

Incidentally Yours

The recent beautiful holiday season with all its inspiring Christmas programs and services having joined the eternal past, only their fond memories still remain with us. These are principally of the very beautiful Christmas program our teaching staff and pupils presented before an appreciative audience of parents of our pupils and friends of the Institute. To be sure, our many pupils and staff members also have fond memories of their car, bus, train and plane travels home to spend Christmas in the midst of their relatives and loved ones. Yes, Christmas time is a glorious time. And all because of God's great mercy to us sinners which manifested itself when He gave us His only begotten son, Jesus, that we might not perish but have everlasting life and joy in heaven. ---

Pupils, house mothers, and teachers having returned are again busy at their several tasks serving the Master by learning about Him or by serving others in one way or another. ---

Pictures often tell stories better than words. For that reason it is our policy to scatter a liberal number of prints on the pages of the **ADVOCATE** to depict our Institute's varied activities. In this issue, some household routines of our devoted housemothers are brought to our readers' attention.

The articles pertaining to them are written by our two deaconess housemothers, Marie Bliefnick and Marie Twenhafel. These two consecrated workers have served our Institute for many years as loving foster mothers to our many deaf children. Through these many years they have endeared themselves beyond measure to the real parents of these children. ---

Mr. Donald Ravell, our official photographer, supplies us with all necessary pictures. ---

The new officers of our Macomb Ladies' Auxiliary are: Mrs. Walter Hagan, President; Mrs. Robert Havel, Vice President; Mrs. Wilbur

(Continued on Page Two)

the deaf child's **ADVOCATE**

Vol. 26

FEBRUARY, 1956

No. 2

SCHOOL POSED TO GAIN MAXIMUM FROM NEW EQUIPMENT

As was previously announced, our school invested a considerable sum of money last Summer and Fall in order to acoustically treat our classrooms and bring the lighting of same up to maximum specifications. Since our concern is to develop to the fullest the potential of every child, it also becomes our responsibility to provide him with the advantage of the very best available hearing aids that will facilitate the attainment of this goal.

As a result, over the past two and one-half years our school urged donations for the purpose of equipping all of our classrooms with the best and most modern group hearing aids available. Our plea was answered. We now possess acoustically equipped classrooms which in the opinion of many compare very favorably with any in existence today, nationally or internationally.

Our problem after the equipping process was completed was to gain the utmost service from the equipment at hand. Our acoustical situation might handily be compared to a mine machine capable of many operations, however, without a proper operator this machine might very well give only a small return. A capable operator is utmost in essentiality. The proper operation of our acoustical equipment is also paramount in importance.

A faculty committee was appointed and authorized to produce a functionally well-integrated auditory training program which might be adapted for use in our school. This committee then contacted most of the prominent schools for the deaf in our country asking for assistance. This assistance came in abundance and for this we are truly grateful. Together with a goodly amount of research on the subject, and the help of other schools, our committee is now nearing the completion of what we sincerely hope will be a fine asset to our teaching corps and our pupils.

The introduction of auditory training for the severely deaf child will not alleviate anything from the heavy burden of teaching speech and language, if anything it is even more exacting. But this relatively recent and vastly improved power is a tremendously significant contribution in that it makes unprecedented results possible. It is our wish that this program might become functional during the second half of the school year.



Mr. Elmer W. Engel

BOARD MEMBER PROMOTED

It was recently announced by Dodge Division of Chrysler Corporation that Mr. Elmer Engel, a member of the Institute's Board of Management, was promoted to the important position of Director of Planning, with responsibility for all planning operations including production planning and scheduling, material control, material handling and traffic activities.

Mr. Engel, an active member of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Detroit, the Dr. F. A. Hertwig and
(Continued from Page Two)

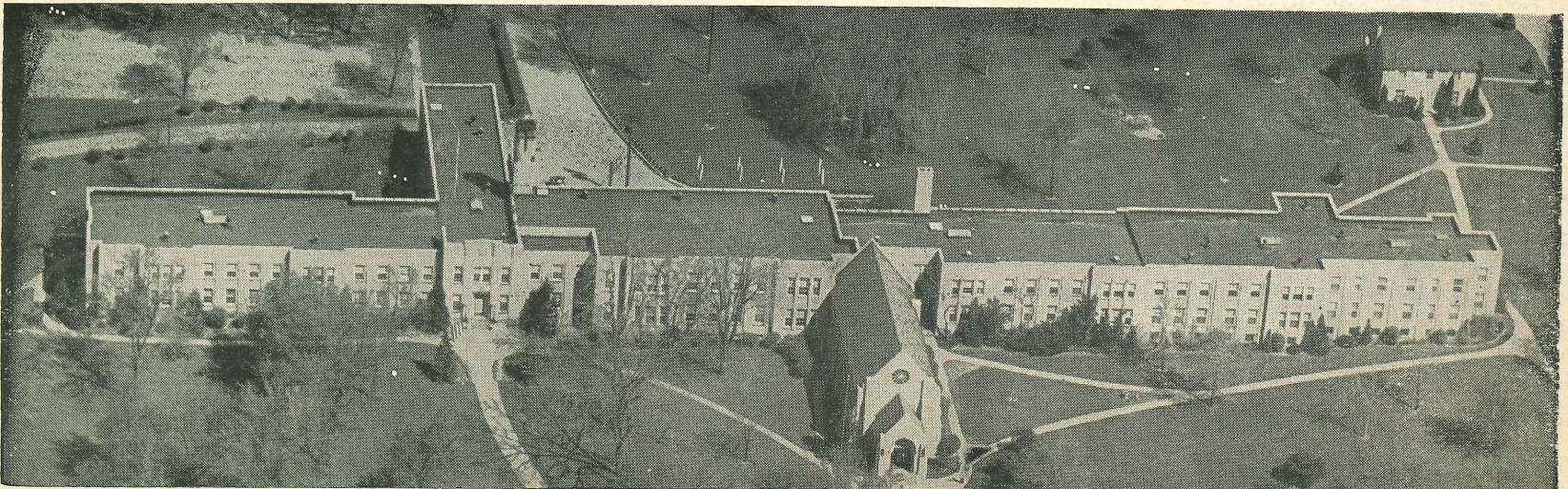


Photo by Ravell

Incidentally Yours

(Continued from Page One)

Steel, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Elmer Boeling, Financial Secretary and Mrs. Russel Blumerick, Treasurer. Due to his eye condition, the writer and his spouse could not attend this organization's recent annual meeting. They were, however, ably represented by our principal and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bellhorn. ---

At Christmas time Mr. Tegeder and family visited with relatives near Jacksonville, Illinois, where he for a time was a mighty Nimrod hunting rabbits, ducks and quails. ---

Two of our teachers, Mr. Tegeder and Miss Helen Szajna, just completed the gigantic task of preparing an exhaustive auditory training course to be used in connection with our very efficient auditory training equipment. For this, the entire staff is most grateful. The next big task will be to multigraph the course. ---

Mrs. Benda, our very capable nursery teacher, for family reasons found herself compelled to take an extended leave of absence. We were fortunate in getting Mrs. Margaret Zimmermann, one of our former teachers, to fill the vacancy. ---

Good news to our children's parents is the favorable prospects of having Mrs. Emily Born Lietke back with us again next September. After having taught in our school for twenty years, Mrs. Lietke has been on a year's leave of absence for health reasons. ---

We are happy to report that our teacher, Miss Elsie Forsberg, escaped with but minor injuries when a State Police car in Washington, D.C. accidentally collided with the car in which she was riding. ---

Our maintenance men are making good use of the Ford tractor and snow removing equipment recently purchased for that purpose. ---

Our appeal for the annual grocery donations from the Greater Detroit area was blessed beyond expectation. The many collections of food kept Mr. Ben Becker, our maintenance man and chief chauffeur, busy for days calling for the ingatherings with the carryall and then evaluating and storing them with the help of his associates, Messrs. Eduard Nikolai and Reinhold Ramlow. ---

We are most grateful that Mr. L. C. Knorr, a member of our Board of Directors for nigh unto fifty-five years, has recovered from serious illness. We anticipate his early return to our regular meetings to give us the benefit of his always wise advice and counseling. ---

Another Board member and his spouse, Mr. and Mrs. Werner Knack, are enjoying a slow trip around the world on an ocean freighter. They will be gone about

(Continued on Page Three)

A HOUSEMOTHER'S DAY

"GIRLS"

The youngsters were telling us about Christmas, home, and Mother, long before the holiday season. And who can blame them? Home is that warm and so comforting word which means so much to the children. Finally the day for going home came. Each housemother spent a bit more time with pin curls or a hair cut. It was Christmas and all children should look especially nice for the program. The housemothers wondered if the hot water would last until over a hundred tots had had their baths, and did she put everything they would need while at home into their traveling bags. Finally, every child was on its way home.

Now that the vacation period is over, the youngsters have all returned to their classes and their home away from home. And we, their mothers by proxy, or housemothers, are taking up where we left off. Each of us have a group of ten to fifteen youngsters. This makes for never-ending jobs such as getting them up in the morning, to breakfast, and to chapel devotions and classes. After that there is the housework to be done, laundry to fold and put away, and some to inspect and patch and darn. One pair of socks a day multiplied by 106 for the week makes several bushels. What a job!

In no time at all classes are over for the day and the children are back with us again. We look at the thermometer to see what the temperature might be outdoors. If it is nice enough for the children to go out, it takes a little time to get them all bundled up. One needs a jacket zipped up, another needs help with snow pants, and all the small ones need help with their boots. The teen-agers think it isn't cold, so they need to be reminded to dress warmer, too. And so it goes. At last we are all outside having fun in the snow. But soon it is time to come in for the evening meal. And so another day is almost over. We have tried, to the best of our ability, to make it a happy and constructive one for the many children the Lord has entrusted to us. A little adapted poem fits in here very well: "God put us all upon the earth, that we might serve each other. And then to give the world some worth, he made some of us housemothers."

—Deaconess Marie Bliefnick

FEAR thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. *Isaiah 41: 10.*

"BOYS"

"Boys come in assorted sizes, weights and color. They are found everywhere—on top of—underneath—inside of—climbing on—swinging from—running around—or jumping to." But we love them, all fifty-seven.

It is true, there is never a dull moment even if they are deaf. Like normal children they walk when they are supposed to run, and run when they are supposed to walk. We stress the rule to walk in the halls to avoid confusion. Little Earl, who was assumed to be deaf, was taken to a hearing church. The theme of the sermon was: "Run that ye might win the race." Later, when asked what the Pastor said, Earl looked up and replied: "We should run."

Beside the regular routine of waking, washing faces and hands, combing, (and what pride they take in their hair; often they need the help of their "brother" to see if the parts are straight or those stray locks or waves meet in the back of the head) there is also the getting ready for meals, school and play, the duty of requiring neatness in their personal belongings, their lockers and closets. It is started with the tiny ones and continued through all ages.

We "mothers," too, have our problems finding the right owner of that unmarked pair of socks, a real problem when we have bushels of 'em, or that new pair of jeans.

The older boys take an active part in athletic sports. How proud they are of their trophies. They are also good sports when they lose.

The main thing is still, "the one thing needful,"—learning to know Jesus, that when they pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, be our Guest," they invite Him,—that He is the Visitor, and they revere Him as such.

While studying their confirmation hymn, the writer was singing along with them. Soon one of the boys wanted to know: "When you were a little girl, did you go to Dr. Klein's school? Where did you learn this song?"

It is a real pleasure when on Sundays we see our former pupils take an active part as members and officers in our congregation for the Deaf.

Finally, at the end of a long day, with a tired body we go to our room praying: "Oh God, help me to bless these children when I am tired, as Jesus blessed the little children when He was tired."

—Deaconess Marie Twenhafel

OUR FILM

"The World of Silence"
IS AGAIN AVAILABLE

OUR LETTER BOX

Menlo Park, Calif.

Dear Brethren:

We were indeed thrilled with your wonderful movie, "World of Silence." It makes us all feel proud to have even a small share in the great work which you are doing. A check will be forwarded to you from our Ladies' Guild.

In His service,

Orval M. Oswald, Pastor

Dekalb, Illinois

Dear Dr. Klein:

We surely did have a wonderful time with Kevin when he was home. We can see a great change in him. He seems so very calm and his behavior is wonderful. We felt that he was a good boy but now he is just that much more a well-behaved little man. His little brother talks and talks about Kevin and his "troit" school. The De of Detroit doesn't quite get into his word. I wonder if there are not other things perhaps that we could do to really do our full share. Perhaps you have some suggestions and would relay them to us. We feel so grateful that Kevin can have this opportunity to attend the Lutheran School. Thank you.

Dean Froelich

Board Member Promoted

(Continued from Page One)

the Rev. H. Quitmeyer, pastors, is also active in almost all projects of the Lutheran Church in the Detroit area. He has served as member and chairman of innumerable Boards and Committees thereby demonstrating his love and zeal for the building of Christ's Kingdom.

Our own Institute has been privileged to have him as a member of our Board of Management for the past fifteen years. It greatly values his wise counseling and his willingness to serve where service is needed. For many years he has also managed our Institute's Annual Festival always held on the second Sunday in June.

We of the Institute congratulate Mr. Engel and wish him success in his very important position at Dodge.

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.

The Deaf Child's Advocate



A LONG NEEDED but only recently purchased tractor with snow plow is here seen "earning its salt." It would have been extremely difficult handling this volume of snow without this equipment. Operator is Mr. Rudolph Weiss, our outside caretaker.

In Appreciation

Until his recent prolonged confinement in hospital and home, during which he was at first completely and later partially blinded for many weeks due to a very delicate eye operation (detached retina), your editor probably never fully appreciated the real importance of the Savior's words when he said: "I was sick and ye visited Me."

Lying in total darkness for that long period of time with nothing but your own thoughts for company was a real ordeal. It was, therefore, a real joy when friends came for short visits or remembered me with Get-Well cards. For all such visits, and for the great number of Christmas and Get-Well cards, and especially for the many prayers that were sent up to the throne of God for my recovery, I here wish to thank all my many dear and loyal friends.

My recovery is progressing slowly but seemingly satisfactorily in the opinion of the specialist. At this writing, I am permitted to spend a few hours each day at my desk where, with the use of the one well but also weak eye, I hope gradually to assume my full responsibilities. Since the healing of the operated eye will be very slow, it will be a long time before it will be of appreciable use to me. But I am confident that God will answer our own prayers as well as those of our family and our many friends by restoring usable vision to me in due time.

Our beautiful Memorial Wreath folders are always available upon request, free and post-paid.

Association For Better Hearing Convention

The Michigan Association for Better Hearing met in convention in the Detroit Leland Hotel. The Parents Institute was an important item on the program. Another interesting topic was titled Social Problems of Deafened Children. The panel for this consisted of Rev. Edward C. Burkhardt, Mrs. H. J. Rippe, Miss Bridget McCloskey, Mr. George Cruickshank, Mr. Richard Durandt and Dr. Bruce Graham, Head of Section of Speech and Audiology, Henry Ford Hospital who was Chairman of the panel. Mr. Cruickshank has a daughter in our Institute and Mr. Durandt's son was one of our pupils up to last June at which time he was rehabilitated sufficiently to continue his education in a regular public school.

In the discussion Dr. Graham stated that parents must consider deafness in children "a limitation rather than a handicap." He further stated that parents must also recognize that such limitation changes the outlook socially and emotionally for the child and that they should face this problem realistically. One panel member pointed out the injustice the overly sympathetic and protective parent does to the deaf child. He said: "The adjustment of the deaf child must begin in the home. —Let him know he belongs to the home team by giving him small chores and responsibilities." The general advice to parents was not to pamper or isolate the deaf child but to rear him as a normal offspring having definite limitations who is capable of adjusting through proper special education.

Incidentally Yours ---

(Continued from Page Two)

four months. We wish them an enjoyable voyage and God's protection for a safe return. ---

Our three loyal and hardworking office employees, Mrs. Clara Murphy, Mrs. Gertrude Kronk, and Mrs. Joan Boles, being swamped with work, we had to appeal for volunteer helpers. We take this occasion to thank all such willing workers for their unselfish services. Among these willing workers also were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Witt who spent weeks on end assisting with this important work. Mrs. Witt also sewed the many colorful costumes required for our elaborate Christmas pageant. ---

All pupils going to and through Chicago for their Christmas holidays were accompanied by Deaconess Bliefnick who also again met all these children in Chicago to escort them back to school after the holidays. ---

Miss Vera Handschin took our Pennsylvania lad home on her way to New Jersey, and Miss Ada Munding was the escort for the Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota children. The rest of the children traveled alone or were called for by parents, friends or relatives. The Oklahoma and Texas boys always fly home.

Our two British Columbia lads were well taken care of by Mr. and Mrs. Carey who took them into their home for the holiday vacation period. May God bless these fine folks for their kindness. ---

Mrs. Isabel Karus, one of our teachers, gave a house party for all of our school's local graduates and their friends. Teachers Mrs. Ruby Murrell and Mary Stack held open house for staff members. Mr. Roy Kaiser and Miss Woods spent part of the holiday season in Chicago. Miss Frances Seiz and Mrs. Agnes Hance chose to spend Christmas in their Detroit apartments. ---

The second Salk vaccine inoculation was given to all our four to seven-year-old pupils. Nine-year-old pupils received their first shot. ---

The Grösse Pointe Lions' Club again afforded our pupils much enjoyment when it took our entire Institute family to the circus on February 2nd. ---

Parents, please note that our annual Easter vacation period has been changed from the week before Easter to the week after Easter. The children will be permitted to leave on Wednesday, March 28th at noon and should be brought back on Sunday, April 8th. ---

Our teacher trainee at Central Institute, Miss Helen Kramer, writes: "The time I'll spend here will be very busy but well-spent."

Gospel-Wheel Cogs

The work of bringing the saving gospel to all mankind is not unlike a machine having many cog-wheels of which each and every cog is of equal importance. When one of the cogs misses, the wheels cannot and do not function properly. In the work of our Institute, the staff members are the cogs who work directly with and on the many souls entrusted to us by their loving parents. But you, dear readers, are the very important cogs who with your kind and generous offerings make the smooth operation of this missionary endeavor possible. Without your prayers and offerings we, the rest of the cogs, just could not function. In comparison we who are your servants in this glorious work, are in reality only the minor or lesser cogs, and you, our supporters, are the important cogs on that great flywheel which gives it impetus and power. ---

And so, if you lag, the entire work slows up. The complete success of any missionary endeavor, therefore, always depends upon its supporters. And we are sincerely grateful that you, the readers of our little AD-VOCATE have always been mindful of our Institute's needs and that as working cogs in that great Gospel wheel you have always gladly and freely given of your worldly goods in order that deaf children might be brought to Christ, their Savior. ---

For all the many gifts, large and small, in money and material things, in bequests, and especially, also, for your prayers we take this occasion to express our heartfelt thanks and to wish upon all of you the Master's richest blessings. Offerings from such of our friends who for valid reasons have not yet found it possible to remember our cause, will be equally welcome and appreciated at any time when they find it convenient to remit them, since we have need of such support throughout the year. ---

We also thank the many anonymous donors who gave their alms in secret. They have our Lord's assurance that our heavenly Father, to whom there are no secrets, will reward them openly, already here and surely in the hereafter. ---

THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE

Published monthly by the Evangelical Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, 6861 East Nevada Avenue, Detroit 34, Michigan.

Subscriptions -- 59c per year

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

J. A. Klein, Director, 6861 E. Nevada Ave. Managing Editor

FACULTY

Dr. J. A. Klein, Director; Mr. Walter Bellhorn, Principal; Miss Elsie Forsberg, Miss Helen Szajna, Mr. Robert Tegeder, Mrs. Agnes Hance, Mr. Donald Ravell, Mrs. Isabel Karus, Mrs. Ruby Murrell, Miss Mary Stack, Mr. Roy Kaiser, Mrs. Margaret Zimmerman, Mrs. Mae Moffatt, Miss Frances Seiz, Miss Ruth Wood.

SCHOOL BOARD

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

All communications regarding the editing must be sent to the managing editor.

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

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Valparaiso, Indiana.

MOTHER'S WORK IS NEVER DONE

THE SWEETEST WORD

In all languages of the world there is no word so sweet-sounding as the word "MOTHER." Throughout the ages many complimentary things were said and written concerning mothers, mothers' love, mothers' activities, and mothers' sacrifices. And however the loving and sacrificing qualities of good mothers were lauded, there is, and always will be, much more that can and should be said about mothers.

Those are our sentiments concerning our corps of housemothers into whose care the parents of our many girls and boys have entrusted their most precious gifts of God, when they brought their children to our Institute in order that they might here be brought to Jesus, their Savior. These consecrated women, night and day, have no other concern than to be of service to children whose real mothers, because of their loved ones particular handicap, had to enroll them in a special school such as ours.

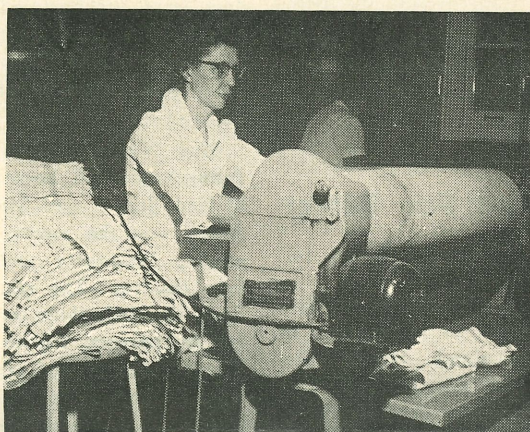
We of our Institute are indeed proud of these fine women who fill such an important niche in our program of educational and spiritual rehabilitation of deaf children and on whom we depend to provide a real home away from home for our youngsters. God bless our housemothers.



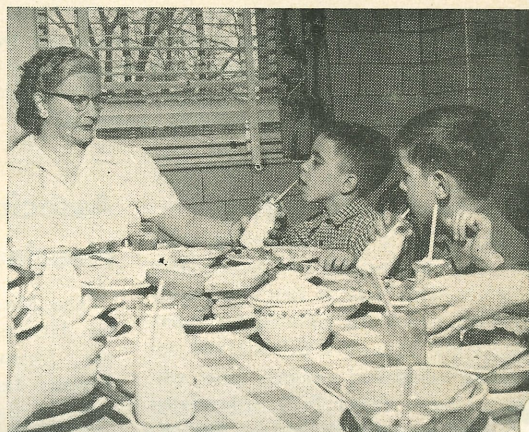
Wake up, sleepy heads! Wash your faces, it's time for breakfast.



After breakfast—time for tonic



With children in school, there are clothes to iron.



Dinner time—drink your milk!



Socks by the bushel—when will we ever get them all sorted?



After school—change those clothes.



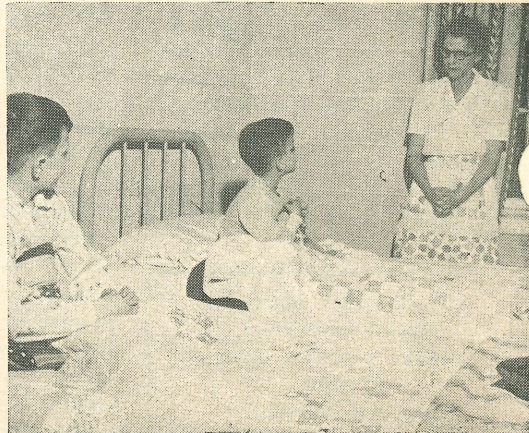
Play time—see, this is how you do it.



Just enough time for a couple of hair cuts before supper.



Baths by mass production.



"Now I lay me down to sleep,"