

Recreation facilities



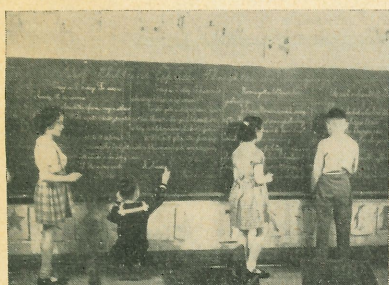
Health education



Voice building



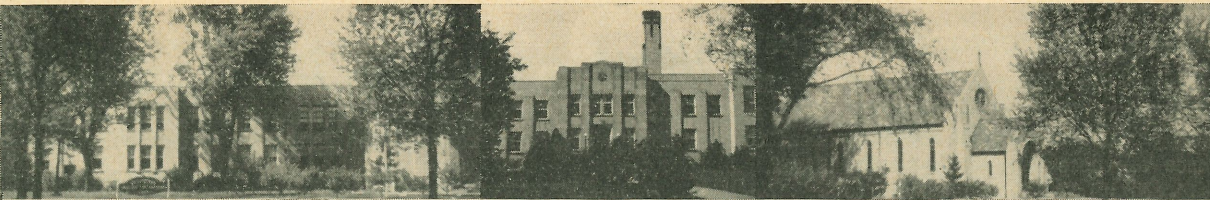
Speech chorus



Expressed thoughts



Deaf child's prayer



The deaf child's Advocate

Vol. 16

August 1946

No. 5

74th year of bringing Christ to the deaf

Incidentally yours

There have been many important dates in the history of deaf missions. They are dates not recorded in world histories of wars and conquests. That is not the way of historians. Nevertheless, these are epochal dates in the chronicles of humanitarian endeavor.

In 1873, this school opened its doors to the deaf for the first time. 1896, the Lutheran Church opened its doors to deaf souls when it established the first mission to the deaf. 1940 an entire new plant was opened to a yet greater number of deaf children. And June 24, 1946, was the last momentarily historical date in our history of deaf work. On that date the Association of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf passed a resolution to build additional facilities for the education of the deaf. This was not a decision arbitrarily or hastily reached. It was a decision forced on us by circumstance. During the past year we have been compelled to refuse a growing number of applications for enrollment of deaf children. In spite of the seemingly adequate building program completed in 1940 we again do not have enough room for these children. Construction costs are high at this time, but can we afford to consider dollars when immortal souls are at stake?

Here is what we need desperately. The east wing of the boys' dormitory must be extended at least one hundred feet in order to provide more sleeping room. Additional classrooms, recreational, manual training and study room facilities are also necessary. A gymnasium should be constructed so that we might provide an adequate program of physical education. These are the bare necessities.

Those of you who have visited the Institute will remember the plaque mounted in each room. These plaques attest to the generous manner in which our friends aided us when the present school was built. Individuals, families or church organizations paid for the furnishings or the construction of these rooms and in this way made these buildings a reality. Here, then, is another opportunity for our friends to dedicate a lasting memorial to a loved one. Such a dedicated unit costs two hundred fifty dollars and up.

It is late as I write this. Today has been a sad day for me, and the night will bring no rest to my thoughts. I have spent the day studying a long list of applications for admission with the knowledge that only eleven could be accepted because — no room. No room!

No room for an immortal soul . . . no room for these deaf lambs of God . . . no room for these babes of the silent world to live here and learn of Jesus . . . no room for our teachers to open the ears of these little ones to the blessed Gospel story . . . no room . . . the same words that were spoken on that first Christmas night.

Each time I was forced to refuse admission I felt as though I were closing the door of heaven on that deaf child because in so many cases those rejected will never hear the Word of God.

Circumstances have closed the door. But you have the key—the key that will open this door of salvation to those silent souls. That key is in your pocket, and it alone together with your prayers can make it possible for us to open wide our doors to every child clamoring for admittance.

Remember, you hold the key that opens the door.

Limited facilities force refusal to scores of children

Lutheran Institute for the Deaf will inaugurate its seventy-fourth year of service to the deaf when it opens its doors to a full capacity group of pupils, September 3, 1946.

Once more the Institute was forced to turn away scores of applicants because of limited facilities.

Ever on the alert for opportunities to improve the efficiency of its service to the deaf, the school is introducing many new changes in its educational program for this year. Among these new features are supervisory teachers, completely reorganized curriculum and acquisition of the best texts and materials for deaf education.

After a year of extensive research, a new curriculum which comprises the best of the old and the new will be introduced. The Misses Emily Born and Elsie Forsberg correlated all materials and information, and the new curriculum is a result of their efforts.

In addition to curriculum changes a system of supervisory teachers will be instituted. Miss Born and Miss Forsberg will serve in the capacity of supervisors, with Miss Born in charge of the upper grades and Miss Forsberg in charge of the primary grades. These supervisors, besides teaching their own classes, will help the new teachers of the staff to plan and execute their work in the classrooms. They will also have weekly meetings with them and so direct and correlate all of the educational efforts of the school.

Change in personnel Yesterday . . .

During the course of the past school year, we were so unfortunate as to lose eight teachers. Three of these did not have the state-required qualification to teach the deaf, therefore left us to teach in other states where the requirements are not so strict. Three left because they are married and either resigned from the teaching profession altogether, or to teach where their husbands are employed. One is seeking wider opportunities for advancement and another wants to keep house for her sons who have returned from the service.

We are sorry to have lost these teachers and wish them success in their future undertakings. However, we are thankful for this coming fall's replacement of new teachers, and we are confident that, with God's help, we can look forward to an interesting and successful school year.

Establishing salary scale

Our board of management, recognizing the need for increased salaries due to the prevailing high cost of living, appointed its school board a committee to make a survey of salary scales in force in similar institutions in various parts of our country. Based upon the findings of this committee the board evolved a minimum and maximum salary scale for all its employees.

This scale, which was unanimously adopted by the annual meeting of the Association, establishes a minimum salary for the beginning or inexperienced members of the staff with annual increases until they have reached the maximum figure in the respective departments. Seemingly all our employees are quite satisfied with this forward looking arrangement.

Par Excellence

Of interest to our readers might be the fact that five of our new teachers are taking master's degree in deaf work.

All have spent this summer at Wayne University taking courses which will lead to a master's degree. They will continue their work with evening courses.

The ambitions of our new teachers are certainly in keeping with the progressive spirit of the school which aims to do the best in deaf education at all times.

More than two generations ago some forward looking men with a little money but a lot of faith heeded the fervent prayer, "O make the deaf to hear Thy Word," and founded the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf.

Almighty God blessed this fruit of faith and furnished later generations with leaders to guide this project in humanitarianism through many dark days of financial adversities and public apathy.

Today . . .

The foundation laid by these past generations of champions for the deaf and the progressive leadership of the present director has produced a modern, well-equipped plant for deaf education which stands as a monument to the vision and faith of the past.

Today this school has the distinction of being the only Protestant school for the deaf in the country. Today, this is the only Protestant school opening the ears of the deaf to the precious Gospel story of salvation. The active and flourishing deaf missions in our synod are eloquent proof of the success of this school. Graduates of the Institute are found in these congregations as staunch and active members. Here, at this school, is formed the nucleus of future deaf congregations.

Tomorrow . . .

Tomorrow is on the horizon of the future. It is a bright horizon offering unlimited potentialities for mission work among the deaf. There are over 20,000 totally deaf children in the United States. Certainly, the field is ripe for the harvest.

Our school can bring the Word of Life to but a handful of these silent souls, because deaf education is an expensive process.

Will you, who hear the blessed Gospel story so easily, help us to free the ears of more and more deaf children from their prison of silence?

Will you help us to expand our facilities as we plan to do so that we might accept the scores of applications from parents of deaf children begging us to take their children into our Institute family?

Will you help us to answer the deaf child's prayer, "Help me to hear Thy Word, O Lord?"

Wanted—an employee A teacher's prayer

An employee who can help find things to be done without three assistants.

An employee who gets to work on time in the morning and does not imperil the lives of others in an attempt to be the first to quit work at night.

An employee who is neat in appearance and does not sulk because of overtime emergencies.

An employee who listens carefully when he is spoken to and asks only enough questions to insure the accurate carrying out of instructions.

An employee who looks you straight in the eye and tells the truth every time.

An employee who does not pity himself for having to work.

An employee who is cheerful, courteous to everyone and always determined to "make good."

An employee who, when he does not know, says: "I do not know," and when he is asked to do anything, says: "I'll try."

—The Chronicle

'Tis good that I am here,
For there is work to do.
God, grant that I may do Thy Will
In whate'er I pursue.

Give me the faith that I
May help these little ones.
They need Thy guidance all their
lives:
Thy daughters and Thy sons.

I know that I need ne'er
Now falter on the way;
As buds trust Thee for sun and
rain,
So will I trust and pray.
—Christel Erdmann

Can you help?

In trying to care for all of our new teachers we find ourselves desperately in need of an apartment flat or rooms for one of our new teachers and his wife.

We are mentioning this problem in the hope that some of our reader friends in the Detroit area might be able to help us out of our predicament. Call TW. 1-8477.

For sale •

In 1928 our Association felt that it would be forced to relocate its Institute for the Deaf. It, therefore, selected and purchased a beautiful 26 acre wooded site on the corner of Ann Arbor and Beck roads near Plymouth, Michigan, about 20 miles from the heart of the city of Detroit. Subsequent developments, however, made relocating unnecessary. In consequence thereof the property bought in 1928 is now being offered for sale. The money realized from its sale will be utilized in our so very necessary expansion program.

The 26 acres located at the intersection of two highways with 1400 feet frontage on paved Ann Arbor road and 830 feet on Beck road is a very desirable site for most any purpose. Any one interested in the purchase of this land may write or call our office, 6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit 12, Michigan. Telephone: TWinbrook 1-8477.

Faculty roster

Seven new teachers have been engaged and they, with the remaining members of the faculty, will teach the following grades: Nursery—Carol Anderson; Kindergarten—Delores Hansen; Pre-primary B—Pauline Strasen; Pre-primary A—N. Strom; First grade—Elsie Forsberg; Second grade—Helen Szajna; Third grade—Christel Erdman; Fourth grade—George Munding; Fifth grade—Melvin Luebke; Sixth grade—Emily Born; Eighth grade—Walter Bellhorn; Confirmation instruction—Director J. A. Klein.

THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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

FACULTY

Director J. A. Klein, Walter Bellhorn, Miss Emily Born, Miss Elsie Forsberg, Mrs. Nannie Strom, George Munding, Melvin Luebke, Miss Carol Anderson, Miss Christel Erdmann, Miss Deloris Hansen, Miss Pauline Strasen, Miss Helen Szajna.

SCHOOL BOARD

Rev. Geo. M. Krach, Rev. N. E. Borchart, Rev. L. Koehler.

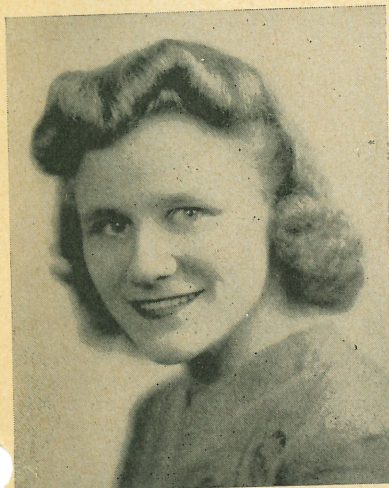
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They will teach God's deaf lambs

Former pupil returns as teacher to deaf Two Concordia graduates . . .

"It certainly speaks well for our Institute and the type of work that has been accomplished here," were the words of Director J. A. Klein, as he announced the appointment to the faculty of Miss Christel Erdmann, a former pupil.



Christel Erdmann

Miss Erdmann attended this school following the loss of her hearing from spinal meningitis at the age of ten. She completed her elementary education at Concordia Lutheran school, Chicago, in 1936, and was graduated from Parker high school, Chicago, in 1941. The latter schools were for hearing pupils which makes her accomplishment doubly significant.

Following her graduation from high school, Miss Erdmann entered Gallaudet college, Washington, D. C. Gallaudet is a national college for the deaf. She received her bachelor of arts degree in English, June, 1946.

During her career as a student at Gallaudet, Miss Erdmann served as an associate editor of the college paper, the Buff and Blue, and was active in Y. W. C. A. work. She was also a practice teacher for one year at the Kenial Green school for the deaf.

In 1946 Miss Erdmann received the Teegarden Memorial poetry award for her prize-winning poem, "Reverie at Eventide."

During the past summer Miss Erdmann began her graduate work in special education at Wayne university, taking courses in the pathology of the organs of hearing and speech, methods of teaching lip reading and a survey of special education.

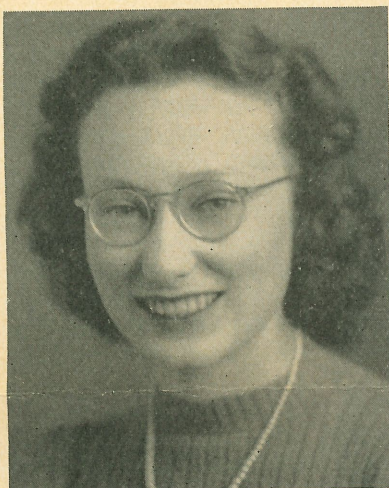


Carol Anderson

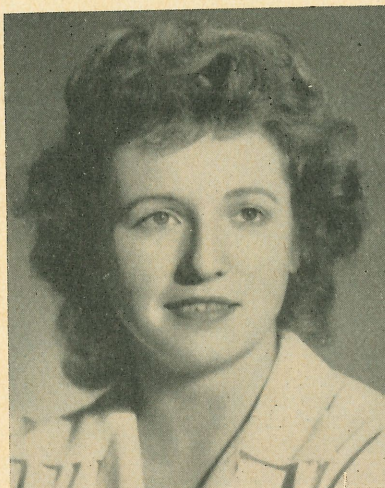
Two other new teachers on our staff this fall will be the Misses Carol Anderson and Pauline Strasen, graduates of Concordia teachers' college, River Forest, Illinois.

Miss Anderson, born December 10, 1924, in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, is the daughter of a commercial agent. She received most of her elementary education in parochial and public schools at Rhinelander and Wausau, Wisconsin. Upon graduation from the Wittenberg, Wisconsin, high school in May, 1943, she entered Concordia teachers' college, River Forest, and received a three-year teaching diploma in June, 1946. Miss Anderson enjoys playing the organ, and this summer she is the organist at East Bethlehem church in Detroit.

Miss Strasen was born in Kodalkanal, South India, on May 15, 1924. The daughter of Rev. B. T. Strasen, a missionary, she received her elementary education at the Kodalkanal mission school.



Deloris Hansen



Pauline Strasen

Coming to America in 1929-'30 and in 1938 when her father had a furlough, she remained in the United States in 1938 when her parents returned to India. Miss Strasen completed her freshman and senior high school years at the Lutheran high school in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and her sophomore year at Dr. Martin Luther college, New Ulm, Minnesota. After four years at River Forest, she received her bachelor of science degree in education.

Both, the Misses Anderson and Strasen, continued their education at Wayne university this summer. In order to be better qualified as teachers of the deaf they were engaged in the study of phonetics, methods of teaching lip reading and the pathology of the organs of hearing and speech.

Hansen, North Central student, to teach

Miss Deloris Louise Hansen is another addition to our teaching staff for the coming school year of 1946-47.

She was born in Audubon, Iowa, on February 12, 1926. Her father being a Lutheran pastor brought the family to Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois to live. At present her home address is Chicago.

Miss Hansen was graduated from the Abraham Lincoln high school at Council Bluffs, Iowa, in June, 1943. She then attended Dana college in Blair, Nebraska, for two years, and Northern Illinois state teachers' college in De Kalb, Illinois, one year.

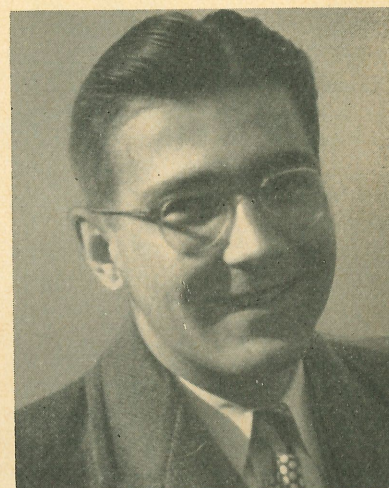
Through association with the activities of the Iowa school for the deaf at Council Bluffs, she became interested in deaf education. It was this experience which induced her to enter upon a career as teacher of the deaf.

Miss Hansen has been active in dramatics, choir work, the Luther league, and basketball.

Now one of the six new teacher candidates of the Institute who attend summer classes at Wayne university, Detroit, she is majoring in special education.

Call additional man for school faculty

The shortage of teachers at the Institute was lessened by one when Mr. Melvin W. Luebke, a graduate of Concordia teachers' college, River Forest, Illinois, accepted a call to teach at the Institute.



Melvin Luebke

Born May 3, 1924, Mr. Luebke is a native of Watertown, Wisconsin. He attended St. John's Lutheran school and Northwestern high school in the same town, and from there he went to River Forest where he received his bachelor of science degree in education, November, 1945.

Upon graduating from Concordia teachers college, Mr. Luebke took graduate work at the University of Louisville, where he majored in the field of special education. He taught at Concordia Lutheran school in Louisville, Kentucky, where the Rev. Carl A. Eberhard is pastor of the church.

Annual meeting plans expansion

The Association of the Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf held its annual meeting at the Institute, June 24, 1946.

Highlights of the all day meeting was a resolution to plan for and provide for a larger boys' dormitory, a possible gymnasium, and other expansion necessary to supply the immediate needs of the school.

Other Association business included a discussion of school finance, improvements, school board report, resolution to increase staff salaries, and the annual election of four officers whose terms had expired. All four were re-elected. They are the pastors L. G. H. Heinecke and N. E. Borchart and Messrs. Fred J. Auch and Louis Knorr.

5,000 find festival gala occasion, June 9

Festival day, Sunday, June 9, was a gala occasion for over 5,000 friends of the Institute.

Beautiful weather marked an interesting afternoon and evening of festival activities.

Highlights of the day were festival sermons, by the pastors Herold Bernthal and George Hildner, and a graduation address by the Rev. G. M. Krach. The Detroit Bach choir, directed by Mr. Carl Munzel, and Tabor choir, directed by Mr. Fred Hamann, furnished the music for these services.

Of particular interest to the alumni and friends of the deaf was the all-student program and graduation exercises.

Too numerous to mention are the persons who contributed their time and effort to make this festival a great success. The Institute would like to give a special vote of thanks, however, to Mr. Elmer Engel and his committee of men and women for their splendid management of the festival and to the ladies' aid who prepared the delicious family style dinner.

The Institute also wants to thank Mr. Young of Immanuel church for his donation of a rug and flag.

Our beautiful Memorial Wreath folders are free. Why not order a supply now?

Royal Oak teacher enters deaf work



Helen Szajna

"A deaf child who is very dear to me has stimulated my interest in teaching such children. Here was not only a challenge, but also an opportunity to be of greater service to this child and society. Besides finding this work very interesting, I believe that it is the most important endeavor in my life, and I hope that, with God's help and my sincere effort, I may be a successful teacher."

Motivated by these convictions, Miss Helen Szajna, Wayne university graduate and former Royal Oak teacher, will take up her duties as a teacher at our Institute this fall. Born in Detroit, Miss Szajna attended Hamtramck high school, from which she received a four-year scholarship to Wayne university. She has a bachelor's degree in liberal arts plus one year of work in education from Wayne.

Miss Szajna has had various teaching experiences. She taught the sixth grade at the Edison school in Royal Oak for four years and was a counselor at the Tau Beta camp in Columbiaville, Michigan.

Miss Szajna attended summer classes at Wayne university with the six other new teachers, taking special education courses in phonetics, pathology of the organs of hearing and speech and methods of teaching lip reading.

HELP WANTED

Positions are open for two assistant housemothers, a dining room girl, and a cook's assistant. Good salaries. Make application to Director J. A. Klein, 6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit 12, Michigan. Telephone: TWinbrook 1-8477.

The eternal reward

Our Savior says: "Where I am there shall my servant also be." The following readers of the Advocate have now gone to be with the MASTER in everlasting bliss: Mr. Chr. Hansing, Indianapolis, Rev. John Bopp, Valparaiso, Indiana; Mrs. Alma Nickels, Mr. Herman Peters, Mrs. Ella Schulz, Mr. Edmund Wier, Detroit, Mr. John Keinath, Millington, Mr. Henry Schluckebier, Sr., Saginaw, Mrs. Hannah Gaul, Tawas City, Mrs. Maria Kukuk, Utica, Michigan; Miss Clara F. Greiner, Brooklyn, N. Y.

In the above list of deceased Advocate readers is also the name of Mrs. Maria Kukuk, the oldest member of our Macomb County Ladies' Aid for the Deaf. She was the last surviving charter member of the Canal Church near Utica, Michigan. She joined our Ladies' Aid for the Deaf at the age of 79 years old, died when she was at the age of 89 years old.

"Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you."

For a better school

During the past school year a number of improvements were made by the Institute. The fence surrounding the back of the Institute has been installed. The installation of fluorescent fixtures in two offices is another improvement. Not to be outdone by the above fixtures are the basement recreational rooms, which were painted by one of our caretakers.

In addition to these improvements, additional playground equipment was donated by the ladies' aid. We wish to thank all those who have given so graciously of their time to make for a better Institute.

To our children

Your friends at the institute are hoping that all of our little folks are having a very pleasant vacation. The faculty and staff are eagerly awaiting your return. Many new activities are being planned for you for the coming school year.

Ma Powers retires from school staff



Ma Powers

Many pastors still remember the kindly face of Amanda Powers, sister-in-law of Dr. J. H. C. Fritz, and affectionately known to many classes of sem students as "Ma" Powers.

Prior to the last two years, which she spent on the staff at the Institute, she served for 21 years as cook at Concordia seminary, St. Louis.

Having now retired, she is living with her son-in-law and daughter, Pastor and Mrs. Schreck at Chester, Illinois.

Movie progresses

Plans are now in operation to continue production on the new movie depicting the work of the school. Two types of films of the new movie will be prepared. One will be a silent movie and the other a narration sound film. This arrangement will accommodate congregations having either sound or silent projectors.

In the meantime our present film is still in demand and may be acquired by simply addressing a card to the Institute stating a request for the movie and the dates preferred.

Form of Bequest to Our Institute

I give, devise and bequeath to the Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Michigan, and located in the city of Detroit, the sum of dollars and the receipt of the Treasurer of said corporation shall be a sufficient discharge to my executor for same.