

The Assistant Pastor

November 1938

Thanksgiving

Have we had unusually good weather this year?

Who has given warmth to the sun, and stayed the storms?

Have our fields and meadows been fruitful?

Who has caused the grass to grow for the cattle, and the herb
for the service of man?

Has good health prevailed, or an epidemic?

How many of the victims of road accidents came from our
homes?

Have any among us been denied anything that was needed?

Who has given all good gifts?

Where do you plan to be on Thanksgiving Day?

Do you plan to have company for dinner and cannot, there-
fore, go to church?

Are you invited out for dinner on Thanksgiving Day and for
that reason cannot attend public worship in your church?

Do you, perhaps, plan to go to church first, and later to the
tavern and/or dance hall?

Where will you place your Thanksgiving offering, on the altar
of the Lord or on the counter of sinful pleasure?

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man
soweth, that shall he also reap."

The Assistant Pastor

Published and edited by the pastor of the Jerico and Saude Lutheran churches, affiliated with the Norwegian Synod of the Synodical Conference.

Church Directory

H. M. Tjernagel, Pastor

SAUDE CONGREGATION

Trustees: Chris Treider, Ned Borlaug, E. Firkingstad.
Treasurer: Nels Ellingson.
Secretary: G. G. Vaala.
Cemetery Committee: Martin Borlaug, Chris Treider, Mrs. Andrina Munson, Mrs. C. O. Natvig, Miss J. Ellingson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. Otto Hanson, president; Mrs. Carl Miller, secretary; Mrs. Oscar Natvig, treasurer.

JERICO CONGREGATION

Trustees: Geo. N. Anderson, Ole C. Johnson, Olaf Roberson.
Secretary: A. N. Anderson.
Treasurer: J. A. Robinson.
Cemetery Committee: Mrs. Fred Amman, Mrs. L. A. Robinson, Mrs. S. T. Roberson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. M. A. Robinson, president; Mrs. K. C. Johnson, secretary; Mrs. Harvey Roberson, treasurer.

Standing Services

JERICO

First Sunday, Norwegian, October-May, 10:30 a. m.
Third Sunday, English, October-May, 10:30 a. m.
Saturday school every Saturday, 10:00 a. m.
Confirmation class, Fridays, 2:00 p. m.

SAUDE

Second Sunday, bilingual service, October-May, 10:45 a. m.
Fourth Sunday, English, October-May, 10:45 a. m.
Saturday school, 2:00 p. m.
Confirmation class, Fridays, 9:30 a. m.
Fifth Sunday by special announcement.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICES

Saude, 10:00 o'clock a. m.

Jerico, 2:30 o'clock p. m.

Note well the hour in each case. We have taken the liberty of changing the hour so that there need be no excuse for hosts or guests to neglect services on account of special dinners. Our efficient cooks can very nicely manage to serve a good hot dinner without remaining away from services.

"I could not go to church because we had company for dinner" is one of the stalest and most thread-bare excuses and is certainly not OK'd by Him who warns us "not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is."

Linda Marie, a daughter of Henry Munson and wife Norma, née Knutson, was born September 10th, and baptized October 2nd. The sponsors were: Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Natvig, Oriette Knutson, and Ingval Knutson.

The Jerico Aid held two meetings in October. Mrs. Ole O. Anderson Sr. and Jr. entertained the 12th, and Mrs. Ole J. Anderson on the 26th.

At the latter meeting the cemetery committee reported all bills paid and a balance of some fifty dollars in the treasury. The expenses for the season was \$80.00. At this meeting the Aid decided to rebuild the tables in the church parlor. The U & I Club donated the balance of money in its treasury

towards the securing of new front doors to the church. The final arrangements were made for entertaining the Circuit meeting to be held November 2 and 3.

The Saude Aid was entertained by Mrs. Ole N. Anderson at her home October 20th.

As we write this issue of our parish paper, the Circuit meeting at Jerico is a future event. By the time it is printed and reaches you the meeting will, God willing, have taken place. The fact that no write up of the meeting is found in this number, must not be construed to mean that the Assistant Pastor has a sleepy staff of reporters.

It poured down on Miss Melba Vaala, Friday the 28th of October. The occasion was one that is usually spoken of as a pre-nuptial shower. But this was not a mere shower. You might know what a downpour it must have been when you remember it was the Vaalas, Natvigs, Robinsons, and Hildals that gathered to do honor to a prospective bride.

The marriage of Alfred Robinson and Miss Melba Vaala was solemnized at the Saude church, Tuesday evening, November 1st, at seven o'clock. The bride was attended by her sister Lillian and the groom by his brother Gilman. Luella Knutsón was the flower girl and Marlow Miller was the custodian of the wedding-ring. Orin Vaala escorted the bride, his sister, to the side of the waiting groom at the altar. A reception was given in their honor by the bride's mother at the family residence.

In reporting that record breaking Saude Aid meeting entertained by Mrs. Omar Miller and Mrs. Oscar Natvig, at the former's home, in our last issue, we tried to be funny but failed. That we failed is clearly proved by the fact that we have been asked to explain our words. Here is the explanation: A wife is frequently spoken of as the "better-half." The other half, or the husband, must then undeniably be the "poorer-half." Thus the "poorer-half" of the hostesses at said Aid meeting were the dutiful husbands. And had you seen them hustling chairs and seats, lugging provisions and ice cream freezers and gouging out the frozen delicacy, etc., etc., you would agree that the "poorer-half" had a back-breaking job at that record-breaking Aid meeting.

Thanksgiving Day is at the door. We will gather in our churches in grateful remembrance of the much we have received at the hands of a bountiful and gracious God. That heart must truly be a heart of stone that has no "Thank You" to bring the giver and no token of appreciation to offer.

It has long been a custom among us that we bring a thank offering and place it on the altar of our church on Thanksgiving Day. Envelopes will be distributed as silent solicitors also this year as in the past few years. You are invited to designate on your envelope in which branch or branches of our church work you wish your offering used. If you have read your church paper throughout the

year, you will know that there is no surplus in any fund. The past three or four years we have urged that needy theological students be not forgotten, and your response has been of great help to such. This year, as far as we know, there is no pressing need in this respect. May we, therefore, suggest that the Synod Fund be especially remembered. Loose change in the offering, if any, and offering envelopes not stating the wish of the giver, will be credited to that fund.

The Month of November brings our annual business meetings. Saude meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p. m. and Jerico at the same hour on the third Friday of the month. The dates this year will be the 15th and the 18th respectively.

The meetings are truly very important. Without such meetings the congregations would soon wither and die. We cannot hold meetings unless voting members meet up. Without a quorum business can not be transacted. Do come to the annual business meetings. A poorly attended meeting is like a wet blanket over those who do attend and, perhaps, especially over the pastor and the officers. All members are urged to respond to the requests of the trustees well in advance of the annual meeting so that they and the treasurer may have time to get their reports in shape before the day of the meeting.

"Marvels of the Insect World."

It is from the Bible alone that one can learn to know the God of mercy and our Savior Jesus Christ. The book of nature can teach us a great many things about the wonders of creation. Good and reliable books on natural science are worth while. Such a book is Jean Henri Fabre's "Marvels of the Insect World." It has been published this year in a good English translation done by Percy F. Bicknell. Fabre was the great French "Insect Man," a contemporary of Charles Darwin who called him "an inimitable observer." Fabre, however, did not fall for Darwin's fantastic theories of evolution. He was content to observe and to tell what he saw. When he had observed the same thing ten times he felt justified in declaring the discovery of a law of nature. He was not interested in hatching theories and foisting them upon a gullible world. Here is a little "try cake" of what you could enjoy if you would read this Fabre book of 232 pages.

"The red or amazon ant is unable to build its own nest, to bring up its young, to get food for itself, or even to eat without assistance; but with its hook-shaped mandibles it is admirably equipped for warfare and pillage.

"Its plunder consists of slaves that feed it, go out and forage for its supplies, build the ant-hill, and rear the young. A small ant of dark or grayish color is the object of the amazon's pillaging excursions. In large companies of some thousands in number the reds go forth in quest of a nest of gray ants, and they invade the latter's ant-hill despite all resistance on the part of the inhabitants, and sack the underground city. Then in a little while they take their departure, each with its plunder held fast between the mandibles. But it is not the adult ants that are thus carried off, for they would be unable to adapt themselves to the service required in the

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strange ant-hill, and they would also be sure to lose no time in getting back to their old home. It is the undeveloped young, the nymphs shut up in their cocoons, that are chosen.

"Emerging from their cocoons in the abode of the reds, these stolen victims look upon the ant-hill where they find themselves as their own proper domicile and faithfully discharge the duties imposed upon them there. They go out and hunt for food, they do the building required of them, they take care of the amazon larvæ, they feed the amazons themselves, while these latter, once in possession of a sufficient retinue of servants, go forth no more from their snug retreat.

"These plundering expeditions of the amazon ants take place toward the end of summer and in the autumn. Under a clear sky, and about three or four o'clock in the afternoon, our pillagers leave their lair. . . . After a march that may last an hour the column of reds, let us suppose, arrive at an ant-hill of the grays, and these offer a desperate resistance, but with little success. Very soon the amazons succeed in pushing their way into the other's retreat, and barely a minute later they come hurrying out, with the grays crowding at their heels. Both sides are concerned solely with the larvæ and the nymphs, the reds bent on stealing them, the rightful owners equally determined to save as many as possible.

"Now we see our bandit troop hastening homeward, and each trooper bearing a larvæ or a nymph. . . . Arrived at their nest, the ants intrust their booty to their slaves and trouble themselves no more about it. A few days later the nymphs thus stolen complete their development, and the workers that result from this process appear to retain no remembrance of their first home, for they immediately and of their own accord assume their office of working ants.

"The amazon ant never works, and, what is more, it cannot even feed itself. Accordingly it is necessary for the slave to meet all its wants, to care for its larvæ, and to render the most intimate personal service, even eating for it and then feeding it, mouth to mouth. I undertook to make sure with my own eyes that the red ant is actually incapable of taking food without assistance. In this experiment I reproduced, as far as possible, the normal conditions. On a small stone very near the entrance to an amazon ant-hill I placed a tiny bit of moistened sugar. A moment later a gray ant found it and sucked up all it could of the sugary liquid, after which it reentered the nest. Straightway other workers made their appearance, and the lump of sugar had no lack of lovers. Finally the amazons themselves came running to the scene from every quarter, hustling and bustling, but making no attempt to get a mouthful of the delectable food. Presently, however, they began to pull and haul their slaves by the leg to make them disgorge a part of the syrup, they themselves never offering to touch the sugar."

To whet your appetite still further, here are the chapter headings: About Insects, Singing Insects, Metamorphosis, The Birth of the Stag-Beetle, Sheath Winged Insects, The Sacred Scarab, Butterflies, Butterfly Courtship, A Lucky Find, Honey Bees, Flies and Mosquitoes, Bluebottles, Oddities, Two Curious Spiders, Ways of Wasps, Eating Habits of Insects.

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