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THEOLOGICAL OBSERVER

BRIEF ITEMS FROM THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD

St. Louis—Despite the availability of a record number of graduates and students, more than 400 requests for full-time church workers submitted by congregations and agencies of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod will go unfilled.

The Missouri Synod's headquarters here provided this analysis as the church body began processing 1,518 requests in advance of the assignment of personnel April 29. Graduates and undergraduates available for assignment total 1,099.

The available personnel include 186 graduates of the Missouri Synod's two seminaries, 239 ministerial students ready for a year's internship, 456 graduates of two four-year teacher training colleges, 156 undergraduates from three teacher training colleges, 21 graduates of the two-year parish program, 20 graduates of the two-year lay training program and 21 graduates of the four-year deaconess program.

The largest gap between available personnel and requests is in the teaching profession where only 612 men and women are available, while 880 requests have been filed. The 186 ministerial candidates are greeted by 275 applications, and about one third of the 315 requests for ministerial vicars (interns) will go unfilled.

Brightest spot on the supply-and-demand picture is in the male graduate teachers section, with 184 men available for 180 requests. Since priority is given to requests for men with special abilities, some parish positions will not be filled. By contrast there are only 272 female teacher graduates available to fill 572 requests.

A surplus of graduates exists in two categories. Twelve requests have been filed for the 20 men and women graduating from the

Lutheran Lay Training Institute in Milwaukee, and there are six applications for the 21 parish worker graduates of St. John College, Winfield, Kans.

All but six of the 275 ministerial candidates are being asked to serve in parishes or in mission fields at home and abroad, and 831 of the 880 teacher applications come from parishes. The remaining teaching positions are in the Synod's colleges or in community Lutheran high schools.

St. Louis — Lutheran Synodical Conference work among Negroes in North America has come to a close.

Marking the end of operations were the sale of the Immanuel Lutheran College property in Greensboro, N. C., to the State of North Carolina for \$239,000 and the purchase of Alabama Lutheran Academy and College in Selma, Ala., by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for \$229,000 from the Synodical Conference.

About two years ago the Missouri Synod's Southern District also assumed responsibility for operation of Negro missions.

The Synodical Conference through its Missionary Board continues administration of mission facilities in Nigeria, West Africa.

The Greensboro campus has trained Negro pastors and teachers for Synodical Conference operations since 1903. Now Negro pastors are trained in integrated schools of the Missouri Synod. The 41-year-old Selma campus will continue to educate teachers and provide preministerial training for the Missouri Synod.

Meanwhile the Nigerian mission has undergone a change with the election of a national president by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Nigeria. He is the Rev. A. T. U. Ekong, a 46-year-old Nigerian. A 44-year-old Nigerian, the Rev. A. J. U. Essien, was elected first vice-president.

St. Louis — The Rev. Samuel I. Goltermann, president of Lutheran Concordia College, Austin, Tex., has accepted a position as assistant executive secretary of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod's Board for Higher Education. He will assume his new duties on July 1. President Goltermann succeeds Dr. Arthur M. Ahlschwede, who now heads the department. The Synod's higher education system includes two seminaries, two teachers colleges, and eleven pretheological schools in North America.

Joining the department April 1 as staff assistant was Delphin L. Schultz of St. Paul, Minn. He is a curriculum specialist and adviser in education administration.

St. Louis — Two hundred and fourteen pieces of property involving 102 acres have been transferred by the Missouri Evangelical Lutheran Mission to the Trust Association of the India Evangelical Lutheran Church. Included in the transaction were churches, schools, parsonages, teacherages, burial grounds, and other facilities.

"This transfer is a very concrete expres-

sion of confidence by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in the future of its sister church in India," stated Dr. Herman H. Koppelman, executive secretary of the Synod's Board for World Missions.

Pocono Pines, Pa. — Valparaiso (Ind.) University has assumed active control and supervision of Pocono Crest, the 2,000-acre Pennsylvania summer resort which achieved countrywide acclaim as Lutherland in the 1930s and 40s.

Various activities have been scheduled for the summer months. They include a seminar for clergy and laity, a six-week transition to college program, music camp, seminar on youth and youth work, Valparaiso University Guild seminar, six-day football school for high school students, a preacher-lecturer series during July and August, and children's camps.

Carl F. Galow, formerly university director of information services, has been named Pocono Crest general director. Offices are being maintained at Suite 699, 11 W. 42d St., New York 36, N. Y.