

C L E R G Y B U L L E T I N
of the Norwegian Synod

Vol. I

Aug. 21, 1941

No. 1

I N I

That the Lord will use this humble sheet to the glory of His name is our sincere prayer as we send out this first "Clergy Bulletin". May it under His guidance serve to keep us better informed and better equipped for work in our Synod...It is also our fervent wish that our pastors will make intelligent use of this Bulletin, realizing that it is a means by which one can reach other pastors in Synod. This thing can be made a real clearing house of information, but may we all remember that before anything can come out of a house it must first go in.

TREASURY NOTES

We wish that every pastor could be Treasurer of the Synod for a year, at least for a month. We have already, for our part, learned enough to appreciate that...From July 8 to July 31, a period of 23 days, we received in contributions \$960.27. In the same period we wrote checks for \$1828.63. During the 23 days we borrowed \$500 in one place, \$100 in another, and used another \$100 which one man had sent in for the purpose of buying a Pethany Bond as soon as one of that denomination can be arranged by the former Treasurer, who was asked to complete the Bond Extension...To be sure, we are in the "dry" season, but, as we remember it, every season is "dry" enough. As a practical suggestion, could each congregation at a regular business meeting decide to send, say \$5 quarterly, out of its regular current expense fund to the Synod Fund? Maybe some churches could make it \$10 or more. What a lift this would be! It would not necessitate special efforts or special offerings. Now, will every pastor be literate enough to postcard us his sentiments for or against? We shall pass your answers on to the Finance Committee. We shall also gladly await remittances! - - - Martin Galstad.

NAMES, PLEASE!

Those who attended the Gen. Past. Conf. will remember that Pastor Lillegard, Sec. of Synod, requested that the names of chairmen and secretaries of reorganized Synodical Committees be printed here. We're still waiting for those names. Here is all that we have so far: Christian Day School Board: Chairman, Mr. Soren Borup, Albert Lea, Minn. secretary, S. Dorr; School Supt., M. Galstad. Church Extension Committee: Chairman, S. Dorr; secretary, N. S. Tjernagel.

Those Budgets

Pastor M. Tweit of the Finance Committee requests that the various Synodical Committees get their '41 - '42 budgets to him at once. Why must we repeatedly be told to do such routine things? Yes, even begged?

\$424.21

That's the amount of money donated by ALL the congregations of Synod during the past fiscal year for Church Extension. And that after every congregation was asked to make an offering to this fund! What's the result of this seeming disregard of Synod's request? Right now the mission possibilities in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., look promising, promising enough to warrant the erection of some kind of house of worship. But \$24.21 is not much with which to begin a building, especially since most of it had to be used to pay off old debts. . . The moral? Let's have offerings for Church Extension. Let's have them now. And let the people be informed as to why they're giving, etc. The Lord is opening a door right in our faces in Sioux Falls; let us be careful not to slam it shut again.

CLERGY BULLETIN
of the Norwegian Synod
Sept. --, 1941

Vol I

No. 2

Call this an editorial, if you wish. - - When David wished to kill Uriah, he first honored him; or so it seemed; he had Joab place Hriah "where he knew that valiant men were". By asking Hriah to fight against good soldiers Joab and David were, in effect, telling Uriah that he was a good soldier. So - first came the honor. But you remember the rest of David's instructions to Joab - "Retire ye from him that he may be smitten and die". After the honor came the treachery and after the back-patting the throat-cutting.

We have a system very much like that of David and Joab in our Synod; perhaps other synods have the same system, but right now we're talking about our synod. The system works in this way: First we elect a man to an office in Synod. That's the honoring and the back-patting; we're saying to him: "You're a good soldier". But when he starts to fight, we retire from him. He tries to do the job which we have told him to do; he makes certain suggestions and asks our cooperation, but we withhold it. That's the treachery. Then comes the annual synod meeting, and we all take the floor and, because this was not done and that was not done, we make verbal rushes at the soldier whom we honored the year before until it seems that it is our desire that the fellow be smitten and die. And that's the throat-cutting.

Space for moral:- - - - -

TREASURY NOTES

The state of the treasury continues as it was according to the report in Sentinel for the first three months of the year. We simply must ask our people for more contributions, and certainly we can do it now, when times are better for them. How dare we face the next post-war depression headache if we are loaded with enlarged debts before it begins?

Will each pastor see if he has some people who would make loans in smaller amounts, hundreds, or even fifties?

Are there any Jubilee funds that can be had now? We could make good use of them to pay one loan that comes due Sept. 27 in the amount of \$450. Dec. 10 we must paye another ~~\$500~~ \$500. And Ec. 28 we need \$2950 for still another bank. Today, Sept. 5, an air-mail letter came from the publishers of our periodicals asking for \$500 by Sept. 10. We do not wish to instill defeatism, but one brother's statement may be near the truth: "The only way in which we can remedy the situation is to paint it as black as we can". At least, as black as it is. That the situation can be handled - of that there is no doubt. But the new treasurer, as you will remember from the last convention, is to be treasurer, not a general financier. The responsible board members will consider themselves addressed now, we are sure.

-Martin Galstad

FROM BETHANY

Total enrollment, Sept. 15: 98; that exceeds the record enrollemtn of 95 in 1939 - 1940. - - Mrs. Ferd. Weyland (nee Idella Quill) is temporarily filling the vacancy caused by Prof. Hoffmann's acceptance of the call to Bronxville; at this writing the Board of Regents has not been able to appoint a permanent teacher in his place. (While we're speaking of Bethany - an article on accreditation by Mr. Carl S. Meyer, Registrar of Bethany, is appearing in the Sept. & Oct. issues of the AMERICAN LUTHERAN. Remembering the many words on this subject at the Gen. Past. Conf. this summer, this ought to be worth our reading.)

MORE COMMITTEES

Finance Committee: M. E. Tweit, chairman, C. O. Vangen, Sec. Jubilee Thankoffering Committee: N. A. Madson, Chairman, N. S. Tjernagel, sec.

Order Hoffmann call

C L E R G Y B U L L E T I N
of the Norwegian Synod

Vol. I

Sept. 18, 1941

No. 2

TREASURY NOTES

The state of the treasury continues as it was according to the report in Sentinel for the first three months of the year. We simply must ask our people for more contributions, and certainly we can do it now, when times are better for them. How dare we face the next post-war depression headache if we are loaded with enlarged debts before it begins. - - - Will each pastor see if he has some people who would make loans in smaller amounts - hundreds, or even fifties? - - - Are there any Jubilee funds that can be had now? We could make good use of them to pay one loan in the amount of \$450 that comes due on Sept. 27. Dec. 10 we must pay another bank \$500. And Dec. 28 we need \$2950 for still another bank. Today, Sept. 5, an air-mail letter came from the publishers of our periodicals asking for \$500 by Sept. 10! We do not wish to instill defeatism, but one brother's statement may be near the truth: "The only way in which we can remedy the situation is to paint it as black as we can". At least, as black as it is. That the situation can be handled - of that there is no doubt. But the new treasurer, as you will remember from the last convention, is to be treasurer, not a general financier. The responsible board members will feel themselves addressed now, we are sure. - - - Martin Galstad

FROM BETHANY

Total enrollemtn, Sept. 15: 98; that exceeds the record enrollment of 95 in 1939 - 1940. - - - Mrs. Ferd. Weyland (nee Ideala Quill) is temporarily filling the vacancy caused by Prof. Hoffmann's acceptance of the call to Bronxville. - - - The Rev. C. Hanson preached his farewell sermon at Bethany Congregation on Sept. 14 and will assume his duties as his new parish, Fertile and Bygland, Minn., within a month. (While we're speaking of Bethany - an article on accreditation by Mr. Carl S. Meyer, Registrar of Bethany, is appearing in the Sept. and Oct. issues of the AMERICAN LUTHERAN. This ought to be worth reading for those who remember the many words on this subject at the General Pastoral Conference this summer.)

OFFICERS OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee: M. E. Tweit, chairman; C. O. Vangen, Sec. Jubilee Thank-offering Committee: N. A. Madson, chairman; N. S. Tjernagel, sec.

Call this an editorial, if you wish. - - - When David wished to kill Uriah, he first honored him; or so it seemed; he had Joab place Uriah "where he knew that valiant men were". By asking Uriah to fight against good soldiers Joab and David were, in effect, telling Uriah that he was a good soldier. So - first came the honor. But you remember the rest of David's instructions to Joab - "Retire ye from him that he may be smitten and die". After the honor came the treachery and after the back-patting the throat-cutting.

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Space for moral: _____

LAST MINUTE FLASH: It is still not too late for students to enroll at Bethany

WHY THREE FUNDS?

One thing which causes considerable confusion and which, for all practical purposes, is a very disturbing factor, is the maintaining of three separate funds to which our people of the Norwegian Synod are to contribute. We list the Synod Fund, the Teachers' Salary Fund, and the Home Mission Fund... Without a doubt such a division once served a purpose; the individual Christian's donation would be applied to the fund which he designated. And it is still useful for special gifts and in congregations where no regular offerings are lifted for synodical purposes; the pastor can, in conjunction with his finance board, decide to which fund the collections for Synod should go. But when it comes to the contributions of a congregation which uses the envelope system the picture changes. (Incidentally, these special collections cause considerable havoc where the envelope system is in use.) Unless it has been specified by the congregation where each offering or the offerings made over a period of time by means of the envelope system are to go, the local treasurer may use his discretion or ask the treasurer of Synod to do so. Of course, the pastor could indicate which fund is most in need, but how can he give such information when he himself has no way of knowing what the situation is? At present no one has a way of knowing which fund is the "hardest up". And at the end of the year our people are criticized for neglecting one fund or another. Is such criticism justifiable? - - - Next month we shall offer what we believe would be a good change in our financial set-up. - - Milton O

MIXED CONFERENCE

Upon invitation from the pastoral conference of the Algona Circuit of Iowa District West, Missouri Synod, and by authorization of the Iowa & Southern Minnesota Conference, Norwegian Synod, Pastors J. A. Petersen and S. Dorr attended the Northwest Iowa Regional Conference at Burt, Iowa, on Oct. 15 in the interest of arranging for a conference of pastors of the Synodical Conference. Such a conference has been arranged. The date: Dec. 2, 1941, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The place: Peace Lutheran Church, West Bend, Iowa, the Rev. Victor Mack, pastor. The program: A discussion, led by Dr. S. C. Ylvisaker, of Dr. M. Reu's essay "What is Scripture?" (said essay to be found in Dr. Reu's pamphlet "In the Interest of Lutheran Unity") and a discussion of "The American Lutheran Conference and its Implications", led by Pastor G. H. Schaefer, Livermore, Iowa. . . . It is understood that all the pastors of the Iowa & Southern Minn. Conf. will be in attendance; however, the brethren of the Missouri Synod said that they would welcome more of the pastors of our synod. All pastors not in the conference mentioned who desire to attend this mixed conference are requested hereby so to notify S. Dorr, Forest City, Iowa, by Nov. 15, 1941.

The latest report from Bethany says that Mr. Hilbert Schaller, a graduate of the Thiensville Seminary, has been secured to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. O. Hoffman. - - - Also from Bethany: 100 students! An "all-time" record!

Because of the announcement regarding the conference of pastors of the Synodical Conference this issue of the "Bulletin" is being sent to all active pastors of the Synod, whether they have subscribed to this sheet or not. May we suggest that the receiving of one or two announcements like this per year is well worth the 25¢ which is asked for a year's subscription? However, because Uncle Sam still "charges" for delivering these sheets and because stamped envelopes don't grow on trees we shall find it impossible in the future to mail the "Bulletin" to anyone who has not sent in his 25¢.

OBJECTIVENESS SUSTAINED

If there is one thing which ought to characterize the mental habits of pastors of our Synod, it is objectiveness in thinking. This objectiveness should especially be applied in evaluating what another person has written or said, be he a brother in the faith or not. In a cause like ours we ought to leave no room for judging what a man has written or said by the character, age, or experience of the man who has said or written it or by the manner in which he has said it.

We in the Norwegian Synod, of all people under the sun, ought to be aware of the value of that practice and to put that principle into never-ending practice. E. g., in the present union movement we have seen writers in the American Lutheran and elsewhere write that we pastors of the Norwegian Synod take the stand which we take in that movement because of our lack of urbanity, because of our economic status, because of our lack of charity and sanity, etc., etc. Such arguments are subjective, and such subjectiveness has sickened us. And, what is worse, such subjectiveness never helps in clarifying the matter under discussion but only hinders.

It will be the dawn of a brighter day for our synod when we pastors begin to judge all speeches and all written matter, not by judging the personality of the speaker or writer or by judging the manner of his speaking or writing, but only by carefully, thoughtfully, sincerely weighing the merits of what he has written or said.

--S. Dorr

A UNIFIED BUDGET

Remember the paragraph in last month's Bulletin entitled "Why Three Funds"? -- We could, of course, continue the old system, but think of the task our already-overburdened treasurer, or finance board, would have in listing the needs for the year and the contributions already received for each fund in each issue of Sentinel. Then, too, not all of our people subscribe to our church-paper... Here is a suggestion: Could we not have just one budget as our sister-synods do? Let all contributions for synodical purposes be entitled "Missions". After all, isn't all of our work, instruction for youth, etc., in the end in the interest of missions? Would it not be possible for the Finance Board, while keeping the distinction "for the sake of the record", to work out the needs of the three funds on a percentage basis so that Synod's treasurer would have some guide when allocating the contributions to the various funds? He would then know how to distribute the moneys received, and the average layman, and the pastor, would not have to be in a state of perpetual confusion. Perhaps we can simplify our financial structure by eliminating such unnecessary and bothering distinctions... If anyone has a better solution, let him speak his mind, too.

--Milton Otto

TREASURY NOTES

We are not sure what previous years have shown regarding the income for the first six months, but thus far this year the deficit has grown by only \$1000. If the second half will show a corresponding up-swing, we may be headed for a year out of the "red". This means, of course, that we shall have to keep working hard.

Regarding memorial donors' names: We haven't printed them for such reasons as 1) one of our first lists would have taken a page (in Sentinel) by itself; 2) we can't see that he who erects a memorial puts his own name on it; 3) we were trained at home according to Matt. 6, 1 - 4; 4) long-hand copies of names multiply chances for error; 5) we have two congregations to serve; etc., etc.

One conference asked for the old system; another asked not to mess things up by another change until the general conference meets. So we are continuing as usual for the present, hoping that the dignity of a plain memorial with the name of the honored one

--Martin Galstad

CLERGY BULLETIN
of the Norwegian Synod

Vol. 1

Dec. 17, 1941

No. 5

TREASURY NOTES

"The news is good". Perhaps every year has seen the contributions come in much better at this time of the year, but we believe that this year is exceptional. The December 27th issue of Sentinel will bring an encouraging report.

Therefore, let us now take advantage of the better times and get that Jubilee Offering really started. Some fine gifts have come, for instance, a memorial wreath of \$500 and a letter in this morning's mail from an owner of \$1000 in Bethany Bonds and Synod Notes, saying: "I want to arrange it so the bonds and the notes will be the property of the Synod when I must depart from this world".

Now, if it was not wrong to "provoke to jealousy" in matters of the faith (cf. Rom. 10, 19), can it be wrong for us to hold up examples such as those mentioned above and stir up a little holy covetousness among our people for the very commendable honor of leading in the assault on the synodical debt? (Incidentally, the owner of the \$1000 belongs to "them that are no people" - is not a member of our synod.) This, now, is on a high plane; it calls for the submersion of self that Christ's Church may be glorified. May our gifts become a memorial for our people!

- M. Galstad

THAT CONFERENCE

The conference of Missouri and Norwegian Synod pastors was held, as per schedule, on Dec. 2 at West End, Iowa. The program, as announced, consisted of a paper by Dr. S. C. Ylvisaker in which he reviewed Dr. M. Reu's attitude toward Scripture, especially on the basis of Dr. Reu's essay in "In the Interest of Lutheran Unity", and a paper by Pastor G. Schaefer on "The Am. Lutheran Conf. and its Implications". Dr. Ylvisaker's paper, we believe, served as a real eye-opener to just about everyone present; if M. Reu is a leader in the Am. Luth. Church - and who is, if he is not? - then the Synodical Conference and the Am. Luth. Church are disagreed about the first thing - Scripture. Pastor Schaefer's paper, we thought, hit the nail on the head, too; some may count it Christian optimism to talk of the Am. Luth. Church's winning the whole Am. Luth. Conf. over to her "conservative" position, but after hearing this paper, we'd call it starry-eyed dreaming; an idea that has about as much relation to what is real as a pacifist's dream of world peace in 1941.

All in all, it was a good conference; there was much discussion. We got the impression that the group gathered there were real "alt-missourisch" men. - - - There was just one disheartening thing about the conference, and that was the attendance; both synods sinned here. W. A. Madson breezed in (we use the word advisedly) from Princeton and thus helped to make up in quality what we Norakies lacked in quantity; but, otherwise, the attendance left much, much to be desired.

Another such conference is planned for next May; further announcements will appear here when all details are known.

HITS

W. A. Madson has returned the call extended to him by the newly organized congregation at Sioux Falls, S. Dak. The congregation has since called M. Galstad; at this writing we have not heard definitely whether he will accept or return the call...The writer has returned the call twice extended to him during November by the Missouri Synod Congregation at Elmer, Iowa; at present he is considering the call from Tracy, Minn... We notice that it is the custom of periodicals to wish their readers a Merry Christmas. This humble sheet will not do that; it wishes you, instead, a Christian Christmas. And may we possibly be like those old Judean shepherds - unable to keep quiet about the Christ-Child; - and may the Holy Spirit bless our retelling of the Christmas story.

H. A. Preus writes: "Upon request from the Madison-Chicago Conference, our Publications Committee appointed the Revs. J. A. Molstad and Ahlert Strand managing editors of Tidende and Sentinel respectively.

"On Oct. 19 our Army & Navy Commission was in at the office of the Missouri Synod Army & Navy Commission in Chicago and turned over a check for \$600 from our Synod as our share for the work done for ourmen in the service".

From N. S. Tjernagel: Sioux Falls is building its \$1,000 chapel. Redeemer Congregation (New Hampton, Iowa) needs one, too. The only way that they can get it is for congregations who have borrowed from Church Extension to pay back part of their loans. Can you do something in this way to give New Hampton a much needed lift?"

The writer of these words is the pastor of a congregation subsidized from Synod's Home Mission Treasury; that fact ought to put him in a position to say what follows without his being charged with trying to inaugurate something which might cause difficulties for others but not for himself.

The writer is thinking of the practice in our Synod of sending subsidies direct to pastors instead of to the treasurers of those congregations. He here is not censuring anyone, neither the treasurer of Synod, nor its Home Mission Board, nor anyone else. He is just asking: Does it not make more sense to send money to subsidize congregations to the congregational treasurers than to send it to the pastor himself?

Consider; It is congregations, not pastors, who are subsidized by Synod. Consider this, too: If the subsidy is sent direct to the pastors, it is an entirely painless process for the congregation; they never become keenly aware of the fact that they are accepting Synod's money; one incentive which they might have to try to reduce their subsidy is missing. On the other hand, if the subsidy money is sent to the congregational treasurer, and he every year has to report: "We received so-and-so much money from Synod", there is an incentive to try, with the help of God, to become less of a beneficiary and more of a benefactor.

This idea is not a revolutionary one; it is being practiced in several cases. But here's the question: Could it not be made a general practice?

CLERGY BULLETIN
of the Norwegian Synod

Vol. I

Forest City, Iowa, Jan. 13, 1942

No. 6

WHAT ABOUT THE JUBILEE FUND?

Uncle Sam is getting ahead of us in collecting funds. That is O.K. He needs whatever we can get at this time. In case we are unwilling to give, he knows how to unloosen our purse strings. We cannot compete with Uncle Sam in raising funds. The good Lord will, however, let His Church come in for a share. If the Church fails, the only sure defense, which is the arm of the Lord, may be withdrawn also from our country. The Lord wants to be our defense. When victory comes, He wants us to acknowledge that His arm has given us the victory. Cf. Ps. 44, 3. One man writes: "I do not believe we should have our Synod Jubilee until after we have crushed Hitler and all that he stands for to the dust. - I am going to give every dollar I can possibly spare to buy defense savings bonds". Loyalty to country is fine and has its place. Our obligations do not end, however, with 100% loyalty to country. The same Lord Who instituted government has also established His Church on earth. More than ever, we will have to show - and now we have an excellent chance - that our safest and surest defense also against earthly foes is in the arm of the Lord. Armies and guns we must have, but we must not forget that the Lord has struck mighty armies down also without man-made deadly weapons of war. Loyalty to God and His Church is our front line of defense.

--H. Ingebritson

UNION COMMITTEE MEETING

A meeting of the union committees of the various synods of the Synodical Conference was held in Chicago on Dec. 29. The meeting was not altogether disappointing. Dr. Engelder and Dir. Brommer stand firm, and Dr. Engelder sees no hope of agreeing on a joint and single document. But the Missouri Committee sees nothing else to do than to try to carry out the resolution of the Fort Wayne Convention to continue negotiations with the ALC. We tried to show that Missouri has received only one rebuff after the other, such as Dr. Rau's paper on Unionism and Scripture, his article in the Kirchl. Zeitschrift this fall, the ALC election of a new committee more unionistic than ever, and failure to show any change in attitude toward the other synods in the ALConf. The burden of our testimony (Wis., Norw.) was that the Missouri Committee now should see from all of this that it was wrong for them to continue negotiations. They pleaded that we help them carry out the resolution of their synod, to the effect that the other synods of the Synodical Conference should be invited to sit in at their meetings, but all of us refused, also the Slovak Committee. The discussion thus drifted over to the passages involved, especially Titus 3, and the outcome was a resolution to meet again Feb. 9 and 10 to discuss the passages on Unionism with special reference to Dr. Rau's treatment of them, and Prof. Meyer of Thiensville was elected to lead this discussion. So we are finally getting down to fundamentals, the study of Scripture itself, and we should make some headway there.

--S.C. Ylvisaker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Concordia Seminary Chorus will give a concert at the Armory in Mankato on Thursday evening, Jan. 29, at eight o'clock. The concert is under the joint sponsorship of the Immanuel Lutheran Church, (Wisconsin Synod) and Bethany. Tickets sell at 45¢ plus a tax of 5¢. We hope that many will come from our Norwegian congregations as a boost to the spirit of cooperation in our Synodical Conference. It is rather interesting that this Missouri Synod chorus concert is sponsored by the Wisconsin and Norwegian Synods, and we wish to "put it across big". This may have a wholesome effect.

at Bethany, on Tuesday, ~~May~~ 27, there will be a joint conference of pastors of the Synodical Conference to discuss the present state of the union movement. Pastors of the Synodical Conference are being invited from the whole area in a radius of about fifty miles from Bethany. Anyone else is welcome.

--S. C. Ylvisaker

ANY BONDS TODAY?

In connection with Pres. Ingebritson's message printed on the first page of this issue, we should like to pass along a suggestion which one of our pastors made. If some of our people find it impossible both to buy Defense Bonds and to give to the Jubilee Fund, why not suggest that they combine the two and have the bonds made out to the Synod and let that bond be at least a part of their Jubilee offering? There is one objection to this proposal of which everyone will be reminded immediately; that is this: Synod will not get that money for ten years, i.e., until the bonds mature. Three things suggest themselves as factors which may offset that objection somewhat: 1) All Defense Bonds can be cashed within a short time after they are purchased. 2) \$18.75 spent now for a Defense Bond will give the Synod \$25 ten years from now. 3) It might not be such a bad idea for the Synod to have some bonds maturing in 1952 and 1953; they might level off some big bumps. - - It would by no means be desirable that everyone give his Jubilee offering to the Synod in the form of Defense Bonds, but it is possible that this plan might be put to good use in some instances.

--S. D.

RITS

The call from our brand new Sioux Falls, S. Dak., congregation went first to Pastor Madson, then to Pastor Galstad. It is now in the hands of the Rev. J. A. Petersen. It is to be hoped that this new congregation will soon have its own pastor before it loses its admirable zeal and enthusiasm.

The Tracy, Minn., congregation, has for the second time extended its call to the writer.

The money collected for the Wheatridge Sanitorium by means of the Christmas seals is due and overdue. Your seals manager at Forest City pleads with those who have not yet sent in their money to do so at once.

In this issue of the Bulletin we have word from both the president of Synod and the president of Bethany. That fact leads us to ask: Isn't there any news to be had from all our synodical boards and committees, news which we pastors ought to know know instead of at the synodical convention in June? There must be, and that news ought to find its way to these pages.

--S. D.

(Speaking of 2 Pet. 1, 21): "Men, moved by the Holy Spirit, al-leesan, 'made utterance', i.e., uttered words. God spoke through 'the mouth' of His prophet. If this is not Verbal Inspiration, what is it? Those who do not want Verbal Inspiration really want no Inspiration of any kind; they want to treat the Scriptures as an uninspired human book. Why be cowardly and still talk hazily about 'Inspiration' because in church circles this is still popular?" - - R. H. C. Lenski.

CLERGY BULLETIN
of the Norwegian Synod

Vol. I

Forest City, Iowa, Feb. 16, 1942

No. 7

THOSE STATISTICAL BLANKS!

In past years your Synodical Secretary has wasted a considerable quantity of paper by sending two - sometimes three and four - statistical blanks to the pastor who failed to return his within a reasonable time. Now the U.S. Government requires us to be saving also on paper! Hence, no extra blanks. Accordingly, please keep a jealous eye on the blank sent you until you get it filled out and mailed to the Secretary at 233 Bellevue St., Newton, Mass. And please fill it out, leaving no blank spaces except where your congregational work is a blank. We have already received half a dozen reports, which is a good beginning. We beg humbly that you all cooperate to make it unnecessary for us to send out any further pleas.

- Geo. O. Lillegard

BITS

All of the pastors have been receiving copies of the history of Synod which are being mimeographed and sent out by the Y P Ass'n. We fondly hope that they are not rotting in the pastors' desks. We even hope that you think highly enough of them so that you will be kindly disposed toward this question: Will not each pastor try to get his YPS, Ladies' Aid, or someone to take care of the expense connected with the Mimeographing and mailing of these sheets? Your Y P Ass'n, you know, intends to help with the publication of the book on Synod's history when that is published. Thus, while the Y P Ass'n is glad to send these chapters of Synod's history also to those congregations which cannot afford to pay for them, yet it is true that the more money we have left after we send out these mimeographed sheets the more we shall be able to help with the printing of the book. -- How much? The minimum ought to be 1¢ per mimeographed sheet plus postage. All who wish to help should send their money to Mr. Harry Olson, Bethany College, Treas. of the Y P Ass'n.

The Rev. J. A. Petersen has returned the call extended to him by the Sioux Falls Congregation. The Tracy, Minn., call is now in the hands of E.G. Unseth.

Most of our pastors know that it is absolutely necessary for the new Sioux Falls Cong. to have a chapel before they can begin intensive work. And all of us know that that means that the Church Extension Fund has to help build that chapel. Most of us know, too, that the Church Extension Fund has much money loaned to other congregations at the present time and that if a good part of that money could be returned now the Sioux Falls proposition would be an easy one. Some of the congregations are making regular payments on their loans, like honest and systematic people. Others have not paid in one cent, though their loan is due or almost due. This summer the chairman of the Church Extension Committee wrote those pastors having congregations whose loans are overdue or near due, asking them what the Synod might be expecting in the near future: that certainly was a reasonable question in view of what is needed at Sioux Falls. How many men replied? Not one. And yet, we suppose, also in those congregations they pray "Thy Kingdom come". This is not to say that there may be no congregations where prompt repayment is impossible, but the Synod certainly has a right to know what causes this impossibility. That congregation which thinks it is developing a healthy, God-pleasing spirit while it remains apathetic over against its debts is deceiving only itself.

S. D.

T. N. Teigen and S. Dorr will welcome suggestions about the time and place for holding the 1942 convention of the Y P Ass'n. (Lack of space shortened this request.)

At Bethany on Tuesday, ~~the~~ ^{Jan.} 27, there will be a joint conference of pastors of the Synodical Conference to discuss the present state of the union movement. Pastors of the Synodical Conference are being invited from the whole area in a radius of about fifty miles from Bethany. Anyone else is welcome.

--S. C. Ylvisaker

ANY BONDS TODAY?

In connection with Pres. Ingebritson's message printed on the first page of this issue, we should like to pass along a suggestion which one of our pastors made. If some of our people find it impossible both to buy Defense Bonds and to give to the Jubilee Fund, why not suggest that they combine the two and have the bonds made out to the Synod and let that bond be at least a part of their Jubilee offering? There is one objection to this proposal of which everyone will be reminded immediately; that is this: Synod will not get that money for ten years, i.e., until the bonds mature. Three things suggest themselves as factors which may offset that objection somewhat: 1) All Defense Bonds can be cashed within a short time after they are purchased. 2) \$18.75 spent now for a Defense Bond will give the Synod \$25 ten years from now. 3) It might not be such a bad idea for the Synod to have some bonds maturing in 1952 and 1953; they might level off some big bumps. - - It would by no means be desirable that everyone give his Jubilee offering to the Synod in the form of Defense Bonds, but it is possible that this plan might be put to good use in some instances.

--S. D.

RITS

The call from our brand new Sioux Falls, S. Dak., congregation went first to Pastor Madson, then to Pastor Galstad. It is now in the hands of the Rev. J. A. Petersen. It is to be hoped that this new congregation will soon have its own pastor before it loses its admirable zeal and enthusiasm.

The Tracy, Minn., congregation, has for the second time extended its call to the writer.

The money collected for the Wheatridge Sanitorium by means of the Christmas seals is due and overdue. Your seals manager at Forest City pleads with those who have not yet sent in their money to do so at once.

In this issue of the Bulletin we have word from both the president of Synod and the president of Bethany. That fact leads us to ask: Isn't there any news to be had from all our synodical boards and committees, news which we pastors ought to know know instead of at the synodical convention in June? There must be, and that news ought to find its way to these pages.

--S. D.

(Speaking of 2 Pet. 1, 21): "Men, moved by the Holy Spirit, el-aleesan, 'made utterance', i.e., uttered words. God spoke through 'the mouth' of His prophet. If this is not Verbal Inspiration, what is it? Those who do not want Verbal Inspiration really want no Inspiration of any kind; they want to treat the Scriptures as an uninspired human book. Why be cowardly and still talk hazily about 'Inspiration' because in church circles this is still popular?" - - R. H. C. Lenski.

FROM THE DESK OF SENTINEL'S BUS. MGR.

Sentinel subscriptions have increased somewhat. The increase is due chiefly to the efforts of two or three pastors, who either put on a drive for subscriptions or got their congregations to take a blanket subscription. ... If every pastor would get two new subscriptions, that would bring in over one hundred dollars, which is a lot of money in the Sentinel Fund. Every subscription which we get decreases by almost a dollar the deficit in the Synod Fund. Why not put on a campaign? Why not have your ladies' aid order ten or fifteen copies of more to be distributed at the church door (sold or given away). Such subscriptions can be had at the blanket rate, if they are mailed to one address. Sentinels should be as easy to sell as the devotional booklets.

Don't forget to mention Sentinel in your Bulletin and in church announcements. Call the attention of your congregation to special articles, etc.

Another thing: The Post Office does not allow us to send out free copies, i. e., copies not subscribed for. We are allowed one copy to institutions, to advertisers, one copy for exchanges (but the name of each periodical with which we exchange must appear on the mailing list). There should be no free copies to pastors just because they are pastors. So, if you have an "X" on your label and don't get the Sentinel any longer, just send one dollar. This is serious. We save about \$15 on each issue by mailing under the pound rate; so we must comply with postal regulations. All pastors and officials will kindly remember this. The Synod may not subscribe for anyone, since the Sentinel is the Synod's own publication.

Here is a note of encouragement: A Missouri Synod pastor renews his subscription to the Sentinel under date of Feb. 28 and says: "May God continue to bless this periodical and its editors and readers. May the words of our Lord come true in regard to our dear sister church: 'Thou hast a little strength and hast kept My Word and hast not denied My name' (Rev. 3, 8)". - W. T. N., Wisc.

--B. W. Teigen

Y P ASS'N

In 1940 the biennial convention of the Y P Ass'n was held in October at Bethany College on the same week-end as Bethany Day. At that time it was decided to ask the Executive Board of the Ass'n to try to find another, more suitable time for the Convention, since having it and Bethany Day on the same-week-end put too heavy a load on the students, faculty, and employees at Bethany. The question is: When is that better, more suitable time? The Ex. Board has been trying to find the answer to that question, but every path up which it goes turns out to be a blind alley. ... It has been suggested that the Convention be held in connection with the Synodical Convention or with the General Pastoral Conference. The argument for having it in connection with the former is that the Y P Convention would then be better attended; but here the question is: Would young people be attending it or a group of interested older people? ... Will every pastor please consider this a plea from the Ex. Board for suggestions? Address your communications to the undersigned. We should like to be able to arrange the time and place of this convention so that the greatest possible number of our young people might attend.

--S. D.

BITS

E. G. Unseth has received and returned calls from the congregations at Sioux Falls, S. Dak., and Tracy, Minn. ... The Iowa and Southern Minn. Pastoral Conference meets April 14, 9:30 a. m., at Northwood, Iowa. ... Hats off to the Finance Committee for their work on the Special Financial issue of Sentinel: ... And a blessed Easter to every one of our pastors!

--S. D.

CLERGY BULLETIN
of the Norwesian Synod

Vol. I

Forest City, Iowa, May 15, 1942

No. 9

NEWS

The Home Mission Board held a regular meeting at Minneapolis on May 12. Among other reports made at this meeting was that of Synod's treasurer. He was able to announce that the special "Anti-Deficit" collection inaugurated by the Finance Committee has brought in \$1000. At the same time the Lenten Offering was equally as good as that of last year. And yet, AND YET there is a deficit of \$600 in the Home Mission Fund for the fiscal year just closed. What makes it worse, that deficit is there in spite of the fact that three parishes which ordinarily are subsidized by Synod were without pastors for some months during the year; in other words, if there had been no vacancies in mission congregations, the deficit would be considerably more than \$600. - A suggestion made by Synod's treasurer which will please every home missionary is this: That subsidies from the Mission Fund be sent to the treasurers of the subsidized congregations, not to their pastors, for it is congregations, not pastors, who are subsidized. Thus congregations will feel a little more that they are accepting outside help.

The latest about Sioux Falls: After our people there had obtained the necessary signers on a rezoning petition so that they might get a building permit, opposition developed among certain residents in the area of the projected church building; some who had signed the rezoning petition asked to have their names taken off, but that was denied them by the city council. At present the matter stands this way: The city council has granted the rezoning petition. the opposition has twenty days in which to show good reason for which that petition should not be granted; those twenty days expire about May 17. - Torald Teigen has received and returned the call to Sioux Falls. At present, John Ylvisaker, student at Concordia Seminary, is being asked by the Home Mission Board to serve Sioux Falls during his year's leave from the Seminary.

S. E. Lee wishes you to know that since C. Hanson accepted the call to Fertile, Minn., certain rearrangements had to be made in Synod's Book Co. First Mr. Harry Olson was asked to be manager. Then Uncle Sam asked Mr. Olson to be a soldier, and there's only one answer to such a request. At present Mr. Paul Ylvisaker, student at Bethany, and Miss Anderson of Bethany's faculty, are taking care of the work. Pastor Lee also wishes to remind us that now is the time to pay debts at the Book Co.

Pres. Ingebritson has by means of the Sentinel asked all committees to have their reports for the convention on his desk as soon as possible. Let all secretaries of all synodical committees and boards take note and act accordingly; it is slipshod business, to say the least, to hand in such reports on the day that Synod convenes or two or three days after it convenes.

As you know, announcement of the biennial convention of the Y P Ass'n of our synod has been made in the Sentinel. The dates set are July 26 & 27, the Sunday and Monday before the Gen. Past. Conf. at Bethany. These dates were chosen for several reasons, two of them being these: 1) To conserve the clerical automotive rubber by making one trip serve two meetings. 2) To encourage all our pastors to attend the convention of the Y P Ass'n.

You ask: Why no Bulletin in April? Because there was nothing to publish. The writer is saving two boisterous "horse-laugh": no. 1 will be used at the synodical convention when some pastor who is unaware of the existence of this sheet complains that he had no means of getting a certain bit of information to all the pastors; no. 2 will be used at the Gen. Past. Conf. under similar circumstances. For the writer cannot believe that there is not enough news and valuable information in our circles to fill one of these sheets and more every month - if those who have such news and information have enough brotherly love to buy and use a 1¢ postcard to get that material to Forest City, Iowa.