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THEOLOGICAL OBSERVER

BRIEF ITEMS FROM THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

MISSOURI SYNOD, ALC AGREE TO DISCUSS FELLOWSHIP

Chicago, Jan. 23.—A move toward formal church fellowship between The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and the American Lutheran Church was inaugurated at a meeting here on Jan. 20 by official committees representing the two bodies.

A joint announcement by Dr. Oliver R. Harms, St. Louis, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and Dr. Fredrik A. Schiotz, Minneapolis, President of the American Lutheran Church, said the committees agreed to take steps toward "developing a basis for pulpit and altar fellowship" between the two churches.

The announcement said an agenda committee, consisting of three members from each of the two bodies, will meet March 20 in Chicago to plan a program of future study and action.

The announcement also said the two bodies will welcome participation of other Lutheran bodies in the discussions.

It is expected, the two officials said, that an outline of proposed action will be drafted at the March 20 meeting for submission to the respective bodies.

The officials of the two bodies noted that although the Lutheran Church in America had not participated in the preliminary discussions over the past two years, representatives of that body "were reported as encouraging the ALC and the LC-MS to engage in such conversations."

An invitation to participate formally in the pulpit and altar fellowship discussions had been declined in 1962 by a committee engaged in merger negotiations out of which the present LCA was established.

The decision to proceed with the two-way fellowship negotiations, the announcement said, will be carried out independently of the Inter-Lutheran Consultation. The latter negotiations aim at establishing a successor agency to the National Lutheran Council.

The text of the formal announcement follows:

On January 20, 1964, a meeting was held between committees representing the American Lutheran Church's Committee on Relations to Lutheran Churches and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

The meeting was viewed, in a sense, as a continuation of extensive contacts between the former American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, with the purpose of exploring approaches to church fellowship with each other. It was agreed that conversations aimed at developing a basis for pulpit and altar fellowship be inaugurated. It was noted that while representatives of the Lutheran Church in America did not participate, they were reported as saying, "there is no reason why the two negotiating bodies should not feel free to proceed." The commissioners of these two bodies in turn expressed their continued readiness to welcome participation of other Lutheran bodies.

The participants regard these interchurch fellowship discussions as independent of the Inter-Lutheran Consultation, which aims to establish a successor agency to the National Lutheran Council. The structure of this proposed agency includes an ongoing program of theological study, but explicitly places church fellowship conversations outside the framework of the agency.

It was agreed that an agenda committee, consisting of three members each of the ALC and the LC-MS, be appointed, and that it meet on March 20, 1964, to plan a program of *future study and action*.

Present for the American Lutheran Church were: Dr. Schiotz, Dr. Edward Charles Fendt, Dr. A. N. Rogness, and Dr. Myron C. Austinson; for The Lutheran Church—Missouri

Synod: Dr. Harms, Dr. Roland P. Wieder-aenders, Dr. Theodore F. Nickel, Dr. Albert E. Meyer, and Dr. Herbert J. A. Bouman.

BRIEF ITEMS FROM THE NATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS REPORT 82,973 STUDENTS ENROLLED

Washington, D. C. — Lutheran theological seminaries, colleges, and high schools throughout the United States and Canada have a total enrollment of 82,973 students, it was reported here to the National Lutheran Educational Conference.

This represents an increase of 4,843 students over last year's grand total of 78,130, according to Dr. Gould Wickey of Washington, D. C., executive director of the organization, composed of all Lutheran seminaries and colleges in North America. The enrollment figures were reported by the schools as of Oct. 31, 1963.

Commenting on the student statistics which were made available to the 50th annual convention of the NLEC, Dr. Wickey said the students are studying at 19 seminaries, 37 colleges, 18 junior colleges, and 43 high schools. A junior college, Concordia, Ann Arbor, Mich., was added to the 17 that reported last year.

Eighty-two women are listed among the 4,050 theological students at Lutheran seminaries, he said.

The four-year colleges have 59,568 students enrolled; the junior colleges, 3,687; and the high schools or high school departments, 15,646. Students below college level who are enrolled in one or more college courses and not reported elsewhere numbered 22.

In postgraduate studies at the seminaries, Dr. Wickey said that of the 447 enrolled, 116 are non-Lutheran.

The 19 seminaries experienced a decrease of 33 students from November 1962, when 4,083 students were registered.

According to the report, the church body affiliations of the 4,050 seminary students, which included those who attended summer sessions, showed the Lutheran Church in America with 1,272; Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, 1,042; American Lutheran Church, 1,004; Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, 116; Evangelical Lutheran Synod, 8; Church of the Lutheran Confession, 4; and other Lutheran bodies, 32. Non-Lutheran churches accounted for 226 additional seminarians. Denominational affiliation was not reported on a group of 346 summer school students.

In a section devoted to the denominational affiliations of regular and special students at Lutheran colleges for the current academic year (September to June), Dr. Wickey said that at the time of reporting in October there were:

Lutheran, 27,990; Methodist, 3,008; Presbyterian, 2,626; Roman Catholic, 2,333; Episcopal and Anglican, 1,457; Baptist, 1,327; Congregational-Christian, 869; Jewish, 703; United Church of Canada, 473; Reformed, 275; and Disciples, 115. Other denominations accounted for 2,023 of the regular college students, while 1,097 designated no affiliations.

The total enrollment at junior and senior colleges of 63,255 also includes 18,959 students in graduate divisions, summer sessions, and other categories, Dr. Wickey said.

He noted that Lutheran colleges are primarily educational institutions, but they recognize their responsibility to offer students opportunities to worship in the churches of their choice and to study religion as an important factor in the culture of a truly educated person.

ENROLLMENT IN LUTHERAN SEMINARIES

<i>Seminary</i>	<i>Students</i>
1. Bethany, Mankato, Minn. (ELS)	8
2. Central, Fremont, Nebr. (LCA)	59
3. Concordia, Springfield, Ill. (LC-MS)	508
4. Concordia, St. Louis, Mo. (LC-MS)	867

5. Evangelical Lutheran, Columbus, Ohio (ALC)	237	12. Concordia Teachers, Seward, Nebr. (LC-MS)	1,422
6. Hamma, Springfield, Ohio (LCA)	133	13. Concordia, St. Paul, Minn. (LC-MS)	608
7. Immanuel, Eau Claire, Wis. (CLC)	4	14. Dana, Blair, Nebr. (ALC)	933
8. Luther, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada (ALC)	20	15. Dr. Martin Luther, New Ulm, Minn. (WELS)	529
9. Luther, St. Paul, Minn. (ALC)	540	16. Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pa. (LCA)	2,064
10. Lutheran, Columbia, S. C. (LCA)	130	17. Gustavus Adolphus, St. Peter, Minn. (LCA)	1,358
11. Lutheran, Gettysburg, Pa. (LCA)	175	18. Hartwick, Oneonta, N. Y. (LCA)	1,114
12. Lutheran, Philadelphia, Pa. (LCA)	292	19. Immanuel, Eau Claire, Wis. (CLC)	21
13. Lutheran, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada (LCA)	10	20. Lenoir Rhyne, Hickory, N. C. (LCA)	1,989
14. Lutheran School of Theology, Rock Island and Maywood, Ill. (LCA)	431	21. Luther, Decorah, Iowa (ALC)	1,536
15. Northwestern, Minneapolis, Minn. (LCA)	133	22. Midland, Fremont, Nebr. (LCA)	1,085
16. Pacific, Berkeley, Calif. (LCA)	126	23. Muhlenberg, Allentown, Pa. (LCA)	1,863
17. Wartburg, Dubuque, Iowa (ALC)	229	24. Newberry, Newberry, S. C. (LCA)	1,038
18. Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada (LCA)	33	25. Northwestern, Watertown, Wis. (WELS)	192
19. Wisconsin, Mequon (Thiensville), Wis. (WELS)	115	26. Pacific Lutheran University, Parkland, Wash. (ALC)	2,893
Total	4,050	27. Roanoke, Salem, Virginia (LCA)	1,452
		28. St. Olaf, Northfield, Minn. (ALC)	2,305
		29. Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, Pa. (LCA)	1,183
		30. Texas Lutheran, Seguin, Texas (ALC)	749
		31. Thiel, Greenville, Pa. (LCA)	1,201
		32. Upsala, East Orange, N. J. (LCA)	3,218
		33. Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind. (LC-MS)	4,170
		34. Wagner, Staten Island, N. Y. (LCA)	3,097
		35. Wartburg, Waverly, Iowa (ALC)	1,422
		36. Waterloo Lutheran University, Waterloo, Ont., Canada (LCA)	3,074
		37. Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio (LCA)	3,931
		Total	59,568

NOTE: Church bodies listed in parentheses are in order of appearance: the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Lutheran Church in America, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, The American Lutheran Church, The Church of the Lutheran Confession, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

ENROLLMENT IN LUTHERAN FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES

(As of October 1963)

College	Students
1. Augsburg, Minneapolis, Minn. (ALC)	1,382
2. Augustana, Rock Island, Ill. (LCA)	1,939
3. Augustana, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. (ALC)	2,184
4. Bethany, Bethany, Kans. (LCA)	972
5. California Lutheran College (Inter-Luth.),* Thousand Oaks, Calif.	568
6. Capital University, Columbus, Ohio (ALC)	1,729
7. Carthage, Carthage, Ill. (LCA)	549
8. Carthage, Kenosha, Wis. (LCA)	1,306
9. Concordia, Moorhead, Minn. (ALC)	2,083
10. Concordia, Fort Wayne, Ind. (LC-MS)	465
11. Concordia Teachers, River Forest, Ill. (LC-MS)	1,944

* (ALC and LCA)

12 NEW PROJECTS SET BY LWF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

Geneva.—A record number of 12 projects in nine countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America was approved here by the governing committee of the Lutheran World Federation's Community Development Service.

The CDS, a joint agency of the LWF Commissions on World Mission and World Service and the Committee on Latin America,

screens project proposals outside these units' regular program budgets and forwards them to interested donor organizations.

Together, the 12 projects will cost a total of \$419,424, according to estimates submitted. The list includes two projects each for Madagascar, South-West Africa, and India, and one each for Brazil, Peru, Tanganyika, Nigeria, New Guinea, and Ethiopia.

It was the first meeting of the CDS committee since it was reconstituted after the federation's 1963 Assembly. Presiding here was its new chairman, Bishop Martti Simojoki of Helsinki, first vice-president of the LWF.

ESTONIAN EXILE CHURCH HEAD REPORTED RETIRING AT 89

London. — Archbishop Johan Kopp of Hagersten, Sweden, 89-year-old head of the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Exile, has decided to retire because of "ill health and advancing age," according to church officials here.

Election of his successor, it was said, "is hoped to take place early in 1964." Dr. Kopp on Dec. 14 completed 24 years as Archbishop of his church, which now cares for some 65,000 Estonians who since 1940 fled their homeland and resettled in western Europe, the Americas, and Australia.

LUTHERAN TO DIRECT NCC EDUCATIONAL PROJECT

New York. — A theologian of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod who is also a noted sociologist will direct a unique educational project for the National Council of Churches that has been developed by another Lutheran.

He is Dr. David S. Schuller, an associate professor at Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. Schuller will head up a two-year program designed to aid Protestant ministers,

Roman Catholic parish priests, and Jewish rabbis serving urban congregations to cope with problems arising from changing patterns of city life.

Through the project, financed by a Ford Foundation grant of \$54,000, member schools of the Association of Urban Universities will be called upon to establish 20 interfaith seminars to "train a community's spiritual leaders to come to grips with the practical aspects of sociological changes brought about by America's growing urbanization," the NCC stated.

The program will be centered in the Department of the Urban Church of the National Council's Division of Home Missions.

Executive director of the Urban Church Department is the Rev. John H. Wagner, Jr., a pastor of the Lutheran Church in America. Mr. Wagner authored the original plan calling for these seminars, and arranged several pilot seminars at leading universities over the past two years.

Dr. Schuller will be on leave of absence from Concordia Seminary, where he has taught courses in the Department of Practical Theology. His subjects have included homiletics, pastoral theology, the urban church, and the church and social problems.

He holds membership in the American Sociological Society, the Religious Research Association, Professors in Practical Theology, and the Midwest Sociological Society.

As the NCC's Director of Urban Seminars, Dr. Schuller will work closely with Mr. Wagner, who said that five seminars will be held in each of the next four semesters, beginning next fall. Enrollment will be limited to 85 students for each seminar.

LUTHERAN EDUCATORS ELECT FUERBRINGER AS PRESIDENT

Washington, D. C. — Dr. Alfred O. Fuerbringer of St. Louis, Mo., was elected president of the National Lutheran Educational

Conference at the organization's 50th annual convention here, Jan. 11—13.

Dr. Fuerbringer is president of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. He succeeds Dr. Karl E. Mattson of Rock Island, Ill., who is president of the Lutheran School of Theology, Rock Island Campus.

Elected vice-president of the organization was Dr. Paul W. Dieckman of Fremont, Nebr., president of Midland College.

Miss A. Barbara Wiegand and Dr. Gould Wickey, both of Washington, D.C., were reelected to the respective posts of secretary-treasurer and executive director.

EDUCATORS FAVOR A TIE TO NEW LUTHERAN AGENCY

Washington, D. C. — The National Lutheran Educational Conference expressed the desire here to have "a related but autonomous place" in the proposed Lutheran Council in the United States of America.

At its 50th annual convention here, after hearing a report on possible inclusion in the new structure, the NLEC took action to "indicate to this new cooperative organization that we would welcome a proposal that would provide a related but autonomous place for the NLEC in the new association."

1,600 TONS OF CLOTHING RECEIVED IN LWR APPEAL

New York.—Response to Lutheran World Relief's annual Thanksgiving Clothing Appeal last November resulted in nationwide contributions of more than 1,600 tons of clothing.

The Rev. Ove R. Nielsen, assistant executive secretary of LWR, the overseas material aid arm of the National Lutheran Council and the Board of World Relief of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, said final tabulations showed total receipts of 3,288,039 pounds of clothing. This was a 25,196-pound increase over the previous year's results. Congregations of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod also took part.

MO. SYNOD LEADER HEADS CANADIAN RELIEF AGENCY

Winnipeg.—The Rev. Frederick A. Schole of Leduc, Alberta, was elected president of Canadian Lutheran World Relief at its 18th annual meeting here.

The new president is pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Leduc and president of the Lutheran Church—Canada, composed of three Districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.