

The Deaf Child's ADVOCATE

Volume 33

JUNE, 1963

Number 3

THINK ON THESE

I have showed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20, 35.

Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me. Matt. 25. 40.

THOUGHTS

PENTECOST "WHEN THEY HAD PRAYED"

On the first Pentecost things really began to happen "when they had prayed" (Acts 4, 31-33) those assembled there were filled with the Holy Ghost — they spoke the Word with boldness — they became a united group — they gained a new sense of stewardship — and great grace was upon them.

Prayer helped them. It has helped many times since then. Do you remember that bit of history of the chosen people of Israel? The messenger of Sennacherib had come to taunt the children of Israel. They knew the Israelites had no resources in men or in money. — Then King Hezekiah took the taunting note and laid it before God in prayer. — God promised to help and in one night His angels slew thousands of the soldiers of Sennacherib. — All this happened "when they had prayed."

The Church today needs the Spirit of power. It is not simply one need of the Church. It is THE need. Again and again we must realize that "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord," can we hope to win. The knowledge is being forced upon us that "It is the Spirit that quickeneth, the flesh profiteth nothing."

It is easy enough to organize and to preach and to sing, to attend meetings and to pass resolutions, but the real task before us is the changing of the leopard's spots, the transformation of men's souls. To do that we must be real spiritual men and women.

And spiritual people we can be. There was a time when the baptism of the spirit was for the few. But today the promise is unto us and to our children. All we have to do is ask for it. For "if ye being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him." The power is waiting to come upon the church and upon the individual today as it came then, in answer to prayer.

And, mark you, it comes in no other way. — Our enemy, the devil, is perfectly willing that we should have the best church and school buildings in the city and the community — He won't mind much if we have the best possible preaching — It won't bother him if we have very excellent singing. — He is willing to let all of these things stand IF WE WILL BUT FORGET THE MIGHT OF GOD THAT COMES IN ANSWER TO PRAYER.

Let's remember THAT in our personal lives and also in our work for the Kingdom at home and in the wider field of MISSIONS and CHARITIES.

— Charity Thermostat

YOU ARE INVITED

The pupils of the Lutheran School for the Deaf invite you to attend the 90th Anniversary of their School's founding on Festival Sunday afternoon, June 9th, 1963.

Open House, an hour-long colorful program by the deaf children at 2 P.M. and worship Services at 3 P.M. are planned as part of the day's special activities.

A buffet dinner will be served from 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. plus a light supper in the evening.

Because of the special significance of this day, our large family of deaf children as well as the school staff, will appreciate your presence. We are confident that this Festival day will be a most rewarding experience for you.



1963 Confirmation Class: Seated, The Rev. N. E. Borchardt, L. to R. Michael Belitz, Winters, Texas; Janice DeWitt, Benton Harbor, Michigan; Director Walter Bellhorn; James Bayer, Ferndale, Michigan; Principal Herman Holste; Janice Katzel, Chicago, Illinois; Allan Powell, Bay City, Michigan.

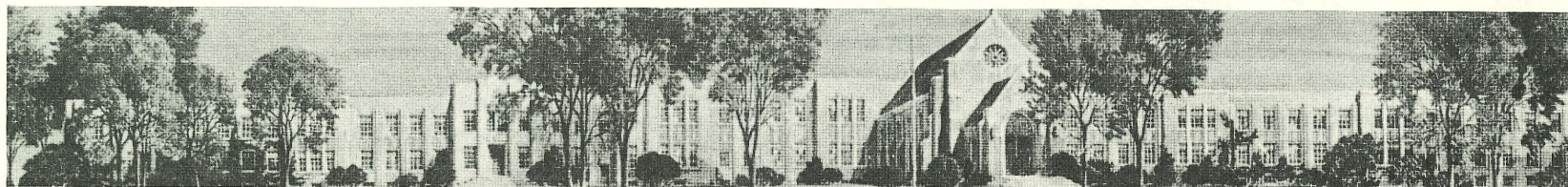
CONFIRMATION

On Palm Sunday a class of five deaf children renewed their baptismal vow and were received into communicant church membership in a very impressive service conducted by the Rev. N. E. Borchardt, pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church for the Deaf and a member of the School's Board of Education.

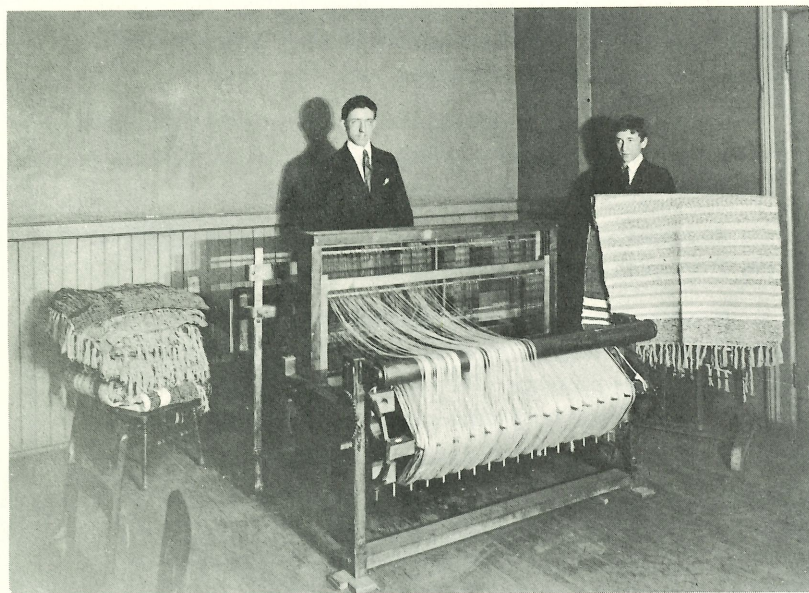
The members of the class have achieved an excellent understanding of the fundamental doctrines of the Bible and we are confident that with the Holy Spirit's guidance they will remain in the saving faith and be loyal members of the Lutheran Church.

The Rev. H. R. Wacker, President of the Board of Directors, addressed the members of the class and their parents at the Confirmation Dinner following the Service. Mrs. Richard Corkill, President of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Deaf, presented the traditional Auxiliary gifts of a Bible and a Prayer book to the confirmands.

The parents of these children repeatedly expressed their deep gratitude to the School and to you, its loyal supporters, for having provided this Christian School for their loved ones.



The School Founded 90 Years Ago



Years ago a loom set up in one of the regular class rooms of the original school building was kept busy in the teaching of weaving which was part of the child's vocational training at that time.

The Lord of Host has been good and gracious to the Lutheran School for the Deaf.

HE brought it into being in His own providential way.

HE kept it with His protecting hand these four score and ten years.

HE blessed it continually above our worthiness and expectation to this very day.

HE provided faithful workers for this Christian Home-School.

HE opened the hearts and hands of faithful supporters so that His kingdom might expand among the deaf.

HE has shown countless examples of splendid fruit of the School's endeavors in the Christian lives and activities of its graduates in their relationship with the world and in their service to the Church.

And may HE from Whom all blessings flow be with us all to serve HIM through this agency of mercy for the Deaf in ever greater measure.



From the beginning, deaf children enrolled in the school were taught in small classes by the oral method also known as the lipreading and speech method. Scenes change but the method remains.

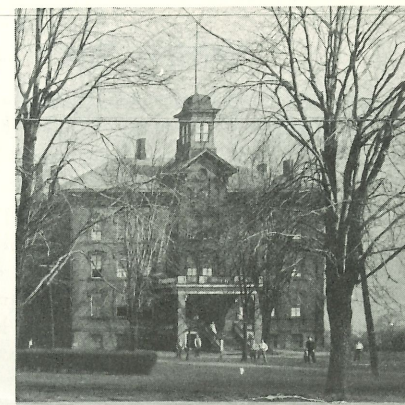
UNIQUE HISTORY OF SCHOOL'S FOUNDING

The Lutheran School for the Deaf, located on a 20-acre campus at 6861 E. Nevada Ave., Detroit, was founded in 1873 by an Association of individual Lutheran Christians. The original intent of the organizers was not to establish a School for the deaf, but rather an orphanage. Due to an epidemic prior to 1873, which took the lives of many parents, a great number of children were orphaned. To provide a home and care for these, the founders of the School decided to establish an orphanage. As superintendent for this new agency of mercy, the Association called the Rev. E. Speckhardt, a Lutheran pastor who was doing mission work among the Indians and Germans in the Sebewaing, Michigan area. This man, before becoming a pastor, had been a teacher of the deaf in Germany.

Two families, living in nearby Frankenmuth, each having a deaf daughter, heard about Pastor Speckhardt's ability to teach deaf children. Desiring a Christian education for their deaf daughters, they prevailed upon him to take their handicapped children into his home for the purpose of educating them and so to prepare them for confirmation and active church membership. When Pastor Speckhardt accepted the call to the newly established orphanage, he was persuaded to take the two deaf girls with him to Detroit in order there to complete their education.

The fact that in Detroit deaf children were being given a Christian education soon became known in other parts of our country. In consequence thereof, before one year had elapsed, there were enrolled in this so-called orphanage seventeen deaf children from Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Canada and only ten orphans.

This turn of events was brought to the attention of the delegates of Synod in convention at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. After having heard the rather unique and interesting report, it was none other than the sainted Dr. C. F. W. Walther, then President of Synod, who advised the representatives from Detroit to follow the seemingly direct dictates of our Lord to conduct a Christian School for the education of deaf children rather than to operate an orphanage. The members of the Association accepted this directive. As a result, this special missionary venture, directly and indirectly, has brought many incalculable educational and especially spiritual blessings to many thousands of deaf people during the past 90 years.



The original school building which served until 1939 when it was replaced by our present modern fire-proof buildings.

NORRIS IN 1873

Suburbs quickly lose their identity as growing cities "gobble" them up. This also happened to Norris the little hamlet in which the Lutheran School for the Deaf located 90 years ago. The Detroit News in a recent article brought to its readers the history of this yesteryear suburb of Detroit. According to the article, the town was founded two years after the School purchased 20 acres of land from Mr. Norris and erected its first School building. The article has the following to say about Mr. Norris and the town which he founded:

"The town of Norris was founded in 1876 by Col. Philetus W. Norris. He spent 150,000 to drain the area which was marshy and had been proclaimed "worthless" by a U.S. government survey.

Col. Norris persuaded the Detroit & Bay City Railroad to run some track through the area and build a depot.

He wanted to name the village Prairie Mound in honor of an Indian burial mound near today's Mound and Seven Mile roads. The railroad rejected the name and hung a sign on the depot that read. "Norris." That became the village name.

At its peak Norris had a population of 250. It could be reached from Detroit on the railroad or by Plank road, which started at what is now Seven Mile road and Mound.

Norris attracted some German families as settlers and the Lutherans built a church. They also built a four-story brick building which became THE LUTHERAN DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

Col. Norris died at 63, not long after he was named superintendent of Yellowstone National Park.

Shortly after 1890, the Village of Norris lost its identity as Detroit grew and the area became known as North Detroit."

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to you for the talk and demonstration you and two of your students gave at our Father and Son banquet in February of this year. It was greatly enjoyed and appreciated by all who witnessed the event. We have had many comments and expressions of interest from those present. Our deep appreciation to you and the boys participating.

East Bethlehem Ladies Aid Society, Mrs. A. Mielke, Secy.

* * *

We want you to know that we are so pleased in every way with what you are all doing for our daughter, Alice. We're thrilled with her accomplishments and her growing maturity. We felt sure, last September, that we were led by the Lord to your school. Now we know that, indeed, this was the direct answer to prayer. Thank you for your personal interest in Alice. It's so wonderful to know she's not just one of a hundred faces, but an individual to you. Thank you for everything.

Eleanor Engman, Bloomington, Minn.

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April 25, 1963

Honorable Harold M. Ryan
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Congressman Ryan:

This is to certify that the accompanying flag has flown over the United States Capitol. I understand that this flag is for the Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, Michigan.

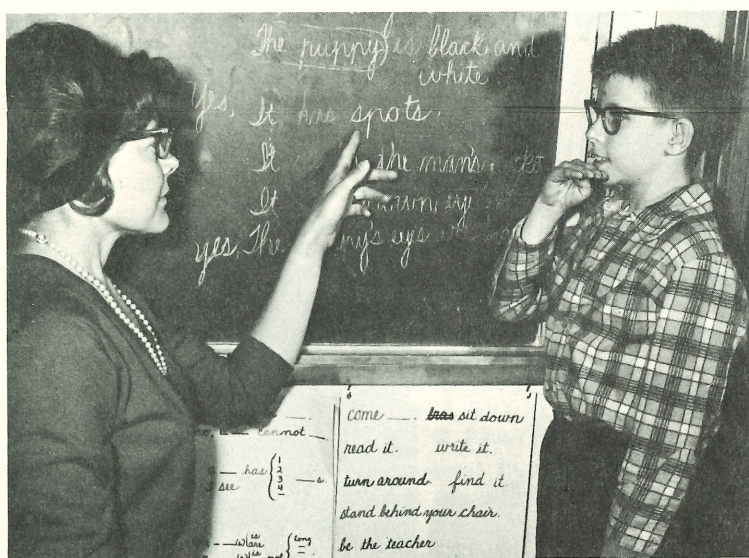
Sincerely yours, J. George Stewart, Architect of the Capitol

DIRECTOR INVITED TO SPECIAL WORKSHOP

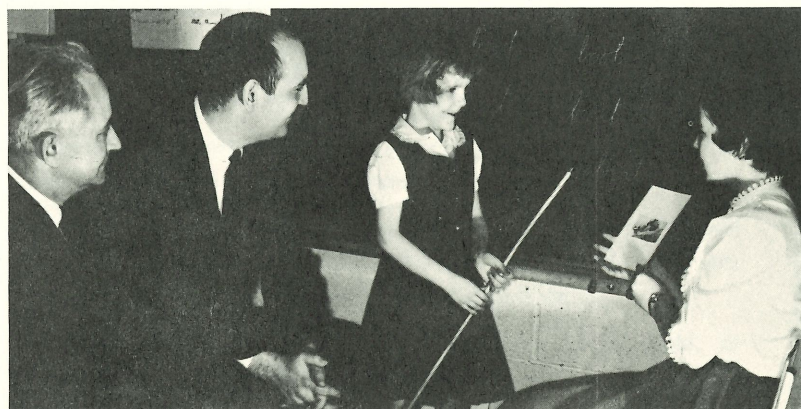
Executive Director Walter Bellhorn will attend a three day meeting on July 1-2-3 in Washington, D. C. by invitation of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Recognizing the rehabilitation needs of the Deaf and the work being done by the Lutheran Church in this area, the Department has arranged a workshop for Lutheran Personnel who are serving the deaf both on the child and adult level to discuss ways of solving the common problems of deafness especially in the field of vocational rehabilitation.

Mrs. Richard Sachs, the former Barbara Brauer, who is doing her graduate work in Clinical Psychology for the Deaf at Columbia University, New York, is a member of the planning committee. Barbara is a former pupil of our school and, being deaf, has a keen understanding of the problems of deafness.

The workshop will be held at Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C., which is the only college for the Deaf in the world.



Mrs. Donna Foster has been a faithful and regular assistant to Miss Walter in one of our Special classes. Her devotion to give her time and talents, completely on a voluntary basis, has been of tremendous value. Although not a trained teacher, her observation of methods, eagerness to learn and determination to try has contributed greatly to the education of this group. Here she calls attention to the "s" which Terry Richert immediately corrects.



Recently The Rev. Wm. Reinking, Executive Secretary of Synod's Board of Deaf Missions, together with The Rev. N. E. Borchardt, a member of the School's Board of Education, visited classes for the greater part of a day. L. to R.: Rev. Borchardt, and Rev. Reinking observe as Cathy Ruchotzke, Iowa, recognizes the names of objects in Miss McFall's class of Aphasic children.

NEW TEACHERS

Four June University graduates who have specialized in the education of the deaf will begin their teaching careers in our School next September. Miss Carole Crenshaw and Miss Patricia Favalon received their special training at Central Institute for the Deaf and Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. They were recipients of our School's teacher training scholarships.

Mrs. Cheryl Bauer and Miss Edith Ulbrich studied at Wayne State University, Detroit, and did their practice teaching at the Detroit Day School for the Deaf.

Miss Ulbrich's sainted grandfather, Dr. Henry Ulbrich, was the School's roentgenologist for many years.

In view of the tremendous shortage of teachers of the Deaf throughout the country, we feel especially fortunate in being able to fill our faculty requirements for next Fall.

TO PASTORS

You will soon be ordering your envelope sets for 1964. Concordia Publishing House or any other concern will gladly number and insert our envelopes in your packets without cost to you. Simply include instructions with your order. If a supply house other than Concordia is used, tell us how many envelopes are desired and where to send them.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS MEETS

Thousands of educators of the deaf from all over the world will meet at Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C., during the last week of June to attend the International Congress on education of the Deaf. Director Walter Bellhorn and Principal Herman Holste plus several members of the school's teaching staff plan to attend the Congress which should be a most profitable meeting especially in the area of present day trends in the education of the Deaf.

A one day meeting in Washington of the Conference of Executives of American Schools for the Deaf will precede the Congress.

COMING EVENTS:

Annual Meeting of the Association beginning at 10 A.M. —

June 5th

Annual Festival — Observance of the School's 90th Anniversary — June 9th

International Congress on Education of the Deaf, Washington, D. C. — June 22-28

Lutheran Workshop for the Deaf, sponsored by our U. S. Government, Washington, D. C. — July 1-2-3

Lutheran Sunday School Convention, Cobo Hall, Detroit. Visitors welcome at the Lutheran School for the Deaf — July 26-27-28

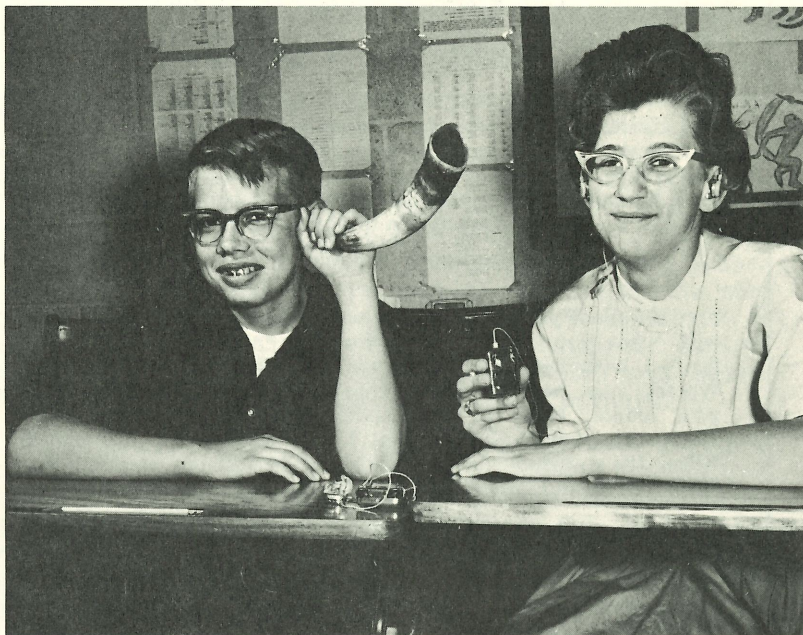
FORM OF BEQUEST

I give, devise and bequeath to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit 34, Michigan, a duly organized and incorporated, non-profit corporation, 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.

June 13

SECOND CLASS
 POSTAGE PAID
 AT
 DETROIT, MICH.



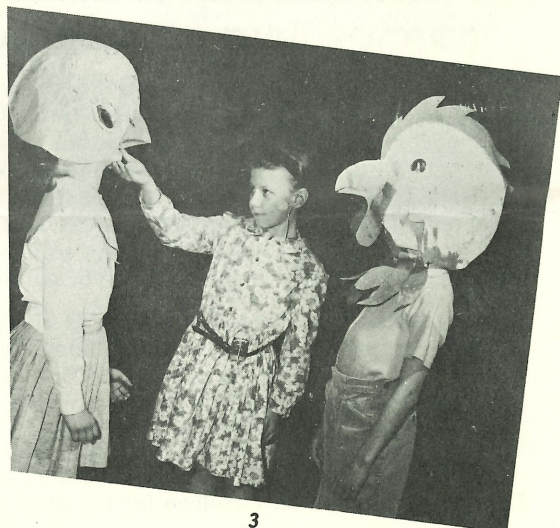
Signs of Spring at The School



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1. Teacher Mrs. Uhl sees that fifth graders Patsy Curry and Kent Kroll of Illinois have a proper understanding of the aspects of Citizenship — one of the awards presented at school closing on Festival Sunday.
2. Teacher Miss Mannen helps fourth graders Susan Haselhuhn of Michigan and David Lee of North Dakota to make the transition from the book to real life.
3. First Grader Corinne Taylor of Canada gives her classmates a hand in preparation for the Festival Sunday Program — here presenting "Chicken Licken."
4. Students Ronald Gross of Michigan, Bob Harrison of British Columbia and Rodney Rensch of Michigan examine and marvel at the beauty of tiny "new born" leaves.
5. Bryon Harlow, Colorado, watches Michiganders Richard Pallas and Bob Wilkinson truly enjoying our spacious playing fields.
6. Mr. Charles Schad, a long time friend of our School and representative of the Detroit Department of Parks and Recreation, was instrumental in having a Red Bud tree for our Arbor Day planting in April.