

The
deaf
child's

ADVOCATE

Vol. 27

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No. 2

Incidentally Yours. . .

The joyful year-end holidays with its vacation period being a thing of the past, pupils and staff members are again interested in their respective tasks of serving, teaching and learning.

Such activities as Auxiliary's annual meeting, board, faculty, building planning committee meetings, open-house with a sumptuous smorgasbord which enticed hundreds of friends to spend a Sunday afternoon with us touring through the buildings and observing demonstrations of teaching methods as well as the use of various teaching devices and aids employed in a school for the deaf, end-of-semester tests, making progress reports and sending out the semi-annual report cards all help to hasten time on to the school-year's end.

The confirmation class of ten is working hard to complete its course in religion by Palm Sunday, the day tentatively appointed as Confirmation Day.

Recent weekly group visitors in the
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MR. ROBERT TEGEDER recently received the degree of Master of Education from Wayne-State University. This is the seventh year that Mr. Tegeder has been a member of our staff.

Happy, Though Deaf

For many years I have been telling the fathers and mothers of little deaf children what a terrible handicap the deaf child has. I have also told this story to civic clubs, PTA groups, teachers, college students and business men. I have told the same story to all who came to ask about the deaf child. I have said that this business of trying to live as a human being without the use of a natural human language is terribly isolating and frustrating. I have said many times that the young deaf child is the most crippled of all the crippled children. I have tried as best I could to emphasize the severity of the handicap in order to win for the deaf child a program which will adequately educate him. But this is only the first half of the story. The second half has the promise of far more happiness than the first.----- I would now like to show that a deaf child can be happy in spite of his severe handicap. No-one in his right mind can be happy because he is deaf! THERE IS NO HAPPINESS INHERENT IN DEAFNESS. But the deaf child can be happy that his handicap is only deafness and not something worse.

He can be happy that deafness can be largely overcome by education. He can be happy that there is still a wonderful chance for a full life.

He can be happy that his handicap does not remove the joys that muscles can bring.

It does not remove the joys that a bright mind can bring.

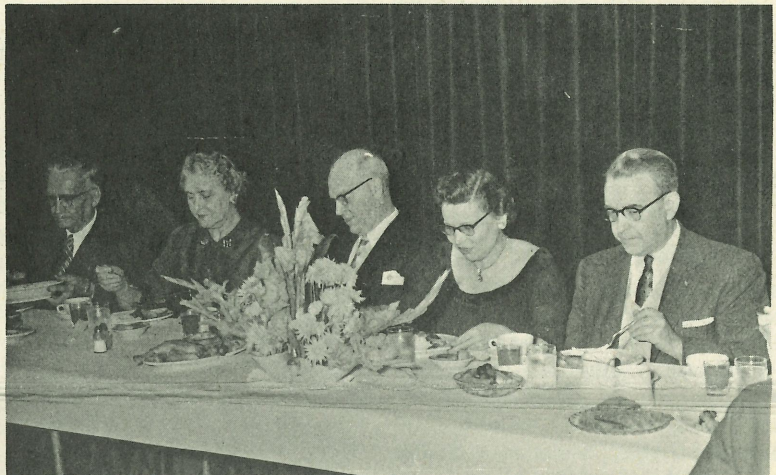
It does not remove the joys that eyes can bring.

It does not remove the joys of doing useful work.

It does not remove the joys of love and marriage.

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TEACHER'S 20th ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED



PICTURED HERE are Dr. J. A. Klein, Mrs. H. R. Wacker, Rev. Wacker, Miss Elsie Forsberg and Mr. Martin Burgess at the celebration dinner of Miss Forsberg's twentieth year on our faculty.

On the evening of January 21st an anniversary dinner was held at the Institute honoring Miss Elsie Forsberg, who for twenty years has served the deaf child's cause as a teacher here. Present at the dinner were the Members of the Board of Directors and School Board, their wives, officials of the two Ladies' Auxiliaries For the Deaf, the staff of the Institute and others. In appreciation of her years of faithful service, Rev. H. R. Wacker, President of the Board presented a check to Miss Forsberg. She also received gifts from the Detroit and Macomb chapters of the Ladies' Auxiliary, as well as from other friends.

Miss Forsberg, a native of the Michigan Upper Peninsula, was confirmed in the Lutheran faith by the Rev. Lucas, then pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church at Bessemer, Michigan. She was graduated from the Bessemer High School and then continued her education at Northern Michigan College of Education at Marquette, Michigan. Her first teaching position was at Trout Creek, Michigan, where she taught a Kindergarten class of hearing children.

She then became interested in the education of the deaf and decided to go into this field of Special Education. She received her training for teaching the deaf at the Michigan School for the Deaf at Flint, where she then continued as a teacher. She later completed her work for a Bachelor's Degree at Wayne University and the University of Colorado.

She accepted a position at our Institute in 1937 and has faithfully served the school for twenty years. She is an energetic and imaginative teacher and is never at a loss for new ideas in making the classroom work interesting and meaningful to her pupils. We hope and pray that she may continue to serve the cause of the deaf child here for many more years to come.

Miss Forsberg at present is a member of Outer Drive Faith Lutheran Church of Detroit of which the Rev. Karl Kemp is the pastor.



THIS SCENE was taken when Messrs. Tegeder, Kaiser and Ravell took their classes to the Jack Miner Migrating Waterfowl Sanctuary near Kingsville, Ontario. Pupils and teachers were greeted at the sanctuary by Mr. Jasper Miner pictured above with some of the children. Mr. Miner provided a special thrill when he let the children feed the birds. Later he presented our children with a leg band which had once been worn by a bird.

Incidentally Yours. . .

(Continued from Page One)

new year have been the Beta Chapter of Women's Clubs of Clawson, Michigan, the Milan Walther League, St. Mark's Ladies' Aid, Brooklyn, Michigan, the College Women's Service Club, the Zeta Sorority, and Jehovah Ladies' Auxiliary. Others are scheduled for future dates.

Many lectures and talks with live demonstrations of the school's work together with the showing of the all-color sound film are being scheduled as such requests reach us.

The writer attended meetings of the Council of Lutheran Agencies in Chicago and Synods Committee on Special Services in St. Louis. He also made a flying visit to Houston Texas to attend the funeral of his brother, A. B. Klein. In the sudden passing of Alex. Klein the family mourns a devoted Christian father and brother, the Community an influential and successful business-man and wise counselor, the local congregation and the Church at large a great church-worker and conscientious tither, our Institute a constant and liberal contributor, and heaven welcomed a saint.

We are most grateful to the Pastors and congregations who again requested Concordia Publishing House to insert our collection envelopes in their congregation's envelope packs. May God richly bless them for the support they thus extend this blessed missionary endeavor. —A supply of our collection envelopes is deposited at Concordia Publishing House for just such requests and will be inserted in your packs without any charge whatsoever.

ever. Just ask that it be done when you order your year's envelope supply.

Many thanks to our friends for the Christmas Cheer offerings, gifts to our youngsters, and all the material items such as fruit, candies, groceries, cookies, bedding, towels, etc. etc. Our Heavenly Father will richly bless you for everything.

The testimonial dinner at which our Institute Boards and the Ladies Auxiliaries recognized the twenty years of faithful service rendered by Miss Elsie Forsberg as a teacher in our school was a pleasant surprise to the good teacher.

A Survey and Experiment

Agencies who appeal for support by direct mail are told by such as have made research in the matter that envelopes of a certain color provoke better returns than do those of other colors. To ascertain whether or not there is some truth in such a claim we inserted business reply envelopes of five different colors in our annual appeal. After all returns have been received, we hope to be able either to prove or disprove that color claim. Personally, we are of the opinion that our Christians pay no attention to the color of the envelope in which they bring or send their offerings with which to do their Savior's bidding, because it is their love for Him which prompts their giving. And to help carry on this costly, yet blessed work, won't you, dear readers, send us your contributions in whatever envelope you may have, even if you have to use a plain white one. - - -

Happy, Though Deaf

(Continued from Page One)

It does not doom the child to a barren life.

Deafness can be overcome by education just as darkness can be overcome by light. Deafness is a blighting thing at the time a child enters school, but the handicap largely melts away by graduation time if education has done its job well.

And, so you who are deaf, before you feel too sorry for yourself, add up the things you can do even though deaf.

You probably can swim and skate.

You can hike through the mountains splashed with the color of autumn.

You can ride to the very top of the mountain in the cold blue color of winter and then almost fly through powder snow to the valley far below.

You can sit and concentrate with fingers flying as you and the IBM machine help keep track of all the actions of a great business.

You can enjoy a car.

You can take your family to see the ocean and the redwoods and Grand Canyon and Chicago.

You can teach your children.

You can serve in your church.

You can vote.

You can shop for bargains.

You can draw a bead on a big buck as the dawn breaks in October and know the thrill of hunting big game.

You can know the thrill of talking to people, of exchanging "Good mornings" even though you do not hear the sound of your neighbors voice nor the sound of your own reply.

It is true that you can't hear the mallards talking, or the wild geese honking their calls across the sky, but you can thrill to the day and the "vee" of their flight across the sunset. You have the color and the crisp air and the patterns in the

rushes and the water. You can know as much happiness in the marshes as any man.

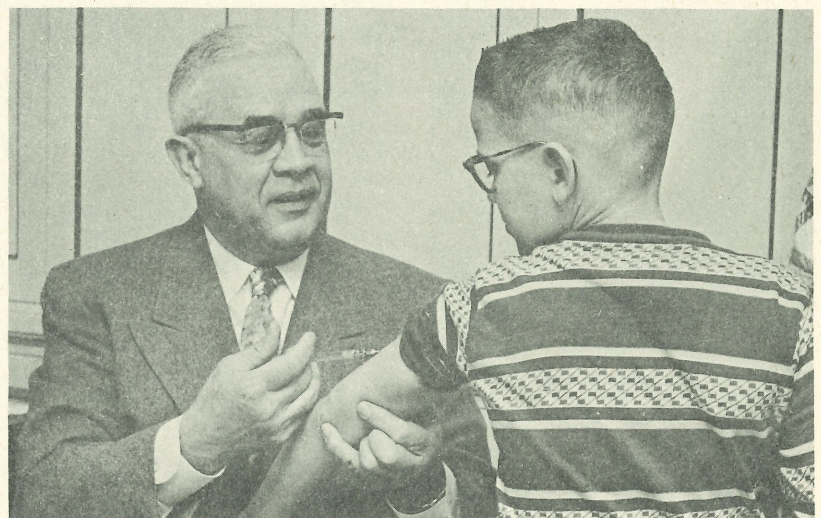
You can work and play and laugh.

Therefore, BE HAPPY. Live the good life for happiness is there for you - - - - Somehow I feel that you will. Someday you may even occupy a higher place than those of us who have open ears and fail to listen. You overcame a handicap and it made you a better man for the trying.

If I might have one more wish it would be that the mothers of these deaf children might learn this on the day they learn that their baby is deaf. —Adapted from "The Utah Eagle."

Yule at Home

All but four of our pupils spent the Christmas holidays at home in the midst of loved ones. The four who on account of great distances could not go home were Bobby and Stephen Harrison from Vancouver, British Columbia, and Karen and Janice Dienst from Los Angeles, California. All four, however, also enjoyed Christmas away from school. The Harrison boys again were taken into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Carey of Detroit where they received real mother's care and love. The Dienst children visited with their grandmother who resides here. The girls' greatest surprise and Christmas gift was a visit from their mother who came to spend the holiday with them. All children from the West, of whom there are many, were escorted to Chicago and beyond by our faithful Deaconess-housemother Marie Bliefnick, and Deaconess-teacher Ada Munding. Deaconess Munding whose home is in Garrison North Dakota then continued west with pupils from Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana. After the holidays both deaconesses again accompanied the children back to school.



RECENTLY, when many children in this city contracted diphtheria, Dr. Chas. H. Sharrer gratuitously provided the shots necessary to protect our children from that dread disease.



OPEN HOUSE GUESTS enjoyed a short skit by our sixth and seventh grade pupils under the direction of their teachers, Miss Helen Szajna and Mrs. Emily Lietke.

THANK YOU, GOD

It was Thursday, December 20th. Nearly all air travel had dwindled to a standstill due to a heavy fog blanket covering most of the central and great lakes states. Pandamonium reigned in Detroit's large Willow Run Airport waiting room that day. Thousands of people, homeward bound for Christmas, were storming the airline clerks for information or ticket cancellations. Lines of grounded travelers ten and twelve deep formed in front of the dozen or more occupied telephone booths, all anxious to notify someone of their plight. In this large milling crowd of stranded people were seven deaf children from our school, also anxious to get home for the holidays. Mr. Belhorn, the principal, had accompanied them to the airport to see them safely on their way.

The first child to leave was four year old Winnie Goss of Mississippi. Her plane scheduled to leave at 7 a.m. finally took to the air at 11 a.m.

Karen Karr of Kansas City was next with her plane leaving several hours late. American Airlines definitely cancelled all flights for the day. Hence, our four Texas boys had no alternative but to be returned to the school and have arrangements made to travel home by rail.

However, there was still some hope of getting home via United Airlines held out for Reed Lee of Omaha, Nebraska. The standard answer at the airlines desk was that the Omaha flight had not been definitely cancelled. Yet, there was no way of knowing just when it would leave. We waited hour after hour. Several years ago Reed had gone through the same experience due to planes being grounded, and he lost six precious days of vacation. One could read in his eyes that hope was waning fast and despair was creeping into his young heart.

We checked again and again with the airline. Answers ran something like this: "His plane is now circling the field waiting for a break in the weather so it can land, discharge its passengers and then load for Omaha."

One half hour late:—"The plane is still circling." Twenty minutes later:—"It is now in Toledo, Ohio, refueling." Thirty minutes go by:—"Still in Toledo. Passengers for Detroit have left the plane in Toledo and are continuing their trip by Greyhound." Then the passenger agents telephone rang. Good News.—"The fog over the airport had partially lifted and the plane would attempt a landing." A few minutes later the all-important announcement came that the Omaha plane had landed and would all passengers hurry to the south concourse. Reed, so advised, suddenly came much alive with a big smile on his face. As Mr. Bellhorn hurried him into the plane, he suddenly raised his eyes to heaven and said in a loud clear voice "Thank you, God." Then as an explanation he said to his principal "Because He made the weather better. Now I will get home for Christmas."

After almost nine hours of anxious waiting, God answered this lad's silent prayer and Reed did not forget the all important "Thank You" after his request to God had been fulfilled. Minutes after his plane took to the air, thick fog again closed down on Willow Run.

THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE

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

FACULTY — Dr. J. A. Klein, Director; Mr. Walter Bellhorn, Principal; Mrs. Emily Lietke, Miss Elsie Forsberg, Miss Helen Szajna, Mr. Robert Tegeder, Mrs. Agnes Hance,

Ladies' Auxiliary President's Annual Report

It is customary that the president, corresponding secretary, financial secretary, and treasurer submit a written report in the January meeting. As your immediate past president, I shall endeavor to give you a brief resume of our past year's activities as an auxiliary of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf.

Again we stand on the threshold of a new year, and glancing back we are amazed at the many benefactions God showered upon our work. He gave us eager minds, warm hearts, and willing hands to serve the cause of handicapped children with devotion and singleness of purpose. We experienced the truth of the words of Jesus that in serving we find rich reward; that in losing our life, losing it in service, we find it.

As chairman of your auxiliary in the past year, I was most ably assisted by the officers and chairmen of the standing committees. Duties were fulfilled with alacrity and efficiency, and, I can add, with zest and joy. For me it was a rewarding experience to work with these willing and dedicated women. ----

Mrs. John Klein, the Visiting Group Hostess, together with her corps of workers served dinners to 457 people and turned in contributions in the amount of \$571.25. All these people, arriving in small and large groups, became acquainted with the work of the school, toured the buildings and attended classes. Our faithful financial women, Mrs. Forth and Mrs. Carey, handled moneys in the sum of \$7,797.65, an increase of \$403.53 over 1955. I am sure this was due in part to the

many activities introduced by the program chairman, Mrs. Loose. We paid in full the tuition of one child attending the school. That amount was \$1,900.00. Some of the larger items purchased were: a station wagon, two food freezers, a new stove for our kitchen, large quantities of bedding, and the seats in the auditorium were re-upholstered.

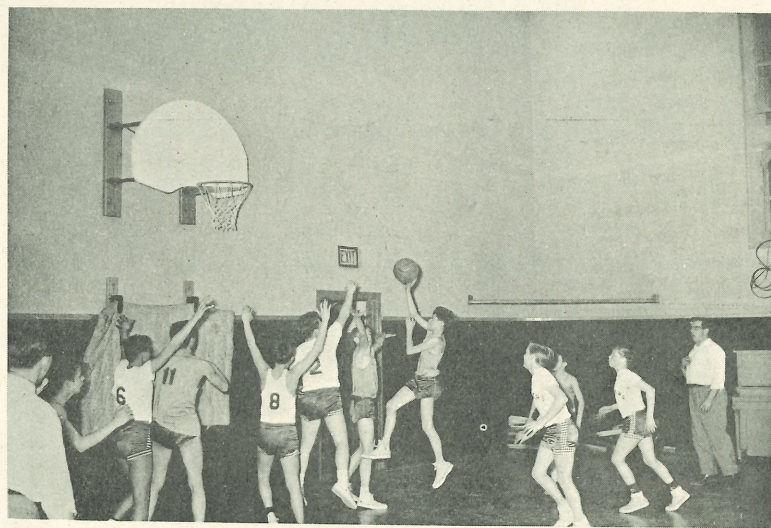
Mrs. Engel reported that 6,233 pieces of clothing were mended and repaired by 274 women from 22 churches of the greater Detroit area. A further report stated that hundreds of gallons of tomato juice were canned by volunteer workers.

Thirty-seven new members were enrolled, eleven were translated to their heavenly home, and seven transferred to the Golden Year Book. Looking briefly over the past year's activities was a real pleasure. And, now we address ourselves to the new year with confidence, eager for the many avenues of service open to us in behalf of children grievously burdened by the very serious physical handicap of deafness.

—Mrs. E. Kurth

New Addition

Plans for our new Reprectory are moving along rapidly and it is our fond hope that the building will be completed by September. In this new addition we also plan for a home economics kitchen furnished with electric appliances for the purpose of teaching our girls the rudiments of cooking and baking, as well as the use and care of kitchen utensils and appliances.



HUGHIE BLANKENSHIP shooting in a game with St. Peter's Lutheran School of East Detroit. Our team is off to a good start for the season, having won this game 52 - 23 and the following game against Bethany Lutheran School, 44 - 25.

Mr. Donald Ravell, Mrs. Isabel Karus, Mrs. Ruby Murrell, Miss Mary Stack, Mr. Roy Kaiser, Miss Frances Seiz, Miss Ruth Wood, Miss Ada Munding, Miss Patricia McComb.

SCHOOL BOARD — Rev. Geo. Krach, Rev. N. E. Borchardt, Rev. C. Nietzsche. 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 Ave., Detroit 34, Michigan. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Valparaiso, Indiana.

The Snowman



Oh boy—let's make a snowman!



Making a snowman calls for cooperation.



Just a little more snow and he'll be ready to be dressed.

It's quite cold so we'd better give him a nice warm scarf.



And finally, a hearing aid, because like our children, this snowman is DEAF.