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## Incidentally Yours . . .

Vacation time, a happy time for all our pupils and parents. For us it is a time for recuperation, reflection, reevaluation, preparation and planning for further improvement of our facilities, curriculum, and methods the better to meet the physical and educational needs of the many handicapped children placed into our care and training.

To keep the entire plant constantly in a perfect state of repair and so make it a pleasant and comfortable place in which to live and work, we had all the woodwork painted on the outside of our buildings, and the interior of the chapel redecorated. Our own employees renovated many other rooms.

As for school room equipment we ordered three additional complete trainear units at an approximate cost of \$1,400.00 each. And to fully equip the units we already have, we ordered twenty-three additional outlets. With these installations we shall have equipped seven rooms with trainear units.

It is our aim to furnish all of our fourteen classrooms with these very necessary though costly instruments as soon as funds for them can be accumulated. Some of our wealthy friends might consider this when looking for legitimate ways for income tax deductions. All gifts to our Institute are deductible.

We enjoyed being able to attend the Houston convention because it was so very interesting and also because Houston is our home town. The weather was hot outside, which is normal for Texas in summer, but comfortably cool inside of the convention hall because it was completely air conditioned.

In the short period of eight days an enormous amount of important business was transacted under Synod's capable president, the venerable Dr. J. W. Behnken and his able assistants. It is the general opinion that the convention was a huge success and one which will result in many blessings for the Church. Credit for the successful convention must, to a great extent, be given to the good

*continued on page two*

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# The deaf child's ADVOCATE

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No. 5

## Eightieth Annual Meeting of Association Held

The Annual meeting of the Society of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf was held on June 10th. Pastors and delegates of the fifty-seven congregations forming the association again assembled to review activities of the past year (80th) and to discuss matters pertaining to the future of your Christian school for deaf children. The meeting commenced with a chapel service in which the Rev. E. Kurth, St. Marks Church, Detroit, addressed the assembly. The Rev. H. R. Wacker, Covenant Church, Detroit, President of the Association began his report with these words, "We praise our Heavenly Father that He directed our sainted Lutheran fathers through the years to recognize the Church's obligation also to the deaf, and we exalt His blessed Name for the countless blessings upon this our ministry of mercy and salvation in His Son's Name."

Except for a few minor ailments, the Lord of the church most graciously granted general good health to our large family of deaf children.

It was reported that the operating costs per child per year during 52-53 rose to \$1,550.00. However, this is still low in comparison with costs at similar schools. The estimated budget for 1953-54 is \$24,790.00 over last year's budget. The parents of our children are contributing

almost one-fifth of our present budget requirements. Because of increased costs, the association is extremely anxious that our congregations, organizations and individual Advocate readers continue to support this important humanitarian and mission endeavor.

Appreciation was expressed over the fact that our Memorial Wreath cards are being used in ever increasing numbers. Generous gifts from Pound Day donations and of farm produce aided us greatly in serving wholesome and well-balanced meals during the year.

Our film, "The World of Silence," continues to be in great demand. Several worn-out copies are being replaced with new ones. A completely new movie is now in production and should be ready sometime next year.

The delegates were happy to hear that a new \$1,995.00 Minshal electric organ was donated for our chapel. The cost of \$1,748.00 was the exact sum collected and designated for this purpose by the former Martin Luther Memorial Foundation.

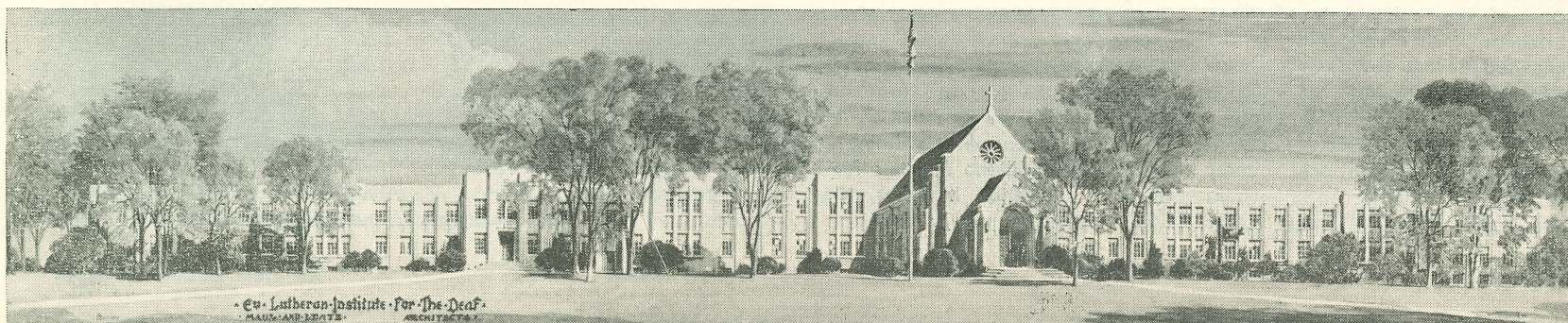
It was reported that our faithful Ladies Auxiliary of Detroit and the Macomb County Ladies Auxiliary were again most helpful to our cause. The Detroit group replaced draperies, bedding, worn-out furniture; do-

nated an electric meat slicer and a generous cash sum for one of our indigent students. The Macomb auxiliary assisted in the purchase of a Chromovox for one of our classrooms, and again replaced all needed dishes and cooking utensils.

The School Board reported that 19 new pupils were enrolled last year, twelve boys and seven girls. Six children were baptized and fourteen confirmed. Already many new pupil applications have been received and more are anticipated during the next few months. It was also reported that three new teachers have been secured for the 1953-54 school year, Mr. Donald Ravell, a River Forest student who trained for special education in the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Mrs. Isabel Karus, who taught for us before and Mrs. Agnes Hance, who substituted in our special class during the last school term.

The delegates were apprised of the fine Health and Recreation program which was again conducted for our older children at the St. Clair Recreation Center in Detroit. The Red Cross assisted us this year with the transportation problem. However, in order to continue our athletic and handicraft program in a more satisfactory manner and for the purpose of

*continued on page three*



Lutheran Institute for the Deaf  
ARCHITECTS



## Incidentally Yours . . .

*continued from page one*  
people of Houston and the very efficient committee on arrangements.

**Help Wanted!** How we wish that we would never have to use those two words again since they cause us to have sleepless nights and summer months filled with worry. But since we are in desperate need of efficient help, we mention it here in the hope that some of our readers may be able to direct us to some good and consecrated women who may be willing to render Martha services unto the least of the Master's brethren by accepting a housemother position in our Institute. Both salary and the working conditions are good. We need a head matron for our boys residence and several helpers as well as a dining room girl. Interested persons should be unincumbered and between the ages of 21 and 55.

Due to the extreme distance and high cost of travel we regret that none of our teaching staff could attend the convention of the American Instructors of the Deaf held in Vancouver, Washington, in June. In this highly specialized field of education it is very important for teachers to attend such educational conferences as often as possible.

Deaconess Marie Bliefnick, our matron in charge, is enjoying a well-deserved vacation with relatives in Illinois. Her very efficient assistant, Miss Vera Handschin motored to California with friends from Switzerland in her new Pontiac. Ruth Ludjin vacationed in the Bad Lands of So. Dakota and her office companion, Mrs. Gertrude Kronk, is vacationing in the hot weather of Florida. Our good cook, Mrs. Vera Berzins, spent her vacation in New York. The rest of our summer staff members are awaiting their turn for a well-deserved rest period.

Recently our Institute received the generous sum of almost \$8,000.00 in the form of a legacy from the Mrs. Emma Gekle estate in Monroe, Michigan. Gifts such as these, too, assist us in providing the scholarships mentioned elsewhere in this issue. Truly the works of the saints do follow after them. One of the enjoyments of these brethren in heavenly bliss is the knowledge that the earthly goods they left behind are still bringing blessings to handicapped children.

We received letters from many of our present and former pupils this summer among them are Lorna Schankin, who wrote

that her family moved into a new home, Monica Gable who visited Niagara Falls with her parents, Nancy Pfannes who was picking strawberries that day; Karen Mirs who had a birthday and received a new pair of green and tan shoes; Lois Brandes who is already preparing to come back to school in September; Curtis Ketelsen who deplored the fact that he could not come to our 80th anniversary celebration; Virginia Krauss who wrote "I miss school and everybody there"; Barbara Gossman, wrote "Mary Lou, Carol and I slept in a tent outside"; Dennis Hall who wrote that his Daddy got robbed and that the robbers smashed his Daddy's car; Judith Moyers wrote that her grandmother passed away in Tennessee and that she and her folks traveled 2,200 miles to Buffalo and Niagara Falls; Bruce Becker wrote that he and Dean Hofman will fly back to school; Lynn Qualley wrote that he had a very troubled and eventful flight home last June; Kenneth Toerpe wrote that his grandfather gave his father a used auto.

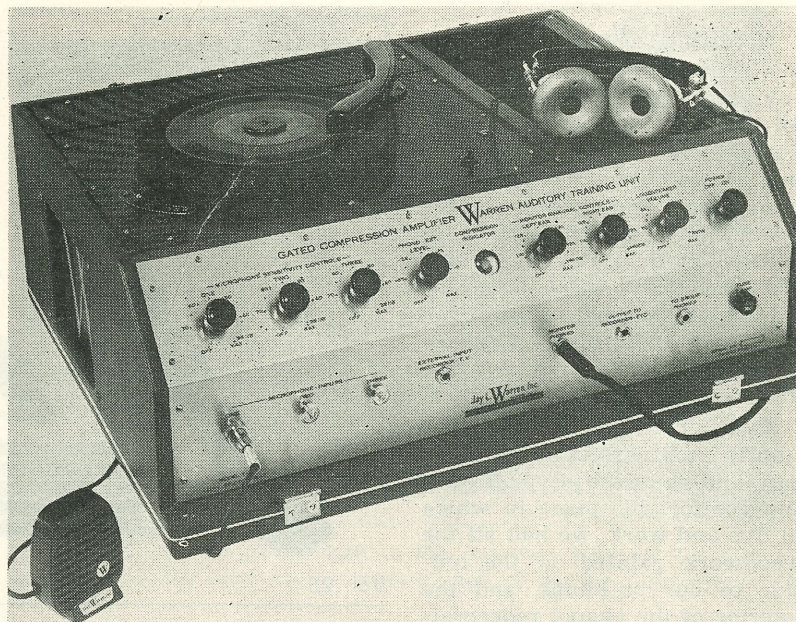
Judy Johnson of Houston, Texas, was taken to Johns Hopkins by her mother for a complete checkup. She writes, "They said at Johns Hopkins that Judy had very little "deafy" quality in her letters and was as "unfrustrated" a deaf child as they had ever seen. I told them it was all due to the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf where she received excellent training in an atmosphere as near that of a home as a school could be."

Our anonymous friends in Cleveland, Ohio, and Beloit, Wisconsin, again remembered our Institute with generous gifts. We do not know these workers in the Lord's vineyard, but Jesus does and the deaf children whom they help to lead to Christ know them on resurrection morn when Jesus will point them out to them so that they can with loosed tongues heap praise and thanks upon them and all others who have had compassion upon them.

If you haven't seen our all-color sound motion picture you have missed a treat. A copy of this very interesting film is available to you upon request. Running time 35 minutes. There is no fixed rental charge.

We are grateful to those of our readers who sent us names and addresses of parents of deaf children. We repeat the request for such names in this issue, because we believe that when parents know of our Institute and the facilities for a Christian education it offers, they

*continued on page three*



A Warren Gated Compression Auditory Training Unit. These instruments are among our school's vital, though expensive, equipment.

## Three New Warren Aids Added

Since it is the constant aim of our Board of Education to keep our school among the leading centers of deaf education, it is ever ready to acquire additional proven classroom equipment.

We are therefore thrilled to be able to announce that, in order to meet these aims our school has arranged to begin its new school term with the addition of three new Warren Gated Compression group hearing aids. We have every right to be proud of this since these instruments are rated by many experts as among the finest auditory training units available today.

Each new unit will enable an entire class to receive the benefit of greatly amplified sounds throughout the day which is so vital for good speech training. These instruments allow the child to receive maximum amplification free of irritation since the Gated Compression does away with the irritating squeals so common with high amplification.

Although the virtues of group hearing aids have long been established, the cost of these instruments make complete equipping of all our classrooms prohibitive at this time. However, we fondly hope that this might be made possible through friends of our Institute in the not too distant future.

## SYNOD APPROVES COUNCIL

In its 1950 Triennial Convention held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod passed a resolution calling for the setting up of a co-ordinating council of the various "auxiliary agencies" within Synod.

Pursuant to this resolution of Synod representatives of Synod itself and the agencies involved met at stated intervals and organized "The Council of Lutheran Agencies" by adopting a constitution and setting up stated purposes. These were then presented in the form of two overtures to Synod in convention in Houston for consideration and possible adoption.

After having given the matter due deliberation in committee and on the floor of the convention, Synod passed the following resolution:

"Resolved that the Lutheran

Church-Missouri Synod assembled in Houston, Texas, recognize the Council of Lutheran Agencies, and approve its organization and purposes. And be it further resolved that Synod officially commend these intra-synodical agencies to its Districts, Circuits, and Congregations and urge them to give these agencies liberal and continued 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 twelve missionary, educational and charitable institutions which compose the Council of Lutheran Agencies are most grateful to Synod for having placed its stamp of approval on their respective activities, thus bringing renewed encouragement to the Boards



## Annual Meeting Held

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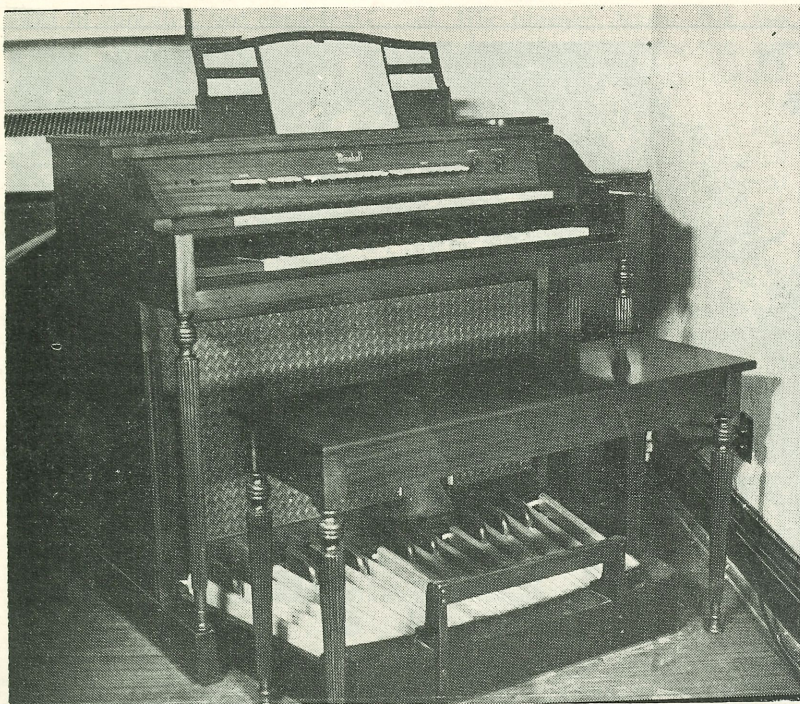
affording our pupils greater opportunities for educational excursions it was decided to acquire our own 48-passenger bus.

The older boys and girls again belonged to the Garden Club and Junior Foresters sponsored by the Detroit Department of Parks and Recreation, which department also supplied the instructor, Mr. Chas. Schad. The advanced classes gained much valuable knowledge concerning nursery and garden activities from this course.

Of interest was the reported fact that our "Advocate" readers list now stands at nearly 45,000.

The following Board members whose terms of office expired were re-elected for another three-year term. They are the Rev. H. R. Wacker, Mr. B. C. Schumacher and Mr. Henry Rehn on the Board of Management, and the Rev. G. M. Krach on the Board of Education.

These words quoted by President Wacker permeated the entire meeting. "Forward then, and onward in Christ, dear brethren. Let us most thankfully continue to carry out our exalted calling in Christ — "His eyes to see human need, His heart to feel deeply the hurt of humanity, His feet to hasten to the needy and distressed, His hands to bring succor and soothe pain, His arms to undergird the weak, His tongue to speak the Word of Life, His mind to guide and teach the world."



The Minschall Electronic Organ recently presented to our Institute for its chapel by the Dr. Martin Luther Foundation.

## Incidentally Yours . . .

*continued from page two*

**will want to enroll their handicapped children with us.**

Group visitors will again be welcome beginning with the last week in October. We prefer such visitors to come on a Wednesday. But in all cases of group visitors arrangements should be made in advance. Individual and family visitors may come unannounced.

**We also have open dates for speaking and demonstration appointments. The following are comments on a talk and demonstration given before the Yale Business Mens Club:**

*"It is a pleasure to inform you that the demonstration you gave the Yale Business Mens Club, a short time ago, of the wonderful work being carried on in your Institution, was very much appreciated, and gave us a deep insight into the great handicap which is that of the little children who have no ability to catch the sounds of all the joyous noises with which we are surrounded. We were all intrigued by the little dark-haired girl, who was so very full of life, and we still wonder how she can possibly be so unspeakably happy, when so terribly handicapped. It all went to prove to us that we are not nearly fully aware of the great gifts of all the senses, and what we saw, made us very humble before our God.*

*May you be richly blessed in your wonderful work, for surely your reward will be, 'Well done, you have done it to one of my little ones'.*

*Yours respectfully,*

Thomas Hurd, Secretary."

## What Does It Cost?

Again and again we are asked "What does it cost to send a deaf child to the Lutheran School for the Deaf?" To this our answer is always the same, namely, "It costs us \$175.00 per month or \$1,750.00 per school year to house, feed, educate and train a deaf child but that it costs the parents only as much as they can afford to pay.

In other words, this Christian School is open to all deaf children regardless of whether or not the parents are able to pay the costs. Knowing, however, that all true parents do want to provide for their children to the best of their ability, especially when these children are handicapped, we do expect of them that they pay as much as they can. And so we ask them to state a sum that they feel that they are able to pay. For any balance which they are unable to pay we offer to provide a partial so-called scholarship. Where for valid reasons no fee at all can be expected from the parents, a complete scholarship is provided.

Where do we get the funds for these scholarships? From YOU, our dear friends. The Institute has NO endowment fund out of which it can provide scholarships. It must, therefore, depend upon its Christian friends and supporters to supply the funds which enables us to keep our Institute's doors open to all comers and thus help to lighten the heavy burden which the Lord saw fit to lay upon some of our fellow-beings.

Through the above described financial arrangements the Institute received from 1/6 to 1/5 of its budgetary needs from fees which the parents pay. The other 4/5 to 5/6 of its needs amounting to approximately \$140,000.00 must be obtained through free-will offerings.

Now you may say \$1,750.00 per year is an exorbitant amount of money to pay for one child's education. We fully agree with you in that. But bear in mind, these are afflicted children whose handicap is being without the sense of hearing, hence they are automatically without speech, language and language understanding. To educate, house, feed and in general care for such children requires a large specially-trained personnel as well as very costly equipment. Finally you ask, "Where and from whom do you get the necessary funds to operate this very costly missionary endeavor?" The answer is, from Christian congregations, organi-

zations and individuals from far and near, who out of love for their Savior are sympathetic towards the afflicted and who out of grateful hearts to their Heavenly Father for the blessings of physically and mentally normal children and grandchildren are ever willing to extend a helping hand to the less fortunate.

Our ONE annual appeal goes out to all our pastors, teachers and friends at the end of October with a fervent prayer that the Lord might make hearts and hands willing to provide the funds to enable this work of bringing deaf children to Christ and salvation to continue and prosper in the future as it has during the past 80 years.

### REOPENING OF SCHOOL

**Our Institute's doors will open for the fall semester on Tuesday, September 8. All new and out-of-town pupils should arrive on that day or a day earlier. All local children and such as live near Detroit should arrive as early as possible on Wednesday, September 9.**

### FORM OF BEQUEST TO OUR INSTITUTE

I give, devise and bequeath to the Society of the Evangelical Lutheran Deaf-Mute Institute, 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 of my executor for same.

**Our Beautiful  
MEMORIAL WREATH FOLDERS  
are always available upon  
request, free and post-paid.**

### THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE

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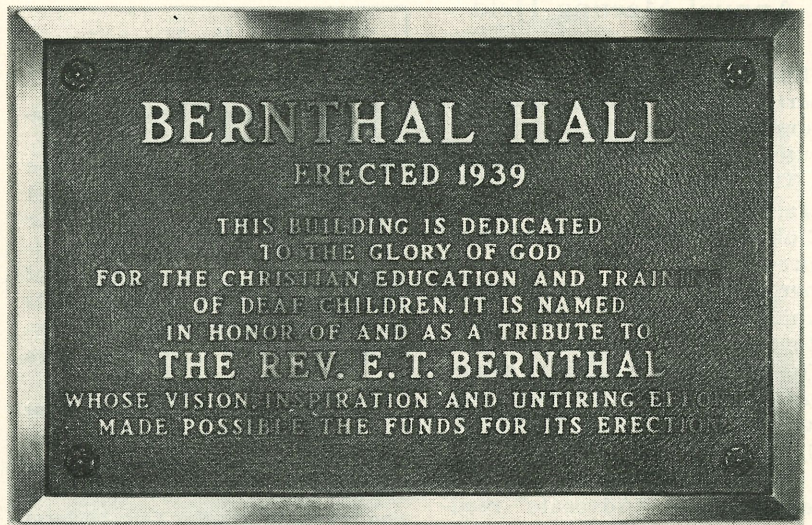
Rev. Geo. M. Krach, Rev. N. E. Borchart, Rev. C. L. Thalacker.

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ALL ADDRESS CHANGES must be sent to the Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, 6861 East Nevada Avenue, Detroit 34, Michigan.

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These plaques paying tribute to the Rev. H. F. Hertwig, D.D., and the Rev. E. T. Bernthal for outstanding services rendered our Institute were presented to them at the occasion of our 80th Anniversary celebration.

One is now attached to the wall in the reception room of our girls' residence and the other in the entrance hall of the boys' dormitory.

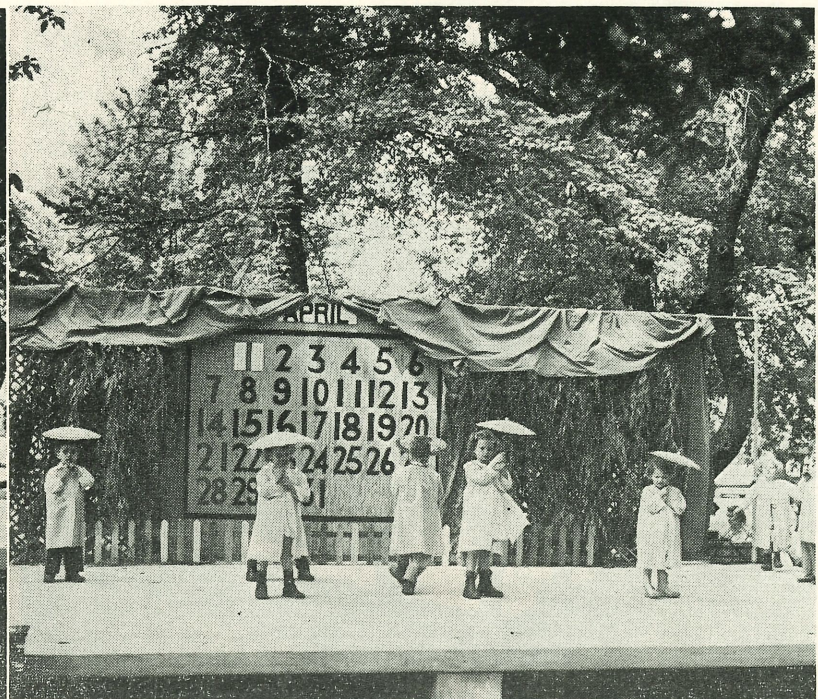
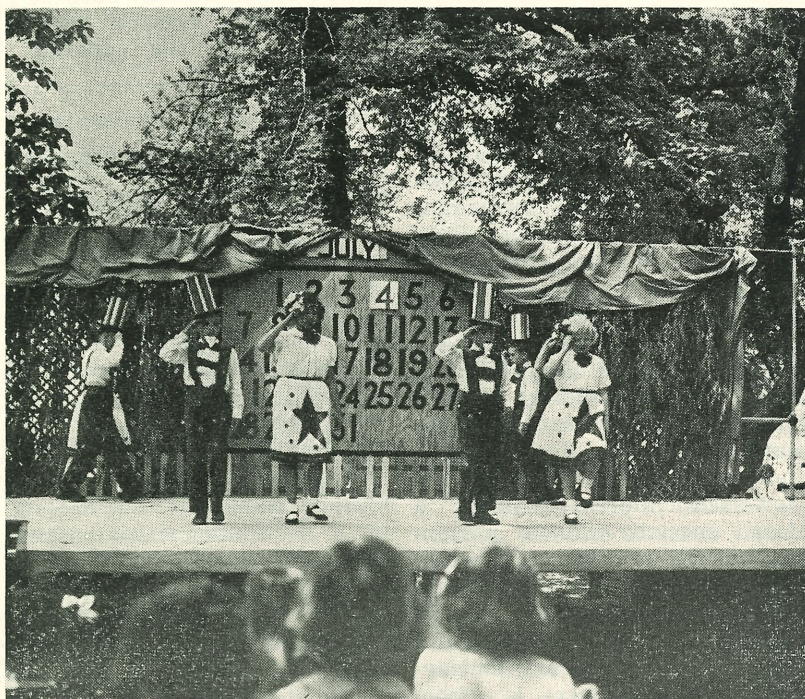


Officials of the Michigan District Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Left to right: Mrs. Gilbert T. Otte, Mrs. H. Vollmer, Mrs. Carl Kretzschmar, and Mrs. Richard Deierlein. Standing, the Rev. L. H. Koehler and Mrs. Erwin Weise.

### LOCAL HAPPENINGS

The Michigan District Lutheran Women's Missionary League held its annual convention within our walls during the latter part of June. From all reports we gather that it was a very successful and profitable meeting.

Our 80th Anniversary festival was blessed with ideal weather and a large audience. Pastor Ernest Bertermann of Wausau, Wisconsin, in his masterful manner delivered the very interesting anniversary sermon, the Detroit Police Band supplied the band music, our pupils staged a colorful pageant, the new Minchall Electronic organ, the gift of the Dr. Martin Luther Foundation, was dedicated, and congratulatory remarks were voiced by city officials and university educators. Mention was also made of the many kind letters of congratulation which had been received from far and near.



Depicting scenes of the colorful pageantry staged by the pupils of our Institute at the occasion of the 80th Anniversary School closing festival.