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DR. FRY'S ITINERARY.

The brief visit made to our congregations by the Rev. Chas. L. Fry, D.D., of Philadelphia, Superintendent of the Church Extension Society, was greatly enjoyed and appreciated. His interesting "Story of the Reformation Told by Lighted Tapers," will not soon be forgotten, by those who were so fortunate as to hear the lecture. We were pleased with what we learned from the doctor and we hope that he also learned something about us, and our work which may be helpful both to him and to us in the future. We feel certain that when Superintendent Fry visits us again, he will have larger audiences, at least in some of our churches.

These itineraries are "a good thing." Let us have some more of them. It is good for our Canadian churches to meet and hear our American churchmen and mission workers. They may also see and hear some things here, among us, which may do them good. So, let us reciprocate.

The Minutes of Synod are published and ready for distribution. Ask your pastor for a copy.

CATECHISATION.

The call has gone out for more volunteers. Many have already enlisted. Others are to follow. This is necessary. So long as the war is on with the world, the flesh and the devil, the Church Militant must keep in fighting trim. Good soldiers cannot be made without training. Instruction, inspiration and drilling are necessary for proper training of good soldiers. Hence the necessity of catechisation.

The young people of our churches are at this time of the year by the hundred, nay, by the thousands, enlisting in our Catechetical Classes. This is as it should be. There are some out, however, who should be in these classes. Various are the reasons given for this by pastors and people. One cause is supreme. That is: ignorance. If Christian people knew how helpful and necessary is catechisation, we feel confident that they would consider it one of the things most essential for the welfare of their children and act accordingly.

This being our belief we have thought that the posthumous publication of the following article on catechisation, written by Miss Hannah Pfeiffer, who later became the wife of the editor of this paper, and read by her before the convention of the English Lutheran Synod of the Northwest, at Duluth, Minn., in 1895, might also be helpful and suggestive to our Lutheran people in Canada.

The practical art of catechisation originated with the Church, and began to develop its scientific theory in the fourth and fifth centuries. Some instruction in the truths of Christianity was from the very first days of the Church, considered a necessary condition for admission into membership. After an application to the deacon or bishop of the church, and an examination by him of the moral standing of the applicant, the latter was enjoined to attend the catechisation.

From the sixth to the sixteenth century very little was done in the line of catechisation, the instruction being left to the family, while the clergy developed the functions which characterize the priest. As we approach the Reformation era, we find a feeling of the necessity of giving more and better religious instruction in the church. In the Lutheran Church several attempts had been made, both by Luther and others, to write a catechism; but they were all

set aside when Luther's Large and Small Catechisms appeared in 1529. The former was written for the minister and school-master, and the latter for the people and the children. Luther's preparations for these two books date back earlier than 1529. In 1518 Johann Schneider collected and published the various expositions of the Lord's Prayer, which Luther had given in his sermons and lectures; and Luther was thereby led to publish his expositions in an authentic edition. After 1524 his attention was drawn to the school, where it seemed indispensable that a short, sound, and reliable handbook on Christianity should be used. Finally his tour of visitation in Saxony, in 1528, brought the matter to a climax, by showing him how much both ministers and congregations stood in need of such a book. The following year the two catechisms appeared, both in German, and they were immediately translated into Latin. The Small Catechism soon became a universal book and is said now to be, next to the Bible, the most extensively used book ever written.

In one of his prefaces Luther says: "This little work has been planned and undertaken in order to furnish a course of instruction for children and the simple minded. This of necessity every Christian should know; so that he who does not know this should not be reckoned among Christians nor admitted to the Sacrament, just as a mechanic who does not understand the rules and customs of his trade is rejected and regarded incapable. Therefore the young should be thoroughly instructed in the parts which belong to the catechism or instruction for children, and should diligently exercise themselves therein."

We see by this how important Luther deems the teaching of the catechism, and we dare not neglect this great duty and privilege to instruct our children in the divine truths put into such practical form for them by our great Reformer.

The question now arises as to the best method of teaching the catechism in our Sunday Schools. We are sorry to say that many of the reformed churches do not recognize the value of catechisation. Even some of our good Lutheran churches fail to recognize its importance. Many pastors look upon catechisation as "old foggyism" and have introduced newer and later methods that crowd out the catechism.

We do not wish to discourage the use of these, for some may indeed be excellent, but what we do wish is to discourage the practice of using only Lesson Leaves and Bible History, and discarding the catechism. Let us see if there is not some method by which we can combine the two, and thus promote the welfare of our Sunday Schools in a twofold manner.

Suppose we take a peep at what might be called a model Lutheran Sunday School. After the opening exercises, each class settles down to the study of the lessons. The first ten minutes at least should be spent upon the catechism lesson, which has been prepared at home. It has been previously announced that the lesson for the day is the First Commandment, so every class recites the same lesson. Let the children read the commandment over several times and also its explanation. Dwell upon it until every child in the class can give it verbatim. Hear what Luther says upon this, "In the first place let the preacher take the utmost care to avoid all changes or variations in the text or wording of the Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer, Creeds, Sacraments, etc. Let him on the contrary, take each of the forms respectively, adhere to it, and repeat it anew year after year. For young and inexperienced people cannot be successfully instructed unless we adhere to the same text and form of expression. They easily become confused when the teacher at one time employs a certain form of words and expressions, and at another, apparently with a view to make improvements, adopts a different form. The result of such a course will be that all the time and labor which we have expended will be lost." The necessity of teaching the text verbatim cannot better be explained than in the foregoing quotation from Luther.

Now when we are sure that every child in our class can give the First Commandment and its explanation as before stated, the teacher must talk with him of what he has learned and explain it, so it will mean something, and not be a mere combination of meaningless sounds. Again we have a quotation from Luther on the value and necessity of this. He says, "When those you are instructing have become familiar with the words of the text, then teach them to understand the meaning of those words, so they may become acquainted with the object of the lesson."

Luther was a careful observer of children and wished to make instruction pleasant to them. Very often we forget that we are teaching children and so give our explanations in words that are too high for them. Luther wished us not only to "preach to the children but also to prattle with them."

Let us bring ourselves down to the child's level and talk in the child's language. All children are interested in real life, so when explaining the First Commandment, do not have an abstract explanation but make it concrete. There are plenty of examples to be drawn from the Scriptures that will fit in very well.

Our ten minutes must be up by this time, and the classes now proceed to the Bible History lesson, or that of the Lesson Leaves, or whatever it may be. At the end of the session, when all is quiet and attention, the First Commandment is given by the Sunday School in concert, and also its explanation. Then follows a nice little talk for two or three minutes by the Pastor or Superintendent, when some of the explanations before given are perfected.

After such a lesson on the First Commandment, who thinks that a deep and lasting impression will not be made? The next Sunday, we will take up the Second Commandment in a similar manner, and thus we continue until the catechism has been completed. Treated in this way it will take at least half a year to finish the Small Catechism. It is better to learn slowly and thoroughly, than to go rapidly and gain only surface knowledge! Luther says, "Allow ample time for the lessons. For it is not necessary that you should, on the same occasion, proceed from beginning to end, of the several parts; it will be more profitable if you present them separately in regular succession. By neglecting to observe this mode the people will be overburdened, and prevented from understanding and retaining in memory any considerable part of the matter communicated to them."

Let us now find a place for the explanations of Luther's Small Catechism as those given by Pontoppidan, and Mann and Krotel. What child can understand the following, as answer to the question, "What is Faith?" "Faith is the flight of a penitent soul to the grace of God through the merit of Christ, which is eagerly accepted, appropriated and built upon

with trustful confidence?" There are many such answers in these Large Catechisms as they are called, and we must confess their language is too high for a child's intelligence. It would be wiser then for us to leave the Large Catechism until the child is old enough to understand it, which will be when he enters the Pastor's catechetical class, and even then there are some passages beyond his comprehension.

Let us examine the condition of this class when it begins its work. How many of the boys and girls come without any knowledge of the Commandments, Creed, and Lord's Prayer. A great deal of time must be spent in memorizing these, and thus valuable time taken from the other work that must be done.

Now, if the Small Catechism was thoroughly learned, how much easier and pleasanter it would be, for the time could be spent upon the details, which are found in the Large Catechism. The class instead of being a source of burdensome work to the Pastor, would become one of infinite pleasure to him, and not only to him but also to the class itself, which is even more necessary, for out of the love to the catechetical class may grow a love for the Church, to all the privileges of which they are soon to be admitted. How necessary it is that Church love should grow, we need not emphasize, for we have seen countless cases where confirmed members leave the Church almost as soon as the rite has been administered. If we followed a method whereby the Small Catechism could be taught in the manner that has been explained, who can say what the possible results may be? Children would learn to love the catechism, become familiar with examples from the Bible, take an interest in the catechetical class, learn to love their Church, and more than all acquire a love for their Saviour. Can we then as Sunday School teachers fail to recognize the great responsibility that has been placed upon us, by neglecting the book, "that may be bought for sixpence, but six thousand worlds could not pay for?"

A MODEL LUTHER LEAGUE.

F. W. Otterbein.

[The following paper was read at the convention of the Luther League of Canada, at Ottawa, May 24th, 1914.]

Christian Luther Leaguers:

According to your programme the motto of this convention is "Service," and as you have no other subject approaching this one, consequently I may bring in a few things that only indirectly (although important), refer to a Model Luther League.

As Luther Leaguers we all stand together trying to do our little part in the furtherance of the kingdom of Jesus Christ here on earth, and to do the things He commanded in the Scripture that we should do. If we could but shut our eyes and think back to the days of 400 years ago, back into the dark ages before the Light of the Holy Gospel had returned to the Church and try to think where we would be, if God had not sent Martin Luther to stir the world with the Reformation, and bring the blessed Gospel back into its own again, in all its purity and strength. Where would we be, brethren, you and I, if this had not occurred? It makes one shudder to even think of it; but, thank God, the Reformation was real. Our thoughts were only dreams, and we are a free people. We bow the knee to no MAN, no not one, only to God the Father in heaven Himself. When we think of our liberty and of the sacrifices of our forefathers, what should we do? They bore the burden in the heat of the day, laid down their weary bodies and died that the Gospel should live in publicity and not be hid in darkness. Should we not take up the fight as it appears to us in our own times, or should we choose the easy path that demands no sacrifices and no hard work? Brethren, I say we should get up and fight, wake up and be doing, so that we as Luther Leaguers may prove ourselves worthy of the noble name we hold so dear when we call ourselves Lutherans.

Much has been said and written on this subject "How to Conduct a Model Luther League." It is not necessary to rehearse all that. It is very easy to lay down certain rules and regulations and then disregard them, (but in the meantime call ourselves Model). I would change this subject to read "What Constitutes a Model Luther League?" If we can ascertain that, find out what we should do, what is required of us. &c., the "HOW" part of it will become very simple indeed. First; what does the word "Model" mean? I think it can best be illustrated by the following story of what took place recently at

a political meeting. The candidates of two opposite parties were holding a joint meeting. The chairman of the one party proceeded to tell the audience what a model man his candidate was, a model politician, a model Christian man, and so forth, and on these grounds he asked the support of the hearers. His opponent then got up and asked if any one in the audience had a dictionary, as he was very anxious to know what this word "model" meant. Finally one man in the audience found a dictionary and when asked to read the definition of the word model these are the words he spoke, loud and distinct: "The word model means 'a small imitation of the real thing.'" Now, brethren, I think we are model all right in as far as we are only small imitations of the real thing in Luther League work. We are only infants now. Just think of what the L. L. stands for; of our great opportunities; of all the things we hold in the hollow of our hands if we would only realize it.

Sincerity.

Next, WE MUST ALL BE SINCERE CHRISTIANS in heart as well as in mind, and keep ourselves unspotted from the world. The devil stalks around today as he never did before, seeking whom he might devour, and we must show fight. He brings in all kinds of innocent amusements, &c., to try and deceive the young and succeeds in a good many cases. You remember what Isaac said when they deceived him as to his eldest son. He said: "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." So it is with the devil today. The hand he holds out today is the hand of so-called friendship and sociability of the world, but the voice, ah! the voice is the voice of the devil himself. And with his hands and his voice he drags down many. Oh, brethren, be not deceived! When I went to school the boys did this: when any particular boy wanted to proclaim himself champion over the rest, or was looking for a fight, he would place a chip on his shoulder; so long as that chip stayed there he was the king. If any boy wished to accept the challenge he had to knock the chip off the other boy's shoulder which was the signal for a fight to see who should have the supremacy. It is the same today. The devil is walking around with the chip of worldliness on his shoulder. Who is going to knock it off? We are, brethren, and that right soon. In order

to become a model Luther League we must fight the devil and fight him all the time. When he thrives, as at present, with a few worldly persons on his side, and defiantly throws down the gauntlet to our faces, I say, it is time to fight; and fight we must to a finish. We CAN win, we MUST win, and by the Grace of God we WILL win the victory for the Church. Then let us all, as Luther Leaguers BE SINCERE CHRISTIANS.

GOOD HARD WORK is another necessary thing. We must be our pastor's helpers. Help him in the fight of saving souls. Do all he asks of you and more. Work hard everywhere and ALWAYS seek his advice. You ask what is there to do? Ask your pastor, your president, your S. S. superintendent. They will find plenty for you to do. And if they refuse you, or have nothing for you, and you feel sure you have the calling, pray to God Himself for work to do. Your prayer will be answered sooner than you expect. Remember the case of Dwight L. Moody. Never refuse to undertake any important work. God always seeks a busy man when He wants something done promptly and thoroughly. He never seeks an idle, lazy man. You know a good healthy man always wants something to do; is never happier than when he is busy, the busier the better. When the children of Israel were fighting the Philistines, they were victorious only as long as they held Moses' hands in the air. Let us truly be our pastors' aid and hold his hands up in the work of the Church. This is a very important step towards becoming a model Luther League.

DEVELOP YOUR TALENT. This is very important. Many a good young man and woman has been lost to the Church because of the neglect of this branch of the work. Study your young people; seek the pastor's co-operation and draw them out along the right line to which they are adapted. Then your L. L. will become a power in the Church.

PRAYER. This is one of the most important things that we should do. How many of our Leagues are praying Leagues? How many of our Leaguers have faith in prayer? How many lay STRESS on prayer? Not many I am afraid. In a good many cases prayer to us has become more or less a mechanical bowing of the head and moving of the lips. Oh! Luther Leaguers, realize the importance of prayer; remember the

promises of Jesus of what the prayers of righteous persons will do. Consider this. If by what little prayer we have offered we have accomplished such great things, how much more will we accomplish by true prayer. The motto of every Luther Leaguer should be: "Fifteen minutes a day with God." If we do this I will venture to say our L. L. will stir the Church. Have faith that your prayers will be answered and they will. The trouble is, we never expect much. Remember the old proverb, "Blessed are they that expect nothing for they shall not be disappointed." Let us pray from the heart. Lay **STRESS** on prayer.

SPIRITUALITY is the supreme aim of the L. L. To bring the spiritual life to the young. There is our great work. Countless numbers are out on the street every day, who should be in the Church. The Lutheran Church in Canada in the last decade gained 137,000 souls. A splendid record you say. Yes, but listen! Take away the immigration, and allow for a natural increase, and see what you have left. Looks different now doesn't it? Have we branched out as we should? Whose fault is this? **OURS!** Here is a question that touches the vital spot: "How many conversions of young people in the past year can be traced to your league?" Answer that. The answer to that question lays bare the fact that we have not been model Luther Leagues, and in order to become so we must attend to the spiritual welfare of our people and of those outside, to bring them into connection with the Church and to make them realize the seriousness of neglecting this. If you want to discuss anything, here is the subject that needs it. We are only 3.19% of our total population and surely the dear old Church of the Reformation should have a better standing than that. We should be willing to give our time to the work of the League and say: "Lord Thou knowest all things, Thou knowest I love Thee," and get to work with a will.

EDUCATION. To my mind this is also one of the great things in our work, but, sad to say, it has been neglected by many of our young people. The R. C. Church does not neglect this among the young, and we see the result of it in that Church. Here is where we are making our greatest mistake, dear people. Now get busy, wake up, do something along this line! I will venture to say that

fifty per cent. of us do not know the half of what we should know about our Church and not the 100th part of what there is to know about our beloved Church. There is something wrong somewhere, and we must remedy it. Study your Reading Courses. Organize your classes. Ask questions from your pastors. Pile up the questions. Get a blackboard for your meetings. Select a good leader; make it interesting and then go to work with a will and study. You will be surprised at the results. Many people, who were only luke-warm in their interest at first, will develop into first class members when they learn more about our Church and what she stands for. These people can not be shaken in their faith by every new sect that comes along.

THE SOCIAL SIDE of the League must also be studied. But, I will not dwell on this long as I feel our attention at this time should be directed mainly to the spiritual side. Conditions differ much in various leagues, which make it hard to say just what should be done.

THE BUSINESS MEETINGS should be short, and carried on with a snap and vim that will arouse the members instead of making them drowsy. Never allow the discussion to drag on until it becomes tiresome. Devotional meetings should also be short, but instructive. Especially should they be not dragged out too long if held after the Sunday evening service.

ENTHUSIASM. Always try to be enthusiastic in your work. You will inspire others. Nothing succeeds like success. Where enthusiasm is, success is sure to be found sooner or later. **BE ENTHUSIASTIC.**

As we go about this important work let us, as young people, especially remember the fourth commandment, and also remember that a little common sense, in a Christian, will go a long way when he is dealing with others.

In trying to be model Luther Leaguers you will have your trials and discouragements. But, do not let them overcome you. I have often stood on the station platform and watched the transcontinental trains pulling out. It made me think of the great possibilities of that train, to traverse a whole continent, but then, it is not all easy work. The train needs a guiding hand. It needs fuel to climb the long grades, and it receives its reward in the easy town

grades and in the fact that it completed its journey at last. It is much the same with us. Our transcontinental journey reaches from Genesis to Revelation. We need God as our guiding Engineer. Our pastors supply the fuel in the preaching of the blessed Gospel, which helps us to overcome all difficulties, and at last through Jesus our Saviour we complete our life journey and are saved through Him.

And now, Canada Luther Leaguers wake up to your possibilities! Give us men and women whom highest hope inspires, who will get into the fight and strike for home and altar; men who trample self beneath them, who will tread where saints have trod. Men who will never shame their mothers, men who will never fail their brothers. If you do this the path of duty will open up straight before you. You will see that the field is white unto the harvest. You will see your great opportunities, and look! at the other end God is calling. WHAT WILL YOUR ANSWER BE?

MISSIONARY NOTES.

At Work.

It often happens that conventions are held and resolutions passed and that ends the matter. But the women of the Synodical Society seem to think that resolutions are made to be carried out. This is encouraging. From all along the line we hear that the individual societies are making strenuous efforts to do their share towards raising the Woman's \$2,000.00 Fund for the new Seminary Dormitory. It will be interesting to hear how the various societies are raising their share and it may also prove an inspiration to others. Let us hear from you. In Toronto every woman in the congregation has received an envelope with the request that she place in it ten cents a week for ten weeks and at the end of that time the committee which has the work in charge will call for the same.

The societies at Galt and Williamsburg have already sent in their \$2.00 for the \$25.00 Fund, which the Synodical Society pledged towards the support of the Canada Lutheran.

A Noble Missionary Woman.

A noble woman of whose work we have often read has after much suffering passed to her reward. Mrs.

Cassady, the founder of our Italian mission work in Philadelphia, died September 2nd, 1914. The Lutheran in speaking of her death says: "Her enthusiasm for the cause of missions brought her into close contact with the best women workers of the Church far and wide, and she was a familiar figure at their conventions. In her own city she was known as a leader in missionary endeavor, and her work among the Italians, in which she was a pioneer, will stand out as a monument in her honor. St. Peter's Church, with whose interests she was closely associated for many years, was located in a section where normal growth was rendered impossible because of its foreign population. As the Italians in its neighborhood were very numerous, Mrs. Cassady acquired the language, started a kindergarten, and taught Italian to Americans who could afford to pay for instruction, in order that she might secure the necessary funds to conduct a children's school. She did this at the sacrifice of much time and energy and was the prime mover in securing an Italian missionary—the first of the Lutheran Church in this country—for a much neglected population in that section." Mrs. Cassady also composed the Luther League Rally Hymn.

An Inspiring Service.

The consecrated prayers of our people are being answered. On Sept. 2nd fifteen foreign missionaries gathered in the Church of the Holy Communion, at Philadelphia, in conference with one another and with the Board of Foreign Missions. In the evening a reception was held when each missionary was introduced to the large audience that had gathered. Each missionary delivered a short address. What an inspiration it must have been to have heard the messages these noble men and women had for the Church. Let us follow them with our prayers as they go forth to preach the Christ who loved the whole world.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The annual convention of the S. S. Association of the Western Conference, held at Toronto, on Labor Day, was a decided success in every way. Thirty-eight delegates attended the session, which was also attended by a large number of visitors interested in S. S. work. The roll call of schools showed that we have been very suc-

cessful during the past year, several of the schools having added a large number of new scholars during the year, although it was shown that we have still a large field to work in, which has practically not been touched, because we have not been alive to the situation. The Executive Committee will organize a bureau of information shortly to deal with all questions relating to the welfare of our schools. The Association is aiming to reach the 1000 mark per Sunday. Our present membership is 750. Welland was admitted to the Association and we are glad to have another live S. S. in our midst. There was a short address given on "Talents," by Mr. F. W. Otterbein, in which he impressed the delegates with the importance of using their talents in S. S. work instead of burying them in the ground. The kind invitation of Berlin for the next convention was accepted. The officers for the coming year are Pres., Mr. E. B. Westcott; Vice-President, Mr. F. W. Otterbein; Secretary, Miss L. Vollmer; Treasurer, Mr. R. L. Shriner. The president thanked the convention for his re-election and urged the delegates to do even better work this coming year. He also stated that he would work one year more on the S. S. Association after which it was his intention to take up mission work. Truly our Sunday Schools are turning out the right kind of men. The kindness of the Toronto School was appreciated as it left nothing undone to provide for the comfort of the delegates.—F. W. O.

WESTERN DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE.

The Second Annual Convention of the Western District of the Canada Lutheran League opened in St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Toronto, Canada, at 2.30 p.m., Sept. 7th, 1914, the Rev. J. S. Herold, pastor. The fine new church was exceedingly inviting and gave a refreshing welcome. The opening services were conducted by the pastor of the church, who extended a royal welcome to all delegates and visitors and made all feel at home. The response was delivered by the President of the Western District Lutheran League, Mr. G. Boyer.

At this session the reports of the various officers and committees were received, while a greater part of the time was devoted to addresses and discussions. The Statistical Committee, through Mr. E. Beckman, pre-

sented a very interesting report showing that nine leagues were represented by twenty-three delegates and seven clergymen. The following leagues were represented: Unionville, Toronto, Hamilton, Welland, Humberstone, Preston, Brantford, Galt, Waterloo, and Berlin.

The Luther Leagues of St. Matthew's Church, Welland; Bethesda, Unionville, and the Young People's Society of St. Peters, Preston, made formal application for membership and were warmly received into the Western District Luther League.

The following committees were appointed by the President:—

1. Nominating—Rev. N. Willison, Miss E. Schultz, Miss Heimbecker, Mr. E. Beckman.

2. Resolution—Rev. W. A. Knauff, Miss Frisby, Mr. C. Lossing.

3. Press—Miss R. Reddick, Miss Meil, Mr. F. Otterbein.

4. Extension—Mr. R. Schultz, Miss T. Hesler, Miss A. Petersen.

5. Auditing—Mr. G. Widenhammer, Rev. P. C. Wike.

6. Statistics—Mr. G. Widenhammer, Miss Kern, Miss A. Petersen.

The Committee on Nominating reported through Rev. N. Willison as follows:—(1) Officers, President, Mr. F. W. Otterbein, Hamilton; Vice-President, Mr. G. Widenhammer, Waterloo; Recording Secretary, Miss Theresa Hesler, Humberstone; Treasurer, Mr. Chas. Lossing, Berlin; Cor. Secretary, Miss A. Pierce, Hamilton; Statistical Secretary, Miss A. Elliott, Toronto.

(2) Credential Committee — Miss Frisby, Unionville; Miss Heise, Preston; Mr. R. Schultz, Welland.

(3) Delegates to the 8th Annual Convention of the Canada Lutheran League—Rev. Brandt, Preston; Mr. F. W. Otterbein, Hamilton; Miss Frisby, Unionville. Alternates—Rev. P. C. Wike, Galt; Mr. G. Boyer, Hamilton, and Miss T. Hesler, Humberstone.

Rev. P. C. Wike conducted the closing exercises.

Bounteous repasts were served by the ladies of the church in the spacious basement at the dinner and supper hours, which added to the graciousness and hospitality of our hosts and to the increasing enjoyment of the guests.

On Monday evening at 8 p.m. the Annual Fall Rally of the Western District was opened by the Rev. J. A. Miller, Hamilton, conducting the vesper service. This was followed by an anthem by the choir of St. Paul's,

which was greatly appreciated. The crowning address of the day was delivered by the rally speaker, the Rev. J. Keehley, of Buffalo, N.Y., taking as his theme, "The King's Business." Rev. Keehley fulfilled our highest expectation when he arose to speak. A big man himself with a deep, pleasing voice, he made a forceful address which cannot well be forgotten.

A unanimous vote of thanks was extended to St. Paul's Luther League and congregation for entertaining the convention as they did.

The choir of St. Paul's, under Mr. Fierheller, which so ably assisted at this session, are deserving of our most sincere congratulation and thanks.

The delegates from Berlin invited the Western District Luther League to hold its next convention on Labor Day 1915 in First English Lutheran Church, and the invitation was thankfully and enthusiastically accepted.—G. Boyer.

THE WESTERN CONFERENCE

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Western Conference was held in the beautiful new St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Toronto, Ont., the Rev. J. S. Herold, Pastor, Tuesday, Sept. 8th. The convention opened with a communion service in the morning at 10.30, at which the President, the Rev. J. A. Miller, preached the sermon from Luke 12: 34-36.

The business session opened in the afternoon at 2.30 o'clock with devotions conducted by the Rev. H. J. Behrens, after which the President officially opened the Conference. All clerical delegates of the Conference (8) were present, and five lay delegates. Also the following visiting brethren were present: Rev. Dr. T. Snyder, of Niagara Falls, N.Y.; now supplying in Guelph; Rev. Seyfert, of Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Rev. Fry of Sherwood, Ont.; Rev. E. Hoffman, D.D., President of the Canada Synod, and the Rev. J. J. Clemens, of Ottawa. The privilege of the floor was extended to these brethren.

Conference then listened to a very interesting and edifying paper on "The Work of the Holy Spirit," by the Rev. P. C. Wike, followed by a very helpful half-hour's discussion.

A communication from St. Paul's, Guelph, was received orally from the delegate, Mr. Mogk, in which the Guelph congregation asks Conference to assist them in the securing of a resident pastor. A high tribute was

paid to the Rev. Dr. Snyder for his supply of this congregation. The matter was left in the hands of the President of Conference and the Conference Mission Committee.

As a point of information President Miller read the report of the Home Mission Committee, which was to be presented to the Executive Committee of Synod the following day. He also read a letter from the Evangelical Union Church of London, Ont., which, having adopted the General Council constitution for congregations, applies for admission into Synod and asks for a pastor.

Election of officers resulted in the re-election of the officers during the past year, viz.: President, Rev. J. A. Miller; Sec.-Treas., Rev. W. H. Knauff.

Conference discussed the matter of a Summer School as recommended by Synod, and the matter was finally referred to the Executive Committee.

The evening session began at eight o'clock with Vespers conducted by Rev. W. H. Knauff. The speaker of the evening was Rev. M. J. Bieber, who addressed the congregation on the subject: "How can we best arouse our laymen to service, and what should that service emphasize?" It was, indeed, a rallying of the laymen. A valuable discussion followed. A musical number was well rendered by the well-trained choir of the church, under the direction of Mr. C. H. Fierheller.

A high tribute was paid by Revs. Wike and Willison to Field Missionary Bieber, who with untiring faithfulness and efforts, and with marked success has labored on our territory and among us, for now ten years. In view of Rev. Bieber's departure from our midst to a new field of labor (Halifax), whence the Gen. Council Home Mission Board has called him, a rising vote of thanks was extended to him, with the hope that he may soon be permitted by the Board to return to our territory.

Thus closed this annual meeting of the Western Conference.

W. H. KNAUFF, Secretary.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee of the Synod of Central Canada met in St. Paul's English Lutheran Church, Glen Morris St., off Spadina, Toronto, the Rev. J. S. Herold, pastor, Wednesday, Sept. 9th, 1914, at 10 a.m., with President Maurer in the chair.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. P. C. Wike.

The members present were: Pres., J. Maurer; Sec., J. J. Clemens; Pastors P. C. Wike, J. A. Miller, and H. J. Behrens; Messrs. J. C. Casselman, C. H. Stiver, and M. A. Barkley.

President Maurer reported that, "since the close of Synod the work among the congregations has been much the same as previous to our meeting. The same vacancies still exist with the prospect, however, that some of them will soon be filled." The Church of the Redeemer, Montreal, had rescinded the call sent to Rev. Engers, of Erie, Pa., and called the Rev. John Keehley, of Buffalo, who had accepted the call and expects to take charge about Nov. 1st. Arrangements had been made with the officers of the Nova Scotia Synod and the Supt. of Home Missions to secure the services of Field Missionary Bieber, for Montreal till Nov. 1st. Permission from these officials had been secured, pending our wishes in this matter.

Rev. L. M. McCreary had accepted the call to Dunbar, and is expected to take charge on Oct. 13th.

Rev. Dr. Little, of Bridgewater, N.S., has accepted the call to Morrisburg-Riverside, and will take charge Oct. 13th.

Rev. H. J. Behrens had canvassed Morrisburg and Williamsburg with encouraging success for the Seminary.

The report of the President was received and ordered placed on file.

In reply to inquiries made about the condition of St. Paul's Church, Guelph, President Maurer, Rev. J. A. Miller, President of the Western Conference, and Mr. W. J. Scriven, of Guelph, gave verbal reports of the present situation.

Rev. J. A. Miller read a letter from the Evangelical congregation at London, Ont., in which said congregation asks for admission into our Synod.

It was resolved that this application be referred to Synod, and that the Secretary be instructed to inform the congregation of this action.

By resolution passed by the committee Rev. Bieber was authorized and instructed to go to Montreal and remain there till Nov. 1st, giving the Church of the Redeemer such assistance as it needed at present and he could render before the arrival of pastor-elect, Rev. Keehley.

President Maurer reported the proposed itinerary of the Rev. Dr. C. L.

Fry, among our congregations. The report was received and the arrangements approved.

Invitation to hold the next meeting of the Synod in the Church of the Redeemer, Montreal, was received through Mr. J. C. Casselman. The invitation was gratefully received and accepted.

The time for the next Synodical Convention was discussed. It was resolved that it should be held in June, 1915, beginning the second Sunday in the month. The Executive and Mission Board to meet on the preceding Saturday.

Moved by Rev. J. A. Miller, seconded by Rev. H. J. Behrens, that the Seminary Faculty be requested to make arrangements for holding a summer school next year.—Carried.

It was resolved to request all the congregations in our Synod to adopt May 1st as the uniform time for closing up year's work and making all reports presented to Synod.

The question re salaried president, referred to this Committee by Synod, was taken up for consideration. After considerable discussion, the question was laid on the table.

At one o'clock p.m. the meeting was adjourned till 2.30 p.m., in order to accept the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Elsasser, for lunch. At 2.30 p.m. the meeting was continued. It was opened with prayer by Rev. M. J. Bieber.

Rev. Behrens reported re aid needed by Student E. Beckman. Revs. Bieber and Miller stated that the Rev. Dr. Snyder had promised to assist student, while pursuing his theological studies. This matter was referred to the Seminary Board with power to act.

Rev. H. J. Behrens moved, and Rev. P. C. Wike seconded, that the Secretary of Synod write to the Home Mission Board thanking it for the services rendered to our Synod by its Field Missionary, the Rev. M. J. Bieber, expressing our regrets at his departure from our midst and the hope that as soon as possible he may be returned to our field again, or a suitable successor appointed.—Carried.

In view of the present crisis in our national life, it was resolved that we request our pastors and congregations to observe the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day (Oct. 4th) as a day of Humiliation and Prayer.

The meeting of the Executive Committee then adjourned.

Synodical Mission Board.

The Mission Board of the Synod met in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Toronto, Wednesday, Sept. 9th, 3.00 p.m.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. J. A. Miller.

Members present were: Pastors Maurer, Clemens, Miller, Wike, and Behrens; Messrs. C. H. Stiver, J. C. Casselman, and M. A. Barkley. Field Missionary Rev. M. J. Bieber, representing the G. C. Home Mission Board, was also present.

Rev. Maurer reported that a pastor had been secured for the Dunbar Mission in the person of the Rev. L. M. McCreary who was expected to take charge of his new field of labor by Oct. 13th.

Rev. J. A. Miller, presented a report for the H. M. Committee of the Western Conference.

It was resolved to recommend to the G. C. Home Mission Board:

(1) To grant St. Matthew's Church, Welland, \$250 and moving expenses of pastor.

(2) To grant to the Evangelical Union Church at London \$800, if necessary.

(3) To grant to St. Paul's Church, Guelph, such assistance as necessity may require.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer, at 5 p.m.

JOHN J. CLEMENS.

Secretary.

SEMINARY.

The Rev. Preston A. Laury, the President of the Seminary, arrived Sept. 9th, and has begun his important work.

Sept. 10th the Seminary Board met and transacted a great deal of important business. Mrs. Collin was appointed Stewardess.

President Laury was introduced to the Board. The members of the Board were deeply impressed by his remarks and pledged him their prayers, sympathy and co-operation.

Rev. M. J. Bieber, the efficient English Secretary of the Board from the beginning, retired as a member and secretary, to take up his work in Halifax, N.S.

The Board extended a hearty vote of thanks and appreciation to Rev. M. J. Bieber. Rev. H. J. Behrens was elected secretary in Rev. Bieber's place.

The faculty for the coming year is composed of the following: The Rev. Preston A. Laury, M.A., President; Prof. O. Lincke, the Rev. P. C. Wike,

the Rev. H. J. Behrens, the Rev. C. R. Tappert and the Rev. M. Voelker. Dr. R. Kasdorff, Ph.D., a student in the Seminary, will give instruction in the preparatory department.

The Seminary opening exercises will be held Wednesday, Sept. 30th, at 10 a.m. Pres. P. A. Laury, M.A. and the Rev. C. R. Tappert will make brief addresses to the students and faculty.

September 30th, 8 p.m., the President will be installed by the officers of the Board. The Rev. M. Voelker will preach in German, and the Rev. H. J. Behrens in English.

The cornerstone of the new Seminary building will be laid Thanksgiving Day, Oct. 12th, the officers of the Board officiating. President Laury will make the English address and Dr. E. Hoffman, D.D., President of the Board, will make the German address.

According to present prospects there will be fifteen students enrolled in the coming year.

H. J. BEHRENS.

NEWS AND NOTES.**With the Management.**

This number of the Canada Lutheran closes volume two. The paper has supplied a need and therefore has been able to survive the vicissitudes it has had in common with all religious journals in their infancy. The new volume will, to a great extent, be what the subscribers make it. If the subscription list grows the paper will prosper. The Canada Lutheran ought to go into every home of our Synod. Appeals have been sent to every pastor with the request that a representative be appointed in each congregation to secure new subscriptions and to take care of renewals. These names will be published in the next issue and the number of subscribers in each congregation will be given. Who will be in the lead? Some congregations make themselves responsible for a copy for every member. This is admirable and it would be well for every congregation in Synod to follow this excellent example. Here is a chance for auxiliary organizations of the congregations of the congregation to do a good work. Please bear in mind that this is the Synod's paper. It is not the pet organ of the Editor-in-Chief or the special protege of the Publication Committee but the official organ of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Central Canada. It is YOUR paper. Will you make it a financial success?—J. S. H.

Eastern Conference.

The unanimous call extended to the Rev. John Keehley, of Buffalo, N.Y., by the Church of the Redeemer, corner Charles and Western avenues, Montreal, has been accepted, and the Rev. Keehley will enter upon his pastorate on Sunday, Nov. 1st, 1914, on which day he will be installed and on the same day the church will be consecrated.

At the request of the congregation and then the consent of the Nova Scotia Synod and the Home Mission Board, Field Missionary Bieber will supply the congregation in Montreal till Rev. Keehley arrives, and on Nov. 2nd he will leave for Halifax to begin mission work in the Maritime metropolis. The Rev. Dr. C. T. Fry, Superintendent of Church Extension, on his way from Nova Scotia, began his itinerary of the Synod of Central Canada on the evening of Sept. 15th, and was very favorably impressed with the city, the Lutheran Church, and conditions generally. Dr. Fry will always receive a warm welcome in Montreal and in the Church of the Redeemer, which congregation can never forget the Church Extension Society as "a friend in need."—M. J. B.

St. Peter's, Ottawa, is now having two Sunday Schools, one in the morning at 10 and the other in the afternoon at 3 o'clock. Mr. V. Buschmann is in charge of the latter, which is still in the experimental stage. The first mission meeting conducted by Pastor Clemens, under the name of the Areopagus, in the new Imperial Theatre, was held on Sept. 13th. About one thousand people attended. The silver offering amounted to \$43.03. These meetings are held at 8.30 p.m.—after the evening services, with which they are not intended to interfere. It is still too early to judge what the good effects of these meetings may be, but the promoters hope to see great and good results come from them.

Western Conference.

The Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Kunkle were tendered a "welcome reception" in the S.O.E. hall by the members and friends of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Welland, Thursday evening, Sept. 3rd. In spite of the inclement weather the hall was well filled and a pleasant evening was spent. The Rev. M. J. Bieber presided. The church council welcomed the pastor, then Wm. Minnes, Jr., the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society, then Mrs. Bielke; R. Schultz represented the Sunday

school and Elwood Cronmiller the Luther League, Miss Evelyn Toyn and Miss Pearl Minnes recited, and the music was furnished by Mrs. J. Toyn's graphophone. The Rev. W. H. Knauff, Humberstone, brought the greetings of his congregation and the Rev. T. Snyder, D.D., Niagara Falls, N.Y., who served the congregation for over twenty-five years, brought personal greetings. Pastor Bieber welcomed Pastor Kunkle for the local congregation and town, and Rev. Kunkle very appropriately responded to all these greetings. Refreshments were served by the ladies. Mr. Geo. Cronmiller and Mr. F. Ott spoke informally, and sociability reigned till midnight.

At the Sunday morning service the Rev. Mr. Kunkle was installed as pastor of the church in the presence of an interested congregation by the retiring pastor, Rev. M. J. Bieber. The charge to the pastor was based on Acts 20: 28, "Take heed therefore unto yourself and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseer, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood," and the charge to the congregation on Heb. 13: 17, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves, for they watch for your souls as they that must give account, and that they may do it with joy and not with grief; for that is unprofitable to you." The members warmly welcomed Pastor and Mrs. Kunkle, who have already endeared themselves to the congregation. They have taken their abode at 151 Ross St.

In the evening the Rev. Mr. Kunkle preached his introductory sermon to a fine and appreciative congregation on the text Ruth 2: 4, "And behold, Boas came from Bethlehem and said unto the reaper, the Lord be with you. And they answered him, the Lord bless thee." Rev. Kunkle's pointed, practical and forceful presentation of the message in his sermon captivated his congregation and endeared him still more to his people. The prospect of continued development in the congregation under Pastor Kunkle's leadership are very encouraging.

Three new members were added to the Sunday School during the month of September.

The Luther League has recarpeted the church and arranged a choir space and platform and is making provision for a choir in the near future.

Mr. Wm. Minnes has been appointed agent for the Canada Lutheran.