

75 YEARS



The deaf child's
ADVOCATE

Vol 18

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No. 1

Christmas



"Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

*A Merry Christmas
to you
From
all the Children
of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Institute for the Deaf.*



**A personal
greeting
from these
deaf children**



**whose hands
but for your help
might never
have been shown
how to pen**



**the true meaning
of the
Christmas story**



Incidentally yours

Parents and pupils of our school, no doubt, will be happy to know that this year's Christmas vacation will begin on Friday, December 19th at noon and will continue to Sunday, January 4th.

Bids for the erection of an addition to our building were opened in the October meeting. But, due to the fact that the lowest of seven bids submitted was almost \$200,000.00, the Board voted to reject all bids and to consider re-advertising for new bids after the holidays. This places the hoped-for additional facilities to accommodate the many deaf children now waiting to be enrolled into a farther future again. —

Two groups, the Grosse Pointe Girl Scouts and St. John's Ladies' Aid of Pigeon, Michigan, were recent guests of our Institute. The latter group came by bus and spent much of the day with us inspecting our facilities and visiting the class rooms. We were very sorry that the Rev. A. W. Hueschen, the pastor of St. Johns, could not accompany his ladies auxiliary. — For the cookies, candy and canned fruit brought by the women from Pigeon and the "comic books" from the Girl Scouts, we are very grateful.

During the past weeks the writer was privileged to appear in person before the following groups: Our Savior's Men's Club, St. James Men's Club, Denby Kiwanis Club, Detroit; Royal Oak Lions Club, St. Clair Kiwanis Club, and St. John's Congregation, Ann Arbor, Michigan. At all these appearances our new all-color sound film was also shown.

On October 24 all faculty members attended either the Lutheran Teachers Conference in Adrian, Michigan, or the M. E. A. Institute in Detroit.

The Halloween party arranged by the teachers for our pupils was outstanding. Some of the children's parents were present, too. — Another happy event was the annual party given our children by the Aural Guild of Detroit. The members of this group each year during Better Hearing Week entertain our youngsters with motion pictures, a magician, plus cake and ice cream. Mrs. Kern, one of the active members and a former president of this Guild, having been called to her heavenly abode, will not be with us this year. We shall miss her. — We thank you all, dear Auralists, for providing this annual funfest for our family of deaf youngsters.

Optometrists, Doctors Reg. Hu-
(Continued on page 3)

Anniversary thought in passing

Seventy-five years ago some men with vision, a little money, and mountains 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.

This year we are celebrating the diamond anniversary of this great enterprise in faith. All around we see the marvelous evidences of great faith — a modern school, large faculty, the latest in dormitory conveniences. Certainly a far cry from the first school started seventy-five years ago.

All of this we have attempted to depict in our anniversary folder which has been sent to you as a reminder of God's blessings on this school. May it move you to continue to support our work with your prayers and contributions so that the coming years will make it possible to enlarge our facilities and thus enable us to give the sweet bread of life to those many deaf who now clamor for admission and must be turned away because facilities are lacking.



There are many Christmas nights

Christmas night is an incomparable time when the peaceful spirit of the gentle Jesus child touches the hearts of all men and makes them brothers just as His fine white snow clings to and covers a world made dirty by man and as if, by His Divine magic, transforms it into a thing of beauty that almost looks like a glimpse into the clean white serenity of eternity.

There are many Christmas nights worth remembering for all of us. Some that had a particular personal significance for one of us and others that have left an impression on all of us.

Think of that first Christmas night when the glory of the stars was dimmed for that moment when the celestial angels filled the sky and the night with their heavenly brilliance and their divine song of universal love.

Think, too, of that Christmas night when the world first heard the words and music of a humble organist and choirmaster and since that time have filled the world's Christmases with the beauty of "Silent Night, Holy Night."

And on this occasion we want you to think of a Christmas night exactly seventy-five years ago on the outskirts of a small city along the Detroit River. A lonesome frame building stands almost lost in a vast prairie. But tonight the snow has mellowed the harsh horizontal lands of the flat land and cloaks the building with a mantle of white. Inside the building a few kerosene lanterns send out a dubious amount of brilliance and an unnatural quiet pervades the atmosphere. But notice the faces of the children underneath the yellow glow of lantern light. Their mouths may be still but their eyes and faces emanate a brilliant light of Christmas joy that make you forget about the dim light of the lanterns.

This is the first Christmas night for sixteen deaf children, a few adults and a building hastily pressed into service — all three represent that new school, the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf.

In a few days this school, the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, will celebrate its seventy-fifth Christmas. And once again the faces of children will reflect a great joy, that same joy of knowing their Savior. But this time there will be many times that original sixteen. And this time the snow will cover a prairie that has grown into the great and pulsing city of Detroit and that lonesome little building has grown into a half-block long modern home-school for the deaf.

That first Christmas night and now. Truly, another stirring story of the Christchild's love for men and the blessings He showers on those who still believe and go back in spirit to that first Christmas night.

Here's your answer to the big question

The new all-color sound movie THE WORLD OF SILENCE continues to receive enthusiastic reception and demands for future bookings continue to come in.

Recently the members of the Southeastern Pastoral Conference of the Southeastern District saw the movie and were unanimous in their approval and praise of this great movie depicting the work that your Institute is doing among the deaf.

We have five copies of this interesting film and all are already solidly booked up to May 1st. Anyone wishing to schedule the picture should select a date or dates after May.

Kiwanis entertains

Fires glowed in the crisp autumn night and the aroma of hot dogs and golden corn on the cob filled the fall air as the pupils of the Institute spent a gay and different evening enjoying the thrill of a wiener and corn roast.

Our thanks go to the North Detroit Kiwanis Club and its members who provided this evening of fun and frolic for our youngsters.

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.

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Ladies have luncheon; plan Christmas party

Over 200 friends of the Institute attended the gala annual Hal-low'e'en luncheon of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf ladies' aid. A turkey dinner was served.

Plans are now under way for the annual Christmas party which includes a colorful Christmas program by the pupils of the Institute for December 18.

Recently the ladies equipped their basement kitchen with a new nine cubic feet refrigerator to facilitate them in sponsoring activities aimed to further the cause of this school. —

Our Macomb County Ladies' Auxiliary has again replaced many dishes in our kitchen and dining room. We hope that, with our fine dishwasher, the breakage of dishes will be greatly reduced and with it the demands for replacements.

Incidentally yours

(Continued from page 2)

go, Jerry Dueweke, Mrs. Dueweke, C. Johannes, P. S. Van Dusen, J. S. Hancock, B. B. Wisney, Frank Przybski, Harry Bunge, Ray He-cox, and James Park, all of De-troit again gave us invaluable ser-vice free of charge when they came and tested all our pupils eyes. The Northeast Kiwanis Club of which some of the doctors are members has for years paid for the glasses required by our indigent children. The services of these friends of our Institute are greatly appreciated as are those of our medical doctors E. F. Dittmer, W. A. Huegli, C. H. Sharrer and H. Uhlbrich, and our dentists Drs. C. Rueger and A. H. de Goenaga.

Great was the joy when Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lenz recently drove in-to our yard and unloaded a beau-tiful bicycle, a gift to our children. That makes it three wheels at the disposal of our pupils plus those which some of the children own themselves.

Quite a few grocery donations have already been received from our Metropolitan Detroit congregations. And it is our hope that many more will reach us during this holiday season.

The date for the celebration of our Institute's Diamond Jubilee has been set for June 13, 1948. We hope that the friends of our cause will gather on our spacious grounds on that day in such num-bers as Detroit Lutheranism has never yet seen. — You, dear read-er, are invited, too. So keep the date open in order that you, too, may celebrate the great event with

Willing hands uphold them

Two groups who contribute so much to the success of our school are depicted below. The one represents highly trained men and women whose special skill is releasing these deaf minds from their prison of silence. And the other represents kind and loving women devoted to the daily needs of these children.

Faculty



Faculty (l.t.r.) Mrs. E. Hector, M. Luebke, E. Born, M. Doyle, P. Strasen, C. Anderson, G. Mundinger, E. Forsberg, D. Hansen, H. Szajna, A. Thompson.
Seated (l.t.r.) W. Bellhorn, J. A. Klein (director)

Household staff



Household Staff—Back Row (l.t.r.) M. Bliednick, B. Schuman, Mrs. El. Dornfeld, B. Schaeffer, D. Hamilton, Mrs. E. Westerhold, Mrs. A. Hanselman.
Front Row (l.t.r.) M. Twenhafel, H. B. Lee, E. Neisch, E. Reichard, C. Kruse.

Friends of school contribute generously

For many years Lutherans of the Thumb area of Michigan have set aside some of the produce of their harvest fields for the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf.

Once again, this year, the fruits of their faith have been brought to our school to nourish our children during the coming winter. Many tons of produce and almost 3,000 quarts of canned goods have been delivered to our school.

A vote of thanks also goes to the C. and H. Nielsen Cartage Com-pany which again gave gratis the services of two large truck trailers to transport the generous offerings of farm produce and canned fruits from our friends in the Thumb area. The Nielsen families have for years made this two-day trip of ingathering for our Insti-tute their personal contribution to our work. This service of love can only be evaluated by our dear Lord Jesus Christ Himself. And He alone can reward it properly and adequately.

Lutheran women plan to make gym reality

A national magazine warns nev-er to underestimate the power of women. The Institute heartily en-dorses this slogan and points to the numerous accomplishments of its own women's organization, the Institute ladies' aid.

A recent development should convince any doubters about the integrity of this statement, because some very ambitious Lutheran women have decided to support our efforts to build a gym.

In a meeting called by members of the Evergreen Lutheran ladies' aid over fifty representatives of ladies' aids from Detroit Lutheran churches exhibited enthusiastic ap-proval over a plan to raise funds for a gymnasium.

Briefly, the idea is to form an organization of representatives from all Lutheran ladies' aids to sponsor an annual affair such as a city-wide luncheon, the proceeds of which would go to a gymnasium fund.

The ball has begun to roll in De-troit and, according to Mrs. A. A. Nauyoks and Mrs. R. H. Bradley, the Lutheran women of Dayton and Cincinnati have taken up the idea for their cities as well.

The eternal reward

Until we meet again in heaven we had to bid farewell to the fol-lowing friends and readers of our Advocate whom the Lord called to be with Him in the heavenly man-sions:

Mrs. Henry Hoppe, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. H. A. Stolper, Ft. Wayne, H. P. Weimer, Kendallville, Ind.; The Rev. J. H. Witte, Bay City, Charles A. Fayette, Mrs. Charles Harer, Miss Doris Knorr, Robert Semerau, Mrs. Walter Smith, De-troit, John Weber, Reese, John Stroebel, Saginaw, Mrs. Emma Pollex, St. Clair, The Rev. C. J. Krahnke, Wyandotte, Mich.; The Rev. Wm. G. Bernreuther, St. Paul, Minn.; Miss Laura Hughes, Allegany, N. Y.; and Louis Fied-ler, Plymouth, Wisconsin.

"And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away."

Presenting the men and women behind the scenes

The pictures you see on these pages are of men and women like you. They are housewife, laborer, tradesman and professional man. And yet they all have one thing in common because they have banded themselves together into groups and boards and organizations. And as such they have given individually of their time and talents to plan and work and pray for that common goal and objective they possess — your Lutheran Institute for the Deaf.



Board of Directors—Seated (l. t. r.) Werner Knack, Elmer Engel, Louis Knorr, the Rev. L. Heinecke, the Rev. H. R. Wacker (president), Walter Maul, B. Schumacher, the Rev. G. M. Krach, the Rev. N. Borchardt, the Rev. L. Koehler, the Rev. E. Rossow.

Standing (l. t. r.) J. A. Klein, W. Bellhorn.—One member, Mr. Fred Auch, was not present when the picture was taken.



Institute Ladies' Aid Macomb Chapter Officers

Standing (l. t. r.) Mrs. Ed. Havel, Mrs. E. Mast, Mrs. R. Havel, Mrs. M. Weier, Mrs. W. F. Junge.
Seated (l. t. r.) Mrs. G. Sebald, Mrs. L. Heinecke.



Institute Ladies Aid, Detroit Chapter Officers

Front row, left to right: Mrs. Louis Knorr, Mrs. Walter Ruff, Mrs. Paul Fackler, President, Mrs. Louis Koch, Mrs. Alfred S. Johnson, Mrs. George Milz, Mrs. J. A. Klein.
Second row—left to right: Mrs. John Pankow, Mrs. Henry Zuelch, Mrs. Walter Bunch, Mrs. Karl Koester, Mrs. Chas. Healy, Mrs. H. W. Riese.



Custodians (l. t. r.) Mr. Ray Axtell, Mr. John Rimmer, Sr.



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