

The Deaf Child's ADVOCATE



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No. 6

THAT INHUMAN SILENCE

"Ours is NOT the silence that soothes the weary senses. It is an INHUMAN SILENCE which severs and estranges. It is a silence which isolates, cruelly and completely . . . Hearing is the deepest, most humanizing philosophical sense man possesses."

—Helen Keller

"But He knoweth the way that I take; when He hath tried me I shall come forth as gold." Job 23:10.

THOUGHTS

WE'LL SING OUR THANKS . . .

WE'LL SHOW OUR GRATITUDE

These words are being written a few weeks before Thanksgiving. That is well. It gives all of us the opportunity to view in anticipation our observance of this one National Holiday which is also observed in all of our churches — and to contemplate its effect upon our lives and actions.

As we gather in our churches we will join in singing: "Now thank we all our God," — "All praise and thanks to God, the Father now be given," — and "Oh that I had a thousand voices, a mouth to speak with a thousand tongues."

Dear friends and readers, we maintain that each and every one of us has been blessed with such abundant benedictions that even a faulty sense of gratitude must impel us to approach our heavenly Father on this National Day of Thanksgiving to declare: "Our God, we thank Thee."

But this matter of thanksgiving also has a very practical side. It isn't only a matter of attending services on Thanksgiving Day and then going home to thankfully enjoy a good meal. If we are really going to be thankful then that Thanksgiving must show itself, too, in our actions.

Thank God, experience shows that such is usually the case. It is during the Thanksgiving-Christmas Season that our Christians, year after year, offer gifts in abundance for every phase of kingdom work.

And we feel confident that they will do so again this year and in even greater measure than ever before, and that they will want to do this as an expression of gratitude for the bountiful spiritual and temporal blessings which they received during the past 365 days.

The local congregations require attention for their manifold budgetary needs. Our Church's great and widespread mission programs require whole-hearted support. The hungry and destitute throughout the world plead for food and clothing. And our Church's charities, one of which is our own Detroit Lutheran School for the Deaf, make their wants known in order that they may continue to bring Christian love and service to the many handicapped and needy in their care.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give, devise and bequeath to The Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, a corporation duly organized in the State of Michigan, and located at 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit 34, the sum of \$..... and/or the following described real estate and/or stocks and bonds.

The receipt of the Treasurer or Executive Director of said corporation shall be sufficient discharge to my executor for same.

And as we remember Jesus how He LOVED and LIVED and how He was moved with compassion toward the multitude and healed their sick, and when eventide had come, how He said to His disciples: "GIVE YE THEM TO EAT," we are confident that our Christians, out of love for Him, will heed His command and will have open hearts and hands in answer to the various appeals in the same measure as their heavenly Father has blessed them.

Yes, dear readers, to satisfy the needs of our Church's manifold activities connected with its Kingdom work is truly a big order. But out of love for our blessed Redeemer, we will fill it; we will "GIVE THEM TO EAT," especially that spiritual food, "The One Thing that is so Needful."

—Adapted from *Charity Thermostat*.

87th SCHOOL YEAR

The 87th school year of this, the oldest educational charity serving the Church synodwide, began Tuesday, September 8, with a full teaching staff of sixteen teachers and a capacity pupil enrollment.

The twenty new enrollees, ten boys and ten girls, hail from the following States and Provinces: five from Ohio, four from Ontario, three from Kentucky, three from Michigan, one from Georgia, one from Virginia, one from Wisconsin, one from Indiana, and one from Texas.

Our present enrollment represents deaf children from twenty different States and Provinces. We are happy to state that, due to the fact that we were successful in securing a full teaching staff, we were able, for the first time in years, to accept all eligible applicants this year.

DR. CHARLES SHARRER, Detroit's Father of the Year

Having been asked by the Detroit Central Business District Association to nominate a Detroit father for the honor of being named Detroit's Father of the Year, we could think of no one who was more deserving of this unique recognition than our good Dr. Charles Sharrer, one of the several philanthropic-minded physicians serving our many deaf children without charging a fee. And we were extremely pleased when we were informed that of the great number of nominees received by the committee, after five hours of deliberation, chose our Dr. Sharrer for the distinct honor of being "Detroit's Father of 1959" — by the Central Business District Association.

The Doctor's wife Ellen and ten members of the family and Board members, Reverend H. R. Wacker, Messrs. Fred Auch and Bernhard Schumacher were present at a luncheon meeting in the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel when Mayor Louis Miriani read a Father's Day proclamation and presented the keys of the City to Dr. Sharrer, and Miss Mary Beck, president of Detroit's Council, congratulated him in the name of the Board of Councilmen.



Detroit's Father of the Year and Family. Front Row L. to R. Daughter Merry Sharrer, holding Molly Sue Mann; the doctor's wife, Ellen; Dr. Chas. Sharrer, holding grandson, Peter Frye; another daughter, Mrs. Sally Engle. Rear row, two daughters and their husbands, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Mann and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Frye.

(Continued on Page 2)



After Mayor Louis Miriani had read the Father's Day Proclamation which designated our School's Doctor Sharrer "Detroit's Father of 1959" and presented the "Keys of the City" plus a personal gift and one for our School to him, Cynthia Antaya, Linda Ledford, and Laurie Marzetti, pupils of our School, congratulated and kissed their beloved doctor.

The C.B.D.A. presented to our School a film strip sound projector to be used in the visual training of our deaf pupils. And Mr. Max Handler, a business man of Detroit, presented a very valuable piece of playground equipment. Dr. Sharrer received a personal gift of an all-leather high fidelity phonograph.

The news that he had been chosen for the special honor came as a complete surprise to the doctor. He thought he was to hear a talk by a pharmacist. But instead he was greeted by every member of his family, including his daughter Sally who had come by air from Denver to be present for the occasion. Mrs. Sharrer said: "I have been telling nothing but small untruths for days in order to have this be a complete surprise for my husband. I am glad we were able to keep the secret from him. But it wasn't easy."

VISITORS

As in other years also this year, we had the pleasure of welcoming summer tourist visitors to our School. We appreciate such because it gives us an opportunity to become personally acquainted with the friends of our School and readers of the Advocate. And it gives them the pleasure of seeing where and how their offerings to our agency are utilized.

In addition to tourist visitors, we lodged the Addison class of 1909 at the occasion of its 50th class anniversary reunion, the International Ephphatha Conference, and the teachers of the Michigan District Teachers Work Shop. We also were honored by visits from the Rev. Dr. Hans Kirsten, President of the Lutheran Theological High School in Oberursel, Germany, the Reverend Dr. B. H. Jackayya, Naggercoil, India, President of the Ev. Lutheran Church of South India, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Koch of Adelaide, Australia, Miss Bjorg Herdal, a teacher of the deaf from Oslo, Norway, Miss Vandenhoeck, a teacher from Pretoria, South Africa, and Miss Petrea Tolbis, Supervisor of Department of Education in the Teachers' College on the Island of Leyte, Ph. I.



L. to R.: Dr. Frederick Nohl, Mr. E. Wiese, Assistant Supt. of Schools, Dr. S. J. Roth, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. J. A. Klein, Executive Director of the Lutheran School for the Deaf, and Mr. W. J. Bellhorn, Principal of the Lutheran School for the Deaf, discussing matters concerning the Teachers' Workshop.



The members of the International Ephphatha Conference which held its annual convention within the walls of our School in July.



Lutheran teachers of Michigan who were lodged and fed in our School during a three-day work shop conference.



L. to R.: The Rev. Dr. B. H. Jackayya, President of the Ev. Luth. Church of South India, the Rev. Walter C. Gerken and Vicar Charles Roluffs of St. John's congregation, the Rev. Dr. Hans Kirsten and Director J. A. Klein. The latter is explaining the use and value of multiple hearing aids in a class room for deaf children.



The upper grades and their teacher Mr. Paul Walther, of Christ Lutheran School St. Joseph, Michigan who spent two nights and a day at our School to learn how deaf children are taught. (See letter)

SPECIAL GIFTS

We gratefully report that in response to our special gift appeal published in the June and August issues of the Advocate the following offerings were received:

1. A check for a teacher-training scholarship from a friend in Illinois. — A River Forest student now at Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis is the beneficiary of this gift. She will be ready to join our teaching staff in September of next year.
2. Checks were received from the North Detroit Exchange and the Milan, Michigan, Rotary Clubs toward the purchase of a typewriter.
3. From a pastor and his wife in Illinois we received funds for new school-room furniture
4. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Koster supplied the funds for the refurbishing of our Nursery class room as a memorial to their sainted parents.
5. A reader and friend in Milford, Illinois sent us a substantial sum which will be used toward the purchase of a multigraph.
6. The New Center Exchange Club supplied our boys playroom with a complete electric train-setup. — What a wonderful pastime this will be for the youngsters in a home away from home. A member of the same Club, Mr. Arthur Michael is, presented to us a complete set of dental instruments for our dentist's office.
7. Mr. Max Handler provided funds for a piece of outdoor playground equipment. — This gift will pay for a six-chair swing for our Kindergarten pupils.
8. Through Dr. Andrew Zeile we again received a generous offering from our anonymous friend in Lansing to be used wherever most needed.
9. The Kindergarten Class of Immanuel Lutheran School, Minneapolis, sent us a check to be used for the purchase of Bibles for our deaf children so that they, too, may learn to know their Savior.
10. A Detroit friend donated an electric sewing machine. Of this our housemothers will make very good use.

For these and all other generous offerings, including the fruits and vegetables received from the Knittel Southview Orchards, Mrs. Stenke's, Perry Friess', and Mrs. Martha Hein's gardens, the groceries from Mr. Elmer Singstock, plus clothing and household linens from friends in Crescent City, Illinois, Troy and Detroit, Michigan, and Independence, Missouri, as well as the 120 pounds of honey from Mr. Adolph Moesch of Bonduel, Wisconsin, we here once more convey our heartfelt thanks and pray upon them our Lord's richest blessings.

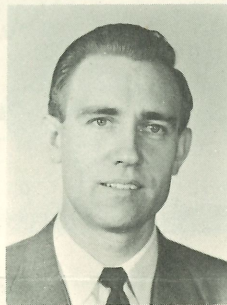
SUPERINTENDENT HAROLD GREEN

We deplore the sudden death by accident of Mr. Harold Green, Superintendent of the Utah State School for the Deaf. And we here express our deepest and heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family. Mr. Green and his family were en route to Colorado Springs to attend the Superintendents' convention when their car was involved in an accident.

We also take this occasion to congratulate our friend and former co-worker, Mr. Robert Tegeder, on having been promoted from the principalship to the superintendency of the Utah School.

Mr. Tegeder, after having been graduated from River Forest Concordia Teachers' College, took special training in the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf to become a teacher in our school. While with us he also attended Wayne State University where he received his M.A. degree.

After having taught in our school for a period of seven years, he was offered and accepted the principalship of the Utah school where he now has been elevated to the superintendency. — We wish Mr. Tegeder the Lord's richest blessings in his new duties.



MR. ROBERT TEGEDER

FROM THE CLASS-ROOMS

Pregrade

My home is in Wisconsin. I went home for vacation. I rode on the bus and train. I ate on the train. I saw Mother and Daddy. I was happy.—Carl Frels.

First Grade

My home is in Chicago. I got a letter from Mother last week. She wrote some news about my brother, Earl. He is a Patrol Boy at his school. He goes to school very early in the morning. He takes care of children. He helps them cross the street. He is proud of his work.—Janice Katzel.

Intermediate

JESUS

Jesus died on the cross. He suffered for our sins. He arose from the dead. He went to heaven. Many people love Jesus. I love Jesus.

—Linda Lou Palmer, Indiana

Jesus rode on a donkey to Jerusalem. The soldiers crucified Jesus, Jesus prayed to God. Jesus died on the cross for all people. Jesus arose from the dead. We love Jesus.—Nancy Jamison.

ACQUISITIONS AND REPAIRS

Aside from the usual annual school-room necessities, two of the rooms received floor soundproofing and were equipped with new chairs, desks and tables. One of our commercial washing machines was replaced with a rebuilt one, and a rotary power lawnmower was bought. Much interior and exterior painting was done by our maintenance men who also repainted our school bus and resurfaced the entire roof of our building.



St. Joseph, Mich.

Dear Dr. Klein:

Enclosed are some letters expressing the appreciation and thanks these children wanted to give you personally for the opportunity to visit the Deaf Institute.

May I also again express my sincere thanks for this special and memorable experience. I can personally appreciate my own service to Him much more after having visited your school for the deaf.

May the Lord continue to guide you and bless your work.

Sincerely,

Paul Walther

* * *

St. Joseph, Mich.

Dear Dr. Klein:

I want to thank you for the wonderful time our classes had at your Lutheran School for the Deaf during the two nights and a day we spent there. The meals were wonderful. And the children were so free and friendly. The teachers were very nice and the work they are doing is really worth doing, because it is helping so many handicapped receive a Christian education.

The many children I met, I will never forget. They were so very friendly and cooperative. This was one trip I myself will never forget. The wonderful work which is going on in your school, the kindly and patient teachers, and the children so eager to learn were marvelous to behold.

I will always remember the children in my prayers. And I pray that God may bless your work and the many children in your school.

Sincerely,

Judy Cerecke

* * *

Wayne State University
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Dr. Klein:

I must apologize for being so tardy with an expression of thanks (I have been out of the city) for your wonderful demonstration of truly wonderful achievement with handicapped children.

Please pass along our thanks too, to Mrs. Hance, your so able assistant. Your children were marvelous. I hope you will let them know we were all thrilled with their accomplishments.

I know that you influenced the thinking and attitudes of many in our group, and left us with a very real appreciation of the wonderful service to children by schools and training centers such as yours, who can show that high standards *can* be achieved.

Sincerely,

Stanley A. Burns
Dept. of Special Education

WE ARE CHAGRINED

In the first printing of our annual appeal letter, which will reach our readers shortly, two typographical, or call them plain spelling errors, passed the scrutiny of the author, the typist, the printer, and the proof reader.

The mistakes were not discovered until the entire lot of these letters had been printed, hence, corrections were not feasible. — We already feel most embarrassed about this, so please, do not write to call our attention to it.

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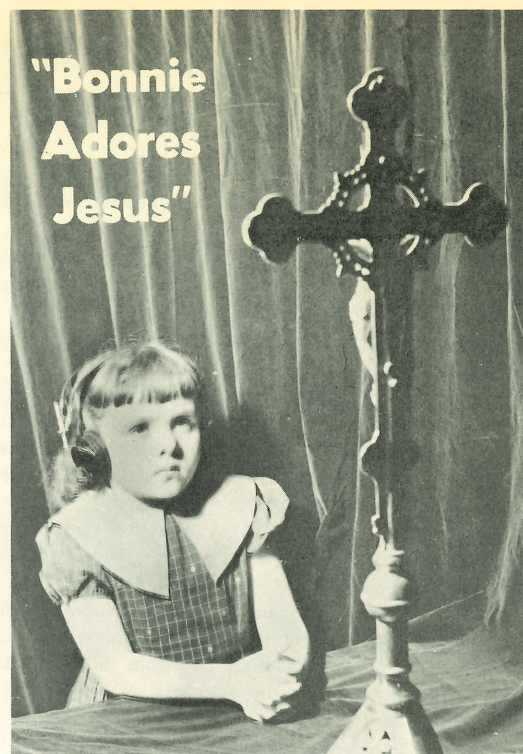
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SCHOOL BOARD — Rev. Geo Krach, Rev. N. E. Borchardt, Rev. C. Nietzsche.

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

ALL ADDRESS CHANGES must be sent to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, 6861 East Nevada Ave., Detroit 34, Mich.



SCHOOL ENTERS UPON 87th YEAR



Household and Office Staff: Standing L. to R.: Mrs. W. Schumann, Mrs. G. Spann, Mrs. O. Jennings, Mrs. S. Calkins, Mrs. C. Wolf, Mrs. M. Emberton, Mrs. F. Carter, Miss Olga Hadel, Mrs. N. Kirby, Mrs. E. Wengler, Miss Thelma Opel, Mrs. H. Sumner, Miss Ruth Haase. Seated L. to R.: Mrs. C. Murphy, Miss Peggy McDougal, Miss Vera Handschin, Deaconess Marie Bliefnick, Deaconess Marie Twenhafel, Mrs. G. Neuman, Mrs. S. Crary, Mrs. V. Jeffries.



NEW ENROLLEES: L. to R., back row: Claude Beeman, Texas; Patricia Ford, Georgia; Raymond Doyle, Ohio; Sonia Lyon, Michigan; Eric Stadelman, Wisconsin. Second Row: Debra Flye, Virginia; Deaconess Marie Bliefnick, Deborah Richert, Ontario, Canada; Stephen French, Michigan; Denise Thompson, Michigan; Diane Holmes, Ontario, Canada; Deaconess Marie Twenhafel, Carl Evans, Michigan; Gerald Hales, Indiana. Front Row: Corinne Taylor, Ontario, Canada; Elisa Haggard, Kentucky; Antionette Hall, Kentucky; John Geyer, Ohio; Dennis Morris, Ohio; Mary Martin, Ontario, Canada, and Danny Kessler, Kentucky. Stephen Roderick of Toledo, Ohio, who came late, is not in the picture.

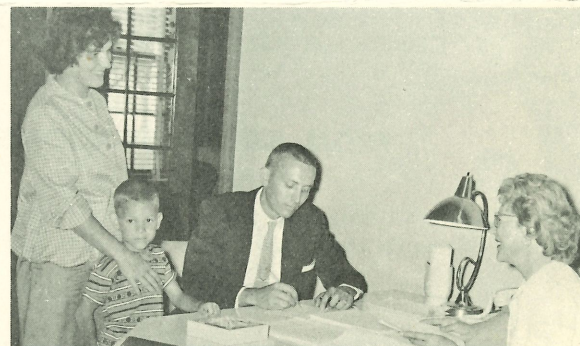


The Faculty: Seated L. to R.: Principal Walter Bellhorn, Mrs. Y. Kurtz, Miss Miriam Mueller, Miss Grace Mannen, Miss Ruth Woods, Mrs. D. Pennell, and Director J. A. Klein. Standing L. to R.: Miss Elsie Forsberg, Mrs. I. Karus, Miss Marie Antrim, Miss Frances Seiz, Miss Marion Lenz, Mrs. A. Hance, Miss Helen Szajna and Mr. Herman Holste.



Dr. J. A. Klein greeting new enrollee Claude Beeman and his parents from Fort Worth, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Gage Geyer of Fremont, Ohio, enrolling their son, John, with Miss Helen Szajna, one of our teachers.



Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Ford and their daughter, Patricia, arriving from Columbus, Georgia, to enroll Patty in our school so that she may have the advantage of a Christian education.