* * *

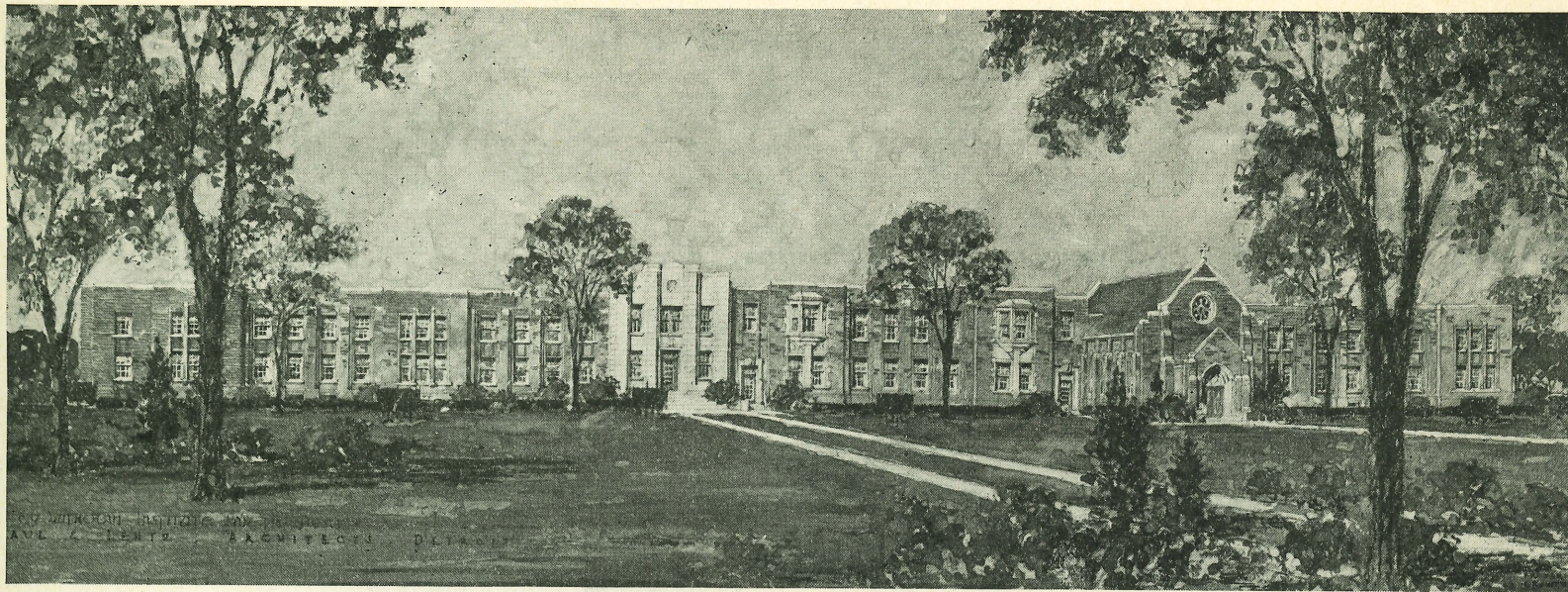
Due to the fact that our present school building had to be wrecked, we were obliged to send the children home a little earlier for vacations this year.

* * *

(From a mother of one of our children who recently lost her husband)

"Dear Mr. Klein:

We had planned on coming down to get Herman but am so very busy at the present time so I am



The Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf as it will appear when completed

sending you \$8.00 for his carfare and you may send him the same way that he came for his father's funeral. Perhaps on Thursday you can drop a line to Pauline Kestola at Seney, Michigan, stating when he will be there, as that is the closest place to home.

I have had a very hard time with everything since my husband is gone. We have our gravel pit going now and as soon as I can draw money, I will send you some for Herman's board and am going to donate \$150.00 for his bed and locker. Let me know what size quilts and pillow he needs for his new bed, as I will furnish that also. God is with me and everything is panning out O. K. so I will be in better shape to help with Herman's school for which I am so grateful.

We all will be glad to see Herman. I know he will miss his father. Pauline is Herman's sister. With kindest regards."

* * *

To the right of this paragraph you can see the group of fine girls just before they left for the depot.

A DESCRIPTION OF OUR NEW HOME

The front door of our new unit opens into the reception room. This room is distinctive in its arrangement and decoration. It is quite a large room, the walls of which are painted white—the ceiling stippled in delicate pastel shades of pink, lavender, yellow, and blue. The floor is covered with marble linoleum, in a dark off red, brown and white. In the center of the room

is an inset design in yellow and black.

The furniture is of feudal oak. The high-backed chairs and the davenport are upholstered in red and green leather. A desk at the far side holds a small unique bronze lamp and a telephone.

Two large windows facing the front are curtained in silk pongee. Jutting out from these are window seats, cushioned in green leather. Long, rose flowered drapes hang at the sides of these seats.

From the center of the ceiling hangs a large bronze and white chandelier. Wall lights add to the furnishings.

The Lounge

To the left of the reception hall is one of the most delightful rooms in our new building—the lounge.

The walls are panelled in knotted pine—the ceiling stippled in light pastel colors. Six chandeliers in bronze and white hang about two feet from the ceiling.

The furniture is in honey maple. The hard backed davenport has soft deep green cushions. Two easy chairs are cushioned in deep rose. Two other chairs are upholstered in rose, blue and beige material. The remaining chairs are without cushions. A coffee table stands in front of the davenport.

Five lamps unique in shape and design of shades are scattered here and there and give a very cozy and homey air to the room.

The carpet which covers the entire floor is rose and taupe in a definite pattern.

The pictures on the walls are all outdoor scenes—some are landscapes, others Venetian canal scenes.

To the left of the door as you enter is a miniature lowboy topped with two small bronze lamps.

At the windows are beige, rose and green flowered drapes—very colorful and pleasing to the eye.

E. F.

Girls' Dormitory and Living Room

For the girls there are two spacious well-lit living rooms on the first floor. One has low round tables in varied colors for the smaller children and one is furnished with a davenport, desk, upholstered chairs, and two large tables for the older girls. These rooms have air-conditioning equipment, built-in cupboards, and book cases.

Upstairs are eight sunny rooms used as the girls' dormitories. Two rooms are furnished in green and orchid, two in blue and gold, two in salmon and brown, one in ivory and green, and one in peach. The nursery has eight cribs with peach candlewick spreads, and peach organdy drapes over white dotted-swiss curtains. All rooms have small throw rugs of complementary colors.

Each room for the older girls has a maple chest of drawers and a maple dresser. Beside these, each child has a dress closet and in the linen room each child has a compartment for under garments.

In the bathrooms the bath bowls correspond in height to the size of the children using them. The older girls have tubs and showers while the smaller ones are bathed in a high tub.

The deaconesses' rooms are close to the children, thus enabling them to hear any child. All floors are covered with linoleum. D.J.

Dining Room, Kitchen and Laundry Room

As we leave the reception room we enter in to the dining room through glass paneled doors covered with sheer ecru glass-curtains.

Our dining hall is indeed one of



Children leaving for home



the most pleasant rooms. We have windows on either side which help to increase the cheerfulness of the room. The windows are draped in colorful heavy natural linen draperies. The table covers are of green plaid Irish linen. The tiled walls have been decorated with nursery rhyme plaques which are so attractive, especially to the children. Beautiful indirect lights are again found in this room, lighting up the colorful stenciled ceiling. At the far end of the dining room are two solid maple buffets in which all our silver ware is kept.

From the dining room we enter the kitchen, through heavy padded leather swinging doors.

Our kitchen is a room that would delight any housewife. The floors and walls are tiled, the ceiling painted. Again we find windows on either side giving sufficient light for working activities in any part of the room. The huge stove and oven are located in the center of the room. The refrigerator covers almost one entire wall. Our kitchen is also equipped with a potato peeler and a bread mixer which

help to lighten the task of the cook.

Our laundry room has now been completed. The machinery is Monel metal which is the most modern type of equipment. All our washing, drying, ironing and mending is done in this room. Every week brings a new group of kind ladies who do the mending for the children.

L.K.

Hospital Unit

In the southwest corner on the first floor of our new building, there is a cheerful sunny hospital ward. It is equipped with five standard size hospital beds and beside each bed there is utility cabinet with an adjustable swinging table-top—adding much to the comfort of our patients. The beds are regulation hospital beds in walnut finish. White curtains are at the windows—and green rugs on a light colored lino-tile floor.

There is also a ventilation air-conditioning unit in the room—to keep the room at a comfortable temperature at all times.

Off the hospital room, we have a bath and a nurse's room. The bath is very modern in its tan tile, and the nurse's room is very lovely, furnished in maple with colorful flowered drapes at the window and a bedspread to match.

Just a few steps from the hospital room there is a kitchen—equipped with sink, table, cupboards for all medicinal facilities for the sick, and a dental chair.

On the second floor we have an isolation ward with beds and cabinets similar to those of the hospital ward. This room is used for children who are slightly indisposed with colds or with symptoms of a contagious disease. N.L.

The deaconesses and teachers are the proud occupants of attractive rooms in the north wing just above the dining room. Each room is decorated in ivory tones and is furnished in maple—the desk, dresser, chairs, bed, and bedside tables are

maple. The matched drapes and spreads are flowered cretonne with grounds of cream, rose, and blue. The throw rugs and upholstered chairs also are in harmonizing colors. Besides the charming bedrooms, and the very modern bathrooms which are white trimmed in chromium, there is a convenient linen closet.

The comfortable reading nook is furnished in upholstered maple with matching magazine table and a floor lamp.

W.W.



SOME MUST REMAIN ALL SUMMER

While all the other children are going home for a joyous vacation period, four of our youngsters, a boy and three girls, must remain at school throughout the summer. These children are half orphans, and circumstances at home do not favor their return there during the summer. They, too, have a deep yearning to "vacation" elsewhere, but with slides, merry-go-rounds, a sand pile, and toys, they will try to keep busy and entertained under the guidance of a deaconess who will remain on duty. D.J.

FALL TERM OPENS SEPTEMBER SIXTH

On Wednesday after Labor Day the new school term will begin. All building operations being completed by that time, we shall have one of the most modern, homelike, and up-to-date boarding schools for deaf and hard-of-hearing children in America. The fact that it is also the only Protestant school of its kind makes it even more outstanding.

We are anticipating a large enrollment of new pupils in September. We, therefore, urge all par-

ents having deaf children and desiring for them a truly Christian education and training in homelike surroundings to make arrangements for their enrollment as early as possible. We also invite you to enroll in our confirmation class all such children as have already attended other schools and have reached the age for such instructions. This course is a two or three year course depending entirely upon the child's previous education and knowledge and command of

language. Detailed information as well as application blanks for enrollment may be obtained by addressing the Director, J. A. Klein, 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit, Mich.

SCHOOL CLOSSES EARLY

To give the builders of our new school and chapel sufficient time to erect the new units and have them ready in time for the reopening of school in September, it became necessary for us to close our school four weeks before the regular closing date to permit the wrecking company to demolish and remove the old condemned building. This gives our pupils a little longer vacation period which, we know, will be enjoyed greatly by both children and parents.

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

J. A. Klein, Director, 6861 Nevada Avenue Managing Editor

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