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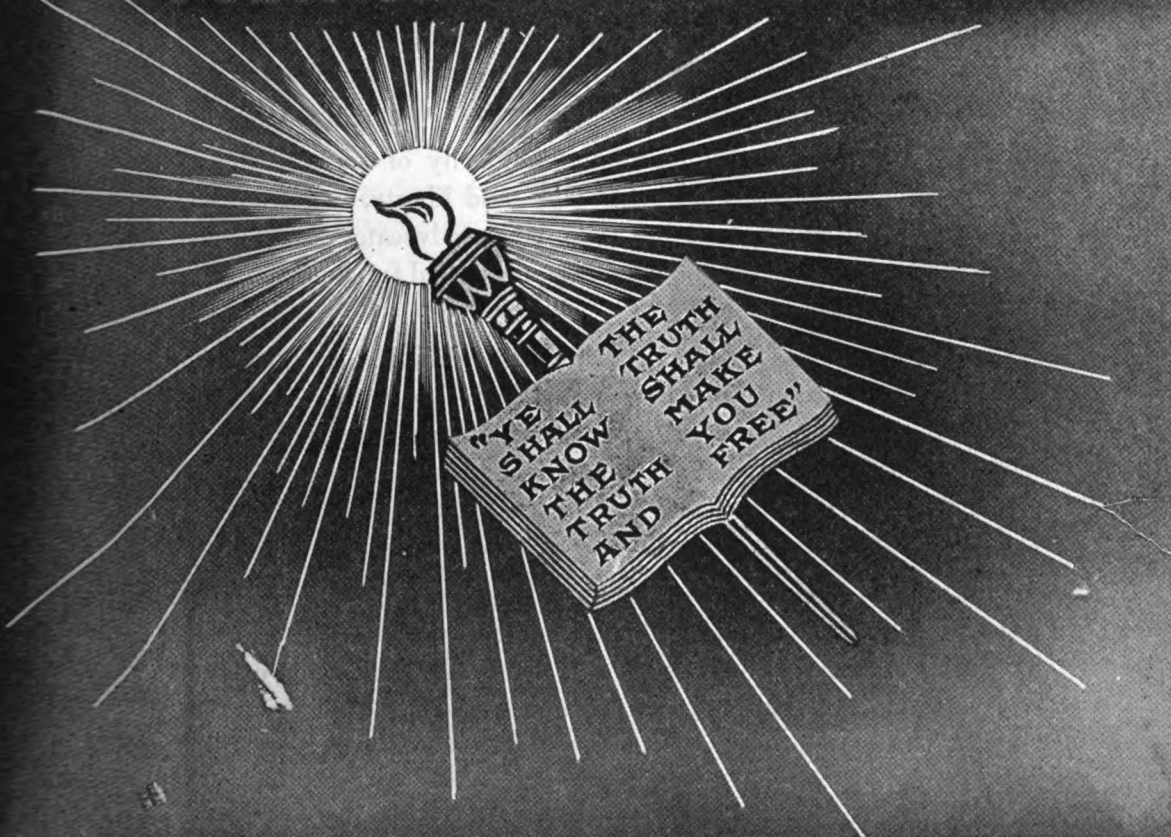
NOV. 19, 1919

Vol. XI

No. 4

AMERICAN LUTHERAN SURVEY

A WEEKLY REVIEW
OF
WORLD PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS
FROM THE
POSITIVE CHRISTIAN STANDPOINT



LUTHERAN SURVEY PUBLISHING COMPANY

COLLEMBIA, N. Y.

timber is a cultivated tract in which the deer and the bear shall roam as they did a thousand years ago. We had venison for dinner at the Wartburg.

Yes, this visit to the Wartburg will remain as one of the pleasant reminiscences of our European trip, a real recreation after weeks of labor and worry.

The ecclesiastical situation in Germany is far from being settled. There are many uncertainties to be cleared up in the near future, before the work of reconstruction can begin in earnest. This after-

noon I expect to go to Dresden to attend the centennial of the Saxon Foreign Mission Society and bring greetings from the National Lutheran Council. From there we go into Bohemia to investigate sad reports of suffering among the poor mountaineers of the "Erzgebirge", congregations of our Lutheran household of faith. We are laying plans for the intelligent distribution of relief funds. It is a great task. God grant us Wisdom and courage to do our work well as becomes faithful stewards.

Leipzig, September 22, 1919.

The World of Thought

W. H. GREEVER

My Source of Strength

The darkness gathers in the valleys fast,
The shadows deepen, and the day is past;
Only upon the hills that frame the sky
A shaft of sunshine still delights the eye.
So in my life the day is past and gone;
The sunshine fades where once it brightly shone,
Until I lift my eyes unto the hills,
Then, Lord, Thy radiance all my being fills.
So on Thy hills, O Lord, I fix my gaze—
My source of strength in these declining days—
For if at evening thus Thou givest light
How sweet the slumber of the coming night!
—Ethelbert D. Warfield.

The Value of the Church Paper

It is with special satisfaction that we republish and commend a strong article setting forth the value of the church paper. We have now given almost a quarter of a century to the continuous advocacy of the church paper in every home. And what was more or less of a theory at the beginning has been proved by experience to be correct, with an accumulated emphasis. The church paper exists primarily for the purpose of promoting the intelligence and the spirit of Christian people. No congregation can be what it ought to be unless its members receive and read the church paper regularly. Nothing in the whole provision which the church makes for the development of the life of its people is more essential. The church paper has rightly been called "the assistant pastor", and it is that and more. One reason why the Lutheran Church has not been more progressive, the reason why we have been compelled to complain about small views and limited interests, was because our people have not generally enough received and read their church papers.

We have just recently had occasion to realize the importance of the church paper anew. In connection with the Campaign for Benevolences for the United Lutheran Church, it was finally found that the medium through which to reach the people was *The Lutheran*. And so after all other provisions of special literature had been made, and plans matured for addresses and personal meetings with committees, it was decided that it was still necessary to provide matter for a special issue of *The Lutheran*, and to publish sufficient copies to make it possible to put one into every home in the United Lutheran Church. That decision in connection with the campaign immediately pointed to a further necessity. If that special issue is necessary to the success of the work of the campaign week, the continuance of *The Lutheran* in every home throughout the year is necessary in order to sustain the interest developed during that one week, and to make that work actually effective. What applies to the United Lutheran Church applies to every body in the Church. Every body finds it necessary to maintain an official organ. That is the paper which every family in the body should receive and read, no matter what other reading matter has to be omitted. Others have recognized the importance of the church paper in like manner. We are not surprised to find that the Committee on Systematic Beneficence and Stewardship in the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church included "A Church Paper in Every Home" as one of the *eight objectives* of the "Presbyterian Progressive Program". In the interest of that objective, Dr. Thomas H. Law of Spartanburg, South Carolina, has contributed an article for the *Christian Observer* of October 15 on "The Church Paper," from which we quote:

I have never been an editor, nor officially connected with any paper. But from my youth I have