

Sample of "Fe de Bautismo"

(Name of the person for whom is the certificate)

Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de (City or town) Departamento de Boyacá, Colombia, America del Sur.

A los (aquí se pone la fecha del día en que se escriba este certificado) días del mes _____ de mil novecientos _____ (19____), expido la siguiente copia de un aparte del Libro Oficial de Actas de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de (lugar) que a la letra dice: $\frac{3}{4}$

Luterana
"En la Casa Evangélica de _____, (jurisdicción del Municipio de _____), Departamento de (Boyacá) Colombia, a los (Fecha) días del mes de (____) de 19____, yo, _____ (nombre), Pastor de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de _____, bauticé un (una) niño (niña) nacido (nacida) el (fecha) de (mes) de 19____ con el nombre _____, hijo (hija) legítimo (a) de _____ (padre) y _____ (madre), en el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo, después de haber prometido solemnemente sus padre que será instruido en toda la Palabra de Dios y de ayudarle vivir conforme el Santo Evangelio de las Sagradas Escrituras.

Fueron testigos en el acto de este ceremonia, _____ y _____.

Doy Fe,
(Firmado _____)

Pastor de la Iglesia Ev. Luterana de _____
Es fiel copia tomada del libro de Actas ya mencionada, en e _____, el día _____ de _____ de 19____.

(Firma del que de la copia)

(Sello de la Iglesia)

(antes de 1940 ??)

No se sabe cuándo fue sacado este borrador ni quién lo sacó.

(H. Morek, junio, 1992)

Copy of a letter written by Gerhard Ostrem to Pastor Gisselquist. The carbon copy is on very thin paper with writing on both sides, making it impossible to obtain a legible photocopy. Typewritten copy made by Hildur Morck, June 26, 1993.

Luther Seminary
Saskatoon, Sask., Canada
Jan. 2, 1945

Dear Brother Gisselquist,

A Blessed New Year to you and yours in the Precious Name of Jesus.

Well, here I am in Saskatoon. Arrived here this morning and plan to study here two or three months as I mentioned to you before. I pray that my stay here this while may be beneficial both to me and to the work in Colombia.

Thank you for your letter and the reclassification report and card. I am glad the(y) placed me in that place as that should take away the difficulties which otherwise might arise in connection with getting papers later on for going out again.

There is another matter too I wish to write you about, which I am sorry I didn't think quick enough to bring up at the meeting when the Board members were together. It is that of the baptism of children in Colombia. I wrote to Benjamin also yesterday, but will be mailing that when I mail this. I shall write here the same as I did to him about it:

Which children shall we baptize out on the field? Of course, the baptized members' children. But when some want to recognize the R.C. baptism then when, what, which and whom? Some may come to ask us to baptize merely to avoid the fee the priest charges. Others might do so for some differences they may have with the priest or R.C., or it may be an illegitimate child. Others have been attending the meetings but have not come to a definite acceptance of Christ as their Savior. They may appear sincere towards the Gospel as far as they have come. They approve of it - speak for it - may be active inviting people to the meetings - may be active selling Bibles and giving out tracts, but not have had the New Birth themselves. It may appear that they will be saved and seem most probable that they will follow the Gospel. Others have manifested openly and publicly that they have experienced salvation in Christ. Some of these latter ones are baptized. Others are not although some have asked for baptism.

I wish you, yes and the Board, to study those matters so as to help us solve the problem. I have been thinking as to what we should do, but I wish to hear your thoughts about it. In all cases there should be hopes that the child be instructed in the Word afterward if he is to be baptized.

What about children who appear to be sick and apt to die any time? Some have come and the child has seemed at the point almost of death - one did die shortly after, and asked us to baptize the child. We out there decided to baptize in such cases. I baptized two such children.

What can we do that there might be a greater response in support to the work? I mean for instance (at least it appears thus to me) we should have some buildings in the Mission out on the Field. If we had mission owned main stations, it would seem better for the work for various reasons.

Might it not be helpful and beneficial to use the envelope system as for instance, the L.B.I. uses? I shall enclose one herewith. We could write on or print on the envelope the various phases of the work that they could give to.

If we decide on that I would like to have the envelopes when I again begin travelling after my stay here. I would like you to study this some too and let me know. I believe it is necessary to let the needs be known in a definite way so that people might better know how to both pray and to give.

Thanks for the invitation to come to the Mid-Winter Conference. I would have enjoyed to be there, but it will be impossible the way it appears for this time.

In closing I greet you all in Jesus Name.

Yours in Him,

/s/ GERHARD OSTREM

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS *of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America*

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Office of Mission Secretary

Dec. 11, 1944

My dear Pastor Morck:

Thank you for that letter written from Miami November 25th. I appreciated your giving me the slides and shall use them in the new lectures which I am just preparing. I know that you will take more pictures of the same quality and they are going to be of tremendous help to us. Interest pictures like you took in Mexico will suit the lecture very well.

Now you are with our dear friends in Colombia. I know that you rejoice to know that the Lord has brought you thus far. It is all very new to you, but I remember with what keen anticipation I looked into the faces of the people and the villages where I traveled. May the Lord help you in every way and guide you men as you enter into this new service for Him. I want to assure you that we will do all in our power to rouse up interest amongst our people to give and to pray for the work you are doing. I believe that God has His hand in all of this. We need to keep close to Him so that He can speak to us.

Kindly greet all the friends there, the Quanruds, Mrs. Salta, Miss Danielson, and others. God grant you many joys as you serve Him.

May the Lord grant you and your loved ones the richest blessings that earth and heaven can bestow. With kindest greetings.

Your brother in Christ,

A. S. Burgess

*Hearted Christmas Greetings
to you and your
better half!*

Feb. 1, 1945

425 S. Fourth Street
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

C I R C U L A R

To the Missionaries of the
N. L. C. A.

On February 1, 1945 the following salary scale became effective:

	<u>(Annual)</u> <u>Basic Salary</u>	<u>After</u> <u>1st term</u>	<u>After</u> <u>2nd term</u>
Married missionaries	\$1600.00	\$1900.00	\$2200.00
Single Men	1000.00	1200.00	1400.00
Single Women	900.00	1050.00	1200.00

In accordance with the rules governing the increase in salary, the furlough allowances of \$100.00 for the furlough period for married missionaries, \$50.00 for single missionaries and child allowances of \$75.00 per year per child are discontinued.

Up until February 1, 1945, our Board paid the full ten per cent of the missionary's salary to the Pension Fund of our Church. However, the new rules provide that the missionaries are on the same basis as pastors in the homeland - that is - the Board will pay the equivalent of six per cent of the salaries to the Pension Fund, and four per cent will be deducted by the office.

John E. Gronli

Mission Secretary

jeg:h

THE SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

The Sixth Annual Conference of the Colombia Ev. Lutheran Mission of So. America was held in Duitama, August 8th-11th, 1945. We were indeed happy for the safe return of Rev. and Mrs. Gerhard Ostrem and family, and that they too, could be with us at the conference, as well as Rev. and Mrs. Harold Olsen and their family; and Rev. Hans Thoresen, all of the Norwegian Luth. Ch. and Rev. Morck of the Danish Luth. Church.

The conference was duly opened Wed. Aug. 8th., by the elected chairman, Missionary Olger Quanrud. After spending some time in silent prayer in memory of our beloved former president Rev. Trygve Salte, (who passed away Sept. 30th. 1944) we sang, Jesus Priceless Treasure.

A devotional message was given by Missionary Olger Quanrud, using the theme, Short Prayer^s that were Heard. After a blessed season of prayer Rev. Harold Olsen, gave a Bible study in I Peter. Pointing out especially that the sufferings of Christ should be our testimony to the lost and dying world. Our faith is tried and our hope is strengthened, in our sufferings for Christ. But if we by our misconduct or harsh words bring about sufferings, in this we cannot find consolation, for it is not of Christ, nor is it honoring to His Name.

Business:

1. The secretary's reports were read and accepted.
2. The treasurer's reports were read and the following were chosen as auditors. Rev. Andrew Larson and Miss Elizabeth Heerde.
3. Greetings from the Scandinavian Alliance Mission were read.
4. A general discussion was held concerning our territory and that if we do not occupy Casanare soon others will.

Afternoon Session:

Mrs. Harold Olsen, led the devotional hour using as her text, The Longsufferings of Christ. God is Longsuffering with His people and we should be a pattern to others of His Longsufferings.

Mrs. Andrew Larson, than gave a Bible study in I Peter I. Laying stress on the truth that we have a living hope to give to these people because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ; and as begotten children of God we should be becoming children- of prayer, of knowledge, and of purity.

Business:

A general discussion was held on the following points:

1. Giving time to Rev. Allan, our guest speaker.
2. The possibility of conducting Daily Vacation Bible School.
3. Keeping Aracely Leal, as one of our teachers in the day school.
4. Our need for more National workers.

Thursday Morning:

Mrs. Olger Quanrud led the devotional hour using as her text Phil. 3: 7-14. The trails of Paul's life were a means of strengthening his faith to press on to the high calling of God.

Rev. Allan, of Bucaramanga our honored guest brought us an interesting and edifying message, relative to his experiences, during his thirty-five years of Missionary service here in Colombia. He also gave us some fatherly advise for carrying on our work. He stressed the importance of finding

out what each Missionary is able to do; so that one Missionary will not be too important and that Christ will be ALL important. We should not be satisfied to settle only in one place and water just a few trees, but rather be mindful of the many trees still out yonder that also must be cared for. Many problems are solved as we walk, therefore, we need only to keep going, having ever before us as our chief concern-the salvation of the lost and dying souls. (A letter which Rev. Allan, wrote to the conference, containing his message as given to us, has been typed and sent to all of our stations, and to the Home Boards; a copy also has been put on file)

Rev. and Mrs. Gerhard Ostrem brought us greetings from HOME and also expressed their joy in being back in Colombia after a year's furlough in the States and Canada.

Thursday Afternoon:

After the singing, of, Father again in Jesus Name we meet, Rev. Allan led an open forum hour which proved to be very helpful and inspiring. The following is a resume of the advise he gave in response to our questions:

1. Missionary work was first started in 1856. In 1910 there were eleven Missionaries in Colombia. In 1920 a letter of appeal for more Missions, was sent to other big Church bodies. It was the smaller Missions that responded to the appeal and the most progress has been made within the last fifteen years.
2. Schools are always a great stimulant to the work and provides for opportunities of contact.
3. Advancement is made more rapidly where there is a center for meetings
4. A Colombian teacher should teach one year for every year she has attended the Institute.
5. Normal Schools and Bible Institutes should be for those who have possibilities. It is necessary to weed out those who are not promising students. If one third become workers it is a good average.

Business Session:

Rev. Gerhard Ostrem, took possession of the chair.

Motion was made seconded and carried to contact the teachers who are now with us teaching in our territory, on the matter of continuing to work with us instead of accepting another offer. Advising them of the short course and also a raise of salary.

Tentative placement of the teachers resulted as follows:

Vicenta Diaz ---- La Aguda.
Aracely Leal ---- Mousa, or one of the Cocuy schools.
Silveria Diaz ---- Soatá.
Isabel Diaz ---- Santa Ana.
Dolores Graz ---- La Chapa.
Fideligna Ayala -- One of the Cocuy schools.
Gustavo Fernandez -- Parpa.

The following are motions that were made and carried:

1. To consider with the director of the Bible Institute the placing of Pausánias Wilches and Proceso Mora during vacation.
2. To approach Juan Montoya on the matter of working with us during the vacation months, and also encourage him to consider again the entering of our Institute.

3. That we retain Trinidad instead of turning it over to the El Morra Mission, who have asked us for it.
4. The session was adjourned with prayer.

Thursday evening, our regular Bible study, open to the public. Rev. Allan, gave the message.

Friday Morning:

The devotional hour was led by Rev. Harold Olsen. He used as his meditation the following three expressions, which are indeed helpful to us in our Christian life: 1) It is finished. 2) It is written. 3) It is I.

Rev. Hans Thoresen then gave the Bible study in I Peter 2. If men do not long for the spiritual milk of the gospel it is because we fail in our presentation of the sweetness of Christ. Christ the living stone can be to us a stumbling block- in this that He wants us to be nothing and Christ everything. The main sacrifice in the Old Testament was a lamb without spot or blemish. My body, is the temple of God. My heart, is the altar; and the sacrifice, is myself. We need to thus, be empty vessels through which God can work.

Business:

Motion was made seconded and carried to uphold the motion made in Bogotá Dec. 27-28, 1944; concerning the Joint Conference of the Celmosa Mission and that of the Church Bodies.

A motion was adopted to grant a voice and a vote to the Missionaries of the two Church Bodies, concerning matters effecting them and their work.

Friday Afternoon:

Rev. Ostrem, led in scripture reading and prayer; after which we sang, Nearer, My God, to Thee.

Business:

A financial report of the Boy's Institute was given by the director, Rev. Arnfelt Morck.

The following are motions that were made and carried:

1. That the auditors of the Celmosa Mission audit the Institute Books.
2. That the expenses which are over and above that which has been allotted to both Institutes for the board of the students for this year be met with either special gifts or the Mission.
3. That the expenses of the students, during vacation, who are placed at the various stations, be left to the decision of the director and the committee.
4. That the propositions of the Bible Institute and the Colegio be left in the hands of a resolution committee.

Missionary Olger Quanrud, Rev. Harold Olsen and Mrs. Andrew Larson, were elected as the resolution committee, to study the propositions of the Bible Institute and the Colegio as presented by Rev. Morck and Rev. Thoresen, respectively.

It was suggested that the maid at the Soatá station should be kept. Discussion: That the possibility of Pascal Salva's two children entering our Institutes be considered; and that they be sent further information with regard to the requirements of our Institutes. This information is to

sent by the directors.

The following are motions that were made and carried:

1. That a written statement concerning the return of Geraldo Wilches and Gabriel Manrique of the Bible Inst., be given to Rev. Thoresen.
2. That Missionary Olger Quanrud send a reply to Vitalina Manrique in regard to the Mission's stand on giving a scholarship. (Beca)
3. In view of the fact that there are certain omissions in the Constitution and the Articles of the By Laws it was thought best to at this time declare the present constitution invalid; and to overrule the motion of its acceptance made in 1943; also the motion regarding the election of officers made in 1944. The executive committee to study the constitution again and include that which has been omitted.
4. Meeting adjourned. Rev. Morck closed with prayer.

Saturday Morning:

Miss Heerde gave the Bible study in I Peter 3. 'Likemindedness' was her central thought. If we all possessed the lowliness of mind-the mind of Christ, we would esteem others better than ourselves, and then there would be no disharmony ~~even~~ among God's children, but rather unity and love. God has promised to keep us in perfect peace when our minds are stayed on Him. A season of prayer followed this message, and the singing of, 'Oh Master let me walk with Thee.'

Business:

Rev. Allan read a letter to the Conference. (It is this letter that contains his message as given to us Thurs. Aug. 9th. in regard to the amalgamation of the Celmosa Mission with the Church Bobies.)

The following are motions that were made and carried:

1. That Miss Heerde, teach Daily Vacation Bible School in all places possible where other teachers are not available.
2. To continue using our present catechism until the other one is available, which will be ordered for use by our Home Board.
3. Rev. Gerhard Ostrem, to be used in evangelistic and itinerary work until the Mission should decide other wise.
4. That Rev. Allan's, letter be sent to each Mission station as well as to the Celmosa Board and the ^{Soviet} Board of the N.L.C. & U.D.L.C.
5. That the constitution be adopted again with the revision and the additions made by the executive committee, in the constitution and the articles of the By-Laws.
6. That the conference held in Duitama Aug. 8th-11th, go on record as reaffirming and upholding the historical position of the Lutheran Church as ascribed to in the Celmosa constitution. That is, in regard to baptism and rebaptism. This means we will teach, that any baptism given in the Name of the Triune God, using water, is valid and is not to be repeated.
7. We adjourned, with the singing of-Jesus, Lover of My Soul.

Saturday Afternoon:

After the singing of 'My Heart is Longing to Praise My Saviour' and in prayer again pleading God's guidance in all matters, we immediately went into our business session.

The following are motions which were made and carried:

1. That two members constitute the Junta Consultiva, namely Mrs. Larson and Rev. Ostrem, who also are to act as an educational committee, both for the Instituto Bíblico Luterano and the Colegio Luterano.

2. The resolution committee presented the propositions made by the Inst. and the Colegio, in the form of a motion, each one was acted upon separately. They are the following:

I. The Institute in Duitama.

1. That it be called 'Instituto Bíblico Luterano'
2. That its purpose and aim be to train Christians to be more effective witnesses for Christ in their own communities; grounding them in the Word and principles of Christian Doctrine (Lutheran Doctrine) To recruit and train workers for more specialized or full time service, and to prepare the student for Theological study until higher standards for seminary entrance can be set up. (Even when this is attained we might receive directly into the seminary the most capable and consecrated of the Institute graduates, as for example the Presbyterians do from their Institute at Ibague.)
3. That the course of studies be planned by the director of the Institute together with the faculty and the Junta Consultiva.
4. That the students, who in the judgment of the director, are capable- be employed in Christian work during vacation months, under the direction of a Missionary, as a part of their training. That requests for such student workers be submitted to the director at least a month before the close of the school year and that he place the students in consideration of these requests and the advise of the Mission committee.

Note: The chief reason for suggesting that the placing of the students be left largely in the hands of the director is that he has the best opportunity to know their abilities and spiritual condition, and it is his duty to watch over their souls and their spiritual and mental development while at school. This practical training should also be considered as a part of their schooling. This does not mean that the desires of a Christian community, or congregation or Missionaries; to have a certain student as their worker; would be disregarded; provided such a request could be granted with out danger to the spiritual well-being of the student or the group which desires his service. (It would only be a means of safe guarding the well being of both student and group)

That were a congregation or group can do so they are to pay his expenses, where not possible, the Mission will pay. This to be left to the discretion of the director and the executive committee.

5. That a preparatory course of a year be established as soon as possible, for the benefit of those who enter with little secular education. (We are seriously handicapped in our teaching because of the inequality of the students.)
6. Finances: What should be done about the cost of board? Who shall pay, student or Mission or both?
Suggestions: That students contribute \$15.00 pesos a month to their board and that the amount still lacking to cover the actual cost of living (which at present can probably be kept down to \$25.00 pesos a month) be met by gifts from the Christian community (Colombian) or from the Mission treasury, as may be practicable or advisable.

Note: Each student, and the maid eat from \$4.00 to \$5.00 pesos in potatoes a month. Could friends in the Cocuy territory sent potatoes? Most of our potatoes that we have to buy come from Cocuy. Could others contribute other items or money?

These matters were left to the discretion of the director and the Junta Consultiva.

7. Some Questions:

a) From what source shall the personal text and reference books of the students be provided; from their own pockets, from the Mission or elsewhere?

b) How shall the money, \$5.00 pesos a month per student, be used which the Institute receives for English classes to the public? Could this be the solution to question "a"?

c) Is the Institute obligated to provide board for students who may stay on during the short July vacation? It will usually be very inconvenient (and provide no relaxation) to keep the Institute kitchen open during this time. But of two evils this would seem more advisable than paying their fare home and back to the Institute, as ~~it~~ been done in some cases.) Could not such students 'batch it' in their own living quarters?

d) What shall be done to provide physical recreation for the students? (We have not a square foot of play ground) A humble suggestion, for part of the solution; That 'Don Andrés' lend the Institute his horse shoes. We may find a place in the street to set up a game.

e) What shall be done about supplying kitchen utensils, dishes, etc., for the Institute? Where shall the boys wash their cloths?

These matters were left to the discretion of the director and the Junta Consultiva.

II. A 'Refresher Course' or Vacation School.

That the Mission provide a free course for a month for teachers and Christian workers, where specialized instruction be given in doctrine, a Bible study course, teaching methods, music, practical problems, and other subjects that may be deemed necessary. And that the staff for this course be provided by combined forces of school staff on the field and other Missionaries. That this be equally a spiritual retreat for the up-building and reconsecration of workers. The material to be presented to be left to the teaching staff.

Nov. 20-Dec. 15, 1945, have been set aside as tentative dates for such a course this year. Rev. Morck and Mrs. Larson are to ~~be~~ be the instructors.

III. That a book agency be established on the field, under the direction of a Missionary, elected at this present conference, whose duty it shall be, immediately to proceed with the necessary steps to set up a book store. That he receive recognition as an agency from other stores and publishing houses in Colombia and abroad. That he be ready at the earliest possible date to go into business and order our books for us.

Suggestions for a name for the book store could be submitted to this individual. Here are some: 'Librería Luterana' 'Librería

P Boyacá' 'El Faro' 'El Testigo' (already taken by Luther House in Puerto Rico.)

A recommendation was made that this agency be in Duitama with Missionary Olger Quanrud as the book agent. This recommendation was made a motion and so moved and carried.

Soatá Station request to the Celmosa Conference the following:

1. That, due to circumstances as outlined in a letter to the secretary of the Mission, La Señorita Fideligna Ayala N., the day school teacher, be granted a special permit to enter El Colegio Luterano as a special student to prepare herself to teach grades four and five. That her full board and half of her salary or \$7.50 per month be given her until the normal end of the school year in November and that special arrangements be sought for the remainder of the term of El Colegio. This matter was left, to be taken care of by the director and the Junta Consultiva.
2. That in regard to the day school the following items go into effect:
 - a) That plans be made for the teaching of grades four and five and that they be thus taught, if there proves to be four or more students who will promise to attend.
 - b) That in view of the shortage of teachers, La Señorita Fideligna teach all five grades in Soatá-if other schools now functioning have teachers. If not she is to teach where needed most.
 - c) That the fees of the school shall be as follows:
 1. One peso matriculation per child regardless of the number of children from each family.
 2. That the monthly fees shall be as follows:
 - \$1.00 for one child from a family.
 - \$2.00 for children from the same family.
 - \$2.50 for three or more children from the same family over three to be left to the discretion of the station head.
 - d) That each child must furnish his own paper and books.
 - e) That a high standard of discipline be maintained at all times. That classes shall begin each day at 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. but that a child shall not be counted tardy until ten minutes after eight or ten minutes after one at which time the door shall be closed and not one who comes after that time shall be allowed to enter and shall be counted as absent. That three times absent ~~each~~ each month shall be counted as sufficient reason for the child to be expelled from school unless it can be proved with a medical statement that the child was sick any one or all of those three times. That thus expelled a child shall not be allowed to re-enter without re-matriculation which shall constitute the paying of an additional fifty centavos and; that no child shall be allowed to matriculate more than three times during any one year. These standards were left to the discretion of the station head.
 - f) That Rev. Thoresen, be given a student to work with him after the Colegio is closed and until the Institute opens again, said student to stay in Soatá, under Rev. Thoresen's direct supervision.

I. Educational Investigation:

In as much as we are a growing Mission which hopes and purposes to do all possible for the extension of God's Kingdom and which recognizes

the fact that a well-balanced and a well-directed program of education is an essential for both the life and the growth of any Mission wishing to extend the Kingdom of God; we, therefore, take the following steps to bring such a program of education into effect:

- A. The creation of an office (to be filled by one man) entitled -- -- Educational Investigator.
- B. That the duties of his office shall be to investigate the educational systems of Colombia, as well as of other countries, and the possibilities of education on our own field.
- C. That the scope of this investigation shall be all the years inclusively from the primary departments up through the higher educational departments including a seminary for the training of pastors. This scope shall also include any specialized schools such as Normal or Bible Institutes. In other words, the scope of this investigation shall be anything that pertains to education, secular or religious (exclusive of Sunday Schools) past, present, and future on the field of the Colombia Ev. Lutheran Mission.
- D. That this office shall be created and become active as of this conference date for the regular yearly conference 1945 of the Celmosa Mission and shall continue in effect for a period of approximately one year and be terminated at the next regular yearly conference of the Celmosa Mission in 1946.
- E. That at said conference in 1946 or 1947 shall be submitted for discussion and approval a draft of an educational plan suitable to the needs of the extension of God's Kingdom through the Celmosa Mission.
- F. That the Educational Investigator be authorized to follow any course he may deem necessary to gain the information needed to formulate such a plan such as: Travel throughout any part of Colombia; the writing of letters of inquiry; the consultation with anyone from the Celmosa Missionaries; the authority to request the aid of any of the Missionaries of Celmosa to investigate and travel in his stead and to make reports to him.
- G. That he be given the necessary funds for such investigation.
Rev. Harold Olsen, was elected to be the Educational Investigator.

II. El Colegio Luterano:

Be it resolved as follows:

- A. That the governing principles shall be the following:
 1. That El Colegio Luterano, in all matters pertaining to its plan of education and its standards of conduct, shall be founded upon and guided by the teachings and practices of Jesus Christ and shall always have as its heart and soul a living vital and personal salvation through Christ our Lord. That the means through which it shall set forth and seek to know Christ shall be the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as interpreted by the official symbols of the Lutheran Church and that Luther's Small Catechism shall be the fundamental basis for religious training within the classes of the Colegio

2. a) That the purpose of El Colegio Luterano shall be to offer a well-rounded, general education with a Christian foundation and directive that the youth of the land may be better prepared to live a Christ-centered life; may be better prepared to lead and guide their nation by taking an active, intelligent and Christian part in its activities as carried on in both the local community and in the nation as a whole, and that they may be better prepared to be of service in the building of the Kingdom of God. That for the present this general course of education shall consist of three years of study, each year ~~of~~ which shall be approximately six months, but that this term shall be lengthened to eight months or longer as soon as possible and that this lengthening of the time of the school year shall be left to the discretion of the director and the Junta Consultiva.

b) That one of the immediate purposes shall be to offer a course of study in the training of young women to be evangelical teachers in the regular day schools of the land. That, for the time being, the three years of general education plus one additional year for more specialized study shall be required to obtain a teacher's certificate recognizable in all the territory of the Celmosa Mission. That it shall be left up to the director together with his faculty and the Junta Consultiva as to grades for which said certificate has value. It shall also be left to the director and his faculty and the Junta Consultiva to plan courses of study for the purpose of preparing young women to teach higher grades than those permissible by the original teacher's certificate.

c) Because it is recognized, however, that due to the present educational conditions on the field as well as the infancy of education generally in all parts of Colombia there are many different grades of need in many different localities and that there will naturally be differences in the training of young women wishing to enter the teaching profession, we wish to give the director together with his faculty and the Junta Consultiva the right to make exceptions to the preceding rule of requirements for a teacher's certificate and that be granted for a specific time or place.

B. Entrance Requirements:

1. That the entrance requirements shall correspond to the general educational level prevalent on our field. That is to say, that the standard for entrance into the Colegio shall be raised from time to time as our general educational standard progresses. That for the present, beginning with the school term of 1946, the educational requirements shall be as follows:

- a) Three years of primary education.
- b) Each student shall have filled 14 years of age or above at entrance.
- c) Each student shall present two letters of recommendation, one from her pastor as to her faith and character, ability. If she has no pastor the letter shall be from a believer or some reliable person. And one of which shall be from the person who is supporting the student, or in case of complete self-support the proper testimonial shall be required as to financial condition.

2. That the requirements for each student be the same as for the boys in the Bible Institute.

3. Student aid; As a rule no student aid shall be given in any from by the Colegio. However, in needy cases which shall be considered individually by the director and the faculty, some form of aid may be given to those students who have proved themselves to have ability throughout three years of study and who are desirous of continuing the fourth year with the purpose in mind of serving the Mission as teachers in our schools. That the director determine how such aid be repaid after graduation.

4. Vacations; That each student is responsible for her own keep during all vacations and that no one will be allowed to remain at the school during such periods without special permission from the director who, if permission is granted, shall arrange all details of cost etc., with the student. That the Mission does not promise to give work to any student during vacations or on termination of study, but that it may do so to qualified students, if there is such a need; such to be determined by the director and the Junta Consultiva.

C. It is considered that all the above points shall be used only as a temporary charter for the school and that it shall serve as a governing basis only until a full plan of education can be submitted by the Educational Investigator ~~as that school which may serve~~ and approved by the Mission Conference. It is recommended, however, that El Colegio Luterano be considered by the Educational Investigator as that school which may serve as the regular school of higher education in continuation of the public schools that are maintained on our field and that it be thought of as a school for both boys and girls in which they may obtain the government-required subjects for a "bachillerato."

The meeting adjourned with the singing of the doxology.

Saturday Evening:

Several hymns were sung preceding a season of prayer.

Business:

1. It was suggested in connection with the house in Cocuy that the necessary amount of money needed now to meet the Sept. payment, be taken out of the general fund; this is to be replaced when more donations come in.
2. Discussion about a house in Capatemejo and Chisca: These two places must be worked and we should aim to do so.

The following are motions that were made and carried:

1. To leave the possibility of obtaining a house in Capatenejo in the hands of the executive committee.
2. That the proposal concerning the adult instruction class, in order to make them illigable for communicate membership of the church, be left to the executive committee, and Rev. Olsen. That the committee and Rev. Olsen have the authority to further investigate all necessary requirements for membership and all necessary steps for organization of a congregation, and that the results of their investaga-

tion be submitted to the other Missionaries to be met with their approval or disapproval. If approved unanimously it will become the method for membership and organization.

The minutes of the conference were read and accepted.

The auditing committee reported that the treasurer's and the Bible Inst. books were O.K.. This report was accepted.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

Rres. --- Missionary Olger Quanrud, to serve for one year.
V. Pres. --- Rev. Gerhard Ostrem, to serve for two years.
Treas. --- Rev. Andrew Larson, to serve for 1/2 one year.
Sec'y. --- Miss Elizabeth Heerde, to serve for two years.

An informal installation of all the officers was held after which our new president took possession of the chair.

Rev. Andrew Larson, closed the conference with a short message from I Peter 5. God spoke to us in words of conviction, exhortation and consolation, through our devotional hour and in the studies of I Peter. We do thank and praise God for these important days spent together and for His abiding presence.

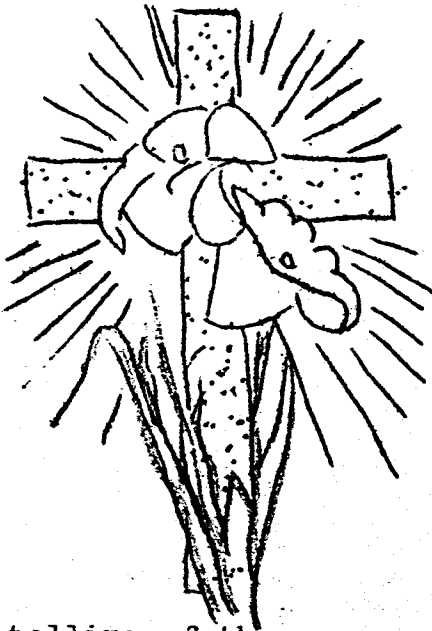
Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth E. Heerde
Elizabeth E. Heerde.

Duitama, Boyacá
Colombia, So. Am.
Feb. 23, 1945.

I KNOW THAT
MY REDEEMER LIVETH

Dear *Helene and Gerhard,*



Elizabeth, Ragnihild and I have just returned to our station after being gone three weeks. We first went to La Donuana where the Missionary Fellowship Conference for various departments of Colombia was held this year. We were 26 missionaries present. These yearly conferences have been such a blessing, and this one to me was a very special blessing. I had always loved and appreciated my fellow missionaries but I have these last months learned to love them more than ever. God only can reward them for what they have done for me in this time of deep sorrow. Only a couple months before Trygve passed away he attended a conference at this very same place. It was really a Bible course for the natives. He came back so enthused over the blessed time he had had, also

telling of the prosperous work and the fine group of believers there. We already then planned that we were going there to the Fellowship Conference together. Little did either one of us realize that God had such different plans and that I had to go alone Ragnihild. I can only say God is love and He doeth all things well for me.

After six days at La Donjuana we got an early morning buss that brought us to Soatá where Trygve and I had worked the greater part of our short life together. My stay there brought so many blessed memories back to me. I praise God for them. I do not try to understand why God took Trygve away from me after such a very short blessed life together in His vineyard. While in Soatá we shared many a trail together but God gave us grace not to be shaken in our confidence in Him who always proves faithful. Everytime we saw that God thru it all designed blessings for us. Our assurance of His unchanging love grew stronger day by day. Early last spring when God spoke to us about Duitama we could hardly believe it for we thought we were to stay on in Soatá. It was later made very clear that we were to leave Soatá and come here. Now as I look back I see God's hand in it all even tho Trygve was to work here at our new station only four months. - When I realized that Trygve could not be well again I rebelled at God's way for it seemed I could not live without him. I had had him such a very

short time and God had blessed us with such a happy life together. It could not be that God would really take him away. But the day came when God gave me grace to say and really see that His way is best, and I could say, 'have Thy will Lord.' He assured me again of His unchanging love and faithfulness and I was led into a deeper experience of His love and grace. Now I am left with only memories of my dear husband. My life is much enriched because of them. And so while God has given me more days to serve Him here below Trygve is rendering better service up there to our Lord and King. More than ever do I long for the day when Jesus shall return for His own. Then I shall understand that which is so veiled here.

From Soatá we went to El Cocuy to spend a week with Alma and Andrew Larson. It was so nice to have a good visit with someone that has just come from the States and home. We had a very blessed visit with them. On Sunday we went to visit some believers in the country. A couple hours walk up the mountain. To me this visit was one of the high spots of our trip. One of the boys we had in our Institute here at Duitama lives there and it was to his home we were invited to have a meeting. We started from El Cocuy early morn so as to escape the very hot midday sun. By the afternoon quite a number of folks were gathered and the service was held in a dark mud floor room. Proceso led the meeting and God gave us a very good time together. I was so touched to be there in the midst of those souls, hungry for the truth. There was one old grandma there that had climbed that steep stony mountain path so she could hear God's Word. There were several young people, Colombia's future. It was so uplifting to testify of Jesus and so good to listen to some of them testify that they had found the way to Jesus. I shall never forget that meeting. It was with tears we had to say good bye. The sun was fast disappearing behind the mountain and we were supposed to be back in Cocuy for the evening service. God only knows the many huts up these mountains that have souls longing for the Gospel. There must be many in the home land that say no to God's call for He surely would that these benighted souls should be reached with the Gospel.

We came back by the way of Soatá, the Larsons also came with us, for all our missionaries were to meet there for a days conference. Our new missionaries the Morcks and the Thorsens were there also. The Thorsens are now stationed at Soatá and the Morcks will be here in Duitama the first part of March to be in charge of the boys Institute. The Quarnruds came here to Duitama the first part of Feb. to be in charge of the station work.

I spent a few days also in Bogotá arranging for my trip to the States in April. Expect to leave Bogotá by plane April 6th. so some the following day we should be in Miami. I am so happy that Miss Danielson is also going home at this time. We will be going together as far as Minneapolis. My adress at home will be, BEJOU, MINNESOTA. I will be looking forward to hearing from you gain. God has brought me much blessing and comfort thru your letters. May God abundantly reward and bless you. Tho I look forward to be united with my dear ones and friends back home it is going to be hard to leave Colombia this time, but I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH and even as he has proved so faithful here, I know He shall never fail.

Very Sincerely,

Florida Balte

CELMOZA CONFERENCE, DUITAMA, SEPT. 25, 26, 1946

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 3:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Quanrud with Scripture reading and prayer.

Harold Olson nominated and elected Chairman pro-tem, Hans Thoresen nominated and elected Secretary pro-tem.

Motion: All the missionaries now present on Celmosa field have a right to voice, vote and office until the next regularly called conference when it shall be determined by the Board. Carried.

Motion: That there will be two conferences yearly- One in January for business and one in midterm (Inst. vacation) for Spiritual retreat. The business conference shall be held between the 5 and 15 of January while the dates of the spiritual conference shall be determined by the Supt. Carried.

A discussion of the book of rules was held as read by the chairman pro tem.

Motion: The executive committee shall serve as an advisory board to the superintendent and shall be convened at his discretion. Said committee shall have no power of vote over the superintendent except in those specific cases mentioned in the general rules as given by the Board or when the conference shall give such power for specific problems and for a stipulated length of time. The committee shall be composed of such members as shall be approved by the conference upon the advice of the superintendent. Said members shall serve as the working committee of the mission under the direction of the superintendent to study, formulate and execute the various departments of the mission program as laid down by the conference and approved by the Board and shall be responsible directly to the superintendent in these duties as well as all other matters not made an exception by the conference or the Board. Carried.

Rev. Larson and Rev. Morck spoke of their trip to the plains.

Meeting adjourned until 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order with prayer.

Expression was asked for from Celmosa missionaries:

Quanrud - accepted call.

Ostrem - not know, but with the field as needed.

Larson - not at liberty to accept, wants to be released within two months.

Heerde - not know if have a place - open.

The trial plans read.

Motion: A couple be set aside for the plains. Carried.

Motion: That we consider placements first. Carried.

Motion: That names suggested by the trial plans be considered nominated with any additional names suggested from the floor. Carried.

Placements by vote of group:

Tunja: Quanrud

El Cocuy: Olson

Duitama: Thoresen

Plains: Ostrem

Director of Inst.: Morck

Motion: That we keep both the single workers, Miss Danielson and Miss Heerde in the Institute. Carried.

Motion: That Mrs. Thoresen and Mr. Quarrud be named as teachers. Carried.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

Supt.- Olson
V. Supt.- Thoresen
Sec.- Morck
Treas.-Quarrud

Motion: That the Executive Committee consist of three members. Carried.

Election of the Exec. Comm.- Morck, Ostrem, Thoresen.

Motion: to adjourn until Thursday at 2 p.m. Carried.

Thursday, Sept. 26, 1946

Upon consultation with the majority of the group it was decided to meet in the morning for the first session.

Meeting was called to order by the Superintendent with Scripture reading and prayer.

A greeting from the China Mission was read. Voted: that this greeting be acknowledged by a greeting from this conference.

Voted: That a Marconigram be send to Miss Bergh welcoming her to Colombia.

Voted: That the Station Head investigate and report to the Exec. Comm. the most suitable time for the opening and closing of the school year.

Voted: That the decision with respect to the Vacation Bible Schools be left in the hands of the Exec. Comm. and the Superintendent.

Voted: That Gerardo Wilches serve the ^(Sacha) in Parpa territory during the Inst. vacation, the time of service to be determined by the Missionary in charge of the territory and the Superintendent.

Voted: That Wilches be offered \$30.00 a month for service and that the Mission pay pay all expenses or make arrangement for said expenses.

Voted by those missionaries present from the E.L.C. and the U. E. L. C. that the following resolution be included in the minutes and sent to the Board:

Upon the occasion of the transfer of the administration of the Celmosa field, we who have served on the said field under the E.L.C. and the U.E.L.C. express our sincere gratitude for the hospitality, advice and example received from the missionaries of the Celmosa as well as our profound respect for their seniority in experience and the foundation which they have laid in Christ for the Lutheran work in Colombia. Today we tread as it were on holy ground, ground which has been sanctified by the labors, prayers, tears, and sacrifice of our brethren who have put their hand to the plow of the Lord and have opened the first furrows. Therefore we tread with reverence and with thanksgiving to God, the Great Lord of the Harvest, as we now go forth together bearing the Precious Seed.

Afternoon Session

Session was opened with the reading of Scripture and prayer by the President.

Placement of teachers was discussed.

Voted: That Gustavo Rodriguez be approached in regard to him taking a school if he does not continue his studies next year.

Voted: That Aracely Leal be offered the La Aguda school.

Voted: That Fredesbinda Cristiano be approached for the school at Mause.

Voted: That we investigate the possibility of a friend of Fanny Jimenez teaching next year.

Voted: That placements for the remaining schools be left to the Ex. Comm. and the Superintendent.

Voted: That the Larsons be approached with an offer to work with us one year, Andrew in the Socha territory and Mrs. Larson in the Institute during the school year and both of them in the plains during the vacation, being responsible to the man in charge of the plains work. That they go to the plains before the next term of the Inst. if possible.

Voted: That Gerhard Ostren investigate the matter of Pedro Estevez' apparent desire to work with us, writing both to him and to the Scandinavian Alliance.

Voted: That John Montoya be offered work with us during the vacation months on the condition that he enter our Inst. next year.

Voted: That Montoya be placed in the Cocuy district under the direction of Olson and be offered \$30.00 a month and expenses.

Voted: That Fausanias Wilchas be offered work in the plains on the same conditions as the other boys.

Meeting adjourned.

She Wanted to Sing

IN MEMORY OF IRENE MORCK

By Irene Thoresen

Irene Morck loved to sing, and before her illness used to raise her lovely voice often in song—songs and hymns of praise and love about her Saviour, songs that came out of a happy heart because Jesus dwelled there.



Mrs. Morck and daughter Agnes

When she came, a bride of a few months, to Colombia, it was a happy discovery to me that she could sing so nicely. I think of occasions when we were together and enjoyed blending our voices in the singing of gospel songs. I remember in particular, today, a couple of occasions: we sang a favorite Spanish duet at one of the services of our Reformation Day celebration when the students and teachers of the Bible Institute from Duitama were the guests of our Girls' School at Soata; at Christmas the Morcks visited us, and on Christmas Eve, with the maid to help us celebrate The Birthday, we gathered in the "sala" and sang carols, both English and Spanish.

When it became necessary for the three men to make plans to travel through the continent in the interest of future mission work, they took their families in here to the city and helped us get settled for a temporary stay. We three, Irene, Opal (Mrs. Olson) and I with our little ones would live together until our husbands' return. We would be busy caring for the children, studying our Spanish and sometimes there would be time out for singing. But, no, we (some of us) had been here but a few days when "Irene-Arnt", as the children called her, fell ill from diphtheria. She rallied after some weeks and her husband rather reluctantly left on his trip. She hasn't been her former strong self these months, but seemed quite well, although her throat has not been perfectly normal and so she has not

been able to sing, as formerly. Patient in her suffering, I believe that Irene's greatest trial was the fact that she has been unable to sing. I asked her one day, "Have you prayed about it?" And she said, "Oh, yes, about every day!" And then she added, "But I know that if I can never sing again, the Lord has a purpose in it."

How she wanted to sing! She could not know that the Lord in His infinite wisdom and love had decided, "My child, you shall soon sing—more gloriously and beautifully than you have dreamed of doing." For He gathered her into His heavenly presence the other day, and we believe she awoke singing. This thought came to the troubled hearts of both Opal and myself after Irene had so lately left us, "Why, she's singing now!"

Yes, now she can sing! Our youngest missionary has already "finished the course." We who miss her are confused and earth-bound in our understanding, faltering in our praise. But Irene? She is free and inexpressibly happy as she sings with hosts of angels and the Redeemed, the praises of the King of Life!

Irene Thoresen

(Mrs. Hans V. Thoresen)

* * *

Irene Norre Morck was born October 3, 1921, in Basano, Alberta, Canada. She was baptized and confirmed in Dickson, Alberta, where she also received her education.

On September 10, 1944, she was united in marriage with Pastor Arnfeld Morck whom she accompanied to Colombia in December of the same year, and together with whom she served in the Lutheran Bible Institute at Duitama the past year.

On May 15, 1946, she passed away after a brief illness. She leaves to mourn her departure her husband and little daughter Agnes of nine months, as well as her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jens Norre, and two sisters, Anna and Selma, all of Dickson, Alberta, Canada.

Blessed be her memory!

To the many friends who in this trying hour of bereavement have prayed for us and in so many other ways have shown their understanding kindness I wish to express my sincerest gratitude and thanks. "We sorrow not as they who have no hope."

Arnfeld C. Morck

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS *of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA ✓ TELEPHONE: MAIN 6583 ✓ CABLE ADDRESS: MADAKINA

Office of Mission Secretary

October 9, 1946.

The Rev. Harold L. Olson
Duitama, Boyaca
Colombia
South America

VIA AIR MAIL

Dear Rev. Olson:

Many thanks for letters of September 28th and October 2nd. I want to congratulate you upon your election as Superintendent. May God guide you in that work and give you grace and strength for each task.

Before referring to recent Board Minutes, copies of which are enclosed, I wish to state generally what the practice is re. official correspondence when a field has been organized such as our field in Colombia now is. Up till now we have, as you know, sent the salary checks to the individual missionaries. We will continue to do that as far as you, Thoresen and Miss Bergh are concerned until the end of this year, as there may be some adjustment in accounts which can best be taken care of in that way. From the first of next year the payroll will be sent to the Treasurer on the field, and a copy sent to the Superintendent. The treasurer will then pay the salaries according to the payroll. This will also be the procedure for IV Quarter 1946 as far as the former Celmosa missionaries are concerned. We take over their salaries from October 1st, as long as they are working on our field. If in the future they want to leave, well, then, of course, we do not pay their salaries from the time they leave. So far only the Quanruds have stated definitely that they want to join our Joint Board.

Now as to questions contained in your letter of September 28th:

Wives of missionaries do not have votes in the Missionary Conference, as they are not missionaries in charge of certain work apart from their homes. If a married woman, due to lack of workers, should be placed in charge of a certain work by the Conference and the approval of the Board, and be salaried accordingly, she would have vote as a single worker. The wives are members of the Conference and have the right to speak. As long as the Celmosa Missionaries are serving on our field and salaried by us, they will have a vote in Conference, unless Conference itself should decide otherwise.

X
With regard to expansion, as for instance starting work in Trinidad, the regular procedure is that such questions be decided by Conference and referred to the Home Board for approval before the new work can begin, but in your case we have waited so long to get a start, so that if Conference feels that it is important to get the work started in Trinidad at once, you had better go ahead. Our next Board meeting will be November 4-6. We have had to make decisions here which ordinarily

21

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS *of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA / TELEPHONE: MAIN 6583 / CABLE ADDRESS: MADAKINA

Office of Mission Secretary

Rev. Olson

-2-

should be made on the field, so we must grant the same privilege to the field.

As you will see from enclosed ^xMinutes, we have paid to Celmosa \$2,500.00 - in lieu of \$3,700.00 - sent out by them for the purchasing of property, and if such property can be bought we, of course, abide by the decision made before the transfer.

I note what you say about questioning advisability of sending more missionaries out on student visas. The Maldes are the next in line. They have been advised to get Student Visa, as they have been hoping to leave since in August. We first decided that they should go to Mexico, but when they did not get off before the transfer, I felt that it would be best that they now go to Medellin. From here there seems little hope of getting missionaries in on a permanent resident (immigrant) visa. What can be done from your end?

We have sent the money to Calvert School as per your request.

As to expenses, I suggest that you charge the difference in cost of living between staying at a Station and staying in Bogota to your travel expenses. We are aware of the fact that when you men left on the trip, it meant extra expenses for the families, and you are justified in charging the extra expenses as part of the cost of travel.

X I note what you say about single workers. We have called two more: Belva Nerlien and Valborg Thorkelson. Miss Nerlien (teacher) has accepted and expects to leave in January. Miss Thorkelson has not accepted as yet. We also have an application from a nurse and probably would call her at the meeting in November, but if you think we should wait, we will do so.

A few words about Conference Minutes:

It is the practice that a copy of the Minutes be sent to the Mission Secretary by the Conference secretary as soon as possible. The Superintendent then sends the official copy home with his follow-letter commenting upon or explaining decisions which need such comments. The Conference (or Executive Committee) also decides upon the budget for the year. This is usually divided into two parts: Regular Budget which includes the annual expenses such as house rent, salaries of national workers, ordinary travel in the districts, upkeep, etc., and Special Budget which includes items not on the annual budget such as cost of buying property at a given place, cost of building a particular building, etc.

In the Regular Budget should also be included an annual grant for Literature, cost of running schools, and an amount voted for the Emergency Fund, which is used to defray unforeseen expenses, such as doctor or hospital expenses for missionaries, etc.

X The minutes of the Executive Comm. are sent under separate covers.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS *of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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Office of Mission Secretary

Rev. Olson

-3-

The Conference Minutes are then referred to the Home Board by the Mission Secretary who sends copies of the Board Minutes to the Superintendent with a follow-letter explaining items which need explanation. We send a copy for each member of the Executive Committee, and the Superintendent sends the copies on to the other members. These Minutes are usually read in Conference, so that all the members will get the information, but we do not send copies to more than the members of the Executive Committee.

I am glad that you have decided to have a special Conference for Spiritual fellowship.

This will be all for this letter. The follow-letter deals more "formally" with items in the Board Minutes.

With cordial greetings and best wishes to yourself and family, I am

Very sincerely yours,

John E. Gronli
2

jeg:h

P.S. Pura sent enclosed copies of minutes to Mark, we included Pura's in a letter to him yesterday.

J.E.G.

I have space for a personal note. As you know I have accepted a call to the L. B. I. I shall continue in the office until Dr. Synnøe accepts the call extended to him, when we have to make further arrangements, or in case he does not accept, until the Board can make other arrangements.

J.E.G.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS *of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA ✓ TELEPHONE: MAIN 6583 ✓ CABLE ADDRESS: MADAKINA

Office of Mission Secretary

October 23, 1946

The Rev. Harold L. Olson
The Rev. Hans V. Thoresen
Boyaca, Colombia
South America

Dear Friends:

Please excuse this joint letter, but as I have to write about various items I save time by writing you jointly.

Enclosed please find checks as per statements.

From the beginning of next year our Latin America field will be on the same basis as the other fields - that is, the payroll and checks will be sent to the Treasurer, who will pay out salaries, etc. according to the payroll. This means that beginning with next January all the items for the field except the salaries for the missionaries should be budgetted. The budgetting is usually done by the Executive Committee on the field and should be in the hands of the Board preferably before the end of the previous year. In your case this can not be, but please try to have the budgetting for 1947 here by February 1st. What should the budget contain? Well, the following items are the most common: Traveling expenses on the field. This may be budgetted for under each station. In that case the travel for the station district will be an integral part of the budget for that district.
House rent.
Salaries for Colombian workers.
Running expenses for the schools.

Those are the most common items on the budget. The salaries ^{of missionaries} are, of course, determined here and need not be counted as part of the budget for the field.

The cost of purchasing property or cost of building operations should be budgetted for as a special budget and not be a part of the annual budget for the field. Then, in addition to the items suggested above, you will have an amount budgetted annually for an emergency fund. This will be used to defray unforeseen expenses, such as special travel outside the regular districts, emergency medical expenses, etc.

Personal contributions. Up until now we have sent you these contributions individually, but from now on they will go on the payroll. If the contributions are directed to individual missionaries the Treasurer will be instructed to pay them out accordingly. If they are given to the mission as such without designation as to what they are to be used for, the Executive Committee or Conference will decide

Olson and Thoresen--2

as to how the money is to be used. It is important that the Treasurer acknowledges the receipts of such gifts and states how the gifts are being used. Usually the names of the donors are sent with the gifts. In the case of anonymous gifts, such acknowledgments of course can not be made, but the Executive Committee decisions or Conference decisions will be a record for our office so that we have a list of how the gifts are being dispensed. Gifts given to the missionary without any designation as to how they are to be used will be sent to the missionary for whom they are given. It will be up to him to decide how to use them and no record need be sent to the office as these have to be considered personal. Of course, if it is stated that the gifts are to be used for the work, then the missionary should decide where to use the gift and report to Conference accordingly.

I do hope that you and your families are well. Please remember me to all the friends on the field. May God richly bless you and bless His work through you!

With kind greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

John E. Gronli

JEG:EL
Encls.

P.S. Your check from Meddison was received yesterday. We have sent the \$500- to Miss Burgh. I think it this is the deposit for her entry. Under separate cover we send you six copies of our Mission rules. A copy of the program is sent to the Superintendent. J.E.G.

C O P Y
(Letter in part)

Office of Mission Secretary
October 23, 1946

"From the beginning of next year our Latin America field will be on the same basis as the other fields - that is, the payroll and checks will be sent to the Treasurer, who will pay out salaries, etc. according to the payroll. This means that beginning with next January all the items for the field except the salaries for the missionaries should be budgetted. The budgetting is usually done by the Executive Committee on the field and should be in the hands of the Board preferably before the end of the previous year. In your case this cannot be, but please try to have the budgetting for 1947 here by February 1st. What should the budget contain? Well, the following items are the most common: Traveling expenses on the field. This may be budgetted for under an integral part of the budget for that district.

House rent.

Salaries for Colombian workers.

Running expenses for the schools.

Those are the most common items on the budget. The salaries of missionaries are, of course, determined here and need not be counted as part of the budget for the field.

The cost of purchasing property or cost of building operations should be budgetted for as a special budget and not be a part of the annual budget for the field. Then, in addition to the items suggested above, you will have an amount budgetted annually for an emergency fund. This will be used to defray unforeseen expenses, such as special travel outside the regular districts, emergency medical expenses, etc.

Personal contributions. Up until now we have sent you these contributions individually, but from now on they will go on the payroll. If the contributions are directed to individual missionaries the Treasurer will be instructed to pay them out accordingly. If they are given to the mission as such without designation as to what they are to be used for, the Executive Committee or Conference will decide as to how the money is to be used. It is important that the Treasurer acknowledges the receipts of such gifts and states how the gifts are being used. Usually the names of the donors are sent with the gifts. In the case of anonymous gifts, such acknowledgments of course cannot be made, but the Executive Committee decisions or Conference decisions will be a record for our office so that we have a list of how the gifts are being dispensed. Gifts given to the missionary without any designation as to how they are to be used will be sent to the missionary for whom they are given. It will be up to him to decide how to use them and no record need be sent to the office as these have to be considered personal. Of course, if it is stated that the gifts are to be used for the work, then the missionary should decide where to use the gift and report to Conference accordingly."

Jeep Aids Missionary and Inspires Community Project

By Arnfeld C. Morck

Not long after arriving in Colombia I wrote an article on the work of our mission in the plains of Casanare, which I had recently visited, mentioning casually the advantage of having a jeep to traverse those trackless plains with the Good News. Today I am more convinced than ever that it will prove a great asset to the work there, during the dry season and here in the interior during the rainy season or at any time.



First of all let me thank those who, by their gifts (after having caught the vision), made a concrete reality out of what was on my part, a dream and a casual remark. Aware of present difficulties in importing vehicles and seeing a good buy on a 1946 model Willys Jeep, in Bogota, as good as brand new, we acted even though the fund for that purpose still lacked some in completing the price. The vehicle is now registered in the state of Boyaca and has already made its first trip in the service of the mission.

Services were announced in Parpa for Friday and Saturday night and Sunday. To meet this appointment by bus and truck and mule I should have left Duitama Thursday noon. With the Jeep Friday noon is early enough. Rev. Ostrem, who had business to do in Socha accompanied me as far as that town and we took turns at the wheel. Arriving at Pinos I somewhat reluctantly left the jeep in the open yard of a friend whose house faces the highway and walked the forty-five minutes distance over the rugged mountain path to Parpa. He would guard it as best he could till I should return on Wednesday.

Not many attended services Friday night in Parpa, partly due, perhaps to the rain, which makes the mountain paths not only disagreeable but dangerous and the atmosphere cold and penetrating, but perhaps also due to the indifference of those good people who enjoy the honor of being the first evangelical congregation in Boyaca and of having the oldest evangelical chapel in that state. Saturday night many more came out for the social evening with games and taffy pull. We believe that the healthy fun of such an evening can help to bring them together and to forget and forgive past jealousies and bickerings and that the parting hymns and words of devotion fall upon open hearts. The Sunday school session as usual was marked by the lack of adult attendance, thanks to the Sunday market in Socota. However quite a number turned out for the evening service, at the close of which Mr. Leal, pioneer evangelist in Boyaca, appealed for more unity of spirit and for volunteers to accompany the missionary on an inspection trip over the mountains to investigate the possibility of improving the mule trail sufficiently to bring the jeep right down to Parpa, where it could be kept in safety. This, he also pointed out, would be a great psychological victory for the community, towards more highway facility. It was decided that

those interested should meet us on the paramo when we returned from Mausea on Wednesday. A picnic dinner would be served and we would proceed to examine the road.

Mr. Leal eagerly accepted my invitation to accompany me to Mausea, having heard that an old schoolmate of his there and his family were showing great interest in the gospel and were attending all the services. He would like to speak to them personally. The four hour march to Mausea passed rapidly and easily as we were absorbed in conversation about problems and possibilities of the work. Juan Montoya had also come over from Mausea to meet us. He is the humble owner of a little farm, a water mill (with big stones) and a loom on which he does very nice work. His house, which is as open to visitors as his heart, is the home of the day school and its teacher as well as the visiting missionaries. Services are also held in the class room. Several who were formerly fanatically opposed to the Gospel now attend and listen with interest. The way of salvation was clearly presented both Monday and Tuesday night and we know that the Word was heard with eagerness; on the part of some for the first time.

It was still dark when Mr. Leal awakened me to start our trek back to Parpa through the grey mist of the chilly morning. Enthusiasm was not lacking among the little group that had gathered on the paramo for the road inspection and it grew as we made our way along the mountain toward the highway. Half way we met a couple of influential non-evangelicals, to whom Mr. Leal also explained the proposed project, with the result that they joined us. "This bank will have to be cut down with pick and shovel.—" "This rock will need a shot of dynamite but this one can be moved by hand. Here the trail will have to be widened or the thing will roll off into the abyss below." "We could do this work in a week if we got enough guys interested." "How shall we organize?"—

Though rumors had circulated about a strange, unknown vehicle which had come to the community, supposedly belonging to kidnapers, we found the Jeep in good shape when we returned to the highway. True, it had been plastered with potatoes and old cottage cheese, by some rascals passing in a truck but had suffered only very slight damage. The section superintendent of the highway has now offered us garage space on government property at any time or until the road can be opened to Parpa.

At 3:30 we (a couple of believers and I) sped off around the jackknife curves with pendant rocks above and yawning depths below, thankful to God for protection and guidance in all and grateful to the cheerful givers in the North who have placed this useful little machine in our hands. It was not 6:30 when we rolled into Duitama. We had done in less than three hours what has before taken us part of two days. **Thank you! !**

Arnfeld C. Morck

CONFERENCE AT DUITAMA
January 7-9, 1947

January 7, 1947

Morning Session:

Rev. Harold L. Olson, the Superintendent, opened the Conference, conducting the devotion. He spoke on "A Sus Ordenes" (At Your Orders), stressing that like the Colombian students respond to roll call with "A la orden", so we should place ourselves to be taught of God; as the baggage carriers say that, we should place ourselves to serve God and our fellowmen; as a Colombian places his house "A sus ordenes", so we should place our house and home at God's service and the Colombians; and as a parent says, after a complimentary remark about his child, "A sus ordenes", so we are blessed in placing our children at God's orders.

After this a description of the field in Colombia was given for the sake of the new missionaries and visitors. The Superintendent then gave his report, after which discussion followed.

Greetings were then brought by Miss Virginia Antonsen of Medellin, Dr. G. Guldseth, and Rev. Roy Walde, and the morning session closed with discussion.

Afternoon Session:

Missionary Olger Quanrud opened the session, giving us a meditation on the fundamental attributes of the great missionary, the Apostle Paul. He was divinely called, Acts 26:16; a debtor to the Gentiles, Rom. 1:14; Servant of all, I Cor. 9:9; unashamed of his task, Rom. 1:16; for he was a steward of the mysteries of God, I Cor. 4:1; eager to reach out to those who had not heard; Rom. 15:20; being impelled by the love of God and Christ to do and be what he was, II Cor. 5:14. All these are found in the Commission, Mark 16:15.

The Treasurer's report was given and discussed by the group. Then the Superintendent read and explained the letter from the Home Office as to personal contributions and the handling of other contributions; also, a letter, asking that a list of basic furniture be provided by the missionaries on the field, was read and thoroughly discussed.

January 8, 1947

Morning Session:

Missionary A. Morek conducted devotions and meditation on Ephesians 4:1-12, "Captives of Christ".

Business:

Moved that the Calmose missionaries be given right of vote in the Conference. Carried.

Voted: that Missionary Virginia Antonsen and Missionary Hildur Thorkildson be given voice in Conference.

Secretary's report read and approved.

Letter from Miss Tennis read. Secretary instructed to acknowledge letter.

Missionaries Ostrem and Morck elected for auditing committee.

Voted: That placements of September 25-26 be approved.

Motion that we nominate all four officers on first ballot. Carried.

Motion that all persons having vote may also hold office. Carried.

app
Election of Officers: Superintendent - Olson, Vice-superintendent - Ostrem (by acclamation), Secretary - Morck, Treasurer - ~~Quanrud~~ *Quanrud*.

app
Motion that we interpret paragraph A of statement of policies for Latin America, Board meeting April 19-20, 1945, as permitting voting women to hold office. Carried.

Election of Executive Committee: Thoresen, Morck and Heerde.

Mrs. Thoresen elected as contributing editor of "The Missionary".

Voted: That we invite Dr. Syrdal to visit the field. (*Voted to visit*)

Afternoon Session:

Miss Heerde led the devotional period using II Cor. 5:14,15, stressing especially the beautiful and essential thought, "not I but Christ who liveth in me".

Business:

Voted: That the placement of Morck in the Socha territory by the Executive Committee be approved by the Conference.

Superintendent Olson reported on decisions made by the Executive Committee since September.

Voted: That the Quanruds be relieved for furlough by the first of August.

Voted: That Miss Heerde be granted furlough at end of the school year.

app
Voted: That a month of vacation be given missionaries each year, and that it be lengthened to six weeks when service runs over a year without a vacation.

Voted: That the time of vacations be determined by the Executive Committee.

app
Voted: That \$150.00 (pesos) be allowed each single worker for vacation expense and \$300.00 (pesos) in the case of a couple.

Missionary Thoresen presented report on school plan.

app
Voted: That the following recommendations of said report be accepted by Conference:

1. That the material which is now demanded for the four grades of primary be broadened into six years and that the Educational Director

be given the authority to, step by step as the situation will allow, map out and initiate such a change in all our schools.

2. That we strive to make the same days effective in each school for beginning and closing; that we begin the first of March and close the last of November, vacation being from about July 20 to August 12; school days, Monday through Friday; hours, 8:00 - 11:00, 1:00 - 4:00.
3. That the mission buy (or the congregation as a whole) all the books and material for the teacher.
4. That the mission or the congregation furnish the readers for the schools, but all other material (books, paper, pencils, etc.) shall be bought by the children. The mission shall act as the supplying agency.
5. In order that the teachers may receive a monthly wage, the mission shall assume the responsibility of paying the teacher and shall then in turn receive from the congregation in the seasons in which it can pay.
6. That, as soon as possible in each individual case, the congregation as such assume the responsibility of the school; that is, money shall be taken out of the congregation funds for school purposes thus eliminating the individual payments to the school.

Ad Antonsen
Committee of four elected to arrange for Spiritual Conference in July setting the date and arranging program. The elected were: Antonsen, Guldseth, Malde and Morek.

January 9, 1947
Morning Session:

Mrs. Larson led the devotional period emphasizing the consciousness of God's presence, a forward-looking faith, and a spirit of supreme sacrifice.

Business:

Voted: That the date of the business conference be left as it is (between January 5 and 15).

Motion that before any recommendation for the buying of property or for building be sent to the Board, such plans be approved by the Executive Committee. Carried.

Motion that the property and building budgets for Duitama, El Cocuy and the Institute be given preeminence. Carried.

ant Voted: That the budgets as presented for the field be approved.

Voted: That the action of the September Conference in keeping Miss Heerde and placing Miss Danielson in the Institute be approved.

Voted: That Miss Antonsen be added to the Institute staff.

Voted: That the teachers of the Institute who are only teachers be placed in other work during the vacation months and that the placement be done by the Executive Committee.

Motion that the list as approved by the conference be presented to the Board as basic furniture. Carried.

Voted: That single workers be provided with the same insofar as might be necessary.

Afternoon Session:

Rev. Ostrem led the devotions using as his text the words "And the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord".

Business:

Motion that we strongly recommend to the Board that all married women missionaries be given a right to vote. Carried. *Not approved*

Voted: That the training school be called "Instituto Biblico-Cultural" (de la Iglesia Evangelica Luterana en Colombia).

Voted: That our paper be called "Voz Luterana".

Voted: That our book store be called "Libreria Real".

Committee elected to study and recommend as to what type and what price of station furniture.

Motion that separate living quarters will be provided for single workers where there are two or more at a station and where such arrangements can be satisfactorily made. Carried.

Health Hints were given by Dr. Guldseth.

~~off~~ The Auditing Committee reported that the Treasurer's books were found correct.

The Conference was closed by a session of prayer in which several partook.

At 8:00 p.m. Communion Service was held.

Respectfully submitted,

151 Arnfeld C. Morck

Secretary

February 6, 1947.

Mr. Olger Quanrud
Apartado 25
Tunja, Boyaca
Colombia, South America

VIA AIR MAIL

Dear Mr. Quanrud:

I am enclosing Paylist with a check to the amount of \$5,837.15 which is the amount that should cover the I Quarter 1947 payments on the field. You will note that the regular budget and station expenses are marked pending Board action. The Board has now taken action and has approved that budget. The extra budget for capital investments and construction work is not included here. Work of this nature should be submitted in detail to receive the approval of the Board before money is sent to the field. The next Board meeting will be the second week in May. If there is by that time any definite construction work that is needed, it can be considered at that meeting. Any emergency fund needed for the special budget which would include capital investments or construction work could be described in letter and we may take action direct here from the office, pending future favorable action by the Board.

Please note the salary schedule on the third page. Miss Virginia Antonson is included in the list. The Board decided at its meeting yesterday to call her as a regular missionary. We have deducted pension fund dues for her beginning with February 1st (the beginning of the fiscal year of our Church).

Mrs. Andrew Larson. Mrs. Larson is listed for \$1,400.00 a year. Since then I have talked to Rev. Andrew Larson and he indicates that the second term salary for single lady workers would be sufficient. That amounts to \$1,050.00. I think that you should pay her on that basis until you can have a meeting of the Executive Committee to settle what you think would be a fair salary. Perhaps something like \$1,200.00 would be more equitable in comparison with other salaries. I put \$1,400.00 down ^{not} as an indication of what you should pay just to be sure you would have enough. Please indicate in early letter what you decide so that we may make adjustments on the next payroll.

G. J. Guldseth. Dr. Guldseth will need some money for his own support in Colombia. His salary is now being sent to Mrs. Guldseth. Please refer this matter to the Executive Committee. They should send suggestion as to what he should receive while he is there alone. In China the practice that has been in vogue is that the family in America receives the salary. The man who is alone on the field receives mere subsistence pay, not considered salary and

Mr. Quanrud

-2-

therefore not taking into consideration length of service, etc.

The Board has decided to call Rev. Andrew Larson to become a missionary on our field in Colombia. Further details will be written you on this if and when he accepts the call.

House Rent and Tuition at Medellin. You will note on the first page that I have included house rent and tuition for the students at Medellin. To keep the accounts straight, it is best that everything goes to one treasury on the field. I am, therefore, requesting that Mr. La Porte send bills for house rent and tuition directly to Quanrud. Before the next quarter is sent out, we should have an estimate for the needs for the balance of the year. Missionaries from our Church coming out between now and fall are the following: Misses Belva Nerlien and Viola Sheldahl, Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Mendenhall and family and Rev. and Mrs. Otis Lee. A call is being sent to Rev. Lee following action of the Board at yesterday's session.

Last week Rev. Benjamin Ostrem was in my office. He stated that at the time that complete settlement between the American Association of Celmosa and the Churches was made, there was a sum of \$3,700.00 on the field. As this money has been given for mission work in Colombia, it was felt that it should remain there. Some of the members of the Celmosa Association felt that this money should be returned to America so that it could be utilized in any new project the Celmosa Association wishes to take up. It was, therefore, decided that the Church pay \$2,500.00. This sum was paid to the Celmosa Association on October 1, 1946. This sum of \$2,500.00 is given in consideration of the transfer of property and of the field in Colombia, and the agreement was that Celmosa would "transfer to the parties of the second part its field and mission interest in Colombia, South America together with all property, real and personal, held there, and particularly books, furniture, money or other property owned by the party of the first part and now situated in Colombia, South America to the parties of the second part." The parties of the second part refer to the Lutheran Bodies now conducting the work in Colombia. This agreement had in mind the sum of \$3,700.00 that had been sent down by the Celmosa organization for construction purposes. Rev. Ostrem has told me that an additional \$2,000.00 in cash has been discovered in Colombia as belonging to Celmosa. I would like to have you investigate to see if this \$2,000.00 is available. If it is, it is the agreement of our Joint Boards that this shall be available for the Celmosa Association in America, if they desire the money, when the \$3,700.00 already mentioned is turned over to our present mission treasury according to the agreement, and with the understanding (suggested by Rev. Ostrem) that the Celmosa Association take care of the traveling expenses of Rev. Larson from the field to America and return. It is very much hoped that when

Mr. Quanrud

-3-

Rev. Larson returns that he will be a member of our Mission.

The Board has consented to the request of the Mission that I should take a trip to Colombia next summer. The date has not been definitely set. I think it would be well that all special plans and policies might be prepared in a preliminary state before that time so that they may be talked over in detail. I will find it rather difficult to pull away at any time after such a short time in taking over the work in the office, but if it is found advisable, I shall be glad to come.

Minutes of the Board meeting with following letter will come shortly. They are still in the hands of the secretary of the Board. Whatever I have given you of the Board's decisions in this letter is from memory and, therefore, not to be quoted as the exact decision. I think, however, that I have at least given the sense of the decisions made.

May God continue to bless your work in Colombia. I feel that now when we have a definite budget and are planning the work ahead that we have come of age and that we are ready to make big strides ahead. May God guide every step along the way that all work might be done to His glory.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

R. A. Syrdal
m.h.

Mission Secretary

ras:h

(CC to Rev. Harold Olson)

Evangelical Missions Officers' Council

Benjamin H. Pearson, Sec'y - Treas.,
Apdo. Nal. 364, Apdo. Aéreo 1141, February 18, 1947
Medellin, Colombia.

Dear Missionary Friend:

(Harold Olson)

Agencias Biblicas
Unidas

Calvary Holiness Church
Mission

Christian and Missionary
Alliance

Colombia Evangelical
Lutheran Mission

Cumberland Presbyterian
Mission

Interamerican Missionary
Society

Latin American Mission

Mennonite Mission

Presbyterian Mission

Open Bible Standard
Mission

Scandinavian Alliance
Mission

South American Indian
Mission

Wesleyan Methodist
Mission

You are here in Colombia as a missionary because you have felt the divine call of God, and have responded to that call with the dedication of your life to His service.

Every one of us who are missionaries, working in any one of the twenty-six missions now recognized as having evangelical work in Colombia, are interested in the maintaining of those religious liberties which made our coming to Colombia possible, and insuring the entrance to Colombia in the future of those who will be our successors or our helpers as they come to augment the number of evangelical workers in this land.

With feeling that you would be interested to know a little more definitely concerning the voluntary association of mission representatives, whose primary organizational objective is maintaining and increasing those religious liberties that make evangelical work for every one of us possible, the Evangelical Missions Officers' Council is sending to you herewith a brief report of our recent January 1947 meeting, a copy of our articles of faith, and the constitution under which we operate.

The Evangelical Missions Officers' Council, through its Executive Committee and its Legal Affairs Committee is ready to assist every missionary and every mission in any way that may be possible, whether that mission is a member or not of the Evangelical Missions Officers' Council. We all must recognize, of course, this fact that the greater the united front which we can present before the Government the greater the prospects are of being able to serve each mission and meet the needs of the missionaries in the legal problems which may present themselves.

In addition to this primary organizational objective, this group of the representatives of member missions has known in our recent meeting a veritable mount of transfiguration and spiritual vision. Our prayer service from 5:00 to 7:00 on Wednesday morning, January 29 is something that none of us will ever forget, and we feel certain that revival impulses were set in motion which will effect the future of our evangelical work in Colombia. Very distinctly, part of our objective spiritually is that we shall pray for one another that sin may be put out of every life, worldliness and faithlessness to the Lord banished, and Christ reign alone in yielded lives through the indwelling and fullness of His Holy Spirit.

We extend to every mission a warm invitation to become associated with the Evangelical Missions Officers' Council as an active member of same, free to write to our president, Rev. O. E. Langeloh, Apdo. 79, Popayán, Colombia, who will be glad to answer any of your questions.

O. E. Langeloh

Sincerely yours in Him,

B. H. Pearson

STORY OF THE MEETING
of the
EVANGELICAL MISSIONS OFFICERS' COUNCIL
at the
INTERAMERICAN BIBLE SEMINARY
Medellin
January 28-29, 1947

As the sessions of this meeting of representatives of the member missions of the Evangelical Missions Officers' Council came to a close, one missionary leader was heard to remark, "The keynotes of this meeting have been prayer and revival." Another statement made was, "As each of us returns to his own field of labor, it will be feeling that the first duty is prayer." Such was the lasting impression made upon each of us who had the privilege of attending this missionary gathering.

Outstanding in the thought of each one present will undoubtedly remain always the inspiration of two messages on revival given on Tuesday afternoon, January 28.

In the first message Rev. Robert Lytle, superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Mission, spoke on the source and leaders of great revivals. He stated that ^{that} the source had always been the Holy Spirit. He drew attention to the fact/a study of revivals could be sub-divided into: the purpose of revivals, the prayer basis in revivals, the power essential to revivals, the purity needed for revivals. The purpose of revivals as given in Acts 2:1 is that men might fulfill the will of God. Revivals are born in prayer and come through prayer. Mr. Nash was the man who upheld Mr. Finney in prayer. Revival can be expected when christians have the spirit of prayer. The spirit of prayer is evident when christians have a continual desire for the conversion of sinners. Jesus told the disciples that they were to receive power. (Acts 1:8) Revivals come when men and churches are filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Revival leaders have given much emphasis to the need of power. We need not just one filling of the Holy Spirit, but rather we need a continual day by day filling. Then a revival also grows out of the pure life of men and churches. This life of purity, the presence of the Holy Spirit makes a reality. It is not enough to have good theology, but we must also have good practice. People must be able to feel and see the power of the Spirit of God in us. (II Cor. 2:14-16)

Following this, Rev. O. E. Langeloh, superintendent of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, speaking on the possibilities of revival in Colombia, stated that there is no price too great to pay to make Christ known in Colombia. It has been said, he continued, that South America has never yet had a revival. We can have a revival, however, by having a living, genuine contact with Christ and by giving ourselves to Him. Prayer, too, can be the means of bringing a revival and can win whole territories to Christ. Colombia is a trust given to us by God. There are many obstacles, but also many opportunities. To make possibilities bear fruit, we must have a committal of ourselves to Christ. You cannot live on spiritual reserves, but must daily partake of Christ, His sacrifice, His Spirit, His power, His victory.

In the discussion which followed these messages, the question was asked, What hinders a revival in Colombia? Various answers were given, among which were (a) ourselves; (b) not enough prayer, perhaps we do not pray because we are

Story-2

afraid of what God may require of us; (c) national workers do not have vision nor much conviction, but this may be due to the fact that they do not have a very good example in us, and we cannot expect more from them than what we are ourselves; (d) a lack of conviction about sin, we fail to come to grips with issues, we need a deep conviction against sin and positive moral convictions; (e) we need the overflowing life of the Holy Spirit, who convicts of and saves from sin; (f) we may have sins that the nationals see and that to them are worse than the sins we may see in them.

Following these two soul-searching messages by men who came to us under the anointing of the Spirit, every heart felt driven to an immediate prayer session in which deep confession of sin and pleading for the manifestation of the Spirit of God was most evident. The Spirit of God descended upon the meeting, and we felt that here we were at the very center of those purposes for which Christ has brought us, as missionaries, to Colombia. As a result of this afternoon's session, and as our only possible response to the truth which had been laid upon our hearts, it was unanimously decided that we should meet together at 5 a.m. the following morning for a two-hour prayer service.

As we walked through the darkness of the morning hours to the chapel, we felt still upon us the inspiration, the challenge, the dynamic of the service of the previous afternoon, and without any leader other than the blessed Holy Spirit Himself, one after another, hearts were opened in prayer and supplication for God's Spirit to be poured out upon us and upon the nascent church of Colombia. As one and another felt led of the Spirit, the Word of God came in power to search our hearts. The promises, flashed to us from the living word of Revelation, were as the voice of God speaking to us of the new, glorious day of revival that awaits the evangelical missionary cause and the evangelical churches of Colombia, as under the guidance of the Spirit, we follow our blessed Lord and Master in these days and this great battle of the ages which is upon us now, and for which our glorious Christ has provided an ample dynamic to insure victory.

While these hours were indeed outstanding, it would be unfair to indicate that the spiritual emphasis was limited to them. In the very first eight o'clock session on January 28, in the devotional message, brought by Rev. Gerald Stucky it was evident that God in an unusual way was speaking to our hearts. Mr. Stucky's message was a challenge to every missionary to put first things first, to refuse to let the busy drive of "things" to do crowd out the only GREAT DO-ER. We were led to feel the absolute necessity of first keeping a watch upon our own soul and our own relationship with Christ as a spiritual foundation for all that our Lord would do through us. At 2 p.m. Rev. Gordon Houser stirred our hearts with a spiritual message in the devotional period. On Wednesday morning we were greatly refreshed by a devotional message by Rev. Fred Bryson. Throughout even the business sessions and the meetings of committees on Tuesday night, everyone was aware of the overshadowing presence of God.

The following member missions were represented by official delegates as follows: Colombian Evangelical Lutheran Mission by Rev. Roy Malde; 2. Christian and Missionary Alliance by Rev. O. E. Langeloh; 3. Cumberland Presbyterian Mission, Rev. Fred Bryson; 4. Interamerican Mission, Rev. B. H. Pearson; 5. Latin American Mission, Rev. Gordon Houser; 6. Mennonite Mission, Rev. Gerald Stucky; 7. Presbyterian Mission, Rev. T. B. Raifsnnyder; 8. Scandinavian Alliance Mission, Rev. Elof Anderson; 9. Wesleyan Methodist Mission, Rev. Robert Lytle. The following missions were absent or only represented by a letter; Agencia Bíblicas Unidas, Calvary Holiness Church, Open Bible Standard, South American Indian Mission.

It was a joy to welcome into the fellowship of the E.M.O.C. as a member organization the General Conference of Mennonites of North America represented by Mr. Gerald Stucky. Mr. John Dyck was present with us, unofficially representing the Mennonite Brethren Church, and we greatly appreciated his presence as a welcome visitor to the meetings of the E.M.O.C. and look forward to the time when his mission will have an opportunity for considering membership in the E.M.O.C. and can become part of our united front before the Government of Colombia.

Great interest was shown in the written report and recommendations brought from the Christian and Missionary Alliance by their superintendent, Mr. O. E. Langeloh. The report which was ordered incorporated into our minutes was as follows: "In view of the great need for united action on the part of all evangelical missions in Colombia, and whereas the Christian and Missionary Alliance is heartily in favor of fomenting a united front and cooperating with other missions in all matters relating to our common interests, we hereby recommend that this conference appoint our chairman, Mr. Langeloh, to represent our Mission at the Evangelical Missions Officers' Council to be held in Medellin, January 28-29.

"It is further recommended that Mr. Langeloh present to the E.M.O.C. the matter of Roman Catholic monopoly in territories nacionales, with a view of making a new approach to the Colombian Government and asking for a modification of the present laws."

The results of the work of our Committees will be found in the Constitution enclosed herewith. One addition is a preamble to the Constitution setting forth our purposes and which is as follows:

"It shall be the purpose of the Evangelical Missions Officers' Council:

- "1. To cultivate the spirit of prayer and fellowship among the various mission bodies working in Colombia;
- "2. To promote comity arrangements between said mission bodies;
- "3. And to present a united front before the authorities of the land.

To that end, the following by-laws have been adopted by the Council."

Another addition of interest to all is Article VIII on Comity, which reads as follows:

"It is expected that all member missions will exercise Christian charity in the expansion of their work by being careful not to encroach on one another's territory, that no mission will enter territory recognized as belonging to another mission without duly consulting the leaders of said mission, and that in cases where an understanding cannot be reached, the question will be submitted to the Executive Committee of the E.M.O.C. If a mission representative of those involved is a member of the Executive Committee, his place shall be filled for the consideration of this matter by a neutral member of the Council."

Story - 4

The following were elected members of the Legal Affairs Committee: Mr. T. Bancroft Reifsnyder, Mr. Robert Lytle, and Mr. Fred Bryson. Mr. Reifsnyder was elected chairman.

In response to a letter from Dr. Forrest L. Knapp, of the World Sunday School Association, Mr. John Harbison, a member of the Interamerican Mission, who will be in Great Britain next August was asked to represent the E.M.O.C. of Colombia at this enlarged meeting of the World Council of the World Sunday School Association to be held in Great Britain during the week of August 17, 1947. It is also hoped that a Colombian can be present at this gathering, and the Executive Committee is investigating the possibility of securing such Colombian representative of the Colombian Evangelical Christian Church, providing there will be no financial obligation on the part of the E.M.O.C.

Some facts relative to the great National Crusade of Mexico in which all denominations and missions of that land are cooperating in a Scripture-distribution Campaign to reach, if possible, every home and every person, were presented to the E.M.O.C. The statement of Rev. Marroquin, secretary of the Bible House in Mexico City, was brought to the group, and which is as follows: "I consider the national crusade for Scripture distribution the greatest single thing that has ever happened in the history of the evangelical mission to Mexico." Mr. Pearson, on behalf of the Interamerican Mission, offered, without cost for free distribution, gospels in any number, as they may be available, to the missions in Colombia who desire to cooperate in such a National Crusade. Any who desire to become responsible for certain towns or areas, please write to Rev. John T. Palmer, Crusade Director, Apartado Nacional 364, Apartado aéreo 1141, Medellín, Colombia, stating how many gospels you wish to have sent to you for beginning this work. Any information which is desired by missionaries or their fellow-workers will be gladly given.

The need for daily prayer for revival by missionaries and Colombian Christians was discussed, and the group felt that each one must make himself responsible to promote interest in this great cause. It was voted that the Executive Committee be requested to set a day of prayer for revival in which all missions in Colombia might cooperate.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the E.M.O.C. in Bogotá, January 20-21, 1948, subject to change by the Executive Committee, if necessary.

It was voted that the secretary be instructed to send a cordial invitation to non-member missions to join the E.M.O.C. If a special letter may not have been sent to you, and you are the person to bring this before your mission, would you kindly consider this report that cordial invitation to join with us and endeavor to secure the action of your mission requesting membership. If there are any questions which you desire to have answered, be free to address Rev. O. E. Langeloh, president, Apartado 79, Popayán, or any member of the Executive Committee of the E.M.O.C.

It was with a great sense of thanksgiving to God for the wonderful spirit of prayer, revival and harmony and cooperation which was evident throughout the meetings of this year's gathering of the EMOC that the sessions closed by the singing of the doxology.

O. E. Langeloh

president

B. H. Pearson

Sec'y-Treas.

APPENDIX A

EVANGELICAL MISSION OFFICERS' COUNCIL

Doctrinal Statement:

1. The Word of God, as contained in the 39 books of the Old Testament and 27 of the New Testament, is inspired by God, and constitutes the only rule of faith and conduct for the Christian, whose right and duty it is to study the Word and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for its interpretation, in all things endeavoring to obey its teachings, remembering that the Old Testament should be studied in the light of the New, which fulfills and completes the Old.
2. There is one God, a spirit, infinite eternal, unchangeable in his being wisdom, power, holiness, justice, love and truth. There are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the same in substance, and one in power and glory.
3. Jesus Christ is true God and true man; He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; He bore our sins in His body on the cross, shedding His blood for our redemption; He bodily rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, where He intercedes for us, being the only mediator between God and man; and He shall come again to judge the living and the dead.
4. The Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity who glorifies Christ, is the agent of the Godhead in applying the salvation wrought by Jesus Christ to sinners in this present world, convicting them of sin, and of righteousness and of judgment. The Holy Spirit moves men to accept redemption in Christ, comforts and edifies believers, working in them the fruits of sanctification, and endues with power for His service.
5. Man was created in the image and likeness of God, with moral freedom. He was tempted, and disobeying the expressed will of God, sinned; so that through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin; and so death passed unto all men, for all have sinned. Yet God, being rich in mercy, offers men eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.
6. Salvation from sin and from eternal judgment is not obtained by human works, nor by the observance of the law; it is the gift of God, which the repentant sinner receives by faith in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ; and in none other is there salvation; for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved.
7. The true church of Christ is invisible, consisting of all believers who, in all ages and among all races, tongues and nations, are united to Christ by faith. We recognize as visible churches all those bodies of believers which, submitting to a certain form of (ecclesiastical) government, voluntarily associate themselves together to proclaim Christ's Gospel, to worship Him in spirit and in truth, and provoke one another to godly living, in accordance with the Scriptures. Of these churches our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is the true and only Head.

APPENDIX B

BY-LAWS OF THE COUNCIL

- I. Name. This organization shall be called the "Evangelical Missions Officers' Council".
- II. Membership. This Council shall be composed of all missions subscribing to the doctrinal statement and desiring to cooperate. Each mission shall send its official representative, through whom all members of that mission should clear all matters to be presented to this Council. Upon written application new missions may be received into membership by a two-thirds vote of the Council.
- III. Meetings.
 - A. Meetings of the Council shall be held every two years.
 - B. A special meeting of the Council may be called by the Executive Committee or upon petition of two-thirds of the mission executives of the cooperating bodies.
 - C. Attendance of official representatives of all member missions is expected at all biennial meetings.
 - D. Place and date of meeting shall be determined in advance either by the Council or the Executive Committee, and notice of same shall be mailed by the secretary to the missions' representatives sixty days in advance of the meeting, except in cases of extreme emergency, when this time limit shall not be enforced.
 - E. A majority of voting members eligible to a seat on the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- IV. Officers.
 - A. The officers of the Council shall be three: president, secretary-treasurer, and recording secretary.
 - B. These officers shall be elected by ballot at the last session of each biennial meeting and shall serve until their respective successors have been elected at the next biennial meeting.
 - C. In case of a vacancy occurring among the officers of members of the committees, the Executive Committee shall appoint someone to fill the unexpired term. When an officer or member of a standing committee ceases to be the official representative of his mission, his place is considered vacant and the Executive Committee will proceed to fill the vacancy.

D. Duties.

1. President: shall preside at all meetings of the Council and Executive Committee and shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees except such as might concern the presidency.
2. Secretary-treasurer: shall keep a permanent record of all meetings of the Council and Executive Committee and send a digest of such records to each mission representative. He shall keep a file of all records and communications of either body and preserve a roster of membership and attendance at meetings. He shall send official notice of all meetings. He shall receive all monies of the Council, keep same in a recognized bank, issue receipts for all money received, and keep vouchers of expenses.
3. Recording secretary: shall prepare the minutes of each session of the Council. He shall also compile and keep up to date a statistical chart of all evangelical work in Colombia.

V. Committees. The committees of the Council shall be of two classes, namely standing and special.

- A. Standing committees shall serve continuously and shall be elected by ballot. No member can serve on two standing committees. The following shall be the standing committees: (a) Executive Committee, (b) Legal Affairs Committee.

1. Membership and Composition.

- (a) The Executive Committee shall consist of the three officers of the Council.
- (b) The Legal Affairs Committee shall consist of three members preferably resident in Bogotá.

2. Duties.

- (a) Executive Committee. This committee shall represent the Council between sessions in all urgent matters which may come up; shall counsel new missions coming into the country; and shall convoke the Council in regular or special meetings. It shall also promote inter-mission regional gatherings, including Colombian workers, in all parts of Colombia, and general conferences or congresses of such nature for the entire republic when deemed advisable.
- (b) Legal Affairs Committee. This committee shall represent as many cooperating (or non-cooperating) missions as may authorize it to do so before the Colombian government and/or the diplomatic and consular representatives of foreign countries, in matters related to:
 - (1) the legal problems connected with the entrance of missionaries into the country;
 - (2) requests for justice in cases of persecution of either Colombians or missionaries; and
 - (3) any other matters which may arise and have to be dealt with ~~through~~ the aforementioned authorities.

- B. Special Committees shall be elected or appointed for special duties. They shall serve until those duties are fulfilled, and shall then be discharged. Such committees shall include the following and whatever others the Council may require from time to time: (a) Findings Committee, (b) Committee on Credentials and Nominations, and (c) Auditing Committee.

VI. Right to Vote.

- A. Each member mission shall have one vote on Council matters - that of the executive who officially represents that mission.
- B. Two or more missions, if they find it expedient, may appoint a joint representative, but in that case said representative shall still have only one vote.

- VII. Amendments. These by-laws may be amended at any Council meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

- VIII. Comity. It is expected that all member missions will exercise Christian charity in the expansion of their work by being careful not to encroach on one another's territory, that no mission will enter territory recognized as belonging to another mission without duly consulting the leaders of said mission, and that in cases where an understanding cannot be reached the question will be submitted to the Executive Committee of the E.M.O.C. If a mission representative of those involved is a member of the Executive Committee his place shall be filled for the consideration of this matter by a neutral member of the Council.
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MINUTES - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - APRIL 14, 1947.

Meeting opened with prayer by Thoresen.

Supt. read letter from Dr. Syrdal re. visa application for Mendenhalls and Sheldahl.

Discussion of letters from Dr. Guldseth and medical program:

Voted: that recommendation be made that Dr. Guldseth apply for a visa as a medical man (not as a missionary) and that the scope of his medical work be decided after Dr. Syrdal and Rev. Jensen have visited the field.

Voted: that we protest against the action of the Board in refusing the vote to married women and that we ask the Board to reconsider said action of the January Conference and that vote be given to all active workers, men or women, which shall include the wives of those active workers.

Voted: that we recommend to the Conference that financial arrangements with students needing help be made through a committee chosen by the faculty of the Institute.

Meeting adjourned, Morck closed with prayer.

MEDICAL SURVEY IN COLOMBIA

by Dr. Gustav Guldseth

April 14,
1947

2

Survey of Investigation.

Soon after arriving in Medellin, Miss Tennis, who had taken one year's training in the large Catholic hospital there, introduced me to several M.D.'s. One of them suggested I work with him. They were cordial and helpful.

In Bogota, the Presbyterians introduced me to their friendly M.D., Dr. Cortez. He was sympathetic to my aims, and first tried to get a license to place me as a "public Health" assistant to himself. The authorities insisted that one must take Spanish Med. Ex. to procure a license. Then he suggested that I could work with him on the Presbyterian Barranquilla Hospital project - and that we unite with this work. This would be quite removed from our field and missionaries however.

I spent about 10 days visiting various offices in Bogota to find a loophole for entrance. Finally the office of Med. Titles (Med. License) said that if I worked on the plains, they would not interfere, unless local action was filed against me, then they would be obligated to consider it.

A "Practicante" (practical Dr.) license is obtainable locally. A possibility is to begin with this and go up for exams when language is sufficient. Medical terminology is similar to English terms, both being taken from the Latin.

La Aguada seems to be the place most suitable at present, due to the many Evangelical friends there. But it is only a village. All say that people are willing to travel far for medical treatment, however. It is at the foot of the mountains, altitude 1300 feet.

A "practical" license would not permit of major surgery - and we are still seeking for the nearest Colombian M.D. to sponsor me as his assistant. I found such a man, M.D., who is working south of our field (Pentecostal M.) but he has no jurisdiction over our area.

I am willing to act as the Lord leads. If sent to South America, I would keep my family in Medellin until a suitable brick and tile roof house or cottage was ready for them on the plains. Land is much cheaper here and further out on plains, is free.

If people are instructed and guided aright here, there are great possibilities. The Colombian government does nothing for them - not even build roads. In dry season, a jeep could get around O.K., however. Many here have chronic tropical infectious diseases.

Hospitals in South America are usually built in separate units called pavillions. A possibility is that 1 or two pavillions could first be built. A local man burns brick and tile. If the work grows, additional pavillions could be added - according to a suitable pattern.

Recommendations:

1) Medical Work

It is the concensus of opinion of the following members (and friend) of Mission, that this center be established at La Aguada. Rev. Ostrem, Mork (and father,) and myself. Rev. Thoreson and Olson have not visited the plains and are non-committal as yet.

Points in favor:

- 1) There are no M.D.s here and the need is greatest.
- 2) Abundant spring water. No mosquitoes.
- 3) Fewer and lukewarm Catholics. Many of Nationals friendly to our church. We have a good school here.
- 4) Could serve both mountains and plains.
- 5) One of our strongest and most progressive stations at present.

Points against:

- 1) No roads. (There are 2 projected roads)
Plain lands 8 miles away at Moreno.
Freight is 10 centavos (6 1/2¢) a lb. in large lots.

2) Missionary Rest Cottages

Near Aguada, we feel also that these cottages (1 or 2 to begin with) could be set up, as most missionaries will require yearly medical attention, and Typhoid shots, etc.

The altitude would be sufficiently low to be beneficial. Nights are cool, comparatively. Baranquilla (on seacoast) where Presbyterians go, is much more muggy and oppressive. There is clean spring water; and comodities (except flour) are reasonable. There is Psychological freedom: a minority of Catholics, and these quite indifferent. This freedom of tension would be most welcome to the missionary.

I understand Mr. Stadskev (who is on his own) is looking at the land here. He is willing to cooperate with the Church.

3) The Medellin School

The Medellin School is running independently at present, with 3 Christian and excellent teachers. They have chapel every A.M. 31 pupils.

It has been and I believe it will be advantageous for this school to remain independent - and rather receive yearly grants of ca.\$500 or so from each of the 4 or 5 missions interested. There is too little income for salaries (they barely have enough for food,) or improvements, which are necessary.

4) Lutheran Center at Bogota

Our missionaries often come here in regard to visas, passports, dental work and general supplies, etc. Only dirty "pension"

hostels or expensive hotels are available. We should have a small home here. Many German Lutherans are said to have come here and mission work could be carried on with these, as well as with Jews, if possible. A suitable place could be rented for this work.

G. J. Guldsseth, M.D.

May 12, 1947.

Dr. Rolf Syrdal,
425 South 4th Street,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Dr. Syrdal:

Just a Note to tell you how much we are looking forward to having you and Rev. Jensen with us in July. We are only sorry you cannot stay longer.

Rev. and Mrs. Malde were here last week. So the committee assigned the task of planning the July Conference got together and worked out the program. Due to some confusion of dates in the planning of your itinerary, which I understand is being corrected I cannot give you the exact date or the copy of the program which we hope to have in mimeographed form. But you would undoubtedly like to know as soon as possible what we expect of you in respect to the program. So I shall just mention the theme and the topics in the order in which they will come if you will be so kind as to contribute in our inspiration and edification in this way.

The conference theme is "THY KINGDOM COME". Topics are: Its Purpose (Syrdal), Its Power (Jensen), Its People (those called to evangelize and those to be evangelized, signs and trends of the times hopeful and otherwise, ect.) (Syrdal), Its Program (serving the one sole purpose -- practical application, methods etc.) (Jensen), ----- Communion address, Syrdal -----, Its Promise, ("Lo I am with you always--", the Kingdom in glory,) (Jensen).

Spanish services; Sunday July 27, morning JENSEN evening Syrdal. No topics. they are the regular Spanish services. Also Weds night, both Syrdal and Jensen speaking briefly with interpreter (if necessary).

It may be well to get the yellow fever injection before leaving the States so as not to be bothered by the effects of it if taken in Bogotá and having to leave directly for the Plains. There is supposed to be some yellow fever in the Plains. Olson also asks me as to any special clothes or equipment you should bring. There is nothing special except a light suit such as one would wear anywhere in hot country. And you may be glad to have an army rain cape or "poncho" as you will strike the Plains in the Wet season. I have asked Rev. Jensen to bring one if possible, which I will buy from him when he leaves. I don't doubt but what you could easily sell yours if you did not wish to carry it back to the States. Here in the altitude you will want a dark suit and a top-coat.

Thanks for the kind letter received quite some time ago regarding the missionaries who passed away during the year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Arnfeld C. Morck.

MINUTES OF BUSINESS SESSIONS DURING CONFERENCE
at Duitama
July 23-29, 1947

(All sessions were opened with devotions)

I. Evangelism

- A. Voted that the plan of occupation presented by the Superintendent be accepted as a tentative guide for the evangelistic occupation of the field.
- B. Dr. Syrdal spoke on economy of foreign missionary personnel, pointing out that the Institute in Duitama is overstaffed in comparison with the personnel occupied in direct evangelistic work. Rev. Jensen also stressed this fact, which is recognized by all missionaries on the field as a temporary situation which will begin to be corrected during the next school year and in part even in the coming semester. It should, however, also be born in mind that the Institute school year is only about 7 and 1/2 months and that staff members have done evangelistic work during vacations.
- C. Voted that Miss Bergh be placed in Tunja, Miss Thorkildson in El Cocuy, and Miss Danielson in Duitama, the latter to be released from her duties in the Institute as soon as possible, and that they also be available for evangelistic work at other stations as may be arranged by the station head involved and the Superintendent.
- D. Voted that a Bible short course of a week be arranged for in La Aguada.
- E. Voted that Miss Thorkildson and Pastor Morek be in charge of this course together with Pastor Ostrem.
- F. Voted that arrangements for call, placement and salary of the boys to graduate be decided by the Executive Committee.
- G. Voted that the Executive Committee study and formulate plans for an "Asamblea" and Bible Camp for the coming year.

II. Education

- A. Educational program presented by Rev. Thoresen.
- B. Voted that the Institute provide a course in methods for the advanced girls so as to prepare them to teach in case that should be needed.
- C. Voted that future action in this matter be left to the Executive Committee and Educational Director.
- D. Voted that the situation as to a school in Duitama be left to the Executive Committee to study and arrange for it if that be feasible.
- E. Voted that Pastor Morck be in charge of the short course for teachers.
- F. Voted that the raise in salary scale for teachers for the coming year as suggested by Thoresen be accepted, and it is expected that the congregations assume at least 50% of the raise.

II. Education (Contd.)

- G. Voted that the additional raise in the salary as suggested by Thoresen be applied in the case of Gustavo Rodriguez.

III. Literature

- A. Report given on translation and literature program by Pastor Morck.
- B. Voted that Mrs. Larson, Mrs. Thoresen, Miss Bergh, and Miss Nerlien study the Graded System of Sunday School lessons and recommend to January Conference which should be translated.
- C. Voted that Morck be given authority to go ahead with translation, hiring capable Colombians for this work.
- D. Voted that Morck be our representative on an interdenominational literature and publication committee and that any commitments be ratified by the Conference.

IV. Agriculture

- A. Voted that the agriculture program be studied and be drawn up in complete form for the January Conference to be presented to the Board.

V. Medical

- A. Voted that we request two nurses and that a clinic and visitation program be set up.

VI. Finance and Property

- A. Voted that we recommend to the Board the purchase of the house for the Institute at Duitama at \$16,000.00 (pesos).
- B. Voted that we request the permission for the spending of approximately \$10,000.00 (pesos) for a station house in Duitama.
- C. Voted that we request permission to spend approximately \$15,000.00 (pesos) for property in Tunja.
- D. Voted that Malde, Thoresen and Morck be authorized to transact the purchase of these properties.
- E. Voted that up to \$1,000.00 (pesos) be requested for property in La Aguada, arrangements for the buying of property to be made by the station head together with someone appointed by the Superintendent.
- F. Voted that we accept with thanks the house at La Aguada.

VII. Miscellaneous

- A. Letter of greeting from the Quanruds read, and Secretary instructed to acknowledge same.
- B. Voted that Dr. Syrdal and Rev. Jensen be cordially welcomed and given voice in conference.
- C. Dr. Syrdal explained the matter of vote in conference by married women - not granted because it is the pastor and not his wife who is called and salaried by the Board, and, therefore, the one responsible. It is not a matter of woman's suffrage. Approval was given of previous action by conference giving vote to Celmosa missionaries while awaiting their acceptance of call. Clarification was also given of reason for withholding vote from missionaries who have not been on the field one year.
- D. Voted that we extend vote in this conference to Celmosa missionaries who are regularly called and salaried, and to Miss Antonson who is also called and salaried.
- E. Voted that we authorize the Superintendent to sign a letter by which Rev. Reifsnnyder, president of Legal Affairs Committee, is empowered to represent our mission before the government.
- F. Dr. Syrdal reported on and clarified negotiations between Celmosa and the churches now in charge of the Celmosa field in Colombia. The function and responsibility of the Conference was also explained. Dr. Syrdal presented and explained list of basic furniture.
- G. Voted that we recommend that the term of service on field be five years with one year of furlough.
- H. Voted that turns be taken for the responsibility of conference meals and that the Executive Committee have the authority to place the responsibility for each Conference.
- I. Voted unanimously that we express our gratitude to Dr. Syrdal and Rev. Jensen and the Board (Joint) for their visit with us on the field.

11/27/47 Board Minutes attached

El Cocuy, Boyacá
September 26, 1947

Dear Co-workers in Christ:

From the land of snowcaps, potatoes and sunshiny mornings we greet you in the words of Paul praying for the Philippians, Phil. 1:3-11.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Board Meeting Report of August 27-30. Please check the items with the copy of the conference minutes to see what was approved or left for further study (ad notam). I think most of the items are self-explanatory. All of us are happy over the unsolicited grant of extra allowance for our living. It is going to help a bit coming now before Christmas.

I might explain that the Executive Committee meetings referred to were the following: June 3, at which it was decided that, due to the necessity of Quanruds' leaving on furlough immediately, Maldes be asked to take over the work in Tunja when they leave, to continue their study of Spanish in Tunja and to be helped in the meetings by workers in Duitama. July 2: "Voted that Morck arrange for the placement of the boys during the mid-term vacations (Pausanias - El Cocuy, Oliverio - Tunja, Johnny - Parpa and Mause)." July 22: (Syrdal and Jensen present) "Voted that No. 1 of the Third Quarter budget remittance be kept on hand for use when national workers have been selected" (It has reference to a gift from some pastors for a national worker).

A copy of our Executive Committee meeting for August 7 is also enclosed. I might add that the payment to Leticia Corzo is to be made by don Rubén Gonzales of Peña Negra since he requested the school and promised to support it.

Since the Executive Committee has been delegated the responsibility of arranging the vacations for the missionaries, would you please send or hand to the Superintendent the approximate date that you want for your vacation. According to Conference decision approved by the Board, the single workers are allowed 150 pesos for vacation, the couples, 300 pesos. Could we have this before the next Executive Committee meeting the third or fourth week of October? It would be well for all to try to be gone when the load would be the least for the others or at a time when a national worker could fill in. (If air mail doesn't reach me by October 15 please send wire).

Several have asked me about medical expenses, so I would like to quote from Dr. Syrdal's recommendation to the Board which is the basis for the time being of the payment of medical expenses:

"1. Medical benefits on the Field. On fields where medical missionaries are located they are considered physicians of the missionaries and will render free professional service. Other necessary costs for medicine and hospitalization as prescribed by the missionary physician will be defrayed by the mission.

"If no medical missionary is located on the field, the mission will pay for professional services received from the nearest competent physician approved for service to missionaries by the Mission Conference. Other medical service prescribed by the regularly used physician will also be defrayed by the mission.

"If the missionary desires medical service other than that provided above, it shall be at the personal expense of the missionary.

"The Mission will pay one-half the cost of confinement cases when missionary doctors or doctors approved by the Mission Conference for medical care are used. Dental work is not paid by the mission. Oculist's fees for examination are paid, but the Mission does not share in paying for necessary glasses.

"2. Medical benefits on Furlough.

"A married missionary is to pay the first \$25.00 of the bill for medical and surgical care prescribed by a physician for the family in any one year, and 25% of the balance. A single missionary will pay the first \$15.00 of such cost in any one year, and 25% of the balance.

"The Board will pay one-half the cost of confinement cases over and above the \$25.00 minimum medical costs for the family.

"All examinations ordered by the Board will be paid. Examinations desired beyond those requested by the Board shall be paid for by the missionary.

"A missionary is responsible for all dental bills and cost of glasses.

"Any benefits received from hospital insurance kept in force by the Board shall be considered a part of its share in defraying physician's and hospital expenses."

If any missionary has travel or expense money left over which should be refunded to the Board, it is according to Board decision that it be put into a special travel fund (for furlough travel, etc.). Please give the Board a statement of the balance you have, telling them that you are turning it over to the field treasurer.

Also, according to Syrdal's instructions, the balances of the budget which each station has, or Institute Director has, on hand at the end of the year is to be turned back to the field treasurer for the coming year. That will mean a financial statement from each receiver and disburser of station or Institute budgets, and it is necessary that each head or director also give to the treasurer an itemized list of the things on hand, as of December 31, 1947, that belong to the mission; such as, furniture, books, etc.

Also, it is necessary for each head to prepare a report of the work done in each station and Institute during the past year, to be presented to the Conference. It would be well if attached to it could be recommendations to the Conference of any items which should be acted upon that influence the activity of that station or Institute. I think the practice of the Presbyterians in regard to stations is worth copying. They have a meeting in each station of all the workers involved there and they present recommendations to the Conference as a group.

This is getting to be a long list of things to do, but the end of the year is not so far off, and lest it catch us unprepared for these things, I would also add that each head and director has to report to the Executive Committee before the Conference a proposed budget for the coming year. Copies of the proposed budget to be filled in will be mailed to each one needing them so as to make our budgets uniform.

As to business for our coming Conference I have the following items: 1) Recommendation of Executive Committee that financial arrangements with students be handled by a faculty committee of the Institute. 2) The matter of participation in other assemblies. 3) Furloughs, placements, and appointments. 4) Constitutions for congregations and requirements for membership. 5) Our July Conference (Syrdal questions that the Board will approve paying travel for two conferences). And what have you? Please tell me or some member of the Executive Committee if you have something else to discuss and to be acted upon.

May I also ask you to be praying about, pondering over, and proposing to the Committee before the October meeting any recommendation to help guide us as we deliberate and plan for: 1) Assemblies; 2) Bible camp; 3) The call, salary, etc., of the boys graduating; 4) The Conference program.

Greetings to all, and God's blessings.

Sincerely in Christ,

(Olson)

COLOMBIA.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the E.L.C. dissolved to meet together with the Board members of the U.E.L.C. as a joint Board on Colombia.

Members present; E.L.C., Stavig, Aasgaard, Lavik, Louis, Onstad, Hanson; U.E.L.C., Carlson, Jensen, Paulsen. Advisory members of the E.L.C. present, Syrdal, Burgess.

1. Report on Trip to Colombia.

Brief report on trip to Colombia was made by Rev. Jensen and Dr. Syrdal to supplement duplicated report handed to the board members.

2. Reports

Reports were made by Dr. Syrdal on the situation in reference to entrance permits, and the following status of calls extended;

1. Rev. Gerhard Ostrem. Call Accepted.
2. Miss Hildur Thorkildson. Call Accepted.
3. Rev. Andrew Larson. Call not accepted.

3. Conference Report of July 23-29, 1947.

The Conference report was read with following action taken.

I. Evangelism.

- A. Approved.
- B. Ad Notam.
- C., D., E., F., G. Approved.

II. Education.

- A. Ad Notam
- B., C., D., E., F., G. Approved.

III. Literature.

- A. Ad Notam.
- B. Approved.
- C. Approved., with the understanding that it be within the budgeted allotment.
- D. Approved.

IV. Agriculture.

Approved.

V. Medical.

Approved for calling at such time as the budget will permit.

VI. Finance and Property

A., B., C., D., E. Approved

Voted: That the cooperating Boards be asked to contribute their proportionate shares for the above purchases.

F. Approved.

VII. Miscellaneous.

- A. Approved.
- B., C., D., E., F. Ad Notam.
- G. Approved tentatively, pending revision of mission rules.
- H., I., Ad Notam.

4. Executive Committee Minutes of June 3, July 2, July 22.

Ad Notam.

Morck

5. Request for 2000 pesos for Celmosa

Voted; That the action of the last Board meeting relative to 2000 Pesos be rescinded since there has been no official request from Celmosa.

6. Doctor for Colombia.

Voted; That we reconsider action relative to calling Dr. Guldseth to Colombia.

VARIA

1. Basic Furniture.

Voted; That the list of basic furniture submitted by the Board be considered a maximum amount to be realized gradually.

2. Cost of Living Allowance.

Voted; That a cost-of-living allowance of \$120 a year for a single worker, and \$200 for a married couple be made for the second half of 1947 and for 1948.

3. Uniformity of Accounts.

Voted; That the Treasurer's office be asked to assist in setting up a uniform accounting system with prescribed forms for use on all fields for use in reporting the status of various funds handled on the field; also reporting all receipts from all sources and disbursements therefrom.

4. Travel Accounts.

Voted; That refunds to Missionary Conference treasuries on advances to missionaries for travel be credited to a special travel fund.

Basic Furniture Account

1947

(All things already purchased and refund now desired.)

2 Living room chairs and Davanport.....	\$115.00	
Buffet.....	100.00	
Chest of Drawers (due from last year).....	15.00	230
Study Chair.....	75.00	
Baby Bed.....	80.00	
Cedar Chest (in place of second chest of drawers.).....	60.00	215
	<u>60.00</u>	
	\$445.00	

230 to refund
215 to Present to Board for consideration of Refund

*Supt
file*

BASIC FURNITURE - 1947

Voted: That the following be adopted as regulations for "Basic Furniture" to be supplied by the mission on all our fields.

A. Basic furniture for station with married couple.

- 1) Kitchen: Stove, Table, 4 Chairs.
- 2) Dining Room: Table, 6 Chairs, Buffet.
- 3) Living Room: Couch and 2 Chairs
- 4) Bed Room: 3 Double Beds, Wardrobe, 2 Chest of Drawers
- 5) Office: Desk or Table, 3 Chairs, and Bookcase.

B. Basic furniture for single workers.

- 1) Kitchen: Stove, Table, 2 Chairs.
- 2) Dining Room: Table, 4 Chairs, Buffet
- 3) Living Room: Couch and 2 Chairs.
- 4) Bed Room: 1 Single Bed, Wardrobe, Chest of Drawers.
- 5) Guest Room: 1 Double Bed, Chest of Drawers.
- 6) Office: Desk or Table, 2 Chairs, Bookcase.

C. Stoves shall be optional according to the decision of the Conference on the field.

D. Stoves are to fit the needs of individual stations on the field, according to Conference decision.

E. Wherever possible all furniture shall be purchased or made in the country where it is to be used.

F. The Basic furniture shall be standardized for each field.

G. Each Conference shall establish a maximum sum for purchasing or making this basic furniture, above which the mission accepts no obligation.

H. All Conference actions on basic furniture shall be referred back to the Board for final action. Detailed set of rules will be worked out later.

I. The Mission Conference may buy furniture which individuals have already placed in a home and which fits the definition of Basic furniture, providing this has not previously been paid for by the Mission. The price for such furniture is to be determined by the Mission Conference, and may not exceed the basic amount allowed by the Conference.

J. The Conference shall have full authority to decide where furniture shall be placed, and shall keep invoice of items belonging under Basic furniture in each place. All basic furniture shall be marked as mission property.

Voted: That the list of basic furniture submitted by the Board be considered a maximum amount to be realized gradually.

Nov., 1947

V. COLOMBIA

1. Requests for Entrance Permits.

Report was made by Dr. Syrdal that the latest requests for entrance permits for Miss Arnesen and Miss Torkelson had been denied. The suggestion that an attorney in Bogota be contacted in the matter of entrance permits was approved by common consent.

2. Executive Committee Meeting 8-7-47.

The report of this Committee Meeting was read and accepted Ad Notam.

3. Purchase of Property.

It was reported that one building for the Institute in Duitama had been purchased at the cost of 16,000 pesos and that investigation is now being made for suitable residence for missionaries.

4. Engagement of Rev. Morck and Miss Hildur Thorkildson.

Dr. Syrdal was requested to write a letter expressing our joy and best wishes to Rev. Morck and Miss Hildur Thorkildson on the occasion of their engagement.

5. Report by Rev. Jensen.

Rev. Jensen reported that the Board of the U.E.L.C. will contribute 20% of the cost of the building recently purchased in Duitama.

VARIA.

8. Circulating Library For Missionaries.

Voted: That we authorize the mission secretary to set this suggestion up as a special project.

14. Next Board Meeting

Voted: That the Board meet for its next meeting Feb. 2-4, 1948.

QUELMOZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Duitama, Boyacá
Colombia, S. A.

January 6-12, 1948

Conference was opened in the name of the Holy Trinity by Supt. Harold L. Olson.

I. All sessions were opened with devotions.

A. Mornings: "The Race Which is Set Before Us"

1. Introduction, The Race, by Arnfeld Morck
2. The Witnesses by Gerhard Ostrem
3. Running with Patience by Irene Thoresen
4. The Sin Which Doth so Easily Beset Us by Roy Malde
5. Looking Unto Jesus by Virginia Antonsen

B. Afternoons: Miscellaneous

1. Selma Malde
2. Hildur Morck
3. Belva Nerlien
4. Hans Thoresen

C. Saturday evening fellowship - Joyce Bergh and Helen Ostrem.

II. Reports

- A. Report by Superintendent.
- B. Secretary's report read and approved.
- C. Treasurer's report read, discussed and approved.
- D. Report by auditing committee heard and approved by vote.

III. Evangelism

- A. Voted that the Quanruds be placed on the Plains, the exact location to be decided upon by the Executive Committee after an investigation has been made.
- B. Discussion of Constitution for Congregations.
- C. Voted to approve Article IV, No. 1, with the following stipulations to guide the missionaries:
 1. A personal, public manifestation of faith in Christ as Saviour, the pastor to use his discretion in individual cases as to the manner of the testimony.
 2. That the act of confirmation be used with the vow excepting that the pastor repeats the Articles of Faith.
 3. The laying on of hands used thereafter.
- D. Voted that we approve the proposed constitution for congregations as presented and read.

III. Evangelism (Cont'd)

- E. Voted that we require acceptance of Articles II, III and X of the Constitution in order to organize as a Lutheran congregation, and also Articles IV, VII, and IX of the Constitution and Sections I and III of the By-Laws for membership in the organization of congregations.
- F. Voted that the approval of the lawyer's corrections of the proposed Constitution be left to the missionaries in Duitama and Tunja who are present at the time the manuscript might be ready, a minimum being Thoresen, Malde and Morck.
- G. Voted that Morck be in charge of the Duitama station when Thoresen leaves on furlough.
- H. Voted that planning for a general meeting of our people, to be held during the short vacation, be left to the Executive Committee.

IV. Education

- A. Voted that recommendation of Executive Committee regarding student help be tabled for further study at this Conference.
- B. Voted that Morck be appointed Director of the Bible Institute for a two-year term.
- C. Voted that Miss Bergh and Miss Nerlien be placed in the Institute.
- D. Comments on Educational Program by Thoresen.
- E. Voted that Gustavo Rodriguez be given \$80.00 (pesos) a month if he presents proof that he must support his mother.
- F. Voted that we accept the Colombian marking system as the standard for all of our schools and that Educational Director place the value of the system on the new cards.
- G. Voted that Juanita Wilches be asked to teach in Parpa should we be in need of a teacher for that school.
- H. Voted that the planning of a short course for teachers and the Bible Course on the Plains be left to the Executive Committee.
- I. Voted that all student aid given by mission or missionary funds be handled through the Institute faculty.
- J. Voted that student aid for first-year students be offered to the respective congregations in alphabetical order insofar as funds are available and that the congregations, in order to receive this opportunity, recommend their candidates for "beca" and back up said recommendation with the payment of the "matricula" fee.

V. Literature

- A. Voted that we translate the Sunday School Series beginning with Nos. 3 and 4, No. 4 to be translated immediately and No. 3 to be accommodated or reworked meanwhile as to the necessary changes of material and pictures, and later submitted to the translator.
- B. Belva Nerlien, Mrs. Thoresen and Roy Maide elected for Literature Committee.
- C. Voted that we accept for general use the text of the Catechism published by "El Testigo", Puerto Rico.
- D. Voted that we translate and print the following books in the order in which they are numbered; 1) Stump's "Catechism", 2) "Infant Baptism & Adult ^{Conversion} ~~Catechism~~", 3) "Under His Wings", 4) "March of Faith", 5) "Ten Studies in Personal Evangelism", 6) "Bible Teachings"; "From Death Unto Life" (already being translated).

VI. Agriculture

Voted that the Executive Committee be responsible for presenting an agricultural program not later than the next regular conference.

VII. Medical

VIII. Finance and Property

- A. Voted that the budgets as presented for the present year be approved.
- B. Voted that the money be transferred from the emergency fund to cover the overdraft in the other funds.
- C. Voted that the Executive Committee be empowered to disburse the gift money on hand in El Cocuy and Tunja.
- D. Voted that we recommend to the Board a loan of \$2500.00 (pesos) to the congregation in Duitama for the purchase of cemetery ground, said loan to be paid back in payments of \$300.00 minimum annually, beginning with January, 1949.
- E. Voted that investigation of and arranging for "personería jurídica" (incorporation for holding property) be left to the Executive Committee.
- F. Voted that we request \$2000.00 (pesos) for the buying of a house and land, and improvement of same, at Parpa, this to be the home of the Colombian evangelist.
- G. Voted that we pay the deficits in the budget funds as presented by the station heads and the Institute Director.

IX. Miscellaneous

- A. Greetings received from Quanruds, Mendenhalls, Rev. K.R. Jensen, and the China Mission. Secretary instructed to acknowledge them.

IX. Miscellaneous (Cont'd)

- B. Voted that the Thoresens be granted furlough in June and Miss Antonsen at the end of the school year.
- C. Voted that Thoresen be recommended for advanced study during his furlough.
- D. Voted that we accept Thoresen's resignation from the Executive Committee.
- E. Voted that Virginia Antonsen fill the office of Elizabeth Heerde on the Executive Committee while Miss Heerde is on furlough.
- F. Voted that beginning this year we seek to stagger the offices of members of the Executive Committee so as to provide more continuity in the committee.
- G. Voted that Pastor Malde fill the office of Rev. Thoresen on the Executive Committee.
- H. Voted that we request four wardrobes at approximately \$100.00 (pesos) each, three desk tables, approximately \$40.00 to \$50.00 (pesos) each, and nine dining room chairs at approximately \$10.00 (pesos) each, in the styles approved by the Conference.
- I. Voted that we propose to Mr. Stadskev the personal offer of \$300.00 (dollars) previously made by Thoresen for the piano.
- J. Voted that Rev. & Mrs. Reifsnnyder's expenses be covered by the Conference.

(We profited much by the rich and varied missionary experiences of Rev. and Mrs. Reifsnnyder (of the Presbyterian mission) during special sessions Saturday and Sunday as they, with unusual interest and wit, spoke of their recent trip to Mexico and their former service as missionaries in that country and in Venezuela. Rev. Reifsnnyder also preached the Word at the Spanish service Sunday evening and brought us a fine devotional message at the opening of our last business session.)

MINUTES OF THE EVANGELICAL MISSIONS' OFFICERS COUNCIL MEETINGS

HELD IN BOGOTA, JAN. 19-21, 1948

The meetings were officially opened in the evening of Jan. 20, 1948, by the President, O. E. Langeloh. In this meeting the delegates assembled for a period of meditation and prayer.

The morning session of January 21 convened at 8:30 and was opened by a period of devotions led by Rev. John Dyck.

Dr. B. H. Pearson was then called upon to give the treasurer's report. The report was accepted subject to the approval of the auditors. (App. #1)

Rev. T. Bancroft Reifsnyder, chairman of the Legal Affairs Committee, was called upon to give the report of his committee. He stated that his work had largely consisted of attempts to get visas for missionary candidates. He stated that with the exception of two visas recently granted, that no visas had been granted by the Foreign Office to missionaries. Those who have received entrance permits received them only when consuls in the States granted them without consulting the Foreign Office in Bogotá. Rev. Reifsnyder gave a summary of his attempts to get visas for missionaries in which he indicated that there seems to be pressure from high government offices to not permit the foreign minister to issue visas to missionaries.

Rev. John Dyck and Rev. Harold Olson were appointed as auditors to audit financial reports.

The President, Mr. Langeloh, gave a financial report. The report was approved. (App. #2)

The report of the specially called meeting of the EMOC Executive committee in April was made. The report was approved.

It was moved that the items for special consideration in the report of the Special Meeting of the Executive committee, be arranged in the form of recommendations by the Executive Committee and be presented to the EMOC. The motion was carried. This was followed by a short recess.

The second half of the morning session was opened by prayer by the president. This was followed by a roll call. The following member missions responded:

1. The Wesleyan Methodist Mission, Rev. Robert Crosby;
2. The Scandinavian Alliance Mission, Rev. Olav Eikland;
3. The Cumberland Presbyterian Mission, Rev. Henry Newman;
4. The Colombian Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America, Rev. Harold Olson;
5. The Interamerican Mission, Dr. B. H. Pearson;
6. The General Conference Mennonite Mission, Rev. Gerald Stucky;
7. The Christian and Missionary Alliance, Rev. O. E. Langeloh;
8. The Presbyterian Mission, Rev. T. B. Reifsnyder.

The following member missions had no representative present: 9. The Latin American Mission; 10. The Calvary Holiness Mission, 11. Agencias Bíblicas Unidas; 12. Open Bible Standard; 13. South American Indian Mission.

Also present were the following representatives of non-member missions: Rev. John Dyck, Mennonite Brethren Mission, Mrs. Harriet Guevara, Mission of the Andes; Rev. Paul Epler, Assemblies of God, Rev. Ira Washburn, Independent; Rev. and Mrs. Paul Anderson, Four Square Gospel Mission. Also present as visitors were Rev. George Constance, and Miss Marjorie McGawn.

After a brief discussion on statistical information, it was resolved that we seek to compile statistics which shall be made from the answers to a set of questions compiled by Dr. B. H. Pearson.

Rev. Emery Newman led a round table discussion on comity as to schools, students, districts, national workers, missionaries, etc. It was pointed out that there existed a great dearth of teaching personnel, and that we must try to solve the problems. The problems involved when one mission sends students to the schools of another mission were discussed. It was the concensus of opinion that the mission that sends

SUCH STUDENTS SHOULD NOT ONLY PAY FOR THE MINIMUM EXPENSES IN such students should not only pay for the minimum expenses involved in the education of that student, but should also pay for the pro-rated overhead expenses involved. Besides, if any number of students are sent, the sending mission should also feel obliged to help the mission that is doing the educating, with teachers. It was pointed out that the Bible Institute of the Christian & Missionary Alliance was at the present in great need of help in staffing its school. The Inter-American Mission is still in a position to offer its facilities to students of other missions, and welcome such students. The matter of national workers of one mission seeking employment or being offered employment by a second mission was also discussed. The President then appointed a committee consisting of Rev. Olson, Rev. Eikland, Dr. Pearson, and Rev. Reifsnyder, to serve as a committee on Comity to make a study of the matter and to make definite recommendations to the EMOC in reference to future policy.

It was moved that the meeting adjourn. Approved.

Afternoon Session, January 20, 1948

The meeting was opened by a period of devotion led by Rev. Robert Crosby. The minutes of the morning session were then read and approved.

Rev. Ira Washburn then led a discussion on the "Evangelical Schools under the Concordat." The basis of the discussion was the fact that under the new conservative government a number of schools in Boyacá and elsewhere of evangelical sponsorship had been closed by the Minister of Education, said Minister using the Concordat as the basis of his authority for his actions. As a result of tremendous opposition by the Colombians to the actions of the Minister of education, the Attorney General ruled, or gave his opinion in an open letter to the Minister of Education that the Concordat does not forbid the existance of private schools by other than catholics in the intendencias, and that the constitution guarantees freedom of education. It was pointed out that the upshot of the whole affair seems to be a decided victory for the Evangelical cause especially in the light of the fact that the nationals themselves have taken upon themselves the responsibility to see to it that there be freedom of education. Since many schools, however, are still closed the question was raised whether we should hire a Colombian lawyer to work out the matter for the EMOC and the Missions of Colombia thereby securing once and for all freedom to operate schools in all parts of Colombia.

As a result of the above discussion the president appointed the following committee to study the above question and to make recommendations to the EMOC: Rev. Ira Washburn, Chm., Rev. George Constance, Mrs. Harriet Guevara, and Rev. John Dyck.

As a result of the question as to whether the EMOC would be interested in helping to sponsor a school for missionary children, it was pointed out that Miss Adeline Tennis is now conducting a school for American Children in Medellín, and that the Mennonite Brethren Mission also has a missionary whose sole task is to educate missionary children, but that the program is but in its beginning.

Rev. Siciliani of the Agencias Bíblicas Unidas was presented to the group and have a short but interesting discussion on the present conditions relative to the securing, printing, and distribution of Bibles.

The meeting was adjourned by a prayer led by Rev. Siciliani,

Morning Session, January 21, 1948

The meeting of the morning opened by a period of devotions led by Rev. A. E. Kreider, President of the Mennonite Mission Board. This was followed by a report by Rev. Alfonso Lloreda, Colombian delegate to the meeting of the World Council of the World S. S. Association held in Birmingham, England.

Rev. Lloreda reported that the convention was primarily interested in discussing Ecumenicity, and that Sunday School work and a program for children of the Sunday

school was incidental. This strong move in the convention brought about a change in the name of the convention from World S. S. Convention to World Council of Christian Education. All efforts seemed to be made to leave the S. S. ideas aside, and to change them to Christian Education. It was reported that the intense interest in Youth work completely overshadowed the interest in children's work.

Rev. Lloreda also stated that there was a complicated and rapid desire for Ecumenicity in which every effort was made to coordinate the work of the W. C. of Christian Education with the World Council of Churches.

Rev. Lloreda recommended that the E.W.C. appoint a Sunday School staff to work for curriculum materials and to advance the program of child evangelism in Colombia. It was pointed out that we desperately need visual aids and standardized materials. That Children are the key to our church here in Colombia and that we need children workers to actually evangelize the children.

The second half of the morning meeting was occupied with the discussion of Regional Conferences led by Rev. Harold Olson. Among the Regional conferences now in operation in Colombia were mentioned the one in Palmira conducted by the joint effort of the following missions, C&MA, GMU, Menn. Brethren, Brethren of Pisto, and the Cumb. Presby.; The Victorious Life Conference conducted by the Interamerican Mission, and those in Tolima, Bucaramanga, and Pidacuesta. These were discussed with much interest. The following resolution brought by Mr. Langeloh from the C&MA national conference was then presented:

"Procúrese con todos los esfuerzos necesarios desarrollar una campaña en pro de un Congreso Nacional de Iglesias Evangélicas, en que tomen parte rerepresentaciones de todas las iglesias, todas denominaciones y todas las misiones evangélicas de Colombia; lo cual se procurará llevar a cabo en el año que comienza o a mas tardar en el año 1949, y en el lugar que se estime mas conveniente. F. de P. Ordóñez."

This matter was discussed at length and then the following motion was made by Dr. B. H. Pearson,

"Moved that we endorse the plan for a national congress of Evangelical churches as presented by the national conference of the C&MA Convention, and that it include nationals and missionaries." Motion as adopted.

The meeting was then adjourned.

The Afternoon Session, Jan. 21, 1948

The afternoon session was opened by a devotional period led by Rev. A. E. Kreider. This was followed by a discussion of the indigenous church by Rev. Olav Eikland. The value of the indigenous movement was pointed out as also the danger. He stated that there were dangers in making the national church independent too soon, and that a cooperative work between missionaries and nationals is better. In regard to finances, there should also be cooperation, but that from the beginning the church should be required to take responsibilities. It was suggested that a national can be permitted to be treasurer if he is capable, but that it is indispensable that he be a business man--not a poor man. In regard to the payment of national workers it was stated that the pay should vary according to location of worker and his civil status.

The minutes of the meeting of the afternoon session of Jan. 20 were then read as also those of the meeting of the morning session of Jan. 21. Both were approved.

The auditors reported that they had checked the financial reports of the Legal Affairs Committee and the Treasurer of the E.W.C. and that they were found to be correct. The report was approved.

The following report of the Executive Committee was read and accented, after which it was moved that the items be discussed ad seritum:

"The executive committee recommends the accenting of the following missions as members of the E.W.C.:

1. Church of the Foursquare Gospel, represented by Rev. Paul T. Anderson.

2. General Council of the Assemblies of God, represented by Rev. Paul Epler.
3. Missions of the Andes, represented by Rev. Stewart F. Sparrow.
4. The Executive Committee further makes the following recommendations in regard to the relation of Independent Missions and Missionaries:
 - a. Any member mission after proper investigation may if requested by an independent missionary or mission act as their representative before the EMOC.
 - b. It shall be the province of the EMOC in each case to determine whether or not the Independent mission or missionary is entitled to such representation.
 - c. The services of the Legal Affairs Committee shall be available to Independent Missions or missionaries only following EMOC approval of their representation by a member mission.
5. The Executive Committee also recommends that the representation of Ira Washburn by the Interamerican Mission be approved.

After brief consideration, points 1, 2, 4, and 5 were approved. In regard to recommendation number 3, it was moved "that the application of the Mission of the Andes for membership in the Council be layed on the table until their superintendent return to the field, and that in the meantime we offer them our services.

The application of the United Gospel Tabernacle, Ince., by Mrs. Hannah Lowe was considered and approved. The report as a whole was then approved.

The meeting was adjourned.

Evening Session, January 21, 1948

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. J. E. Langeloh. This was followed by a report of the Chairman of the Legal Affairs Committee. This committee made the following recommendation as a result of the fact that the Foreign Minister was now granting entrance to five missionaries:

"That the Legal Affairs Committee continue negotiating the entrance of missionaries directly with the Minister of Foreign Relations as long as that door remains open."

It was further suggested that missions continue to apply to consuls favorable to the granting of visas without consulting Bogotá. It was also urged that all applications for refund of deposits be made six weeks before anticipated date of departure from Colombia. The above mentioned recommendation was adopted.

In a report of the Comity committee, it was recommended that the comity agreements in regard to students and workers needs further study and that a continuing comity committee be formed to study the question thoroughly and bring recommendations to the next meeting. It was then moved and approved

"that the comity committee be continued and that it cease to function only after it has drawn up a set of regulations for inter mission comity with respect to students, schools, national workers, missionaries, etc., and copies having been sent to all member missions."

The report by the Committee on Schools was then read and the recommendations accepted were the following:

1. "It is recommended that a permanent school committee be created, or as an alternative, that the legal affairs committee be delegated, but in either case, so that the following might be accomplished: said committee to act as clearing house for information regarding developments pertaining to the school problem. This can be accomplished by monthly or bi-monthly news

letters. Information covering developments, difficulties, attainments, and problems to be sent in by those missions." This recommendation was accepted and Rev. Ira Washburn was appointed as a Committee of one to carry out the intent of this resolution.

2. "It is recommended that the permanent committee investigate the possibilities of employing a lawyer or lawyers capable of bringing pressure to bear for a modification of present restrictions against Evangelical schools." It was moved and approved that this recommendation be referred to the Legal Affairs Committee with power to act.
3. It is recommended that the Conference consider a united prayer effort for the sake of the schools, and that such might be incorporated in the news letters sent out periodically by the permanent committee." Approved.
4. "That the matter of a school for missionaries' children be deferred to a later date, pending developments of schools that are proposed or functioning at the present time." Approved.
5. "It is recommended that steps be taken for the publishing of the Pensum Oficial Para Escuelas Primarias, and suggested that perhaps a 1000 be printed, the printing of which be financed by the EMOC or interested missions. That Mr. Crosby be asked to make an investigation and cost estimate for same." As a result of this recommendation it was moved "that the Executive Committee be authorized to publish this Pensum as recommended by the Committee on Schools when same can be accomplished without indebtedness to the EMOC." Approved.

The report as a whole was then adopted.

On motion duly seconded the Executive committee of the EMOC was authorized to prepare for and promote a national congress of Evangelicals in Colombia, it being understood that the national churches will be circularized by a committee of the national church of the CEMA, and the missions be circularized by the EMOC, and they are authorized to order such a congress if same appears feasible." Motion approved.

On motion duly seconded the Executive committee was instructed to study the feasibility of Colombian participation in the Latin American Evangelical Conference planned to be held in Buenos Aires in July, 1949, with authority to act in any way deemed advisable. Motion approved.

On motion duly seconded the EMOC approved and endorsed the following regulation taken by the CEMA convention: A instancias del hermano Ponce, delegado por la congregación de Peñarica (Pohima), la Convención resolvió fijar como norma fija que las personas que deseen contraer matrimonio, han de hacer todos los esfuerzos a su alcance a fin de que tal acto se realice ante las autoridades oficiales, según lo dispuesto en las leyes del matrimonio civil. Únicamente en los territorios nacionales en donde, por la falta de jueces, se presentan múltiples dificultades, se puede dejar el asunto al dictado de la conciencia particular de los interesados, para que resuelvan el caso con mejor estimen conveniente, velando siempre para que en nada se manesque el testimonio ni la convicción de la fe evangélica.

As a result of the elections, the following officers were chosen to serve from 1948-1950:

President: O. E. Langeion,
Secretary-Treasurer: B. K. Pearson
Recording Secretary: Gerald Stucky
Legal Affairs Committee: T. B. Reifsnyder,
Robert Crosby
Ira Washburn

The Minutes were read and approved.

On motion duly seconded it was requested that the minutes be sent to all missionaries in Colombia. Motion approved.

It was decided to set aside the day of July 27, 1948 as a day of prayer. The Mennonite Mission of Cambridge, Ind., extended an invitation to the EMOC ... 6

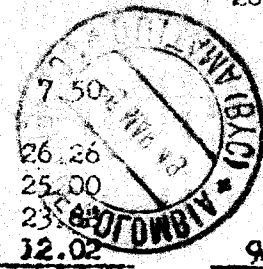
Meeting for Jan. 1950.

The Meeting was adjourned by the singing of "Blest be the Tie that Binds", which was followed by a closing prayer by Rev. Clay Wikland.

Gerald Stucky,
Recording Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Year 1947

Balance on Hand January 25, 1947		73.17
<u>Receipts</u>		
Mar. 5 Christian & Missionary Alliance - Dues	40.00	
Apr. 29 Wesleyan Mission - Dues	20.00	
May 10 Latin American Mission	40.00	
May 31 Inter-American Missy. Soc.	20.00	
Aug. 11 Scandinavian Alliance	19.00	
Dec. 19 Legal Affairs Com. Funds from Mary Thomas	52.84	
		<u>191.84</u>
		265.01
<u>Disbursements</u>		
Feb. 17 3 Rubber Stamps	26.26	
Mar. 27 Mailing Minutes and Circular Letter	25.00	
May 10 O. E. Langeloh-Expenses	23.84	
July 11 Letterheads & Envelopes	12.02	
Dec. 30 Postage		<u>94.46</u>
<u>Balance on Hand December 31, 1947</u>		170.55



B. H. Pearson - Treasurer

Received from B. H. Pearson, May 17, 1947	25.00
Paid for cashing above check	50
220 envelopes, used for mailing for special day as prayer	1.20
Stamps for above	6.55
Stencil	.25
Stamps for correspondence	1.50
	<u>10.00</u>
<u>Total</u>	25.00

Balance on hand January 1st 1948 15.00

Board of Foreign Missions
425 S. 4th St.
Minneapolis, 15, Minn.
June 2, 1948

Rev. Harold Olson
El Cocuy, Boyaca,
Colombia, S. America

Dear Harold:

We were very sorry to hear that you had been mistreated on the way home from Duitama. We would like very much to have you write something about your experiences, that we could put in the Church papers. I think it does our people good to know that our missionaries are not only having easy days. It will also stimulate more prayer for our work there. We are thankful to God that you were not seriously injured. May the Lord continue to hold His protecting hand over all our missionaries in Colombia during these unsettled times. We hope also that these times may soon be over and that an open opportunity, with good will and friendship may be experienced by all of you in your work. We do not know the reasons for the events nor why God permits them. We can only trust and be assured that these too will work for the extension of His Kingdom as we yield to Him and continue in courage and proclaim the Word of Christ. May the Lord continue to bless you all.

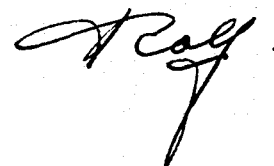
I have recently made inquiry concerning a station wagon that was desired by one of our missionaries in China. I have received information that I can purchase a Chevrolet, Model 3112, 116 in. Wheelbase, Chevrolet with station wagon body, with the following equipment. Five 6-ply tires, Double acting front and rear shock absorbers, 4-speed transmission, for \$1,665.60. Estimated weight and dimensions unboxed, 3,535 pounds, 616 cubic feet.

From the Export Division of the General Motors we are able to get the cars cheaper than the dealers get them at wholesale cost in Minneapolis. There is of course the Import Duty to Colombia and transportation, to be considered, outside of the purchase price.

Would you be interested in having this car sent out as a mission car? We have some money on hand for a jeep and some for a car. Neither one of these sums is sufficient to cover either vehicle completely. We have more than enough to purchase the station wagon but not enough for transportation, etc. We will be glad to send it however, and take care of the extra from our treasury.

I have also made a brief note concerning this possibility in a letter to Morck. I would like to have word from you as soon as possible. I will be leaving the country on June 17th. I would like to take care of this matter before I leave.

Sincerely yours,



RAS:hh

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

October 19, 1948

Rev. Harold Olson
El Cocuy, Boyaca,
Colombia, S.America

My dear Harold:

I wish to thank you for your most recent letter in which you mention items brought up before my trip to Madagascar and Africa. I checked back on some of the questions and find that I am not much more qualified to give the necessary information than I was earlier. I will nevertheless give suggestions with the hope that your Conference can check them over more concretely and that some suggestions to the Home Board might result.

1) Mission Work and Center in Bogota. I believe that there should eventually be such contact in the city of Bogota and that there should be a center of our mission as well as a hostel for missionaries and possibly missionary children. I hesitate in urging such development before our present field has been adequately staffed. I do of course realize that Bogota maybe should take precedence over the development of some areas on our own field. I wish you would discuss this and come with your conclusions.

2) The matter of a school for missionary children will be a problem in a couple of years as you mention. I still hope that some arrangement can be made whereby existing schools in the English language can be utilized for our mission. The public schools in South Africa are used by our missionaries. They send the children to the closest English school and make their own arrangements for housing their children during the week. We do not have a hostel for them because then one school would have to serve all children and some would be so far away that they could not get home over the week-end. This is of course a special circumstance. The schools that they attend are not Christian schools but the home influence is considered to be of such value that they have to date even disposed with the idea of a hostel. If a hostel were built a government school would be used instead of having a separate school for our own children. We realize that the schools are not ideal. On the other hand they are not ideal in America either. Dancing is taught in the elementary grades. The spirit that is developed is not wholesome. We have often questioned the desirability of keeping our children in a public school but feel that the Christian influence of home should be strong enough to keep them and to teach them to meet the things that they face in school and prepare them to face the same things in future life. I wish therefore that you could make a serious study of this question. Developing our own school is simple in the first few years when only one teacher is needed.

... 2

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Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

Later when a full staff has to be developed it eventually subtracts from the number of missionaries that are active in the mission work. If such a step is necessary to save our own missionaries' children we of course do not think that that is too expensive a proposition. On the other hand, if some satisfactory solution can be reached on the hostel scheme we feel that it would be adviseable.

In reference to an agricultural mission, I might say that I am very much interested. I have always been interested in this phase of mission work. On the other hand there should be some fairly clear-cut proposition for a man of this nature to work on when he comes. Such propositions would also mean a great deal to the Board. They should not be so definite that all the work of such a man is laid down in black and white but the general principles and the ideas of procedure might be developed beforehand.

In reference to the agricultural man again, we must consider the relationship between this project and the entire picture of the field and weigh its importance in reference to the need of evangelistic workers.

Concerning questions mentioned in your letter of October 8th, I might mention that I will check through the Board Minutes of 1946 to see what action if any has been taken on your first meeting in the field. Our Minutes for that date are out to be bound so it may be a few days before I can reply. They have not been taken up for action.

I will present them to our Board at its next meeting if the minutes are available.

In reference to Committee work. I would suggest that you should have a small committee to work with the Educational Director who might be a member of this committee. I think for the time being it would be wise to keep the matter of finances and buildings in the hands of the Executive Committee. There are several reasons for this that you might readily see and this suggestion follows a rather general procedure on other mission fields.

I hope that some of the matters that we have discussed may be developed further on the field. May the Lord continue to bless you and protect you all.

We are very much concerned about the hostility manifested in Duitama. I have written calling for special prayer on behalf of our mission and missionaries in Colombia.

Please send us an article that can be used for our church papers.

Sincere greetings in Christ,



RAS:hh

Sociedad Misionera Interamericana

Apartado Nacional 364 Aéreo 1141

Medellín, - Colombia

October 26, 1948

Rev. Harold L. Olson
Misión Evangélica Luterana
El Cocuy, Boyacá

Dear Brother Olson:

It was a pleasure to find your letter of September 1st awaiting me, as yet unanswered, due to my absence from the country and Brother Palmer's sudden going to Australia. We trust that God has been graciously continuing to bless your work.

As regards the suggested additions to the E.M.O.C. statemente on comity. I do not have at hand the first statement. It may appear later, but I will make the following statements.

B 4 and 5 seems to assume a definite philosophy of Missions that the Mission and the Missionary Board should pay the workers' salary and see that it is maintained at a certain standard. This is in direct opposition to much mission work which is being done in the world today, and perhaps the most successful, i.e., the plan whereby no mission money ever is paid to any national working as a teacher or a preacher. This not only prevails throughout great sections of Africa, where some of the greatest things in missions are now taking place, but Rev. C. J. Cassel in Guatemala, the other day raised this same question and thought that we were making a mistake here if we began paying our preachers from mission funds, for it is so difficult to make the change.

I realize the need of eliminating the danger of workers being taken from one mission to another through the offer of a higher remuneration, but I believe that we should make no statement that puts in the hands of our beloved national workers a club to use to demand a certain standard of income if they are going to go on preaching the Gospel. I believe we should protect those missions where the workers' income is all arranged by the local congregation, or the community of churches, as I understand is the case in the Gospel Union. I greatly admire their work, and while we have not begun this way, the continual pressure of my statements and attitudes is towards the local congregations soon taking over the support of their preachers, and the students we are preparing are constantly reminded that they must be ready to go out and raise up churches that will have to support them. Unless they have faith for this, there is no use for them to go forward. What the missions can do in supporting pastors is a very limited number in comparison to the total needs of Colombia.

B5 - this as in other norms that we may write in probably effect everyone except those for whom they are prepared. In other words, those who are not working in E.M.O.C. will still propagate their doctrinal particularism

many times, it would seem, for the purpose of obtaining proselytes to their own denomination. Apart from this, I am sure that we want everyone to give a straight-forward, sincere testimony of their convictions and what God has wrought in their lives. I appreciate this from a Christian brother even when at the time I may not be able to fully understand, or have not been led in the same path. We certainly want nothing that will lessen our convictions or cool ~~our~~ hearts, but may we each one be able to stir the other's heart, as we cry out for more of God and greater intensity of revival in Colombia.

With very kindest personal greetings, and assuring you of my joy in being once more in Colombia.

Sincerely yours in His Calvary victory,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "B. H. Pearson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

B. H. Pearson

BHP:mg

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

November 12, 1948

Rev. and Mrs. A. C. Morck
Lista de Cartas
Correo Aereo
Bogota, Colombia, S.America

Dear Friends in Christ:

The Joint Foreign Mission Boards of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church met recently in Minneapolis, Minnesota. At that time a rather full report was given concerning the situation that developed in Duitama.

The Joint Board was very sympathetic toward you as you had gone through these conditions and were thankful for God's protection during all those weeks of crisis. The Boards were also thankful for the decisions that you had taken and commissioned us to write you a message of encouragement and of appreciation for your faithful service and courage during these trying times. They wished to assure you that they are giving you prayerful support at all times as you continue your ministry in other sections of Colombia.

May the Lord richly bless you in your ministry and may even the experiences you have gone through be of service in building God's Kingdom in Colombia as the people who have opposed you have seen your witness in the face of danger.

On behalf of the Joint Mission Boards,

H. R. Jensen
Rolf A. Syrdal

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Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

VI. COLOMBIA
JOINT BOARDS ELC AND UELC

late 1948

Present: ELC Board and Rev. C. Paulson and Rev. K. R. Jensen.

Rev. Paulson moved and Rev. Jensen seconded that meetings proceed as hitherto, namely that ELC Chairman and Secretary act for the Joint Board.

A. Conditions on the Field.

1. Dr. Syrdal reported visa condition still difficult.
2. Dr. Syrdal reported that Rev. and Mrs. Johan Bergh and Miss Valborg Torkelson have gone out. The Berghs travelled on Visitors Visas, Miss Torkelson as an immigrant.
3. He also reported good conditions on the plains and also at Tunja and El Cocuy. Quanrud will probably be stationed at Arauca. Conditions in Duitama are disturbed. Our missionaries and properties have been stoned repeatedly and our people have been forced to leave the city.
4. Voted: That Jensen and Syrdal prepare letters from the Boards with a message of encouragement and of appreciation for their faithful service and courage during these trying times, and also assure them of our prayerful support.

B. Mrs. Morek Language School.

Voted: That we recommend to the ELC Board that the amount involved in Mrs. Morek's language school expenses given as a loan and repaid by her be returned to her, and the cost of this be borne by the ELC Board.

C. Exec. Comm. Report, June 30, 1948

1. Approved.
2. Ad Notam.
3. Ad Notam.

D. Exec. Comm. Meeting, July 26, 1948

1. Ad Notam
2. 1-5 approved - Voted: That arrangement be approved tentatively (as to amounts to be paid) and that the committee be commended for the carefully thought out plan.
3. Ad Notam
4. Approved
5. Voted: That we approve the purchase of the station wagon in place of a jeep, provided the donors of the gift are agreed. This to be purchased in Colombia.
6. Approved
7. Ad Notam
8. Approved
9. Ad Notam
10. Approved
11. Ad Notam
12. Approved

E. Payment of Exchange Fees.

Voted: That we approve as a temporary measure that the treas. of the Conference take the commissions on exchange out of the mission emergency funds.

F. New Candidates.

Voted: That if the ELC Board approves any candidates appearing before its Board later in this Board Meeting, the Board of the ELC be authorized on behalf of the Joint Committee to issue letters of call to such candidates.

425 S. Fourth St.
Minneapolis 15, Minn.
November 12, 1948.

Rev. A. C. Morck
Carerra 22, No. 63-84
Bogota, Colombia
South America

AIR MAIL

Dear Rev. Morck:

We are very happy to hear that you have been able to locate a house in Bogota. May the Lord richly bless your activity in that city in behalf of His Kingdom.

We will be looking for the cabled \$100.00 to be returned to us. This was cabled at the request of Rev. Jensen who said that they had a previous letter from the field stating that such an amount would be necessary for the ticket from Bogota to Miami. To date we have not heard anything concerning the return of this money. It will most likely come in due time.

We sent \$150.00 by Air Mail to Ella in Miami. She was able to pick it up and so had no difficulty from that point and on. This was also done at the request of Jensen. He finds it difficult to handle some of those items from his residence and we are, of course, always happy to be of service.

We are looking forward to the article that you mention you are sending for use in THE MISSIONARY. I have had an opportunity to talk with Miss Antonsen so I think I have gotten most of the details. She mentioned that you had talked with several people after the Sunday when the people came in great numbers to give the final warning, but that you had not told the ladies what you found out in this investigation. It might be of interest to the Board to have some of those added bits of information. I have had Miss Antonsen write out a report on the evacuation which will be duplicated and sent to all Board members.

With sincere greetings to you, Hildur and Agnes.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



ras:mh

FOLD SIDES OVER AND THEN FOLD BOTTOM UP AND SEAL.
NO OTHER ENVELOPE SHOULD BE USED.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

November 18, 1948

Rev. Harold Olson
El Cocuy, Boyaca,
Colombia, S.America

Dear Rev. Olson:

We have received a \$25.00 gift from Miss Charstan Ostrem to be sent to you for the purchase of Gospel records. Miss Ostrem is interested in the idea of purchasing phonographs for each station. She would like to know what price you have to pay for phonographs purchased in Colombia. We would be very happy to hear from you in this matter. We will then forward this information to Miss Ostrem.


Copy 2

There is a new development in visual education that has caught my interest. The Visual Education Movement has now produced a projector for showing 2 x 2 slides that has a Coleman Lamp built into the unit. This lamp can use either kerosene or gasoline. We figure that this lamp together with the small beaded screen 22 x 30 inches can be purchased and shipped for about \$125.00 to our mission fields. I have been wondering what you think of such a project. I have recently purchased some slides at a great discount that I am also hoping might be used on our mission fields. If you can find use for such slides and such equipment we will do what we can to get ahold of them for you. In one way I have the feeling that such equipment should be of great value in areas where no electricity is available.

We have heard no reports concerning Rev. Quanrud. We note that he is to be stationed at Arauca. Any added bits of information will be of value to us. We would also like to have his address.

Bookings have been secured for Miss Elizabeth Heerde to leave Miami on December 2nd. She will arrive in Bogota that same evening. No further developments in reference to entrance permit for Otis Lee. I have written to him to get ahold of the papers that were submitted through the local consul. If these can be procured I will send them directly to Reifsnnyder so that he may try again.

Sincere greetings to you and yours,



RAS:hh

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425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

November 24, 1948

Rev. Harold Olson
El Cocuy, Boyaca,
Colombia, S. America

Dear Harold:

Your cable has been received. We have sent 500 feet of film to Miss Heerde with the request that she take them with her to South America.

In reference to the other questions, I have brought them before our Executive Committee that met recently.

The Executive Committee Members that I contacted expressed the following general opinion:

It is agreeable to let Miss Heerde manage the Presbyterian Convalescent Home in Bogota for a year if this is agreeable to her and if this is in no wise a step towards cooperative work with the Presbyterians in regular mission work. There was a great deal of reluctance on this point for fear that the step might be misunderstood in this country and raise serious questionings and also because of the Reformed attitude towards union work with other missions. So often a service of the nature requested by Miss Heerde would be considered the beginning of a cooperation in missions that we as Lutherans are not ready to begin. If another solution satisfactory to both of you is possible the Board might be happier if that be carried out. However the Executive Committee of the Board has granted permission for this move.

In reference to the use of Cornelia Jenson. Again a rather vital question was brought up. Would such an arrangement with Miss Jenson carry any obligations with it either towards her or the mission that she represents? With the uncertain support that they have received for that group in Medellin, the Executive Committee was afraid that paying salary for her for one year might obligate us to continue support when the year is over. There is of course the possibility that her own support by that time would have been discontinued from the original source.

The other aspect is that Rev. Sand has suggested on several occasions that he is happy to select missionaries and send them to Colombia with the understanding that they can later enter into our mission. The Mission Board feels definitely that it is not ready to have Sand select its missionaries. We have been very fortunate in those that we have taken over. The Board however feels that it wishes to select the missionaries that it calls.

The question is raised as to the necessity of having Miss Jenson during this year. If other arrangements could be made during the year when the Insti-

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2.

tute is apt to be rather small in its new temporary location, it might be the better way.

I am sorry that this letter may seem rather involved and that it does not as readily grant the requests of your Executive Committee meeting of October 18. Permission to both is granted but is granted rather hesitatingly and granted with the explanations given so that you may use all precaution in your judgment before proceeding in these matters.

The rest of the Executive Committee report will be taken up at the February meeting of the Board.

I am very happy to know that you have begun work in Bogota. May the Lord open up a fine work for us in that city. I am sure that this is a strategic move that has been made and should be of great value in further extension of our work and influence in Colombia.

Sincere greetings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'H. C. J.', is written in dark ink.

RAS:hh

Carrera 21, No. 65-84
Bogotá, Colombia
December 4, 1948

Dr. Rolf A. Syrdal
425 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Syrdal:

Thanks for your kind letters of encouragement which were awaiting us upon our return from our trip through Boyacá, and the one written to Maldé earlier. Please forgive us for our neglect in answering promptly the same. We had hoped to attend to them immediately upon our return but it seems the days on end slip by without accomplishing anything but getting settled. Last Monday I had to make another trip to Duitama as the municipality is ordering everyone to put in sidewalks and you perhaps remember that the old mud wall around the lots is almost entirely on public streets where the sidewalk should be. This means that the wall must be torn down and rebuilt. It would perhaps be best of brick. The municipality does not permit constructing a mud wall such as the old one, and if we are to keep the property I suppose we would want a brick wall anyway. It may cost a thousand pesos or more to have this done. Our renter is going to send me an estimate of costs and I am going to see Mr. Klock, a Danish contractor here in Bogotá, for his estimates as he said he would be willing to help us out. The renter said he would be willing to supervise the work if done by local workers and this would very likely be cheaper than if done by a company from here, if only we can depend on reliable work.

We are very grateful to you and the Board for the encouragement of your letters. It is a source of blessing and strength to us that we have your approval upon our evacuation of Duitama, because even though we have not vacillated one minute in believing that we did the prudent and wise thing; that is, the will of God, yet it was a heart-rending decision to make, and one is often tormented with the thought of frustration and that our work has failed to make the sufficient impact on the city to be able to hold its ground in times of persecution. Yet, when one considers the political situation, it is not altogether a failure on the part of the Evangelical work. The liberals themselves live in fear and though plenty disgusted with the procedure against us remain almost in silence for their own good.

Thanks for approving the \$150.00 for Mrs. Morck's language study. It was much appreciated and it helped us out in extra expense incurred by moving.

You mention in one of your letters that I had seen certain individuals and had information of some investigation not reported to the ladies of the mission as indicated to you by Miss Antonson. I am somewhat at a loss to know just what is meant by this, but perhaps she has reference to Harold's and my talk with the Mayor and the Lieutenant in charge in Duitama after we had decided to evacuate, the details of which may not have been known to everyone. It so happened that when we came into the office of the mayor, he was conferring with the Governor of Boyacá on the telephone and expressed serious concern about being able to protect us because of the manifestation the preceding Sunday. The Army Lieutenant on the other hand, in whom we had rather confided, made light of the whole thing in his conversation or

report to the Governor saying that nothing serious had happened except the manifestation on Sunday and that that had involved no violence either. This, of course, is true and it is to the credit of the Army that they were able to withdraw that tremendous mob without even firing a shot. After that, the Mayor again took over the telephone and told the Governor of the repeated stonings and threats in the absence of the soldiers. I should perhaps say here that the Mayor had previously gone to the priests in an effort to have them desist from their violent denunciations of the Protestants in interest of maintaining order in the city. They answered him that that was their mission and standing orders to preach every Sunday against the Protestants, and if he imprisoned one Catholic for persecuting in any way the Protestants, they, the priests, would immediately initiate a campaign to have him released. And, of course, the Mayor knowing the perfidy of the Roman priesthood well understands what such a campaign might mean to him personally. The Mayor also told me in an earlier conversation that he would be willing in our defense even to take his cot to our house and sleep there to protect us. He said, "You have in your favor the Mayor, the laws and the Constitution, but what are these against 15,000 enraged 'campesinos' (country people)?" Of course, here you have to allow for Latin-American courtesy as the Mayor has himself chosen the path of least resistance, a certain conformity with the procedures of the priests, even though he himself is well informed of the Evangelical cause, has attended services in the Island of San Andres, and loves the liberty that exists there. The students at times did not show too much faith even in the Army, and of course they had their reasons, because the priests were even able to interfere with their duties. One night the soldiers failed to show up, and when we investigated the corporal told us that no order had been given. The next day, however, the lieutenant told us that he had given orders. We don't know where the discrepancy is.

We are thankful to God that the believers in Duitama have suffered no special persecution since our withdrawal except for Mr. Correa who is the best known and was the leader among them. He had to ask the Bavaria to transfer him to Girardot because his life was not safe in Duitama. He was continually being watched when he went to and from work and was never safe when on the street. The priest had said that he was just as dangerous, if not more so, than the missionaries themselves, and had given orders to get him out dead or alive. When in Duitama last Monday the renters told me that the same group of fanatical women still made the rounds praying at the houses, and, sure enough, when Valde and I had parked the jeep in front of one of the houses making some last arrangements with the owner, these fanatics came by praying in their weird way for protection of Colombia and its homes against the menace of Protestantism, for their conversion of the Protestants and their protectors. We hope that our presence there that night will not result in difficulties for Mr. Parada. (By the way, he was the man who protected Bergh, Nerlien and Danielson from greater violence the day they were stoned in the streets.)

One night someone or several were apparently trying to force Mr. Parada's door open and he fired a couple of shots and scattered them.

After leaving Parada's house (where the girls lived), I wanted to visit Mr. Gomez, a recent convert (through Correa and the Thoreseng), but fearing that this mob of women would follow us and cause him to be persecuted we drove straight on to Tunja. I called on Mr. Ruiz, a Liberal sympathizer who regularly attended services, and he told me that he and five or six friends had again spent a couple of days in prison because of political revenge. The police, which has become nothing more than a tool of the priest, arrested them while playing billiards on a pretext that they had violated the curfew. Instead of leading them away to prison they mistreated them with blows of fists and clubs until they were bleeding from nose and mouth. Furthermore, if it had really been violation of the curfew, the owner of the billiard hall and not they would be directly responsible.

There are, of course, other details, but these are perhaps most significant, and I must now close but let us thank you again for your interest in the case of Hildur's baggage. We are enclosing recent correspondence from the Judson-Sheldon Division regarding this matter. You will note the suggestion of the New Orleans Office of Grace Line to the effect that we put in a claim against the Customs officials at Buenaventura. In October we put in a claim with the Chief of Customs in Colombia and he notified us that he had referred the matter to Buenaventura. We believe that there is little hope that the people who are responsible will take any action against themselves. We believe, however, that Grace Line are just as much to blame for this loss, as they did not notify Hildur of the arrival of her baggage, and they have not manifested a very cooperative spirit in any of their offices here. Mr. Jacobson (missionary in Buenaventura who has tried to help us locate the goods) also laments a very indifferent attitude on the part of Grace Line. A young Colombian professor who attends the Evangelical services in Tunja told us that Grace Line is owned by the Jesuits. Do you know whether this is true or not? If so, I believe we should ship with another company, or at least leave off notations such as: "For missionary purposes" which were in bold type on almost all of the shipping papers Hildur received. It may be wise to ship through Barranquilla if possible since Buenaventura is noted for such cases as that of Hildur. Of course, it is hard to know which is better as the beds were sent to Barranquilla and have not arrived yet. You will note from the Grace Line correspondence that, officially, a Consular Invoice is not needed; yet, in both the case of Hildur's baggage and that of the beds they were demanded by the Customs authorities and therefore held up. Also, the Vice-Consul here in Bogotá told us that every shipment, personal or otherwise, should have ~~the~~ Consular Invoice to avoid difficulties with the Customs officials. With reference to Hildur's baggage we are willing to do whatever you think best. There doesn't seem to be much more we can do here.

Miss Heerde arrived safely last Tuesday and we had a nice visit with her that evening. She and Miss Thomas are staying at the Presbyterian Clinic until definite word is received from the Presbyterian Board regarding further plans for that rest home.

Hildur sends greetings and wishes to express her sincere thanks for your interest and action in these various matters.

Yours in the Master's Service,

Arnfeld C. Morck

Enclosures - 3

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

December 17, 1948

Rev. Harold Olson
c/o Rev. Roy Malde
Apartado 25
Tunja, Boyaca,
Colombia, S. America

Dear Harold:

I wish to thank you for your letter of December 17th enclosing an article called "Our Second Institute Graduation." We shall be glad to use it either in the *Missionary* or in our church papers. I note also that you have sent a movie film. You had better send those directly to me as I have to make arrangements for editing and producing the films from here now that Burgess is full-time at the Seminary. The recent films we have received from you are excellent. The making of shoes that we have in one film and continued on another, is exceptionally good. When we get some more we will check over them with our film man at Augsburg and get suggestions from him to send on.

The next Board Meetings will be held February 14-16 and May 2-4, 1949.

With reference to the Institute I would have very little to say concerning the selection of a man for the Institute to take Morck's place. If it is temporary for only one year I think Walla would fit in well. Normally we feel that it is advisable for a man to have some years of experience on the field before beginning to train students to become evangelists and teachers. On our other mission fields the normal practice is to demand at least one full term of a missionary before he is stationed at a Seminary. Although a full term is not demanded for other institutions at least two to four years in active missionary work is usually required. The reason for these stipulations are: 1) No one can properly train workers unless he knows the background from which they come and the situation into which they are going. The only way to learn this is to work among them in general evangelistic work for some time. 2) It is rather important to have a good language foundation for student work. 3) It is necessary to have a fairly good knowledge of the psychology of the people before entering school work. This can come only through actual experience with them. Theoretical knowledge does not seem to suffice.

As to location of the Institute, I am sure I can add little to what has already entered your own mind. I do not believe that Cocuy would be the proper place for the Institute on a permanent plan. Temporarily it might serve if you have the necessary housing facilities. Tunja would most likely be able to serve both as a temporary or a permanent location for the Institute. I feel rather favorably inclined towards Bogota as a permanent location of the Institute but realize that there are some objections which are as follows: 1) The expenses of renting or building facilities. 2) More expensive living condi-

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Dec. 17, 1948

2.

tions. 3) The difficulty of moving from Bogota back to one of our other stations after once being located there. 4) The possibility of finding it hard to get our students back into a rural area once they have tasted the exhilaration of a city situation. If some of these difficulties could be overcome it seems to me that Bogota would be a strategic city if we could adopt it as part of our field. Otherwise I would say that one of our other stations could be used temporarily for the purpose of watching conditions and coming to a definite decision later.

In reference to gown and liturgy for your services. The authority, until congregations are organized and well established, rests with the Mission Conference. In those matters however, great care must be exercised so that offense will not be given to the people among whom you serve. A decision should be made only after full consultation with the people that you have confidence in and that you know will reflect the balanced judgment of a large section of your Protestant groups.

In reference to the matter of Communion Service, we are in a sense working on a double standard of judgment on the mission field. Under the regulations of our own church in America we work on the basis of closed Communion or very careful modification of a closed Communion. This situation is unique in Lutheran circles among the American groups. The Lutheran churches in Europe do not practice closed Communion, therefore wherever we have formed national churches on the mission field together with the other Lutheran groups working in those areas, the position of the National church formed has usually set its own course in this matter. Their policy has of course been under the guidance of the missionaries. The Articles calling for a closed Communion are really articles for preserving the true nature of our belief concerning the Lord's Supper. We should at all times be certain that our testimony is clear and that our teaching on the Lord's Supper will not be confused with the reformed teaching. The policy that might be necessary for preserving this purity of teaching may differ in each country, according to the situation that is met.

In China and Madagascar Christians of other denominations coming to our section of the country are welcomed to Communion Services. Usually an explanation is given of our teachings on Communion but realizing that they are then in the Lutheran area no great question is involved. In other words, the question is open to a certain extent when we are building a new church in a foreign land. On the other hand we have our traditions that should at least serve as a guide to us even though not all aspects of that tradition may be necessarily applied.

We note that Miss Jenson has turned down the offer of working in our mission and that there is also some question as to Miss Heerde's appointment in the Presbyterian Mission in Bogota.

We note the suggestions you make concerning phonographs. We will make this a project for people that ask for special things they might do for the mission and see if we can't get more phonographs for you. Is it better to buy them there or should they be purchased here and sent out with missionaries? We are also writing to the Spanish Gospel Recordings in Los Angeles.

. was happy to hear something about the Quanruds. I have not heard either from or about them for a long time and was wondering where they were. May God give you wisdom in deciding as to his stationing.

Sincerely yours,

J. Colle Syrdal

RAS:hh

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
COLOMBIA
1948

Looking back over the troubled year, Phil. 4:19, seems to have been well proved in our experience, "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus". This year persecution reached a new peak on our field, with constant molesting of people and property in Duitama, with two workers being imprisoned, and with the temporary closing of the doors of our work in Duitama, and political, social and economic unrest in the country caused much disturbance to our work. At the same time we cannot but marvel at the grace of God that no life has been destroyed and that while Duitama has caused a heartache to all of us, some of the stations have been much blessed. Tunja has a new mission home, a beautiful chapel and many new people attending, El Cocuy also has increased attendance and open doors for the work, Farpa and Mausa have developed under a national worker, and La Aguada has grown with more intensive work by the missionary and his helper. Surely, we would declare, "Our God has supplied our need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus".

Occupation of the field

In Tunja the Maldes have served through the year with Belva Nerlien working as parish worker after the closing of the Inst. Helen Danielson went to El Cocuy to work with the Olsons there at the same time. In La Aguada the Ostrems have nobly carried on being assisted the last four ~~months~~ months by one of our students from the Inst. Oliverio Mora. The responsibility for the Socotá area has been the Morcks' with Gerardo Wilches there/ the most of the year as evangelist, his wife, Isabel being the teacher. In Duitama, Rev. Morck directed the Inst. until the closing with Joyce Bergh, Belva Nerlien and Virginia Antonsen teaching. After the Thoresens left for furlough in June, Morck also had ~~that responsibility~~ the difficult and trying responsibility of the station, with Helen Danielson working as parish worker. Since the closing of the work there, Morcks have been located in Bogotá, making contacts and working on the literature program. The Quanruds were placed in Arauca by the Exec. Comm. but have found difficulty in finding living quarters and now that the Scand. Alliance claim it for their work that occupation will have to be reconsidered.

As we think of the large number of placements and replacements that we must make this year and the challenge of that responsibility we need to remind ourselves again of the promise, "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus". Looking to Him, our need shall be supplied for wisdom to determine the best location for the Inst., to appoint a director or acting director to fill Morcks place as he should leave this midyear for furlough, to fill Olson's place as he is also due for furlough, and to locate Hans Thoresen who returns from furlough in June, Ted Mendenhall, who has now finished his year of study, Joseph Walla, who will finish in April, Johan Bergh, who will also finish about that time and whom we trust the Lord will permit to stay with us and labor among us, Valborg Torkelson, who should finish at midyear, and Helen Danielson, who should be more permanently located by this Conference.

In view of the present conditions on our field and the still open door that presents itself for occupation, I would much recommend that Chiscas be occupied at the present time if possible. Having asked that someone come, and being yet without a priest in the town, there is an opportunity to occupy, to evangeliza that locality, and to do more effective work in Santa Ana than has been done before.

The Institute

For the Institute the year has been far from smooth. Opening the 11th of April with students missing, strict martial law hindering travel, it

#2

it kept on through the year, until stones breaking the dining room windows, landing on the tables, ~~women~~ prayers and public manifestations threatening more serious happenings caused us to decide to close our training school. The two girl graduates and Joyce Bergh were transferred to El Cocuy where two weeks were spent in study, observing and practice teaching in the day school there. All who were at the graduation of Leticia Corzo and Ana Wilches will say that it was inspiring to see these young ladies take their places as graduates and workers on our field. It is evident that we cannot return this year to Duitama with the Inst. But it is also questionable if the location elsewhere should be other than temporary. As Morck leaves for furlough we thank God and him for faithful service during stormy and tried years as the director. Also to his co-workers in Duitama our thanks and admiration for faithfulness under fire.

The Short Course on the Plains

Another successful short course was conducted this year at La Aguada with Rev. Walde teaching, John and preaching, Helen Danielson giving studies on "Adelante Juventud", and Rev. Ostrem teaching "Abraham". The response proves the usefulness of this course for satisfying the desire of the people for more intensive study and recruiting young folks for the Inst. I would recommend that if the people there approve, and that if found possible, that rather than lengthen the course to two weeks, that two such courses of one week be held yearly, one in April or May and the other in September or October. That the planning for the course be left in the hands of the Exec. Comm.

Day Schools

These have had another successful year, and all of them this year have been registered with the Director of Education in Tunja. La Aguada with Vicenta Diaz as teacher has had some 40 pupils, Parpa, Mrs. Gerardo Wilches, with 33 pupils, Mause, Fanny Jimenez, teacher, 30 pupils, El Cocuy, Gustavo Rodriguez, teacher, 25 pupils, Carrizal, Juanito Montoya, teacher, 25 pupils, and Santa Ana with Fideligna Ayala and Pausanias Wilches as teachers had 14 pupils. Again, however, the problem faces us of having sufficient teachers for the schools we have, since Fanny Jimenez will study the coming year, Fideligna Ayala has left the field, and the young men are holding out for much higher wages. It becomes necessary for us to study and prepare a new scale of wages that will properly recompense the workers and be fair to all concerned.

Vacation Bible Schools

This year's vacation Bible schools have been a definite encouragement to all concerned. Joyce Bergh had the responsibility of selecting and preparing the materials for all of our schools and their success is a proof of her consecrated and able guidance. She taught in La Aguada with 47 pupils, Vicenta Diaz in Santa Helena, near La Aguada with 11 pupils, Belva Nerlien in Tunja with 28, Leticia Corzo and Ernestina Mora in Parpa with 37, Fanny Jimenez in El Cocuy with 27, and in Carrizal with 21, and Ana Wilches in Santa Ana with 16. It is especially encouraging to note the success of our Colombian girls in this venture and we anticipate the day when this work can be almost totally in their hands.

Voz Luterana

Under the able leadership of Rev. Morck this has developed into an able expression of our faith and mission to such an extent that other workers in Colombia are desirous of using it as a medium of evangelism, but find it impossible because of the name we are using. This Conference, should

#3

therefore, give serious consideration to the need and advisability of changing the name of our paper that it may be able to serve its full purpose in evangelism and in expressing our Christian faith in Colombia.

Colombian Conference

All of us who attended the Conference last July will declare that He supplied our need much more than we had anticipated. In spite of political tension at the time we had 75 registered attendants and the spirit of the group was very receptive and responsive to the messages. Several of the Colombians contributed very well with their meditations on the theme, "La Luz del Mundo". Now that there is little possibility of having such a Conference this year in Duitama it would seem best to arrange for a Conference with limited attendance say in El Cocuy where it could be held as a tenth anniversary commemoration of the beginning of the ~~ev~~angelical work there. The Exec. Comm should be authorized to plan for such if it is feasible this year.

Worker's Course or Conference

It is evident that we lack an opportunity for the missionaries and native workers to jointly have a spiritual retreat with an opportunity for study and discussion of common problems. Our short course before somewhat filled that need, but it was dropped for lack of sufficient teachers who required it. It is recommended that plans be made for such a course or worker's retreat during the coming year.

Medical Program

Now that Elizabeth Heerde has returned to the field with more nurses training, with Valborg Torkelson having come as our first full time registered nurse, it becomes evident that our medical program should begin to take more concrete shape. It is recommended that while Elizabeth is in Bogotá she investigate all angles of such a program, and that when Valborg has vacation from the language school or upon terminating her studies there that she be allowed time and money to visit the medical work done by the Presbyterians in the Sinu, but the Mennonites in the Chocó and that after spending some time in La Aguada, she, Elizabeth and the Exec. Comm. prepare suggestions for the next Conference.

In closing I want to pay a tribute to all of you who have been my coworkers on the field. I must say that it has been a constant inspiration to see the way you have assumed responsibilities and done them ^{as} unto the Lord. Such response always makes the load of directing the work so much easier and makes the work go forward so much faster. And should you grant our furlough this year I would ask that you give Gerhard, who will in April or May become Acting Superintendent the same glad cooperation and willing response to his direction. May the Lord grant us much grace to prove during the coming year that He supplies all our need, to go forward with Him in Colombia.

Respectfully,

/s/ Harold L. Olson

CELMOSEA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Santa Ana, Cundinamarca
Colombia, South America

January 1-7, 1949

I. All sessions were opened with devotions.

A. Devotional and fellowship meetings on Saturday and Sunday.

1. Saturday evening - Song & prayer fellowship, Ostrem.
2. Sunday morning - Communion service, Malde (Sermon - Olson).
3. Sunday afternoon - Fellowship hour, Phoebe and Delores.
4. Sunday evening - Sermon by Morck.

B. Morning study hour; theme, "The Christian Combat", Eph. 6:10-20.

1. Monday - Introduction to theme, Quanrud.
2. Tuesday - The Enemy (vs. 11-12), Mendenhall.
3. Wednesday - The Armour (vs. 13-17), Johan Bergh.
4. Thursday - The Weapon (v. 17), Helen Danielson.
5. Friday - How to Wage the Battle (v. 18-20), Joe Walla.

C. Afternoon Devotions.

1. Monday - Belva Nerlien.
2. Tuesday - Valborg Torkelson.
3. Wednesday - Alice Walla.
4. Thursday - Elizabeth Herde.
5. Friday - Anita Bergh.

II. Reports

- A. Reports on stations, Institute and Literature given by Superintendent Olson, station heads and Institute Director.
- B. Secretary's report approved.

III. Evangelism

- A. Voted that we rescind the former action of placing the Quanruds in Arauca because of not being able at present to secure a house there and also because of the attitude of the Scandinavian Alliance Mission.
- B. Voted that Ostrem and Morck be authorized to cede Arauca to the Scandinavian Alliance Mission in view of their claim upon the city, if that claim still exists after the men have explained to the Alliance representative in Sogamoso our claim or responsibility as established by previous comity meeting (1938 and 1945).
- C. Paper on "Open or Closed Communion?" given by Morck.
- D. Liturgy Committee elected consisting of Ostrem, Quanrud, Malde and Walla. Committee presented order of service for use and study by the pastors, and was authorized to study by next Conference the questions of use of gown and open and closed communion.
- E. Voted (unanimously) to place the Mendenhalls in Chiscas.

III. Evangelism (Cont'd)

- F. Voted (unanimously) to place the Thoresens in Socotá (Parpa).
- G. Voted (unanimously) to place the Quanruds in El Cocuy.
- H. Voted (unanimously) to place the Berghs in Bogotá until next Conference, provided they can obtain their visa.
- I. Voted that Helen Danielson be placed as parish worker in Socotá (Parpa) until the Thoresens arrive and then to be placed in Tunja, and that she be available for occasional visitation campaigns in Socotá as arranged by the pastors of the two stations and Danielson herself.
- J. Voted that Gerardo Wilches be placed in the Plains to work with the Ostrems, the exact location of the Wilches to be arranged by Ostrem and Wilches where feasible and best for the work.
- K. Voted that the Executive Committee plan the Bible Short Course on the Plains and that if agreeable with the people there, two such short courses be held in the year.
- L. Voted that a regional conference be held in El Cocuy commemorating the tenth anniversary of the work there and that the planning for such a conference be left to the Executive Committee together with the missionaries working that region.
- M. Following committee appointed by the Superintendent to draw up suggestions for women's meetings; Helen Danielson (chairman), Mrs. Quanrud, Mrs. Ostrem, Mrs. Olson and Mrs. Malde.
- N. Voted that the missionaries stationed in Bogotá be authorized to refer final decision to Executive Committee before finally choosing the location of station in Bogotá.

IV. Education

- A. Voted that the Institute be located on a temporary basis.
- B. Voted that the Institute be located temporarily in Bogotá.
- C. Voted that Walla serve as Director of the Institute.
- D. Voted that Joyce Bergh, Joe Walla, and Olger Quanrud serve as Educational Committee to work together with the Educational Director to assign teachers to schools, prepare plans for education and assist in any way to better our schools and the educational program in our schools.
- E. Voted that because the existing English-speaking schools are not satisfactory, we recommend to the Board the establishment of a school for missionary children in Bogotá by July or August, 1950; that a teacher be called for a three-year term and that the curriculum for the school be studied and presented to the Conference by the Educational Committee. *Remember this!*
- F. Voted that we recommend Fanny Jiménez as a worthy candidate for the scholarship extended by the LSA and that she be offered the opportunity of finishing her "bachillerato" degree in Tunja.

IV. Education (Cont'd)

- G. Voted that the Institute faculty be authorized to place the age of entrance into the Institute at 14 but to require four years of primary school for entrance.

V. Literature

- A. Voted that the present Literature Committee continue.
- B. Voted that Johan Bergh, if granted permanent visa (Walla, if visa is not granted), serve as business manager for the mission paper.
- C. Voted that we take up for consideration the recommendation of the Literature Committee as to the Voz Luterana.
- D. Voted that the Literature Committee be authorized to conduct a voting campaign for change of name of the paper according to the following procedure; That first choices of Conference be submitted to nationals whose judgments we respect, then in turn compiled and sent to the congregations for their opinions and additions, returned to the Committee for retabulation, and submitted to mission voters for final voting.
- E. Voted that the Literature Committee be authorized to print a booklet of hymns to be introduced to our people, this to include the order of service.
- F. Voted that we go ahead with the preparation and printing of Ostrem's translation of Sverdrup's Catechism due to the fact that Stump's Catechism is already translated and that we believe there is need also of the question and answer type of Catechism.

VI. Agriculture

VII. Medical

- A. Voted that Heerde study the angle of a health visitation program; that Valborg Torkelson be given opportunity to travel and study the clinics in the Sinú and Chocó, and that then together with Mrs. Walla and the Executive Committee formulate a possible medical program to be presented at the next Conference.

VIII. Finance and Property

- A. Voted to authorize the Executive Committee to pay bills presented and disburse gift funds on hand.
- B. Voted that in light of the discussion presented below, the Executive Committee work out an equalization plan, but which can also include the national workers on the Plains in such a way that they can attend. (Discussion; That all travel expenses of the missionaries and their family from the Plains to Sogamoso or Bogotá be paid by the mission, but that the expenses from there to the Conference be equalized together with the travel of the missionary and his wife and the single worker.)
- C. Voted to approve budgets of stations and Institute as presented by Exec. Comm.

VIII. Finance and Property (Cont'd)

- D. Voted that Ostrem investigate the possibility of buying property in La Aguada and present his recommendations to the Executive Committee.
- E. Voted that Ostrem present to the Executive Committee as soon as possible a plan for travel expense of colporteurs after acquiring all possible information and advice from the Bible Society and other missions.
- F. Voted that the following wage scale as presented by the Executive Committee be approved;

Country	Teachers			Country	National Workers	
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year		Single	Married
	\$40 & B/R	\$50 & B/R	\$60 & B/R		\$90; no B/R	\$130; no B/R
Town or Plains	\$80; no Board/R	\$90; no Board/R	\$100; no Board/R	Town or Plains	\$120; no B/R	\$160; no B/R

Teachers and workers to pay travel except those on Plains who will receive their travel from Sogamoso or Bogota to La Aguada, and vice versa, twice a year; baggage paid from home to Plains and vice versa.

- G. Voted that Morck be authorized to proceed with a contract for the building of the wall in Duitama with Parada and to make a stove in the Institute building, the cost to be taken out of the rent of the two buildings and funds on hand.
- H. Voted that Quanrud and Olson be authorized to spend up to \$1500 for lawyer's fees and to determine whether to keep the property purchased in El Cocuy or dispose of it.
- I. Voted to authorize the treasurer to pay the deficits in the budget items.
- J. Voted that Malde and Morck be authorized to buy the station wagon.
- K. Voted that Ostrem retain the \$200 (pesos) in the furniture fund and use it for furniture on the Plains.
- L. Voted that we buy an adding machine and/or calculator and that if there are no funds to be used for that, it be a project for someone at home.
- M. Voted that we purchase the following furniture for three places (1 in Chiscas and 2 in Bogota): Chest of drawers; dining room set of table and six chairs; study desk. Dining room furniture to value \$150-175 (pesos), chest of drawers, \$75-85 (pesos); desk, up to \$90 (pesos). — *to purchase two wardrobes and 2 cabinets from Morck for \$82.65.*

IX. Miscellaneous

- A. Voted that Secretary acknowledge letter from China mission (read at Conference) with a greeting. Letter from A.P. Symes read. Secretary instructed to acknowledge said letter, reassuring Mr. Symes that we do not intend to occupy Villavicencio and that we wish that mission God's blessing in occupation of that city.
- B. Voted that Belva Nerlien replace Virginia Antonsen on the Executive Committee.

IX. Miscellaneous (Cont'd)

- C. Voted that furlough be granted to the Olsons and Morcks at mid-year.
- D. Voted that the Morcks be recommended to study journalism and printing, or endeavor to prepare themselves as much as possible for the literature program.
- E. Voted that the Ostrems be granted freight expenses and \$200.00 (dollars) a year for food.
- F. Voted that the station wagon be placed in Bogotá for the present in care of the station head.
- G. Voted that we request the continuation of subsidy for high cost of living, and if the rate of exchange becomes disadvantageous, that the Board consider a raise in subsidy.
- H. Voted that the Conference be adjourned.

Post Conference:

Conference authorized Mendenhall and Olson to audit the books and prove them after the Conference. This has been done and the books found to be in order.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1949

Station	Upkeep Rent	Evang.	Teacher	Schools	Lit. & Sup.	Travel	Teleph. & Teleg.	Post. & Stat.	Misc.	Totals per station	
Socotá	1500.00 375.00		1170.00 292.50	100.00 25.00	100.00 25.00	200.00 jeep 175	2.50 10.00	5.00 20.00	12.50 50.00	912.50 3650.00	
Tunja	850.00 212.50				25.00 6.25	200.00 50.00	5.00 20.00	10.00 40.00	12.50 50.00	396.25 1185.00	
El Cocuy	950.00 237.50	600.00 150.00	1666.00 415.00	100.00 25.00	60.00 15.00	360.00 90.00	18.75 75.00	15.00 60.00	25.00 100.00	576.25 2305.00	
La Aguada	250.00 62.50	2380.00 595.00		1000.00 250.00	75.00 18.75	700.00 175.00	5.00 20.00	5.00 20.00	75.00 300.00	87.50 350.00-Freight	1273.75 5095.00
Bogotá	2400.00 600.00				150.00 37.50	100.00 25.00	5.00 20.00	5.00 20.00	12.50 50.00	685.00 2740.00	
Chiscas	950.00 237.50		340.00 85.00	100.00 25.00	60.00 15.00	250.00 62.50	6.25 25.00	5.00 20.00	25.00 100.00	461.25 1845.00	
Institute	2250.00 9000.00				25.00 100.00	25.00 100.00	5.00 20.00	5.00 20.00	12.50 50.00	2250.00-Board 240.00-Cook 30.00-Athletic Supplies	2952.50 11810.00
Total	15900.00	2880.00	3170.00	1300.00	580.00	2410.00	190.00	200.00	700.00	6327.50	
Bal. on hand	607.80	3481.46	1762.18		124.97		54.62	20.39	197.33	2870.00	
Am't needed from home	15292.20 3823.05	None	1407.82 3519.50	1300.00 325.00	455.03 113.76	2410.00 602.50	135.38 33.84(50)	179.61 44.90	502.67 125.67	21682.71 24352.71	

Budgets outside of Stations and Institute:

Medical	1000.00	250.00
Emergency	2000.00	500.00
Travel (Transportation in moving, etc.)	2000.00	500.00
Vacation and Furlough	2000.00	500.00
Supt. Travel outside of District	300.00	75.00
Literature: Voz Luterana	1000.00	250.00
" : Translation, Printing, etc.	1000.00	250.00
Buying of property in Chiscas	16800.00	

gt. Total gthly budget needed 6138.17

Grand total - 33,852.71

Total other Budgets except for property.

16800.00--Property for Chiscas

Total Budget Others - \$ 200.00 (U.S.)

Debit to 500.00 house rent from next Budgets Check-mark

24,552.71
1,245.00
23,307.71
9,300.00
32,607.71

350.00
2520.00
2870.00

OPEN OR CLOSED COMMUNION

(Paper presented to Missionary Conference, Santa Ana, Cund., January, 1949)

This is
~~The paper presented on this question by Rev. Hildebrand~~ an assignment by the Superintendent at our Conference a year ago as a result of the lengthy but unfinished discussion of the problem we face as Lutheran missionaries in respect to the "Galesburg Rule", or more specifically to a rigid adherence to it, especially in reference to the Lord's Supper, among our unorganized communities of unbelievers (many of whom are much influenced by reformed doctrine) and their relation to other denominations.

The question at issue is not whether we should firmly uphold or compromise the precious scriptural doctrine of the "Real Presence" in the Lord's Supper, no more than whether or not we should uphold or compromise the divine commandment "thou shalt not kill". Our stand can be but one: Obedience to the word of God! Our problem is a practical one. How shall we maintain with fervent zeal and patient love this great truth in the administration of the Lord's Supper in our still unorganized congregations and how shall we safeguard its sacredness even after our believers might be better instructed and organized, and cultivate in them a true concept of its meaning and sacredness. Shall we practice "open" or "closed" communion?

Obviously, the easiest course of action for the pastor would be that which I believe is used by the Presbyterians in this country, that of extending the invitation only to members of the congregation, or closed communion. But to come to the practical aspect of our problem, I might ask you how, and on what basis shall I administer communion in a formerly Presbyterian congregation where ^{you had} I have had little or no opportunity to give clear and thorough instruction in this or any other Christian doctrine, and where the prevailing concept of the Lord's Supper is not Lutheran and worse still, where the lives of many of the professing evangelicals are not a credit to the gospel? ^{You} I cannot invite on the basis of membership since we ^{has not yet been possible} ~~have not yet been able~~ to organize the congregation and the old Presbyterian list would include some unworthy candidates and exclude some worthy ones. ~~Let it be said (and perhaps to my shame, but not because of intentional neglect) that there has been no communion service held in that community during the two years it has been my charge.~~

~~(By way of explanation to those not acquainted with our field it might be said that only hurried visits have been made to this congregation on time taken from the Institute. This year they have been served by a Colombian evangelist who has, however, not followed a constant program of instruction).~~

Thoresen and I discussed somewhat thoroughly the problem in question and found that we were both rather inclined to try a form of open communion which would place the responsibility of safeguarding the sacrament in the preaching and instruction of the pastor, and in the heart and conscience of the communicant. This was put into practice in the still unorganized congregation of Duitama by Pastor Thoresen and continued by me in his absence. Invitation was extended to all who recognized themselves as sinners and acknowledged their need of Christ as their Saviour and who believed that in, ⁺with ~~and under~~ the bread and the wine they received the Lord Jesus Christ in His glorified Body and Blood. Communion was administered monthly and undoubtedly proved a blessing even though some of the students the first year persistently stayed away from the table and it is a known fact that members or adherents of other denominations, including Catholic sympathizers, communed at our altar. I have, however, not suffered any qualms of conscience because of this as I believe the worthiness of the communicant does not depend upon the intelligence of his faith so much as upon the sincere repentance and humble obedience with which he approaches the table of the Lord. This invitation was, of course, given only after very clear admonition concerning the ^{meaning and} sacredness of the sacrament and the seriousness of partaking unworthily. Usually an admonition formulated by Thoresen was read before the distribution of the elements, and communicants were requested to sign a card at the entrance of the chapel.

In my opinion, both open and closed communion have their obvious advantages and disadvantages, their values and their dangers. (I say, in my opinion, because of being unable to find much direct light on the matter in Scripture). I am in full accord with Bernard Christiansen when he says that the "Minneapolis theses" went too far in stating "that the Galesburg Rule - 'Lutheran pulpits for

Lutheran pastors only and Lutheran altars for Lutheran communicants only" - is not only in full accord with, but necessarily implied in the teachings of the divine Word and the confessions of the Lutheran Church." By saying this we do not minimize the importance and prudence of this rule. But the issue might come to this: Who is the best "Lutheran" - the reformed or Catholic believer or seeker who in humble repentance and obedient faith approaches a Lutheran altar, or the nominal, unspiritual Lutheran "in good standing" whom everyone expects to see at the table? Only God can be the infalible judge here. Therefore our problem is more complex than at first thought.

But let us briefly summarize the advantages and disadvantages of either form of admittance to the Lord's table.

First, closed communion has the advantage that the pastor expects to see only the regular members of the congregation come to the altar and he does not run the risk that some uninvited person or some hypocrite who has shed like a goose all the "water" of his admonition might come to the altar. It has the danger or disadvantage that the Pastor may let the membership list be the judge of hearts rather than the preaching of the Living Word and faithful admonition which should be the spiritual discernment between the worthy and the unworthy. It can have the same slackening effect on the communicant; that is, a cut-and-dried matter of membership instead of a thoroughgoing heartsearching before the flaming Word and the all-seeing eye of God, constant incentives to true repentance and hunger for the grace of God.

The advantages and the dangers of the open communion are just the reverse of those expressed above for the closed communion. For it is an incentive to let the preaching of the Word draw the lines and for the communicant to judge his own heart before God as to whether he should or should not go to Communion. It has the disadvantage that offence can be caused where failure of discernment is the case, due to human frailty or sinfulness on the part of the communicant or pastor, or both. But I believe it has the advantage of developing the responsible conscience of the communicant much more and keeping both ~~he~~ and the pastor alive to the preciousness,

him

holiness and infinite value of the sacrament - Something that the regimentation of Romanism and even the legalism of Calvinism ^{have} ~~has~~ failed to develop.

--Arnfeld J. Horck

Bogota,
January 19, 1949

To the Joint Boards of the UELC and the ELC:

In the Name of Christ, Greeting!

We have terminated another Conference, full of cooperation on the part of my co-workers to receive the Word of God, to fellowship in Christ, to ponder over and pray for the weighty matters that were before us. As this is the last Conference that I shall direct under my term, I want to pay tribute to these fellow-workers who have made the transition period in the mission so much easier. Permit me also to express my appreciation to you as a Board for the good spirit of cooperation, the prayerful interest and backing during these almost two and a half years that I have served. I will continue as Superintendent until the March or April meeting of the Exec. Comm. and from then on until the next Conference Rev. Ostrem will serve as Acting Superintendent. I have the confidence that he will experience the same hearty cooperation as he takes over.

Let me comment as follows on the minutes of the Conference & Comm:

III. A. In July I made a trip with Quanrud to Arauca and Trinidad to determine which of these two places should have consideration in the placing of them, but no ~~existent~~ investigation of renting or buying of property being made. When Quanrud went in October he discovered that there were no houses to rent, and to buy would mean perhaps 30,000 pesos and more. On his return, I suggested that he write to Rev. Elof Anderson of the Scand. Alliance, in Cucuta, to see if they would object to our missionaries living there while working Arauca until a house could be obtained. In his answer Rev. Anderson stated that they considered Arauca their field, and they had possibilities of occupying it later. We were surprised at that because in the comity meetings of the E. M. C. C. in 1938 and 1945 which dealt with territory in the Plains, that had been granted to us and recognized as belonging to us. However, since we had no copy of the one in 1938 at hand and the one in 1945 listed no representative of their mission present we realized that there might be some possibility of right to their claim. Rather than fight over a far off field we took the action of #B. And with that in mind and the difficulty of housing together with needs elsewhere on the field, we felt it necessary to take also the action of #A. Since the Conference we have discovered that he spoke only personally without any authority from their Comm. The latter is whole heartedly opposed to his view and concedes our right to Arauca if we want it, but that if we find it impossible to work it they may later consider doing so. With the placing of a couple on the Plains, Gerardo Wilches and wife, we are considering working Arauca with regular visits to begin with, and later locating a missionary there should the visits and the possibility of obtaining property there warrant it.

III. H. Johan Bergh has been refused a permanent visa, but has a month extension on his permit from the police department. In that month he may try again in Bogota, or, subject to your approval, do as the Exec. Comm. unanimously recommends in their January 12th meeting. (This case demonstrates the uselessness of accepting tourist visas and that the missionaries should be given every opportunity of contacting different consuls in the States to try

to get permanent visas from one of them. That, in the end, would be cheaper and easier on the missionary.

IV. B. In the discussion the decision narrowed down to Bogota and El Cocuy, as most felt that the putting of the Inst. in Tunja now would mean a second "Duitama". In favor of the El Cocuy placing, the station head presented the following factors:

1. Renting a large house which had been offered us there would be considerable cheaper than Bog.
2. Congregational life is there for the students.
3. Some of the believers there had asked for it in El Cocuy and therefore could be appealed to to support it with their prayers and interest.
4. Danger of losing them for the farm.

In favor of Bogota the following thoughts were presented:

1. Though rent is higher, living costs are about the same.
2. El Cocuy would provide little contact with outside culture.
3. City young people would not like to go to El Cocuy.
4. Much more secure. With the danger of the situation becoming worse in 1950 with new elections, it would be safer for the immediate future to locate ^{there} in El Cocuy. _{than}

As the minutes reveal the majority vote was for Bogota.

IV. E. The English-speaking schools in Bogota are too expensive and for the missionaries have an environment and discipline that is not wholesome. We recommend that the teacher be called rather than hired as then she will be apt to be more consecrated to her Lord and to her task. In 1950 there will be 6 children ready for the school, and in 1951 perhaps four or five more.

IV. F. The LSA has offered to the UELC a scholarship for their S. Am. field, so Fanny Jimenez of Tunja, who has been our faithful day school teacher for three years, is recommended for that in order to complete her two years of secondary "bachillerato" education.

IV. G. There is now a change in our prospective students - before they were older with little education, now they are a younger group with 4 years in our day schools. (We need in our planning to give serious consideration to a secondary school to fill the gap in the education of our Colombian children, some now finishing the primary at 10 - 12 years, and must therefore wait until 14 to go into the Inst. Thus we lose many capable children).

V. C. Many have objected to the name "Voz Luterana" as limiting us in our evangelism among the Catholics and among other evangelical groups who would like to use it as a medium of evangelism.

V. E. This will include some 40-50 hymns, thus introducing them to our people and making it an experiment for a larger hymnal. There is a dearth of sacrament & festival hymns in other books.

V. F. Since we will not have to print Stump's and since the Celmosa had once decided to print Ostrem's translation and since it has been used with success in the day school on the Plains, therefore, the decision.

Di. In my report there is no mention of an educational program.

gram for the mission and we did not discuss one for the following reasons:

1. The change of Inst. location makes planning difficult.
2. It is too much to take on at the same time as trying to start a medical program.
3. It needs more observation on the part of our rural missionaries to see what is most needed and beneficial.

VII. A. Since Heerde had expressed her interest in a health visitation program, that is, with Bible Studies and Hygiene in the home and in groups, she will study the possibilities of such a program. Torkelson will observe during vacations and after finishing school the work of the Pres. in the Sinu and the Mennonites in the Choco, both of them much like our Plains area, then will visit the La Aguada area and with the others plan some type of program.

VIII. A. Bills are listed in the Exec. Comm. minutes and the gifts in the Station financial reports.

B. This is for the July regional Conference.

C. The large increase in the budget, due to:

1. Change of the Inst., may mean 9,000 pesos a year in rent alone, although present indications are a bit less. 1,000 of that will be cut off by the rent received from the Inst. building in Duitama.
2. Opening Chiscas, possible opening of Bogota, and the stationing of a family in Parpa. The house there will need considerable improvement if it is to be used.
3. Increased salaries of teachers and Nat. Workers. See VIII/ F. We have lagged behind and lost workers. We have also to allow, according to law, for Cesantia, that is, a worker can claim one month's salary for each year of work.
4. Budgetted items, medical, etc., which before were not on the budget as we had to have some knowledge first of what such would cost us in a normal year.

VIII. G. This wall is on the open lot and which the city has declared must be set in and a sidewalk built.

H. The law suits against the buying of that property in El Cocuy by the former owner have both been completed with him losing both. The lawyer now has the property in his name and since no set sum was agreed upon for his services, other than a piece of the property which he now does not want, he can ask much or little. We can do ~~two~~ things:

1. Pay his fee and keep the property, or trade.
2. Let him sell it, returning ~~it~~ to us that which we have invested in it.

The house is mostly roof and will need to be built all over again. The place is small, but the site is ideal. If it could be traded for a larger place it would be better.

J. When the station wagon was priced the other day, the Ford was now found to cost 10,000 pesos, 1,300 dollars more than what was sent out to us. There is a missionary that may sell their station wagon so we may take that

L. With the Headache that the treasurer now has with changes

rather constant in the exchange and the increase in budget, etc., we feel that it would save days of his time if an adding machine with calculator were furnished him. We had to work into vacation days to get the books balanced this time. They should be bought here.

IX. B. This election is for a three year term.

D. I have noted that Merck has shown much interest in Literature work. At his request, and my recommendation, he was recommended for such ^{with} study, while also studying for his B. A. This is with the understanding, of course, that the job of ~~Executive~~ Director of Literature will not be a full-time job, but with a pastorate or other work.

E. During the past year the Ostrems have suffered from lack of a varied diet. To buy canned vegetables to make up that lack is more than they can afford. Therefore, we must subsidize the missionaries on the Plains somewhat. The amount is only a trial sum to see if it is sufficient, or should be more or should be less.

G. It will be impossible for any of us to make both ends meet without the subsidy. Colombian foods and clothes are rising and with rigid control of imports and such, things are becoming very costly. Cream of Wheat, so necessary for small children, was 1.65 ¢ months ago, and now with no rice in exchange, it costs 2.20.

Exec. Comm., Jan. 4, 5.

The gift of \$130 pesos for a child has been kept for a time for such a child. However, conscious of the danger we are in here of favoritism and jealousy, we felt that it was better to use it for such things if the donors approve.

Ostrem's mule - there are some 450 pesos on hand yet for a mule. The balance can be gotten in a special gift if necessary.

With sincere greetings to all,

In Christ,

H. L. Olson

Superintendent

Lutheran Mission

Apartado 1643,
Bogotá, Colombia,
November 25, 1948.

To The Missions Working in Boyacá and Cundinamarca:

On June 8, 1945 a meeting was held between the missions especially working in Boyacá and Casanre to arrange territorial boundaries with the object of working on cooperation. Resolutions were made and the minutes sent to each mission. According to the minutes, it stated that I should call a meeting for the month of June of the year 1946. I wrote to the Secretary on the 30th of July 1946 and suggested that he call a meeting. He answered stating that he was leaving the country the following month and referred the matter to me. We are now in November of 1948 and no meeting has been held nor have I called the said meeting as I have not seen any necessity for the same. Should any of you feel that we should have another get-together in Bogotá I will be glad to hear from you and I will seek to comply with your wishes.

There is one matter I wish to bring before you, as I have heard some rumours that some of you have been talking about opening work in Villavicencio, the capitol of The Meta. Before doing such I would ask you to please consider our claim to Villavicencio and seek to cooperate with us as we seek to work that region. We do not think that the only way a town is occupied is by having a resident worker there, and we believe that we are occupying Villavicencio and working it. On the carretera that goes from Bogotá to Villavicencio an hour and a half this side, we have three congregations and people from these congregations continually visit Villavicencio and work there. In the region of Acacías we have a congregation in Guamal, a group in Arenal which is close to the penal settlement, a group in Caño Hondo close to Acacías, and interested people in San Martín. We have an ordained elder who does evangelistic work resident close to Acacías, and we have an open door in Puerto Lopez where we direct meetings. Many people choose a central town and work out to a region around about it. We are working the opposite in relation to Villavicencio and we are working from the region around about into it, and with the interest we have in Villavicencio with families and visits, we would that we are occupying it just as much as if we had a resident worker there. We expect as soon as possible to put a resident worker there and would ask you to please recognize our claim to that city, because you will realize that if one of you started a work in Villavicencio you would go right into the center of a region we are working very well, as Villavicencio itself is not a very large town.

With sincere greetings to you and seeking always to cooperate in fellowship and cooperation,

Yours sincerely,

A. P. Symes.

AP Symes

Carrera 22, No. 63-84
Bogotá, Colombia
January 22, 1949

Mr. A.P. Symes
Apartado 1643
Bogotá, Colombia

Dear Mr. Symes:

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus!

I wish hereby to acknowledge your kind letter of November 25, 1948, directed to the missions working in Boyacá and Cundinamarca. Said letter was read at our annual business conference the beginning of this month. We noted its contents and your reference to Villavicencio. I, as secretary, was instructed to answer your letter reassuring you that we had no intentions of opening work in Villavicencio, and to express the desire of our Conference that God may richly bless your work in that section to the salvation of many precious souls.

Sincerely, your co-worker in Christ

Arnfeld C. Morck,
Secretary

Carrera 22, No. 63-84
Bogotá, Colombia
February 5, 1949

Dear Johan,

So glad to receive your telegram last night even if it threw me into a quandry as to what I should do. First, because I do not have a thousand pesos in the bank here, and Roy had already gone to Tunja; second, it is difficult and I think impossible under the new arrangement to send money out of the country, and even if you could, you would have to take a tremendous loss on the exchange and pay the charges, so I sent you the telegram as follows:

IF VISA SURE AND AUTHORITIES PERMIT MAKING DEPOSIT HERE
INSTRUCT CELMOSA TUNJA, OTHERWISE REQUEST FUNDS
MINNEAPOLIS.

I gather from your telegram that the Consul must be willing to issue your visa without consulting Bogotá but that your deposit must be secured before you can board the plane. This was the case with the man whom the Pentecostals brought in to direct their school in Sogamoso. Epler had to make a deposit here in care of Grace Lines before he could get on their boat in the States. Therefore, I believe you can arrange with the Consul, or whoever is making the demand, that the deposit be made right here in Colombia (I don't know if it would be Avianca handling yours, or who). It will mean a trip to Bogotá for Roy and a day or two more delay for you, but I do not see any other way out. If the money has to be had in Panama, then I suggest getting it from Minneapolis for the reason explained above.

We continue in prayer that you may soon be with us again. Greetings in Him to you both from us all.

Yours in Christ

Arnfeld

sh

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

Feb. 19, 1949

Rev. Harold Olson
El Cocuy
Bogota

Dear Harold,

This is just a preliminary letter. More will be coming later when we have a chance to edit and go over the minutes so we can give full report of the actions of the Joint Board that had its meeting on Feb. 16. These have been busy days. Much work on China, as you may well imagine. Annual reports and surveys of finances and work. Many other special items. The Board worked hard, which meant that I had long days. Began as early as 7:30 in the morning and closed as late as 11:45 at night.

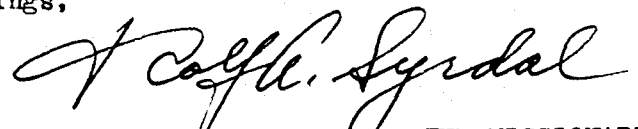
Am glad that work is to be started in Chiscas. I cabled you today as follows: "Mendenhall purchase approved". The rules of the board are that no purchase is approved except detailed information can be supplied both as to building, a survey of conditions and need, cost, etc. Realizing that such information might cause delay that would hamper your actions in securing property the figure included in the budget for purchase of property in Chiscas was approved. This is with the hopes that detailed information can be sent home so that it can be presented at least to a few of the board members that are in the vicinity of the Twin Cities. The purchase with price indicated is generally approved, so that much is left to your judgment. On the other hand, it is much better for all concerned that the regulations concerning purchase of property can be fulfilled as much as possible if the delay entailed will not cause undue inconvenience, even if generally approved in advance.

The Board has raised the salaries of the missionaries some for the coming year. This new schedule--which is a cost-of-living provision on account of the high prices, will be sent you when the survey letter of board action is sent. I will try to get that off to you on Monday or one of the first days next week.

In reference to Lee, I have sent all the necessary papers to Reifsnnyder. We can do nothing from this end as long as the papers are with him, but we will just have to wait till we hear from him, either concerning results to his efforts, or a recommendation that we try a new method.

Am sorry that Juanito Montoya is leaving our mission. I hope that we will soon have another fine young man to take his place as a worker for our mission.

Sincere greetings,



Please continue to send articles for our Church periodicals and for THE MISSIONARY. All articles are to be sent to me--as also the films that are taken.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

Dr. J. R. Lavik
Dr. E. M. Hegge
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Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

Colombia

The Rev. and Mrs. Johan Bergh are back in Medellin, in Colombia, to resume their language study after a brief trip to Panama. Their trip to Panama was made necessary for securing visa for permanent residence in the country of Colombia. This visa has been received and Pastor Bergh writes as follows in a recent letter:

"Both Anita and I are very happy and thankful that we have been granted a visa to stay and carry out the work for which we have been called. It seemed so uncertain and discouraging for a while that it is hard to believe that the visa came as easily as it did in Panama. It is just another evidence that our Lord works in mysterious and wonderful ways even when met by the barriers of men and nations which seem so formidable to us.

"While in Panama I had an opportunity to speak to a Lutheran congregation and found to my surprise that they, although living right down here, were very much interested in the little things we told them."

In a letter from the Rev. Harold Olson dated February 11 we received the information that he and the Rev. Theodore Mendenhall had just completed the second Bible camp in the Carrizal chapel. They reported a packed chapel for the three sessions on Sunday and a good group remaining for the two following days of Bible study.

Mar. 15, '49

Evangelical Missions Officers' Council

Benjamin H. Pearson, Sec. - Treas.,

Apdo. Nal. 364, Apdo. Aéreo 1141.

Medellín, Colombia.

April 19, 1949

Rev. Harold L. Olson
El Cucuy, Boyacá

Dear Reverend Olson:

Following my return from the United States at the end of October, 1948, Rev. O. E. Langelen, President of the Evangelical Missions Officers' Council, began a correspondence with me and the officers of the E.M.O.C. This finally resulted in his insisting on writing the following of February 3, 1949, "I herewith tender my resignation as President of the E.M.O.C. and appoint Brother B. H. Pearson to preside until the meeting of the E.M.O.C. in 1950. I am expecting to leave on furlough the latter part of June and with many trips to make etc." The members of the Executive and Legal Affairs' Committee finally acceded to this.

Brother Langelen also wrote, "Since the resignation of Brother Reifenyder we have had no Legal Affairs Chairman and it has been most difficult for me to appoint another in his stead, already due to my inability to go to Bogotá to attend the same." Many, I am sure, will regret this unexpected resignation which left the work of the E.M.O.C. seriously handicapped. I do not know the date of the acceptance of his resignation.

Much consideration was given to those who might be available to fill this vacancy. On Feb. 16th, 1949 in regard to a possible successor of Mr. Reifenyder, Brother Langelen wrote to me, "Regarding Mrs. Lowe I leave that to you to appoint her (as chairman of the Legal Affairs Committee)". My reply on Feb. 21 was, "In accord with your letter of February 16th, I have written today appointing Mrs. Lowe as chairman of the Legal Affairs Committee. This expresses the desire of Brother Washburn and Brother Robert Crosby as they met with me here. Also your written suggestion, and I have been informed that Brother Gerald Stucky is also of the same opinion."

So much for history. I have been most remiss in not having written to each of you long since, giving definite information concerning the services that Mrs. Hannah Lowe, Chairman of Legal Affairs Committee, Calls 13, Número 348, Apartment 205, Bogotá, or any who may desire to call upon her personally or for correspondence, Apdo. 2536, Bogotá, can offer to each of the member missions.

Mrs. Lowe will be glad to serve any members of your mission in securing re-entry permits or in other legal affairs; present the matter of securing entrance permits for new missionaries, or give information concerning these matters. Be free to write directly to her as you may desire her services.

As Mrs. Lowe does not have a private income upon which to depend it has been suggested that in matters of importance, we could consider remuneration to her on the basis of what our round-trip airplane fare to Bogotá would be or something

Assemblies of God Mission
Calvary Holiness Church Mission
Christian and Missionary Alliance
Church of the Foursquare Gospel

Colombia Evangelical Lutheran
Mission
Cumberland Presbyterian Mission
Interamerican Missionary Society
United Bible Agencies

Latin American Mission
Mennonite Mission
Open Bible Standard Mission
Presbyterian Mission

Scandinavian Alliance Mission
South American Indian Mission
United Gospel Tabernacles
Wesleyan Methodist Mission

page 2 -

of this sort. We are thus saved our loss of time for the trip and all incidental expenses, hotels, etc. plus the possibility of those we want to see are away and our time and money has been lost. As regards Mrs. Lowe, often considerable time must be given for making and keeping contacts, and keeping informed as to how best to serve in this capacity. I am sure that for minor, more routine items, each one of us will be glad to remunerate Mrs. Lowe for time spent, and as an expression of our appreciation of having Mrs. Lowe available to serve the cause of missions in this way. Perhaps you will have questions, either to her or to me, and we will be glad to give more explicit information as may be requested by you.

May we pray for one another that God's protecting care may be providentially manifested towards each mission and each missionary, and that through the length and breadth of Colombia real revival may prevail.

With kindest personal greetings.

Sincerely in Him,



B. H. Pearson

BHP:mg

*Original
this sent to Board*

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

*April 25
1949*

Copy of Mr. Morck's reply to Mr. Müller's letter in which Müller asks re acceptance into our or the Lutheran Mission. This letter was written after the Exec. Committee meeting in April:

*Carrera 22, No. 63-84
Bogotá, Colombia,
May 4, 1949*

Rev. Hermann Müller
Apartado Aéreo 173
Cali, Valle

Dear Mr. Müller,

Thank you for your kind letter of April 25 which reached us while the Executive Committee was in session. It was a pleasure to make your acquaintance when you were here during Holy Week. I only regret that I was absent so much and there was so little time for fellowship and exchange of ideas.

Your letter was given due consideration by the Committee and I quote here the action taken:

"Voted that official contact be made with the Cumberland Presbyterians for the release of Hermann Müller who has requested entrance into our mission by letter of the 25 of April, 1949; that we take him on as a worker, also to study part-time, and then if the Board approves, that he be given an opportunity to study in the U. S. with the possibility of returning with the status of a missionary to work among the German Lutherans and Colombians."

You will realize that from understandings of comity between missions, this cannot be considered an offer to you until your release has been arranged with the Cumberland Presbyterian Mission. I am, therefore, enclosing a copy of my letter to Mr. Newman which the Committee instructed me to write. You will also note our suggestion that we are unable to offer you a definite promise of further study at a seminary until that has been approved by our Board, but that preliminary studies such as, perhaps, Lutheran dogmatics, and other other subjects that we might arrange, could be taken under one of our men in Bogotá while you work here. We also felt that if the Board should approve your going to the States soon to study, it would perhaps not be the most advisable to start too strong a program on the German people now, but rather wait until your return. Your first assignment could then be helping with the Spanish work while you laid the foundations for later and more large-scale work among the Germans.

The Committee was of the unanimous opinion that it would be more fortunate for you to be affiliated with our Mission rather than with the church of Germany, since that would unify the work as a whole so much more. If, for example, a pastor should follow you in the charge in Bogotá after some years who did not have the missionary emphasis or viewpoint, an appearance of two different Lutheran churches could result.

You will also note that our action suggests that even after having studied in the States and possibly returning on the status of a missionary, you might still be expected to do Spanish work as well. The efforts of our church in Latin America have thus far been directed entirely to ministering to the nationals, and I am not entirely sure that they are ready to sponsor a missionary who would work full-time among a foreign colony. This, however, is my own opinion, and it remains to be seen what the Board would say to such a proposition.

The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America
La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia

DIRECTOR GENERAL DE AEROPUERTOS Y AVIACION CIVIL
I again repeat that you cannot consider any of this as a promise or an offer until your release has been secured from the Cumberland Presbyterians. Perhaps you have already written them regarding your approach to us. I do not remember exactly when you said your arrangement with them would terminate. I think I have made it clear that we as a missionary conference on the field have the authority only to offer you the employment on the status of a worker and that the study in the north and recognition as a missionary are matters of the home Board. Naturally, if our preliminary arrangements here while you work and study with us is satisfactory, our recommendations will carry weight with the Board and our time together here would also give us an opportunity to become acquainted. We missionaries in Bogotá have been authorized by the Committee to make financial arrangements with you if and when your arrangement with the Cumberland is terminated.

We hope to hear from you soon and would like also to make the acquaintance of your wife. Could you not bring her on your next visit to Bogotá?

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Enclosure

Arnfeld C. Morck.

May 3, 1949

Rev. O. E. Langeloh
Apdo. 664
Cali, Valle

Dear Brother Langeloh:

Nationalism in this century has reached such an intensity that it has changed lives, institutions, and threatened to rebuild our world. Someone has said, the only internationalisms that live strongly today are those which can make nationalism serve it's own purposes.

We who are missionaries undoubtedly have many times noted this phenomena of our age. The changing position of the missionary since the close of the 19th century to our day in China illustrates what I am referring to. Closer home, we find Mexico after 75 years of missionary effort, excluding all missionaries from her territory. Here and there, it is true, a missionary has continued, but the missionary enterprize as a part of the life of Mexico ceased and the church took over. This was done not because missionaries desired it, but because nationalism in it's particular form, in a particular crisis, brought about largely, we understand, by the pretensions of the Catholic clergy, resulted in expelling and keeping the missionary enterprize to a large extent, out of Mexico.

Here in Colombia we need not be surprised if nationalism, in it's own peculiar form, should express itself, and if not now, ultimately, impinge upon the missionary enterprize as carried on here. A week to ten days ago, I received a most urgent letter calling attention to the fact that appeals which some missions and missionaries had made to American authorities seeking protection in this troubled time, through which everyone is living in Colombia, had resulted most adversely, in the Ministry of Relaciones Exteriores, and the Colombian authorities in general. I was warned that the danger to the missionary cause was very great, that there were enemies who were seeking to use it to exclude the entrance of any new missionaries, and would use it in every way possible to harm the missionary cause.

Today I have received a letter from Rev. Gerald Stucky, known and respected by all in the missions of Colombia. Referring to a certain situation which I leave anonymous, he writes as follows: "It is tragic that the _____ affair went through the Embassy and thus to the foreign Ministry. I believe that it was the wrong thing to do. I think that we should appeal to the missions in Colombia to be willing to suffer for the cause of Christ if need be, and not to appeal to the Embassy or to the Colombian authorities for aid. Our faith and confidence must be in our God. The Colombian Government doesn't want us anyway, and the Embassy isn't very sure that it does either - and by our revealing to them that we are the cause of increased uneasiness in this country, it is obvious that they will conclude that the best for all concerned is that we all leave."

All that I have been able to learn concerning the present situation bears out in full Brother Stucky's feelings concerning this matter. He adds later in his letter, "Even from Cachipay, it is easy to see that the situation in Bogota for missionaries at present is not good - humanly speaking".

Brother Stucky also brings the following to our attention that in the case of a missionary nurse desiring to return to the States, she was permitted to come back

only if she came not as a missionary, but as a nurse. The information sent to the Chicago Consul was, expressly that if she changed her occupation from that of a nurse, she was not to be given a visa, and that, if she made such a change after coming here, she must leave the country immediately. In other words, she has to do professional nursing only, and keep out of missionary work or leave Colombia.

Brother Stucky adds, "I am quite sure that had she been only a missionary her return permit would have been denied." I will be glad to hear from any others that may have been denied a return permit, or concerning return permits that having been granted have later been cancelled. I have no other information concerning this, but in the case alluded to by Brother Stucky.

In view of the foregoing, I am wondering if it would not be wise for us as missionaries:

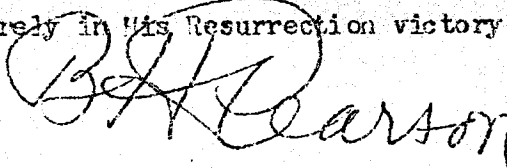
- 1) To make the matter of missions and the evangelical church of Colombia a matter of daily prayer. Perhaps we could all join in prayer following the evening meal, or at any other time that may be more convenient for your particular mission.
- 2) To keep each other informed of any persecution which arises and make that particular place a matter of special, prevailing prayer. I can mention the following at this present time. Rev. Ira Washburn and family were attacked in El Morro, Yopal, Casanare, Rev. and Mrs. Outhouse were attacked in El Secreto, Boyacá. There was a demonstration and threat of attack upon the Mission of the Andes at Caragoa. A very tense and threatening situation developed in a Gospel distribution campaign carried on by the Wesleyan mission in Envigado, Antioquia. Let us make these four places matters of special prayer before the Lord. We will be glad to have you keep us informed and we will attempt to send out a resumé of what is happening on the missionary front in Colombia to missionaries only, and to stimulate us to intelligent, believing prayer.
- 3) To let representations to the Colombian government concerning any violence which may occur be made only by Colombian fellowworkers whose right it is to seek the protection of their government for themselves and their interests.
- 4) Under no circumstances make representations to our American Embassy which for the faithful discharge of their duties to American citizens makes it obligatory for them to take up the matter with Colombia, thereby drawing upon us the possible ill-will of representatives of both governments.
- 5) Seek to keep one another informed and to consult with one another that what we do may be done within the framework of an agreed upon missionary policy.

We will welcome any suggestion, information, or facts that can help us in this time when a certain religio-political internationalism is seeking to use Colombian nationalism to hinder or destroy us.

Let us rejoice that we are counted worthy to suffer for Christ at this time, and let us be "in nothing terrified by our adversaries". Phil. 1:28.

With all kindest greetings.

Sincerely in His Resurrection victory,



H. R. Pearson

El Cocuy, Boyacá
May 12, 1949

Dear Fellow-members of the E. M. O. C.:

Grace and Peace in Christ!

At the last biannual conference of the E. M. O. C. the Comity Committee of which I was named chairman was instructed to prepare a statement of comity that could be acted on by the member missions before the next conference. Such a statement was prepared and passed around to the members of the committee and all of them approved it. One added some recommendations which when passed around to the other members were objected to by two of them.

The slow motion of the chairman of the committee and the time lost in writing and waiting for answers to his letters from the other members has brought us to this date without having put the matter to the vote of the member missions. Therefore, and since we are leaving in June for our furlough, I am suggesting that each representative of the member missions keeps the copies of the suggested statements, give them much thought, present them to his mission committee if possible, and then at the coming E. M. O. C. meeting they be given thorough debate and acted upon. For a complete understanding of the meaning of the statement and the future well being of the E. M. O. C. that is necessary I believe.

At the same time permit me to thank you for the opportunity of fellowship in Christ that I have had in the brief time I have represented our mission in the E. M. O. C. That Christ may be glorified through us and thus Colombians find Him, is my prayer for each of us.

Sincerely in Him,

Harold

Oison

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMITY COMMITTEE

We, the Member Missions of the E. M. O. C. agree:

A. As to students:

1. That no mission shall solicit students for their schools from another mission without the permission of the latter mission.
- *2. That no student be received in an Insitute unless he brings a letter of recommendation from the school in which he has previously been enrolled. If a student comes from the territory of another mission for training, it should be found out whether he comes with the good will of the church or mission to which he belongs.
3. That students who come from another mission at their recommendation shall pay the actual costs of tuition, board and room in the school.
4. That a mission sending more than five students to another mission's school shall help in the teaching, providing part-time or full-time teachers.

B. As to workers (evangelists, pastors, teachers, colporteurs, etc.,)

1. That no mission shall solicit workers from another mission unless said solicitation be done through the official channels of the missions.
- *2. That no worker be received unless he brings a letter of recommendation from the society with which he has been working, or until correspondence has been carried on between the two organizations.
3. That whenever possible missionaries of another mission than that in which the worker is working shall encourage his respect and loyalty to the mission in which he happens to be working.

C. As to missionaries:

1. That individual missionaries shall seek to always put the best construction on all that another says and does within the bounds of Christian honesty and decency: that gossiping about the fellow missionary shall be avoided lest it ruin the bond of brotherhood; that in all we shall seek to understand, consider and love one another in the spirit of Christ.

D. As to members:

1. That no mission shall solicit members of another mission.
2. That when a member of one mission moves to the territory of another a letter of dismissal or transfer shall be required when applying for membership.
- *3. That there be a uniform standard of discipline between all the missions working in Colombia which should be adopted by the governing bodies of the different churches - "convenciones anuales, presbiterios, etc.,)
- *4. That no church member who is under discipline be received into membership of any other church, and no person be received into fellowship from another congregation without a letter of transfer, until careful investigation has been made of his life and relation to his former church.

Items marked* are quoted from the 1944 Recommendations of the Finding Committee (approved and adopted)

Olson 1949

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

to

THE COMITY COMMITTEE

B.

4. That member missions of the E.M.C.C. cooperate in an effort to establish a more uniform standard of salaries to the workers in their employ, in accordance with the living standard of the native population where they be working and the cost of living. In order to effect this, some missions are requested to consider a raise in salary of their workers, and other missions to reduce it.
5. As far as it be possible the missions should encourage the churches and congregations on their respective fields to endeavour, in the payment of salaries to their pastors, a remuneration accordant with their need and the standard of living in the community where they are laboring. This payment should be as uniform as possible as a conspicuous difference in the salary amongst workers, engender discontent and envy, tempting some of them to seek secular work if they be not transferred to a Mission or church paying higher salary.

D.

5. That missionaries of the E.M.C.C. abstain from propaganda of their denominational particularism in contact with workers and members of other missions, such as particular doctrinal concepts in regard to the age and form of baptism, attainments of personal sanctity, or spiritual gifts, where there may be divergence of opinions on Biblical grounds, etc.

Olson 1949

Parpa

Ayala 2
 Rafael Leal 2
 Abelardo Torres 2
 Domingo Torres 2
 Pedro Fernandez 2
 Elend Mendiveles 2
 Sixto Porras 1
 Celenia de Projica 1
 Plutarco Porras 2
 Juan Montoya 2 +
 alcebiades Acevedo 1
 nicodemus " 1
 Vitalina 1
 Juanito Montoya 1
 aristobulo Porras 1
 magdalena 1
 Jesus Parada 2
 alcebiades Leal 2
 28
 Frededundo Herrera
 ovidio monroy 1 1989
Sympatricus
 Severain Herrera 1
 Homero " 2
 Marcos Porras 2
 Jesus mendiveles 2
 Encarnacion abril 2
 Luis abril 2
 Antonia Porras
 niet Porras
 Gerardo abril 1
 Carlos abril 2
 Jorge Olivos 2
 Acevedo 2
 Mrs Herrera 1
 Pello 2
 Fernandez + Pedro
 Jue Saca 2
 Pablo abril 1
 Plutarco Fernandez 1
 Pantaleon Leal 2
 " matthe 1
 additional from book
 Cevedo, nicodemus
 " alcebiades
 manrique, Vitalina

casanare

Pascual Silva 2 3
 Juan Silva 2 3
 Antonio Curcho 2 1
 Jacinto Palmis 2 + 6
 Eugenio Burgos 2 3
 Juana Santo 1 +
 Roman Tarache 2 + 3
 Ventura Garcia 2 5
 Ramon Rodriguez 2 4
 Pedro Tuay 2 2
 Angel n Cardova 1 1
 Jose Olmos 1 4
 Celenia main 1
 Felidigno Velouta 1
 Waldo Selantia 1 +
 Romelia Roa 1 2
 Mercedes Santo 1
 Cipriano Obica 1
 Antonio Giney 1 +
 Rita Chelillo Gomez 1
 Paula Tuay 1 + 3
 otra Tuay 1
 Ruben Camargo 1
 Justino Camargo 1 + 5
 Justina meta 1
 Florinda de Sogamoso 1
 Justina Sogamoso 1
 Silveria de Zambono 1 2
 Dolores Gross 1
 Segunda Tuay 1 49
 Maria Luisa Jironino 1 38
 segunda Parada 1 3
 Vicenta Diaz 1 41
Sympatricus
 Telestino Tuay 2 6
 Carmen meta 193 am 2 +
 Abraham " 2
 aristobulo Curcho 2 6
 maldonado 2 3
 ambrosio Sogamoso 1/2
 Mrs Bonani piter 2
 Rita Cordova 1 4
 Victor Tuay 2 3
 Jesus Rodriguez 2
 Silvestre Marchand 2 (70)
 Ramon Colmenares 2 +
 Saverio blancha 1
 Jose 1
 Romelia Olivos 1
 Josefa 1
 Ciriaco Curcho 1
 " " mother 2
 dominico Curcho 2 2
 Rosalino Corredor 1
 maria Luján 1
 Carmen Hualdes 1
 Silva 2 3

Cocuy

Luis Rodriguez 1
 alfonso L Acevedo 1
 Pantaleon menses 2 3
 marlin Jordan 1
 Nesto Wilches 1
 maximo Wilches 2 + 1
 azaras " 2 3
 Hipolito " 2 +
 misael Hernandez 2 4
 Luis Lache 2 3
 Antonio Ruiz 2 4
 Gerardo Wilches 2 2
 Pascanias 2 2
 Juan Wilches 1
 Juana W de Pura 1
 Ana Wilches 1
 Rosa Wilches 1
 Proceso mora 1
 Vidal mora 2
 Jose Garcia 2 3
 Eusebio mora 2 3
 Ruben Gonzalez 2
 Olivencia Mora 1
 Esteban Bango 1
 Julia de una 1
 Abelardo Silva 1
 Eusebio Jeronimo 1 +
 Eusebio Ofeda 2 2 children
 Elias Estupinan 1
 Lucas Zambrano 1
 Antonio n - 1
 Concha Montoya 1
 Segunda Sogamoso 1
 Luis Acevedo Bango 1 +
 Lisandro
 Pablo Gomez 1
 Rosalvina Escamilla 2 - children
 Alonzo Toledo
 Humberto Toledo 1
 Justino Toledo 2

Sympatricus
 account
 Pedro Acevedo 1
 Anarca 1
 Jesus de Silva 1
 nicodemus menses 2
 mol 2
 antonio " 2
 Leandro Luf 2 +
 Herando " 2
 Jose Cuadros 2
 martin 8
 alonso Estrada 3
 ghu leite 3
 Sagrario mora 2
 Luis Pico 2
 Ramon 1
 Marco Baroja 2
 Mercedes menses 2
 Esteban Baroja 1
 Pedro Anton Alvar 2
 Jesus ussa 1
 Juan ussa 2
 Antonio Zamora 2 +
 Rosendo Zamora 5
 Pedro Ruiz 1
 Diego +
 Silvia 1
 Abraham Wilches 1
 Eusebio Ruiz 2
 Joaquin mora 1 +

1949

(70)

Como razona de Doy.

No	Apellido	Nombre	Fecha de Recepción	Recibido por profesión ó carta
1	Silva Pascual	Socotá	19 febrero 1935	Profesión
2	Curcho:	Felipe Antonio	9 marzo 1936	" "
3	Curcho:	Josefa Estrada de	9 marzo 1936	" "
4	Patifio Santos:	Jacinto	9 marzo 1936	" "
5	Patifio:	Juana E. Santos de	9 marzo 1936	" "
6	Lozada:	Victor	15 marzo 1936	" "
7	Díaz:	Toribia de	15 marzo 1936	" "
8	Kurco:	Tiburcia Cibo de	15 marzo 1936	" "
9	Tarache:	Isidora de	15 marzo 1936	" "
10	García:	Ventura	15 marzo 1936	" "
11	García:	Apolinar Silva de	15 marzo 1936	" "
12	Silva:	Juan	15 marzo 1936	" "
13	Silva:	Cenobia Díaz de	15 marzo 1936	" "
14	Córdoba:	Angel María	15 marzo 1936	" "
15	Díaz:	Silveria	2 enero 1938	" "
16	Jerónimo:	María Luisa Romero de	2 enero 1938	" "
17	Silva:	Camila Rincón de	2 enero 1938	" "
18	Tuai:	Paula	2 enero 1938	" "
19	Camargo:	Rubén	2 enero 1938	" "
20	Olmos:	José León	2 enero 1938	" "
21	Hística:	Cipriano	3 enero 1938	" "
22	Olmos:	Petronila de	7 enero 1940	" "
23	Rodríguez:	María Antonia Curcho de	11 enero 1940	" "
24	Gómez:	Cleotilde	22 febrero 1941	" "
25	Patifio:	Juana Sogamoso de		" "
26	Rodríguez:	Ramón		" "
27	Burgos:	Gregorio	22 febrero 1941	" "
28	Burgos:	Ana Sogamoso de	22 febrero 1941	" "
29	Tuay:	Pedro	22 febrero 1941	" "
30	Tarache:	Román	4 enero 1942	" "
31	Tarache:	Eladía Alvares de	4 de enero 1942	" "
32	Tuay:	Carmen Burgos de	17 enero 1942	" "
33	Velandia:	Fideligna	16 enero 1944	" "
34	María:	Cilexia V. de	16 enero 1944	" "

Certifico que lo escrito en estas paginas es fiel copia del libro original de lista que antes teniamos para Socotá y Casanare juntos. No. 1 hasta 21 fueron apuntados por el Rdo A.M Allan. Dicho libro original quedó para el uso en Socotá, desde ahora en adelante.
 Duitama, Boyacá, 4 de marzo, 1947. Doy fe. Fda Gerardo Ostrem S.

Como pagina 7

No.	Apellido	Nombre	Fecha de recepción	por carta Recibido profesio
35	Gras:	Dolores	16 enero 1944	Profesión
36	Silva R.	Silveria	" " "	" "
37	Gómez:	Antonio	" " "	" "
38	Sogamoso:	Florinda v. de	" " "	" "
39	Sogamoso:	Justina	" " "	" "
40	Meta:	Justina de	" " "	" "
41	Tuay:	Segunda	" " "	" "
42	Camargo:	Justino	" " "	" "

Certifico que los apuntes desde No. 1 hasta 42 son copiados, y es fiel copia, del libro original de listas que antes fue usado para Socotá y Casanare juntos. Los apuntes desde desde el No. 22 hasta el No. 42 fueron hechos en dicho libro por el suscrito. El libro original queda con el director de la Iglesia Evangélica en Socotá.

Duitama, Boyacá, 4 de marzo de 1947. Doy fe. Gerhard Ostrem S.

*Certifico que esto es fiel copia de lista de miembros sacada del libro para tal proposito que se halla con el pastor de la Iglesia Evangelica Luterana en La Aguada. Fue sacada de las paginas cuatro y cinco de dicho libro.
Doy fe. Gerhard Ostrem S.
La Aguada Boyacá.
13 de junio 1949.*

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

Apartado 25-25
Bogotá, Colombia,
August 1, 1949

To the Joint Boards of the ELC and UELC,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior:

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

It was not without some fear that we saw the Olsons and Mordk s leave for their furlo. They have been along in the work these years and have shouldered heavy loads and we thank God for them. Though others of us endeavor to carry on in our weakness and lack of experience, we know that the Lord will lead on. Therefore we press on trusting Him for what He wants to work out thru gh us.

We had a Meeting of the Executive Committee last week and am sending the reppott. I shall add a few comments on the minutes.

In reference to Mueller's travel and salary, I wish to refer to Olson's letter of June 17. He was to be in the serv ce of the LWF, but word has not come from Arbough as to their arrangements. Therefore, seeing that he was ready to come it was found necessary for us to advance that amount. We are looking also for the word from our Board in regards his coming to work here. The Muellers appear to be sincere fine people and we pray God's blessings upon his work in Colombia. As seen in another matter voted on, the treasurer will be writing you concerning him.

As to Malde's furniture bill, that refers to some they had of their own which is basic furniture and we realize that it is better that that remain at the station.

Pausanias Wilches is one of the men who spent several years at our Bible Institute. He will work with us in the Parpa territory. May God bless him and his wife, the former Ernestina Mora who has also been a student at our Bible Institute.

Regarding the decision for the Mission to help with the expences of the La Aguada situation, this is as to the cost in the presenting before the higher authorities the matter of the shameful violation of the Constitution which was done when the local authorities in L. A. closed our school and chapel forbidding classes and services. This involves some travelling costs, for someone from Casanare to bring the signed petitions to Bogotá to present them and we may need to engage a lawyer according to the advise of the Procurador which is the Chief Attorney or would it be called Attorney General. If it comes to carrying our his advise we may obtain more security avoiding the opposition molesting that way.

The lot offered to the Mission at 80 pesos in La Aguada is offered by one of the members there. This lot will serve on which to erect a school building for the day-school and has sufficient ground for play-ground and is just in the next block east of where the present property is located.

The repair of the Institute building which Roy and I are to attend to is in the building in Duitama.

The reason for authorizing the treasurer to pay the Mission's share of the maternity expence for the Bergh's is that the coming event will or is expected to take place before the next Exec. Committee meeting and they will be in need of it to pay the doctor.

As to that of a church building for Bogotá, all the missionaries are of the opinion that for the work here some building suitable for it will be indispen-sable. We hope to have a growing work here both for the present population and also for the many people who come in here from other parts of our field to take up residence. Then too, a large number of German Lutheran people are found in Bogotá and we would desire to do something for them. A definite chapel or church serves better for the purpose. The group of our missionaries living in Bogotá had a meeting about the matter and presented the suggestion of the 1000 sq. meters for ground. We believe we

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

would do wisely to purchase at least that amount to have space on which to erect what the future would require.

They expressed also their view that a large church building be erected at once to avoid expenses in the remodelling later on. The Committee looks at it that a building of the size recommended would be more advisable at present and that it be built in a manner that later it could serve for Sunday School rooms or what ever might be found most valuable for the Cause. And that then when that time come the larger building be erected beside it.

I spoke to the Danish architect and contractor on Saturday asking him if he could give us some approximate figures of a cost of such a chapel. He said that he would and will have it ready by next Thursday the 4th. As soon as he gives me the figures I shall send it on.

We sincerely hope that you will find it recommendable to erect a building for the work in Bogotá. And we would wish to ask you for diagrams or models to choose from.

Possibility of property purchase in Cocuy is brought forth. We see more clearly as time passes by that we need to have a definite chapel or church building there too. It seems advisable to endeavor to collect the money involved in that lot which is in that deal there and then purchase other ground on which to erect or purchase something which can be remodelled to suit the need. I trust that something might be presented at our next Committee meeting, but we would appreciate that the need there be given consideration even now.

The sum recommended for improvement of the Chiscas property involves fixing up two rooms into one for chapel, putting in floors either of cement, boards or floor tile. Also a general repair of the house to make it suitable for all its purposes including ^{also} for a school when a teacher would be available. It also includes a cistern with the required fixtures as there is no water works in Chiscas.

In case you would be meeting soon I shall send this on and when Mr. Cluck has the estimates for the building in Bogotá ready I shall send that then.

We wish for you and pray for God's blessing as you labor on directing the Missionary work in the various fields. The missionaries here greet you all.

Sincerely in Christ,



(G. Ostrem)

Colombia, South America

Mar 2, '49

Recent letter from Pastor Malde written from Tunja informs us that the recent Lutheran Conference held on our field took up an offering for Lutheran World Action. The offering, in pesos, amounted to \$37.50 in U.S. currency.

Concerning the work at Tunja, he writes as follows: "We are happy to be back again at our work in Tunja after our conference and our vacation. The work continues to show definite signs of encouragement. Yesterday we had thirty-three people present at our Communion service in the afternoon. Eighteen persons took part in Communion; a very fine spirit throughout the whole service.

"The carpenter was here again today, so we got him started to work on the new pulpit for the chapel. We are hoping we can have the chapel dedication before Pastor Olson leaves for the States on his furlough in June or July. We may not have all the furniture by that time, but in that case we will have to have the dedication anyway."

In a letter from the Rev. Ted Mendenhall dated February 14 in El Cocuy, we have the following news: "We are now within a short distance of the place where we will be doing our bit to serve our Savior here in Boyaca. It is really a joy to know where we will be stationed. The past two years have been quite indefinite times for us, so we are looking forward to getting settled and beginning work.

"We are planning to go to Santa Ana on Saturday and then to Chiscas on Monday to look for a house."

Colombia

From Colombia, South America, we have received no further reports concerning the political conditions that have caused difficulty for our missionaries. We do rejoice in hearing from the city of Chiscas where the Rev. Theodore Mendenhall is working that there is much interest among the people there in the Gospel. We have the following encouraging report from him:

"Then there is the need of the children. Almost every service we have from 25 to 40 children present, and how they are learning to sing! We have arranged practices with them during the week from time to time, and they are faithful and really seem to enjoy singing the choruses and hymns. It gives us a great deal of joy to tell you that now after two months of having services the attendance continues to be very good. The average attendance is around one hundred. This is perhaps the only place on our field where there is such manifest interest, and we praise our Lord for the great opportunity in this open door.

"It is now time for the evening service, and I can hear the children down in the street practicing the words of the chorus they are going to sing tonight. It is quite a thrill to hear the children humming, whistling, or singing the chorus, 'Que maravilla que Cristo' when they pass by during the day or even at night if they happen by. Singing of hymns is entirely new to them so we are happy to see them take such interest."

Colombia

Sept. 20, 1949

A recent letter from Miss Helen Danielson of the U.E.L.C. with which we are jointly doing mission work in Colombia, has written about encouragement in their work in Parpa, one of the towns in the highland area of our mission field. She writes as follows:

"Parpa is windy and cold, at a very high altitude. My fur jacket felt very good there, every day. With no stoves to keep us warm, we just put on more clothes. We did, however, have a little cook stove to do our baking in. But with the houses so open, that did nothing to heat our homes. And with our many duties, we could waste no time in the kitchen. We had a maid to do our cooking. Our stove was the first of its kind in Parpa, so we boast of the first chimney. We smiled when some of our country people wanted to see our 'modern' kitchen, which consisted of a little old cook stove, a gas stove, a pressure cooker, a few pots and pans, a homemade table, etc. To the poor women who sit and cook on a couple of stones, in their open kitchens where the smoke disappears wherever it can, with their few wooden spoons, earthen jars and a few soup plates, of course, ours seems pretty modern.

"Last January Miss Bergh and I were given the opportunity to go to Parpa. However, Miss Bergh couldn't stay long as she is one of the Institute teachers. But some one was always with me. In June, or the last days of May, Miss Heerde was assigned

(Continued on page 90)

Mission News

(Continued from page 896)

work in Parpa. In many ways we stepped in at an appropriate time; and have been happy to see God working in the hearts of the people there. Our young people's group grew so large that we had to divide it. Our young people under fifteen, the Junior group, averaged between 30-40. Our Senior group anywhere from 50 to 100. With a record crowd one night of 125. At our last women's meeting we had 53. Elizabeth's health class was always well attended, and manifested much interest. 'Better to prevent than to cure,' was their slogan. Miss Heerde is a nurse and will serve in that capacity in Parpa also. With no doctors for miles around, this will be a real blessing to Parpa. Our Sunday night services were our record nights. We were indeed encouraged at this service. Our hearts leaped for joy as we saw the souls giving their hearts to Christ."

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

October 20, 1949

Rev. J.L. Walla
Carrera 13, #73-71
Bogota, Colombia,
South America

Dear Rev. Walla:

Your cable arrived last night and I sent you a reply this morning after contacting Miss Antonsen. According to present plans she will be leaving for Colombia some time in March. The doctor was unwilling to give her a good health certificate so that she could not complete papers for her return satisfactorily. The Consul in Chicago was very encouraging about extension of her re-entry permit. The process for this re-entry permit has already begun. The doctor has felt that three to six months may be needed for treatment. We are in hopes that March will be the approximate time when she will be able to leave.

We are sorry that this delay has occurred. Miss Antonsen is as sorry as any of us. She had a sudden flare-up of some allergy that is affecting her feet. It is not felt by the doctor to be safe for her to return without corrective treatment.

I have been a little concerned about Miss Heerde being alone in Paroa at the present time. The attitude of the people in Socota has not been encouraging. Will you please take this under advisement as to whether it would be adviseable for her to be called out until after the crisis has passed or else have some one staying with her so she is not entirely alone. This is just a suggestion for your consideration, or the consideration of your committee. We are looking forward to the day when things will be more settled in Colombia. Our Board is meeting during these days and has decided to give a call to one man who is now a senior at the Seminary. He is planning a year of study at Biblical Seminary in New York before proceeding to the field.

We hope that by the time he is ready that entrance permits can be secured for him.

Sincere greetings to you and your co-workers.

Yours in Christ,



RAS:hh

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

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Dr. E. M. Hegge
Mr. P. M. Onstad

Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

Supt. Copy

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE COLOMBIA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MISSION OF SOUTH AMERICA

General Ledger

Pesos

Income--January 1 -December 31, 1949	199,556.91
Expenditures -January 1-December 31,1949	<u>171,299.22</u>
Balance on hand --December 31, 1949	28,257.69

Special Ledger

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Medical-----	1,275.00	4,186.75	-----	2,911.75
Emergency -----	45,346.23	39,392.63	5,953.60	-----
Salary -----	51,688.21	51,731.09	-----	42.88
Rent and Upkeep-----	15,900.00	16,535.02	-----	635.02
Institute -----	4,172.57	3,610.94	561.63	-----
Schools, Day, S.S.-----	1,300.00	1,332.00	-----	32.00
Teacher -----	3,339.83	3,431.60	-----	91.77
Evangelist -----	4,303.42	4,061.96	241.46	-----
Literature & Supplies--	4,682.85	3,233.00	1,449.85	-----
Travel-----	5,250.30	5,247.71	2.59	-----
Travel Equipment-----	11,267.24	5,545.00	5,722.24	-----
Vacation & Furlough ---	9,327.82	7,828.39	1,499.43	-----
Stat. & Office Equip.---	28,042.81	21,738.75	6,304.06	-----
Postage & Stationery---	203.24	203.25	-----	.01
Telegraph & Telephone--	195.23	195.25	-----	.02
Language School -----	2,565.14	2,574.15	-----	69.01
Miscellaneous -----	700.01	700.00	.01	-----
Memorial -----	220.26	-----	220.26	-----
Short Course -----	153.25	-----	153.25	-----
Property-----	10,300.00	368.23	9,931.77	-----
Totals---	<u>200,173.41</u>	<u>171,915.72</u>	<u>32,040.15</u>	<u>3,782.46</u>
Bal. on hand----	<u>171,915.72</u>		<u>3,782.46</u>	
	28,257.69		28,257.69	

*Respectfully submitted,
Roy K. Mulder, Treas.*

Superintendent's Report, 1949.

Hitherto the Lord has helped!

Let not your heart be troubled, believe in God, believe also in me. Jn. 14:1

So shall my Word be that goeth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. Is. 55:11

In trying to write a report of the work for the past year I almost feel like placing a period at the end of those passages and leave it with that. I think that throughout the whole field that is the way we would feel about it. We realize that the Lord's blessings and protection have been upon us, and therefore, even though we have had some hard experiences, yet will we not be troubled but look unto the Lord, believing and trusting in Him. We are trusting the Lord for that the Word we were able to sow shall not return void.

At our Conference in January of 1949 we endeavored to make plans for the work as best we could to our limited foresight or foreknowledge. We enjoyed the capable leadership and council of Olson and Morck as together we all considered the various problems. But as time marched on we found that we were obliged to see so many of those plans fail to be put into effect due to the prevailing complicated situation throughout the country.

However, we first give thanks to God who until today has kept His protecting Hand upon us. We thank Him for all that He has been able to do through us in the various places where we have had a part in His great Cause, and we pray for His forgiveness for our failures and that He will over-rule them. We were able to "extend the stakes" some and reach our farther, to work more extensively for a while in some of the older parts of the field, and to reach into new areas in other parts. God knows our sincerity and desire to do something for Him, and we are confident that He will bless every effort sincerely put forth.

We have been happy for the possibilities for three more missionary couples to come into active work during the year, and also another single worker. Hence we have been seventeen on the field and five on furlo this year. That brings to mind again what we prayed for years ago: that we might have at least twenty five by 1950. Together with those who have been here on the field we have reached the number of twenty eight. We wish that that whole group were here and that all stations and more yet could be worked full up.

Individual reports will be given by the various Station directors so I shall not go into detailed matters. In referring to the individual sections of the Field I wish to refer to them perhaps in order of their age as far as our working them is concerned.

El Cocuy which is the oldest in that sense of our present work was worked by the Olsons the first five and one half months and by the Quanruds since. A Tenth Anniversary celebration was planned for at our Conference to be held in August as that marks the tenth year since Pastor and Mrs. Andrew J. Lerson opened the work in that region. This Festival was cancelled because of the difficult situation existing in Boyacá. A series of special meetings, however, were held in Cocuy and Carizal a little later than the date planned for the Anniversary, at which Mr. Herman Mueller brought forth stirring messages. I enjoyed the opportunity to be present at some of those meetings to bring messages also. It gave me joy to see the christians with whom we had worked in past years pressing on with the Lord. A wedding (the civil ceremony followed by the evangelical) was celebrated in the early part of the year when one of our native workers was married.

Parpa and Mause, or the Socotá field as it is often called, comes next in age of our occupation. It is however, the oldest evangelical center in Boyacá as it was worked in part by the Presbyterians before they asked us to take it over. At our January Conference plans were made for the Thoresons to establish here upon their return from furlo, but as Thoreson felt led of the Lord to accept a call in the homeland other solutions had to be found for this field. The Conference also planned for Miss Helen Danielson to serve in Parpa until the Thoreson's return and then to go to Tunja to work with the Maldes. These plans also had to be reconsidered. Miss Danielson did go to Parpa and was assisted a while by Miss Joyce Bergh, a while by Miss Fanny Jiménez and later by Miss Elizabeth Heerde when she was released from her obligations as the

directress of the Clinic in Bogotá when the Presbyterians decided to close it. These young ladies also did a splendid work in those mountainous parts, both in the evangelistic phase as also in the First Aid Nursing program directed by Miss Heerde. We have been thrilled by the reports they have given.

In August Mr. & Mrs. Pausanias Wilches, students of our Bible Institute, entered into our employment and were able to go to Parpa to help. By their arrival thus we found it possible for Miss Danielson to be released from there to take up the parish work planned for her at Tunja. From that time on Miss Heerde was in charge of Parpa with the assistance of the Wilches, who carried on the good work Danielson and Heerde had been doing.

Pastor Morck visited Parpa a few times during the first part of the year. He made arrangements for and purchased the house and lots there which our workers have had for residence.

Next in line comes Casanare. This field is next to Parpa in having had the gospel seeing the Presbyterians worked there also and turned this over to us at the same time as Parpa. We (the Ostrems) have continued the work here and can inform that the year of 1949 was off to a good start. Services were carried on regularly in La Aguada on Sundays, Midweek Bible study and prayer meeting, YP meetings on Tuesday evenings, Ladies meetings every other Thursday, with good attendance at all these meetings. Even a "choir" was formed which sang frequently at several services.

We were happy to be able to do a good amount of itinerating when Mr. Oliver Mora a student of the Bible Institute was with us the first three months of the year. This was continued to the extent possible after the arrival of two graduates of our Bible Institute, Mr. & Mrs. Gerardo Wilches, who came in March and have been with us since. These young people have been a real inspiration to the people in the Plains as well as to us also. God bless them.

We then go to Tunja where we find the Malde stationed and having been hard at it. They were able to arrange the front part of the house for a chapel which was dedicated in June by Pastor Olson the Superintendent of the Mission. We have been encouraged by their reports of the progress in the work at this Station. Tunja is an educational center having several large schools of the Department and Mr. Malde has had many good opportunities to contact students from some of these institutions. I had a few opportunities to visit Tunja and it gave me joy to see Mr. Malde making his contacts and at times he could be seen standing on the street talking to people about their great spiritual needs.. On those visits I also had the privilege to share the Word of God with our dear people in that station.

We were indeed happy to see Chiscas finally have a resident missionary, a thing which Pastor Larson pleaded so often and which that town also has wanted. The Mendenhall established there in the last part of April. They have reported good manifestations on the part of the people for the gospel whereof we are glad.

I enjoyed immensely my visit there in August. I made several visits there in past years when we were in charge of the Cocuy station which Larson also did, but it was different going there now when we had a work definitely established. The house which the Mission bought was under remodelling and promised well as a center for our work there. Mendenhall also served Santana and together with him I was privileged to visit there also in August. There too I experienced great joy to meet the christians with whom we had had such blessed fellowship in the past.

Bogotá is the latest Station to be established in our Mission. As the Bible Institute is temporarily located here the station work and that of the Institute had been closely inter-linked. Pastor Morck as director of the Institute also opened services for the public on Sundays and mid-week. Upon the arrival of Pastor and Mrs. Johan Bergh in June they took over the Station work and have labored on since. A place like Bogotá also calls for much prayer on the part of all of us. As here are several other Missions established of longer or shorter duration we find that it is not easy to begin a new work, but we are convinced that here is a place for our Mission and want to press on in Jesus name. Beside the work among the Colombians we find that here is place for work among foreigners of whom here are many Lutherans, especially among the Germans.

Our Bible Institute had a blessed year and was carried on under the leadership of Pastor Morck until July and by Pastor Walla since. They were assisted by the Misses Belva Nerlien and Joyce Bergh as full time teachers and Mrs. Walla as part-time teacher. We are happy to look back upon a fruitful year carried on by these co-laborers. We had the joy of visiting the Institute several times and enjoyed the fellowship of both the Faculty and the student body. The Institute is a very important part of our Mission work. We look forward to several of the young men from it to enter our Seminary which we hope to establish in 1950.

The Work this year has met with definite opposition in drastic ways. The first appearance of it was in La Aguada. Then later in the Socotá regions, and then on in the Cocuy, Chiscas and Tunja fields. Some of us were taken into custody by the police, and others suffered attacks on our houses and property by the same authorities. We lament immensely these rejections of the gospel by such and many other persons. It is hard to see one's sincere efforts despised and rejected thus. Duitama has been dormant. The situation throughout the land has been the cause of this affliction and persecution.

This makes it appear to be almost a hopeless case, but though the difficulties are so tremendously great yet our Lord is greater. Though it appears to be hopeless yet we do not want to consider the Lord's power as being smaller than the situation. We do not want to limit and hinder Him by our unbelief as to His ability to do that which to us may appear absolutely impossible at present. HE is the MASTER and we trust and want to believe that in His time He can do now like He did in olden days, do away with the opposition so that His Cause could go forward. We look to Him for that!

We thank God for whatever He has been able to do through us and pray for His forgiveness for all in which we have offended Him and sinned against Him, and that He will over-rule all our failures.

We are grateful to our Board in the Homeland for all the advice and counsel which we have received and for the prayers brought to the Throne of God both by them and by all the other christians. We are thankful to each one who has in one way or another helped with the furtherance of the work out here.

I am thankful to all the missionaries and to all the members of the Executive Committee and all the other committees for all cooperation and every effort put forth for the progress of the Lord's cause. May God bless each one richly in the New Year wherever we may be.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerhard Ostrem

CELMOSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Bogotá, Cundinamarca
Colombia, S. A.

January 6-17, 1950

I. All sessions were opened with devotions.

A. Morning prayer sessions:

1. Gerhard Ostrem
2. Theo. Mendenhall
3. Phoebe Quanrud
4. Selma Malde
5. Olger Quanrud
6. Alice Walla
7. Elizabeth Heerde
8. Valborg Torkelson

Afternoon devotions:

1. Anita Bergh
2. Selma Malde
3. Olger Quanrud
4. Helene Ostrem
5. Deloris Mendenhall
6. Helen Danielson
7. Roy Malde
8. Joyce Bergh

B. Morning study hour: theme, "Have Faith in God", Mark 11:22

1. Introduction: What is Faith? - - - - Roy Malde
2. The Faith that Saves - - - - Elizabeth Hoerde
3. Faith, the Word and Prayer - - - - Joseph Walla
4. Faith in Service - - - - Helen Danielson
5. Faith and Praise - - - - Belva Nerlien
6. Faith and Patience - - - - Johan Bergh
7. Victorious Faith - - - - Valborg Torkelson
8. Faith Till Jesus Comes - - - - Theo. Mendenhall

C. Thursday evening the 5th - Song and prayer fellowship - Joseph Walla

D. Sunday the 8th, 7:30 p.m. - Conference service with Communion -
Johan Bergh in charge, Gerhard Ostrem, sermon.

E. First Saturday p.m. and following Thursday p.m. - Outings -
Anita Bergh and Valborg Torkelson.

II. Reports

- A. Report by Superintendent.
- B. Reports by station heads and Institute Director.
- C. Reports from committees on education, literature, liturgy and women's work.
- D. Secretary's report read and approved.
- E. Treasurer's report read and approved.
- F. Reports by auditing committees heard and approved.

III. Evangelism

- A. Voted to continue the work of the Bogotá station.
- B. Voted that we work the Tunja station to the extent that we can.
- C. Motion made that we continue to work the Parpa station if there are two volunteers to carry it on, said work to be subject to conditions laid down by the Conference. Motion not carried.

- ✓ D. Voted that two of the volunteer single missionaries be sent to Parpa to offer their services if the believers there want them to stay after being completely informed of the possible danger to that region and its people through such a program; that they stay on as long as deemed advisable by the congregation and/or themselves and/or the Mission; and that they be subject to such further conditions as may be laid down by the Conference.
- E. Voted that weekly communication at mission expense be maintained between the workers sent to Parpa and Bogotá, and that a limited program be carried on there (Parpa) so as to avoid unnecessary agitation.
- ✓ F. Voted that Proceso Mora be offered work in the Plains under a conditional contract.
- G. Voted (unanimously) that Johan Bergh be placed in Bogotá as station head.
- H. Voted (unanimously) that Elizabeth Heerde and Valborg Torkelson (of those who volunteered to go) be the two workers of the Parpa station.
- ✓ I. Voted (unanimously) that Helen Danielson be placed in the Tunja station.
- J. Voted (unanimously) that Quanrud be placed in Bogotá to collaborate with the Bogotá station head, and serve as head of the Tunja station.
- K. Voted (unanimously) that Mendenhall serve as head of the Socotá station.
- ✓ L. Voted that a national lady worker be hired to accompany Helen Danielson in the Tunja station.
- M. Voted that Ostrem keep up the contacts and do the work in the Plains that seems advisable, and that the Ostrem's furlough and further work on the Plains be considered at a special Conference.
- ✓ N. Voted that we recommend that the Morcks and Olsons begin work on extension of their re-entrance permits, and that none of the missionaries now on furlough make plans to return until advised otherwise from the field.
- O. Voted that the following recommendations presented by the committee on women's work in Colombia be adopted by the Conference:
 - 1. That we educate our women in stewardship.
 - 2. That bazaars and similar projects for the raising of money be discouraged in our societies.
 - 3. That where sewing at the meetings is practiced, it be continued, but not with the intention of sponsoring sales.
 - 4. That free-will offerings be lifted at the meetings.
 - 5. That lunches be served at the meetings but that they be simple.
 - 6. That we try to educate our people to world-wide giving and not just confine their giving to Colombia.
- P. Voted that Walla serve as chairman of the Liturgy Committee.
- ✓ Q. Voted that we as a Conference express approval of the original list of recommendations as prepared by the Comity Committee, and that we withhold approval of the additional recommendations pending further discussion and possible modification of same.

- ✓ R. Voted that Ostrom be delegated to go to Medellín for the E.M.O.C. Conference and the National Congress of Evang. Churches, especially in the interest of the work in the Plains; his expenses to be paid by the Mission.

IV. Education

- ✓ A. Voted that a seminary be established as soon as possible this year.
- ✓ B. Voted to have a limited Institute for the year of 1950, offering the 2nd, 3rd and 4th years to a select group of undergraduates chosen by the faculty, holding open the possibility of additional courses for our national teachers as decided by the Conference.
- C. Voted that if our national teachers do not teach we offer them additional studies in the Institute this year, said studies to be arranged by the faculty.
- D. Voted to approve the recommendation made by the Executive Committee that the salaries of our country teachers in the interior be raised \$25 (pesos) per month, they then to make their own arrangements for board and room.
- E. Voted that Joseph Walla, Joyce Bergh and Belva Nerlien constitute the Institute faculty, Walla to be the Institute Director.
- F. Voted that Roy Malde be president of the Seminary.
- G. Voted that another teacher in addition to Malde be placed in the Seminary.
- H. Voted that Mendenhall be placed in the Seminary as the additional teacher.
- ✓ I. Voted that the monthly aid to the seminary students be \$40 (pesos) per single person, \$80 (pesos) per married person, and \$15 (pesos) per child, plus furnished housing, light and water; these figures to be subject to change by the Executive Committee if found necessary.
- J. Voted that Walla serve as Director of Education.
- ✓ K. Voted that Johan Bergh replace Walla as member of the Education Committee.
- L. Voted that the matter of granting scholarships to Institute students this year be left to the discretion of the faculty.

V. Literature

- A. Voted that the following recommendations of the Literature Committee be adopted:
1. That we continue translation work and preparation of manuscripts but that actual publication be postponed in light of present conditions.
 2. That the publication of the "Voz" be suspended for this year unless conditions open up so that distribution among our people again becomes possible.
 3. That we secure 50 gift subscriptions to "El Testigo" for the believers on our field, primarily in Bogotá and Tunja but also for discreet distribution elsewhere; that these be paid for from available gift money.
 4. That missionaries be encouraged to do hymn translation and submit their work to the Literature Committee.

5. In accordance with the Executive Committee's decision of October that Gustavo Rodríguez spend part of his vacation doing translation work, that he now work on "Ten Studies in Personal Evangelism".
 6. That a new member for the Literature Committee be elected by the Conference.
- B. Voted that Morck replace Mrs. Thorsen as member of the Literature Committee.
 - C. Voted that Quanrud serve as member of the Literature Committee until Morck returns from his furlough.
 - D. Voted that Morck serve as chairman of the Literature Committee and that Belva Nerlien serve in that capacity until he returns from furlough.

VI. Agriculture

VII. Medical

- A. Voted (unanimously) that Elizabeth Heerde serve as Medical Director.
- B. Voted that Valborg Torkelson, Alice Walla and Johan Bergh constitute the Medical Committee.
- C. Voted that Valborg Torkelson and Elizabeth Hoerde, if they are unable to carry on their work in Parpa, be given the opportunity to make a survey trip to study the medical "set-ups" of other missions in Colombia.

VIII. Finance and Property

- A. Voted that the Conference go on record as approving the banking plan outlined in correspondence between Dr. Syrdal and Pastor Malde, and that first quarter salaries and as much of the current expenses as deemed advisable be drawn from the surplus on hand in the mission treasury.
- B. Voted that Quanrud, Malde, Bergh and Mendenhall constitute a committee to secure the necessary housing and furniture for those now being placed in Bogotá.
- C. Voted that the Conference desires to go on record as recommending to the Board the consideration of re-embursement for such things as are lost by missionaries due to the need of abandoning their stations.
- D. Voted that the piano be brought from Tunja to Bogotá and placed in the Institute.
- E. Voted that the Mission refund to Johan Bergh for the following furniture purchased: 2 living-room chairs and davenport - \$115 (pesos), 1 buffet - \$100 (pesos), and the balance on a chest of drawers - \$15 (pesos); that we recommend refund to him for: 1 swivel study chair - \$75 (pesos), 1 baby bed - \$80 (pesos), and possibly a cedar chest - \$60 (pesos) which was purchased in place of another chest of drawers.
- F. Voted that the Mission refund to Helen Danielson for: 1 chest of drawers, 1 desk and 1 wardrobe - \$290 (pesos); to Belva Nerlien for: 1 wardrobe - \$145 (pesos); to Walla for: 1 chest of drawers and 1 bookcase - \$205 (pesos); the total value of these items being \$640 (pesos).

- ✓ G. Voted that we recommend that the Mission purchase a transformer or voltage regulator for the missionary homes where found necessary.
- ✓ H. Voted that the findings of the committee on housing and furniture be accepted and that the dining-room set and study tables found necessary be purchased.
- I. Voted that proposed building plans for the field be tabled for the present.
- J. Voted that we recommend the sale of the two houses in Duitama, but that temporarily at least, we retain possession of the vacant lot.
- K. Voted to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation that deficits in the salary, telegraph & telephone, language school and teacher funds be paid out of the emergency fund.
- L. Voted to approve the budgets presented for the year 1950.
- M. Voted that Johan Bergh and Olger Quanrud be authorized to take care of the sale of the two houses in Duitama.

IX. Miscellaneous

- A. Voted that a permanent record book be secured for the secretary's minutes.
- ✓ B. Voted that Walla be given a vote in the Conference even though he has not spent a full calendar year on the field.
- C. Voted that the closing date of the Conference be postponed in order to complete the business on hand.
- D. Voted that Ostrem and Walla be delegated to speak to Muller and bring back to the Conference more information about his case.
- E. Voted that we recommend that Hermann Muller be encouraged to develop an independent German work in Bogotá, and that further decision or action be postponed until a special conference.
- F. Voted that during the intervening period we give diligent consideration to the progress of and prospects for the work, as advised by the Board, and to the possibility, advisability and necessity of subsidizing it after Lutheran World Federation support is withdrawn in whole or in part.
- G. Voted that the seminary faculty be delegated to confer with the Board as to the possibility of providing some theological studies for Muller here in Colombia.
- H. Voted that we acknowledge the report on the Missionary Aviation Fellowship, but due to present conditions action on the matter be delayed until a later date.
- I. Nominated for the office of superintendent: Olson, Ostrem and Quanrud.
(Numerous ballots taken without resulting in required 2/3 majority vote)
Action rescinded. See J
- J. Voted that action taken on the election thus far be rescinded and that a slate of candidates for all the offices be drawn up.

K. The following officers were elected:

1. Superintendent - - - Roy Malde
2. Vice-superintendent - Jos. Walla
3. Secretary - - - - - Johan Bergh
4. Treasurer - - - - - Theo. Mendenhall

L. Voted that Quanrud serve on the Executive Committee for a 3 year term.

M. Voted that Ostrem serve on the Executive Committee for a 1 year term.

N. Motion made to elect someone to complete Ostrem's year of office on the Executive Committee if he goes on furlough. Motion lost.

O. Voted that Quanrud and Walla audit the treasurer's books.

P. Voted that Mendenhall and Johan Bergh audit the Institute accounts.

Q. Voted that the Jeep be placed in the Bogotá station.

R. Greetings and suggestions from Morck and Olson read. Secretary instructed to acknowledge them and send greetings to the Board and our missionaries on furlough.

S. Voted that the Conference be adjourned.

COLEGIO AMERICANO PARA SEÑORITAS

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA: "ESPERANCITA"

APARTADO NACIONAL NO. 200

APARTADO AEREO NO. 158

BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA

Jan. 13, 1950

Miss Elizabeth Heerde,
c/o Rev. J. Walla,
Apartado 2525,
Bogotá

Dear Miss Heerde:

At a recent meeting of our executive committee, we heard some reports of the situation in different parts of the country and in different mission groups. We understand that quite a group of your workers have had to go to Bogotá recently, and it occurred to us here in the Colegio Americano para Srtas. that there might be a possibility of someone coming to help us here on a temporary basis.

Ruth Davis R.N. who did live with us in the school group has had to leave in order to give her full time to nurses' training and our new clinic which we hope will be opening before long. She was teaching four hours a week, two of elements of nursing and two of child care to the girls in fourth and fifth years secondary (tenth and eleventh grade). We expect to have nearly fifty boarding pupils living in the building, as well as several teachers and someone with nursing experience is a very valuable member of the staff.

Would you or anyone with some nursing experience be at all interested in coming here for a few months or a year? We would be glad to pay travel down here, board and room, and if you would not be continuing on regular salary, we could pay something, say fifty pesos a month beyond board and room, or whatever arrangement would seem adequate. Mr. Lazear said you were having your general conference early this month, so of course we realize other plans made by this time.

If there is anyone who would like to teach English and Bible, even if she has no nursing experience, we should also be interested, as one of our regular workers is due to leave on furlough April 1. We expect to open school Feb. 6, so that we shall be interested in your reaction as soon as possible.

Gloria Saavedra and Evalina Caldwell are here now, and send you greetings.

Sincerely yours,

Miriam B. Dickason
Miriam B. Dickason

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

Apartado Aéreo 4980
Bogotá, Colombia, S.A.
Feb. 6, 1950

Dr. R. A. Syrdal
425 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis, 15,
Minnesota
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Syrdal:

I am herewith enclosing a chart showing the proposed budget for our Mission here in Colombia for the year 1950. There may be need for some explanation at least on some of the items listed in the chart. I shall begin by taking the items or stations in order beginning at the top and going down.

Socotá :

1. Teacher: In spite of the uncertain conditions existing in this region we hope to have school at least as long as we can. Instead of making a year contract with the teachers as before we plan to hire them so to speak by the day on the basis of our regular salary scale so that they will be paid for as long as they teach without any further obligation to them on our part. We plan to use this system for all our teachers this year.
2. Travel: The reason for the large amount budgeted here for this station is explained by conference action with regard to work and conditions for work in this station. We thought it best to have someone preferably a Colombian, bring news from the station once a week, either to Tunja or to Bogotá, so that we can be informed of existing conditions at all times; this accounts for the big share of this budget.
3. The other items under this station I think are sufficiently clear without further explanation.

Tunja:

1. Evangelist: According to conference decision Helen Danielson is to be stationed in Tunja with the National girl to stay with her and help her in the work. This budget therefore is for this purpose.
2. Travel: This budget is raised some this year because Pastor Quanrud is really the station head of the Tunja station and will plan to travel out there quite often.

La Aguada:

1. Rent & Upkeep: This amount is so large because the Ostrems plan to find a house here in Bogotá to live in at least temporarily. The way conditions are down there now it is impossible for him to live there with his family. So if he can make some trips down there he has to leave his family here in Bogotá and that makes it necessary for them to have a house or apartment of some kind to live in here. They budgeted for about 7 months for house rent here, having in mind their possible furlough in July or August. (Being this is written later I can add that the Ostrems have secured an apartment for 6 months at 275 pesos a month.)
2. Evangelist: Due to the fact that it is so difficult for a Missionary to work

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

La Aguada (cont'd) :

we are allowing for National workers down in the Plains, at least one full time and perhaps two others part time. This will depend somewhat also on whether or not we get two of the men working in the Plains now in to study in the Seminary this year.

3. Freight: The budget for this item was 400.00 but there was a deficit of 116.70 so we raised the budget to include this amount to cover the deficit. A good share of this is intended for moving some of Ostrem's things out of La Aguada if necessary or if conditions permit more work and even living down there they will need this amount to get food down there, etc.

Bogotá: 1. Rent and Upkeep: This fund includes budget for rent for two houses, one for Bergh (at present the rent on this house is 300 pesos per month, but now it seems they may get another house more suitable for their work at 320 pesos per month), and one for the Quanruds who are to help Bergh in the work in Bogotá. (The Quanruds now have secured a house at 350 pesos a month; this house is also unfurnished but it is a new modern house.).

2. Evangelist: In case things work out that way they plan to have a parish worker (a National) to help in the work Bogotá also.

3. Telephone: This budget as in the budgets of the Institute and Seminary includes part of telephone rental. We figure for the station pastor in Bogotá the Mission pays half of the monthly rental or bill and for Institute and Seminary one third, we pay the rest out of our own pockets.

Institute:

1. Rent: On same basis as last year.
2. Furniture replacement: for breakage by the students, etc.
3. Other items self-explanatory.

Seminary: 1. Rent: This large amount includes rent for three houses* one for the Maldes at 300 pesos per month or 3600 pesos a year; one for the Mendenhalls (furnished) at 350 pesos per mo. or 4200 pesos per year; and one for the students (we plan on at least three of them; one single and two married) at 200 pesos per mo. or 2800 pesos for the year allowing a small margin for extras in connection with rent or upkeep.

2. Literature: This budget is mainly for obtaining some material as books, etc. for the use in the Sem. and such as Library, etc.

3. Miscellaneous: This allows for extra support for the students in case their basic allowance does not reach.

4. Various or student support: According to conference decision single students are to get 40 pesos per mo. towards their board and clothes besides the Mission supplying them with house, paying the light and water and furnishing some furniture, dishes, etc. for them. The married couples are to get 40 pesos each and, that is, 40 pesos per person, per adult and 15 pesos is allowed for each child. This will mean a total of 95 pesos for each of the married student. Besides this, one of them according to his contract of last year for working in Parpa is paid his salary on that basis until the

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

first of August at which time he too will receive the regular allowance for students.

5. Furniture and replacements: This small amount is for the purpose of buying some small study tables and chairs for the students if found necessary, that is, if not sufficient can be found among those already on hand for the Institute, etc., if there cannot ~~not~~ be found any extras any place.

Special Budgets:

1. Jeep: Overhaul: This will be the first work of this kind done on the Jeep. It is badly in need of it now.
License: License plates are very expensive here in Bogotá.
2. Medical: You will notice by the Financial statement for the Mission that there is a deficit of nearly 3000 pesos in this fund; therefore we are including sufficient in the budget to cover this deficiency and also to allow a little more for medical expenses for the coming year; we find that even just physical checkups really count up, say nothing about operations. Another thing we would like to know is, how much is really allowed the Mission towards operations such as the Quanruds had this last year. We would appreciate if you could give us some information on that.
3. Emergency: A good share of the amount on hand in this fund is for gifts, therefore we need to budget more for this fund. In these days there are so many unforeseen things that come up so it is well to be prepared if possible.
4. Travel: This includes funds outside the regular station travel budgets, including most of the moving expenses for those who have to move, etc.
5. Vacation and Furlough: A big share of this for vacations and part of it is for Ostrem's furlough travel to Miami. Plane fares have gone up tremendously too.
6. Supt. travel outside of District: Self-explanatory, I think.
7. Literature, Translation and Printing: According to conference decision the Publication of the Voz will be discontinued or suspended, depending upon approval of the Home Board, for the present at least due to the existing conditions throughout the field and throughout the country. But we budgeted some so that we can continue to get some translation done and also get manuscripts in shape for publication; and if things open up later on to resume publication or printing of the "Voz".
8. Furniture: On hand but sold to the Mission: According to the list from the Home Office of Basic furniture allowed missionaries, several of the missionaries decided to sell furniture which they had already bought to the Mission to become Mission property.

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

- 9. Furniture: New to be bought now: We need a dining room set being we are moving into Bogotá and the one we had before stays in the Tunja station. Quanruds need some kind of a living room set as they have nothing for this purpose. I think according the dectision of the conference from 150 to 170 pesos was to be allowed for our dining room set; I have only 150 pesos on the budget. (We have bought the set now and it cost 165 pesos.

I trust that the total figures are clear without wa any further explanation. Because of the unsettled conditions economically toopow in this country we deem it best to suggest that you figure the amount at the rate of exchange of 1.95, the official rate at the banks. The bolsa is still considerably higher but the government is working on cutting out the bolsa entirely and putting all the exchange at the rate of 1.95, so it is better to be prepared for such a move.

However we will be paying out salaries and as much of the budgets as possible or advisable this first quarter out of surplus funds on hand. (The gifts listed on the statements for the first quarter of this year also will be paid out of the surplus funds).

We

Here's hoping that the Budget chart and the explanations reach you O.K. this time.

Mendehhall says that he has sent in the cards for the opening of the account in the bank in Chicago. I might mention that we have our Mission account down here in the name of the "Corporación Evangelica Andina", but this should not make any difference as far as the account for the Mission in the States is concerned.

Sincerely,
Roy K. Malde
Roy K. Malde

Telegram Telephone	Postage Stationery	Misc.	Freight	Furniture Replace	Various Special	Total
20.00	10.00	30.00				2,182.00 2,085.00
20.00	50.00 20.00	150.00	300.00			12,090.00 8,105.00
290.00	60.00	225.00				22,650.00 23,555.00
100.00	10.00	50.00	300.00	200.00	Board 400.00 Cook 250.00 Athletic Sweeping 25.00	15,795.00 10,795.00
310.00	100.00	455.00	300.00	200.00	1,275.00	44,540.00
	99.61	784.48				6,396.55
310.00	.39	-329.48	300.00	200.00	1,275.00	38,143.45

W.P.V.
W.P.V.
W.P.V.

Total Station Budget 44,540.00
 " Special " 19,430.00
 63,970.00
 Minus Bal. on hand 6,396.55
 57,573.45

Amount needed from home
 for year 1950

900.00
~~800.00~~
 4000.00
 4000.00
 500.00
 5000.00 (appl. 2000.00 coming back from deposits)
 300.00
 1000.00 (on hand)
 15500.00
 24000.00 school
 19900.00 + station budget = 70,620.00

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

(March 1 or 2, 1950)

Dr. R. A. Syrdal
425 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis, 15,
Minnesota
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Syrdal:

I trust that you have received the report of the Exec. Com. Meeting by this time with the enclosed explanation. Perhaps you have also by this time received the letter from Ted explaining the work here in Bogotá and something more with regard to the situation here in Colombia now.

Keeping these things in mind therefore you will be somewhat prepared for what is coming now. Some of us have been thinking along this line for some time, even before you made the trip down here but much more since then in the light of developments. Conditions have been growing steadily so much worse that we all felt that we should call a Special Conference and take some definite action one way or the other at this time. Especially in the light of the fact that the Board is soon meeting too we wanted to have something definite if possible to present to them at this time. So the result was a meeting held yesterday of the whole Conference with the exception of Ostrem of whom or of whose whereabouts we know nothing to date.

After some discussion it was voted that two families should return to the States as per motion. With the Colombian help we have and the Señoritas who can handle the Ladies' work and the S.S. work it was decided that two men, that is, missionaries, besides the man in the Institute could easily handle the work we have at present and even more in case of some expansion here in Bogotá. I might mention at this point that conditions for work even here in Bogotá are tightening up considerably especially since all this publicity about us Evangelicals. There surely seems to be no indication of any quick or radical change or any other kind of change for the better. One can sense that even by talking to the Colombians now. Things seem to be just too well in hand by the group in power at the present time. The Holy Year has not helped to lessen the pressure against us either according to latest information. So in view of all these things and more which I cannot mention here we felt there was no alternative but to take this action to have some return to the States at this time.

According to C. you will notice that we and Berghs were chosen to return to the States and that consequently Ted would become Station Head in Bogotá, and Olger Sec'y of the Mission to take Jack's place. With regard to us I might mention that out of a possible 8 votes which could be cast at the Conference 7 votes cast their votes and we received all 7 votes in favor of our going home at this time. And perhaps one deciding factor in voting for Jack going home was that he does not have his cédula and in the light of what has happened it is very, very doubtful if he will receive it, although the authorities will not at this time tell him "NO".

Even before voting on certain people opportunity was given for all the men to express their opinions and desires. So that as far as Jack and I are concerned the decision for us to return to the States was and is completely with our consent and our approval.

We would like to get home in June or the first part of July if possible. One reason, for ourselves, personally, is that we would like to have a little time to visit our folks and to get Carolyn in school this fall. She has missed one year of school already.

Another thing that comes to mind at this time is this, that when Berghs and we leave there will be 580 pesos less per month of house rent to pay. The question comes up again of trying to rent a large house more centrally located for services here in Bogotá. When we leave this could be done. Ted would be station head here then and they could let their present house go, on which they are paying 350 pesos monthly; this 350 could be paid towards the rent of a large and better situated house and perhaps 150 or 200 more, thus there would still be a saving on house rent of around 400 pesos per month and at the same time services could be held much more profitably here in Bogotá. As it is, the situation is going from bad to worse having services in the Institute. Just in the past few weeks many people have come in from arpa, Cocuy, etc., they have come to services in the Inst. once or twice and then have dropped out, we have found out later, to attend the large Presbyterian church here in town. Any number of our people are attending that church here now. It is bad enough or hard enough to try to reach new ones now, but when we see our own ~~own~~ people leaving us like that it really hurts. So I think it would be a fine idea if Ted could get a large house more centrally located and suitable for chapel. We have reasons to believe that we could remedy the situation somewhat at least.

Perhaps I should also mention that the Seminary is completely out for this year, the students from the Plains have not come up and no word from them. There is a real war going on down there now. Besides we are putting Pausarias to work. We hope to give up the house in which he is living now, on which we are paying 200 pesos monthly and will try to secure one out in the barrios someplace which will cost considerably less.

May I suggest too that if the Board so sees fit perhaps they would just soon apply the 500 dollars gift we received from Mt. Vernon on our travel home, although I suppose it would come out the same if you applied it to the general Colombian Budget and used other funds to take care of our travel.

Sincerely

Ray K. Walde

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

March 6, 1950

Rev. Roy Malde
Apartado Aereo 49-80
Bogota, Colombia,
South America

Dear Rev. Malde:

I have received two letters from you dated March 1st and one dated March 2nd. The letters have caused me a great deal of sorrow and it is with a heavy heart that I am writing to you. I am writing to you however with hope. My hope is that some solution may be found so that the work can continue, this solution to be made jointly by the Board and by the Mission.

Matters as serious as presented in your letters cannot be handled by me personally but can be handled only at a regular meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions. The next meeting will be held in the middle of May. I am however hoping to call a few of the Board members together that I may consult with them, hesitating to take any steps myself because of my lack of authority in these matters.

There is one thing that stands out before me very clearly, and that is the mission need and mission responsibility for Colombia. The Mission Board has recognized this responsibility by accepting the mission field. The missionaries have also recognized this by accepting a call to serve on that field. This responsibility cannot be abrogated by either party sharing the responsibility without serious consequence. I trust therefore that some solution may be reached so that the present crisis in our mission in Colombia may be overcome and that a solution may be reached for going ahead.

I hope that the results of any drastic action at the present time may be reconsidered and carefully withdrawn before definite action is taken. I have therefore today sent you the following cable:

"POSTPONE ALL CONSIDERATION CURTAILMENT MISSION PROGRAM
UNTIL COVERING LETTER ARRIVES."

If the wrong action is taken at this time it may very well mean a serious blow to the mission work, from which it will be slow to recover. Meanwhile it may mean that many people that may be won for Christ will not have the opportunity of hearing the Word of salvation. I am therefore requesting that you delay all action on your part or on the part of other missionaries either in reference to the mission as a whole or duties within the mission until this matter can be thoroughly investigated and thought through in hopes of finding a suitable solution.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

Dr. J. R. Lavik
Dr. E. M. Hegge
Mr. P. M. Onstad

Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

2.

In reference to ~~giving up~~ ^{not} homes already rented in Bogota, I request definitely that this be done at this time. I think that the approach to the question of curtailment of expenses on the field would be that the missionaries study the whole matter carefully and then submit a report. This report can show the consequences of curtailment with a definite plea that the Board assume responsibility for the larger budget than originally suggested in order to keep the necessary work going. As I have assured you in previous letters, some additional money will be available because items budgeted for Stenberg will not be used this year. We also pledge ourselves to go the limit in attempting to secure full financial aid for all needs on the mission field. It is therefore very possible that throughout the year we will be able to raise the amount necessary for the full program. Naturally however, the Board felt that it could not guarantee the full amount and asked for the reduction. If this reduction is unreasonable in light of our responsibility I can assure you that not only I but the Board as well, will do everything possible to make alterations of budgets for 1950.

As to possibilities of service, we have tried in every case to back up the mission conference in its decisions. I believe we have given you support in every step you have taken along the way. This support is of course dependent upon the gifts that are received from our supporting groups. I hope therefore that you will not consider it to be a lack of support on the part of your Mission Office or the part of your Board in case of financial difficulties that may suggest a curtailment of program in some directions.

Again concerning possibilities of work. I would like to suggest a possibility again that has proven suitable in many countries and has also been tried with some success in Medellin. That is a concerted attempt to make contact with the student groups at universities and other higher schools in order to bring them together for Bible study classes. I believe that it is important at this time in Colombia for the building of the Kingdom of God to hold on as long as God gives us an open door. I believe that if we use the opportunities that we have in these days there will be a rich blessing. I do however think that we will possibly need to be pliable and seek for new approaches and avenues of missionary service. I am sure that you are finding possibilities even in this day and hope that all of you may find it possible to remain in service in the Kingdom of God and that your stay will be fruitful for the building of His church.

Please consider this an open letter that may be shared with the other missionaries. I imagine they are already aware of the crisis.

My sincere greetings to all of you. Let us consider the possibilities in Colombia with much prayer in these days that we might do His will and that His Name might be glorified.

Sincerely yours,

RAS:hh

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

March 14, 1950.

Rev. Roy K. Malde
Apartado Aereo 4980
Bogota, Colombia
South America

AIR MAIL

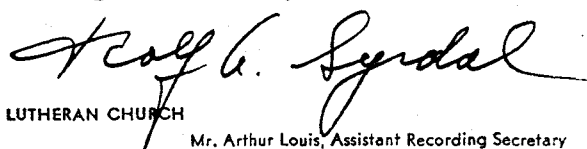
Dear Rev. Malde:

I wish to thank you for your letter of March 9th. By this time you have received my telegram stating that I am planning on coming to Bogota to meet with you at the earliest possibility. At present I am hoping to leave here on Wednesday morning, March 22nd, arriving in Bogota on the 23rd. I am booking return passage from Bogota on March 31st, arriving back here in Minneapolis on the first. This is according to decision by the Emergency Committee of the Board that met recently. The money for this trip is being taken from our general emergency fund for Foreign Missions and, therefore, is not touching any funds allocated for South American Missions.

Because of my proposed trip I do not think I need at this time to try to answer the many questions in your recent letter received. There is one item, however, that I would like to mention. You ask how things might be changed so suddenly as far as possibility for more money is concerned right after the Board meeting had decided on \$15,000.00. We have just received \$4,000.00 as a gift for the running of the Institute in Bogota. For that reason when I cabled money out to Mendenhall according to his cabled request, we are basing the budget for \$19,000.00 instead of \$15,000.00. This, of course, is temporarily arranged in this way until we can see other developments. Any additional gift of that nature will naturally make it possible for us to extend the work and extend our support for that work. As indicated in letters already sent we are doing our best to bring up the contributions for South American Missions and naturally will allocate to you all that comes in until the necessary budgetary expenses are met.

My trip to Colombia is, of course, dependent on getting a visa. I will, therefore, cable you as soon as definite word has been received from the Colombian Consul. I would suggest that if I arrive on the 23rd, that a conference might be called for the 25th. It might be good to have one day to check with American consular authorities and with other missionaries as to possibilities for the future. My purpose would be to think together with you through the many possibilities of carrying on the work in the light of present conditions in Colombia. Please pray that God may guide us in all things that His will may be done and that His Spirit may give us fellowship together that shall be of blessing to each one of us

Sincere greetings in Christ,



ras:mh

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
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Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative



The Inter-American Missionary Society

Apartado Nacional 364

Apartado Aéreo 1141

Medellin, Colombia

March 24, 1950

Rev. Roy K. Malde
Apdo. 25
Tunja, Boyacá

Dear Brethren:

Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It will no doubt surprise you to learn that I received a communication last Tuesday from the Ministry of Correos and Telegrafos regarding the license for tarifa reducida for our Aurora magazine. However, this did not come to us directly, but through a minor official, or rather, an employee in the post office here in Medellín. It was an order that came from the Minister himself ordering the cancellation of this license, due to the fact, I quote: "Que la revista no tiene ningún carácter público ni interés general".

As you can all see, of course, this is a very flimsy excuse, and has no basis in the actual truth of the matter since we have been enjoying the privileges of this license every since 1945, and the license was conceded to Aurora under the same conditions that it is now operating. In other words, our magazine has not changed general complexion, but of course, this is just another one of those efforts to squeeze us out.

In fact, we were told by competent persons at the post office that this was not based upon facts and reason, and that it was unnecessary, so that we know that it is a matter of discrimination.

We have decided to place this in the hands of the Executive Committee, and I have sent the communication of this together with the official communiqué from the Minister to Brother Washburn and Mrs. Lowe. I do not know how much Brother Washburn is going to be able to do with it, since he is leaving next week, but perhaps Mrs. Lowe will be able to put this in the hands of a lawyer since that was advised us by people in the Administration here in Medellín. So we will see what will happen.

I know that you brethren would be greatly interested in this since, it seems to us, to be one of those steps towards the suppression of the evangelical press, or at least, publications. We feel that it is of great need for prayer and although it could have disastrous results for our publication and ministry, yet we know that all things work together for good to them who love the Lord, who are called according to His purpose.

I might say that in a very remarkable and singular way, the very day that the magazine was affected by this cancellation we started receiving letters of appreciation and new subscriptions which seemed to be a sign from the Lord that He wants the magazine to go on and have it's ministry.

page 2

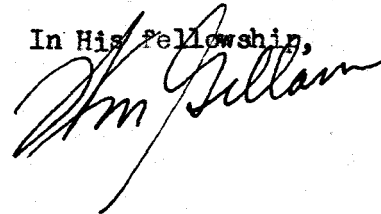
Recently our Field Executive Committee decided to make an offer to the E.M.O.C. regarding the creation of the Aurora as a national evangelical magazine. We have drawn up a complete draft of a plan, and this has passed through Brother Washburn's hands, as well as Mrs. Lowe's, with their subsequent approbation, but due to this recent difficulty, we have felt it best to carry on the magazine as a Mission until we get these difficulties ironed out. Later, if the Lord so leads, we will place before you the draft of the plan we had in mind. At any rate, you might be thinking of the general idea, and by that time we might have something constructive.

Now, another issue that seems to have real potential value in it. We here in the Intestamerican Bible Seminary have seen the need through these few short years in which we have been established of a more standardized accrediting system among our evangelical Bible and Theological Schools in Colombia. To that extent I have just written a letter to all of the Directors of the various institutes asking them if they are interested in getting together to see what can be done about standarization which would in effect facilitate the transfer of credits of the students from one institution to another without causing the loss of time or unnecessary duplication.

There might be another value in such a meeting, and that would be that we might effect a closer cooperation which would eliminate unnecessary duplication.

Thank you thus for your prayers and interest in the matters that I have mentioned, and may God's abundant blessing be upon each one of your works.

In His Fellowship,



WAG:mg

President's file

GENERAL SPECIAL CONFERENCE
BOGOTÁ, Cundinamarca
Colombia, S.A.

March 27-28, 1950

I. All sessions were opened with devotions.

A. Dr. R. Syrdal gave a meditation on the morning of the 27th.

B. The afternoon devotions were conducted by Theo. Mendenhall and Johan Bergh.

C. The Conference Communion Service was held on March 30th with Johan Bergh in charge and Dr. R. Syrdal bringing the message.

II. Evangelism

A. Voted that T. Mendenhall be responsible for evangelistic work in Bogotá.

B. Voted that if seminary is not conducted R. Malde join in the evangelistic work of Bogotá.

C. Voted that the personnel occupied in evangelistic work in Bogotá constitute a committee for co-ordinating and planning that work.

D. Voted that Valborg Torkelson and Elizabeth Heerde work in evangelism in Bogotá.

III. Education

A. Voted that R. Malde be responsible for the Seminary if it is found advisable to conduct the seminary, advisability to be determined by the Executive Committee.

B. Voted that the Education Committee investigate the possibilities for a school for, or the education of the missionary children and report to Conference.

IV. Literature

A. Voted that J. Malla and J.A. Bergh be appointed as a committee to investigate the registration of the "Yoz" and that if publication is necessary to maintain the registration a mimeographed edition be published if found advisable. ✓

V. Property

A. Voted that the items "E" and "F" (under Finance and Property in the minutes of the 1950 annual conference) be approved by the conference and that they be referred to the Board.

B. Voted that a furniture committee be appointed by the chairman. The following were appointed: Johan Bergh, chairman; Helen Danielson; and Phoebe Quannrud. ✓

C. Voted that the action taken to approve the items "E" and "F" (see above) and refer them to the Board be rescinded.

D. Voted that the items in "E" and "F" be considered by the Furniture Committee.

E. Voted that the same personnel which constitutes the Bogotá Evangelistic Committee constitutes a committee to investigate the building and property needs in Bogotá and report on the best possible solutions.

VI. Miscellaneous

A. Voted that Herman Mueller's salary be \$115.00 U.S. monthly and a working allowance up to \$50 pesos monthly with his house rent paid directly by the mission.

B. Reported by Theo. Mendenhall that the sale of mission furniture in Chiscas brought \$909.20 (pesos)

C. Voted that the report on sale of furniture in Chiscas be accepted and the money be made available to the Furniture Committee.

D. Dr. Syrdal conveyed greetings from the Board of Foreign Missions.

E. Superintendent Roy Malde expressed the gratitude of the Conference for Dr. Syrdal's presence and advice and asked him to convey Conference greetings to the home Board.

F. Voted that the Conference be adjourned.

AN ATTEMPT TO SUMMARIZE THE PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS WHICH ARE BEFORE US.

April 1950?

PROBLEM # 1

Not so much a problem of how much we can do as how much we ought to do.

REASONS

Whereas we might be able to do quite a bit, that which we do might be just the activity which will bring down upon those whom we contact the expected severe persecution within perhaps a year.

EVIDENCES

1. Most people believe the Gov't will clamp down and Catholic fanaticism will mean "hard".
2. Atrocities and persecution already known.
3. Letter we have indicating their intentions.
4. Some have felt it better that they are not "singled out" as being evangelicals now.

COMMENTS

On The Darker Side

1. Since the activity comes from us toward them, we would be responsible for bringing upon the believers or contacts that which comes.
2. Many of the people do not know as well as we what the consequences might be.
3. That would, however, necessarily mean we would be relieved of the problem and responsibility only toward those who consent after knowledge and would still leave us responsible over against all others we contact.
4. Our Mission history indicates that conversions do not come rapidly and just now the times seem to present a further hinderance which might mean our activity would result only in the care of the present Christians and bring down trouble upon the others.
5. Then the question remains, is it fair to the Christians to carry on with them such activity as might make their future more severe, whereas we know that, while it would undoubtedly be a help to their Christianity if we could continue to strengthen them, God is able to sustain them without us, and perhaps their quiet life without our activity would enable them to live peacefully.

On The Brighter Side

3. If they were made to understand the possible consequences and still wish mission activity that would relieve us of the responsibility.
5. If our continued work could bring some to Christ before the expected persecution IT IS BETTER THAT THEY SHOULD KNOW CHRIST AND SUFFER THAN LIVE FREE WITHOUT HIM.
7. There is a possibility that the times might drive men to Christ, however, thus making for us a very fruitful ministry through continued work.
8. There is also the possibility that only the true Christians would suffer while those other contacts which we endanger by continued action can slip back into safety by "protesting".
10. If we considered it better to leave the present Christians to live peacefully, we might still carry on another activity toward the saving of others, considering that this "exclusive" action would not endanger the Christians, but would possibly give to others a saving Christ for whom it is worth suffering. As for those whom such activity would contact who do not except Christ, perhaps their suffering here should not be so much our concern.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THIS PROBLEM
(see page 2)

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO
PROBLEM # 1.

PLAN # 1

(not necessarily in preference)

THAT OUR ACTIVITIES BE COMPLETELY LAID ASIDE FOR THE TIME BEING IN AS MUCH AS THEY CONTACT THE BELIEVERS AND SYMPATHIZERS IN ORDER THAT WE BE NOT THE CAUSE FOR PERSECUTION.

WHAT WOULD BE LAID ASIDE?

1. Services.
2. Calling, except inasmuch as it can be made to appear social.
3. Any mail contact either through the "Voz" or otherwise.
4. All organizational activities such as young people's work or ladies' work.
5. The Institute

WHAT MIGHT BE CARRIED ON?

1. A seminary quietly
2. Literature work
3. School for mission children
4. ????????????

COMMENTS

1. This would likely mean that some should go home on furlough now. While this is contrary to mission zeal and the desire for activity and fruit in the Lord's service, it would be done in consideration for those whom we might bring persecution upon. It would be done in the more conservative interpretation of the various comments on page 1, considering the persecution quite certain and soon, and the possibilities for conversion in the meantime slight.
2. It would not necessarily be time wasted and might soon be terminated by the doors opening for work again, although the very acceptance of such a plan would be an admission of the unlikelyhood of things changing for the better soon.

PLAN # 2

THAT OUR ACTIVITY CONTINUE BUT BE LIMITED IN LIGHT OF THE PROBLEM ADVANCED.

WHAT WOULD BE LIMITED?

1. Only the more promising contacts would be the objects of our activity.
2. Services be held, but upon the desire of the people after they have been informed of the possible persecution.
3. All other congregational activities on the same basis but nothing to be done in an overly obvious way.
4. The "Voz" for the time being suspended.

WHAT MIGHT BE CARRIED ON BEYOND THAT MENTIONED ABOVE?

1. The Seminary...quietly
2. Possibly the Institute...quietly
 - a. That might mean selecting only a few.
 - b. If not it would have to be made as inconspicuous as possible.
3. Literary work
4. School for Missionary children.

COMMENTS

1. This might be a more satisfactory plan since it does not restrain us from bringing the message of Christ to others, nor from strengthening with God's word and our fellowship those who are Christians.
2. At the same time it does make us somewhat unnoticeable and inactive so as to minimize the possibility of our drawing down persecution both upon our believers and upon the large number of contacts we now have who likely would not become Christian in the near future.
3. It is based on the "brighter side" comments on page 1.

PROBLEM # 2

Not so much a problem of how much we ought to do as how much we can do.

REASONS

1. The El Cocuy and Chiscas region has been taken over by Conservatives through extreme persecution of the Liberals and Evangelicals making it impossible to work or live there.
2. The Socotá region, while calm just now, is surrounded by that same type of Conservatism, and has in the past been subject to anti-protestant "attentions".
3. La Aguada is similarly in dangerous territory.
4. The rest of the Plains are now harboring "rebel" armies and our presence there might cause us to be tied up with rebel activities and result in the expulsion of us all from the country.
5. The "Voz" has lost most of its readers through the migration to other parts and the impossibility of sending it through to those remaining in Boyacá
6. The Institute has likely lost most of its students for financial reasons on their part since so many have lost everything through the persecution.
7. The Institute would have a problem of responsibility for all students that did come in the case of a revolution or any other circumstance which would cause us to leave. This would be true even if the parents would say that they would take all responsibility.
8. Tunja has been a question mark and it has been said that no men or families should return there.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO
PROBLEM # 2

PLAN # 1

THAT WE ARE PRECAUTIOUS IN REENTERING
AREAS OF DOUBT.

IN WHAT WOULD THESE PRECAUTIONS
CONSIST?

1. El Cocuy and Chiscas not reoccupied
2. La Aguada not reoccupied.
3. The plains reoccupied only where the "rebels" are not located, or perhaps worked by nationals rather than missionaries.
4. The Institute be limited in some way as to reduce the responsibility
5. Socotá not reoccupied as long as the situation politically speaking at least remains the same...that is, wait for more security.
6. Tunja reoccupied by Señoritas.

WHAT TYPE OF WORK COULD BE
CARRIED ON?

1. Those places which are reoccupied be worked to the fullest extent possible without endangering the lives of those carrying on the work.
2. The Institute carry on a full program for such as can come. Perhaps full becas will be necessary.
3. The Seminary.
 1. Literary work.
 2. Bogotá work.
 3. Bogotá barrio work.

PLAN # 2

THAT WE CARRY ON A FULL PROGRAM AS
BOLDLY AS POSSIBLE.

IN WHAT WOULD THIS CONSIST?

1. Most likely not returning to either El Cocuy or Chiscas since that appears more "foolhardy" than "bold".
2. Returning to Socotá
3. Returning to Tunja
4. Returning to the Plains
5. Continuing in Bogotá and Barrios.
6. Opening Institute and Seminary

COMMENTS

1. Socotá would most likely have to be reoccupied by Señoritas and without national help. To send nationals there now would be very risky business and would place a big responsibility upon the mission. To send men there would be similarly risky.
2. We might be so bold as to send a family to Tunja, although this is very questionable.
3. Returning to the Plains would not necessarily mean to La Aguada.
4. Reoccupation of these areas would also mean, most likely, the reppening of the day schools next year. (perhaps this is possible in the Cocuy region also)

Author ? ?

CELMOZA SPECIAL CONFERENCE
Bogotá, Cundinamarca
Colombia, S. A.

May 8, 1950

- I. The sessions were opened with devotions lead by Rev. R. Malde and Rev. J. Walla.
- II. Two letters referring to the present situation of the evangelical missions in Colombia were read. One was from Rev. Lazear in explanation of the Presbyterian action taken in the States recently in reporting the conditions in Colombia and the other was from Clyde Taylor in Washington D. C. also in reference to the conditions as a result of the Presbyterian action.
- III. Rev. Mendenhall reported, as chairman of the Evangelism Committee in Bogotá, on the present activities and the possibilities here.

IV. Miscellaneous

- A. Voted that Johan A. Bergh be included in the voting membership of the mission.
- B. Voted that two families return to the States in light of the conditions in Colombia and the surplus manpower for the present work or the likely future work on the field.
- C. Voted that we vote on two members to return to the States.

Results (the following were chosen to return to the States)

1. Rev. Roy Malde and family
2. Rev. Johan Bergh and family

- D. Voted that Rev. Theo. Mendenhal become the Bogotá station head when Rev. Bergh leaves.
- E. Voted (unanimously) that Rev. Olger Quamrud become the Mission Secretary when Rev. Bergh leaves.
- F. Voted that the Executive Committee be authorized by the Conference to act upon furloughs if necessary for the balance of this year.
- G. Voted that the mission Superintendent go as an observer to the meeting of the Confederación Evangelica de Colombia in June.
- H. Voted that we recommend to the Foreign Mission Board that recommendation be made to the Lutheran World Federation that Herman Mueller be transferred to Venezuela.
- I. Voted that the Conference be adjourned.

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

May 18, 1950

Rev. Roy Malde
Apartado 4980
Bogota, Colombia,
South America

Dear Rev. Malde:

We have received your recent letter as well as the reports of the Executive Committee of May 1st and the special conference of May 8. Your last letter dated May 13th was received after the Board decisions were taken in reference to Colombia. I showed it to the Board members that were available but there was no indication that it would make a change in the decision of the Board.

I will send you the official report later but wish to give as much information as I can immediately as I know it would be of interest to you all.

The Minutes of the Executive Committee of May 1st were all taken ad notam except the following items:

II. Furniture.

A. & B. Approved.

III. Gifts.

I. Approved.

VI. This item was previously approved, power to act given to your Executive Committee. We therefore will forward the money the next time remittance is made.

The Special Conference of May 8th.

I., II., III - Ad Notam.

IV.

A. Approved.

B. Voted that unless conditions become such that it demands immediate withdrawal, we urge all missionaries to remain on the field for the time being; and that they confer with home board before final action is taken on coming home.

Voted that Board members write letters of encouragement to the various missionaries.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

Dr. J. R. Lavik
Dr. E. M. Hegge
Mr. P. M. Onstad

Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

2.

Voted that the Executive Secretary write a letter to the pastors of the ELC urgently requesting that special intercession be made for the mission in Colombia at their Sunday worship, May 28th.

Voted that we ask Dr. Syrdal and Rev. Jensen to confer with Pastors Olson and Morck with a view to making arrangements for them to return to the field at the earliest possible date.

C. Provided for in above motions.

D. - G. Ad Notam.

H. - Voted to defer action pending further information.

I. - Ad Notam.

The decisions of the Board concerning possible return of missionaries from Colombia may come as a surprise to you. The Board has however felt that it is urgent to keep a full staff of missionaries on the field if at all possible. There is not much that can be done by either you or Bergh if you come home at this time as the summer months are inactive as far as deputation work for missions is concerned. It is felt that if you stay on you may be of some rich blessing to the work in Colombia even though there are limitations and obstacles to be overcome. The Board is in hopes that opportunities of service may be increased so that all of you can be active in preaching and teaching God's Word in Bogota.

The Board is of the further opinion that it may be advisable for Olson and Morck to return to Colombia within the period of time when their return permit is valid rather than risking staying on and losing the possibility of return. Rev. K. R. Jenson and I have been appointed to confer with Olson and Morck on this matter. If other activity should be limited too severely there should be possibility of increased activity in preparing Christian literature in the Spanish language. Missionaries on furlough in this country have very little possibility of getting adequate native help in order to produce literature. One foreigner working with one to three qualified natives can produce a great deal of good literature in translation form or in original form. This may possibly be stored up for publication at a later date.

The Board members felt that they would desire to have the personal contact with you that letters written individually by them may provide. They have therefore asked that I supply them with names and addresses of all of you so that they can write to you either as a group or to individuals from time to time. They want you in this way to know that they are behind you in their daily prayers and wish to give you any encouragement they can.

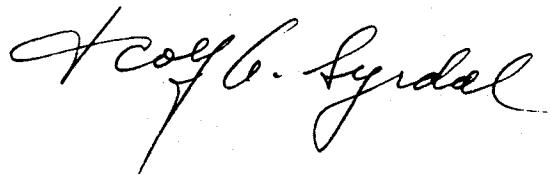
A special effort is being made to stir up a concerted prayer effort on behalf of you as missionaries and on behalf of God's Kingdom in Colombia. Letters are being sent to every pastor this week requesting that Pentecost Sunday be considered the special prayer day for Colombia.

The above decision of the Board concerning your continued stay in Colombia does not mean that you are to cease the careful watching of the situation that was suggested when I was out there. The Board will be meeting again in June very briefly during the time of the Convention. It will also be meeting again the first week in August for a one day meeting. We will welcome comments from you for those meetings. The Board is however in its decision expressing itself as to the importance that it feels in the continued work in Colombia, if that is at all possible. In making the decisions it has made it realizes that more expenses will possibly be called for. It is willing to face this even though it would go beyond our expected income and is pledging itself to do everything it can to get any extra money that is needed so that the work can go on in this manner.

The budget has been received from Ted Mendenhall. It arrived just before our Board meeting and was approved. This budget is I think the same one that was worked out at the Special Conference that was called during my brief visit with you.

May God continue to be with you in His strength and mercy. He is able to batter down closed doors and open hearts that have been sealed against Him by prejudice. May He work on your behalf and give you courage and wisdom to meet each opportunity so that it will be of rich blessing to you and to many people.

Sincere greetings in Christ,



RAS:hh

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
IRWIN M. LERBERG • ASST. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

(May 19, 1950)

A CALL TO PRAYER!

Dear Pastor:

There is a crisis in Colombia. Briefly the picture is as follows:

The Roman Church is deeply entrenched. It has resented any advance of the Protestant Church and has met this advance with destruction of our mission property, persecution of the native Protestants and ousting of our missionaries from most of our field. Priests have stirred up and personally directed attacks on missions, churches and members of our congregations.

The Conservative Party is in control politically. It is seeking to eradicate all liberals by violence and bloodshed, if other means fail. It is building up a totalitarian system of government under tutelage of Falangists imported from Spain. Its control is ruthless.

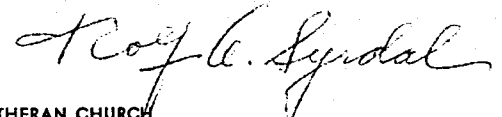
The Roman Church and the Political Conservatives are a coalition force directed against Protestantism and democratic groups within the country. Their collaboration is evidenced in many ways. If the present tendency develops it may mean the gradual elimination of Protestant mission work in Colombia.

All Missions are having a difficult time. Missionaries of some missions have left the country. Our missionaries are in Bogota (with the exception of Miss Heerde in Tunja and Rev. Ostrem on the plains.) They are conducting "The Institute" where native teachers and evangelists are trained. They are doing all the evangelistic work that is possible.

Special prayer for Colombia is requested. The Board of Foreign Missions has just met, and is earnestly requesting every pastor to use May 28, Pentecost Sunday, as a special day of prayer for Colombia, for our missionaries and for the persecuted Protestant believers. It is also requested that you will urge your people to pray constantly till God answers our prayers, for the protection and blessing of our workers and for open doors for the steady extension of the Kingdom of God in that country.

"Pray without ceasing."

On behalf of the Board of Foreign Missions,



RAS:hh.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

Rev. M. T. Jenson
Mr. A. M. Larson
Dr. J. R. Lavik

Dr. E. M. Hegge
Rev. M. S. Knutson
Rev. R. A. Harrisville

Mr. Arthur O. Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. T. H. Rossing
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative



Colombia, South America

LATIN AMERICA is composed of twenty countries. Three times the area of the United States it has a considerably smaller population so should have possibilities for great development. Instead we find an entrenched feudalism dominated by a pre-Reformation type of Catholicism stifling reform and advance. There are in the main two classes, the extremely rich and the extremely poor. The middle class is small, frustrated by strangulation of thought and advance. The working classes are seething in unrest under oppressive control. Outwardly suppressed, new ideas are spreading as an inner ferment breaking forth in frequent political revolutions and religious strife.

COLOMBIA has been slow to open her doors to the Evangelicals. There are only about three hundred missionaries ministering to her ten and a half million people, and a total Protestant group of about twenty-five thousand. Under the "Conservative" government the Catholic hierarchy controls the political party, the police, the militia and local governments. One who confesses faith in the simple evangelical message of the Protestant Church meets the resistance and ire of all these forces. In spite of this, the number of "Evangelicals" is growing.

OUR MISSION in Colombia is a special venture of our Church outside the regular budget. It is carried on by freewill gifts of our people who desire to bring the Gospel of Liberation to this great people.



COLOMBIA
South America

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET • MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA

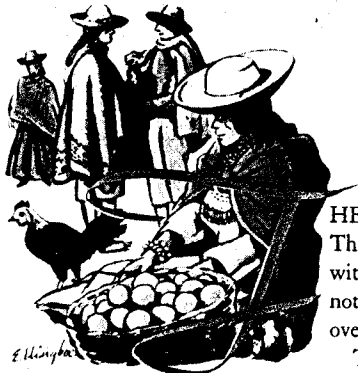
Arauca and Boyaca, Colombia

FOREIGN MISSION FIELD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND THE UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



OUR FIELD

Bogota, the capital of Colombia, forms the natural center for our mission activity. From there our mission field spreads out fan-like into mountainous Boyaca Province, and into the lowland plains of Arauca. A great field with a million souls. We have won footholds in some centers. Others remain a challenge to future activity.



HERE are difficulties to be overcome in all mission work. There are special difficulties in Colombia. These are faced with courage by the missionaries and Colombian believers, not as insurmountable obstacles, but as hindrances to be overcome with patience, prayer and faithful witness.

The natural difficulties of rough terrain and high altitudes of Boyaca and the humid heat of Arauca are encountered as a matter of course. The missionary becomes acclimated to these, or can seek short respite in change of altitude and climate.

The greater difficulty is man-created. Political conservatism uses violence against the "liberal" and Protestant alike to entrench itself among the people. The ecclesiastical hierarchy dominating the masses has stirred up unfounded suspicion and hatred against the Protestants. There are centers entirely closed to evangelical witness. Our missionaries and believers have been violently driven out of other areas with danger to life and loss of property.

In spite of opposition, the work goes on.

We look for results in mission work. There are also blessed results from our work as a mission in Colombia. When viewed in the face of much opposition we have special reason to be thankful to God for the fruits of labor witnessed in this country God has given to us as our responsibility.

Many people have found a new liberating freedom from the bondage of sin as they have heard the message of the living and victorious Christ in our churches and chapels. Many of the new believers have manifested a courageous faith in the face of opposition. Souls have been won for Christ.

Congregations and an active Christian program have been established in Tunja, Duitama, El Cocuy, Soata, Santa Ana, Carizal, Mause, Chiscas, Parpa, La Aguada and Bogota. Schools for the children of our believers have flourished between times of persecution in several centers. An "Institute" for training teachers and evangelists has sent out many young Colombian believers as faithful workers in the Kingdom. Theological training is given to prepare Colombian pastors.

The work shows gratifying progress.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

June 2, 1950

Rev. Roy Malde
Apartado Aereo 4980
Bogota, Colombia,
South America

Dear Roy:

I am sorry that we have not to date been able to have a Conference with Morck and Olson together in order to talk over the possibility of their return to Colombia. It may on the surface seem strange that the Board would take this decision. On the other hand the Board is looking to God in faith that the prayer that has been specially requested for Colombia will be heard. It has always been our purpose to hang on as long as we can in any particular mission field. The decision of remaining or closing as well as the personnel to be sent to the field has always been left as the responsibility of the Board so that the missionaries themselves did not have to shoulder the responsibility alone. It is in this same spirit of desiring to carry on as long as God gives us a possibility that has prompted the Board decision that we should request Morck and Olson to consider the possibility of return. Our main consideration is that their re-entry permits are still valid.

If they remain beyond that particular date it may be impossible to get them back into Colombia for a considerable period of time. That delay may cause a longer period of idleness in the work of the Kingdom than complete idleness on the field for a few months while we watch the situation. Please know that I am sympathetic with your difficulties and your discouragements and so is the entire Board. Some of us have gone through the difficulty of being partially idle when we knew there was so much that must be done to build God's Kingdom. The Board is therefore asking a little more than formerly of you and the two men at home and that is that you are willing to bear a little longer of the present frustration in order to fully test the possibilities of today and the possibilities that shall develop as a result of the earnest prayer of your church given on your behalf and on behalf of the people of Colombia.

Please encourage your fellow-workers. Please spur them on to use the possibilities that they are already utilizing. God grant you wisdom and the spirit of courage and leadership from day to day, to meet any situation that comes before you in a spirit of the Lord and in His courage. Please know that the Board is entirely behind you, and that the Board members are praying daily for you and the work.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
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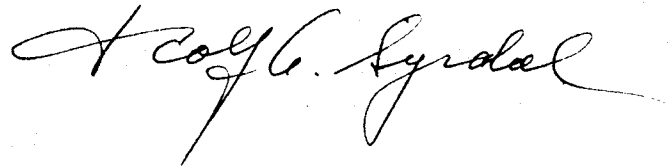
Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

2.

I am enclosing a copy of the letter sent to all the pastors of our church on Friday, May 19th. We have had an unusual response from our pastors that will give us assurance that this day was utilized and that there will be a continuing barrage of prayer going up to God's throne of mercy each day.

Sincere greetings in Christ,

RAS:hh

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. C. Lyrdal". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed text "Sincere greetings in Christ,".

SPECIAL CELMOSA
CONFERENCE

Bogotá, Cundinamarca
Colombia, S.A.

June 9, 1950

I. The Conference was opened with a devotional period with Rev. Mendenhall reading Eph. 4:1-16.

II. The Superintendent read from Dr. Syrdal's letter requesting answers to certain questions which were then considered by the Conference.

III. Miscellaneous.

A. VOTED (unanimously) that we reaffirm the action taken at the last Conference of May 8, 1950 as to the reduction of the field staff and the returning home of the Maldes and Berghs

B. VOTED that we approve the return to the field of the two men now on furlough if the Board considers it advisable, but that an equal number of men now on the field in addition to Malde and Bergh be allowed to return home if they so desire and if the conditions in Colombia do not improve.

C. VOTED that the Conference be adjourned.

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

June 9, 1950.

Rev. Roy K. Malde
Apartado Aereo 49-80
Bogota, Colombia
South America

AIR MAIL

Dear Rev. Malde:

I have received vote by mail on the proposition of return of missionaries appointed for return by your last conference. This vote by mail reverses the decision of our last Board meeting and approves the motions passed by your Conference IV B and C, namely;

"B. Voted that two families return to the States in light of the conditions in Colombia and the surplus manpower for the present work or the likely future work on the field.

C. Voted that we vote on two members to return to the States.

Results: (the following were chosen to return to the States)

1. Rev. Roy Malde and family
2. Rev. Johan Bergh and family"

This means that you and family and Rev. Johan Bergh and family may proceed with plans for return to this country at the earliest opportunity. I would request that you notify me as to possible time that we may expect you home so that we can make plans for your residence upon your arrival here. I am in hopes that we may have mission cottages for each of your families, and that you can serve in deputation work for some time as we watch development of the situation in Colombia.

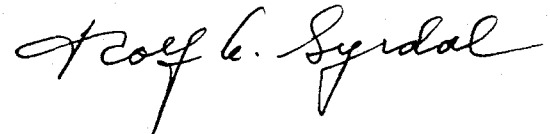
Please know that you are both welcome and that we are looking forward to meeting you. May God give you a good journey.

I would advise checking on possibility of receiving re-entry permit before leaving Colombia. This may be harder to receive from this end if nothing is done in Colombia before your departure.

We would like to have some word on the question mentioned in my last letter concerning the opinion of our missionaries in Colombia as to the return of Morck and Olson. Please feel free to voice your opinions in this matter.

Sincere greetings to all coworkers.

Yours in Christ,



ras:mh

CC; Johan Bergh

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

June 14, 1950

Rev. Roy K. Malde
Apartado Aereo 4980
Bogota, Colombia,
South America

Dear Roy:

Your letter of June 10th enclosing Conference Minutes of the Special Conference called for June 9th has been received. I trust that by this time you have had a letter from me indicating the vote taken on the return of you and the Berghs by the Board. That will therefore take care of the Board reaction to the first motion passed by the Conference.

In reference to the amount mentioned, I would suggest that if Olson comes out to the field that any action would be dependent on a full new consideration of the situation on the field and the attitude of the missionaries. I believe it would be unwise to let a motion passed at this time before the arrival of Olson or Morck predetermine the case or even influence the case one way or the other, that should be considered impartially and in light of developments at the time, if and when he arrives.

We are investigating the possibility of Harold coming to Colombia alone and leaving his family here. He is in Chicago today to see the Colombian Consul. What reaction he will get from that source we have no means of knowing. His present permit expires on June 21st. It is in an attempt to save the expiration that we are making tentative plans for him to secure the regular visas at this time and leave from Minneapolis on June 20th arriving in Bogota on June 21st.

We realize full well that Olson may not be permitted entrance at this time. We also realize that if he is permitted to re-enter Colombia his re-entry may be of short duration, depending on conditions that develop. It may therefore seem to be risking an expenditure of both manpower and money that might have been saved if he had remained in this country. On the other hand we feel that there is also a risk of failing to utilize opportunities if they should present themselves to us, which would in some way limit the building of the Kingdom of God. For that reason we feel that it is inadvisable to risk losing the re-entry permit for Olson and take the lesser risk of the extra expenditure.

I am sure that all of you will be happy on the return of Olson. Even though other avenues of activity will be limited or partially closed I hope that there will be some very definite possibilities in the line of translation of Christian literature into the Spanish language.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

Dr. J. R. Lavik
Dr. E. M. Hegge
Mr. P. M. Onstad

Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

2.

I am writing to you as superintendent with the understanding that this information will be relayed to other members of the Conference.

Sincere greetings in Christ,

Wesley A. Syrdal

RAS:hh.

All America Cables and Radio

American Cable & Radio System

"Via All America"

"Via Commercial"

"Via Mackay Radio"

INDIQUESE CON UNA "X" LA CLASE DE SERVICIO DESEADO

ORDINARIO A TARIFA INTEGRAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	ORDINARIO EN CLAVE (CDE)	<input type="checkbox"/>
URGENTE	<input type="checkbox"/>	URGENTE EN CLAVE (CDE)	<input type="checkbox"/>
DIFERIDO	<input type="checkbox"/>	CARTA TELEGRAMA NOCTURNA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SIN INDICACION AL CONTRARIO ESTE MENSAJE SE TRANSMITIRA COMO MENSAJE ORDINARIO



NO.
MM
HORA
PALABRAS
TASA

ENLAZADA CON LA WESTERN UNION PARA LAS DESTINACIONES EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS MAS ALLA DE NUESTRAS OFICINAS

SIRVASE TRANSMITIR EL SIGUIENTE TELEGRAMA, DE CONFORMIDAD CON LAS CONDICIONES AL DORSO DEL FORMULARIO ORDINARIO A LAS CUALES CONSIENTO SOMETERME

Virginia Antonsen
225 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota
U. S. A.

Heard you await word from me. Decision is yours may Lord give wisdom. Your coming welcome but not imperative.

Letter follows.

WALLA

EL REMITENTE

Joseph Walla

DOMICILIO Carrera 13, #736-71

ACM 30-CC CL 250M



WARREN LEE PIERSON
Presidente

ALL AMERICA CABLES AND RADIO, INC.
AMERICAN CABLE & RADIO SYSTEM

No.

40

194

Recibido de

Para cablegrama a

Virginia Antonsen

Palabras

Tasa

3.49

All America Cables and Radio

American Cable & Radio System

"Via All America"

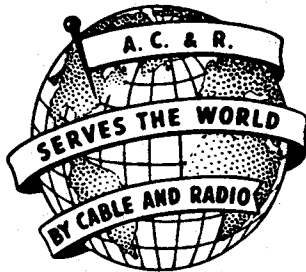
"Via Commercial"

"Via Mackay Radio"

INDIQUESE CON UNA "X" LA CLASE DE SERVICIO DESEADO

ORDINARIO A TARIFA INTEGRAL	ORDINARIO EN CLAVE (CDE)	
URGENTE	URGENTE EN CLAVE (CDE)	
DIFERIDO	CARTA TELEGRAMA NOCTURNA	X

SIN INDICACION AL CONTRARIO ESTE MENSAJE SE TRANSMITIRA COMO MENSAJE ORDINARIO



NO.
MM
HORA
PALABRAS
TASA

ENLAZADA CON LA WESTERN UNION PARA LAS DESTINACIONES EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS MAS ALLA DE NUESTRAS OFICINAS

SIRVASE TRANSMITIR EL SIGUIENTE TELEGRAMA, DE CONFORMIDAD CON LAS CONDICIONES AL DORSO DEL FORMULARIO ORDINARIO A LAS CUALES CONSIENTO SOMETERME

MADAKINA
Minneapolis, Minnesota
U. S. A.

Handwritten initials: L.T.

Agree with Nerlien letter to Antoneen. Return to institute desirable but not essential. Possible substitutes.

WALLA

Handwritten signature/initials

FIRMA DEL REMITENTE

Carrera 13, #73-71

DOMICILIO

ACM 10-CC CL 250M



WARREN LEE PIERSON
Presidente

ALL AMERICA CABLES AND RADIO, INC.
AMERICAN CABLE & RADIO SYSTEM

No. 135 194

Recibido de Minneapolis

Para cablegrama a Minneapolis

Palabras 19 Tasa 10.01

FORMA AOS 11-8

6211 N.E. Alberta
Portland 13, Oregon
October 28, 1950

Dear Joe,

Greetings in Jesus' Name.

Thanks for your kind letter of October 16. We certainly appreciate your thorough explanation of the whole problem regarding our return to the field. We have also been much in prayer about it, both in respect to the recommendations you folks would be called upon to make, and also with reference to the Board Meeting. Frankly, the decision of the Board to have me return to Colombia alone is somewhat hard for us to take, partly because of the human element involved, and equally because Hildur is "half the machinery" for the literature work. Yet, we want to believe and do believe that God guided also in this decision and we are proceeding accordingly.

I note that the Board changed your recommendation to read, "mainly for literary work", and with that understanding I return; thus, it seems that the matter of being overstaffed in Bogotá should not affect us too directly.

Then, we have been thinking about this: Since we have just recently gotten time to work on the manuscripts that we have, there is considerable work to be done yet, especially if we are to correct also the World Mission Prayer League MS of Hallesby's "Prayer" which we have on hand. Would it make a lot of difference to you if I worked on these here since I am very much dependent on Hildur for proof-reading and typing, and the work is now at the stage when that type of work is involved to the greatest extent. Then, I could be in Colombia just in time for the field conference.

I note your suggestion of looking into the possibilities of starting work in other places and, therefore, you desire to have me on the field about the first of December, and certainly that has its good reasons. Nevertheless, it seems to me that those of you now on the field have been in so much closer contact with the present political and religious atmosphere of the country that you are in a better position to make this survey of possibilities in other cities, and I would be willing to accept your recommendations regarding such.

Could you enlighten me at all as to whether the committee feels that my return to Colombia at this time is for a normal term, or only temporarily due to circumstances since you recommend not bringing the family. I ask this simply because some guidance here would help us in our planning, packing, etc.

The news of La Aguada being destroyed makes us sick at heart. Do you know by now to what extent the destruction has been, and how work there and elsewhere on the Plains is being affected?

Greetings to the rest of the gang.

Fraternally yours,

Amfeld

P.S. Would you please tell Belva right away that I am using the 1926, Second Edition, of Hallesby's "Infant Baptism and Adult Conversion", just in case ~~there are other editions~~ and the page notations should be confusing.

I hope there is a copy of the book on the field. If not, let me know and I shall have one sent.

acm

P.S. You ask if we got the Board minutes sent from Myra. No, we have not seen any Board minutes since leaving Blair. Rev. Clarence Bulmer, B. Member, used to show us his copy.

Apartado Aéreo 4980
Bogotá, Colombia
Nov. 8, 1950

Dear Arnt:

Greetings in Christ.

It is now almost a week since your letter came, but I have been under the weather with the "gripa" for about that long so haven't felt like doing anything. Now that I am better, Alice has it. I know you will have been waiting for a reply but hope you will excuse the delay.

I shall try to answer your questions and in so doing hope I may clarify the whole matter somewhat. Your first question is when you should come. The Executive Committee's primary reason for suggesting Dec. 1st was not that of your investigating other cities, but rather so that you would have at least a month in which to orientate yourself again and get a "feel" of the present situation here before we have our conference. Consideration of work in other cities will perhaps not be taken too seriously, but it was an added suggestion made in the committee. The reason for your doing the investigation, rather than someone else, is that it would be quickest way for one to get in touch with actual conditions in Colombia, and should make one better prepared to participate in the conference. Excuse me for writing to you as though you don't know much about things here at present, but to me it isn't strange that those who have been at home during the past year haven't been able to keep up with the changes. The general opinion here is that you would defeat your purpose in coming for the conference if you didn't come at least a month before, and to be very frank I believe that unless you come at the suggested time you would be wiser in making further use of your extension and continue to watch developments here.

The question about the length of your term is hard to answer. For one thing you know our whole work is quite uncertain. It would not be surprising when Institute has opened again if we were told we couldn't have it. The Baptists not long ago had their schools closed in Cali and Cartagena. Our plain's work is looking more uncertain now in some respects. I think that we will want to reconsider our whole position in Colombia at the conference. I see some possible conclusions we might reach. 1. We might decide to continue just as at present, which doesn't seem very advisable. 2. We might decide that we should close up entirely and consider work elsewhere. 3. We might reduce the staff to what is absolutely necessary for the present work, sending the rest home or to begin work elsewhere. 4. Or we might decide on an all-out effort on work here in Bogotá (a gamble), with a building program for a church as a "must". These are just a few thoughts that I have gleaned from our many discussions together. Personally I am not very optimistic about a normal term beginning now being completed, but one cannot know of course. If we should adopt, for instance, a holding-out plan with only a token force here, then the question would be who should stay on. In any event I hope that some of these questions will be resolved at this conference. In the mean time I would think it unwise to make extensive plans yet for buying and packing.

Belva has long wanted to make a trip to the plains before her furlough comes, so now when the girls from there went home she decided to make a short trip down there. She left the 2nd and expects to return the 17th. Consequently I don't know what edition she has of ~~#####~~ "Infant Baptism and Adult Conversion". I have one but it is a 1947 edition.

Yes, La Aguada is pretty desolate. The Catholic church, the municipal building and a short row of houses is all that remains of the town. There wasn't a person living in town according to latest reports. Moreno too is gone and some other small places.

So much for now. No doubt there are other things I should have mentioned but they do not come to mind now, and I must hasten to get this in the mail. If you have further questions I shall do my best to answer them.

Greetings to the family. Alice sends greetings.

Sincerely in Christ,

/s/ Joe Walla

Bogotá, October 30, 1950

The American Consulate,

Bogotá, Colombia

This is to certify that Miss Joyce Bergh is a member of the Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America, and that as such she is employed by the Board of Foreign Missions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, 425 South 4th Street, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota.

After four years of service in Colombia, she is now returning on furlough to her home at Bowden, Alberta, Canada. To facilitate the travel to her home and to make it possible for her to visit our home office in Minneapolis, it is very desirable that she be permitted to spend a few days in the United States.

Any courtesy extended to Miss Bergh in making this possible will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph L. Walla,
Vice-superintendent

FUNDS ON HAND IN THE U. S. FOR WHICH
PESOS HAVE BEEN USED ON
THE FIELD!

1445

Station Wagon	2,500.00
Property	3,503.69
Inst. Equipment -WMF	2,000.00
Institute	1,000.00

Gifts -			
1st Qt.	No. 8-Relief	500.00	✓
"	" 7-Children's Home	10.00	v.B.S. when needed
"	" 23-Native worker	63.25	Evangel. budget
2nd	" 1-Roy Malde	500.00	✓
"	" 2-Inst. Student	161.50	Evangel. budget
3rd	" 1-Native worker	190.00	✓
"	" 3-Testaments	5.00	Radio
"	" 5-Inst. Student	137.20	✓
"	" 6-VacationB. "	114.50	v.B.S. when needed
4th	" 3-Native worker	20.00	Evangel. budget
"	" 4-Col. Mission	5.00	film strips & slides
"	" 6-S. Am.	7.13	Radio
"	" 8-Bibles	70.59	Radio
"	" 9-Bible Student	20.00	✓
		10,707.86	

	Nov. 1.	
Balance in Continetal Ill.	9,157.86	} less \$290.00 paid to Kuman Muller.
Due from UELC	1,500.00	
Shortages on Budg. rem.		
3rd and 4th qts.	50.00	
	10,707.86	

520 N. Graham
Portland 12, Oregon
November 7, 1950

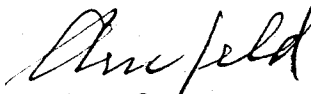
Dear Joe,

In view of what I wrote to you and Harold about the possibility of not going out until about time of Conference, let me add the following:

We have now finished Hallesby's "Infant Baptism and Adult Conversion" and will not go ahead with the other MSS anyway until we get a more definite answer from the World Mission Prayer League. I am, therefore, preparing to leave for Colombia as soon as I get the family settled and my papers in order. I hope to make it by about the first of December.

Greetings to you and the rest of the saints in Bogotá.

Yours in Christ,


Arnfeld

St. Paul, Minn.,
December 28, 1950

Dear Joe, I shall add a few more words to the more general letter which I also send together with this one. In my last letter to Harold I mentioned that Señorita Dolores Grass wrote me about her brother and I was to hear that he seems to be out for Christ and desires to get into the Word of God. What he has gone through these last years has led him to see his spiritual need and brought him to a decision for Christ I understand from her letter. She said that he would like to attend the Bible Institute and asked if I could in some way aid in his getting there. I wrote her but did not promise. Now to mention something which has come to my mind for your thinking over or consideration. She would be having some money coming from the mission towards her teaching this year even though it was not so much that she was able to do for reasons which you know. I am wondering how it would be to mention to her the thought of letting that money be used for his expense at the Institute. I know that she will need it herself, but presenting it that way to her will show her that we would both like that he could get Bible knowledge as well as that we would try to help them solve the problem. And it would avoid the problem of help to a first year person. I am not certain of just how old he is, but he is, I think, just some younger than she is. He had expressed himself that he would like to serve the Lord. I cannot say to what extent he would be capable to do that but God surely has made real good workers of crude material many a time. If he came for the purpose of getting a foundation in the Word of God and during the year you should see him as a possibility you could make further resolutions about it for later. His name is Arsenio. You can take it up with the rest, and maybe you would want to take it up at the Conference. I could recommend him as one whom I would like to see get an opportunity to get a chance to study God's Word as it would help him better serve the Lord wherever he might be whether it be that he continue further study or continue in his work as a farmer or cattleman.

You will then soon be gathering for the annual conference of the mission. We shall be praying for you right along from now on as well as we have done in the past. May God lead you in all and bless you as you fellowship together. We have had many a blessed time together at those meetings in the past and I am certain the God has further blessings in store for you this year also.

We are looking forward to our return to the field again at the end of our furlough which will be at the end of next July. The more I think of them out in that part of the field where we have been these last years the more I long to get back soon and shall be happy when again I can go there to help along. I feel and believe that God has work for me to do out there and I pray that that might be the way you fellow-workers will also if you take us up for consideration at the conference.

When I met with the Board in October on their request as well as that it was my desire as I mentioned to the Ex. Com. the last time I met with you before we came home, I tried to explain what I presented to the Committee regarding river boat work and they voted to approve it and authorize the presenting of it to the people here at home for support. Naturally the Board as well as you folks and I realize that that work will need to wait until

... ..
... ..

things are more favorable for it. We know that just at present we could not go ahead with the work, but we can present it to the people that they begin to pray definitely about it and to give them an opportunity to help materially if God places it upon them to do so. In presenting it it will also be with explanation to the effect that if time should reveal that it simply would never be possible anymore that then gifts given for it might be used for other purposes on the field.

I do not suppose that you will take up the matter of closed communion or that of the use of gowns in our field in Colombia. If it should come up I will just mention my position here to avoid later inconveniences. I do not approve either of them.

As mentioned above, we are praying for you and shall continue to do so both for the meetings and for the work in all its phases right along as time passes on. We are praying for Colombia with all its needs. God knows about it and is working for the salvation of souls. HIS cause is going ahead even though to us it appears different at times. It is His Cause and shall not fail any more than He Himself shall fail. He does need and desires our faithfulness to work through. And He has not sent us out to be unsuccessful, but to be faithful and then He will take care of the rest.

Praise His majestic name that He is God and is still on the Throne. Nobody shall dethrone Him.

We wish for you all a very Blessed New Year in Jesus Name.

Sincerely your fellow-worker,

Thos. A. ...

St. Paul 8, Minn.,
December 29, 1950

Dear Joe. and the rest,

There was another matter which I think I forgot to mention to the Ex. Com. when we met the last time I was with you before we came away on furlo. It was in connection with Trinidad.

Don Rosalino Corredor, the believer who lives in Trinidad, has a house which some who have been down there know by sight, which he has a la orden de la misión if we establish there. He has had it rented and still had it rented when I was there, but he wanted to with-hold it from renting when the present contract is up so as to fix it up in hopes that someone would come there.

I told him that I would bring it (the matter of the rental - not the house) before the compañeros in la obra and that we would let him know afterwards. I am not certain what his price of rent is, but it seems to me that he was getting, was it eighty pesos a month. He might wish to reserve one room for himself and he might have a little dry goods store and others similar things there as well as a place for himself to sleep.

Would you therefore take it up at the conference? Personally I think that it would be well to have it in mind for renting it with the condition that that be when the situation permits or is such that someone can establish in Trinidad, which we all hope and pray might be soon. I would favor some decisions something like that. If you then would let me know what you decide I could write him about it also. I just had a letter from him today in which he mentions about Belva's visit there and how it was appreciated. I was glad to hear that. He did not ask about what we would do about the house.

We had a letter from Proceso too and have had from several down there. My, when we hear from them and think about them and the work we surely get still more longing to get back there to help along sooner the better.

In his letter Proceso mentions about what he has coming for the first part of February. I am glad his letter came just at this time and not later. As I mentioned in Harold's letter, Proceso would have about eighteen pesos coming for the second week in February. Or would it be more? I paid him for the last half and for march, April and May. And I told him that I would tell the ones in Bogotá about this so as to give him the rest that he should have for the time that would correspond to the Plains station. Therefore, and I am sure that Harold will take care of that.

Now if he did not get from the Bogotá station for the first week or whatever part of it that he worked that will fall upon the ones in charge of Bogotá to take care of. He left Bogotá for the Plains the 7th or 8th of Feb. I think it was. By the way, would it not be ~~#####~~ twenty eight pesos he should have more for that week instead of eighteen?. Please mention that to Harold.

Then in closing I wish to express again our desire for you to have a blessed conference. Greetings ~~##~~ to all and to the conference. Your fellow-laborer,

Gerhard

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
JAPAN MISSION

21-MARUYAMA CHO, BUNKYO-KU, TOKYO
TELEPHONE - 86-0835
CABLE ADDRESS - EVANLUTH, TOKYO

東京 都文京區
丸山町二一
福音ルーテル教會
日本傳道部
電話大塚部〇八三五番

December 30, 1950

Rev. Joseph Walla
Apartado Aereo 4980
Bogota, Columbia
South America

Dear Pastor Walla:

We greet you with the words of our Conference verse:

"For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again" (II Cor. 5:14-15).

As we have met from day to day we have been challenged by the following thoughts based on our Conference theme, "Ambassadors of God": "The Motive - Constraining Love"; "The Message - Reconciling Power"; "The Mandate - Sanctifying Relationships."

While this is our first Conference our mission work in Tokyo is almost one year old. It has been evident that God's blessing has been upon us and we have seen the fruit of our labors in sustaining interest in Sunday School and a steady growth in church attendance. Like the Sower we sow the seed of the Word of God in the hope that in time a rich harvest shall come forth. At this Conference we have laid plans for the establishment of four new stations in addition to the one already in Tokyo, extending through our selected field to Nagoya. We take this tremendous step conscious that except as the Lord shall undergird, our efforts shall be of little avail, but as His promises are real and His presence precious, we move forward in faith.

We are mindful that unlike other mission fields we enjoy relative political and economic stability. How long this will continue is difficult to predict, but we solicit your intercession for this newest mission enterprise of our Church even as the work and welfare of your missionaries has been on our mind and heart.

With fraternal greetings,

Sincerely yours,

Olaf Hansen

ESTADO DE CUENTA DE LA CORPORACION EVANGELICA ANDINA

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE COLOMBIA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MISSION OF SOUTH AMERICA

Diario (General Ledger)

Resos

Ingresos (Income) enero 1 - diciembre 31, 1950	187,782.87
Gastos (Expenditures) enero 1 - diciembre 31, 1950	<u>146,494.63</u>
Saldo diciembre 31, 1950 ----- (Balance)	<u>41,287.84</u>

Fondos Especiales (Special Ledger)

<u>Fondo</u>	<u>Ingresos</u> (Receipts)	<u>Gastos</u> (Disbursements)	<u>Saldo</u> (Balance)	<u>Déficit</u>
Servicio Médico y Medicinas----- (Medical)	9,057.75	5,744.20	3,313.55	-----
Emergencia (Emergency)-----	14,525.10	15,083.44	-----	558.34
Gastos Legales (Legal Expenses)-----	444.87	824.11	-----	379.24
Sueldos (Salaries)-----	36,090.06	36,740.06	-----	650.00
Arrendamientos (Rent)-----	26,163.31	22,812.07	3,351.24	-----
Arreglo de Alojamientos----- (Property Upkeep)	1,781.91	1,552.71	229.20	-----
Instituto (Institute)-----	12,574.75	12,410.00	164.75	-----
Utiles Escolares (School Supplies)-----	181.05	32.00	149.05	-----
Maestros (Teachers)-----	1,291.77	291.77	1,000.00	-----
Evangelistas (Evangelists)-----	8,752.46	7,499.00	1,253.46	-----
Literatura (Literature)-----	4,139.93	400.04	3,739.89	-----
Viajes y Trasteos (Travel, Moving)-----	5,647.93	2,813.35	2,834.58	-----
Bienes Semovientes (Vehicles)-----	7,239.03	7,311.70	-----	72.67
Vacaciones (Vacation & Furlough)-----	8,499.43	8,804.98	-----	305.55
Muebles y Enseres (Furniture)-----	8,534.82	8,534.82	-----	-----
Correo (Postage)-----	196.45	91.09	105.36	-----
Cables, Telegramas, Teléfono-----	283.00	263.00	20.00	-----
Escuela de Idiomas (Language School)-----	69.01	69.01	-----	-----
Gastos Varios (Misc.)-----	1,378.73	255.00	1,123.73	-----
Donaciones Personales----- (Personal Gifts)	733.29	733.29	-----	-----
Donaciones Para la Obra----- (Gifts for the Work)	3,076.19	602.90	2,473.29	-----
Bienes Raices (Property)	<u>37,121.63</u>	<u>13,626.09</u>	<u>23,495.54</u>	<u>-----</u>
Total	187,782.47	146,494.63	43,253.64	1,965.80
	<u>- 146,494.63</u>		<u>1,965.80</u>	
Saldo (Balance)	<u>41,287.84</u>		<u>41,287.84</u>	

Thos. L. Wenderhall

WALLA

Bogotá, Jan. 9, 1951

Superintendent's Report for the year 1950

"Hitherto hath Jehovah helped us." I Sam. 7:12

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with joy, bringing his sheaves with him." Ps. 126:6

It is rather difficult to write and present a report of our work in Colombia for this past year. In the first place the over-all picture even to the most optimistic has not been encouraging; and secondly, for the one who writes such a report it is impossible to entirely exclude the personal attitude and impression that he may have.

Nevertheless we have reason to rejoice and be thankful to the Lord for the blessings and the opportunities of the past year. He has kept His guarding hand over us, and to date even though some have faced dangers and real threats, the lives of all our missionaries and national workers have been spared. Not all on our field have fared as well, for we have learned with sorrow of the death through violence of some from among the believers and sympathizers. Most all have suffered persecution, danger and loss of property. It is our prayer, however, that all these sufferings shall not have been in vain but rather might prove a blessing in disguise and will serve to draw souls unto the Saviour. Some doors of opportunity have closed to us while a few others have opened to new service. Other doors have been tried but to no avail. But where we have been permitted to enter in, where we in faith have availed ourselves of our God-given opportunities, we can rest assured that the seed has not been sown in vain. God Himself will give the increase and the faithful servant shall not be empty handed when he stands before his Lord.

Of the places that we were forced to leave in the fall of 1949, Santa Ana, Chiscas, El Carizal and El Cocuy have not been reentered. Recent news of the events of last Dec. 30th which resulted in the death of one believer in Carizal and the imprisonment of two of his brothers, one a national worker of our mission, indicates that possibilities of again taking up that work are more remote than previously thought.

After the conference in January the work of the Socotá station was carried on by Miss Heerde and Miss Torkelson. Besides the various services and the children's classes, they conducted a first-aid program thus ministering to bodies as well as souls. A few days after their arrival in Bogotá for a special conference which was called in March news arrived of the destruction by burning of the missionary home and the chapel in Parpa. No missionary work has since been done in that region. Intermittent if not constant persecution and threats against the believers there indicate that it would be unwise to consider reopening that work at the present time.

Casanare, or the plains area, while presenting a very delicate situation due to revolutionary and military activity, perhaps also offered the greatest opportunities of any part of the field. Under the leadership of Pastor Ostrem evangelization has been carried on and even extended despite the risks and hardships. A blow to that work was the complete destruction of our mission station in La Aguada when that town was burned in September. It had previously served as the center for our plains' work. Much credit for what was accomplished in Casanare this year goes to our national workers who served there. Oiverio Mora, ... 2

Proceso Mora and Gerardo Wilches were employed there for six, ten and eleven months respectively. Pastor Ostrem personally itinerated in that region for about five months until his return in July to leave for furlough. During November Miss Nerlien made a trip to the plains as she accompanied two Institute girls to their homes, and while there was able to visit a number of places conducting services. The proposed school to be taught by Dolores Grass did not materialize because of the unfavorable situation. Later in the year Mrs. Wilches was able to conduct a school for four months in the vicinity of La Chapa. During the month of December two of the girls from the Institute taught vacation Bible school in various places and will continue doing so in January and February.

Pastor Quanrud has served as head of the Tunja station while Miss Danielson has been the resident missionary. Besides the various services which she has conducted, her English classes have made and maintained numerous contacts. Fanny Jiménez, a national worker, has been her companion and assistant throughout the year. Workers from the Bogotá station have made frequent week-end trips there to speak at the Sunday services. During the month of December Miss Nerlien was also in Tunja assisting in the work.

The work of the Bogotá station was under the direction of Pastor Bergh the first six months, and has been directed by Pastor Mendenhall during the past six months. Pastor Quanrud has collaborated in the Bogotá work, conducting services and Bible classes in various homes in the suburbs. Since April 1st Miss Heerde and Miss Torkelson have served as parish workers doing house visitation and conducting Sunday Schools and vacation Bible schools in various homes. Pausanias Wilches, another of our national workers, has served in the Bogotá station besides making frequent trips to Tunja.

The Bible Institute was conducted in Bogotá again this year. Miss Bergh, Miss Nerlien and Pastor Walla were full-time teachers; Vicenta Díaz, Mrs. Walla and Pastor Olson taught part-time.

There have been several changes in the missionary staff during the year. The Malde, Bergh and Ostrem families left the field for furlough in July, and Miss Bergh left in November. Two missionaries, Pastor Olson and Pastor Morck, returned to the field in June and December respectively.

As a conference we are grateful to the members of the Joint Foreign Mission Board, to Dr. Syrdal the executive secretary, and to all other officers and members of our supporting church bodies for their prayers and support during the past year. We are thankful to each one who has in any way aided in the furtherance of the gospel work in Colombia.

To all my fellow-missionaries I wish to express my appreciation and thanks for their faithfulness and devotion to the work and to their respective tasks. May the Lord reward and richly bless each one.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. Walla

P.S. The Bogotá station has also carried on womens work in two places in the city, the two groups meeting alternately every other week. Mrs. Quanrus has been in charge of this work.

THE XII ANNUAL CERMOSA CONFERENCE

Jan. 9-14, 1951

The following schedule was observed.

I. All sessions were opened with devotions.

A. Morning Prayer and Bible Study (Colossians)	Afternoon Devotions
Tuesday - Free Topic Miller	Tuesday - Nerlien
Wednesday - Ch. 1 Quanrud	Wednesday - Mendenhall
Thursday - Ch. 2 Morck	Thursday - Alice Walla
Friday - Ch. 3 Olson	Friday - Deloris Mendenhall
Saturday - Ch. 4 Danielson	

B. Saturday afternoon outing in charge of Elizabeth Heerde and Alice Walla

C. Sunday evening - Communion Service, Mendenhall in charge

1. Conference called to order by Superintendent Walla

A. Greeting from Japan mission field read by Superintendent and Secretary was instructed to acknowledge this greeting and to send greetings from this Conference to all Foreign Fields of U.E.L.C. and E.L.C..

B. Reports

1. Report by Superintendent.
2. Reports by station heads and Institute Director.
3. Secretary's report read and approved.
4. Treasurer's report read and approved pending report of auditing committee.
5. Voted that Rev. Morck and Elizabeth Heerde serve as auditors.
6. Auditors report heard and approved.
7. Report of Literature Committee heard and approved with recommendations.

III. Education

1. Voted that an investigation be made of the possibility of sending students to the Missouri Synod Seminary in Buenos Aires, and that Rev. Morck make the necessary investigation.
2. Voted that we offer Pausanias Wilches and Gerardo Wilches the opportunity of Theological training at the Concordia Seminary (Missouri Synod) Buenos Aires, Argentina, if said institution will receive them, and if found practical (this to be determined by Executive Committee upon receipt of information from Buenos Aires) and if the Board approves.
3. Voted that in the event Pausanias Wilches and Gerardo Wilches will be permitted to study in Argentina, funds for said training be made a special project at home.
4. The following were nominated to the Institute faculty:
Harold L. Olson - Director
Belva Nerlien - Teacher
Elizabeth Heerde - Teacher
5. Superintendent instructed secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Institute faculty.
6. Voted that the Institute faculty be delegated to act on scholarships for the coming school year.
7. Voted that the arrangements for schools in the Plains be made by Executive Committee in consultation with Chairman of Education Committee and pending report of J. L. Walla after trip to plains.
8. Voted that the Conference go on record as being in favor of a primary school in Bogotá, investigation to be made by O. Quanrud.
9. Voted that in light of the letter from Dr. Syrdal of Nov. 9, 1950 and due to the problem that Mr. Herman Müller faces in his work among the Germans, we give him instruction in Lutheran Doctrine and ask the Board's permission to license him to administer the sacraments.

IV. Finance

1. Voted that the balances in the Bogotá travel and Jeep funds be transferred to the vehicle fund.
2. Voted that the deficit in the Legal Expenses Fund be covered by a transfer from Miscellaneous Fund.
3. Voted that the deficit in the Emergency Fund be covered by the transfer of the balances in Bogotá and Tunja station accounts.
4. Voted that the deficit in the Vacation and Furlough Fund be covered by a transfer from the Travel Fund.
5. The Executive Committee bring recommendations to Conference as to use of gifts on hand for the work (in dollars and pesos).
6. Recommendations submitted and approved.
7. Voted that all account books, Treasurer, Institute, and station be audited annually.
8. Voted that the funds of the former Duitana congregation to the amount of \$870.41 (pesos) be placed in a Savings Account in the Bank of Colombia either by the Corporation, if possible, or by an individual member or members of the mission.
9. Voted that married Evangelists be paid \$185.00 (pesos) monthly if working in Bogotá.
10. Voted to approve the Proposed Budget for 1951 of \$62,260.00 (pesos).
11. Voted that the Conference request the Board to figure the budget at a rate of exchange of not more than \$2.95 pesos to the dollar.

V. Evangelism

1. Voted that in view of the limited opportunities of expansion and the difficulty of getting new missionaries into Colombia and the resultant danger of diminishing interest in the Latin American cause, we recommend that an investigation be made as to the possibility of sending missionaries to another or other Latin American countries directly under the auspices of our Board or affiliated with other Lutheran organizations.
2. Voted that Proceso Mora be placed as an Evangelist in the Plains for the year 1951.
3. Voted that Oliverio Mora be placed in Tunja as Evangelist for 1951 but if he does not accept, further arrangements for his placement be left to the Executive Committee.
4. Voted that J. Walla and T. Mendenhall make a trip to the plains and after their return prepare to leave on furlough.
5. Voted that subject to Board approval A. Morck go to Medellín to carry on Literature program and work with University Students.
6. The following slate of Nominations for Station Heads was made and the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot.

Bogotá	- Olger Quanrud	Station Head
	Valborg Torkelson	Parish Worker
Tunja	- Harold Olson	Station Head
	Helen Danielson	Parish Worker
Plains	- Gerhard Ostrem	Station Head
7. Voted that O. Quanrud serve as counsellor for the people of the abandoned stations and send a letter of encouragement to them monthly if possible.

VI. Property

1. Voted that a committee of three be elected to study the best location for a church in Bogotá and investigate cost of lot and building and bring specific recommendations to the Superintendent.
2. Voted that we go on record as being in favor of buying a missionary residence in Bogotá, such as a duplex or two-family residence.
3. Voted that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Olson, Morck, and Quanrud to constitute the committee for investigation of location and cost of lot and building a church.

4. Voted that the same building committee together with Elizabeth Heerde and Mrs. O. Quanrud make recommendations to superintendent regarding purchase of missionary residence.

VII. Miscellaneous

1. Voted that J. Walla and T. Mendenhall be given the privilege of going home on furlough, and that the length of their furlough be in accordance with time of service on the field.
2. Voted that the necessary furloughs and temporary replacements for 1951 be arranged by the Executive Committee.
3. Voted that the Mission officers constitute the members of the Corporation and that they hold the same offices in the Corporation as they do in the Mission.
4. Voted that Dolores Grass be paid \$160.00 (pesos) with the suggestion that she use that amount toward her brothers first year at the Institute.
5. Voted that Walla and Mendenhall inquire into conditions for renting Roselino Corredor's house in Trinidad and report findings to Executive Committee for final decision.
6. Voted that the secretary be instructed to send condolences to Mrs. Harold Olson and children on behalf of the Conference.
7. Voted that the secretary be instructed to send greetings to Ostrem in reply to letter from him and also to the other missionaries on furlough.
8. Voted that the "Special Committees" be composed of a chairman and two members and that they be elected by the Conference.
9. Voted that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the following slate of "Special Committee" members.

Liturature	- Chairman - Morck	Members-	Belva Nerlien, Valborg Torkelson
Education	- Chairman - Joyce Bergh	Members-	Harold Olson, Olger Quanrud
		Alternate -	Bleva Nerlien
Liturgy	- Chairman - Quanrud	Members-	Ostrem, Morck
Medical	- Chairman - Torkelson	Members-	Heerde, Ostrem
Furniture	-Chairman - Olson	Members-	Danielson, Phoebe Quanrud
			Elizabeth Heerde -Alternate

VIII. Elections

1. Voted that we ^{nom}inate and vote by ballot.
2. Morck and Olson nominated for Vice-Superintendent. Morck elected.
3. Olson nominated for Treasurer and secretary instructed to cast a unanimous ballot.
4. Olson and Ostrem nominated for three year term on Executive Committee. Olson elected.
5. Morck was elected chairman ~~pro~~ tem due to illness of Superintendent who vacated the chair Friday p.m.

- IX. Voted to adjourn.

Mission Budget 1951

Station	Rent and Upkeep	Evangelist	Teacher	Literature and supplies	Travel	Telegrams and Telephone	Postage and Stationery	Misc.	Freight	Furniture Replace	Various Special	Total
Tunja	250.00	3,900.00		5.00	250.00	20.00	5.00	30.00				4,460.00
Plains	4,000.00	3,650.00	1,000.00	50.00	700.00	20.00	20.00	150.00	300.00			9,890.00
Bogotá	10,440.00	2,400.00		200.00	1,000.00	290.00	60.00	225.00				14,615.00
Institute	13,000.00			100.00 Prospectus 10.00	50.00	100.00	10.00	50.00		200.00 Book 250.00 Office 25.00		15,795.00
Totals	27,690.00	9,950.00	1,000.00	365.00	2,000.00	430.00	95.00	455.00	300.00		2,275.00	44,760.00

Special Budgets

1. Jeep Upkeep (repairs, tires insurance etc.)	900.00
2. Medical	2,000.00
3. Emergency	4,000.00
4. Moving	500.00
5. Vacation and Furlough	5,000.00
6. Superintendent travel outside of district	300.00
7. School for missionaries children	3,000.00
8. House Rent Medellín	4,800.00
Total Special Budgets	20,500.00

Total Station Budget 44,760.00
 Total Special Budget 20,500.00

65,260.00
 Less Funds on hand 3,000.00
Total Amount Needed 62,260.00
 (year 1951)

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

January 2, 1951

Rev. Joseph Walla
Apartado Aereo 4980
Bogota, Colombia,
South America

Dear Rev. Walla:

I am enclosing a list and cards that I would like to have the unordained missionaries on our mission fields who are citizens of the United States, sign and return to us at the earliest possibility. According to my list the following should be the ones to sign:

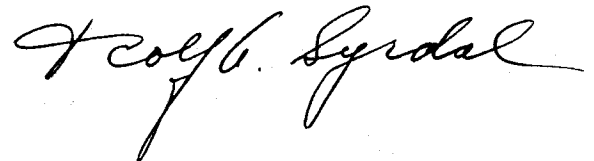
Elizabeth Heerde, Belva Nerlien, Valborg Torkelson.

The Social Security Program of our government has just been opened up to unordained missionaries. Members of our church who have studied into the matter very seriously have urged that we use this opportunity of entering into this program. Cost to be borne by the employee will be deducted from payments already made to the Pension Fund of our church so that the expense to the individual employee will not be increased especially at this time. Kindly have the few missionaries concerned sign the paper and cards and have them returned to me by return mail if possible.

We are continuing to think of you and your work and to pray for you daily. Realizing the difficulties that you are all facing we know that you need special grace and strength from God constantly. We know also that He is able to give those and trust that He will continue to bless you all in your labor for His Kingdom.

Wishing you all a blessed year in 1951.

Sincerely yours,



RAS:hh.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

Dr. J. R. Lavik
Dr. E. M. Hegge
Mr. P. M. Onstad

Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

No. 7 Seminary Campus,
Como & Luther Place,
St. Paul 8, Minn.
January 8, 1951

Dear Fellow-workers,

In nothing be anxious; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:6-7.

Those verses are very challenging ones to me and at the same time so very precious in so many ways that I wish to pass them on to you now as you will be meeting at the Conference where you will have many vital matters to take up and to decide upon. We greet you all with those two verses. As I have mentioned in earlier letters, we would have liked to be with you at the Conference, but as we cannot this year in person we shall be with you in prayer right along.

Though the situation is difficult and the conditions are as they are let us look forward in Jesus name constantly. The cause is Christ's. He has worked in seriously difficult times before in different parts of the world at different times and ages. He is the same now as then and ever is (Heb. 13:8). Though His cause has suffered so greatly through all ages, yet HE is on the Throne and shall stay there. Therefore as long as He gives us some kind of opportunity to do something for Him out there in some way somewhere in Jesus name, we trust and believe Him for the possibility to do it. It may not show up so greatly to us or in our presence, and yet it might also do that, but eternity will show it. Thanks be to our God who is greater than the apparent impossibilities. I say apparent because some times our impossibilities are not impossibilities to God.

We were happy to receive Belva's letter telling of her trip to the Plains and also for letters from the Wilches and others from down there where we could see how God was working inspite of the difficulties. It made us or gave us added longing to get out there sooner. We shall be happy when July comes when we again can God willing set sail for our land of labor. We feel greatly the need of the Plains and are willing to go back there, so you can feel completely free and at liberty to place us down there upon our return. As I mentioned in a previous letter we have the possibility of renting Don Rosalino's house in Trinidad for the work.

I was happy too to hear Joyce say that in a letter she had received from Hilma she had said that she was willing to go to the Plains to teach. Thanks to God that there are those willing to go there for that work. May you also in this see what God would want. We pray with you about it. It appears to me that it would be good seeing that she indicates her willingness herself first before we talk to her about it. It will be important that we try to do what we can with schools there. I shall be glad to help with it in whatever way I can as soon as we get out there again.

Another thing which was mentioned in one of the letters we received from the Plains was concerning another young lady or should I say girl, who has indicated for some time that she would like to come to the Institute. It is Rosa Marín. I believe definitely that we should do something about it to make it possible for her to come this year. Gerardo says that she is progressing well and is consecrada. I know that we have something about not giving help from the Institute to first year's students. But would there be anything out of the way if we mention her to interested people here that they could help her financially? I think that would be pleasing to God. She needs it, the work needs it. I shall gladly present it. Let us press on for Colombia as long as there is a possibility to stay in the land. If we should be forced out later, well, we will not cross that bridge until then. God bless you all in Jesus name. Again greetings to all. Your fellow-worker,

Gerhard

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

January 18, 1951.

Rev. Theodore Mendenhall
Apartado 4980
Bogota, Colombia
South America

AIR MAIL

Dear Rev. Mendenhall:

We are enclosing the I Quarter Paylist for 1951. Please note that we are basing this budget on the presentation of your Conference placed before the Board at its October meeting and approved at that meeting. Included in this budget is the Institute which will most likely be carried this year also by the L.D.R. of our Church. Rather than waiting for the money from the L.D.R., we are advancing funds now to be repaid to us at such time as the L.D.R. makes its payment.

We are basing payments on 3 pesos to U.S. \$1.00. We have not been informed that there has been any change in exchange rate. Please keep us informed if there is any change one way or the other.

Please note deduction for books sent to Morck. These should be subtracted from the regular budget allowance for literature or from the special gift of \$1500.00 remitted by the W.M.F. for the purpose of translation and publication of the Life of Martin Luther.

Please note that Private Contributions No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 11 and 15 are deducted as being a duplicate of items already contained in the station budget. We, therefore, consider that these gifts were included in the payment made for the Station Budget. We are, however, mentioning them separately so that due credit can be given to the donors.

We have had inquiry from missionaries concerning tuition for their children. No money is being sent out separately for this purpose as we note you have budgeted for it in the budget proposal presented to our Board and accepted in October. Please note further that missionaries children should be educated and that expense of tuition be paid by the Mission beginning when the child is 7 years of age.

We are still waiting for Minutes of the Conference recently held in Colombia. I have had a couple of letters since the Conference closed referring to certain actions taken. Such letters rather tease us along and stir our curiosity. I imagine we will have a full report in a few days.

Wishing you God's continued blessing

Sincere greetings

ras:mh

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary

Dr. J. R. Lavik
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Mr. Arthur Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. S. Burgess, Director of Mission Education
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

Rev. Joe Walla

SOUTH AMERICA

I QUARTER - 1951

Salaries 1/4 of \$12,125.00 \$3,031.25

Plus:

Joyce Bergh - 1 month salary in IV Qtr. paid on field 100.00
\$3,131.25

Less:

Bills Paid at Home 351.79
Balance Salaries \$2,779.46

Station Budget for 1951 - Pesos 65,620.00, or U.S. \$21,873.00

Station Budget for I Quarter - 1/4 of \$21,873.00, or \$5,468.25

Less:

Arnfeld G. Morok

Augsburg Publ. House \$1.50
(Infant Baptism & Adult Conversion)
The Copyright Law 5.50

For following books sent to So. America

"This is Luther" 3.50
"Life & Times of Martin Luther" 2.45

12.95

Balance Stations \$5,455.30
\$8,234.76

Plus Private Contributions:

1. Support of native worker by Rev. Orville G. Hiepler, remitted by Rev. F. H. Andersen, Ruthton, Minn. 25.00
2. Support of native worker by Willing Workers Society, remitted by Oscar Hovland, Epping, N. Dak. 90.00
3. Support of native worker by Ladies Aid, remitted by Oscar Hovland, Epping, N. Dak. 90.00
4. For support of teacher in South America by Great Falls Circuit W.M.F., remitted by Mrs. Francis B. Leary, Sunburst, Mont. 115.00
5. Christmas gift for Ella Heerde by Calvary Luth. Ladies Aid, remitted by Mrs. Harold Ekdahl, 1615 - 26th Ave., Moline, Ill. 15.00
6. Christmas gift for missionaries in South America, remitted by Rev. H. A. Cerke, 3212 W. Lapham St., Milwaukee 15, Wis. by Mission Society. 20.00
7. Translation and publication of Life of Martin Luther, remitted by Women's Missionary Federation, 57 S. 4th St., Minneapolis, Minn. 1,500.00
8. Mission Circle No. 6 for Colombia Mission Scholarship, remitted by Vance Torgerson, Adams, Minn. 75.00
9. For Rev. and Mrs. Arnfeld Morok \$5.00; for Helen Danielson \$5.00 from Ruth Sampson, remitted by Miss Caroline Laugman, 505 College Ave., Ottawa, Ill. 10.00
10. Christmas gift for Belva Nerlien by Mission Society, 1st Luth. Cong., remitted by R. M. Olson, 913 Grand Ave. E., Eau Claire, Wis. 15.00

- 11. Sunday School for support of native worker in South America, formerly Gerardo Wilches, remitted by Mrs. Ardell Hansdahle, Box 533, Beresford, S. Dak. \$222.96
- 12. Circle No. 6, Little Cedar Cong., remitted by Vance Torgerson, Adams, Minn. for Scholarships 30.00
- 13. For South America for upkeep of jeep from Danish Cong., Brodhead, Wis., remitted by Rev. Gerhard Ostrem, #78 Seminary Campus, Como Ave. & Luther Place, St. Paul 8, Minn. 5.75
- 14. Christmas gift for Rev. Harold Olson from G. Gabrielsen, 1312 - 7th St. S., Moorhead, Minn. 10.00
- 15. For support of native pastor by K. J. & Clarence Lind, remitted by Mrs. K. J. Lind, Donaldson, Minn. 125.00
- 16. Christmas gift for Belva Nerlien by Sunday School, 1st Luth. Cong., remitted by Miss Arline Rude, 1005 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, Wis. 15.00

\$10,598.47

Less: Private Contributions as follows:

No. 1	\$25.00	
2	90.00	
3	90.00	
4	115.00	
11	222.96	
15	125.00	
		667.96

\$ 9,930.51

Minneapolis, Minn.
Jan. 18, 1951.

Rev. Mendenhall

P.S. Deposit of this payroll will be made about the 10th of February.

R.A.S.

SOUTH AMERICA
I QUARTER - 1951

BILLS PAID AT HOME

<u>Heerde, Elizabeth</u>		
Pension Fund Dues	I Quarter	\$15.53
Mrs. Donald Bischoff - I Qtr.		100.00
<u>Mendenhall, Theo.</u>		
Pension Fund Dues		23.00
Luth. Brotherhood	Paid 12-19-50	21.42
<u>Nerlien, Belva</u>		
Pension Fund Dues		13.80
<u>Olson, Harold</u>		
Luth. Mutual Life Ins. Co.		
Miriam	\$31.50	
Paul	<u>29.19</u>	60.69
<u>Quanrud, Olger</u>		
Pension Fund Dues		26.45
<u>Torkelson, Valborg</u>		
Pension Fund Dues - I Qtr.		13.80
<u>Walla, Jos.</u>		
Pension Fund Dues		23.00
Ministers Life & Casualty Union	Paid 12-13-50	4.00
Luth. Brotherhood	" 12-13-50	50.10
		<hr/>
		\$351.79

SOUTH AMERICA - 1951

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Child Supp.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Heerde, Elizabeth	\$1350		\$1350
Mendenhall, Theo.	2000	300	2300
Merlien, Melva	1200		1200
Olson, Harold	1450		1450
Quanrud, Olger	2300	100	2400
Torkelson, Wilborg	1200		1200
Walla, Jos.	2000		2000
Superintendent	100		100
Treasurer	100		100
Secretary	25		25
	<hr/>		
	\$11,725	\$400	\$12,125

Apartado Aéreo 4980
Bogotá, Colombia
Jan. 26, 1951


Dr. R. A. Syrdal
425 South 5th Street
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Syrdal: Greetings in Jesus' Name.

After two weeks in bed with the mumps I am finally back on my feet. I seem to have escaped any complications so within a few days I should be back to normal. The material from the conference has of course been delayed because of it. Vendenhall has mailed you a copy of the minutes and of the revised budget at my request, Within the very next few days I hope to have mailed to you the various reports from the conference and some explanations of the minutes and the revised proposed budget.

Enclosed you will find the paper and cards filled out as requested for the three girls who will be under the Social Security Program. They all three ask that you fill in their mailing addresses according to your judgment.

Sincerest greetings,


J. L. Walla

Apartado Aéreo 4980
Bogotá, Colombia
Jan. 27, 1951

The Joint Boards of the ELC and the UELC
425 South 4th Street
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Dear Board Members:

Greetings in Jesus' Name from all the members of our mission here in Colombia.

The Twelfth Annual Conference of CELMOSA was held from Jan. 9-14 here in Bogotá. Besides handling the necessary items of business and laying plans for the work for this new year we made it a time of spiritual fellowship and feasting. We dedicated each morning to a Bible study and prayer service, using the book of Colossians as a basis for our studies. The Lord was gracious and blessed us richly, and gave us oneness of mind in our conference deliberations.

Many of the items in the minutes will need no comment but others I shall try to clarify with some explanations.

III. Education:

1. We are still facing the problem that we tried to solve last year, that of training for some of our young men. The conference definitely believes, and I don't think anyone else would deny it, that if we are to carry on at all in Colombia and if we are going to use national workers at all, we must prepare national pastors. And even if we were to withdraw, of which there is no intention at the present, we ought to leave some well trained workers qualified to carry on. We see only three possible ways of providing such needed training:
 - a) Establish here a seminary of our own.
 - b) Provide some part-time theological study.
 - c) Send the men to a good established Lutheran seminary.The first possibility, our proposal last year, was pretty well eliminated by such objections as the cost and the questionable wisdom of employing one or two missionaries full-time for the training of three or four men; and the lack of a qualified missionary among us to head up such a work. I believe these objections still stand and we now face other problems that make such a proposal practically impossible. Because some have gone into other work we now have only two men to consider as candidates for theol. training. Because of the reduction in the missionary staff there will be no one that can devote full-time to such work.

The second possibility is one of these "here a little, there a little" propositions that never satisfactorily meets the need. The poorly qualified teacher would be less qualified because of having to divide time and attention on several assignments. To provide an adequate theol. training by such a means would take from four to six years. During that length of time the students would be of little service to the mission except on a part-time basis here in Bogotá while studying, and during vacations when they could go to other parts of the field. At the end of that time would we feel satisfied that they had been given a good theological training?

The third possibility is the one which we unanimously feel would best meet the need. In the shortest possible time, and without tying up missionary personnel in such work, the men would be given a complete seminary course in an established and thoroughly Lutheran school under competent professors. The cost may be considerable, the travel for the two families and their support while down there, but it should not be insurmountable and should be worth being made a special project at home. I know there are objections here also. There is the danger of spoiling the boys by sending them abroad, but there is considerably less danger in sending them to one of the other Latin American countries than in sending them to the States. It should have a wholesome and broadening effect upon them to study in a progressive and enlightened country like Argentina while still being Spanish. There is also the possibility of an unfavorable reaction on the part of the boys to the more liturgical or high churchly emphasis in a Missouri Synod school. I think that problem would have to be faced in any established Lutheran seminary to a greater or lesser degree, because of the reformed and unliturgical influence which is the background of our field. If the boys could take it, and I think they could with the proper help and counsel, they would come back thoroughly Lutheran with a much needed influence and emphasis for our field.

There is another Lutheran seminary in Argentina, the U.L.C. I think, but Olson and Morck recommended the Missouri Synod school from the impressions they received on their trip, at which time they visited both schools. We are now waiting for information as to the cost, entrance requirements, time of registration, school year, courses, etc. They should be here any day now, and we will then try to get it into your hands before the board meets.

2. Both these men have worked in the mission between two and three years and have proved themselves. They are cousins. Both have studied in our institute. Gerardo has worked in the plains the past two years and I believe Ostrem would recommend him highly. Pausanias worked in Parpa a few months, and in Bogotá since the fall of 1949. He is scholarly and spiritual and always brings a good message. He has expressed interest in teaching and we consider him as a good prospect for a future teacher in the institute. Though he does not have the "bachillerato" (secondary school) we feel he is self-taught to at least that extent. Gerardo is not as much of a student but has good possibilities as a pastor. His sermons are good, with "meat" on them, and he has a good delivery.
3. There is no provision for ^{their} education in the budget, so it would necessarily have to be extra-budget, and should make an appealing and successful project.
- 4., 5.
6. Ideally this should be handled by a committee of station heads, but under the present situation with no resident missionary in the places from where the students come who would know the economic status of each student, it has seemed wisest to delegate that authority to the faculty.
7. We have requests from our people there to give them schools, but we are faced with a situation that is still unsettled and delicate, in addition to the fact that we cannot lawfully have schools there because of the Concordat which defines it as exclusive Catholic mission territory.
8. This will be an attempt to open another avenue of service here in Bogotá, but with the prospects not very good for approval from the authorities.
9. Because of the many questions and uncertainties relative to Mr. Muller's case past proposals to give him some instruction have not materialized. The slightest hint of such a proposal has immediately suggested to him ordination and the full status of a foreign missionary. Since we have not known from one six-month period to the next when ... 3

our relations with him might terminate we have almost deliberately tried to avoid any encouragement to his thinking along that line -- since the first blunder was made in our negotiations with him. But of course it has not solved his problem. He is trying to establish and conduct a Lutheran work because that is what both he and his people want. They accept and consider him as Lutheran, but of course his training and ordination is Presbyterian. Serving and being considered Lutheran but not having authorization from any Lutheran body is a personal problem to him, and I think understandably so. Our giving him instruction would be good but would not alone solve his problem. Would it be possible on the part of the church at home or that of the conference to license him after having given him some instruction? That would give him approval and recognition in his administration of the sacraments, and still would not obligate us to him in the sense that ordination would, at least until such a time as we might be ready to assume further obligations in our relationship with him.

IV. Finance:

- 1., 2., 3., 4. These involve transfers from funds which had balances to certain funds in which there were small deficits, as you will see from the financial report as submitted by Mendenhall.
- 5., 6. These refer to the actions taken with regard to gifts, in the Exec. Comm. meeting of Jan. 9th, the minutes of which are enclosed.
7. In previous years the station books have not been audited, but we feel that they should be just as well as those of the treasurer and the institute.
8. These are funds raised by the congregation in Duitama while it was active, and were designated for the purchase of an evangelical cemetery. As yet we do not feel that we have the right to divert these funds to any other use than that for which the congregation designated them.
9. This we feel necessary because of the rising cost of living here in the city. The raise is from the previous scale of \$160 pesos, but will require that they pay their own water and light, that may vary from \$5 to \$8 pesos per month. We have paid their water and light previously. It will therefore mean a net increase of from \$17 to \$20 pesos per month.
10. Some changes have been made in the proposed budget which we submitted in October. Aside from some slight reductions or increases in certain funds, the large reductions were made in the Plains' evangelist fund, the Bogotá rent fund, the medical fund and the literature translation fund of which none was used last year. The Tunja evangelist fund was raised considerably and house rent for Morck in Medellín was added as a special budget. Subtracting funds on hand it leaves a total amount needed of \$62,260.00 pesos, which is \$3,360.00 pesos less than the proposed budget which was approved in October.
11. The dollar market opened for the year at about 3.00 pesos to the dollar, but our January salary check brought only 2.95. Since then the market has been hovering between 2.80 and 2.85. The conference requested 2.95 at the time it met, but in view of the trend since that time I believe that it would be safer and more realistic to set the rate at 2.80 pesos to the dollar. There will also need to be made some compensation ~~in~~ his next quarter's remittance since the budget for this first quarter was deposited at the rate of 3.00 pesos to the dollar which we are not able to realize when we sell it.

V. Evangelism:

1. It is the decided opinion of the conference that a serious investigation should be made in an attempt to find another or other openings in Latin America for our mission in addition to the present work in Colombia. In addition to the almost impossibility of getting new missionaries into Colombia now, our work is hardly a challenge to new candidates. Neither ~~can~~ the present work continue to stimulate

sufficient interest among the supporting friends at home. In view of this we believe it would be wise to seek other openings. We are not in a position at present to know what openings there may be, but it was suggested that there may be a possibility of cooperating in the proposed National Lutheran Council venture in Venezuela. Someone also said there is a Lutheran work among Germans in Chile that might offer an opening to mission work among the Spanish speaking people. Then there is also the American Lutheran work in Texas.

If only one opening were found having real opportunities, our Latin American program could be pushed. It would make it possible to shift personnel and emphasis as the need or situation would dictate without the problem of language barrier or even of much expense. It is no doubt too early to think in terms of dropping our work here in view of the responsibility that we have assumed and since we have still not been forced out of the country, but our efforts are pretty much limited and will perhaps be more limited as time goes on. Extending to some other field in Latin America would take up the lag that there may be in the interest for Colombia at present and would avoid the inevitable let-down that would occur if the work were dropped entirely.

2., 3. --

4. As Mendenhall has already explained to you in his letter of a few days ago, and as you see by conference decision #1 under Miscellaneous, it was voted that the Mendenhalls and the Wallas be permitted to go home shortly as they requested. Although we both have expressed that we feel that this is the termination of our relations with the mission, and that was frankly stated to the conference, it was voted that we be granted furloughs in accordance with the time of our service on the field. It was gracious on the part of the conference and is deeply appreciated on our part, because it will still give us the opportunity to reconsider our personal decisions if the Lord should so lead. Since neither of us has seen the Plains and that very interesting part of our work it was suggested that we make a trip there together with one of the national workers before we prepare to leave for the States. Yesterday we were denied a safe conduct from the army here in Bogotá to make the trip but to-day we are going to another city to try. We were frankly told that as Protestant workers we are not wanted down there and that the situation there at present is very delicate so that no one is being granted safe conducts. Without such we are subject to arrest and are risking our lives. If we can go we hope to spend from four to eight weeks traveling.

5. Morck has already written about the trip which he and I made to Medellín in December and the interest which he has personally felt in going there to carry on his literature work. If he is to devote his time entirely to literature work there seems to be no particular reason why he should be here in Bogotá. The boys with whom Knutson has been working present a challenge. He is not able to lead them very far because of knowing very little Spanish, and they are not finding a church home it seems. Morck would not make an effort to start a church work in Medellín, but he would conduct a Bible study and have discussions with the boys. They also present possibilities as help in translation and criticism of literature.

6., 7. ---

VI. Property:

1. We are back to this need also, that if we are to continue in Bogotá and if we hope to see the work grow, a church building is a must. We are all convinced of that. Our own people that have come in to Bogotá from our outlying districts are going to the Presbyterians or the Baptists. There are various contributing factors, such as the Reformed influence among our people, but more than that, a church building has an appeal to these people and I feel that they are a

little dubious about a mission that doesn't build and take on a ... 5

more permanent aspect. They half expect us to pick up and leave any day since we are not willing to establish ourselves. The first move would be to investigate well, allocation, cost and possibility of building.

2. This is somewhat related to the previous action, but it is more a measure of economy. In a relatively short time we are paying out in rental more than the cost of purchasing a house. We have quite a lot of money on hand from the sale of property and it would seem wise to invest it in the purchase of residences for about two families. We have in mind something like a duplex or twin houses.

3., 4. ---

VII. Miscellaneous:

1. If we are able to make our proposed trip to the Plains we would expect to be ready to leave Colombia some time in April. If we cannot make the trip we would be ready to leave by the first of March or shortly after.

2. ---

3. The Corporation has been almost self-propagating up until now in that there has been no designated term of office, and vacancies that have arisen have been filled by election of the Corporation. Thus it has really not been subject to the conference. In this way each three years when there is election of conference officers, the same will automatically constitute the corporation officers.

4. She was asked to stay out of the Institute this past year in order to teach a school in the Plains. Time went on but the situation there would not permit establishing the proposed school, and consequently the year was wasted as far as she was concerned. There was no contract so she has no claim to salary, but it was felt that she should have some remuneration for the time lost. Her brother wants to come to the Institute but lacks the means, so the suggestion was made that in receiving the money she use it for her brother's study at the Institute.
5. If a missionary can establish in the Plains again, Trinidad would be the logical center. Mr. Corredor has a desirable house and has informed ~~###~~ Ostrem that he would like to rent it to the mission.

6. 7., 8., 9. ---

VIII. Elections:

1., 2., 3., 4., 5. ---

Exec. Comm. Meeting of Jan. 9, 1951

I believe all these items are self-explanatory.

In a separate letter I am mailing copies of the various financial and station reports given at the conference.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

J. L. Walla

CORPORACIÓN EVANGÉLICA ANDINA

January 29, 1951

The Corporación meeting was called to order by the president, Harold L. Olson. The following members were present: Theodore L. Mendenhall, Olger Quanrud. Olger Quanrud was named secretary of the meeting in the absence of Belva Nerlien, secretary of the Corporación.

Arnfeld C. Morck was elected member of the Corporación.

The resignation of Theodore L. Mendenhall as member of the Corporación was accepted.

It was voted to approve the sale of roof tile from the house in Parpa as arranged previously by the President.

Harold L. Olson was named to act as treasurer of the Corporación. The meeting was adjourned.

February 5, 1951, A.M.

The Corporación was called to order by the president, Harold L. Olson.

The following members were present: Morck, Olson, Quanrud.

Olger Quanrud was named secretary of the meeting since Belva Nerlien was absent.

Harold Olson was authorized to draw checks against the account in The Royal Bank of Canada.

The meeting was adjourned.

February 5, 1951, P.M.

The Corporación was called to order by the president, Harold L. Olson.

Present were the following members: Olson, Quanrud, Morck, Nerlien.

The resignation of Harold L. Olson as president was accepted.

Arnfeld C. Morck was elected president of the Corporación.

Harold L. Olson was elected treasurer of the Corporación.

The resignation of Belva Nerlien as secretary was accepted.

Olger Quanrud was elected secretary of the Corporación.

The president, Arnfeld C. Morck, was authorized to sign checks against the account in The Royal Bank of Canada.

Arnfeld C. Morck was also authorized to rent the land, "Los Cimarrones" in the municipality of Socotá.

Arnfeld C. Morck was authorized to arrange with Theodore L. Mendenhall the matters relative to the Mendenhall house in Chiscas.

The meeting was adjourned.

Executive Committee Meeting
March 19, 1951

Meeting called to order by acting Supt. Morck

I. Evangelism -

1. Voted that if the Mission Board has no plans of taking on Herman Muller as full time worker that in light of our conversation with Pastor Arbaugh and the present plans of the National Lutheran Council in South America we recommend that Mr. Muller be released for work under said Council, and at the same time we stress the importance of his continuing the fine work he is doing among Germans in Bogotá and Cali.
2. Voted that in response to Pastor Arbaugh's desire for our good will in the matter and his expression of need for pastors versed in Spanish we suggest that pastors whose return to the field may be unlikely because of present conditions; be considered for service under the National Lutheran Council for a term or more depending on developments in Colombia.

II. Finance-

1. Voted that we appropriate \$100.00 U.S. per family for furniture and household equipment to Pausanias and Gerardo Wilches for their use while studying in Argentina, that they be allowed a monthly minimum of \$40.00 U.S. per family; these funds together with the 1000 Argentine pesos (about \$70.00 U.S.) a month for house rent be administered by Prof. Lange of Concordia Seminary in whose name the house is rented.
2. Voted that in view of the present low exchange that pesos on hand in the different funds be used instead of changing dollars.
3. Voted that-
 - Ist. quarter gift No. 4 be designated as support for Letibia Corzo in Tunja.
 - Ist. quarter gift No. I&II be designated for support of Pausanias and Gerardo Wilches.
 - Ist. quarter gift No. 2, 3, 15 for support of Proceso Mora as evangelist.
4. Voted that the following amounts be allowed for furniture for the Morck family in Medellín:-

Buffet-----	150 pesos
2 Dining room chairs-----	40 pesos
I Wardrobe or chest of drawers	100 pesos
I Study chair-----	20 pesos
I couch, 2 chairs to match-----	175 pesos
Total--485 pesos	
5. Voted that since at least 50 Lutheran Hour Spanish Broadcast Recordings are available for use in Tunja, we buy with funds available a record player for said Station.
6. Voted that Berta Higuera be paid 40 pesos for teaching school in the Plains.

Meeting adjourned.

CELMOSA SPECIAL CONFERENCE
Bogotá, Aug. 23-25, 1951

Meeting called to order by acting Supt. A.C. Morck.
All members present.
Devotions and comments by Dr. Syrdal.
A request was made by Dr. Syrdal for an annual report by each individually called missionary to be sent to the Home Board.

I. Evangelism

- (a) Voted that the Executive Committee decision on the Wilches boys going to Bolivia to work stand.
- (b) Voted that a thorough investigation be made as to Barrio work in Bogotá to determine where the greatest need and opportunity, this investigation to be made by Ostrem in conference with the Bogotá staff.
- (c) Voted that whereas the Board has taken no action on assuming responsibility for support of the work within the Scandinavian Colony in Bogotá and whereas the Conference is convinced of the need of additional personal that Walla be placed in La Pepita or other Barrio work in Bogotá with the possibility of part time work in the Scandinavian Colony.
- (d) Voted that Virginia Antonsen be placed as matron and teacher in the Bible Institute for the coming year.
- (e) Voted that Joyce Bergh be placed in the Institute as teacher for the coming year, and that her work up to the opening of the Institute be arranged by the Ex. Com.

II. Finance

- (a) Voted that we temporarily suspend the restriction on the first year scholarships in the Bible Institute due to the present impossibility of adhering to the rotation plan and that the Ex. Com. together with the Institute Faculty administer such scholarships.
- (b) Voted that we endeavor to locate a lot between Calle 40 and 60, and Carreras 7 and 14 for the building of a church in Bogotá.
- (c) Voted that we request the Board for the sum of 25 to 35 thousand dollars for the purchase of the lot under consideration, for the building of a church in Bogotá.
- (d) Voted that the Mission provide one-half of the rent of a building for a Youth Center in Medellín and the utilities incidental to the Youth Center, also make available up to \$1000.00 (pesos) for equipment.
- (e) Voted that Valborg Torkelson and Ostrem serve as a committee to investigate the costs and possibilities of a Clinic in Bogotá.

III. Misc.

- (a) Voted that Morck and Quanrud serve as a committee to get the basic facts to present to the National Lutheran Council as to the Co-ordination of all Lutheran work in Colombia.

Meeting adjourned

Dic. 5, 1951

Presidente

La Corporación Evangélica Andina fue convocada en sesión el 5 de Dic. de 1951 por el presidente Arnfeld C. Morck, estando presente los siguientes:- Harold L. Olson, Olger Quanrud, Arnfeld C. Morck.

Se acordó autorizar al presidente Arnfeld C. Morck de firmar el contrato por medio del cual la Corporación Evangélica Andina promete comprar la finca en Carrera 13 entre Calles 55 y 56 en Bogotá y también para firmar el contrato de la compra de dicha finca (numero de la finca 55 -56).

Fue aceptada la renuncia de la Señorita Belva Nerlien.

Fue nombrado miembro de la Corporación el Señor Gerhard Ostrem y aceptó el nombramiento.

La sesión se dió por terminada.

Olger Quanrud
Olger Quanrud
Secretario

Dollar Account
Nov. 31, 1950 - Jan. 7, 1952

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>
Balance on hand, Nov. 31	9157.86	
Deposits	67429.04	
Muller		2930.85
Salaries		10155.49
Budget		14362.51
Gifts		388.09
Travel (Nerlien)		50.00
Wilches		3511.16
Totals	76586.90	31398.10
Balance on Hand, Jan. 7	76586.90	45188.80

Summary of Balances

Balance on hand, Jan. 7		45188.80
Funds:		
For property	33000.00	
Station Wagon	2500.00	
Property (pesos reverted)	3503.69	
Institute equipment	2000.00	
Institute (pesos reverted)	1000.00	
Unused gifts:		
All on list, report for		
1950, minus 3rd #3,		
4th #8	1355.33	
1951 -		
1st qt. #7	1500.00	
2nd #1	65.00	
3rd #2	33.40	
#3	60.00	
#5	60.32	
4th #5	5.00	
#8	42.68	
#9	25.00	
Miscellaneous	38.88	
	45188.80	45188.80

Herman Muller Account

Due from Mission Board for half support Sept. 1, 1950
to March 1, 1951 - - - - - 736.85
half March 1, 1951 to Sept. 1, 1951 - - - - - 805.91

Draft sent from LWF to our office, April 1951,
not deposited to our account - - - - - 1000.00

Due from the M. L. Council,
salary and rent, Sept. 1, 1951 to Jan. 31, 1952 - - - - - 1266.00
Medical expenses - - - - - 379.50
4187.66

However, since there are 8,180.07 budget funds unused for 1951
the first two items can be used up from that fund. But the
draft from the LWF should be deposited to our account, and
the moneys due from the MLC when they are received so that we
can have that money for other purposes.

Wilches Account

Travel	1350.00
Equip. Allowances	100.00
Other travel	81.16
Bolivia travel	220.00
Furniture	50.00
Rent	550.00
Support	720.00
Tuition	<u>50.00</u>
Paid for 1952:	
Rent	150.00
Salaries	<u>240.00</u>
	3511.16

Since there is the unused budget of 8,180.07 this sum can be
assimilated by that amount and there will be no deficit
on this project.

CELMOSA BUDGET 1952

Fund	Bogotá	Institute	Medellin	Plains	Tunja	Totals
Rent & Upkeep	8,400.00	10,000.00	4,800.00	5,000.00	500.00	28,700.00
Evang. & Teacher	E2,700.00 Tl,300.00			Tl,000.00 El,000.00	E2,000.00	8,000.00
Lit. & Supplies	200.00	Lib100.00 Proc.10.00	✓SS 75.00 ✓Lit50.00	SS 50.00 Lit 50.00	Lit.25.00	560.00
Travel	900.00	75.00	✓ 50.00	700.00	300.00	2,025.00
Tel & Tel.	150.00	100.00	✓100.00	30.00	20.00	400.00
Post. & Sta.	50.00	10.00	✓150.00	20.00	5.00	235.00
Miscel.	100.00	100.00	✓100.00	150.00	50.00	500.00
Freight				500.00		500.00
Furn. Repl.		200.00				200.00
Misc. Special		Bd. 1,500.00 Cook 250.00				1,750.00
Misc. Special		Athl.100.00				100.00
TOTALS	13,780.00	12,445.00	5325.00	8,500.00	2,900.00	42,970.00

Special Budget:

Emergency	2,000.00
Vacation & F	2,500.00
✓ Supt. Travel	400.00
Miss. Ch. Sch.	4,000.00
Jeep	700.00
Student Center	
✓ Rent	3,000.00
✓ Utilities	500.00
✓ Equipm.	1,000.00
Tunja Rem.	<u>13,370.00</u>
	17,570.00

Wilches (Dollars)

Rent	700.00
Support	960.00
Tuition	60.00
Travel	100.00
Emergency	<u>130.00</u>
	2000.00

Oliverio Mora

	240.00
	30.00
	<u>350.00</u>
	620.00
Regular Budget	42,970.00
Special Budget	<u>17,570.00</u>
	60,540.00

CELMOSA SPECIAL CONFERENCE

Bogotá, Colombia, January 30, 1952

The Conference was called to order by Supt. A.O. Morck
Devotions led by Pastors Quanrud and Ostrem.

Greeting read from Madagascar Mission and Secretary instructed to acknowledge same.

I. Reports. Report heard from the Jeep Committee.

II. Finance

- A. Voted that the Executive Committee be authorized to purchase a panel truck to be converted into a carry-all, provided the remodeled job is satisfactory.
- B. Voted that the gift money available from the WMF for a station wagon, plus the sales price of the Jeep, be used for the purchase of the panel truck.
- C. Voted that we adopt Dr. Langebeck's Project No. 1, which includes the building of a two-story residence, also the repairing and remodeling of the present buildings on lot, all at the estimated cost of 18 to 19 thousand pesos.
- D. Voted that the approximate sum of \$10,000 pesos from the sale of the small house in Duitama, plus the dollars on hand in building fund, be used for Project No.1.
- E. Voted that we adopt floor plan II of church with possible minor changes.
- F. Voted that we adopt elevation plan A of church with double stairway from street.
- G. Voted that we approve the basement plan with possible changes, such as putting kitchen and extra stairway in the back rather than in the front.
- H. Voted that we present to the Board Dr. Langebeck's estimate of building costs of church (approximately 90 thousand pesos).
- I. Voted that the furnishings of church, incl. organ, be made a special project.
- J. Voted that we recommend to the Board the purchase of present Institute property provided the price does not exceed 60,000 pesos.
- K. Voted that we authorize improvements in the house in Tunja according to specifications presented to Conference, including installation of hot water and another bathroom, improving the kitchen and the three other rooms mentioned (estimated cost, 5100 pesos).
- L. Voted that the \$500 dollars gift, Item I, II Q., 1950, be used toward the improvements in Tunja.
- M. Voted that in answer to the request of the Glasgow Circuit, Rocky Mt. Dist., for some project to support, we suggest the sponsoring of the printing of Dr. Hallcsby's "Infant Baptism and Adult Conversion" (approx. cost \$400 dollars).
- N. Voted that the money needed for a refrigerator and chapel furniture in Medellín be taken out of unused budget for 1951.
- O. Voted that Hugo Martínez of Tunja be given a heavier teaching load in the Institute and that his remuneration be \$160 pesos a month.

III. Education

- A. Voted that we give one-half registration fee and one-half tuition at the Colegio Americano for Manuel Pérez for the current year (approximately 160 pesos) and that this be made a project at home.
- B. Voted that if Máximo Wilches does not accept the one-half scholarship offered him in the Institute, it be given to his sister Berta for this year.

Voted to adjourn.

Apartado Aéreo 1482
Medellín, Colombia
February 2, 1952

Pastors R.A. Syrdal and K.R. Jensen
Joint Board of Foreign Missions
425 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Dear Pastors Syrdal and Jensen,

Enclosed are Engineer Langebeck's estimates, and the minutes of Celmosa Special Conference, January 30, with the following comments:

II Finance, A & B - The panel truck is much cheaper than the passenger models because of less duty and importation restrictions (as much as four thousand pesos on some makes). Local body builders are putting windows and seats in many of them.

II Finance, C & D - Quanrud will airmail to Dr. Syrdal the floor plans of this construction and remodeling, as well as the architect's floor plans for church, and drawing of same. We have decided in favor of Project No. 1, upon Dr. Langebeck's advice and because it gives us rooms of 90 degree angles, as well as windows on both sides. As Dr. Langebeck states, it was the original intention to build only the first floor of the new structure at this time. However, the additional cost of adding the second floor if done at the same time is not great. Also, in the probability of no basement in the church, the second story of the residence would be needed so as to leave the rooms of house "A" for Sunday School rooms and day school. The funds mentioned in "D" should be sufficient to cover new construction and remodeling of the two old buildings, provided there is not a sudden rise in price of construction materials.

II Finance, E, F, G - The completed plans which Quanrud will send you include the changes mentioned in these items. While we accept these plans of church including basement, we leave the matter of the basement to the discretion of the Mission Board. The cost of building with basement obviously exceeds the 35 thousand dollars allotted for construction. While it would be highly desirable to have the basement, especially with future development of work in mind, it is possible to get along without it. A kitchen could be installed in House "E" so that this could serve as dining hall for our national conferences or other gatherings, as well as for parish hall. It is obviously much smaller than the basement would be. The estimate mentioned in "H" includes only the rough structure and does not include wiring, installation of bath rooms, painting and furnishings. These, we understand, will increase cost by 10 to 12 per cent. Langebeck's estimate does not specify the cost of church without basement. But we have understood from previous conversation with him that it would be roughly 30% less.

The architect's estimates are much higher than those of Dr. Langebeck:

The church	\$ 74,258.00
The basement	33,388.00
Total	<u>\$107,646.00</u>

Langebeck, however, reassures us that we can confidently accept his own estimates at present cost of materials. "The architect", he says, "has been in Colombia only six months (from Hungaria) and does not know the cost of construction here".

While minutes indicate acceptance of plans for church with basement, we are at the same time realistic in recognizing that only \$35,000 dollars has been allocated for construction. If construction is without basement there would be a margin to meet unforeseen costs and perhaps a balance to apply on the furnishings. Should the Board, however, feel that it is the part of wisdom to construct with basement, with further development of our work in mind, then additional funds would be necessary as indicated above. Conference gladly accepts your decision, whichever way it may be, on the matter. The church, according to plans, will have a seating capacity of 300 on main floor and gallery - about 224 on main floor, including choir.

II Finance, J - We believe this property will serve as Institute for a good number of years, with some minor improvements. Dr. Langebeck says we cannot go wrong on buying it at 60,000 pesos, even if it should be sold again when more space might be needed as our school develops. It is located on Calle 79 and Carrera 9, northeast of former Institute site. It is a good location. The buildings are old but still in good shape. Lot contains about 1400 sq. varas. The deal would be figured on the sq. vara, not valuing the buildings at too much. We have \$19,615.00 pesos on hand toward this purchase, most of it from sale of building in Duitama.

II Finance, K & L - We do not have sufficient funds on hand for these much-needed improvements on the house in Tunja. There is another gift of \$500 (dollars) for "relief" which could be used for this purpose with permission of Board and donors. Olson will write you more in detail about this.

II Finance, M - Cost of paper has mounted since this estimate was given. Printing will cost about \$450 dollars for 3,000 copies.

II Finance, N - Purchase of refrigerator was approved at Conference of 1951, but it has not been bought yet since we have had the use of Miss Jensen's refrigerator. She will need it soon in the event of taking an unfurnished house, or the owner of present house taking out the refrigerator.

II Finance, O - Martínez says his mother is partly dependent upon him for support and thus he was not able to accept our offer (II Finance, H, of Conference Minutes); hence this offer of heavier teaching load and more salary.

III Education, A - Manuel is a promising lad of a worthy family, former member from Tunja, now in Bogotá. Tuition is high at Colegio Americano, and he would be compelled to attend mass if he enrolled in other schools.

I wish to thank Dr. Syrdal for his encouraging letter of January 21st regarding our projected publications. In connection with this, I enclose copy of our circular to other missions on cooperation in this field.

Yours in Christ,

A. C. Morck

Enclosures

Supt. files

CELENOZA SPECIAL CONFERENCE
March 4, 1952

Conference called to order by Supt. Morck.
Devotions-Pastor Olson.

I. Miscellaneous

- A. Voted that any contribution received by missionaries for ministerial acts from members of foreign colonies be placed in the local congregational funds.
- B. Voted that the Supt. attend the annual meeting of the "Confederación Evangelica de Colombia" to be held in Cali.
- C. Voted that the Conference express their sincere thanks to the Foreign Mission Board for the generous raise in salaries.
- D. Voted that the Conference express its thanks to the Lawrence Knutsons for the ~~the~~ splendid work done by them in Medellin which the Mission will now be continuing. We wish them God's blessings and guidance in their future labors for Him.

II. Finance

A. Voted that Proceso Mora be given a raise of \$30.00 (pesos) a month in salary.

B. Medical

1. Olson:	
Doctor.....	30.00
Medicine	16.25
2. Morck:	
Doctor.....	36.00
Medicine.....	64.35
3. Ostrem:	
Doctor.....	15.00
Medicine.....	94.30
4. Quanrud:	
Doctor.....	20.00
Medicine.....	19.80
Total.....	
	\$295.70

III. Evangelism

A. Voted that Señor Correa of Medellin be employed for literary and student work in that city [and his salary be \$250.00 (pesos) a month] providing he does not accept the scholarship at the Filology School in Tunja.

IV. Property

A. Voted to answer Dr. Syrdal's questions as follows:-

I. Measurements of lot purchased,

Front---67 feet, 3 inches

Back ---79 feet, 8 inches

Depth South side, 161 feet, 6 inches

Depth North side, 165 feet

2. Space left behind church building, leaving no room for possible extension of said building, about 48 by 70 feet.
3. Pastor's residence, and Sunday-school rooms if church does not have basement.
4. As a general principle we see nothing undesirable in having a Bible Institute building on same property as church, (but on the property purchased) there is not sufficient space.
- 5-6. As far as we have been able to investigate it would cost about 70 thousand pesos to build an Institute building on property purchased for church which would suffice for the present needs only, furthermore we believe that if the Institute building should be constructed this should be done on a sufficiently large scale to meet the needs of future expansion.
7. The present buildings on church lot are entirely inadequate for Institute facilities even at present.

B. Voted that in view of the above statements and that there will be no financial savings in so doing we do not consider putting the Institute building on the church property.

C. Voted that since there can be a substantial saving in repairing the present buildings on the lot for a temporary residence and chapel we request that Dr. Syrdal contact the Board members for immediate approval on C and D under Finance, Celmosa Special Conference, Jan. 30, 1952.

Voted to adjourn.

Junio 31 1952

La Corporación Evangélica Andina fue convocada en sesión el 3 de Junio, 1952, por el presidente, Arnfeld C. Morck, estando presentes los miembros siguientes: Harold L. Olson, Gerhard Ostrem, Olger Quanrud, y Arnfeld C. Morck.

Se aprobó la venta del Jeep, marca Willys, Modelo 1946, Motor # C J. 2a25690 con placas #1432, y comprar Willys Station Wagon, Modelo 1949, Motor #V96335, y ponerlo nuevo motor.

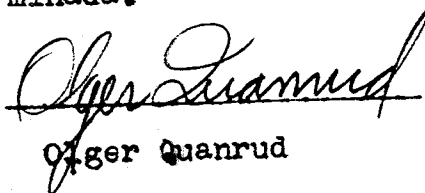
Se aprobó la venta del macho en Casanare por 200 pesos.

Se aprobó la compra del lote con casa en Calle 79 #9-77 por 60 mil pesos.

Se aprobó vender al municipio de Bogotá los 2 metros y medio del lote en Carrera 13 entre Calles 55 y 56 (Mercado con numero 55-56).

Se acordó proceder con la construcción en el lote Carrera 13 # 55-56 según los planos aprobados.

La sesión se dió por terminada.



Olger Quanrud

Secretario

4 Ag. 1952

La corporación Evangélica Andina fue convocada en sesión el 4 de Agosto, 1952, por el presidente Arnfeld C. Morck, estando presentes los demás miembros; Harold L. Olson, Gerhard Ostrem, y Elger Quanrud.

A. Se acordó cambiar los planos de la construcción en el lote de la Carrera 13 #55-56, conforme los requisitos del municipio, cambios que aparecen en los últimos dibujos del arquitecto y del ingeniero.

B. Se acordó suprimir la galería que figuraba en los planos anteriores, ya que este cambio reducirá considerablemente el costo de la construcción.

La sesión se dió por terminada.


Secretario

Apartado Aéreo 4980,
Bogotá, Colombia
Sept. 27, 1952

Joint Boards of the UELC and the ELO:

Greetings in Christ Jesus!

With the Celmosa Proposed Budget for 1953 perhaps a few words of explanation are in order. We have called the fund that used to be designated for the Plains, "Expansion", for the reason that in the annual income tax report made to the government funds appear to be used for the Plains when in reality they are used for Ostrem's rent and travel in the city, and other items related to his work. So that, since the Plains are restricted now and difficult for civilian travel, it is to avoid the impression that money is spent for down there when in reality is spent here in Bogotá. Also Expansion can include expenses connected with the Youth Center which Ostrem has in his home.

because of Bogotá still has a sizable rent account ~~for~~ the fact that the tardiness that we have encountered with the city's approval of the church plans it is questionable just when the house will be finished for living and the basement of the church for services. Also there is a special fund for a day school for Bogotá which I imagine that Morck is covering in his explanations to you. This school is also intended for children of believers from other parts. Rent will be the principal item in the school since we have no buildings that now can serve for that purpose.

The rent item for the Institute is also a little large since the Directors house and room for the boys (which we must have separate from the Inst. property until other buildings are put up there) must still come separately. It also includes rent for Leticia Corzo and Quintero, the ~~latter~~ former a full time teacher for next year and the other a student and teacher. We have also budgetted for Miss Corzo's salary separately.

For Medellin we do not have the Student Center as a special item since it is now in the same house that the Morcks occupy. If Mrs. Corea does not go back to studying languages in Tunja the coming year Morck would like to use him for contact man among students (he was very effective as a helper for Knutson) and for translation work. His salary is included in the Evang. item.

The rent in Expansion as mentioned before includes the rent for Ostrem's which also includes the extra rent for a student center.

The rest of the items I think are self-explanatory except for those connected with the Wilches and Mora whom we wanted to send last year but he was prevented from going. Now it seems very likely that he will be able to get away for study. The Wilches travel item is large because that in December they should be ready to return to Colombia. We have not budgetted rent for Mora as we do not know whether he will stay with the others in the same house or if he will stay in the dormitory.

May the Lord richly bless you as you meet together for the cause of Christ in Colombia.

La Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia
The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA "CELMOSA"

Apartado Aéreo 1482
Medellín, Colombia
December 17, 1952

Dear Co-workers,

"Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Luke 21:28

Another year has slipped away - we are that much closer to the great day when we shall stand before Him - -

May we be such in prayer as we look forward to January 12 to 18 with fellowship in the Word and important business. May God give us grace and wisdom to think through clearly and unselfishly the matters which should come up for action or discussion.

Please remember the individual reports as well as station, officers, institutional and committee reports, so that they can be read promptly at the opening session and not drag on through the Conference as they did last year. Thank you.

Please list all matters that you would like to bring up so that we can have as complete an agenda as possible right from the start. May I appoint Belva and Gerhard as agenda committee to receive your suggestions and arrange them for us, leaving space for additional items, and providing a copy for each missionary, at the opening session of Conference. THANKS!

Here are some of the things that have come to my mind or have been brought to my attention by others:

1. Reports, correspondence, bills, greetings, etc.
2. Study means of expansion.
3. Ways of serving more effectively our country areas, supplementing the present good work of correspondence, possible use of mimeographed monthly, etc.
4. General Bible week or fellowship conference (Spanish) in Bogotá perhaps in connection with dedication of church, or sooner.
5. Promotion and organization of youth work.
6. Primary school in Bogotá.
7. Education of missionary children.
8. Study possibilities of training workers "on their own", without or at a minimum of mission expense, and thus avoiding feeling of obligation on part of candidates.
9. Define status of theological graduates: when to be ordained; what relation to missionary Conference; what responsibility, vote and voice in Conference or other organization until indigenous church can be organized; plans for their possible placements or calls.

December 17, 1952

10. Restudy of salaries, allowance (insurance?) for Colombian workers.
11. Missionary placements.
12. Election of officers and committees.
13. Missionary furloughs and vacations.
14. Discussion and possible recommendations to pastors and congregations regarding use of robes (pulpit and choir) in our churches.
15. Any business regarding construction program.
16. Other business.

Enclosed are minutes of November Board Meeting and covering letter from Dr. Syrdal.

Yours in His Service,



Arnfeld C. Norck

Enclosure

Individual Report

on
1952

The large part of my year at home was spent in traveling through our churches of the U.E.L.C. A most receptive and welcome spirit was manifest all over. And many were the open doors to present the cause of Colombia. It was a joy to see how quickly our people responded to the cause as soon as they were informed. It was a thrill many a time to see how they gave of their means, and too, how they promised to stand by us in prayer. There was no spirit of giving up, rather God speed to go ahead.

After a year at home, last Sunday found me back in Colombia. How good it was to be back! Immediately it was "home sweet home". And especially having the privilege of seeing our mission family right away. I arrived in time for the conference.

The conference this week has been such a joy and inspiration. Especially to hear the reports, to know that the year of 1952 was a year of going ahead in spite of all the obstacles. "All things work together for good", has been heard many a time since the conference began. And it has proven true.

Great opportunities are still before us. And the time is short. It is our prayer that 1953 may be even a greater year for Christ than ever before in Colombia. May God's power be manifest in our midst.

Helen Danielson

Helen Danielson

Report of Counselor for the Unoccupied Stations--1952

"He that overcometh, I will give to Him to sit down with me in my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father in His throne." Rev. 3:21.

Truly it is a joy to see and hear about the many of our believers who have remained steadfast in the Faith, through threats and persecutions.

Letters of encouragement have been sent to most of the places by way of messenger. One trip was made to Carrizal, Salinas, and Rionegro in Boyacá shortly after the first of the year by Proceso Mora.

It has been the desire of many of the believers as well as the missionaries that visits could be made to the unoccupied stations but the feeling has been that such would have brought more persecution.

Besides the work of encouragement amongst the believers, especially in Carrizal, Oliverio Mora, a graduate of our Bible Institute has tried to carry on a ministry of mercy by administering to them in a medical way thru injections, and etc.

Hilma Bello also as a teacher tried to have a Primary School in Carrizal but after a few months of trying to hold school even in the shade of trees the effort had to be abandoned because of persecution.

May God grant that the day may come when again we can go amongst these people spreading the Word of Life.

Olger Quamud.

Sept 1952

COLOMBIA
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT FOR 1952

"So I prophesied as I was commanded" (Ezek. 37:7). When we have done this our efforts have not been in vain, even if the visible results may not be as spectacular as those which followed the dramatic prophecy of Ezekiel in the valley of vision. We cannot feel satisfied and pat ourselves on the back, for really we have done so very little. Yet we have had opportunity to renew our faith in the unfailing faithfulness of God and to observe the power of His Word at work as we "prophesied".

Again we give thanks to God, who has spared the lives of our persecuted brethren in Boyacá, protected and sustained them in the faith throughout the sufferings and horrors many of them have experienced. We are glad that it has been possible to have some contact with them through the correspondence carried on, especially by Ostrem and Quanrud, and through the occasional visits of brethren from the various parts. Our prayer is that we may soon be able to serve them more directly.

The year closed with the situation in the country seemingly calmer than it has been for some time. But there are still skirmishes, unrest and tension in many places. Communications have not been reestablished in Casanare even though it is reported that the Army has nearly wiped out the "bandoleros".

Subtle action by the Roman Church continues to threaten Evangelical work. A greater attack on Evangelical schools may be expected, while demand for these increases. Many non-evangelicals are inquiring about Evangelical schools. That is the reason for the action of the Executive Committee at its September meeting:

"IV. Education

- A. Voted that in view of the need for a primary school for believers' children in Bogotá we take steps to open such a school the coming year, that this school operate without boarding facilities if at all possible."

We give thanks to God and to those whose gifts made possible the purchase of the new home for our Bible Institute. Progress has also been made toward more Colombian staff in the Institute. The teaching of Miss Corzo and Mr. Quintero (part-time) is reported as being very satisfactory.

Likewise, we give thanks because the building of the church and parsonage is so well under way in spite of so many difficulties and delays. Gratitude is expressed to Doctors Langebeck and Moreno who were instrumental in securing for us the permit to build a Lutheran Church in Colombia at a time like this. The Bogotá staff is also to be commended for the spiritual progress in that congregation.

The work in Tunja has been able to go forward, for which we are thankful, it being our only station open in Boyacá. Elizabeth Heerde and Valborg Torkelson report an encouraging work with students, and we appreciate the work that they and the Montoyas, as well as Ostrem, are doing there.

We rejoice at the progress made in the work of the LWF among the German-speaking and Scandinavian colonies, so ably directed by Pastor Ake Kastlund. It has been a real pleasure to welcome the Kastlund family in our midst.

We are likewise happy for the opportunity that Pastor Herman Muller has had for theological study in Germany and in the United States, and we look forward to renewing

... 2

our fellowship and cooperation with the Mullers who, we understand, will be serving Cali and Medellin.

Knowing Dr. Steward Herman and fellowshiping with him was also a pleasure and an inspiration. His keen insight into our problems and those of the LWF in Latin America is much appreciated.

Again we express our thanks to the Knutsons for their fine work in Medellin, and pray that they may have a fruitful ministry in San Antonio, Texas.

We were happy to welcome Belva Nerlien back from furlough and look forward to welcoming Helen Danielson at our Conference of 1953.

In conclusion, a hearty "thank you" to each co-worker for your splendid and unselfish efforts in your respective tasks, for advice, patience and understanding.

Gratitude is expressed to Secretaries Jensen and Syrdal, to the Joint Board of the ELC and the UELC, and to each member of our respective church bodies for remembering us in prayer and material support. It has been a great encouragement to realize the confidence which has been placed in us and above all the faith in God which has dared to launch into the purchase of property and a heavy building program in the face of the present situation in Colombia. To Him be glory and praise as His Kingdom marches on. May we be faithful 'til He comes!

Respectfully submitted,

Arnfeld C. Morck
Arnfeld C. Morck

Apartado Aéreo 4980,
Bogotá, Colombia
January 28, 1953

Joint Boards of the ELC and the UELC:

Greetings in Christ Jēsus!

Some explanations are in order relative to the enclosed financial statements. I regret that the problem of finding a house for the Inst. Director and the boys because the owner where we have been for almost 4 years needed his house, has made the work on the books since Conference a difficult one. And as I noted in the preliminary report on the dollar account I have had difficulty with it because of transfers so it will have to be only a tentative one with the permanent one sent in when I have been able to untangle some of the knots. But it should give you a general impression of the situation.

As you notice from the financial statement there is a shortage in the teacher account of 109.90 which will be assumed by the balance in the evangelist fund. The shortages in Tel and Tel. much of it due to calls and telegrams necessary with the building program and the one in Property due to taxes on the Bogotá properties that were not budgetted for, are assumed by the balances in emergency and miscellaneous. The construction shortage will be assumed as money is transferred for building.

Rev. Morck has explained in some of his letters the reason why we are running short on the building. Not having had much building experience any of us on the committee we have to confess that many items were not taken into consideration when we originally gave the estimate. Because of the ground being not as firm as it appeared on the surface and which we found out only after excavating, the engineers estimate that it cost us about \$20,000.00 pesos more for the foundation and the columns, etc. Another factor are the constructor's commission - 10% and the architect's - 6,000.00 pesos, some fees charged by the municipality and extra expenses in getting our plans approved which in all would add up to 20 or 25,000 pesos to the original estimate. The third factor which we cannot escape ~~xxx~~ is the rising constantly of building costs. Bricks alone - and that is one of the principal items have risen from 10 to 20 pesos a thousand depending on the quality - and when some 150,000 are involved it becomes a considerable increase. Then add to that the steel used for reinforcing the cement which at one time rose about 100 pesos on the ton. Because of these conditions very few contractors here will take a job on an exact contract - if they do they will have to stop before finishing the job or put in inferior materials. We realize, of course, that we could have built much smaller, without basement and saved that way, but when Dr. Quiroga spoke to us the other day in our conference on his trip to Europe and commenting on the situation in Colombia he said that those who had built originally in Colombia had built too small. Now the Presb. church on 24th street is too small. And since you gave us the go sign on the size of the church as well as the basement we felt that it would be better use of the property to build as we have. Some things can be cut down on - a couple of toilets may be cut out without trouble and we may go without wood floor in the basement - costs about 2,000.00 but if services are held there before the church is finished it will be a bit cold. We should soon be able to make out the deed with the city for the meters in front which will bring about 10,000.00 in bonds (whose interest would pay the taxes) or about 5,000 pesos in cash.

Relative to the budget there are some items that perhaps need clarification. We had hoped to decrease the rent much more than we have but with two señoritas working as parish workers, namely Helen Danielson and Belva Nerlien it makes apartments necessary. However, when Quanrud's move to the lot or to the parsonage that should bring it down some. Station School under Bogot, refers to the primary school or schools that we may have if we can rent houses for it. This item includes the rent. Also we are budgetting for taxes and insurance since now that we have property here we will have to pay out for it. There will be need of buying some furniture this year, some for the parsonage, some for Ostrens if they move out of the furnished house they have rented and some for the señoritas or lady workers who have returned to the field. Since all workers in the mission are now on the field this year there will be some extra furniture necessary.

May the Lord richly bless your coming meeting that His cause may go forward in Colombia as well as in the other parts of the world.

In Christ,

(Harold Olson, Treasurer)

Preliminary Summary of
Dollar Account
Dec. 31, 1952

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>
Bal on hand, Jan. 7, 1952	45,188.80	
Salary	17,229.10	17,224.11
Property	32,000.00#	65,000.00
Budget	23,812.55	23,828.64
Movie Projector Y Equip.	268.57	374.00
Mueller	1,569.62	1,569.62
Helen Danielson, Travel	250.00	250.00
Belva Nerlien, Train Travel, paid in 1951	50.00	
Walla Check returned	60.00	
Belva Nerlien, Travel over Gift received for ch. furnishings	80.09	
	40.00	
Church gifts	1,395.37	
Gifts not spent, 1952	826.16	
Wilches	1,628.84	1,470.00
Personal Gifts	390.96	390.96
Personal gifts, 1951		42.68
Inst. property		1,000.00
Property		3,503.69
Equip. Inst.		528.57
Jeep or Willys		1,573.24
Gifts from before, used		43.40
	124,790.06	116,798.91
	116,798.91	
Balance	7,905.15	

- which is made up of
gifts unused and funds on hand
for Inst. and Church.

This does not include the 20,000.00 dollars sent out for building which was not deducted from the Chicago account.

P. S. This is only a preliminary report as I have not yet been able to get the account straightened out with so many transfers involved and house hunting since Conference has hindered me from doing justice to the books. But this should give you some general idea of the situation in the dollar account.

Property and Building Account
Dec. 31, 1958

Institute

On hand from house in Duitama	- 16,000.00	pesos
Special fund	- 1,615.00	" (on hand on the field,
Institute dollar fund	- 2,800.00	" (extra accumulation on
	20,415.00	pesos exchange)

Building - house and church-

Sent out by Board	- \$24,000.00	- 60,000.00 pesos
Less paid by Board on Inst. building	- - - - -	- 39,585.99 pesos
Available for building		20,415.00 pesos

Allowed by Board for building	- \$44,000.00	- 123,200.00 pesos
From property fund on hand in dollars designated by Conference for the house	\$3,503.69	9,810.33 pesos
From sale of small house in Duitama also designated by Conference for the house	7,000.00	pesos
		160,425.33 pesos

Estimated cost of the house	- 24,801.70	pesos
Estimated cost of the church	- 157,158.02	pesos
	181,959.72	pesos

Less funds available and designated	160,425.33	pesos
	21,534.39	pesos

Estado de Cuenta de la Corporación Evangélica Andina

Financial Statement of the Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of S. A.

Diario - (General Ledger)

Ingresos (Receipts) enero 1 - diciembre 31, 1952	394919.31
Gastos (Expenditures)	<u>376831.35</u>
Saldo (Balance) diciembre 31, 1952	18087.96

Fondos Especiales - (Special Ledger)

<u>Fondo - (Fund)</u>	<u>Ingresos</u> <u>(Receipts)</u>	<u>Gastos</u> <u>(Disbursements)</u>	<u>Saldo</u> <u>(Bal.)</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Servicio Médico y medicinas (Medical)	3098.60	3061.35	37.25	
Emergencia (Emergency)	12817.94	12165.12	652.82	
Gastos Legales (Legal Exp.)	2356.95	2356.95		
Sueldos (Salaries)	49807.27	46303.62	3503.65	
Arrendamientos (Rent & Upk.)	40867.34	33650.50	7216.84	
Arreglos de alojam. (Prop.Upk.)	7597.34	7225.09	372.25	
Instituto (Institute)	231.70	143.41	88.29	
Utiles Escolares (School supp.)	149.05	38.00	111.05	
Maestros (Teachers)	3167.00	3276.90		109.90
Evangelistas (Evangelists)	7636.25	6188.02	1448.23	
Literatura (Literature)	4096.33	3438.88	657.45	
Viajes y Trasteos (Travel & Moving)	3674.70	2787.08	887.62	
Bienes Semovientes (Vehicles)	2804.33	2674.08	130.25	
Vacaciones (Vacations) & Furlough	3278.50	2117.25	1161.25	
Muebles y Enseres (Furniture)	5618.20	5473.20	145.00	
Correo y Papel (Postage & Paper)	286.53	277.18	9.35	
Tel. y Tel.	613.63	780.45		166.82
Escuela de Niños de Misionaros (Missionaries' Childrens' Sch.)	4337.33	3102.11	1235.22	
Gastos Varios (Miscellaneous)	3621.22	2657.95	963.27	
Donaciones Personales (Personal Gifts)	932.39	876.58	55.81	
Donaciones para la obra (Gifts for the work)	3293.22	1443.32	1849.90	
Bienes Raíces (Property)	197848.56	198936.69		1088.13
Construcciones (Construction)	93260.33	94333.02		1072.69
	<u>451394.71</u>	<u>433306.75</u>	<u>20525.50</u>	<u>2437.54</u>
	- 433306.75		2437.54	
Saldo (Balance)	18087.96		<u>18087.96</u>	

Audited: Jan. 14, 1952

O.A.

Joyce W. Bugh

Olger Luannud.

Celmosa Proposed Budget 1953

Fund	Bogota	Institute	Medellin	Expansion	Tunja	Totals
Rent & Upkeep	7,100.00	6,000.00	6,600.00	5,760.00	500.00	25,960.00
Evang. & Teacher	E2,000.00 T1,300.00	T1,300.00	E3,000.00		E2,400.00	10,000.00
Lit. & Supplies	100.00	Lib.100.00 Pres.10.00	50.00	50.00	25.00	335.00
Travel	900.00	100.00	50.00	200.00	300.00	1,550.00
Tel & Tel.	200.00	100.00	150.00	30.00	35.00	515.00
Post. & Stat.	75.00	10.00	150.00	20.00	20.00	275.00
Misc.	150.00	100.00	100.00	150.00	50.00	3,550.00
Furniture Repl.		200.00				200.00
Misc. Special	Station School 3,000.00	3d.1,500.00 Cook 300.00 Ath. 100.00				4,900.00
Totals	14,250.00	9,820.00	10,600.00	6,210.00	3,530.00	44,285.00

Special Budget		Wilches (Dollars)		Mora (Dollars)	
Medical	2,000.00	rent	700.00		
Emergency	2,000.00	Support	960.00	240.00	
Vac. & Bur.	3,000.00	Tuition	60.00	30.00	
Supt. Trav.	400.00	Travel	1,500.00	350.00	
Miss. Ch.		Emergency	180.00		
School	3,000.00	Totals	5,400.00	620.00	
Jeep Upk.	800.00				
Totals -	11,200.00				

Station Budgets - 44,485.00
 Special Budgets - 11,200.00
Total 55,685.00

Apartado Aéreo 1482
Medellín, Colombia
February 2, 1953

To the Joint Foreign Mission Board
of the ELC and UELC:

Greetings in Christ Jesus!

Permit me to make the following comments on the enclosed minutes of our Annual Conference which have just arrived from Bogotá. I am sorry that the wording of the minutes is not too clear in several places but trust that the comments will clarify points where misunderstanding could otherwise result. Enclosed also are copies of all reports submitted.

II. Reports (a) - Juan Montoya was interviewed by the Executive Committee. It was felt that there was favorable progress in his position regarding the Lord's Supper. However, he has decided to move to Bogotá where he will resume his work as book-binder and has offered to help in the work of the congregation in any way he can without remuneration.

Cliverio Mora is preparing to leave for the seminary in Buenos Aires where he will begin his theological studies this year. The Board will remember that action was taken on this at the Conference in 1952 but that Mr. Mora was not able to leave chiefly because an important document had been confiscated when he was imprisoned.

III. Finance (b) - This motion is badly worded, but the purpose of the action regarding telephone is to equalize the cost. Some of the telephone bills do not exceed five pesos but others more than triple that amount. Formerly, the Mission paid a flat 1/3 of telephone. The reference to electricity is only in cases where the work is carried on in the missionary's home and where all comes on the same light meter. The city's evaluation of the house usually determines the minimum charge.

III. Finance (c) - The Building Committee will be giving full explanation of the additional cost in construction. Please refer also to my former correspondence with Dr. Syrdal on the matter of increased cost of construction and reasons for the same. Olson will also be sending copies of the building plans and a translation of the itemized estimate of costs. We sincerely regret that it is necessary to ask for this additional amount, but we are sure that the Board will understand that the largest part of it could not be foreseen. It should also be borne in mind that it was clearly stated a year ago that the initial estimate did not include such items as the architect's fees, wiring, plumbing, etc.

III. Finance (d) - Somehow we were led to understand that the UELC had taken upon itself the furnishing of the church in Bogotá. However, we understand from Pastor Jensen that this is not the case even though efforts are being made to raise as much as possible for this project. We believe it would be possible to secure a good used organ by advertising in the church papers. Not long ago a small electric organ was advertised for sale in the "Lutheran Herald".

III. Finance (f) - No fixed subscription rate is charged for the monthly magazine, "Amanecer" published by the ALC.

III. Finance (g) - It is claimed by officials of the "Confederación Evangélica de Colombia" that their periodical publication in the foreign press of cases of persecution in Colombia has helped to restrain action against Protestants in this country. Last year all missions working in Colombia, including non-member missions, were asked to contribute 25 pesos per month to defray the expenses of this investigation of persecution and publication of above-mentioned bulletins. However, very few missions found it possible to contribute to that extent. We feel that we are benefitting by CEMEC's fight for the rights of Protestants in Colombia; hence, our contribution of sixty pesos for the year.

III. Finance (i) - The Treasurer will be explaining the budget in full.

V. Evangelism (b) - We are entertaining the possibility of inviting a guest speaker, perhaps from Puerto Rico, expenses to be defrayed by local contributions.

V. Evangelism (c) - Since there is still no indication that we might return to our rural work in Boyacá and Casanare, we are convinced that the greatest possible thrust must be made in city work at this time as other missions are also doing.

V. Evangelism (i) - Miss Belle accepted work as bible woman in Tunja.

V. Evangelism (j) - It is the opinion of the Mission Conference that Proceso Mora's talents are not that of an evangelist in city work. However, since he has proved himself a good colporteur, the possibility of item (j) grew out of a conversation with Mr. Sicilliani, Secretary of the American Bible Society in Colombia. The Bible Society can use several more colporteurs but has not sufficient funds to pay the basic salary of more than those now employed. We understand the basic salary is very low, about 75 pesos a month, that that sales commissions make up the rest of the colporteur's salary. We would thus still be contributing to the distribution of the Bible in Colombia rather than letting Mr. Mora leave Christian work, and he will also have gained valuable experience by the time it will be possible for us to employ him again in the rural areas.

VI. Miscellaneous (d) - The "or other distinctive ministerial attire" is added by request of one missionary who wishes to use a "Prince Albert" in place of a gown. It may be of interest to know that some of our Lutheran believers here, as well as our students in Buenos Aires, have expressed themselves in favor of using the gown, and that the Annual Conference of the National Presbyterian Church voted this year that gowns be used in all of their churches.

VII. Literature (a) 2. - In the margin of the Literature Report we have indicated the result of this preference vote.

VIII. Medical (a) 1. - It is to be understood that we have not committed ourselves in any way regarding this proposed Evangelical hospital. Nevertheless, we are keenly aware of the need for such a hospital due to the discrimination and persecution of non-Roman Catholics in the existing hospitals of Bogotá. Such a program should be considered on the basis of this need rather than on the basis of whether or not it is a "paying" means of evangelization, thinking of the capital investment. Since the national churches are not able to finance such a project alone, it is hoped that

the Protestants of foreign colonies and Foreign Mission Boards will look with favor on this project. Ostrom and Morck attended a luncheon meeting of sympathetic medical doctors, Evangelical pastors and missionaries at the home of Dr. Quiroga of the Presbyterian Mission, where an interesting exchange of ideas took place on the subject. Eight doctors were present and all expressed interest in a hospital where patients of all faiths might be treated without religious discrimination.

Possible cooperation in the enlargement of seminary facilities for Evangelicals in Bogotá is also being studied by the various missions.

* * * *

With reference to Dr. Syrdal's letter of January 12 to Harold Olson quoting vote of Executive Committee requesting more explanation on the suggested use of the Normann memorial fund, I am rather at a loss as to what more explanation might be added to that given in the third paragraph of my letter of December 2, 1952, where I quote the action of the Executive Committee. I believe the Committee has explained the use of this educational unit, and we are not able to glorify it above an ordinary church basement with the exception that it could bear the suggested plaques in Spanish and English as a memorial to Mrs. Normann. I am sure that the Board realizes that an entire building could not be erected for the sum involved; hence our suggestion to use it for the construction and finishing (not furnishing) of one unit of the building. We are aware of what Dr. Syrdal mentions in his letter "that normally people are not very happy about a church basement being in memory of anybody...The question is, if relatives of Mrs. Normann should ever come to Bogotá would they feel that her name is being properly memorialized by the proposed use of funds available."

Sincerely in Christ

Arnfeld C. Morck

Enclosures
cc - O. Quanrud

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ROLF A. SYRDAL • EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
IRWIN M. LERBERG • ASST. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

425 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS 15, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE, MAIN 6583 • CABLE ADDRESS, MADAKINA, MINNEAPOLIS

February 2, 1953.

Rev. Harold L. Olson
Apartado Aereo 4980
Bogota, Colombia
South America

AIR MAIL

Dear Harold:

We are enclosing the I Quarter Paylist for 1953. Please note the following items:

Private contribution No. 5 amounts to \$2,000.00 which is a gift toward literature for the Mission. As you have on your budget an amount totalling \$335.00, that is all we are deducting from this extra gift. This means that the \$335.00 is included in the quarterly paylists and will be received throughout the year so there will be a total of \$2,000.00 for use for Christian literature. This, of course, should be used according to Conference or Executive Committee decision or by such persons as are authorized by the conference. This is a large amount but I am glad that it is forthcoming so the literature work can advance. I believe that we have already made a good contribution and hope we can continue to do so.

You will note on page 1 that we have listed under Station Budget the total amount of station budget submitted by your Conference plus the special budget and the U.S. dollar request for the Wilches boys and Mora. As far as we are concerned, this then is the budget to be sent to the field for the running expenses for the year. On that basis as the support of the three students mentioned is included in the budget remittance, their amounts are not sent out as special gifts. Special gifts that come are, therefore, a part of the budget. Hence you will note that we have deducted private contributions No. 9, 10 and 11. No. 2 and 7 are also deducted as these pay the salaries of workers that are within your submitted budget.

I have just received your letter of January 26th enclosing the accounts. I have not checked through them yet but just make reference to the expense of building. In my last letter I suggest that you must likely would have had firm bids from the contractors. From this letter it seems as though you have arranged for building contract on a cost plus basis. We usually find that such contracts go above original estimates. It would help me a great deal if you could send me before the Board meeting on February 16th the following items:

a. Church Parsonage

Total cost parsonage
Expenditures on Church to date
Additional expenditures on Church
Total

b. Receipts for capital expenditures

Money available on hand
remittances received from Mission Office

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. J. A. Aasgaard, President of E.L.C.
Dr. L. M. Stavig, Chairman
Rev. T. H. Rossing, Vice Chairman

Rev. M. T. Jenson
Mr. A. M. Larson

Dr. E. M. Hegge
Rev. M. S. Knutson
Rev. R. A. Harrisville

Rev. C. M. Hanson, Recording Secretary
Mr. Arthur O. Louis, Assistant Recording Secretary
Rev. A. W. Haugan, Field Representative

c. Institute Building
 Purchase price
 Cost of repairs
 Total

c. Receipts for Institute
 Receipt from sale of Duitama Building
 Receipts from Mission Office
 Total

Handwritten:
 letter of Nov. 20
 clearly indicating
 that it was
 only church

We have a letter from Morck written November 28th that indicates the total cost of the Church and parsonage is expected to amount of \$56,127.85. I suppose that we cannot expect any lower figure but hope it will not go much beyond that. I have written concerning the possible use of the memorial given for Mrs. Normann. There is some hesitation on the part of the Board which I have voiced. Any specific statement concerning this should reach us before our Board meeting February 16th if you all agree that it is wise to use the money for purpose suggested.

Handwritten:
 ✓
 see
 former
 corresp
 Nov 14/47

We have a check at home here for \$36.00 from Morck which is a refund. We have checked back on the letter accompanying the check but are still at a little loss as to just how this should be handled. We are afraid that he is overpaying us for the robe, and would like word from him and full clarification.

We have just received word from Bristol-Myers Company that they have sent notification to transfer funds amounting to 28,000 pesos. Judging from your last letter this is some thousand additional to your original request. Please let us know if you can carry on now until some time past the 15th of February. We are now entering the new fiscal year and it may be difficult for us without making special arrangements to make full payment of enclosed payroll by the 15th. We should, therefore, know in due time the exact time when the money is needed.

Sincere greetings,

Handwritten signature: Roy A. Syrdal

Handwritten:
 ras:mh
 Sup of
 higher exchange
 3.00

P.S. Just had a long distance telephone call from Bristol-Myers. Their pesos are running short but they feel they can give us about 28,000 by the end of February. From then on they do not expect there will be much until the end of May when they will give us another \$10,000 worth. It may be well that other possibilities of such exchange be investigated in case this source runs dry or is insufficient to meet our needs.

SOUTH AMERICA

I QUARTER - 1953

Salaries	1/4 of \$19,965.00	\$4,991.25
Plus:		
Joyce Bergh - refund of \$56.05 deducted on IV Quarter 1952 Paylist (Ok. returned by Ins. Co.- payment evidently made from Canada)		56.05
Rev. Gerhard Ostrem - 2nd increase Sept. thru Dec. 1952		120.00
Rev. Olger Quanrud " " " " " 1952		<u>120.00</u>
		\$5,287.30

Less:		
Bills Paid at Home		<u>527.42</u>
	Balance Salaries	\$4,759.88

Station Budget - 1953.	\$23,836.08	
Station Budget - I Quarter - 1/4 of \$23,836.08.		<u>\$5,959.02</u>
		\$10,718.90

Plus Private Contributions:

1. <u>For Rev. and Mrs. Harold Olson - Forget-Me-Not LDR, remitted by Carol Ostheller, 517 Lake St., Sandpoint, Idaho</u>	5.00
2. <u>Support of native worker by Albert D. Berg, remitted by Rev. Harold Bestul, Sand Creek, Wis.</u>	200.00
3. <u>For literature by Ruth Group of WMF, remitted by Mrs. Morris Larson, Fessenden, N. Dak.</u>	10.00
4. <u>WMF of Max Circuit - tracts for South America Mission, remitted by Mrs. Donald Whiting, Max, N. Dak.</u>	90.65
5. <u>Women's Missionary Federation - literature for South America, remitted by Miss Alice Sanne, 57 S. 4th St., Minneapolis, Minn.</u>	2,000.00
6. <u>Rev. A. C. Morck - check sent home to be cashed (The Luth. Church - Missouri Synod)</u>	135.00
7. <u>Support of native worker by Billings Circuit W.M.F., remitted by Mrs. Fritz B. Peterson, Box 237, Big Timber, Mont.</u>	150.00
8. <u>Ladies Aid of Highland Cong., for Olger Quanrud, remitted by Mrs. Arnold Nelson, Milton, N. Dak.</u>	10.00
9. <u>Support of native worker - Mr. Mora - by Clarence Lind, Kennedy, Minn.</u>	65.00
10. <u>Support of native worker - Mr. Mora - by K. J. Lind, Box 74, Donaldson, Minn.</u>	60.00
11. <u>Sunday School for Gerardo Wilches, remitted by Mrs. Ardell Hansdahle, Box 522, Beresford, S. Dak.</u>	221.13
12. <u>Christmas gift for Harold Olson family from G. Gabrielsen, 1019-3rd Ave. N., Minneapolis, Minn.</u>	25.00
13. <u>Personal gift for Rev. Gerhard Ostrem by Mr. and Mrs. Horace Johnson, Howard & Ardis, Torquay, Sask., Canada</u>	25.00
14. <u>Christmas gifts for Rev. and Mrs. Harold Olson from LDR societies, remitted by Miss Arna Njaa, 57 S. 4th St., Minneapolis, Minn.</u>	100.00
15. <u>Christmas gifts for Belva Nerlien from LDR societies, remitted by Miss Njaa</u>	105.00
	<u>\$13,920.68</u>

Brought Forward \$13,920.68

Less:

Private Contribution No. 2	\$200.00
7	150.00
9	65.00
#10	60.00
11	221.13
Literature included in budget	335.00

1,031.13

\$12,889.55

Gift for Valborg Torkelson from Martha S. Solberg, V.A.
Center, Fargo, N. Dak.

30.00

\$12,919.55

Minneapolis, Minn.
January 30, 1953.

SOUTH AMERICA
I QUARTER - 1953

BILLS PAID AT HOME

<u>Bergh, Joyce</u>	
Pension Fund Dues - I Quarter	\$18.40
<u>Heerde, Elizabeth</u>	
Pension Fund Dues	20.13
Mrs. Donald Bischoff	50.00
<u>Nerlien, Belva</u>	
Pension Fund Dues	18.40
<u>Olson, Harold</u>	
Pension Fund Dues	29.90
Eastman Kodak Stores	42.43
2 Vertical Semi-Automatic Slide Changers	5.25
Luth. Mutual Life Ins. Co.	60.69
(Miriam	\$31.50)
(Paul	29.19)
<u>Ostrem, Gerhard</u>	
Pension Fund Dues	33.35
Bal. Luth. Brofherhood prem.	197.12
<u>Quanrud, Olger</u>	
Pension Fund Dues	33.35
<u>Torkelson, Valborg</u>	
Pension Fund Dues	18.40
	<hr/>
	\$527.42

SOUTH AMERICA - 1953

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Child Support</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bergh, Joyce	\$1600		\$320	\$1920
Heerde, Elizabeth	1750		350	2100
Nerlien, Belva	1600		320	1920
Olson, Harold	2600	\$550	630	3780
Ostrem, Gerhard	2900	750	730	4380
Quanrud, Olger	2900	200	620	3720
Torkelson, Valborg	1600		320	1920
Superintendent	100			100
Treasurer	100			100
Secretary	25			25
	\$15,175	\$1,500	\$3,290	\$19,965

Apartado Aéreo 1482
Medellín, Colombia
March 24, 1953

Dear Co-laborers,

We wish you a Blessed Easter in the Name of our glorious risen Savior!

Enclosed are copies of the Board Minutes which I should have sent on to you before. A copy of Syrdal's letter and my reply is being circulated so that you can check it with your copy of the minutes after which it can be filed with the Conference Secretary.

Enclosed is also a copy of a hymn that you may find useful at your Good Friday service. As you note, it is intended to be read and sung responsively. Of course, if the pastor is a good singer, he can also sing his part.

Would you kindly send me promptly any business that should come up at our Executive Committee meeting. I am suggesting April 20 and 21 for our Committee meeting, but will have to wait for approval from Committee members on those dates.

Dr. Syrdal's request for special projects in the second paragraph of his letter can then be dealt with by the Committee. The Executive and Medical Committees will take note of the Board's reaction to the Evangelical hospital in Bogotá. I don't think we should be discouraged by this reaction. It is simply a caution.

I am also writing Gerhard to see if it will be possible for us to visit Cali, Barranquilla and Cartagena to do some of the investigating that we were supposed to do and report on to the Executive Committee.

For some time I have wanted to write to the Tunja staff some rather disappointing news, but I have waited hoping against hope that it may have turned into good news. I have reference to Fabio Quintero who expressed his desire to be confirmed here but who, since early in February, has not been seen here at all. We understand from Correa that his family discovered that he had Evangelical literature and have evidently put on the pressure. He had agreed to try out his ability on literature work but worked only a half day and then failed to return without even a telephone call to explain. We are praying much for him and others who have also dropped off because of the priestly pressure in this capital. It seems that only one (Percario) will be confirmed now on Palm Sunday.

May God richly bless each of you as you labor on for more souls in His Kingdom.

Sincerely in Him,

Arnfeld

Enclosures

P.S.

Dr. Arbaugh writes that it is very likely that Pastor Díaz will be able to accept our invitation to come for the dedication of the church. He says that he can be here two or three weeks after the middle of September. I am going to write to Pastor Díaz even though we cannot tell him the exact dates yet.

Supt

Celmosa Special Conference
April 6, 1953

Conference was called to order by Supt. Morck.
All members present except Valborg Torkelson.

I. Finance

- (a) I. Voted that due to circumstances beyond our control such as:--excessive rains, continued rise in cost of construction and serious oversight in earlier estimates we find ourselves obligated to request a minimum sum of 42 thousand pesos in order to complete the church sufficiently for use,
 2. however it would be more desirable and economical in the long run to complete church according to plans which would cost a minimum of 60 thousand pesos.
- (b) Voted, now that the parsonage is sufficiently completed to determine exact cost we request the additional 5 thousand pesos needed to terminate construction of said parsonage.
- (c) Voted, that since the repairing of walls, sidewalk, driveway had not been included in the estimates, we set aside available 1953 rent budget balances for said purposes.

II. Miscellaneous

- (a) Voted, that in view of extreme difficulty in renting quarters for school in Bogotá and the inadvisability of further construction on church lot, we plan on using church basement as soon as possible for elementary school.
 - (b) Voted, that we amend our action #5--A Celmosa Annual Conference January, 1953 to read, quote---"Native Seminary graduates serve for at least one year under supervision of an ordained pastor," as requested by the Board at its meeting Feb., 1953
- I. Voted that Mr. Lerberg's proposal of Rev. Arnold Maah's coming to Colombia for movies of work on our field be accepted.
2. Voted that a committee be elected to work out suggestions for shooting a script. Ostrem, Olson, Nerlien were elected.

Voted to adjourn/.

*Mention
Swedish
Voted*

4 pt

REPORT ON VISIT TO CALI
By Ostrem and Morck
April 9 to 13, 1953

Cali is a booming city of 284,188 people, according to the 1951 census, which means an increase of 182,388 since 1938 when its population was given as 101,800. This increase is due mostly to the development of its industries and the great influx of political or religious refugees during the last few years. It is estimated that these refugees have swelled the population to 300,000 since 1951.

Some of the industries of Cali are textiles, cement, paper carton factories, sugar refineries, coal mining, etc. Its busy "down-town section" displays an interesting mixture of tall ultra-modern and colonial buildings. To the northwest are the old barrios of typical colonial construction: Santa Rosa, Santa Rita and Santa Teresa.

To the north the high class and some middle class barrios: Granada, Juanambu, Versailles, Santa Monica and San Vincente. To the east are the teeming industrial and workers barrios of Jorge Isaacs, Santander, Las Delicias, El Popular, Benjamin Herrera, Floresta, Galindo, Villa Colombia, etc. Most of these are new barrios with wide unpaved streets and small flimsy brick houses. But we were told that most of the people owned their homes here. The more central barrios of Alameda, Belalcazar, Santa Lucia, San Nicolás, etc., are a mixture of business section and middle and poorer classes.

To the south, in which direction the city is obviously extending most rapidly, are the new residential barrios of San Fernando, El Cedro, Santa Isabel, etc. Many of the members of the German congregation live here.

We interviewed members of missions working in Cali: The Cumberland Presbyterian, Gospel Missionary Union, Christian and Missionary Alliance, Pentecostal, and Baptist, all of whom were encouraging, if not enthusiastic, as to the possibilities of Evangelical work in the city. We did not interview the Adventists who, we understand, have considerable work also. All were friendly and helpful and encouraged us to come in. All spoke of Cali as an "open city" in which very little Evangelical work has been done. However, it was interesting to note the remark of a Baptist who had worked for years on the coast. He said that progress in Cali was slow in comparison with that in the coast cities of Barranquilla and Cartagena. The Baptists are perhaps the mission which in Cali has progressed most rapidly. Their average attendance at the central church in Cali seems to run about 250 at present. There has been a slight decrease since moving services to the second floor auditorium of the new school building on the other side of the property. Their new church is to be built on the front of the property. Attendance Easter Sunday was 256 with an offering of 207 pesos.

The Baptists have put up a four-story school building with enclosed gymnasium or auditorium on top which could seat about a thousand people. The building cost about 300,000 pesos. In addition to this central property, the Baptist Mission purchased in 1945 twenty-six acres of land to the south of the city on which they plan at some future date to erect an international seminary to serve their churches of northern Latin America. This property was purchased at two pesos a square meter. Now property in that area is worth six to eight pesos per square meter. The homes they had built and were building for missionaries and professors are estimated at \$20,000 to \$23,000 dollars apiece, including cost of ground. Besides their central work already mentioned, the Baptists have work in three barrios to the south and west. They have begun a seminary with an enrollment of three students this year. They have five national pastors in Colombia of whom only one has had seminary training. The Baptist work has been conducted almost exclusively in the large cities and thus has suffered very little from the persecution which has devastated so many of the country areas of other missions.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Mission, whose main project in Cali is the Colegio Americano, has its central church in the school building where their attendance runs about 275 to 300. Besides, they have a small chapel in Alameda, a south central barrio, and house meetings in Floresta, a workers' barrio to the west. Their school has an enrollment of 300.

The Gospel Missionary Union, which was the first mission to establish in Cali, has a central church with good attendance, and runs a print shop.

The Christian Missionary Alliance, which for some years has had a book store "La Librería Aurora", opened mission work in Cali in March in order to gather the many refugees from their country congregations which have flocked into Cali. They have a good location in the down-town section.

The Pentecostals have a small work in rented quarters in Barrio Alameda.

No work is being done at all in San Fernando and the other southern barrios, nor in the whole area north of the river. Scarcely anything is done in the populace workers' barrios to the west.

There is at present no persecution in Cali and much freedom to work compared to Medellín and Tunja. When asked why Cali was so open a Presbyterian Colombian pastor answered: "One reason is that we have a civilized bishop here who does not instigate persecution of Protestants". There is also a priest who has a very popular program on the radio called "God's Minute". He is known to refer to the Protestants as "brethren" and conducts a campaign to encourage bible reading. He recently brought 3,000 copies of the Catholic version to Cali which were quickly sold. When he is out of stock he sends parishioners to the Evangelical bookstore which also carries the Catholic version.

If our Mission were to open work in Cali, we would suggest buying, at once, a home in one of the southern barrios, perhaps San Fernando, with a view also to open work in the workers' barrios to the west. It would be advisable to buy property in both places to avoid high rents. Property is still reasonable in Cali as compared to Bogotá, but prices are continually going up because of the expansion of the city. There is a possibility that some Spanish-speaking work could soon be begun in Cali under the auspices of the Lutheran World Federation. Though there is no great demand yet for Spanish among the European groups, there are cases of inter marriage, but meetings held in Spanish with a small nucleus could be developed into a Spanish work.

In conclusion, we will have to compare our findings in Barranquilla and Cartagena, after we have visited those cities, with what we have seen in Cali. Our greatest problem is lack of personnel to meet these challenges that now present themselves in the cities of Colombia, almost the only areas in which work can now be done. It is little use now to lament our mistake in not beginning at once in these cities when we were forced out of Boyacá. Let us pray the Lord of the Harvest that somehow workers may be provided to enter into this great harvest. Reports will follow on our survey of the coast cities, which may not be made until June.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerhard Ostrem and Arnfeld Morck

REPORT ON SURVEY OF BARRANQUILLA AND CARTAGENA

June 1953

Cartagena

The historic city of Cartagena with its ancient walls and massive forts, colonial buildings and modern structures, bustling docks and leisurely beaches, Roman sanctuaries and Protestant churches, donkeys and limosines, buggies and buses, luxurious homes of the rich and flimsy shacks of transient squatters, is today a thriving commercial and tourist center.

With a present population of about 150,000 (largely negro) it promises considerable increase and is pushing to the north and southeast with new barrios. Its increase cannot be expected to be as rapid, however, as that of Cali and Barranquilla. While as a seaport it has commercial importance, Barranquilla far overshadows it in industries, and Cali has the advantage of being surrounded by one of Colombia's richest agricultural areas. We feel that opportunities for Evangelical work are, numerically speaking, in direct ratio to this increase.

Generally speaking, we believe that the people of Cartagena shares with those of Barranquilla that carefree openness characteristic of the coastal cities, in contrast to the colder cities of the interior. This quality, which may make for more rapid progress and a more ready acceptance of the Gospel, exists, we believe, to the greater degree in Barranquilla, second in Cartagena and third in Cali. Progress of Evangelical work is obviously more rapid in Barranquilla than in Cartagena, partly due to the fact that Cartagena is an old city with a much more Catholic tradition. It is also smaller and more easily regimented by the Roman priests.

The Southern Baptists have two large churches, a smaller chapel on rented property, and several preaching points in homes. They have purchased property in Barrio Canapote, where the square meter sells for three to five pesos. Nearer the center it runs from 15 to 20 pesos a square meter. The Latin American Mission has two churches as well as several house meeting places, and a school in the Barrio Manga. The Baptists also have schools in connection with each of their churches. There is also a small Pentecostal Mission (see location of these churches and mission points on map).

While these Missions are working some of the barrios and touching most of them, there is practically nothing done in the barrios of Boca Grande and Bosque. It is especially the latter where we see great opportunity as it is mostly made up of middle and working class people. Boca Grande is mostly a "high class" residential area on a narrow peninsula with the luxurious Hotel del Caribe on its most westerly point.

Barranquilla

Barranquilla is a booming commercial and industrial port city of 300,000 people. In contrast to the political and religious passion of the interior which so often breaks into open violence, political and religious apathy can rather be said to characterize Barranquilla. "People here never get very excited about politics or religion. We have no persecution here", we were told by missionaries.

Barranquilla is the city of Colombia which has most Evangelical work and perhaps the one which offers the greatest opportunity at the moment. The Southern Baptists have fairly good-sized churches (one very large) with a large educational unit in back of each one, either on the opposite side of the block or beside the church. Some also have the parsonage on the same property. The Presbyterians have five flourishing churches in the city, their Colegio Americano (one unit for boys and one for girls), and a twelve-bed hospital. On a much grander scale is the 60 to 90 bed hospital soon to be completed by the Baptists at a cost of \$300,000 (U.S.). It is at present operating with 18 beds and the most modern and best of equipment. It has one full-time foreign (U.S.) doctor, an outstanding surgeon, and one Colombian doctor. Besides,

it invites doctors of the city to use its facilities.

The United Pentecostals have recently built a church and have already reached an attendance of nearly two hundred. The average attendance at the mentioned churches is perhaps about 250 (of the various denominations mentioned in this report).

These Evangelical groups are quite evenly distributed throughout the city, except in the newer barrios to the south and the "high class" residential section of El Prado, El Porvenir and Altos del Prado (see map).

The barrios to the south - San José, Boyacá, La Unión, La Victoria, Cevillar, La Sierra and Las Ceibas - new workers' barrios, some just being laid out, is the section which would seem most advisable to start work, if we are justified in such a recommendation upon the findings of our brief survey. Population should be quite permanent here since most are good middle-class people who own their homes or are in the process of paying for them by installments. Several companies are building up these areas on housing plans which will eventually give each family clear title to their homes.

Nothing is done in the large higher class residential barrios to the northwest, and so far no Evangelical group seems to have been able to make an impact among that class of people in any of our cities.

We believe that we are duty-bound to advance where we can and where God leads. Even if the change in government which came on June 13, 1953, should make it possible to return to Boyacá and Casanare within the not too distant future, we deem it wise to start new work as soon as possible in the three cities which we have surveyed. (Incidentally, we were just terminating this survey when the change of government occurred). We would recommend beginning in the order of greatest opportunity, which in our opinion is: Barranquilla, Cali, Cartagena, unless Cali's proximity to Bogotá and its rapid growth should put it in first place.

If conditions in the country permit us to resume work in Boyacá and Casanare within a not too distant future, it is also to be hoped that visas for more missionaries may be granted and that some of those who have worked here will return to the field, thus making it possible not only to take care of what we have but also to advance. We pray that God may be permitted to guide us into His fields of harvest.

Respectfully submitted, June, 1953

Gerhard Cstrem
Arnfeld C. Morck

copy

CELMOSA Special Conference
Bogotá
September 24-25, 1953

- I. Conference met in three sessions, each of which opened with devotion (led by Quanrud, Ostrem and Morck, respectively) and prayer.
Members absent: Torkelson and Heerde.
- II. Evangelism:
1. Voted that we vote by ballot for the placement in Bogotá.
 2. Voted that Gerhard Ostrem be Bogotá station pastor beginning when Quanrud goes on furlough and continuing through 1954, provided that developments in the country do not make a change imperative at the January, 1954, conference.
 3. Voted that in view of the uncertainty of being able to obtain additional missionary personnel, we request the Board's permission to approach Miss Cornelia Jenson as to the possibility of working with our Mission for at least one year on a contract basis.
 4. Voted that Harold Olson replace Ostrem as station head in Tunja until the January, 1954, conference.
- III. Education:
1. Voted that we ask the Board for the privilege of using the money left over from the 1953 school budget for fixing up the church basement to the extent that it can be used temporarily for school.
 2. Voted that we begin immediately to build a primary school with an apartment on second floor on the site of the old house on the church lot, employing the Mrs. Norman Memorial Fund.
 3. Voted that the building committee for the school be comprised of the following: Olson as chairman, Ostrem and Bergh.
 4. Voted that Rodrigo Quintero be placed in the Bible Institute as full time teacher for the year 1954.
 5. Voted to pay Quintero 250 pesos a month in 1954.
- IV. Finance:
1. Voted that we recommend the granting of the \$5000 U.S. asked for by Dr. Langebeck in order to close the contract with him; but that the sum be handled by the Mission treasurer.
- V. Literature:
1. Voted that we order 300 copies of Stump's Explanation of the Catechism.
 2. Voted that Gerhard Ostrem be Book Store manager.
 3. Voted that we translate and publish "Ten Studies in Church History" by Bruce.
- VI. Miscellaneous:
1. Voted that Belva Nerlien be mission secretary during the Quanruds' absence from the field.
 2. Voted that we adjourn. Conference closed with prayer.

Olger Quanrud, secretary

PERSONAL REPORT for 1953

--- Belva Nerlien

One of the first days of February, 1953, found me in the process of moving to Medellín, where I experienced a year of blessed fellowship with the Morcks and Cornelia Jensen, both in the work of the Mission and in everyday life in the home.

Throughout the year, my forenoon working hours were devoted to the literature program. Under Pastor Morck's direction, I worked on the following projects:

1. Revision of the manuscripts of Prayer and Ten Studies in Personal Evangelism. Here I worked together with Everardo Correa, to whom I also owe the correction of materials that I wrote or translated independently.
2. Writing of some of the devotionals for Luz Cotidiana for the month of November.
3. Preparation of youth programs--the majority of them translations--for Holy Week, Pentecost, Mother's Day, Stewardship Emphasis, a Hymn Sing, Reformation Day and suggestions for Independence Day and Christmas. Mrs. Olson has mimeographed these.
4. Translation of part of Rolfsrud's booklet on Church Etiquette for use in instructing of ushers.
5. The tract, "Cristo a la Puerta".
6. Preparation of materials for the launching of the Pocket Testament Movement among Spanish-speaking people. This material is now in the printer's hands. (This project was undertaken as the result of the request of a previous conference that I investigate, during my furlough, P.T.M. materials and the possibility of starting such a movement in Colombia.

The first several weeks of my year in Medellín were discouraging to me from the standpoint of the difficulty of making contacts through which to be able to witness for Christ. Then opportunities came to teach some private English classes and, a little later, to teach at the Centro Colombo-Americano. My schedule of classes often kept me busy from 6 to 9:30 p.m. plus an occasional class earlier in the day. I felt that these classes and my French class at the Alianza provided some good points of contact. Although I can not point to tangible results, there were at least occasional opportunities for an oral witness and I pray that my life might have been some sort of Christian witness to students and fellow teachers. Since home visitation did not seem practicable without at least some point of previous contact, and since it certainly is not possible to do any effective witnessing in fanatical Medellín without first gaining a person's confidence, I was indeed thankful for the avenue of English. The result I must leave in God's hand. Our labor is not in vain in the Lord and His ways are higher than our ways.

I am grateful for the privilege of attending the World Student Christian Federation's Leadership Training Conference at Matanzas, Cuba, at the close of the year. I had never before been in a group representing so many nations and denominations, and that was an experience in itself. Valuable suggestions were given which I hope may help us in our attempts at student work ~~XXXX~~ whether or not we ever affiliate with the WSOB. I am more aware than ever of the futility of a student movement which is not centered in Christ and of the need for deeply spiritual leadership.

At year's end, the following thoughts, coming through II Thessalonians and Philippians, were a blessing and provide encouragement and motivation for 1954: "The Lord is faithful"... "What things were gain to me, those have I counted loss for Christ... Forgetting the things that are behind... I press on toward the goal."

It becomes easy to "soft-pedal" our convictions to ~~lay~~ on good terms with everyone. I have also noted a tendency among those of the Reformed faiths to joke about our differences on doctrinal issues, such as the Sacraments. I believe that a spirit of levity is entirely out of place in these sacred matters and feel that we should be free in our student groups to teach according to our convictions and to guide young intellectuals into a deep, strong Christian faith.

In spite of the criticism to which we are subjected for carrying over our North American denominations into Latin America, I would not like to see our student groups become interdenominational on a local level, as the WSCF administration recommends. On the other hand, I feel that ~~affiliation with~~ affiliation with the world organization has much to offer to our Lutheran local groups. Through the WSCF, we can get materials and ideas, exchange views and get a broader outlook through the conferences and conventions it sponsors. Just as I am convinced that we have much to contribute as Lutherans, conversely I am very sure that we have much to learn from other ~~ecclesiastical~~ Christian denominations.

Although our student groups in Colombia, in my opinion, are not yet ready for affiliation, I hope the day may soon come when we in South America, like the LSA and European Lutheran student organizations, can become members of the WSCF.

Belva Nerlien

Sept. file

REPORT OF IMPRESSIONS RECEIVED
at the
MATANZAS CONFERENCE
of the
WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION

Students and student leaders from sixteen countries became our friends during the WSCF Leadership Training Conference held in Matanzas, Cuba, from December 21, 1953, to January 4, 1954. The Carribean countries represented were Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Dominician Republic, Jamaica, and Cuba. Leaders came from Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, Germany, France, Canada and the U.S. Languages heard in the sessions were Spanish, English, Portuguese and French. The Anglican, Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian churches were represented.

With the exception of about three hours in the afternoon, our daily schedule provided a continuous program of activity from the 7 a.m. rising hour till 10 p.m. and often later. The two weeks were characterized by concentrated study, good fellowship and wholesome fun. It was good to be accepted as just one of the group; no one seemed to "freeze up" in the presence of missionaries, nor was there any race distinction although black, white and yellow were all represented. We did hear considerable anti-American sentiment expressed, but one boy was careful to explain what I believe was the feeling of them all: that, in spite of his spirited harangue during one of the sessions, he had nothing against the individual American.

One of the very good first impressions was the orderly plan for the devotional part of the program. This helped me to feel at home in this interdenominational group. I was relieved to note the complete absence of the Pentecostal ^{atmosphere} influence which is so evident in interdenominational meetings here in Colombia.

The purpose of the Student Christian Movement among university students was stated briefly as evangelism. Enlarging upon this, Rev. Galland, executive secretary of the WSCF in Latin America, said that the SCM unites those students who are desirous of testifying of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and of deepening their faith so as to ~~render more effective service to their church, their educational institution, their community and to society as a whole.~~ render more effective service to their church, their educational institution, their community and to society as a whole. The SCM is not a church and does not have a creed; however, emphasis must always be laid on the word Christian in its name. Because it believes that it can thus best carry out its evangelistic purpose, it does accept members who are not yet confessing Christians if they manifest sincere interest in Christian teachings, are desirous of knowing Christ as Savior and are willing to abide by the SCM constitution. The SCM does not characterize only one type of activity within the over-all program as being evangelistic; rather its every activity is a part of its total program of evangelism. I believe that we as a Lutheran Church are in agreement with this point of view. It seems to me that affiliation with a group like this is the more feasible ^{for us} because members are expected to continue in their own churches and be faithful to their respective beliefs. They are not required to sacrifice anything in order to subscribe to all the points of a student organization creed, as would be the case, for instance, in the event of association with the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, if I rightly understand its program. On the other hand, the no-creed principle makes it possible for many with very hazy Christian convictions to affiliate with the group and the result, if leadership is weak, may be a "watered-out" program with little benefit to the students who, in turn, will have little enthusiasm or motive for evangelizing others.

The student movements in the Carribean area seem to be, for the most part, interdenominational. Much is to be said for this because it makes for a united front on the university campus, where Protestants, at best, are a small minority, and it provides a larger Christian nucleus for evangelism. However, as a sample of the problems the interdenominational group poses, we noted that in the Bible study groups at our conference, certain points were, by mutual consent, left untouched because they were too controversial. I believe we miss much of the blessing of Bible study when this happens.

In the work referred to as expansion for 1953 we might say that several parts or activities are included in it. The work amongst students was carried on during the year meeting in our home until we moved into the parsonage and since then was held in the "Educational Unit" (basement) of the church. Efforts were made to reach students and we were happy for all contacts with University students as well as any from other schools. At the meetings which were held on Saturday evenings an average of approximately twenty were in attendance.

Though that has not been an easy work we have been happy to note interest among the group. Efforts were made to let the gospel be the predominant part. And it has encouraged us to note the young people taking part in the discussions, and also to see that some of them have come to services manifesting interest in knowing more about the gospel truth.

We believe that this work is important and that whatever that can be done will be well worth-while effort for the Lord's Cause.

Another part of this Expansion has been the visitation work that I have been able to do at the military hospital here in Bogotá. There is a place where one can see the results of the lack of the love of Christ in the hearts of humanity. Because if the love of Christ reigned fully in mankind those men would not have been wounded that way. Though limited in what can be done in visiting there yet I believe that it has been to a blessing to a few at least, as for instance to a young man from the plains and to another who served in the army in Correa.

A third phase of this Expansion may be referred to as the keeping up contacts with our Field, that is the parts where we have had to leave unvisited for all this long while. Where-ever and whenever it has been possible to send letters and short messages on God's Word I have done so. It has been difficult to send to the believers on the Plains, but that has been possible a few times also. To the Socotá field and the Cosuy field I have had the opportunity frequently, for which I thank God. They all manifest that they have received encouragement from the letters and that it has helped them to remain faithful to the Lord. One of the believers on the Plains tells about how he has been persecuted and that five times he has been "at the point of the sword", but that God has protected him through all. Then he goes on to say that an elderly lady was very ill. He had been reminded by the Holy Spirit to pray for her and did so and then was reminded that he should go to try to see her. Now two of her sons were some who had persecuted him very much. But he went in obedience to God's Spirit. When he came to the door he asked if he could see her and was given permission to enter with that purpose. She was there prostrated on the floor. He began reading God's word and after a while she regained some strength and asked them to help her into bed. When after reading and explaining more of the gospel, he was ready to leave she begged him to return, which he says he has done and she has received great blessings from his visits.

Though I have not been able to return to visit at the prison at which I was myself taken prisoner, yet I have kept up the contact with the men there by means of getting greetings to them by others going there and by getting an odd letter to them. Thus being possible to encourage them to look the Christ.

There is much to do in every way for the Lord. May we all be faithful in whatever angle of it that it be and God will bless it.

Greetings.

--- Gerhard Ostrom

Boyaca' Investigation in 1953

It was evident on our trip that there is a new freedom to travel in Boyacá. The "retenes" or local inspection chains that were so common and so bothersome at times have been taken away, making for much more ease and liberty of movement.

We visited Duitama where we conversed with one of the believers there who works in a factory, with the renter of our lot, and with one of the doctors there that has been friendly to us. We sensed that even though the atmosphere politically is much better there was a question as to the advisability of our returning to Duitama to take up the work there. We also investigated the possibility of building on our lot and the renter told us he would look into the possibility of some company from Bogotá, which is now building in Duitama, doing the work. There had been expressed that with so many foreigners in Duitama that we would have some point of contact thereby, and that would have been possible if they were German or English, but they are mostly French.

As one travels to Duitama and then to Sogamoso, and to Belencito where the steel mills are being built he cannot help but sense a new activity, a new enthusiasm, and a new atmosphere. A visit to the steel mills awes one, when seeing its rapid construction and its tremendous possibilities. And to see the great resources that lie in Boyacá's mountains, one mountain yielding iron ore, another coal for coke, and a third limestone - basic materials for iron - all within 35 kms or 20 miles of the mill he realizes the tremendous opportunity that is Boyacá's today. One wonders then what effect this will have on life in Boyacá - no doubt it will change it tremendously. Perhaps some of you noticed some recent statistics about Boyacá in a recent edition of the Tiempo. According to this article Boyacá is about the lowest in having light, water, bath facilities and sewage disposal. Here are the statistics:

Habitaciones without water	- 90%
Habitaciones without toilets	- 90%
" " bath	- 96%
" " Elect.	- 93%

From this one understands why we have had such a problem in the Inst. to get our young people from some areas to take a weekly bath.

Belencito is now an active little city, modern in every way, with very comfortable homes, furniture and conveniences for the officials, engineers and technicians of the company. Fortunately we met a man from Tunja who has in the past been very helpful to us, and who took us to higher ups who gave us interesting information about the project. And we also met a Presbyterian accountant who showed all sorts of helpfulness. The concrete construction at the mill is made by a Colombian company, the machinery and ovens are installed by a French group, the electric plant by Mexicans, the mines are supervised by Germans, and Americans are the engineers in charge. They expect to produce iron and steel in July of this year, which will mark a great step ahead in Colombia's industrial and economic life.

We also went to the coal mines above Paz del Rio where a German engineer showed us the plans of the mines and took us into one of them. The mines are already producing but when the mills are ready, they will reach their capacity output.

About 9,000 men are or will be employed in this project, which, of course, causes a tremendous influx of people to Sogamoso, Duitama and even to Tunja where they say that 300 families are expected to enter.

#2

Personal observations:

1. That Duitama can best be served now by occasional visits, bit by bit making contacts.
2. That Belencito perhaps should be left to the mission in Sogamoso since it is only 15 minutes from there and easily accessible to them.
3. That Paz del Rio may perhaps be occupied, however it is uncertain since we found it difficult to investigate that possibility and as one contact that we could have consulted was not there. The mission in Sogamoso expressed the desire to work there.
4. That Tunja should be strengthened and contacts made from there that could prove of advantage later on.

Gerhard Ostrow,
Harold L. Olson,

100-10-10

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT FOR 1953

The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

"The Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations" (Psalm 100:5).

Again we have experienced the truth of these words during this year so filled with suspense and dramatic events. Again we have witnessed the power of God in overruling the craftiness of men. We have experienced His protection and sustaining grace. We have seen this line of His battlefront move forward, as if by inches, in the teeth of bitter opposition, amid flares of new hope and forboding shadows.

GENERAL SITUATION: We are thankful to God for the change in government so dramatically brought about by General Gustavo Rojas Pinilla on June 13th. The new government has done an admirable job in bringing order out of the chaos that reigned in this country, and putting an end to the fratricidal war that has taken so great a toll in lives and property. Even if the Roman church is as firmly in the saddle as ever, and just as bent upon our destruction, the political strife can no longer be used so conveniently as a covering for attacks on the Protestants.

The most serious aspect of present Roman tactics is the enforcement of their extreme interpretation of the provisions of the Concordat in respect to the "Mission Territories", where all public worship other than the Roman Catholic is now outlawed. This is clever strategy since these territories have in general shown a greater response to the Gospel than have the priest-ridden interior areas. The Mission Territories comprise nearly 3/4 of the area of Colombia.

This situation gives us great concern for the future of our work in Casanare. But we still hope to keep in contact with the believers there and encourage them and the students of the Bible Institute who are from Casanare to carry on their witness, clandestinely if necessary.

TUNJA: While Catholic pressure in Tunja continues the same and no marked improvement in working conditions is evident, the change in government has brought about a feeling of more security.

MEDELLIN: In Medellín we are not aware of any change at all. The students do not seem to come out with any more freedom than before. The pressure here has little political significance and is social rather than political, or purely religious.

BOGOTÁ: We thank God for progress in Bogotá. The congregation is growing and the new church is a great asset to the work. Its dedication on September 27 and the special meetings that followed, with Pastor Herminio Díaz of Puerto Rico as guest speaker, marked the climax of the year.

Pastor F.W. Thomsen's visit on our field, his advice on the interior decorating of the Bogotá church, and his fine contribution in illustrative art are also much appreciated.

EDUCATION: This year marks another important event: the graduation of Pausanias and Gerardo Wilches from Concordia Seminary, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Oliverio Mora has now completed his first year of study at the same seminary and is spending his vacation months (December, January and February) in evangelistic work on the WGPL field in Bolivia.

Two young men, Jorge Corzo and Rodrigo Quintero, have completed their studies at the Bible Institute in Bogotá. Both aspire to the Christian ministry.

It is our hope that the beginnings made in primary schools in Bogotá and Tunja might develop further and that the vacation Bible schools now conducted in Boyacá may spearhead the reopening of primary schools there also. According to the Ministry of Education, less than half of Colombia's children between the ages of seven and fourteen years were in school this year.

EXPANSION: The reports on surveys of Cali, Barranquilla and Cartagena were presented at the Special Conference in September and will not be enlarged upon here. Nor are we ready to make further recommendations regarding expansion until the report on the survey of Boyacá made recently by Ostrem and Olson be presented to Conference.

MISCELLANEOUS: To the Quarruis, Elizabeth Heerde and Valborg Terkelson we wish a happy and restful furlough so that they may return refreshed and strengthened for the next term.

For the faithful brethren scattered throughout Boyacá and Casanare we request God's blessing and protection as they continue their patient witness of Christ to their neighbors, a witness which is turning enemies to friends of the Gospel.

To all our co-workers, Colombian and foreign, to the Joint Board and respective church bodies we wish to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for fellowship in the Gospel and for all that each one has contributed in his respective way for the advancement of the Kingdom of God in Colombia. Special thanks to the members of the Building Committee, Olson and Quarrui, for faithfulness in that patience-trying job, and to the Board of Foreign Missions for patience with Conference and constructors in regard to the blunders made in building estimates.

With thanks to God and faith in Him who so often has put our little faith to shame by doing "far more abundantly than all that we ask or think", we face an uncertain future with serene determination.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnfeld C. Morck
Arnfeld C. Morck

LA MISION EVANGELICA LUTERANA EN COLOMBIA

The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

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Apartado Aéreo 14-82
Medellín, Colombia

- COPY -

January 26, 1954

To the Joint Board of the ELC and UELC
425 S. Fourth Street
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

ATTENTION: Secretaries Syrdal and Jensen

Dear friends in Christ:

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes of the 15th annual conference of the CELMOSA Mission, Bogotá, January 11-19, 1954, on which I wish to comment briefly here. The Mission Treasurer will be submitting the budget in detail and will be explaining items D to H of IV, Finance and Property.

V. Agriculture. This action was taken in hopes of finding some way to continue our work in Casanare which is part of the "Mission Territories" where our direct activity as missionaries is now seriously restricted, if not forbidden. We are thinking of the possibility of a young man who has special training in agriculture as well as seminary or bible school training, who might be called by the Board but whose official entrance would not be sponsored by the Board. He would come on an agricultural visa to farm on the Plains if we find such a plan practicable after more investigation here. We also think that nurses would be permitted to work on the Plains and such a farm could serve as a medical center also. There is great need for promotion of both agriculture and medical service in these areas and we believe that such service could be an effective personal approach to those who might be contacted now that public worship is forbidden in the Mission Territories.

VI. Medical. A. and B. This does not mean that Miss Díaz is employed as a worker under the Mission but simply that we back her unofficially in whatever way may further the work there.

VII. Education. A. Since a boat mission on the rivers of Casanare would not be practicable at this time, we recommend that this gift be used rather for a scholarship. Mr. Vásquez was confirmed in Medellín in 1952 and was received as a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lynwood, California, upon a letter of transfer to Pastor Allan Hansen of that church. Since his arrival in the States (November, 1952) he has held a job with Firestone and is now studying full time at the Lutheran Bible Institute while he continues to hold his job. Mr. Vásquez informs us in recent correspondence that he has accepted God's call to become a pastor and wishes to go on to seminary. In response to my letter requesting information on Jaime Vásquez's progress, Pastor Hansen comments: "If there is anyone I would like to see get a scholarship it would be Jaime. He is trying to work full time and go to school full time."

VII. Education. B. Since there may be others recommended later for scholarships, we should appreciate knowing as soon as possible if Oliverio Mora is already being supported from some other source. The gift from St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Neola, Iowa, amounts to over \$1100 (dollars), and we understand the congregation wishes to continue such support from year to year.

VII. Education. E. In light of earlier correspondence with Dr. Syrdal regarding the scholarships, we trust that our recommendation of Mr. Everardo Correa will be communicated to the colleges who have offered the scholarships. Mr. Correa is the only student whom we are ready to recommend at this time for graduate study. He worked with us last year on literature and translation and is continuing this year also. He does excellent work.

VIII. Evangelism. B. Mr. Octavio López was examined by Pastors Ostrem, Olson and Morck and was confirmed in our church in Bogotá on January 17, 1954. He has been placed in Tunja, also to serve the Socotá area under the supervision of Pastors Olson and Ostrem respectively. His wife is from the Socotá area and a former member of that congregation. Both are talented and consecrated young people. His tendency toward the Lutheran view on the Sacraments has a history of two or three years before approaching me in Medellín last October.

VIII. Evangelism. C. It is still uncertain what we may be able to do in Casanare. Since Mrs. Gerardo Wilches is from that area we think it is quite possible that they may be able to make an extensive trip visiting the believers and perhaps take up residence there. We believe that much can be done through home visitation and personal work even though public services are not permitted. If this plan fails we shall have to study the possibility of placing them either in Cali or in Medellín.

By Gerhard Ostrem's "Rural" placement, we mean that he will supervise any work that can be opened or reopened in Boyacá and Casanare other than Tunja. Since we have property in the Plains we think it will also be possible for him to make a trip through that area.

VIII. Evangelism D. The Conference requests that if possible Dr. Syrdal reserve two weeks for his visit to Colombia, one in which he may visit some of the areas where we hope to open or reopen work, especially the booming Paz de Río area with its iron mines and steel mills, and the other for the special meetings in Bogotá at which time we hope to reach a preliminary organization of the Colombian church with representation from the various parts of our field.

VIII. Evangelism E. Since Miss Jensen has been in Colombia several years with only short visits to the States, we advise a shorter term of service. The period suggested will also help to stagger the furloughs of the single workers.

VIII. Evangelism F. We have in mind here mature Christian students who might be interested in coming to Colombia for special studies in such fields as archaeology, sociology, Latin American literature, etc.

X. Miscellaneous. C. Mr. Gustavo Valencia is an ex-monk who has just recently left the Franciscan order declaring himself a Protestant. He has had considerable contact with Evangelicals during the last five years. He was expelled from the Catholic Seminary in Medellín in 1948, he says, because of having contact with Dr. Quiroga of the Presbyterian Mission and because Evangelical literature was found in his room. During the month of December and the early part of January he has come for frequent conversations with me and has also done some literary work. He gives the impression of being very sincere in his motives and claims that he came to full light of the Gospel some 18 months ago. Letters of reference from other missionaries and pastors with whom he has had contact express belief in his sincerity, but they, as well as other investigation, seem to reveal a certain instability in the history of his behavior even though his character seems to be morally above reproach. Therefore, we have decided to proceed slowly in our dealings with him.

January 26, 1954

X. Miscellaneous. G. This action is in response to the invitation of the Lutheran World Federation in Colombia.

X. Miscellaneous I. Even though the Olsons will be lacking some in serving their five-year-term, we feel it is better that they take their furlough at the end of the Institute school year (in November) so as to stagger the furloughs and not prolong the terms of other missionary families.

Sincerely yours in Christ

Arnfeld C. Morck

Enclosure

receipt

XIV ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CELMOSE MISSION

BOGOTÁ

January 11-19, 1954

The Superintendent, Rev. A. C. Morck, declared the Conference open in the Name of the Triune God.

Cornelia Jensen was welcomed into our missionary fellowship and invited to participate in the discussions.

- I. The following was the devotional program:
- A. Monday evening - Fellowship and prayer session directed by Belva Nerlien
 - B. Forenoon sessions opened with free topics, followed by prayer:
 - Tuesday - Simeon (Luke 2:21-35) - Harold Olson
 - Wednesday - "43 Christians" (Acts 2:42) - Aake Kastlund
 - Thursday - Can we expect conversions in Colombia today? - Helen Danielson
 - Friday - "The Cost of Discipleship" - Joyce Bergh
 - Saturday - His Return - Gerhard Ostrem
 - C. Afternoon devotions:
 - Tuesday - Helene Ostrem
 - Wednesday - Pansanias Wilches
 - Thursday - Arnfeld Morck
 - Friday - Cornelia Jensen
 - Saturday - Arnfeld Morck
 - D. Spanish communion service for missionaries and national workers - Sunday p.m. - Conducted by Gerhard Ostrem and sermon by Arnfeld Morck
 - E. Extra sessions on Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 18 and 19, opened with devotions led by the following:
 - Monday morning - Arnfeld Morck
 - Monday afternoon - Harold Olson
 - Tuesday morning - Belva Nerlien
 - Tuesday afternoon - Gerhard Ostrem

II. Reports read and approved:

- A. Secretary
(We noted an error in action of Jan., 1953, conference, IX (b), where Gerhard Ostrem, vice superintendent, was named among the retiring officers, whereas he had actually been elected only a year before to fill a vacancy (Jan., 1952, minutes, VI, C). However, it was agreed to let his election to a regular three-year term stand as beginning in January, 1953.)
- B. Superintendent
- C. Treasurer
Gerhard Ostrem and Helen Danielson were chosen as auditors and reported that the books were audited and found correct.
- D. Station reports:
 - 1. Bogotá - Olger Quamrud and Gerhard Ostrem
 - 2. Expansion and student work in Bogotá - Gerhard Ostrem
 - 3. Tunja - Gerhard Ostrem and Harold Olson
 - 4. Medellín - Arnfeld Morck
 - 5. Institute - Harold Olson
 - 6. Unoccupied stations - Gerhard Ostrem
- E. Personal reports:
 - 1. Joint report by Valborg Torseth and Elizabeth Heerde
 - 2. Belva Nerlien
 - 3. Helen Danielson
 - 4. Joyce Bergh
- F. Committee reports:
 - 1. Literature - Arnfeld Morck
 - 2. Building - Harold Olson
 - 3. Education - Joyce Bergh
 - 4. Medical - Gerhard Ostrem
- G. Book store - Gerhard Ostrem
- H. WSCF Leadership Conference in Matanzas, Cuba - Cornelia Jensen and Belva Nerlien

- I. Report from the Socotá area - Hilma Ballo, Octavio López, Heleno Mendiveiso and Pedro Fernández
- J. Report from El Carrisal - Euripides Mora.

III. Greetings

- A. Greetings were read from the American Lutheran Mission in ~~XXXX~~South Africa, the Japan and Madagascar Missions of the ELC, Olger Quanrud and family and Rev. William Thompson of the WPL in Bolivia.
- B. The secretary was instructed to answer the above and send greetings ~~to~~ on behalf of the Conference to all mission fields of the ELC and UELC, to missionaries home on furlough and to Oliverio Mora.

IV. Finance and Property

A. Voted to approve the following medical bills:

Nercks - Dr. Lendeke	15.00	Dr. Von Kurz	27.00
Dr. Von Kurz	30.00	Dr. Oberndorfer	30.00
Dr. Oberndorfer	12.00		57.00
	57.00	Medicines	23.30
Laboratory	45.00	Laboratory tests	10.00
Medicines	30.60		90.30 Total
	\$132.60 Total		

Danielson - Medicines 30.18 Total

Merlien - Dr. Oberndorfer 20.00
 Laboratory tests 20.00
 Medicines 22.80
62.80 Total

- B. Voted not to grant Luis Gómez's request to purchase a part of our lot in Duitama because it would destroy its serviceability for future construction.
- C. Voted to employ Jorge Corso as watchman-gatekeeper at the Bogotá church at 30 pesos a month.
- D. Voted to proceed with the work necessary to make the basement usable for school and to request from the Board the money necessary for the following projects

Flooring	\$3360 (pesos)	Installation of toilets	435.00 (pesos)
Tile for hall	300	Plastering entire basement	2398.38
Tile for kitchen	530	Kitchen stove	200.00
Partitions for bath-rooms	180	Doors	1000.00
- E. Voted to request the sum of 4000 pesos to finish the main entrance steps, the steps to the balcony and basement from the main entry, those from the outside to the sacristy and to the vestibule and those at the back entrance.
- F. Voted to request an additional 5000 pesos to cover the deficit in the construction fund.
- G. Voted that, in response to the request from the Parpa congregation for a Mission loan of 5000 pesos for the purchase of land to be administered by them, the proceeds to be designated for the support of a pastor, we rather let them administer the few acres of mission land there for one year, as an experiment.
- H. Voted to adopt the budget of \$70,992,67 (pesos) and \$530 U.S. for the year 1954.
- I. Voted to buy Belva Merlien's desk at 100 pesos.
- J. Voted to pay translators and literary critics from \$2.50 to 3.00 (pesos) per hour.
- K. Voted to adopt the following scale of salaries tentatively and to restudy it in July:

	Teacher	Teacher with Bachelorette degree
Basic salary for single person	\$120	\$180
Married man	75 % increase	75 % increase
For each child	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 2 years	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 5 years	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 10 years	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 15 years	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 20 years	10 % increase	10 % increase

All percentage increases shall be figured on the basic salary.

All workers shall receive house and water.

	Evangelist	Pastor
Basic salary for single person	\$130	\$180 (Licensed)
Married man	75 % increase	75 % increase
For each child	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 2 years (or at time of ordination in case of pastors)	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 5 years	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 10 years	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 15 years	10 % increase	10 % increase
After 20 years	10 % increase	10 % increase

All percentage increases shall be figured on the basic salary.

All workers shall receive house and water.

V. Agriculture

Voted that Mowck and Ostrem investigate the possibility of calling an agricultural missionary whose entrance would be sponsored practically but not officially by the Mission Board.

VI. Medical

- A. Voted that, in view of Silveria Díaz's hope of working as a nurse on the plains, we back her as far as possible in any way that may help to further our work there.
- B. Voted that part of the \$700 U.S. we have on hand for relief purposes be used toward medical supplies for Silveria Díaz's work and the rest be used toward chapel reconstruction in Boyacá.

VII. Education

- A. Voted that we recommend to the Trinity Seminary student body that instead of using their gift for a boat, they put it into a scholarship, either at college or seminary, for Jaime Vásquez.
- B. Voted that if no one has as yet ~~taken~~ taken the responsibility for the support of Oliverio Mora at the Seminary in Buenos Aires, that the gift offered by the St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Neola, Iowa, be applied to that project and to future recommendations for scholarships.
- C. Voted that we recommend that a part of the fund offered by the St. Paul's congregation, Neola, Iowa, be used for a scholarship for Jorge Corse at the Colegio Americano, Bogotá.
- D. Voted to recommend that the Bogotá staff do all possible to find a home in which Luis Gómez, Jr., of Duitama might stay during the school year, his parents being responsible for board and room charges, and that we provide a one-year scholarship for his study at our primary school in Bogotá.
- E. Voted that, in view of the correspondence from Dr. Syrdal on the possibility of an LSA scholarship at St. Olaf or Luther, we recommend Everardo Correa for such a scholarship.

F. Voted that teachers in regularly- established schools be paid on a 12-months basis.

VIII. Evangelism

A. Voted that we follow the Board's suggestion of arranging for Oliverie Mera to spend his next vacation (Dec., Jan. and Feb.) in the service of the LWF in Uruguay.

B. Voted: since Octavio López has approached us for work and in interviews with Pastor Morck has expressed complete agreement with Lutheran doctrine, and since he has been released with excellent recommendations by the Presbyterian Church, that upon examination and confirmation we accept him as an evangelist for this year with the understanding that if his services prove satisfactory, more permanent arrangements be made.

C. Voted to adopt the following slate of placements for the year 1954:

Bogotá Pansanias Wilches
Gerhard Ostrem (station head)
Malen Danielson

Tunga Harold Olson (station head)
Octavio López (also to serve the Socotá area)
Belva Nerlien

Medellín Arnfeld Morck
Cornelia Jensen

Institute Harold Olson
Joyce Bergh
Rodrigo Quintero
Leticia Corzo

Casanare Gerardo Wilches
(or expansion
to Cali or Medellín)

Rural Gerhard Ostrem

D. Voted that the Executive Committee arrange for missionary and Colombian conferences in July and that Dr. Syrdal be invited to visit our field on this way to Brazil and to participate in said conferences.

E. Voted that we receive Miss Cornelia Jensen on a temporary contract basis and that she be on the same salary scale as the regularly-called single missionaries; that we recommend that her furlough travel to the States be paid by the Board (rather than cover this by additional salary as was suggested by Dr. Syrdal) and that the Board assume no responsibility during her furlough unless other arrangements be made at that time. (Her present term of service will probably be about three years.)

F. Voted that we suggest to the Mission Board the possibility of Christian students coming for special study or research at Colombian universities, perhaps under LSA sponsorship, and thus serve as contact men for our student work.

IX. Elections

A. Voted that the following special committees serve for this year?

<u>Liturgy</u>	<u>Furniture</u>	<u>Education</u>	<u>Medical</u>	<u>Literature</u>
Olson	Danielson	Ostrem	Ostrem	Morck
Ostrem	Olson	Joyce Bergh	Cornelia Jensen	Ostrem
Morck	Malene Ostrem	Olson	Bergh	Nerlien

(The first-named in each committee serves as chairman.)

B. Voted that Harold Olson be reelected to the Executive Committee.

~~X. Miscellaneous~~

~~AA. Voted that we subsidize the sale of Stamps~~

X. Miscellaneous

- A. Voted** that we subsidize the sale of Stump's Gethsemane so that it can be ~~used~~ **retailed** at the following prices: cloth-bound edition at \$1.50 (pence), paper-bound edition at \$1.00.
- B. Voted** to grant the IMF's request for use of our Bogotá church for services and special meetings to be held at such hours as the church is not occupied by the Colombian congregation, and that a fee of twenty pesos be paid per meeting.
- C. Voted** that, in view of Gustavo Yancola's request for an orientation toward the Christian ministry, we do all possible to find an opening for him, in the way of study and work (whether such work be under the Mission or otherwise) in order to give him time to become ~~an established~~ established in the evangelical field and to prove himself.
- D. Voted** that Arnold Morck be the missionary and Oliveira Mora the national representative to the South American Conference to be held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, next July. Morck also to serve as our representative at the literature conference.
- E. Voted** that, in reference to the Board action of last November regarding the Rio conference, we respectfully request the use of such terms as "foreign missionary" and "Colombian pastor or worker" rather than "white" and "native", in order to avoid embarrassment in the future.
- F. Voted** that, in the proposed designation for our congregations, Article V, paragraph C, is stricken out the sentence "if a matter which requires immediate attention arises during the pastor's absence, the officers may call a meeting".
- G. Voted** that our Mission have a representative on the IMF's Federación Intergrma de Colombia.
- H. Voted** that the Superintendent or someone designated by him represent the Mission on the Federación Intergrma de Colombia.
- I. Voted** that Olsons be granted their full length at the end of the Institute's school year.
- J. Voted** that, in response to the Baptists' request for use of our church during the construction of their own building, we grant it to them for Sunday services at such hours as may be available and at the price to be paid by the IMF.
- K. Voted** that the Mission give a 60 peso contribution to the ~~IMF~~ IMF in appreciation of its services.
- L. Voted** to adjourn.

(EPEC)

These minutes were read and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Balva Herliem, Secretary

Julio 3 y 5, 1954

ACTA DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA.

En Bogotá, a 3 de julio de 1.954, siendo las 2:30 p.m., en el Santuario de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de "El Redentor", se reunieron los delegados de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia, así: los Miembros Votantes de la Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia, Rdos. Sres. Arnfeld C. Morck, Gerhard Ostrem Y Harold Olson, y las Srtas. Joyce Bergh, Helen Danielson y Belva Nerlien; los Delegados Regionales: Por Tunja, Sra. Dña. Rosa Ayala de López; por Parpa, Sres. Uriel Porras y Pedro Fernández; por Carrizal, Sr. Proceso Mora; por Bogotá, Sres. Gustavo Rodríguez y Gabriel García; por Medellín, Srta. Cornelia Jensen.

Luego de pasar lista a las delegaciones, el Pastor Morck, en su carácter de Presidente como Superintendente de la M. E. L. en Colombia, declaró abierta la sesión. En primer lugar advirtió que tendrían derecho a intervenir en las deliberaciones los Pastores Licenciados, Sres. Gerardo y Pausanias Wilches, en su calidad de tales. Luego de un saludo de bienvenida a todos los delegados, el Presidente puso en consideración la necesidad de incrementar la creación de nuevas congregaciones, a más de las que en la actualidad existen, es decir, la extensión de la Obra. Expuso la necesidad de organizar un Consejo o Junta que colabore con la Misión en los diferentes negocios que se presenten para el crecimiento y extensión de la Obra, para lo cual propuso la creación de un Consejo integrado por todos los miembros del Comité Ejecutivo de la Misión, por dos Pastores (Ordenados o Licenciados) Nacionales, por dos representantes laicos, y por un representante por cada Congregación organizada o que se organice.

En esta situación el Presidente pidió la opinión y consejos de todos los delegados, así como los proyectos que tuvieran para el adelanto de la Obra en el país, especialmente en Boyacá, teniendo en cuenta que ha llegado la hora de que el Evangelio sea llevado a los colombianos por personal colombiano.

Hizo uso de la palabra el delegado Sr. Mora, en representación de los hermanos de Carrizal. Luego de dar un saludo y expresar sus agradecimientos por la ayuda tanto espiritual como material recibida de la Misión, manifestó la necesidad apremiante que tiene esa región de la apertura de la escuela, pues si bien tienen el local, necesitan ayuda tanto espiritual como material, pues debido a la violencia desatada en esa región, la Obra se encuentra paralizada. Pidió que se reclame ante las autoridades por los perjuicios recibidos, ya que todos sus bienes fueron saqueados y destruidos. Puso de presente la necesidad de que se nombre un representante que lleve la personería de la Iglesia ante las autoridades y reclame legalmente las garantías a que tenemos derecho según nuestra constitución y leyes. Rogó la ayuda de la Misión para que la escuela de Carrizal sea abierta en el año entrante.

En uso de la palabra el delegado Sr. Porras, manifestó los problemas y necesidades de la Iglesia en Parpa; pidió ayuda para la organización de la Congregación en el próximo mes de agosto, así como un auxilio para la reconstrucción de la iglesia, pues ellos por su propia cuenta no alcanzarían a hacerlo, ya que cuentan únicamente con un fondo de \$ 400,00, el cual es insuficiente; recalcó sobre la necesidad que tienen de que se abra la escuela, haciendo énfasis sobre la ayuda que pide, debido a lo escaso de los fondos. Sin embargo, se comprometió a iniciar los trabajos de reconstrucción, rogando que le sea enviado el Evang. Sr. Octavio López para que los dirija, ojalá en el próximo mes de septiembre.

A todo esto el Pastor Morck manifestó que la CEDEC ha prestado sus servicios a la medida de sus posibilidades para las reclamaciones que por uno u otro motivo ha habido necesidad de presentar ante las autoridades.

Tomó la palabra el Sr. Arquimedes Bello, visitante de Parpa, para pedir la atención de todos los delegados sobre las manifestaciones hechas en cuanto a la necesidad que se tiene de que sus escuelas sean abiertas.

Tomó la palabra el Sr. Juan Montoya, visitante de Bogotá, para manifestar que en su última visita a Mausa tuvo la oportunidad de ver las ruinas en que se encuentran las propiedades de la Obra, poniendo de presente que durante los días que permaneció en esa región fueron muy pocos los creyentes que encontró. Hizo ver la necesidad que tiene tal región de que le sea enviada una persona que se encargue de la Obra, para darle fuerza y entusiasmo a los hermanos.

Luego hizo uso de la palabra el Pastor Lic. Sr. Gerardo Wilches para poner de presente la situación en que se encuentran las regiones de Chiscas y Carri- zal, pidiendo una visita para ella y así probar terreno, pues cree que con la ida de un Pastor quizá se pueda reiniciar la Obra.

Tomó la palabra el delegado Sr. Fernández para referir algunos episodios de los hechos del cura de su pueblo, recomendando que no se hagacaso de lo que digan o hagan los curas, pues así no podremos llevar adelante nuestro trabajo.

Hizo luego uso de la palabra el Rdo. Dr. Rolf Syrdal, Secretario Ejecutivo de la Junta de las Misiones Foráneas de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de los Estados Unidos de Norte América, quien luego de un expresivo saludo, manifestó su complacencia por haber oído los informes de los diferentes delegados de las distintas regiones. Hizo expresiva su conformidad por la organización del Consejo Auxiliar de la Misión. Dijo que a todos nosotros, siendo cristianos, nos corresponde trabajar unidos en la Obra del Señor, no siendo de importancia el que tengamos o no tengamos un bonito edificio, más sí una congregación fuerte y viviente. Se trata de saber si el trabajo de la Misión ha sido efectivo, es decir, si en los lugares en donde se ha trabajado hay creyentes, pues es de suma importancia abrir nuevos frentes donde llevar el Evangelio. Lo importante está en que en cada lugar en donde se trabaje haya a lo menos una persona que se interese por la extensión de la Palabra. La presencia de estas delegaciones es una demostración de que no han sido infructuosos los trabajos y de que sí hay fe en los creyentes. Con estas reuniones se quiere dar una oportunidad para que todos tomen parte en los trabajos de la Obra, estimulándose y animándose unos a otros.

El delegado Sr. Rodríguez hizo la pregunta de que por qué se deja el que personas que no tienen preparación tomen en sus manos la Obra, pudiéndose incurrir en errores debido a su impreparación. El Dr. Syrdal contestó que no habiendo personal preparado, y sin poder dejar inactiva la Obra, se tiene la necesidad de apelar a los elementos de que se dispone, aunque no tengan preparación.

Algunos delegados hicieron uso de la palabra para manifestar que se ha hablado de todo menos de la ayuda económica, pues se debe tener en cuenta que casi todos los miembros de las iglesias son pobres y que evidentemente no estamos en condiciones de sostener los diferentes frentes de trabajo por nuestra propia cuenta, pidiendo se defina las cantidades de ayuda con que vamos a contar, para así poder hacer planes.

El Dr. Syrdal manifestó la buena voluntad que anima a todos los miembros de la Misión, pero que él no podía hacer promesa concreta alguna, pues todo dependía de la voluntad y recursos con que contara la Junta en los Estados Unidos. Recalcó que estas reuniones, si bien son para tratar de negocios en general, debe ponerse mayor cuidado en la presentación de ideas útiles y en hacer una crítica constructiva para el mejor adelanto de la Obra. Sin embargo, puso de presente una vez más su magnífica voluntad para que la Misión ayude en todo cuanto esté a su alcance.

El Pastor Morck y el Dr. Syrdal manifestaron que la evidente ayuda que necesitan las iglesias debe solicitarse mediante un plan o proyecto por escrito, para que ellos puedan presentarlo a la Junta de Misiones de los EE. UU., donde será estudiado junto con las otras partes del mundo, donde también tienen problemas y necesitan ayuda, y así ver en qué manera se puede prestar. La ayuda no se puede dar sino a aquellas Congregaciones que han demostrado su interés en la extensión de la Obra, y que a su vez están dispuestas a ha-

cer sacrificios; entonces se les presta ayuda, de acuerdo con sus necesidades y con los recursos de que se disponga.

El Pastor Ostrem presentó informe acerca de la Obra en Casanare, hablando de sus actuales problemas y necesidades, así como también de las oportunidades que a su juicio existen en tal región.

El delegado Sr. García propuso se procediera a la elección de la Junta, proposición que fue aprobada por unanimidad. En consecuencia, se procedió a la elección de los miembros colombianos.

Fueron inscritos como candidatos los Res. Evang. O. López, Uriel Porras, Hugo Martínez, Gustavo Rodríguez, Proceso Mora, y la Sra. Dña. Rosa Ayala de L. -- Hecho el escrutinio correspondiente, dió el siguiente resultado:

Uriel Porras	-	5	votos
Octavio López	-	9	"
Rosa Ayala de L.	-	0	"
Hugo Martínez	-	7	"
G. Rodríguez	-	5	"
Proceso Mora	-	2	"

De acuerdo con la votación anterior, resultaron electos los Sres. Evang. Octavio López y Hugo Martínez. - En cuanto a Delegados en su carácter de Pastores, fueron elegidos por unanimidad los Sres. Pastores Licenciados Gerardo y Pausanias Wilches.

Terminada la elección, hizo uso de la palabra el Pastor Ostrem, quien pidió la atención de la Junta nombrada en relación con los problemas de la Iglesia en Parpa.

El delegado Sr. García propuso que las diferentes delegaciones nombren cada una a uno de sus miembros para que asistan a las reuniones de la Junta, pues si bien no tienen derecho a nombrar su delegado por no estar los grupos que representan debidamente organizados en Congregaciones, pueden ir a participar en las discusiones como observadores, con derecho al uso de la palabra, pero sin derecho a voto. Esta proposición fue aprobada por unanimidad. El Pastor Lic. Sr. Pausanias Wilches propuso que se hiciera una reunión el próximo lunes 5, a las 3:00 p. m., para instalar la Junta. A la vez solicitó que se levantara la sesión por lo avanzado de la hora, lo que fue aprobado por unanimidad.

Siendo las 5:30 p. m., el Presidente, Pastor Morck, luego de expresar los agradecimientos por los resultados de la reunión, con oración declaró levantada la sesión.

El Presidente,
(Fdo.) Arnfeld C. Morck

El Secretario Ad hoc,
(Fdo.) Hugo Martínez

ACTA DE INSTALACION DEL CONSEJO ADMINISTRATIVO PROVISIONAL DE LA IGLESIA

EVANGELICA LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA.

En Bogotá, a 5 de julio de 1954, siendo las 3:00 p. m., en la Casa Pastoral de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana "El Redentor", se reunieron los miembros acordados por la Asamblea General de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia, en su sesión del 3 de este mismo mes y año, para integrar la Junta que colabore con la Misión Evangélica Luterana en Colombia en los diferentes negocios que se presenten para el crecimiento y extensión de la Obra. Estuvieron presentes la totalidad de sus miembros, así: por el Comité Ejecutivo de la M. E. L. en Colombia, los Rdos. Sres. Arnfeld C. Morck, Gerhard Ostrem Y Harold Olson; los Pastores Licenciados Sres. Gerardo y Pausanias Wilches; los Delegados Sres. Evang. Octavio López y Hugo Martínez, y el Sr. Juan Montoya, representante provisional de la Congregación "El Redentor", de Bogotá. Además, los Sres. Proceso Mora y Uriel Porras, como observadores de las regiones de Carrizal y Parpa, respectivamente.

Luego de unos momentos devocionales, el Pastor Morck, en su calidad de Superintendente de la M. E. L. en Colombia, declaró abierta la sesión. A continuación propuso se procediera a la integración de la dirección de la Junta, lo que fue aprobado por unanimidad. Se procedió a la elección de Presidente, acordándose por unanimidad que la Presidencia debe corresponder en todo caso al Superintendente de la M. E. L. en Colombia. Se prosiguió entonces a la elección de Vice-presidente, habiéndose inscrito los siguientes nombres: Pastores Licenciados Sres. Gerardo y Pausanias Wilches, Pastor Sr. Gerhald Ostrem. Realizada la votación y hecho el escrutinio, dió el siguiente resultado:

Gerhald Ostrem - 5 votos.
Pausanias Wilches- 1 voto.
Gerardo Wilches - 2 votos.

En consecuencia, se declaró electo al Pastor Ostrem como Vice-presidente de la Junta. El Pastor Morck sugirió que fuera elegido como Secretario el Sr. Hugo Martínez, lo que fue aceptado y aprobado por unanimidad. Se procedió a la elección de Tesorero, habiéndose inscrito los nombres de los Sres. Juan Montoya y Pastor Lic. Pausanias Wilches. Hecha la votación, el escrutinio dió el siguiente resultado:

Juan Montoya - 6 votos.
Pausanias Wilches- 2 votos.

En consecuencia, se declaró electo como Tesorero al Sr. Juan Montoya.

A continuación el Pastor Morck sugirió se procediera a considerar los deberes y autorizaciones de la Junta. Para el efecto, el mismo Pastor Morck presentó una lista de sugerencias, la cual fue leída y discutida punto por punto, así: El nombre de la Comisión o Junta de representantes elegidos por la Asamblea General, representativa de las diferentes zonas o regiones en donde trabaja nuestra Iglesia, debe llevar el nombre de CONSEJO ADMINISTRATIVO PROVISIONAL DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA. Este Consejo funcionará en forma provisional, en espera de que se organice el Sínodo de Colombia. Discutido el nombre anterior, fue aprobado por unanimidad. Se continuó con la discusión de las autorizaciones y deberes del Consejo, que son los siguientes:

- 1 - Recibir los reclamos y considerar los problemas que se presenten en los distintos campos de trabajo.
- 2 - Preparar el programa y pormenores para las Conferencias Generales de la Iglesia en el país.
- 3 - Considerar y recomendar los diferentes aspirantes a becas en planteles educativos.
- 4 - Recomendar a la Misión campos de trabajo y la ubicación de Pastores, Evangelistas y maestros nacionales.

- 5 - Considerar y examinar candidatos para la Ordenación al Ministerio, a base de llamamientos a determinado campo de trabajo.
- ~~xxxx~~ Para la Ordenación se exig la previa aprobación del Consejo y la Misión.
- 6 - Tratar casos de disciplina.
- 7 - Ayudar a las Congregaciones en la organización de escuelas y en la provisión de maestros.
- 8 - Promover la organización de la Iglesia Nacional.
- 9 - Gestionar ante las autoridades civiles los problemas que sean referidos al Consejo.
- 10- Fomentar la Mayordomía Cristiana en nuestras Iglesias.
- 11- Promover la Evangelización.
- 12- El período de los miembros nacionales del Consejo será de dos (2) años, susceptibles de reelección, mientras se organiza el Sínodo de Colombia.

Leídos y discutidos los anteriores puntos, fueron aprobados en su totalidad.

Se acordó nombrar a los Ees. Pastor Harold Olson y Pastores Lic. Gerardo y Pausanias Wilches, en comisión para que estudien los anteriores puntos y, si es el caso, presenten nuevas sugerencias al Consejo.

El Pastor Morck presentó un proyecto de Constitución para Iglesias Evangélicas Luteranas, copias del cual se entregó a cada uno de los miembros del Consejo para su estudio individual, para que en reunión que se citó para el próximo día miércoles, a las 8,30 p.,., se presenten las modificaciones u observaciones que se estimen del caso sobre tal proyecto, y recomendar su aprobación.

Con oración, y siendo las 6:00 p.m., se declaró levantada la sesión.

El Presidente,

(Fdo.) Arnfeld C. Morck

El Secretario,

(Fdo.) Hugo Martínez.

ACTA DE LA REUNION DEL CONSEJO ADMINISTRATIVO DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA
LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA.

En Bogotá, el día 7 de julio de 1.954, a las 8:30 p.m., en la Casa Pastoral de la Congregación de "El Redentor", por convocatoria hecha por el mismo cuerpo, sesionó el Consejo Administrativo de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia. Asistieron todos sus miembros, con excepción del Sr. Hugo Martínez. Presidió el Pastor Arnfeld C. Morck. Fue nombrado Secretario Ad hoc el Pastor Lic. Pausanias Wilches.

- I. Se acordó nombrar por unanimidad a los Sres. Gerhald Ostrem, Gerardo Wilches, Octavio López y la Srta. Belva Nerlien para una visita de inspección y estudio en el área comprendida entre Sogamoso, Belencito y Paz de Río, con el fin de analizar la situación en aquel campo de actividad, para el establecimiento de la Obra Evangélica en esa región, a base de los informes traídos por esta comisión.
- II. Se acordó que el Presidente convoque la reunión del Consejo Administrativo. Podrá también hacerlo a petición de cuatro miembros del Consejo.
- III. El Consejo Administrativo recibió de la Misión la solicitud que el Sr. Julio C. Orozco O. hizo, con el fin de ser aceptado como Pastor en la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana. El Consejo entró a considerar dicha solicitud, habiéndose acordado estudiarla detenidamente y con el tiempo necesario, para su fallo final.
- IV. El Proyecto de Constitución para Iglesias Evangélicas Luteranas fue estudiado en parte y será estudiado más detenidamente para su aprobación y recomendación en futura reunión.
- V. Siendo la 1:30 a. m. del día 8 de mismo mes y año, la sesión fue levantada, convocándose para próxima reunión el día 29 de este mismo mes, en esta misma ciudad de Bogotá.

El Presidente,
(Fdo.) Arnfeld C. Morck

El Secretario Ad hoc,
(Fdo.) Pausanias Wilches.

ACTA DE LA COMISION NOMBRADA POR EL CONSEJO EJECUTIVO PROVISIONAL PARA LA REVISION DE LAS AUTORIZACIONES Y DEBERES DEL CONSEJO Y SUGESTION DE ALGUNOS OTROS.

En Bogotá, a 9 de julio de 1.954, siendo las 8:30 p. m. y en la Casa Pastoral de la Congregación de "El Redentor", de acuerdo con el nombramiento que se hizo por el Consejo Administrativo Provisional en su reunión del 7 de este mismo mes y año, se reunieron los Sres. Pastor Harold Olson, Pastor Lic. Gerardo Wilches y Evang. Octavio López, en compañía del Pastor de esta Congregación, Sr. Gerhard Ostrem, para la revisión y estudio de lagunos otros estatutos para el C. A. P de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia.

I. Después de la oración se dió lectura a las Autorizaciones y Deberes acordados por el C. A. P. en su reunión del 7 de este mismo mes y año.

II. Se sugirió por la Comisión que formen parte de las Autorizaciones y Deberes del C. A. P. los siguientes puntos:

A. Cultivo de la vida devocional en los hogares ~~de~~ todas las Congregaciones luteranas, así como el animar a los miembros para que asistan a los Cultos de Oración.

B. Que se tenga cada año en cada Congregación, si es posible, un cursillo para la reparación de líderes en las Congregaciones.

C. Que se tengan Campamentos Bíblicos o Retiros Espirituales para la juventud de nuestras Congregaciones.

D. Que se funde en cada Congregación bibliotecas públicas para el uso de sus miembros.

E. Que se tenga en cuenta el proveer de ~~mas~~ revistas luteranas a nuestras Congregaciones, y literatura evangélica con sana doctrina.

F. Que cada Congregación celebre el Día del Instituto Bíblico, citándose para tal fin un día determinado del año. La ofrenda levantada en ese día será dedicada al fondo de sostenimientos del Instituto.

G. Que cada año se celebre un Día de las Misiones en cada Congregación y que la ofrenda de tal Día sea enviada al Tesorero del C. A. P.

III. Se sugirió que se presente a la Misión para su estudio la posibilidad de que el C. A. P. pueda votar en la ubicación de obreros nacionales y extranjeros.

La sesión fue levantada con oración siendo las 10:10 p. m.

El Presidente,

(Fdo.) Arnfeld C. Morck

El Secretario Ad hoc,

Octavio López

N. B.: El suscrito Secretario Ad hoc hace constar que involuntariamente se omitió al principio de esta Acta el nombre del Pastor Lic. Pausanias Wilches, quien presidió la reunión.

ACTA DE LA COMISION NOMBRADA POR EL CONCEJO EJECUTIVO PROVISIONAL PARA LA REVISION DE LOS ESTATUTOS DEL CONCEJO Y LA SUJERENCIA DE ALGUNOS OTROS.

Julio 9 de 1954

De acuerdo con el nombramiento que se hizo por el Concejo Administrativo en su reunión del 7 de julio del presente, se reunieron los señores: Harld Olson, O. López, P. y G. Wilches a las 3:30 P. M. en la casa pastoral en compañía del pastor señor Ostrem para la revisión y estudio de algunos otros estatutos para el Concejo Administrativo Provisional de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en Colombia.

I. Después de la oración se dió lectura a los ^{autorizaciones y deberes} estatutos acordados por el Concejo A. P. en su reunión del 7 de julio del presente.

II. Se sugiere por la comisión que forme parte de los ^{autorizaciones y deberes} estatutos del Concejo A. P. los siguientes puntos:

A. Cultivo de la vida devocional en la familia en los hogares de todas las congregaciones luteranas: así como su animación de los miembros para su asistencia a los cultos de oración.

B. Que se tenga cada año en cada congregación, si es posible, un Cursillo para la preparación de líderes en las congregaciones.

C. Que se tengan Campamentos Bíblicos o Retiros Espirituales para la juventud de nuestras Congregaciones.

D. Que se funde en cada congregación una biblioteca pública para el uso de cada congregación.

E. Que se tenga en cuenta el proveer de más revistas luteranas a nuestras congregaciones, y literatura evangélica con sana doctrina.

F. Que cada congregación celebre el día del Instituto, citándose para tal fin un día determinado del año. La ofrenda levantada en este día será dedicada para el sostén del Instituto.

G. Que cada año se celebre un día de Misiones en cada congregación y que la ofrenda sea enviada al tesorero del Concejo A.

III. Se sugirió por el señor López que tocante al punto cuarto de los Estatutos del Concejo, de que la Misión estudie la recomendación de que el Concejo Administrativo de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en Colombia pueda tomar parte con voz y voto en la ubicación de nacionales y extranjeros.

Se propuso y aprobó levantar la reunión y se hizo con oración a las 10:10 P.M.

Pres. P. Wilches

Sec. O. López.

ACTA DEL CONSEJO ADMINISTRATIVO PROVISIONAL DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA
LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA

El día 28 de julio de 1.954, siendo las 9:00 p. m., en la Casa Pastoral de la Congregación de "El Redentor", de Bogotá, se reunió el Consejo Administrativo de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia. Estuvieron presentes todos sus miembros, con excepción de su Secretario, Sr. Hugo Martínez. Se nombró Secretario Ad hoc al Pastor Lic. Pausanias Wilches.

Se dió principio a la reunión con la lectura de la Palabra de Dios y con oración por el Pastor Olson. Luego el Presidente, Pastor Morck, declaró abierta la sesión.

Fueron leídas por el Secretario Ad hoc las Actas pertenecientes a las siguientes reuniones: de julio 3, de la Asamblea General de I. E. L. de Colombia; y las de julio 5 y 7 del mismo mes de julio, de reuniones de este Consejo. El Presidente sugirió aprobar las actas leídas. El Pastor Lic. Gerardo Wilches lo secundó y fueron aprobadas.

El Presidente pidió el informe de la comisión que visitó a Sogamoso, Blencito y Paz de Río. el informe fue leído por el Sr. G. Wilches. El informe contiene primeramente la visita que hicieron los comisionados a Sogamoso y la conversación que sostuvieron con la Iglesia Pentecostal de aquella ciudad. Según dicho informe, la Iglesia Pentecostal no mira con agrado el establecimiento de otra iglesia evangélica en dicha ciudad. Según las observaciones personales de la comisión, Sogamoso es una ciudad que puede dar lugar para la obra de otra Misión. Leído el informe, el Sr. O. López propuso que el informe fuese recibido y aprobado, lo que hizo el Consejo.

El Sr. Olson preguntó si la comisión recomendaba la entrada a Sogamoso. El Sr. Ostrem contestó diciendo que teníamos que considerar la actitud de nuestras iglesias en caso de que otra Misión fuese a abrir obra en los lugares en los cuales ya estamos establecidos. El Sr. Olson analizó la situación para el establecimiento de un colegio en Sogamoso y llegó a la conclusión de que su costo sería más o menos lo mismo, pero sería más seguro su funcionamiento en Bogotá. No se llegó a ningún acuerdo en cuanto a la Obra en Sogamoso.

El Sr. G. Wilches preguntó acerca de la respuesta que debe dar a los creyentes de Carrizal en caso de ser preguntado en cuanto al reclamo de las cosas perdidas por la Misión en el Cocuy. El Sr. Olson contestó que eso ya había sido contestado muchas veces.

El Sr. López sugirió que se nombrara una comisión para el informe traído de Sogamoso. Nadie secundó su proposición.

El Sr. Olson propuso que se reuna el Consejo a la 1:30 p. m. del día 29 del presente mes.

Con oración se levantó la sesión, siendo las 10:30 p. m.

El Presidente,

(Fdo.) Arnfeld G. Morck

El Secretario Ad hoc,

(Fdo.) Pausanias Wilches.

ACTA DEL CONSEJO ADMINISTRATIVO PROVISIONAL DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA
LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA.

En Bogotá, el día 29 de julio de 1.954, siendo la 1:45 p. m., en la Casa Pastoral de la Congregación "El Redentor", se reunió el C. A. P. de la I. E. L. de Colombia, conforme a lo acordado en su última reunión. Asistieron todos sus miembros, con excepción del Sr. Hugo Martínez, su Secretario. Se dió principio a la reunión con la lectura de la Palabra y oración por los integrantes del Consejo.

1. Los Sres. G. Wilches, O. López, J. Montoya y P. Wilches presentaron por escrito algunas proposiciones para la consideración del Consejo, las cuales fueron leídas por el Secretario Ad hoc.

2. Fue leída también el Acta de Autorizaciones y Deberes que la Comisión nombrada por este Consejo preparó en su reunión del 9 de julio del presente año.

3. Después de leída tal Acta, y discutido su último punto por las dificultades que presentaba, el Sr. Ostrem propuso que el Consejo acentara los puntos propuestos y que figuran marcados con las letras de la A a la G. Fue secundado y aprobado por unanimidad.

4. El punto en discusión fue reformado así: "Se sugiere al C. A. P. que presente a la Misión para su estudio la posibilidad de que este mismo Consejo pueda votar en la ubicación de los obreros nacionales y extranjeros". La reforma fue aprobada.

5. Se pasó luego a considerar la primera de las proposiciones presentadas por escrito por los firmantes antes mencionados, y que trata del establecimiento de la Obra en Sogamoso. Fue secundado por el Sr. Montoya. Se procedió a votación y fue aprobado por mayoría.

La sesión se declaró en receso hasta las 7:00 p. m. de este mismo día.

Siendo las 7:25 p. m. el Consejo entró a sesionar nuevamente, con lectura de la Palabra de Dios y oración.

6. Se pasó a considerar la segunda proposición presentada por escrito, y que trata de que cada Congregación mande un informe por escrito a la Asamblea Anual de la I. E. L. de Colombia. Este informe será estadístico y financiero. Fue aprobado por mayoría.

7. Se propuso que otras entidades que estén también al servicio de la Iglesia deben rendir también informe a la Asamblea Anual. Fue aprobado.

8. Fueron leídas dos proposiciones que presentaron los Sres. Pausanias y Gerardo Wilches. La primera proposición fue reformada y aprobada así: "Recomendamos al Consejo investigar los motivos por los cuales el Sr. Juan N. Montoya se retiró de la Obra, para poder recomendar su llamamiento a la Misión". El Sr. Montoya explicó los motivos por los cuales se retiró, ya que la Misión dijo no tener nada en contra suya.

Oídos los motivos por los cuales el Sr. Montoya se retiró de la Obra y después de ser examinado en doctrina, se acordó recomendarlo a la Misión para su llamamiento a la Obra.

9. Se pasó a considerar la segunda proposición escrita por los firmantes ya mencionados y que trata del uso de la toga. Puesta en discusión, fue aprobada así: cuatro votos a favor, uno en contra y dos abstenciones.

10. Se pasó a considerar el estudio del Proyecto de Constitución para Iglesias Evangélicas Luteranas de Colombia, con la reforma que se hizo acerca del llamamiento de Pastor. Fue aprobado por unanimidad.

Siendo las 11:00 p. m. la sesión se levantó por medio de oración.

El Presidente,

(Fdo.) Arnfeld C. Morck

El Secretario Ad hoc,

(Fdo.) Pausanias Wilches

Original file

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF THE PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, SESSIONS JULY
28th and 29th. 1954

All sessions were opened with the reading of the Holy Scripture and prayer.

In the absense of the Secretary, Mr. Hugo Martínez, Mr. P. Wilches was appointed Secretary Pro tem.

I. The minutes of the General Assembly of July 3th and those of the PAC, July 5th and 7th were read and approved.

II. A reporte by the Committee appointed to investigate the Sogamoso, Belencito - Paz de Río area was read.

The findings of the Committee pointed definetely to Sogamoso as most strategical center for a boarding school, especially for the children from "Mission territory" and for serving our people who come up from the plains as well as those working in the steel area.

However much discussion followed, as to the advisebility of opening work in Sogamoso, aminly in view of the rather negative attitude of the Pentecostal Mission working there. No agreement was reached and the session was adjurned to meet again July 29th.

SESSIONS JULY 29th.

III. Votd to carry the following motions presented in writing by G. Wilches, O. Bópez, P. Wilches and J. Montoya:

1. That plans be made to begin work in Sogamoso.
2. That each Congregation present a report to the anual meeting of the General Assemble of the Church, This report to be approved by the preseding meeting of the Congregation.
3. That similar reports be presented by all intitutions or committees serving the church in general, such as the Bible Institute, the Literature Committe, etc.

IV. The following points were presented by the committee appointed to study the authority and duties of the PAC and approved by the same as additions to the list drawn up at it meeting of July 5th:

- A. To Encourage family devotional life in all homes of our Lutheran Congregations, and incourage all merbers to attend the prayer meetings.
- B. That there be held anually, if possible, in each congregation a short course for the training of leadres in the congregation.
- C. That there be held Bible Camps and spiritual retreats for the youth of our congregations.
- D. Promote the organizing of a public library in each congregation for the use of its mebers.
- E. Endeavor to provide more Lutheran magazines for our congregations and more Evangelical literature of pure doctrine.
- F. Encourage each congregation to celebrate, on a certain day od the year, a "Bible Institute Day", the offering of the day to be used for the support of the Bible Institute.
- G. Encourage the celebration of a "Day of Missions" in each congregation, the offering of which should be sent to the Treasurer of the PAC.

V. It was suggested to the PAC by the same Committee "that the PAC presente to the Mission for its consideration, the possibility of the PAC having a vote in the placement of national and foreing workers". The PAC voted to present this request.

VI. Pausanias and Gerardo Wilches presented in writing the following motions:

- A. That the PAC investigate the reason for which Juan Montoya discontinued work with the Mission and that he examined doctrinally with a view to calling him into the work again.

B. To recommend that all workers use the robe for church services, especially for the worship service and in administering Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Point "A" was accepted, Montoya gave the reasons requested, was duly examined by the PAC and recommended to the Mission for call.

Point "B" was carried with 4 votes in favor, one against and 2 abstained from voting.

VII. The changes made in the proposed constitution for Congregations of the E. L. C. in Colombia regarding the calling of the pastor were studied and approved by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Signed,

A. C. Morck, pres.

Pausanias Wilches, sect.

LA MISION EVANGELICA LUTERANA EN COLOMBIA

The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

Apartado Aéreo 49-80
Apartado Nal. 29-16
Bogotá, Colombia

Teléfono, Bogotá: 94-271

Dirección Telegráfica: CELMOSA
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Apartado Nal. 25
Tunja, Boyacá, Colombia

Apartado Aéreo 14-82
Medellín, Colombia

Apartado Aéreo 1482
Medellín, Colombia
Agosto 6, 1954

Miembros del Consejo Administrativo Provisional
de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en Colombia

Apreciados Colaboradores en Cristo:

Reciban mi cordial saludo en los vínculos del amor cristiano.

Tengo el placer de dirigirme con toda brevedad a Uds. referente al señor Rodrigo Quintero quién al ingresar en el Instituto Bíblico-Cultural hace más de dos años manifestó su deseo de prepararse para el santo ministerio. Cuando estuve ultimamente en Bogotá, me manifestó nuevamente su propósito de continuar sus estudios para ese fin, si fuera posible al terminar el presente año de trabajos como profesor en el Instituto.

Por lo tanto, les presento a este buen hermano para su consideración en nuestra próxima reunión en septiembre con mi recomendación personal de que sea becado para estudiar en uno de los seminarios luteranos de Argentina.

Les pido el favor de escribirme de antemano referente a otros negocios que debemos atender en nuestra próxima reunión para que se pueda organizar mejor la agenda de tal manera que no perdamos tanto tiempo en la reunión.

Sin otro particular por el momento, me despido

Su atento servidor en Cristo,


Arnfeld/C. Morok

Pausanias Wilches
Gerardo Wilches
Octavio López
Hugo Martínez
Juan Montoya
Gerhard Ostrem
Harold Olson
Helen Danielson

MINUTES OF THE PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH IN COLOMBIA (Proposed Organization)
October 28, 1954

The Meeting of the "Council" was held at the Parsonage of the Church of the Redeemer in Bogotá, meeting at 4:15 P. M. The session began with the reading of James 1:1-12, and a season of prayer.

I. Secretary Ad. Hoc. read the minutes of the former meeting of the P. A. C. of October 11 Mt. The following corrections were made: The Candidates to be named for election as Members of the P. A. C. shall have rendered satisfactory service as committed members of the local congregations (Latin) elections. In the case of Pastors and Evangelists, they shall also have served satisfactory at least a year prior to election, in the work of the Lutheran Church.

II. The matters for consideration were presented by the chairman, especially matters dealing with Mr. Quintero's going away to study.

III. Voted that the book "Procedimientos Parlamentarios" by R. Honey, be accepted as guide for the deliberations of the P. A. C.

IV. Voted that the matter dealing with Mr. Quintero's going away to study and working before going, as seen in the minutes of October 11 Mt. be reconsidered by the P. A. C.

V. Voted, after reconsidering the matter relative to Mr. Quintero's going to study, to resending the motion or decision relative to the year's work before going.

VI. Voted to recommend that Mr. Quintero be sent to a Lutheran Seminary in Argentina to study next year (1955). This decision was made with the definite desire and opinion that the candidate take the year of "prelection" (internship) in the Lord's work during the time available before finishing the Seminary Course; that that be done in the place where the P. A. C. shall find most advisable. He shall also give all the time available to the Lord's work before going away to study next "Spring".

VII. Voted to adjourn.

Chairman: Gerhard Ostrem

Secretary: P. Vilches

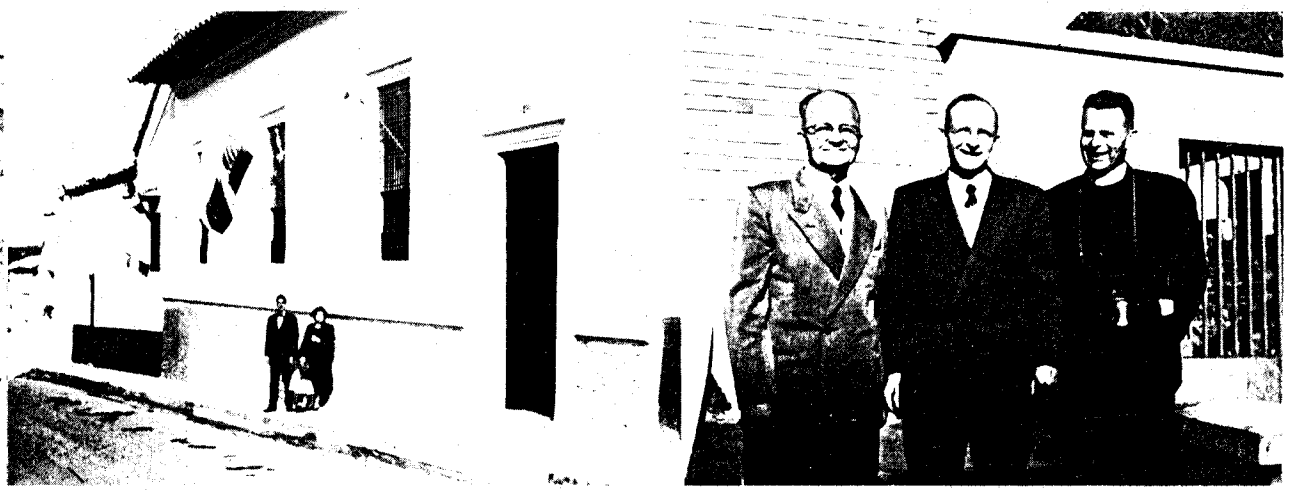
Colombia



Recent developments in Colombia is the subject of an article by Dr. Rolf Syrdal, Foreign Missions Secretary of the ELC, in this issue of "The Missionary." Dr. Syrdal made an extensive tour through South America this summer in behalf of the Lutheran World Federation and our own mission in Colombia. In this article he tells of some startling developments in Colombia in connection with our mission work there. At left above is pictured a worship service held in the ruins of the chapel at Parpa destroyed some time ago by anti-Protestant forces. Above are the ruins of the parsonage at Parpa which was destroyed at the same time. Below, left, the crowd of worshipers overflowed the small temporary chapel in Parpa for morning services on June 27th.



The mission home in Tunja, Boyaca, Colombia (below). Mr. Octavio Lopez, standing by the house with wife and daughter, serves Tunja and Parpa congregations. Below right, enroute to the LWF Latin American Conference in Brazil, Pastor Paul Koeller, ALC, of Texas, and Rev. Archie Morck, ELC, of Canada, posed with Dr. Syrdal on the steps of the Church of the Redeemer in Bogota.



Incomplete

XVI ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CELMOSA MISSION

BOGOTA

January 24-29, 1955

The Acting Superintendent, Rev. Gerhard Ostrem, declared the Conference open in the Name of the Triune God.

All missionaries on the field were present. Pastor Kneavelrud of the L. W. F. was a visitor.

Cornelia Jensen was again welcomed into our missionary fellowship and invited to participate in the discussions.

I. The following was the devotional program:

- A. Monday evening - Prayer session directed by Helen Danielson
- B. Forenoon sessions opened with free topics, followed by prayer:
 - Tuesday - Three Steps (Acts 4:23-31) - Elizabeth Heerde
 - Wednesday - Phoebe Quanrud
 - Thursday - Pastor Kneavelrud of L.W.F. spoke on the Seaman's Mission
 - Friday - Jeremiah - P. Wilches
 - Saturday - "Trust and Obey" - Valborg Torkelson
- C. Afternoon devotions:
 - Tuesday - Opal Olson
 - Wednesday - Gerhard Ostrem
 - Thursday - Paper "Our Marriage Problem" - Harold Olson
 - Friday - Joyce Bergh
 - Saturday - Cornelia Jensen

II. Reports read and approved:

- A. Secretary, Treasurer and Superintendent
 - Bogotá - Gerhard Ostrem
 - Expansion and Rural - Gerhard Ostrem
 - Medellín - Olger Quanrud
 - Tunja and Bible Institute - Harold Olson
- B. Personal reports:
 - Belva Nerlien
 - Helen Danielson
 - Joyce Bergh
 - Valborg Torkelson
 - Cornelia Jensen
- C. Belva Nerlien and Valborg Torkelson were elected as auditors.
- D. Auditors reported all accounts in order
- E. Auditors reports accepted
- F. Committee reports:
 - Literature - Belva Nerlien
 - Julio Orozco - read by Gerhard Ostrem
 - Medical - Gerhard Ostrem
- G. Greetings from Dr. Stewart Hermann and the Zulu Mission were read. The Secretary was instructed to answer and send greetings to all fields of E.L.C and U.E.L.C., also W.M.P.L.

III. Education

- A. Voted that we offer Mr. Marcelino Martin a scholarship for study at the Bible Institute at \$150.00 (pesos) a month, free room, dinners at the Institute, with the understanding that he teach part time.

- B. Voted that in view of the fact Mr. Marcelino Martín declined the offer of study and teaching in the Institute because of another contract already made, Mr. Mario Lara be approached for part time teaching at \$125.00 (pesos) a month.
- C. Voted that in view of the difficulty of obtaining a suitable house for the Boarding School in Sogamoso and the Board's decision not to buy one, said school be placed in Bogotá for the present year.
Voted that if found possible to have the boys live and study in Sogamoso with the Montoyas such arrangements, as well as those for Boarding School in Bogotá, be made by Bogotá Station staff.
- D. Voted that the Bible Institute monthly board be raised to 35 pesos beginning in 1956.
- E. Voted that we establish a school in Tunja on the condition that Mrs. Rosa de López accepts the offer to teach and her salary be 70 pesos a month.
- F. Voted that the Conference authorize the Executive Committee, after consultation with the Provisional Administrative Council, to accept the offer of the scholarship extended by Luther Seminary and designate the recipient.
- G. Voted that in view of the problems involved and the fact that our churches are supporting members of L.W.F., we recommend that Rodrigo Quintero be sent to the L.W.F. Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- H. Voted that the same condition as of last year be applicable to Jorge Gorzo for the coming year, which was 30 pesos as gatekeeper and watchman at the church and also an additional 25 pesos for scholarship at the Colegio Americano.
- I. Voted that with Board approval and after clearing it with the L.W.F., Pastor H. Mueller's invitation to conduct Spanish services in the L.W.F. church in Cali every 3 or 4 months, be accepted.

IV. Finance

- A. Voted that after thorough investigation by Station Head and Superintendent of the Parrish property in Medellín, the Executive Committee be authorized to request funds necessary, up to 50,000 pesos, to purchase said property.
- B. Voted that the salary of the House Mother for the Boarding School in Bogotá be set at \$130.00 (pesos) a month with room and board, the board equal to that of said school.
- C. Voted that since a special opportunity for buying property in Sogamoso may present itself and the Board has given an indication of what steps should be taken, we authorize the Executive Committee to act on such proposed purchases and plans of construction to be presented to the Board.
- D. Voted that we give \$75.00 (dollars) to Amanecer, \$20.00 (dollars) to El Testigo to continue subscriptions, also 60 pesos to the CEDEC for services received.

V. Evangelism

- A. Voted, after hearing report by Miss Torkelson, we do not find it advisable to send her to the plains now, that we rescind motion of her placement there. (See Special Conference of July 5, 6, I Evangelism (E), also July 30th Evangelism (C))
- B. Voted that we recommend Octavio López to the Provisional Administrative Council as a worker in our Mission.
- C. Voted that the Acting Superintendent write to Octavio López informing him that his services as an evangelist be extended.
- D. Voted that Cornelia Jensen's contract as a worker in our Mission, be extended for the year 1955.
- E. Voted that Harold Olson be placed as Institute Director and Station Head for Tunja for the year 1955.

- F. Voted that Gerhard Ostrem and Helen Danielson continue their work in Bogotá as per placement of 1954.
- G. Voted that Gerhard Ostrem be placed as head of Rural work.
- H. Voted that Arnfeld Morck be placed tentatively in Bible Institute for the year 1956.
- I. Voted that Valborg Torkelson be placed in the Cocuy area for the year 1955 and that her main work, as far as possible, be medical.

VI. Miscellaneous

- A. Voted that the Acting Superintendent take steps to make use of the offer presented by Dr. Syrdal in his letter of December 27, 1954, namely the possibility of having large quantities of supplies, especially dried milk, cheese and butter, sent out free of charge from the States.
- B. Voted to approve as a project the support of needy children at the Boarding School, at \$15.00 (dollars) a month.
- C. Voted that Belva Nerlien be granted an extra week when she takes her vacation in April.
- D. Voted that we try to get a Lutheran pastor from a Latin American country, outside Colombia, as speaker for the Colombian Conference in June.
- E. Voted to recommend to the Provisional Administrative Council for consideration or action, the problem of Catholic marriage by our young people, with the following recommendation:
 - 1. That where it is possible to have civil marriage, this be done.
 - 2. If that should be impossible then in Catholic Church but without communion and confession.
 - 3. If disregarded, then to be disciplined--not allowed to partake of communion--and if workers, not allowed to continue to work.
- F. Voted that Harold Olson be instructed to write a letter of appreciation to Pastor Van Eaton for what he has done for our Missionaries coming into Colombia.
- G. Voted we recommend to the Board that because the Celmosa Mission is frequently in the red, a special effort be made to send Colombian Missionaries who are home on furlough, to churches where the offerings can be designated for Colombia.
- H. Voted that because of the great need of an Evangelical hospital in Bogotá, we recommend to the Board their study of the statutes of the organization, Clinica Evangélica Unida Ltd., and their approval of the project so far.

VII. Literature

- A. Voted that we recommend the mimeographing of the following:
 - Study Guides: Matthew, Luke, Acts, Romans, I Cor.and that Mr. Orozco do as much of this work as possible, at least the cutting of stencils.
- B. Voted that we recommend the printing of the following books in the order listed:
 - 1. Filled with the Spirit
 - 2. Ten Studies on Church History
 - 3. The Church of the Living Lord
- C. Voted that the Literature Committee be comprised of three Missionaries and one Colombian.
- D. Voted that we recommend that the translation of "The Life of Christ" by A. Fahling or the "Gospels" by Ylvisaker, be an Inter-Lutheran project and Morck look into said project.

VIII. Furlough

- A. Voted that Olsons be granted their furlough beginning in October 1955.

IX. Nominations and Elections:

- A. For Executive Committee, Olger Quanrud
- B. Gerhard Ostrem was elected to serve on the Executive Committee when Olson goes on furlough.

Minutes of the Provisional Administrative Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Colombia. (Proposed Organization)

For the Meeting of March 30 & 31, 1955

According to the announcement made by the President of the P. A. C., the members of this Organization gathered together in the Parsonage of La Iglesia de El Redentor at 2:30 P. M. on the 30th of March ult.

The meeting opened with a devotional period led by the president.

Upon making certain of the presence of a quorum, the meeting was declared open by the president.

Members present were: Pausanias Wilches, Gerardo Wilches, Octavio López (who was present the second day), Miss Helen Danielson, Harold Olson, Olger Quanrud, and Gerhard Ostrem. Mr. Pausanias Wilches was elected secretary for the meeting.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved after the words: And have been a communicant member, ^{at least a year} in their respective churches" be added to No. 1.
2. The president presented the various items to be taken up for consideration.
3. The matter of acceptance of Mr. Octavio López as worker in the Mission (not only year by year as to the present) which was proposed by the Annual Conference of the Mission, was voted and approved.
4. The President reported concerning a beca scholarship which has been offered by Luther Seminary in St. Paul, to the Lutheran Church in Colombia. The Scholarship was accepted by the P. A. C., and consideration followed as to possible candidates. The name of Julio Orosco was presented. It was realized that he is really the only qualified candidate we have. He was then voted in as the candidate for this Scholarship. His going to said Seminary will be as a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia. It does not imply automatic ordination following the year's study.
5. Mr. Orosco was called in to the meeting at the latter part of the forenoon session and the misunderstanding concerning his supposed approach to the Baptist for work before coming into our Mission was clarified. Mr. Morek had looked into this before leaving on furl. These rumors were satisfactorily clarified. Mr. Orosco accepted with joy this clarification.

Mr. Orosco then presented several aspects of the work in Medellín as he and Mr. Quanrud had been looking at it there. He referred to matters of the literature and translations which have been done. He also referred to apparent possibilities of doing work in certain country points in areas surrounding Medellín or farther out.

6. Gathered for the ~~afternoon~~ ^{after the Evening service and prayer meeting,} session, the matter of the Asamblea (Conference which is held for the Colombian Christians) held annually for the ~~the~~ or our church in Colombia. It was decided to have the Asamblea June 22-26 at our church in Bogotá.
7. The members of the P. A. C. who live in Bogotá were elected to serve as program committee for the Asamblea.

8. The suggestion of the Annual Conference of the Mission was accepted and decision was made to endeavor to get a speaker for the Asamblea from some of the other Lutheran fields in Latin America.

9. Gathered again for the continuation of the P. A. C. meeting on the 31st. a devotional period preceded the deliberations.

9. Decision was made to arrange for the ordination of the men who had been in Argentine studying at the Seminary, namely Gerardo Wilches and Pausanias Wilches. This was taken up upon recommendation of the Annual Conference of the Mission.

It was decided to have the Ordination of the last Sunday of the Asamblea, having the customary examination prior to the Asamblea, perhaps during the day of the 22nd of June.

10. The resignation of Hugo Martinez as secretary of the PAC was considered and with much regret on the part of all the other members, was accepted (regret because of the resignation having come).
11. Pausanias Wilches was elected secretary to fill the vacancy due to the above mentioned resignation.
12. Gerardo Ostrem and Juanito Montoya were elected as a Committee in the matter of looking for lots and in the other matters of the purchase of property in Sogamoso, for the purposes of the work of the Mission in that City.
13. The verbal expressions of Mr. Octavio López manifesting his desire to have the opportunity to go to study at the seminary was brought to the attention of the PAC by the chairman. This matter was discussed quite thoroughly, and the PAC recommends Mr. López for going to study in the Seminary in Argentina next year.
14. The president presented also the recommendation which the Mission Conference of January last, makes to the PAC about the PAC electing a member from among the Colombian brethren to serve on the following Committees: Education, literature, liturgy, and medical. (The other members on these Committees were elected by the Conference).
The following elections were made:
 - a. Education: Gustavo Rodríguez
 - b. Literature: Pausanias Wilches
 - c. Liturgy: Gerardo Wilches
 - d. Medical: Pascual Silva (One of our members in Casanare)
15. The Director of the Bible Institute presented explanations to the PAC as to the reasons that led to engaging Mr. Mario Lara as teacher at the Institute. (III. Education B. of Conference Minutes of January 24-29, 1955)
He also explained why scholarships were given to Misses Rosa Marín, Flor Maruja Hernández, and Mr. José Parada.

The following decisions or approvals resulted:
 - a. To approve the engaging of Mr. Lara as professor in the Institute according to the conditions made with him by Mr. Olson.
 - b. To approve the distributions of the scholarships made by the Faculty of the Institute to the above mentioned students.
 - c. The PAC asks the Faculty of the Institute to ~~for~~ present to the PAC a list of scholarships for ~~the~~ consideration at its next meeting. Said scholarships to be such as may be had in mind for the next school year.
16. Some of the members of the PAC asked questions regarding the division of the Boarding School between Sogamoso and Bogotá. The reason for this dividing it was made or given by the president upon whose shoulders has rested the great part of the responsibility of the establishment of the Boarding school. After hearing the explanations the PAC accepted the decisions made for the functioning of said Boarding schools as they are for the present.
17. Decisions were made for Pausanias Wilches and Hernán Ariza (4th year student at the Bible Institute) go to Occuy and Chiscas to conduct services during Holy Week. And the Jorge Corzo, graduate from the Bible Institute and now a student at the Colegio Americano, go to Mause (Socotá region) to work together with Octavio López during the same week, for the same purpose. (López was in Parpa).
18. Voted to adjourn.

Gerardo Ostrem S.
President

Pausanias Wilches P.
Secretary

1544 Fulham Street
St. Paul 8, Minn.
May 24, 1955

Dear Gerhard and members of the Exec. Committee:

Greetings in Christ Jesus! I have just received your letter, Gerhard, and enclosed copy of yours to Dr. Syrdal. I am about to leave for Wisconsin this afternoon but will answer briefly right away. On the telephone Dr. Syrdal told me that he was answering all of your questions regarding letter of call, examination, etc., and that it would not be necessary to print a letter of call but simply have it typewritten. Also, let me make this suggestion: That in my opinion such a call should include the responsibility of striving for the establishment of a thoroughly indigenous church, self-supporting, self-propagating, and self-governing under Christ. The form for letter which Dr. Syrdal will send may not include this if it is geared for situations here. That you can see when you get it.

In regard to the examination of the candidates, I am sure that Gerhard, Harald and Olger are perfectly capable of giving the necessary guidance to the Consejo as to what questions should be asked of the candidates.

I think it is very fitting that circumstances and perhaps the guidance of God has made it so that Gerhard, one of the first on the field who has "borne the heat of the day" should also be the first to serve as ordinator on our field. It is our prayer that you may have a wonderfully significant day in which the Spirit of God may truly move among you and the church may march forward also by this important step. It will indeed be a pleasure to send greetings both to the candidates and the congregation. In fact, we had thought of that before.

May I make a further suggestion or plea, not as superintendent but simply as a brother in Christ. It is with respect to the use of the gown. As you mentioned to me over a year ago, Gerhard, you needed more time to think it over. I know you have done this and also have prayed about it. Therefore, it may seem unkind of me to bring it up again. But I do so out of a desire for OUR GIVING A UNIFIED TESTIMONY ALSO ON THIS POINT. And just from a purely aesthetic point of view, it would be so much more beautiful and meaningful if the ordinator wears a robe when those being ordained will be wearing one and most likely also the other pastors taking part in the ordination.

It was a rich experience to attend the ordination service here in Central Lutheran last Sunday night of those going to the mission fields and the chaplaincy. I envisioned in my mind a smaller but equally significant procession going up the aisle to the altar of "Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church" in Bogotá next month.

Enclosed is the Order of Service for the ordination here. This also contains the pledge of ordination, or "Promesa" I suppose it could be called in Spanish, in which you were interested, Gerhard. I am sure Julie would be glad to do the translating or the polishing up of the letter of call and also anything in connection with the printed Order of Service for the ordination. You would likely be having it printed at Tipografía Unión anyway, I suppose. They did a beautiful job on the bulletin for the dedication service. You, of course, have undoubtedly thought of all this and may also have in mind the source from which the expense of printing such a bulletin might come. We don't want to take the privilege away from the local congregation or any other organization or individual who might have this in mind, but just in case the cost of printing should be a problem, Hildur and I would like to make this our little contribution to the service.

I am afraid that I am going completely out of bounds by giving so many suggestions, but would it not be meaningful also if pastors of the LWF could also take part in the ordination

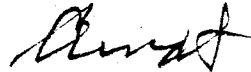
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May 24, 1955

I know Herman would certainly like to be present if at all possible, and in that connection let me please ask that he by all means be invited to be present. Out of a misunderstanding as to who was to invite for the dedication of the church, Herman did not even receive an invitation and felt it very deeply.

We praise God for continued reports of progress, including larger attendance in Medellín. May God continue to strengthen your hands.

Sincerely,



Arnsfeld

Enclosure

1955

LA MISION EVANGELICA LUTERANA EN COLOMBIA

The Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America

Apartado Aéreo 49-80
Apartado Nal. 29-16
Bogotá, Colombia

Dirección Telegráfica: CELMOSA
Cable Address:

Apartado Nal. 25
Tunja, Boyacá, Colombia

Teléfono, Bogotá: 94-271

Apartado Aéreo 14-82
Medellín, Colombia

List of National Pastors, Evangelists, and Workers in Colombia --

Lopez, Sr. Octavio ----- Apdo. Nal. 25 , Tunja, Boyaca
 Lara, Sr. Mario ----- Apdo. Nal. 2916 , Bogotá, Cund.
 Montoya, Sr. Juan ----- Sogamoso , Boyaca
 Mora, Sr. Oliverio ----- Seminario , Buenos Aires, Argentina
 Orozco, Sr. Julio ----- Apdo. Aéreo I482 , Medellín, Ant.
 Quintero, Sr. Rodrigo ----- Seminario, Buenos Aires, Argentina
 Wilches, Rdo. Pausanias ----- Apdo. Nal. 2916, Bogotá , Cund .
 Wilches, Rdo. Gerardo ----- Apdo. Nal. 2916 Bogotá , Cund .

Bello, Srta. Hilma ----- Socotá , Boyacá
 Corzo, Srta. Leticia ----- Apdo. Nal. 2916, Bogotá, Cund.
 Correa, Srta. Susana ----- Apdo. Nal. 2916, Bogotá, Cund.
 Morales, Srta. Luidina ----- Apdo. Nal. 2916, Bogotá, Cund.
 Montoya, Srta. Leonilde ----- Socotá , Boyacá
 Mora, Srta. Olga ----- El Cocuy , Boyacá
 Parada, Srta. Marija ----- Socotá , Boyacá
 Wilches, Srta. Ana ----- Apdo. Nal. 2916 , Bogotá, Cund.

(June, 1955)

Bogotá, D. E. Noviembre 8, 1955

Señor
Octavio López Cifuentes,
Apartado 25,
Tunja (Boyacá).

Estimado amigo en Cristo:

Que nuestro Padre Celestial le esté bendiciendo en todas sus actividades.

Acuso recibo de su amenazante carta del 25 de Noviembre, a la cual deseo referirme por medio de la presente. Del asunto que Ud. plantea en su carta sobre cesantía, puedo manifestarle lo siguiente:

1.- El Sínodo de la Iglesia Presbiteriana de Colombia, no tiene nada pendiente con Ud. en relación a cesantía o primas, según Ud. pueda apreciarlo en el concepto jurídico emitido por el Dr. Gabriel Muñoz Uribe, Abogado y Representante Legal de la Cedec, en concordancia con las Leyes Laborales vigentes en Colombia, que Ud. tanto invoca, y también de acuerdo con conceptos emanados del Ministerio del Trabajo, en interpretación de esas mismas Leyes. Incluyo a Ud. una copia de dicho concepto.

2.- Quiero hacerle notar, que Ud. no ha trabajado ni por contrato ni bajo la jurisdicción del Sínodo de la Iglesia Presbiteriana, sino bajo Presbiterios, Iglesias o colegios localizados en el Campo Sinódico de nuestra Iglesia Presbiteriana.

3.- Igualmente debo señalar a Ud. que el tiempo de trabajo suyo no corresponde a 5 años y medio, sino efectivamente a 4 años y 5/12 -ya que, en la planilla que Ud. llenó, incluyó como parte de trabajo el tiempo de práctica estudiantil en el Instituto de Ibagué, lo cual no puede ser considerado justamente como trabajo efectivo en el movimiento de nuestros cuerpos eclesiásticos.

4.- Aun cuando jurídicamente el Sínodo no tiene nada pendiente, de manera graciosa y en el mejor sentido cristiano, se pagarán a todos los obreros que han trabajado en nuestras Iglesias, no en los colegios o escuelas, el 50% de la suma correspondiente, porcentaje este que Ud. encontrará indicado en la parte posterior al concepto emitido por el Dr. Muñoz Uribe.

5.- Para el pago de su porcentaje, debo igualmente decirle que es necesario esperar, pues no dejará de comprender Ud. que hay

obreros en la lista con ~~---~~ 30 y más años de servicio en nuestra obra, y ya con avanzada edad, es justo que reciban cristianamente una atención primaria. Sin embargo podrá observar Ud. que aún saltando por sobre esta consideración primaria, el Sínodo autoriza do al Tesorero el pago de estos porcentajes, en el orden establecido, "-primeramente a los que ya no son obreros presbiterianos del Sínodo". Pero vuelvo a repetirlo, tendrá que esperar aun más con alguna paciencia.

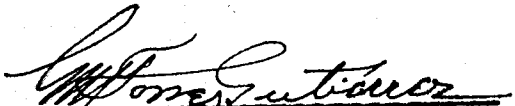
6.- Si nó es posible para Ud. esperar, y desea poner este asunto en manos de Abogados, como en forma algo desafiante Ud. lo indica en su carta, lo dejamos a su buen recaudo.

7.- En cuanto a la referencia que Ud. hace a su familia aquí en Bogotá, bien vale la pena señalarle ahora, que hemos estado ayudándoles hasta donde nos ha sido posible dentro de nuestras capacidades, con rebajas considerables en los estudios que han realizado y realizan sus hermanos en el Colegio Americano de esta ciudad.

8.- Quiero agradecerle la franqueza que manifiesta en su carta, al afirmar que su entrada a la M. Misión Luterana, "fue iniciativa mía por cuestiones más que todo de convicción doctrinal", lo que nos muestra aunque lamentablemente tarde, que Ud. no fue completamente sincero al trabajar con nosotros.

9.- No deseo terminar, sin antes advertirle que la Librería Aurora de Cali, me ha escrito, como pastor de la Primera Iglesia de Bogotá, y personalmente el Rev. Searing, habló conmigo referente a una deuda que llega a los \$1000.00 y que Ud. contrajo por la venta de libros de la librería Aurora, cuando fue ayudante del antes Pastor de esta Iglesia. En vista de que esta deuda fue contraída cuando trabajó en la Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana de Bogotá, deseo pedirle el favor de una constancia escrita del Rev. Searing con relación al pago de esa deuda, a fin de que no se crea que nuestra Iglesia en Bogotá, haya tenido o tiene participación en lo que fue un asunto personal suyo.

Sin particulares para más, soy de Ud. muy atentamente,


Gilberto Torres Gutiérrez.
Secretario General del Sínodo.

cc: Dr. Arnfeld C. Morck, Super-Intendente de la Misión Luterana.
Rev. Gerardo Ostrom, Encargado Iglesias Rurales Luteranas.
Rev. Jaime Goff, Secretario Ejecutivo, Misión Presbiteriana
Rev. Roberto Searing.

Bogotá, Noviembre 9, 1955

Reverendos
Arnfeld C. Morck, y
Gerardo Ostrem.
L. C.

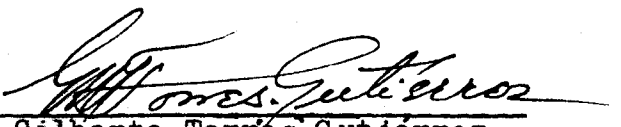
Muy estimados hermanos:

Saludos y deseos porque las bendiciones de nuestro Padre Celestial sean con Uds.

Me permito enviarles copia de la carta que acabo de despachar para el señor Octavio López Cifuentes, quien está trabajando con esa honorable Misión, y a las órdenes de Uds.

Espero que Uds. se servirán tomar nota de élla, y si fuese necesario una más amplia explicación personal, con mucho gusto lo haré.

De Uds. muy atentamente en el
Señor Jesús,


Gilberto Torrès Gutiérrez.
Secretario General del
Sínodo.

GTG/nas.

LA SECRETARIA GENERAL DEL SINODO A LOS PRESBITERIOS, MINISTROS Y OBREROS ECLESIASTICOS DE LA IGLESIA PRESBITERIANA DE COLOMBIA.

Para conocimiento de los Presbiterios, con el fin de orientarlos en las determinaciones que deban tomar al respecto, y para información de todos los Ministros y Obreros Eclesiásticos de la Iglesia Presbiteriana de Colombia en todo el campo sinódico, me permito transcribir la respuesta dada por el Dr. Gabriel Muñoz Uribe, asesor jurídico de la Confederación Evangélica de Colombia (CEDEC), a la consulta presentada por el Presidente y Secretario General del Sínodo, con relación al asunto de las prestaciones sociales para los Obreros Eclesiásticos. La respuesta del Dr. Muñoz Uribe, dice así:

Bogotá, Octubre 17 de 1955

Señores
DR. HECTOR VALENCIA Y Rvdo. GILBERTO TORRES
SINODO PRESBITERIANO-
E. S. M.

Estimados hermanos en Cristo:

Gustosamente absuelvo su consulta para estudiar lo relacionado con prestaciones sociales debidas o que se dice deber a los pastores y obreros de las Iglesias Presbiterianas, para lo cual estudia remos primeramente, la naturaleza de su trabajo, sus implicaciones, y la eventual relación contractual.

NATURALEZA DEL TRABAJO.-

Los Pastores, obreros etc. que han dedicado su vida y sus servicios personales y de dirección moral, intelectual, y espiritual, lo han hecho en razón de un llamamiento a la obra de Cristo? O han entrado en la obra para resolver por su trabajo los problemas de subsistencia personal? Formular la pregunta es resolverla.

No cabe duda que se trata de llamamientos Divinos y su tarea es esencialmente de dirección espiritual, sin miramientos a la condición de trabajo material con miras a una relación contractual o, mejor aun, es una profesión que se escapa por sus modos universales a la normación de relación al contrato de trabajo propiamente dicha.

El Ministerio de Trabajo absolvió una consulta sobre la prestación de servicios de un Capellán, en los siguientes términos:

"Los elementos que configuran la relación contractual de carácter laboral, tales como la prestación personal del servicio, la subordinación o dependencia respecto de una empresa o patrono y el salario como retribución por los servicios prestados (art. 23 del Código Sustantivo del Trabajo) no se cumplen estrictamente en el caso consultado.

"La prestación del servicio de Capellán por un sacerdote no es la clase de trabajo regulado por la legislación laboral, por ser de carácter eclesiástico, porque no se refiere a servicios temporales, sino espirituales, cobijados por la legislación canónica.

"La retribución de los servicios prestados, en el caso de un Capellán, no deben considerarse como salario sino dada a título de congrua sustentación.

El propio Ministerio en la consulta a que aludimos da cabida plena a la tesis: que es evidente que para los servicios o trabajos que se ejercen en virtud de un oficio (estrictamente dicho) o beneficio eclesiástico, o sea en aquéllos en que se ejerce una potestad de orden, de jurisdicción o administración eclesiástica, no tiene cabida el derecho civil. Así, ningún trabajo ejercido o ejecutado

en virtud de oficio eclesiástico da lugar a contrato de trabajo en el sentido de la Ley civil ni da derecho a prestaciones. Que en este caso la remuneración percibida no tiene el título o carácter de "SALARIO" sino a congrua sustentación ("EL OBRERO ES DIGNO DE SU SALARIO") concepto que hace relación a ser digno de ser sustentado en el orden general, más no en el restrictivo de percibir un emolumento proveniente de una relación contractual personal por un trabajo. Esta sustentación ha de ser honesta, y no en el sentido vulgar de la suficiencia del salario, sino en la dignidad espiritual de la subsistencia congrua.

EN SENTIDO CONTRARIO, aceptando que los Pastores y Obreros de la Iglesia Cristiana tienen una relación de dependencia contractual con el Sínodo, cuál sería la situación de sus prestaciones, descartando la función espiritual de su trabajo?

La norma general del Código sustantivo del Trabajo en sus títulos VIII y IX, tiene la excepción para las instituciones que por su naturaleza tengan el carácter de Utilidad Común. Así las entidades de beneficencia, los sindicatos, las cooperativas, etc. todas aquellas consideradas como instituciones de utilidad común, están obligadas a una prestación equivalente solamente al 50% de la cesantía conforme lo dispone la Resolución número 0053 de 1952, reglamentaria del art. 338, y 355, sustituido por art. 36 del Decreto 3743 de 1951, por cuanto estas instituciones carecen de ánimo de lucro.

Esta Resolución 53 de 1952 dice así, en su art. 1o.:-
Art. 1o- Para los efectos de las prestaciones sociales a que están obligados en favor de los trabajadores, se entiende que ejecuta actividades sin ánimo de lucro los patronos, entidades o dueños de establecimientos que en el desarrollo de sus funciones persiguen fines de interés social, sin percibir utilidades ni repartir dividendos.

Con aplicación de la anterior Resolución número 53, el Ministerio del Trabajo igualmente se pronunció en el caso de los empleados de sindicatos (que también son instituciones de utilidad común), disponiendo que por esta razón tienen derecho a penas al cinco por ciento (50%) de las prestaciones.

RELACION CONTRACTUAL.- El Sínodo, como los Pastores de las Iglesias tiene una función de dirección y manejo. En este sentido, el Sínodo es la suma cooperada de las diferentes Iglesias, pero las Iglesias son de suyo una institución con persona, naturaleza y funciones propias. El que varias Iglesias se reúnan sinodalmente, ello obedece a meras razones de orden espiritual para crear las condiciones morales, intelectuales y espirituales como cada Iglesia presbiteriana debe manejarse y agruparse para un eficiente testimonio Cristiano.

No conozco realmente la constitución sinodal, pero a mi entender esta es la condición del agrupamiento sinodal. No es administrativo en el sentido de Empresa, sino administrativo en el sentido espiritual. Por tanto, los pastores si bien son designados o señalados por el Sínodo, es para funciones espirituales, y por tanto es débil casi hasta desaparecer para hacerse imposible la existencia de una verdadera relación contractual o de interdependencia que pueda definirse bajo el régimen de la ley civil.

Los pastores serían en este caso considerados como verdaderos PATRONOS y en tal calidad carecerían igualmente del derecho de cesantía y prestaciones sociales.

Pero, dado el sentido visiblemente caritativo y de amor como el Sínodo ha consultado a los interesados sobre el particular, en el sentido de disponer que solamente puede pagarse el 50% de las prestaciones causadas, es bueno decir ahora que este 50% sería la natural obligación legal que con arreglo a la Res.53 tendría que pagar a sus dependientes y así, no cabe pensar siquiera que se trata de renuncias por parte de los aspirantes al auxilio de cesan-

tía, sino que esa, y no otra, sería la liquidación justa y legal de la cesantía.

Dejo así definidos en términos generales el sentido de su consulta y me es grato manifestarles que de serles útil, podríamos puntualizar otros aspectos más, que por ahora, consideré innecesarios.

Quedo su Hermano en Cristo,

(Firmado) GABRIEL MUÑOZ URIBE

=====

El Consejo Administrativo del Sínodo, en sus reuniones de junio 22/23 de 1955, en Bogotá, acordó lo siguiente:

VIII. Prestaciones Sociales

1. Fue confirmado el acuerdo de solicitar de la Junta de Misiones Extranjeras de N. York (Iglesia Presbiteriana USA) la suma acordada para este respecto en la Reunión del Consejo de Enero de 1955.

2. Fue aprobado el siguiente "orden para pagos" de Prestaciones para la Tesorería Sinódica:

1) Rdo. C. Mayorga O.	\$2604.15	9) Lic. José C. Ayala	\$2280.00
2) Rdo. Gustavo Villa	4142.70	10) Lic. Juan C. Rocha R.	1846.00
3) Rdo. J. Libreros C.	1860.00	11) Lcdo. Justiniano Salas	1283.37
4) Rdo. Hernán Bautista	1627.50	12) Rdo. Noel Ramírez B.	1485.00
5) Rdo. Julio C. Orozco	696.50	13) Sr. Aurelio Rodríguez	1175.50
6) Sr. Octavio López C.	726.15	14) Rdo. Xavier Zárate P.	1230.00
7) Sr. Héctor Ruiz P.	130.00	15) Rdo. Ricardo Glahn	1504.15
8) Rdo. Aristomeno Porras	3600.00	16) Rdo. Fortunato Castillo	1290.00
		17) Rdo. Gilberto Torres C.	1950.00

3.-Fue acordado autorizar al Tesorero para pagar a cada uno, su total en una sola vez, primeramente a los que ya no son Obreros Presbiterianos del Sínodo y a los demás en el orden arriba establecido, las llamadas "cesantías sinódicas".

4.-Se autorizó al Secretario General del Sínodo para que elabore, con el consejo del Representante Legal de la CEDEC, un recibo especial que cada beneficiado deberá firmar al recibir sus "cesantías sinódicas"- (Actas Consejo Sínodo, Pág. 3,4; Reuniones Junio 22/23,1955).

Cabe anotar, así debe reconocerse, que para poder dar cumplimiento al pago de estas prestaciones, el Sínodo ha desarrollado y desarrollará un gran esfuerzo de trabajo y de sacrificios, que gravitarán sobre toda la obra en el país por varios años, puesto que se ha hecho necesario hacer los siguientes ajustes:

- 1) "Recortar" las Subvenciones Presbiteriales, en la suma de \$2000.00 anuales desde 1953 hasta 1960, año en el cual el último obrero en lista debe haber recibido su participación.
- 2) Solicitar de la Junta de Nueva York, un auxilio especial para complementar el total necesario para la cancelación de estas prestaciones. Si la Junta no concede este auxilio, el Sínodo aumentará el "recorte" de las Subvenciones Presbiteriales, desde el año de 1956.
- 3) Desde el 1º de Enero de 1954 en adelante, cada Iglesia local es responsable por las prestaciones de su respectivo Pastor y cada Presbiterio responsable por las prestaciones de sus Obreros Comisionados.

De Uds. atentamente en el Señor,

Gilberto Torres Gutiérrez
Secretario General del Sínodo.

1955

THE COLOMBIA MISSION

Basically the unfavorable conditions for Evangelical work in Colombia remain unchanged. Nevertheless significant progress has been made in our mission this year.

The average attendance at our new church in Bogotá has doubled in the course of a year. Over eighty children are enrolled in the elementary school which operates in the church basement. Our Bible Institute continues to train teachers and evangelists with a record enrollment of twenty five young people.

Pausanias and Gerardo Wilches, two cousins who are among the first fruits of our work in Colombia, were ordained to the Lutheran ministry June 26, 1955. Oliverio Mora will complete his theological training in December. Rodrigo Quintero, also studying in Argentina, will have finished his first year at Seminary by the end of 1955. Julio Orozco, our translator, is studying at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

February, 1955, marked the beginning of a new station where property has been purchased near Colombia's new steel industry. Property has also been secured in another town and services resumed there after an interruption of about four years due to persecution. In a third place, where work was similarly interrupted, fifteen adults were recently confirmed. Materials are being made for rebuilding the devastated chapel, school and parsonage.

Preparation of an all-Lutheran hymnal and service book in Spanish has begun. Our literature committee cooperates in this important venture.

A. C. Morck

Several shots were exchanged in the street. Moments later there was a knock at the door of the palm-thatched parsonage. Before the breathless messenger could finish his story the missionary was following close on his heels as they hurried to the scene of the tragedy. There on the unpaved street, mortally wounded, lay a stranger groaning pathetically: "¡Ayúdenme a morir! ¡Ayúdenme a morir!" (Help me to die! Help me to die!) There was no time to waste on formalities. Kneeling beside him the missionary tried earnestly to drive deep into the consciousness of the dying man pertinent truths from the Word of God, such as "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved..."; "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive..."; "God be merciful to me, a sinner..." Then followed tense moments of reverent silence. Death had come.

Throughout years of tragedy and upheaval in Colombia we have experienced that the Gospel is truly the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes. It is a vital message to the dying and to the living, a treasure which we have "in earthen vessels".

The faith which this Word has kindled in the hearts of our Colombian brethren burns fiercely, yet with a pure and steady flame. While the extremely difficult situation in which our work is carried on remains basically unchanged, progress has been phenomenal. A year ago the average attendance at our new church in Bogotá was about one hundred. Now it is about two hundred and reports indicate that more and more are coming to a knowledge of the Gospel not only in Bogotá but in other places also.

In a rural congregation, whose property was destroyed by mob action in 1950, plans are under way and materials are being made to build a new chapel, a parsonage and a school. This is all the more interesting when we understand that several of those who took part in the destruction are now helping to rebuild the property and some of them are receiving instruction in the Christian faith in order to become members of that church.

Pausanias Wilches and Gerardo Wilches, two cousins who are among the first-fruits of our Lutheran work in Colombia, were ordained to the holy ministry on June 26, 1955. God has laid His hand on other young men who will be leaders in our Colombian church. One will have been graduated from seminary when you read this. Another will have completed his first year of theological training. More are soon to enter the seminary. Twenty-five young people are enrolled this year in our Bible Institute. Our elementary school in

the capital is "bursting at the seams".

Our Luther League and women's groups carry on their meetings and Bible studies efficiently without the help of missionaries or Colombian pastors.

A new mission station has been opened this year near Colombia's important new steel industry.

These are but tiny snatches from the wonderful story which God is writing on human hearts here in the Andes. It is a story which your prayers have a great part in telling. Do remember to pray! ... "for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries".

--Arnfeld C. Mørck

INFORME GENERAL
para 1955
presentado al CAP enero 16, 1956
(Consejo Administrativo Provisional)

"Me quedaré (en Efeso hasta Pentecostés) porque se me ha abierto una puerta grande y prometedora, aunque hay muchos adversarios" --I Cor. 16:8, 9 (Ver. Nac-Col.).

Me parece que estas palabras del Apóstol Pablo escritas desde Efeso, a los Corintios, hace muchos siglos ya, tienen gran significado actual para los cristianos de Colombia. Describen lacónicamente la situación de nuestra iglesia Colombiana en esta hora. Quién de nosotros no ha quedado pasmado al considerar la manera en que Dios ha obrado en nuestro medio? Rodeados, como estamos, de inmensas dificultades, restringidos en nuestras actividades, denegrados y perseguidos, no obstante nos hallamos ante "una puerta grande y prometedora" que Dios nos ha abierto. Es cierto que despedimos el año con nueve de nuestro número encarcelados por causa del Evangelio y que otros han sufrido prisiones y afrentos en el curso del año y que se procura constantemente cerrar nuestros colegios y trancar el progreso del Evangelio en toda forma. Pero no faltan oportunidades de hacer llegar la Palabra de Dios a los corazones de los que nos buscan para oír y parece que nuestros colegios gozan de más acogida que nunca, pues la Palabra de Dios no está presa. En todas partes se va aumentando la asistencia en los cultos y aún donde no se pueden reunir no falta la voluntad y el entusiasmo por el Evangelio.

En Parpa el testimonio de la fe se ha concretado también en términos de piedra y cemento al venir levantándose paulatinamente las paredes del nuevo santuario. Damos gracias a Dios por la obra que con tanta abnegación se ha logrado hacer. Lamentamos, sin embargo, que el enemigo haya podido causar una división entre los mismos hermanos de esa congregación, cosa que constituye un peligro mayor que él de los ataques efectuados desde afuera. Es nuestra oración ferviente que el Espíritu Santo pueda obrar la unidad entre esos queridos hermanos para que reine nuevamente el amor y la concordia dentro de esa fortaleza evangélica que constituyen los hermanos de Socotá.

En El Cocuy se dió un paso importante al adquirir casa propia para la obra. El entusiasmo que es evidente allá y en El Carrizal, y la aumentada asistencia en ambos lugares, es señal de que Dios ha bendecido los esfuerzos de los buenos hermanos de esa región.

En Sogamoso, donde Dios nos ha dado propiedad también, se van desarrollando los principios de una obra muy prometedora de educación y de evangelización. Existe la urgente necesidad de levantar una construcción que sirva para vivienda, colegio y una capilla provisional en el lote que hemos comprado.

Desde la extensa parroquia casanareña también nos llegan noticias animadoras. Aunque el trabajo del pastor ha consistido principalmente en visitar de casa a casa ha sido posible también celebrar cultos en su "fundación", Finlandia, y en otras partes. Estando proscrito el funcionamiento de escuelas evangélicas en esa región, los hermanos allá se hallan con el problema de la educación de sus hijos. Para algunos de ellos la solución, en parte, ha sido el establecimiento de los colegios internados de Sogamoso y de Bogotá.

Dios nos ha proporcionado nuevas victorias en Tunja. Son varios los que han aceptado a Cristo como a su Salvador. La asistencia en la escuela vacacional y en los cultos ha sido muy animadora y hay mucho entusiasmo por poner en marcha una escuela este año en la capital boyacense. Sin duda se está también cosechando algunos de los frutos de lo que otros han sembrado con paciencia y con lágrimas en ese duro campo.

En Medellín el progreso ha sido más lento no obstante los buenos esfuerzos de los hermanos a cuyo cargo está la obra. Se espera que el grupo de creyentes que asisten pueda formar el núcleo de una congregación luterana en la capital antioqueña y que se vayan encaminando en el Evangelio otras muchas personas que hasta ahora no han conocido su mensaje.

Bogotá no deja de ser un centro importante no sólo para los de aquí sino para

toda la obra de nuestra Iglesia en Colombia. A la "Iglesia de El Redentor" llegan los hermanos de otras partes cuando están en la capital, y el Instituto Bíblico tanto como el recién establecido internado continúan al servicio de nuestra juventud.

Es prometedor, además, el progreso que se va haciendo hacia la formación de una iglesia realmente nativa de Colombia.

Fué motivo de gran regocijo la ordenación de nuestros primeros candidatos al santo ministerio. Otro acaba de terminar sus estudios teológicos y otros se están preparando para servir eficazmente en los varios ramos de la obra. En términos generales se puede decir que en solamente dos de los siete lugares principales de trabajo queda la dirección de la obra exclusivamente en manos de misioneros extranjeros.

Es de vital importancia no sólo la preparación de los conductores de la iglesia sino también una indoección profunda de los miembros del Cuerpo de Cristo. Es nuestro deber de predicar y enseñar según la orientación bíblica y luterana que es nuestra herencia, a fin de que cada miembro sepa lo que cree y porque lo cree. Sólo así podemos llegar a tener una iglesia robusta y sana. Jamás debemos decir (o dejar la impresión) que no importa la orientación doctrinal. Con la seriedad en asuntos de la fe se fomenta también un espíritu ecuménico más sano y se evita más el peligro de que pasen personas de otras iglesias a nuestras filas por motivo de disgustos más bien que por convicción.

Pedimos al Señor que nos perdone todo en lo que hemos faltado y que nos fortalezca para nuevas conquistas hoy y mañana. Ante nosotros queda abierta una "puerta grande y prometedora"! Entremos por ella con el fervor de quien pregona las buenas nuevas y con la tranquila fe y la paciencia de quien ha de enseñar, como dice Jesús, "todas las cosas que os he mandado". Y "he aquí yo estoy con vosotros todos los días hasta el fin del mundo. Amén."

--Arnfeld C. Morck
Presidente

Special Conference -- June 18, 1956

The Conference was called to order by Supt. A. C. Morck
Devotions were led Miss Belva Nerlien

Present were: Pastor & Mrs. Arnfeld Morck, Pastor & Mrs. Gerhard Ostrem, Misses
Belva Nerlien, Joyce Bergh, Helen Danielson, Elizabeth Heerde, Valborg Torkelson
and Cornelia Jensen.

I. Finances

- A. Voted to approve the designation made in April by the Executive Committee of the sums resulting from the gifts received for the Work.
- B. Voted that due to the social circumstances which make it necessary for Oliverio Mora to have his mother live with him in Tunja (He is one of our single men workers) a bonus of \$75.00 a month be granted him for such time as the situation continues. Note: Other similar cases that may arise in the future shall be dealt with individually.
- C. Voted to approve the decision made by the Executive Committee to give \$100.00 to Alfonso Corso in appreciation of service rendered in the Work in the Uocuy area during the last Institute vacation, and that this be applied to his study at the Bible Institute.
- D. Voted to approve the use of the gift of \$500.00 U. S. for Tunja Mission House improvements.
- E. Voted approval of the designation of other gifts as follows:
- | | | |
|---------|-------|-------------------|
| \$28.50 | U. S. | for Communion Set |
| 29.00 | " | for pictures |
| 12.13 | " | for Film strips |
- F. Voted that the gift of \$109.50 which was sent to Quanruds be used in defraying construction costs of the extra Class rooms at the Bible Institute.
- G. Voted that gifts in the amount of \$88.00 U. S. received for children work be divided as follows:
- | | | |
|---------|-------|---|
| \$30.00 | pesos | on paying D. V. B. S. deficit from 1955 |
| | | The balance to be used towards defraying cost. of Book Cases for the Bogotá Church Educational Unit. The Mission Furniture Committee to arrange for the construction of same. |
- H. Voted, that in view of the fact that Hilma Bello will not be studying, the \$550.00 U. S. Scholarship given for her from Portland be applied towards travel and incidental expences for Gustavo Rodríguez in going to U. S. to study, provided this change meets with approval from the donors.
- I. Voted to purchase a typewriter for the "Mission Office" (on the Field) leaving the present machine for the translators' use; and that the gift of \$100.00 U. S. received by Morck be used towards its purchase. The balance to be covered by forthcoming gifts.

II. Education

- A. Voted to recommend to the Colombia Christian Fellowship that the support formerly given by them towards Leticia Corzo's support now be applied towards Olga Mora's support in view of the fact that Leticia Corzo is not teaching now.

- B. Voted that the Mission assume no financial responsibility for Gustavo Fernández as "ambulant" teacher in Farpa.
- C. Voted to recommend Juanito Montoya for Seminary study when that be possible.

III. Literature

- A. Voted that we sell Halesby's Book on "PRAYER" at \$2.40 pesos and the book "LIFE OF LUTHER" in Spanish by Stolee at \$8.00 pesos.
- B. Voted that we request full E. L. C. representation at the Spanish Hymnal Meeting to be held in Chicago August 15-31, 1956, and that Harold Olson replace Arnfeld Morck at that Meeting.
- C. Voted that in in response to the invitation from the Facultad Luterana de Teología in Buenos Aires for Pastor Arnfeld Morck to attend the Meeting of organization and dedication of the Seminary September 14-16, 1956, he make arrangements to attend. (Expences are covered by the Seminary Budget.)

IV. Voted to adjourn.

Joint Meeting of the Mission Conference and the P. A. C.
June 25, 1955

The Meeting was called to order Supt. & President Arfeld C. Morck
Devotion was led by Pastor Gerardo Wilches, followed by a season of prayer.
A hearty welcome was extended to all by Supt. Morck.
Voting Members present were: Morck, Quanrud (who returned to Colombia the 24th),
Ostrem, Misses Nerlien, Torkelson, Danielson, Bergh, Heerde of Missionaries, and
Gerardo Wilches, Pausanias Wilches, Gustavo Rodríguez, Manuel Pérez, Vidal Mora,
Pascual Silva of the Colombian brethren on the P. A. C. Present were also the new
members of the P. A. C.: Oliverio Mora and Juanito Montoya who replace Gerardo
Wilches and Vidal Mora. Cornelia Jensen, Hildur Morck and Helene Ostrem were
also present.

I. Evangelism

- A. Voted to hold a Special Meeting for interested persons, especially our
Workers and members of the Mission Conference and P. A. C. on July 23, 1956
beginning at 9:00 A. M., as we expect to have Dr. Andrew Burgess here at
that time.
- B. Voted that in view of a letter of reconciliation from the accusing party, the
discipline which was found necessary to apply to Ariel Bello, Hilma Bello,
Elí Abril and Bayardo Porras be terminated.
- C. Voted that the retiring secretary of the P. A. C. write the persons involved
and the Congregation of Parpa regarding this decision in Evangelism B.

II. Miscellaneous

- A. Voted to write the Parpa Congregation in reply to the letter received that
is signed by a large number of the members asking us to act in their behalf
before the Government in favor of the Work in that region. (We are happy to
be able to inform that we have been doing that and that we shall continue
doing all we possibly can.)

III. Education

- A. Voted that we recommend Juanito Montoya to the Mission for Seminary study
in 1957
- B. Voted that Gustavo Fernández's offer to conduct an ambulant school in Parpa
be rejected unless it be made as a petition by the parents.
- C. Voted that Mr. Rodrigo Quintero be given opportunity for Rural work in
Uruguay, or Argentina during next vacation if feasible.
- D. Voted to raise the price of board at the Bible Institute to fifty pesos a
month beginning next school year.
- E. Voted to change Clause No. 7 of the Bible Institute Prospectus to read:
"The Church (or Mission) does not guarantee work to anyone upon
graduation from the School".
- F. Voted to fix the price per pupil at the Boarding school at fifty pesos
for next year. Some of this to be applied on tuition as was done this year.
- G. Voted that the Educational Committee together with Mr. Morck restudy the
Curriculum of the Bible Institute.

- H. Voted that in view of Mr. Vidal Mora's petition for some help for the improvements in the Carizal school, for each peso that the people there raise for that purpose the Mission will help with the same sum up to one hundred pesos, and that this money be drawn from gift money that comes in for school purposes. (Voted by Conference only)

IV. Clinic - Hospital

- A. Voted to recommend to the Board that Ostren be granted time according to the request made by the Clinic-Hospital Committee (of the Proposed Evangelical Hospital), to present the Cause of the proposed Evangelical Hospital while on furlough in interest of funds for its erection, with the understanding that this is to be presented among the various Evangelical Denominations. (Voted by both Conference and PAC.)

V. Placements

- A. Voted to reconsider the placements as made in January of Pausanias Wilches and Julio Orozco due to circumstances which have arisen since then.

- B. Voted that the following placements be confirmed or made:

Sogamoso	. . . .	Pausanias Wilches	
		Olger Quanrud (Especially directing the construction)	
Tunja	. . . .	Oliverio Mora	
		Belva Nerlien	
Cocuy	. . . .	Valborg Torkelson	Olga Mora
		Elizabeth Heerde	Leonilde Montoya
Plains	. . . .	Gerardo Wilches	
		Hernán Ariza	
Bogotá	. . . .	Arnfeld Morck	Literature and
		Julio Orozco	pastoral work
		Helen Danielson	
		Ariel Bello	(in the southern areas of the City)
Institute	. . . .	Harold Olson	
		Cornelia Jensen	
		Mario Lara (Expecting that Mr. Lara will continue to teach as part of additional staff needed)	

- C. Voted that the time for taking possession of their placements on the part of Pausanias Wilches, Arnfeld Morck and Julio Orozco be subject to the date of Mr. Montoya's leaving for study. And that should it result impossible to arrange for Mr. Montoya to go to study thus in 1957 reconsideration of the placement of Morck, Wilches and Orozco be made.

- D. Voted that Olger Quanrud be Station Head for Tunja.

- E. Voted that Harold Olson be Station Head for Cocuy after Ostren leaves for furlough until beginning of Institute.

- F. Voted that Arnfeld Morck be Station Head for Bogotá
(DEF voted by Conference)

VI. Special

- A. Voted to recommend to the Board the opening of Work in Cali when that be found possible. (Voted by both Conference and PAC.)

VII. Voted to adjourn

Mrs. T. C. Hansen, Pres.
1606 Campus Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Mrs. John Nielsen, Vice Pres.
Box 305
Albert Lea, Minnesota

Mrs. C. C. Madsen, Treas.
R. R. 2
Blair, Nebraska

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

OF THE

UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mrs. Carl E. Christiansen, Rec. Sec'y.
Rt. 1, Kimball Road
Trufant, Michigan

Mrs. Paul G. Rasmussen, Stat. Sec'y.
Box 229
Neenah, Wisconsin

April 9, 1956

Pastor and Mrs. Arnfeld C. Morck
Aparado Aereo
Colombia, South America

Dear Friend:

At our Synodical W.M.S. board meeting we were discussing methods of giving our people more knowledge of the work on the foreign field. Pastor John Nielsen of Northfield, Minnesota wrote--

For some time now I have felt that I haven't had adequate mission coverage in the youth section. In order to partially remedy this situation I have asked Margaret Nissen to do an article for me before she goes back to Sudan. Now I would like to offer you, the W.M.S., the opportunity to present the needs of missions not only to the ladies of the church but also to the young people through a regular mission letter in the third issue of TAL each month. If some member of your staff would make the arrangements of writing to the various missionaries and assigning them their months, I would be very happy to run the letters. I would suggest that they run from 500-1000 words and that they be accompanied by a picture either of the missionary or of native mission scenes. (The Luther League would pay for the cuts. Then if you should decide to print another mission booklet, you could use them.) The letters, if they are to appear in the third issue, should be in my hands by the end of the preceeding month. I would state in TAL each time a letter appeared that arrangements had been made by the W.M.S.

If you should be interested in this offer, please notify me as soon as possible. I think it would be well if we could arrange a couple letters before convention so that you could actually refer the ladies to them at your meeting. That would mean that I should have the May letter by the end of April and the June letter by the end of May. If you would have the missionaries send the letters directly to me, it would save time.

We think this is a good suggestion and especially trying to get the young people to be interested in missions. We feel this would reach even more than a mailing list.

*Came ordinary mail
(for 2 of more - air mail)*

(2)

Pastor and Mrs. Arnfeld C. Morck

April 9, 1956

So we have made out the following schedule and hope you will be willing to help us with these letters.

May - Helen Danielsen	Nov. - Helen Margaret Jacobsen
June - Pastor Lloyd Neve	Dec. - Dr. Winther
July - Mr. Wahlgren	Jan. - Mrs. Wahlgren
Aug. - Mrs. Paul Johnson	Feb. - Pastor Paul Johnson
✓ Sept. - Pastor Morck	✓ Mar. - Mrs. Morck
Oct. - Mrs. Lloyd Neve	Apr. - Margaret Nissen

You will note that Pastor Nielsen writes "That would mean that I should have the May letter by the end of April". If you are willing to write a letter would you please see that your letter reaches Pastor John Nielsen- 316 North Plum Street - Northfield, Minnesota, by the end of the month which precedes the month opposite your name. If you do not feel you can do this please advise me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. T. C. Hansen

Mrs. T. C. Hansen

ado

3.

Bogotá, Colombia
August 21, 1956

Pastor John Nielsen
316 N. Plum Street
Northfield, Minnesota

Dear Pastor Nielsen:

We are happy for the opportunity presented to us by Mrs. T.C. Hansen, President of the WMS, in her letter of April 9, 1956, to present the cause of our church in Colombia through occasional articles in the Ansgar Lutheran. This letter is to comply with Mrs. Hansen's request that we write directly to you.

The Luther League in particular will be interested in knowing that Pastor Pausanias Wilches, who was ordained a year ago last June, was installed July 29 as the pastor of our Bogotá church. He has been assistant pastor since his ordination, Gerhard Ostrem being the senior pastor. We are striving to place the work here more and more in the hands of Colombians and therefore believe that it is an important step forward each time a congregation has a national pastor. It is encouraging to hear Pastor Wilches' solidly Biblical and Christ-centered sermons. He also teaches Catechism in the Bible Institute which it has been my privilege to head up this year in Pastor Harold Olson's absence.

The Bible Institute started its school year the first of March with 28 students, the largest enrollment in its history. The school year will close with a special service in our church on Reformation Day. You probably know that our program does not only consist of bible courses but also secondary school and some normal training. Some of the graduates serve as teachers in our elementary day schools, a few have gone on to study theology and become pastors and others go back to their communities and jobs as better-prepared and more effective Christian witnesses. Lack of classroom and dormitory space made it necessary to put up a temporary construction, giving us two additional classrooms, and to remodel a part of the old building for additional dormitory space (see accompanying pictures).

At the annual meeting of our still unorganized church a Colombian Luther League was organized with the interesting name of "Juventud del Castillo Fuerte" (Youth of the Mighty Fortress). This identifies us as a Lutheran youth group and automatically gives us the great hymn of the Reformation as our Luther League hymn. Leagues from Bogotá, El Cocuy, Sogamoso and Parpa will be active in this national organization. While the missionaries pushed hard to have a Colombian elected as Luther League president, majority vote favored Miss Belva Nerlien, capable youth director during the last several years on our Colombian field.

In Spetember Mr. Gustavo Rodríguez and family will leave for St. Paul, Minnesota, where he plans to study education at the University of Minnesota in preparation for special service in our educational program in Colombia.

I have related these facts in the form of a letter and in rather loosely constructed paragraphs, without any attempt at literary style, so please feel free to edit them and use them in any way you may wish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Arnfeld C. Morck

Personal Report
1956

Psalms 121:1-2. I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From whence does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made
heaven and earth.

The past year has been one of many and
various trials, but after the night comes
the day.

To be put on the shelf is not easy as
happened to me the past year. For several
months I was laid up with a bad
back and leg but thanks to God he
saw fit to restore me to health to the
extent that I can do my work again.

From May thru August I worked in
Sogamoso most of the time, when the
first part of Sept. I had the privilege
to organize the congregation there.

During that time I also visited
Tunja every month at least to
administer the Lord's supper to the
members of our church in that place.

Since the middle of Sept. I have had
charge of the work in Tunja most of
the time as Olivero Mora has made

several trips to some of the outlying districts of our territory and the last month and one-half he was absent from Tunja.

It has been a joy to administer to the flock in both places and I pray that the Word sown by the Gift of God may bear fruit to the Glory of His name.

In His Service

Olego Juarez

1956

COLOMBIA NEWS ITEM

In the face of the many limitations which hamper the lateral extension of our work it is encouraging to be able to report progress in the development of a responsible church in Colombia. Within the last two months two groups of believers have been organized as congregations; those of Casanare and El Cocuy. In Tunja there are twelve enrolled in the adult confirmation class. When these are confirmed it is hoped that the congregation there may also be definitely organized.

The theme of the annual "Asamblea" of our church in Colombia was: "Toward a Responsible Church". Nearly all of the studies and evangelistic messages were ^{ably} given by Colombian pastors and lay members.

A national Luther League was organized at this same meeting which will bear the interesting name of "Juventud del Castillo Fuerte" (Youth of the Mighty Fortress).

--A. C. Morck

"HITHERTO THE LORD HAS HELPED US"
(1956 High-lights on Colombia Mission)
by Supt. Arnfeld C. Morck

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Jeshanah, and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, 'Hitherto the Lord has helped us.'" I Sam. 7:12.

Upon taking stock of our God-given trust in Colombia at the close of another year (1956), it behooves us also to put up a "Stone of Help", an Ebenezer -- for God's faithfulness and almighty help have indeed been great!

Once again, surrounded by impossibilities, we have watched our God do the impossible! To Him be thanks and praise for having kept us in the faith and for having caused a few souls whom we have served to embrace this our precious faith.

Humbled by our failures, our negligence and the little we have accomplished, we kneel before God in confession and praise. We are indeed "unprofitable servants." Yet we are also objects of His unmerited love and mercy which become to us a greater marvel each day. How fitting for us is the exclamation by this bearded sage of by-gone millenniums: "Hitherto the Lord has helped us!"

The politico-religious picture remains much the same. The year began with nine of our members imprisoned in Socotá. Later, pastors P. Wilches and O. Mora, and Ariel and Arquimedes Bello spent about a week in the same place, accused of subversive activities. Ariel Bello was imprisoned a third time in Socotá and kept in custody for a few days in the Tunja penitentiary, among criminals of long standing, until he was released. The Bello family and others in the Socotá area have continued to be objects of persecution and threats. Redress has been difficult, not to say impossible, since the trouble has consistently and deliberately been instigated by the local Roman Catholic priest. (The Roman Catholic clergy is immune to interference by the arm of civil law.)

Mr. Carlos Leal, who courageously kept building the walls of the new chapel in Parpa (to replace the one destroyed by Roman Catholic fanatics in 1950) finally had to abandon the work to spend some time in the same foul-smelling

jail of Socotá. He is now among the refugees trying to make a living in the capital, and the sturdy stone walls he built stand roofless as a tacit witness to a faith which can wait.

Our primary schools in Parpa and Mausea still remain "sealed" in open violation of the national Constitution. A new decree in the field of education went into effect in 1956, requiring that religion in all public and private schools where Roman Catholics are enrolled be taught by a Roman Catholic. This forced Evangelical schools to require signatures of all parents enrolling their children, to the effect that they are non-Roman Catholic. Many nominal Catholics with Protestant inclinations sign; others vacillate because of what this may entail for their business, the education of older children, or because they are not able to stand by the same affirmation before the local ecclesiastical authorities. We understand that the Roman Church is now taking a house to house census in order to bring pressure to bear upon any who might deflect from its ranks. A shoemaker who is taking instruction for membership in our church and whose children are enrolled in our school had to give up his rented home and shop as a result of the public announcement from the pulpit of the local Roman Catholic Church of his excommunication.

This bigoted attempt to strangle Protestant education appears all the more preposterous when it is taken into account that in Colombia less than half of school-age children attend school and that the national school system, from primary to university levels, is directly controlled by the Roman Catholic Church.

Nevertheless, our schools in Bogotá, Sogamoso and El Carrizal continued, with a somewhat smaller attendance; a school was reopened in El Cocuy, and in Tunja a school was started, the first Evangelical school to operate in that city.

Enrollment at our Bible Institute was 28, the largest in its history. Twenty five students completed the year and three were graduated. More class room and dormitory space had to be provided, even though five aspirants had to be turned away because of failing the admittance examination. It is hard to turn down these young people, some of whom have not had the opportunity to complete their grade school work because our rural schools are not allowed, by local authorities, to operate. But we have no choice if the level of work done in the Institute is to qualify students to teach in our primary schools when they graduate.

During the course of the year two congregations were organized; those of El Cocuy and Casanare. Our young people's groups were organized into a national Luther League which they call "Juventud del Castillo Fuerte" ("Youth of the Mighty Fortress").

The Bogotá congregation, served since August first by Colombian Pastor Pausanias Wilches, assumed responsibility for his salary and other current expenses. Membership has not increased at the rate that could be expected, taking into account the number of refugees that come to live in the capital. This may be due to their attending the church nearest the place they happen to locate, and in some cases because we have failed to show on the rural level that the Lutheran Church is different and thus instill in them sufficient loyalty to seek it out as the only choice upon coming to Bogotá.

More responsibility in financial support is evident in most of our groups even if the net results do not seem very tangible over against the continued rise in cost of living and the difficulty many have in getting paying jobs. Efforts are made to attack this problem from two angles: deepening of the spiritual life and responsibility of members, and helping them find ways of strengthening their economic standing.

On the whole, there is need of striving for a more spontaneous witness on the part of our members. The little struggling, but winning, group at Tunja is to be commended in this respect for leading the way in more organized visitation of prospective members by volunteers in the congregation. Eight new members were confirmed in Tunja on Christmas Day.

Services in Medellín were discontinued in March when it became necessary for Pastor Quanrud to take his wife to the United States for further medical treatment. All medical resources here had been tapped to no avail. What finally proved to be multiple myeloma brought death to Phoebe Quanrud only three days after reaching the States. Her going on to rest in the presence of the Lord ends a beautiful life of consecrated witness to God's love. The sweet humility of her ministry is keenly missed by all of us and not least by Pastor Quanrud and son Nathanael who returned to Colombia in June.

Mr. Julio C. Orozco, who returned to Colombia in May after a year of study at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., has continued in the literature program, his main assignment during the year being translation of the Lenski Commentary.

Mr. Octavio López, with his family, went to Argentina to begin his theological training at the "Facultad Luterana de Teología" whose new building was dedicated in September. Mr. Rodrigo Quintero completed his second year of study at the same seminary.

Mr. Gustavo Rodríguez, active member of our Colombian church, and member of its Provisional Administrative Council, began a special course of graduate work in education at the University of Minnesota. We are especially grateful to Pastor A.W. Haugan and Dr. R.A. Syrdal for making the Rodríguez family feel at home in St. Anthony Park.

Architectural plans for the Sogamoso project were finally completed and approved by the municipality, and construction ready to begin. Gratitude is

expressed to our friends of the W.M.F. in North America who have faith to launch out with us on a major building program in Colombia today. Mr. Juan N. Montoya has done a good piece of work in that city. Four children and one adult were baptized and eleven were confirmed in Sogamoso in December.

Highlights of the year were the annual "Asamblea" of our church in June and the Centennial celebration of Protestantism in Colombia in July. At this time we were also blessed and inspired by the visit of Dr. Andrew S. Burgess, Professor of Missions at Luther Seminary.

Membership gains were not large on our field; only 59 during the year: 17 children baptized, 1 adult baptized, 41 confirmed converts from nominal Romanism.

But knowing that "Hitherto the Lord has helped us", we look with realistic confidence to the future. Plans are under way to launch a "family altar" campaign in our congregations with the aim to establish daily devotions in every home. Then will follow an adaptation of the "Preaching-Teaching-Reaching" program.

Conditions in Colombia and in the world accentuate the urgency of our task of bringing Christ to the nations. How can the greatest number of people be reached in the shortest possible time with the message of His love and power is the disquieting question that spurs on His Church today. How can those reached be kept in His grace and deepened in the knowledge of His love?

God make us uneasy, unselfish and untiring!

1957

FROM SOGAMOSO TO MEXICO
(Juan Nelson Montoya, founder of Lutheran work in Sogamoso studies Theology in Mexico City)

Juan Nelson Montoya's going to study at the new seminary ("Seminario Augsburgo") of the American Lutheran Church in Mexico City is another step forward in the development of an indigenous Lutheran ministry in Colombia. Two men from our Colombia field are studying at the LWF Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Three men have been trained at Concordia Seminary (Mo. Synod) in Argentina and one at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. Our shift to the newly organized Seminary in Mexico is thought advantageous in view of the pending merger and the greater similarity of the Colombian environment to the Mexican. All of the present student body are Latins, whereas at the Buenos Aires Seminary the only Latins are our two Colombian students. Buenos Aires has no Latins on the teaching staff while Mexico has three part-time Mexican professors.

Our readers will be interested in Mr. Montoya's remarks in this issue, which he was requested to write in English. Mr. and Mrs. Montoya started our Lutheran work in the city of Sogamoso two years ago. Their main assignment was the boarding school operated primarily for the benefit of Lutheran and non-Roman Catholic children from the Plains area, which is Roman Catholic "mission territory" and where protestant schools are outlawed. However, the Montoyas have also carried on an active program of evangelism. Through contacts made in the City there is now a nucleus of 15 communing members and an average attendance at Sunday services of about twice that number.

When the Montoyas were about to leave for Mexico appreciative friends, whom they have served with the Gospel, crowded into the little provisional chapel for a farewell service. The congregation presented them with a beautiful leather suit case. (See picture). These friends will follow them in prayer during the years of study at the Seminary.

The building project in Sogamoso progresses normally. As these lines are being written the steel, plumbing and forms are almost ready for pouring the concrete of the 2nd-floor slab. The brick wall surrounding the property is completed. It is hoped that the whole project of this first unit will be finished about September. This, Thanks to the Womens Missionary Federation of the ELC, will provide us, for a number of years with adequate space for class rooms, dormitories, Chapel and living quarters for the director and his family.

- Arnfeld C. Morck

1957

"FIRMES Y ADELANTES" IN COLOMBIA
by Arnfeld C. Morck

"Firmes y adelantes, huestes de la fe", Juan B. Cabrera's Spanish rendering of "Onward Christian Soldiers marching as to war", is symbolic of the firm and steady, if not unhampered, progress of the Colombian church. Political upheaval and uncertainty in government circles, ^{the} subtle operation of terrorist groups favoring the fallen dictatorship, economic inflation, stark poverty, the unrelenting maneuvers of Roman intolerance, indifference, irresponsibility, immorality, vengeance and vice are some of the foes which Evangelical forces in this country face as they press forward.

In writing these lines we shall limit ourselves to a few glances at our Colombian Lutheran Church in the total picture.

Brighter Skies

All of us are hopefully wondering if the popular overthrow of the Rojas dictatorship last May will not lead to a stable and democratic form of government and a broader interpretation of religious liberty for Evangelicals and other minority groups. From North America we hear that the Colombian Ministry of Government has given orders to reopen Protestant churches and schools closed during the Gómez and Rojas dictatorships. However, upon personal inquiry at this government office, we are informed that such an order is still pending, except for the opening of one church (Pentecostal). If promises mean anything, we are to hope that the general order will be forthcoming within the next couple of weeks. Experience has taught us to pray and work, always seasoning our hopes with the trite Spanish phrase "Vamos a ver" (We shall see).

Focus on "City of the Sun"

The congregation in Sogamoso was organized in September with the Rev. Gerardo Wilches as pastor. The Dedication of the new building is planned for November 3d and will climax the Luther League Rally scheduled for Nov. 1-3. Reformation Day in Sogamoso will be celebrated by showing the Luther Film.

This famous movie, recently "taught" to speak Spanish, has been enthusiastically received by the Protestant churches of Colombia.

The school building in Sogamoso will provide dormitory space for about 40 boarding students, classroom space for 100 or more, an apartment for director (now occupied by the pastor), a guest room, office, reading room, dining room, kitchen, and an auditorium which will serve as a chapel until expansion and means make necessary and possible the erection of a church and a parsonage on the same property. Meanwhile, it is hoped that the building site, cultivated by the students under a 4-H program, will yield vegetables for the school dining room table.

The cost of this building, about \$47,000 dollars, has been covered almost entirely by gifts from the Women's Missionary Federation of the ELC.

Educational Unit in Bogotá

In back of the Bogotá church a small educational^{unit} is rapidly taking shape - also from WMF funds given in memory of the late Mrs. Normann, former president of the WMF of the ELC.

Schools Needed

Two rural areas in the vicinity of El Cocuy have asked for schools. Plans are under way to supply one of them with a school beginning in February, 1958, and using the facilities of a farm house for classroom and teacherage. We hope also to reopen one of the schools in the Socotá area.

Toward a Responsible Church

Moving slowly toward self-support, the Provisional Administrative Council of the as-yet-unorganized Lutheran Church of Colombia voted to adopt a "grant-in-aid-to-a-church" plan by which the Colombian church will progressively assume financial responsibility. This plan includes a church extension fund for the Colombia field. Plans are under way for organizing the Colombian church at its annual meeting in July of 1958.

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end."

This promise of answer to prayer was of great encouragement to me during the year of 1957. How often I have to be reminded by Him, of His grace for me.

I had a blessed furlough year as of Nov. 5, 1956. After spending the first weeks at home, I attended Camrose Lutheran Bible Institute for five to six weeks and received much from God through the study of His Word. From then on much of my time was spent traveling on behalf of our Colombia mission to different W.M.F. groups, and conventions and churches. It was gratifying to see such interest manifested in several places. In May, I was in and around Sioux City, Iowa for a week. There, the circuit W.M.F., which has taken on partial support of me, is very much interested in our activities in Colombia. In August, I was privileged to attend the L.M.F. Assembly- and experience of a life-time for abst. of us.

November 5 I arrived in Bogotá in time to sit in on the teacher's Institute. About one and a half weeks later Tunja became my home. Here I have visited, conducted English classes had vacation Bible school and have made weekly visits to Sogamoso.

When I was home, I noticed a great deal of enthusiasm for Sogamoso, and W.M.F. convention offerings were good. Since my weekly visits to Sogamoso began I too, have become a Sogamoso enthusiast and wish some our women at home could see the project. With the openness and liberal spirit of that city, I personally feel we should put all we can unto that place and work while it is day. They will receive us; let us put our energies and prayer into the advancement of the kingdom there. We are thankful to God for the faithful workers that have been in Tunja during these past years and let us continue to pray with them that something will break there before too long. God's promise comes back to us, "... is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

Joyce Bergh

INFORME GENERAL

Sobre la marcha de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en Colombia durante el año de 1957, presentado en reunión del CAP y la Misión el 16 de enero de 1958.

"Levántate, resplandece; que ha venido tu lumbre, y la gloria de Jehová ha nacido sobre ti. Porque he aquí que tinieblas cubrirán la tierra, y oscuridad los pueblos: Mas sobre ti nacerá Jehová, y sobre ti será vista su gloria." Isaías 60:1,2.

Este mensaje de Epifanía es para nosotros un clarín que nos llama a levantarnos y resplandecer más que nunca y a entrar por las puertas que esta hora nos franquea, ^a ~~de~~ echar mano a las oportunidades que se nos presentan para conquistar nuevos terrenos para el Señor.

No cabe duda de que el acontecimiento de más importancia para Colombia en el año 1957 fué la derrota de la dictadura el 10 de mayo. El desahogo, el palpitar de la libertad, y la esperanza de mejores tiempos en el futuro que se han verificado desde entonces no pueden sino reflejarse también en la vida y la esperanza de nuestra iglesia. Sin ser indebidamente optimistas y sin poner nuestra confianza en los hombres y en las situaciones políticas y sociales, damos gracias a Dios porque El nos ha sostenido y guardado durante los tiempos difíciles por los cuales hemos venido luchando y porque ahora se nos aparecen nuevos horizontes sobre el panorama nacional.

Con la ayuda de Dios y a petición de los interesados hemos extendido nuestra actividad a dos nuevos campos; uno rural y otro urbano, o sean, Rechiniga y La Dorada. Debemos mencionar también visitas hechas por miembros de nuestra iglesia a Chiscas, Miraflores, Soatá y Nunchía. En este último lugar se llevó a cabo una escuela bíblica de vacaciones por la Srta. Hilma Bello.

Gracias a Dios y a nuestros hermanos en el norte, se han construido dos edificios para el uso de nuestra iglesia en Colombia. Es motivo de gozo y gratitud el que durante los meses de construcción del colegio en Sogamoso no hubo persecución que estorbara el progreso de la obra y que todo, inclusive la inauguración del edificio el 3 de noviembre, se llevó a cabo sin dificultad y con las

bendiciones de Dios. Esta nueva casa de Dios ha ayudado mucho en aumentar la asistencia en los cultos y parece que el Liceo Colombo-Americano de Sogamoso tendrá cupo completo en el próximo año escolar.

Las Aulas Normann en Bogotá proporcionarán campo para el funcionamiento de la escuela dominical y la escuela primaria de nuestra iglesia en esta ciudad.

La Asamblea de la iglesia, celebrada en junio, señalaba algún progreso hacia una iglesia autóctona al asumir ella más responsabilidad en sus asuntos financieros y sus planes para llegar a una organización más definitiva. En estas reuniones fuimos enriquecidos por los mensajes y estudios dados por el Pastor Roberto Gussick de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de El Redentor de Balboa, y por los de nuestros pastores y laicos colombianos.

Durante el año hemos gozado también de unas distinguidas visitas: Las del Obispo Hanns Lilje de Hannover, presidente hasta agosto de la Federación Mundial Luterana; el Rector Béla Leskó de la Facultad Luterana de Teología en Buenos Aires; el Rdo. Tomás Spitz y su señora esposa quienes viajaban por América Latina para establecer nuevos contactos y renovar los ya existentes para su programa radial de "Cristo para Todas las Naciones"; el Pastor Carroll Hinderlie, Secretario Ejecutivo de la Liga Luterana de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Norte América quien fué nuestro predicador para el congreso de la Juventud del Castillo Fuerte en Sogamoso, el liceo de maestros y el retiro de ~~los~~ pastores; el Dr. Syrdal, Secretario Ejecutivo de las Misiones Foráneas de nuestra iglesia en Norte America, quien nos visitó a su regreso del Brazil donde fué para investigar las posibilidades de nuevos campos de trabajo en aquel vasto país.

Fué posible durante los meses de junio, julio, agosto, septiembre y octubre realizar un nuevo método de predicar el evangelio e interpretar el mensaje de nuestra iglesia en Colombia, o sea, la proyección de la película de Martín Lutero más de 70 veces por el Pastor Julio C. Orozco en las ciudades principales de Colombia. Es de notar que estas proyecciones han sido recibido con mucho entusiasmo

por los evangélicos de Colombia, y que en ninguna parte hasta donde sabemos haya resultado en reacción desfavorable. La iglesia presbiteriana también ha ~~introducido~~ ^{traído al país} una copia de la misma película y la están presentando con los mismos buenos resultados en sus iglesias.

Salieron para el norte en viaje de estudios, conferencias y descanso, las Srtas. Belva Nerlien y Helen Danielson, y regresaron a nuestro medio para reanudar sus labores la familia Ostrem y la Srta. Joyce Bergh. Lamentamos la renuncia de las Srtas. Valborg Torkelson y Elizabeth Heerde y hacemos votos al Señor para que El les encamine y bendiga en sus nuevos labores, y les expresamos nuestra gratitud por los años de trabajo y sacrificio que han llevado no pocos frutos aquí en Colombia.

Salió para iniciar estudios teológicos en el Seminario Augsburgiano de México el Sr. Juan Montoya acompañado por su familia. Los estudiantes López y Quintero continúan sus estudios en la Facultad de Teología Luterana en Argentina. El Sr. Gustavo Rodríguez ha conquistado honores singulares por medio de sus estudios en la Universidad de Minnesota y espera salir con el grado de Master of Arts en Pedagogía en febrero de 1958.

Aquí en nuestro medio las escuelas primarias han continuado con éxito dirigidos por nuestros buenos maestros. El Instituto Bíblico-Cultural, aunque con número más reducido que el año pasado, ha hecho valioso trabajo en la preparación de nuestra juventud para servir al Señor.

La preparación del proyectado Himnario y Manual de Culto en que nosotros estamos colaborando con otras iglesias de América Latina ha progresado normalmente durante el año. Ya están casi listos los materiales del Manual y la revisión de los himnos (unos 416). Al comité de música le falta poco para terminar sus labores en las tonadas de los himnos. Se ha hecho una nueva traducción del Catecismo Menor de Martín Lutero por el distinguido literato Gutierrez Marín

de España que aparecerá en el nuevo Manual de Culto después de haber sido revisado por los miembros de nuestro comité y pastores de los distintos campos.

En nuestras congregaciones se realizó una campaña en pro del culto de familia. Dios quiera que haya resultado en más fervor cristiano y consagración al evangelio en los hogares. Debe continuarse esta campaña ya que estamos convencidos ^{de} que el evangelio en el hogar es el secreto para lograr un evangelismo espontáneo que ha de conquistar a nuestros semejantes.

Cabe también recalcar la urgencia de reforzar el trabajo de nuestras escuelas dominicales y la instrucción de aspirantes para la feligresía de nuestras congregaciones.

check
Por falta de informes completos
 Las ofrendas de las congregaciones han ~~dejado~~ *dejado* todas menos las de Casanare que muestran un considerable aumento. El total de ofrendas de las congregaciones, *informar con exactitud sobre la* sin incluir a Tunja (que no informó), es de \$11,443.68. El presupuesto para el *aspirantes. Pero parece que ha* año en curso montará a unos \$75,000.00 pesos. *habrá un pequeño aumento.*

El aumento en la feligresía de nuestras congregaciones es lamentablemente poco: En Bogotá 12 (por bautismo 7, y por confirmación 5)

En Tunja 1 (por bautismo)

En Casanare 6 (por bautismo 4, por confirmación 2)

En Sogamoso, ninguno

En El Cocuy 7 (por bautismo 4, por confirmación 3)

--Un total de 26 miembros. Bogotá informa de 7 que se han retirado. El Cocuy informa de dos defunciones y Casanare de una. Esto significa una pérdida de 10 miembros. Quedamos con una ganancia neta de 16 miembros.

De obreros somos 4 pastores nacionales, un evangelista, 10 maestros de escuela, y 10 misioneros extranjeros, o sea, un total de 25 obreros que hemos dedicado tiempo completo, o sean, 365 días para ganar a 16 personas. Veinticinco obreros y 260 miembros comulgantes hemos conquistado a 16 almas en todo un año!!

Qué Dios tenga misericordia de nosotros y que no corte el árbol infructífero! Me dirán que otros se han ganado para Cristo que no han sido recibidos todavía en los registros parroquiales. Ojalá que así sea! Pero, ¿dónde están los que se ganaron el año pasado y el antipasado?

Estas mudas cifras nos acusan, nos hacen tomar inventario de nuestras vidas, nuestra consagración, nuestro testimonio y lo ineficaz de nuestro trabajo. Nos hace llorar y clamar a Dios por misericordia y perdón y porque mande a nuestros corazones el Espíritu de avivamiento y consagración.

Hermanos míos, aceptemos la invitación divina de levantarnos y resplandecer con la Luz del Evangelio para que el año que empezamos sea de una cosecha abundante de almas preciosas a Quién murió por ellas.

--Arnfeld C. Morck

ANNUAL REPORT - 1957

Translation of Annual Report on the Colombia field given in Spanish at joint meeting of Provisional Administrative Council and Missionary Conference, Jan. 16, 1958, by Superintendent A.C. Morok.

"Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you." Isaiah 60:1,2.

This Epiphany message is to us a clarion calling us to "arise and shine" as never before, to enter new doors that swing open to us at this hour, and to grasp the opportunities which are ours to conquer and claim new territories for the Lord.

For Colombia the most important political event in 1957 was undoubtedly the fall of the dictatorship on May 10th. The sense of relief, the thrill of liberty and the yearning hopes for better times in the future which its people have lived since that date reflects also in the life and hope of our church. Without being unduly optimistic and without placing our trust in men nor in political and social conditions, we give thanks to God for sustaining and keeping us during the difficult times through which our church has fought its way and for the new horizons now visible over the Colombian panorama.

By God's help and upon the invitation of interested people in these places, we have expanded our activity into two new fields of labor, one rural and the other urban - Rechiniga and La Dorada. Worthy of mention is also the fact that members of our church have made visits to Chisceas, Miraflores, Soatá and Nunchia. In the latter place Miss Hilma Belle conducted vacation Bible school.

Thanks to God and to our brethren in the north, two buildings have been erected for the use of our church in Colombia. That the construction of the school in Sogamoso and its dedication on November 3, 1957, were carried out unhindered by persecution and with God's constant blessings, is reason for rejoicing and thanksgiving. This new house of God has already proved to be useful in helping to increase attendance at services, and it seems that the "Liceo Colombo-Americano" of Sogamoso will have capacity enrollment for the coming school year.

The Normann Memorial Unit in Bogotá will provide space for the Sunday School and elementary school of our church in that city.

The annual "Asamblea" held in June pointed up some progress toward an indigenous church in its assuming more responsibility in financial support and in the plans for more definite organization. During these meetings we were blessed and enriched by the Pastor Robert F. Gussick of Redeemer Lutheran Church of Balboa, as also by those given by our local pastors and laymen.

In the course of the year we have enjoyed visits by other prominent people: Bishop Hanns Lilje of Hanover, past president of the Lutheran World Federation; Rector Bela Leskó of the Facultad Luterana de Teología en Buenos Aires; the Rev. Thomas Spitz (and Mrs. Spitz) touring Latin America in the interest of the Lutheran Hour program "Bringing Christ to the Nations"; Pastor Carroll Hinderlie, Executive Secretary of the Luther League of the ELC in North America, who was guest speaker at the youth rally of our "Juventud del Castillo Fuerte", the teachers' institute and the pastors' retreat; Dr. Rolf A. Syrdal, Executive Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of our church in North America, who visited us on his way back from Brazil where he had been surveying possible new fields of labor.

During the months of June, July, August, September and October another means of preaching the Gospel and interpreting the message of our church in Colombia was

brought into use as Mr. Julio Orozco showed "Martin Luther" more than 70 times in the principal cities of Colombia. It is noteworthy that the projection of this film was enthusiastically received by Evangelicals and "sympathizers" in Colombia and that nowhere, as far as we know, has it resulted in an unfavorable reaction. The Presbyterian Mission has also brought a copy of the film into the country and is showing it in its churches with the same good results.

On furlough in the north are Belva Nerlien and Helen Danielson. The Ostrem family and Joyce Bergh have returned to take up their work again in our midst. We regret Elizabeth Heerde's and Valborg Torkelson's resignation and pray that the Lord may lead them and bless them in new fields of activity. We wish to express our gratitude to them for their years of work and sacrifice which have borne not a little fruit in Colombia.

Mr. Juan Montoya and family left for Mexico where Juan began his theological studies at Augsburg Seminary. Students López and Quintero continue their studies at the "Facultad Luterana de Teología" in Buenos Aires. Mr. Gustavo Rodríguez is doing outstanding work at the University of Minnesota and hopes soon to obtain his Master Degree in Education.

Here in Colombia our elementary schools, headed by our own good teachers, have continued their successful work. The Instituto Bíblico-Cultural, even though with a smaller enrollment, has rendered valuable service in preparing our youth for service in God's Kingdom.

Work on the proposed Hymnal and Service Book in which we are cooperating with other Lutheran groups in Latin America has progressed normally during the year. The materials for the Service Book and the revision of hymns (some over 400) is nearing completion. A new translation of Luther's Small Catechism to the Spanish has been made by Gutierrez Marín, outstanding Spanish author and translator, which will appear in the new Service Book after having been duly checked by the Committee and by pastors in the various fields.

A "family altar" campaign was carried on in our congregations which we trust has resulted in more Christian fervor and consecration to the Gospel in the homes. This effort should be continued. We are convinced that the Gospel in the home is the secret of a spontaneous evangelism that will bring our fellowmen to Christ.

There is need to emphasize and urge the strengthening of our Sunday Schools and our instruction classes for prospective members in our congregations.

For lack of exact information in the congregational statistical reports it is not possible to give an accurate picture of progress in offerings. There appears to have been some increase, however.

Increase in membership has been regrettably small: In Bogotá, 12 (by baptism 7 and by confirmation 5); in Tunja 1 (a child baptized); in Casanare 6 (by baptism 4 and by confirmation 2); in Sogamoso none (some members of confirmation class left town and one died; others were thought too immature); in El Cocuy 7 (by baptism 4 and by confirmation 3) - a total of 26 members. Bogotá reports that seven have left the church. El Cocuy reports the death of one member and Casanare one. That means a loss of ten members and leaves us with a net gain of 16 members.

We are four Colombian pastors and an evangelist, ten day-school teachers and ten foreign missionaries, a total of 25 workers who gave nearly all of our time, or 365

days, to gain 16 persons. Twenty-five workers and 260 communicant members have won 16 souls for Christ in one whole year!! God have mercy upon us and spare this fruitless tree! You will say that others have been won for Christ who have not yet been added to the church records. We trust that this is true, but where are those we won last year and the year before?

These mute figures accuse us and make us take inventory of our lives, our consecration, our testimony, our methods, and the inefficiency of our work. They cause us to weep and to cry to God for mercy and pardon, and to implore Him to pour out upon our hearts His Spirit of awakening and consecration.

Brethren, let us accept this challenge and divine invitation to "arise and shine" with the light of the Gospel so that the year we have now begun may bear an abundant harvest of souls precious to Him who died for them!

HIMNO No. 104 del "Manual de Culto Cristiano"

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Tu de los fieles Eterna Cabeza,
De tierra y cielos divinal Señor,
Sobre tus siervos abre con largueza
Raudales puros de tu inmenso amor. | 4. Sabiduría, mansedumbre y celo
De Ti reciban, y sagrada unción,
De salvar almas incansable anhelo
Y el estimable don de la oración. |
| 2. Ellos al mundo tus preciados dones
Enseñarán; proclamarán salud;
Dales tu gracia, da a sus corazones
Por ornamento, santa rectitud. | 5. Al pecador con caridad corrijan.
Del flaco 'sean eficaz sostén,
A los cansados con amor dirijan
Por los caminos de verdad y bien. |
| 3. Cuando a los hombres con amor enseñen
De tu evangelio celestial verdad,
Su ministerio santo desempeñen
Ardiendo el pecho en férvida piedad. | 6 Brillen cual astros en tu diestra mano
Mientras el mundo habiten del dolor:
Y al poseer tu reino soberano,
Corozas ciñan de inmortal fulgor. |

RITO DE ORDENACION - a cargo del Rdo. Arnfeld C. Morck
HIMNO No. 47 de "Alabanzas"

Herencia eterna nos será De Cristo la Palabra, Y predicarla sin cesar Es nuestra gran tarea.	Ampero en el vivir; Consuelo en el morir; Guardemos su verdad, Por toda eternidad En fe y en vida, pura.
---	--

ANUNCIOS Y OFRENDA
HIMNO No. 59 de "Alabanzas"

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Refugio de este pecador,
Iré, Jesús, a Ti:
En las riquezas de tu amor
Acuérdate de mí. | 3. Auxíliame, Señor Jesús.
Libértame del mal;
En mí derrama de tu luz
Bellísimo raudal. |
| 2. Confieso que culpable soy,
Confieso que soy vil.
Por Ti empero salvo estoy,
Seguro en tu redil. | 4. En toda mi necesidad
Escucha mi clamor.
Revísteme de santidad
Y cólmame de amor. |

LA SANTA COMUNION (Páginas 9-13 de "Alabanzas")
HIMNO No. 55 de "Alabanzas"

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Jesús, Señor bendito, doy
A Ti eternas gracias hoy;
Tu cuerpo y sangre, don de amor.
Me concediste, Salvador. | 2. Oh canta, mi alma, en gratitud
¡Cuán rico soy en mi Jesús!
El mora ya en mi corazón.
Bendito soy por este don. |
|---|--|

LA COLECTA DE GRACIAS

LA BENDICION

La Congregación cantará:
AMEN, AMEN, AMEN.

POSTLUDIO = "Andante Religioso"

Mendelssohn

LA ORDENACION

AL SANTO MINISTERIO

EN

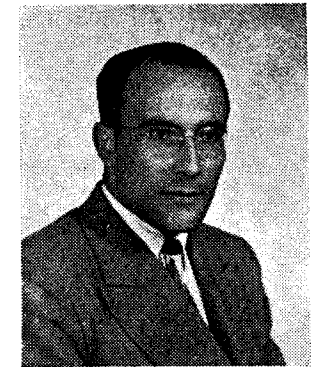
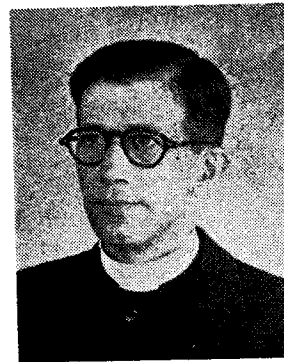
LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA

de

JULIO C. OROZCO O.

Y

OLIVERIO MORA A.



IGLESIA DE EL REDENTOR

Bogotá, Colombia

el día veintisiete de julio de
mil novecientos cincuenta y ocho

Rdo. Arnfeld C. Morck - Oficiante

Rdo. Prusias Wilches P.	} Celebrantes
Rdo. Gerardo Wilches C.	

late 1958

FURROWS OF GOD
(An appraisal of the Lutheran witness in Colombia)
by A.C. Morck

In August, 1958, Lutheran church papers in the Western Hemisphere reported the organization of a new Lutheran body known as "Iglesia Evangélica Luterana - Sínodo de Colombia" (Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod). One of them, "The Ansgar Lutheran", incorrectly made a further comment to the effect that there already existed another Evangelical Lutheran Church in Colombia with a membership of some over 2,000. Reference was to the foreign-language congregations of Bogotá, Cali, Medellín, Pasto and Barranquilla, which, however, are not bound together in any sort of a national organization. These congregations, under Lutheran World Federation auspices, could be described as foreign islands of Lutheran tradition and European culture with no purpose in mind of witnessing to the non-churched or the nominal Romanism which surrounds them. These congregations and other smaller foreign language Lutheran groups in Colombia, are served by Pastor Ernst Hochstrasser with residence in Bogotá, and Pastor Hermann Müller with residence in Cali. At present German-Peruvian "Diakon" Frederick Tidow is assisting in the Bogotá congregation.

Important for their self-preservation in the faith, these groups may some day play an important part in the evangelization of nominally-Roman Colombia. This can happen when a sense of Christian responsibility for the salvation of their neighbors ceases to be eclipsed by their loyalty to a certain language culture and spurs them into an active, contagious witness for Christ. We have been asked occasionally what relation, of any, exists between this European Lutheran element and the Colombian Church. We dare say that an effective cooperation could exist even now to the extent that their pastors are in command of the Spanish language and when^e their congregations do not discourage its use. LWF pastors and workers have on several occasions accepted invitations to take part in special activities of the Colombian Church. If our common faith, preached and taught to all without reservations and distinctions, were truly taken as the common denominator, we should immediately be launched ^{together} on the great mutual task of planting and extending the Church in Colombia.

Does there, then, exist an indigenous Lutheran witness in Colombia? What is the significance of the organization of the Colombia Synod last July? What is the importance of six tiny congregations (and one more in the process of organizing) meeting to form a "synod"? Perhaps it was pretentious to call ourselves a "synod"? Why not just a district or a dependent of the North American "Mother Church", on which it is still very obviously dependent for the greater part of its financial support?

Because, in spite of its small number of members (585 souls at the end of 1958), its present financial impotency and its lack of maturity, it does bear the main characteristics of an indigenous body: self-propagation and self-government.

It is scarcely more than twenty years since the first Lutheran missionaries began to plow and sow this field of God's Kingdom. A few groups of believers had been won (no congregations organized) when one of the cruelest persecutions in modern times was unleashed upon these defenseless sheep - yet not defenseless, for they have by the power of God survived more than ten years of discrimination and atrocities at the hands of bigotted political and religious forces. During this time of testing these groups of Christians have proven their sterling faith in Christ and their coherence as a church. Hence it was only natural, as they grew and multiplied, now with a more consciously Lutheran orientation, that at the sixth annual meeting of these congregations they should take the historic step of organizing the "Iglesia Evangélica Luterana - Sínodo de Colombia". No unwholesome nationalistic spirit prompted this independent organization. These Colombian Lutheran Christians are conscious of their small part in the Church Universal in which larger sense no church group should want to be "indigenous". They are appreciative of outside help in prayer, love and financial aid. Yet they are an indigenous group in the sense that we dare to believe that their Lutheran witness would continue undaunted even if the skeleton missionary forces (of three ordained men, two missionary wives, and four single ladies) were to be pulled out of Colombia today.

The Colombia Mission, from the beginning, has seen the importance of education and has understood, to some extent at least, that the primary objective of Christian missions is not only to preach the Gospel but to provide the permanent means by which the Gospel can be continuously preached and the Church rooted in native soil.

Toward this end the training school for evangelists and teachers (Instituto Bíblico-Cultural) has served effectively. Three of the four ordained Colombian pastors now serving congregations are products of this school, having received later their regular theological training abroad. Three evangelists now serving are graduates of this school. So are a dozen grade school teachers and a goodly number of active and responsible members throughout the churches. The Synod has at present two men in seminaries abroad ("Facultad Luterana de Teología" in Argentina and "Seminario Augsburg" in Mexico) and is grooming others for theological training.

The director of Synod's entire educational set-up (including training school program, elementary schools and parish education) is a young Colombian, trained in the Tunja University Normal School with post-graduate training and Master's degree at the University of Minnesota.

Only one foreign missionary is full-time pastor of a congregation. The rest are in education, parish, literature and administrative work. A frank and wholesome relation of cooperation and Christian understanding exists between the foreign and local personnel.

What is then the outreach of this infant church and its impact upon its surroundings? It consists of a daily, conscious and concerted Christian witness by its members in the different walks of life, the divine services and Sunday Schools in seven congregations and eleven preaching places, the action of a live youth organization, "Juventud del Castillo Fuerte" ("Youth of the Mighty Fortress").

The results, though not so flattering, can be pointed up in a tangible way by a glance at the gains God has given us insofar as they can be registered by the 1958 statistics.

During the year 105 new members were received; two by adult baptism, 37 by infant baptism, and 66 by adult confirmation, which represents a gain of about 22%. Nearly all of the 37 infants baptized are children of members. The 66 members received through adult confirmation are converts from nominal Romanism.

Young people of the Church are reaching the marriageable age and will be making their own homes. When one looks into the faces of the congregation, he is impressed by the large percentage of children and young people. For example, "The Good Shepherd" at Socotá has 32 confirmed members and a total of 85 souls, which means that there are 53 children.

This factor, together with the outreach into new areas, means that the Colombia Synod has by the grace of God a promising future. Two new areas were opened during 1958: La Dorada in the scorching Magdalena River Valley and Rechiniga in the chilly uplands of the Andes. "Brethren, pray for us!"

1958

"THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE"
A tribute to Missionary Gerhard Ostrem
— A. C. Morok

Gerhard Ostrem, veteran Lutheran missionary to Colombia, has, after a faithful ministry of more than a score of years, gone home to be with the Lord. We are stunned by the suddenness of his going, and sense a great void in our "missionary family". His voice of experience, his foresight, warm friendliness and devoted service are keenly missed by all.

Gerhard Ostrem will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the first Lutheran missionaries to this Republic of Colombia. He may be remembered also for his untiring work, dogged courage, unyielding faith, unfailing hope, pleasant, playful manner, the stern lines of a stubborn jaw quickly softened by a ready smile, the firm clasp of his strong, sincere hand, his generosity and unswerving devotion to his calling.

But those who worked together with Gerhard, observed him work, argued with him and loved him (it was impossible to dislike him), will remember him for his ministry of Love. He was a living exponent of I Corinthians, Chapter 13. Gerhard Ostrem loved God. He loved the work to which He had called him. He loved the people whom he served and they loved him. "So faith, hope and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

Symbolic of Ostrem's love for God's Word and its preaching was the last glimpse of him by friends gathered at the Bogotá airport. While being carried aboard the plane on a stretcher, he held aloft his Spanish Bible in mute testimony of what the Word meant to him, what it means to those who through its preaching have come to know God and whose duty it is in turn to "hold forth the Word".

This idea was carried out also in the bulletin prepared by Pastor Pausanias Wilches for the memorial service held in Redeemer Lutheran Church of Bogotá, June 12, 1958. On the front page is a drawing of a hand holding up the Bible. Pastor Wilches, in his sermon, made an earnest plea for young men to heed God's call and step into the ranks of Christian warriors to fill the gaps left by those fallen in battle.

We pray that Gerhard Ostrem's life, example and memory may contribute effectively toward that end.

Belva M. Nerlien

"IT IS GOD WHO ESTABLISHES US WITH YOU IN CHRIST, AND HAS COMMISSIONED US; HE HAS PUT HIS SEAL UPON US AND GIVEN US HIS SPIRIT IN OUR HEARTS AS A GUARANTEE."

True enough, there were times during my furlough when I wondered if the Lord could still use me in Colombia or if He would have me serve Him elsewhere; but I thank Him that He did lead me back here. I see before me a gigantic field of service as the New Year begins; so many aspects of the work could well take all my time that I wish I were several instead of just one weak, inadequate instrument. I love the work at the Institute; parish work and the contacts with people in different walks of life but all with the same spiritual needs is also intriguing; I see the great need of coaching Youth and Women's leaders, training Sunday School teachers and church workers in general; preparation of literature for these different groups would also well take all my time.

The Lord has given me a wonderful apartment in an ideal location. It holds out possibilities for gathering groups for special occasions now and then, and a quiet restful place for refuge from the constant presence of people as well as for quiet talks with needy souls. The day I applied for it and was bursting with gratitude for having been led to it, the Word from the Lord (found in Hallesby's God's Word for Today) was "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares". It indicated to me that God was giving me this place not for myself alone, but for the good of others.

But this was to be a report on the past year's work rather than a projection of myself into 1959. After my semester at The Biblical Seminary was over at the end of January, I profited by a brief visit to Philadelphia and Washington D.C. en route home. Once back in Wisconsin I made numerous short trips around the state and dipped into Minnesota and Illinois until my after-Easter longer itinerary into South Dakota as speaker for the W.M.F. conventions in their thirteen circuits. It brought many new names into my list of friends in Christ and a better insight into the splendid work of the W.M.F. as well as an opportunity to get acquainted with the Temperance Society of South Dakota and its fine program. All this enriched my experience and provided me with more to give on my return to the field. More than three hundred dollars were given me during this trip, which sum has been turned over to the work. In addition I received six hundred dollars from other speaking engagements and interested groups for the work in Colombia.

On my return here on July 6, I began to plan for the taking over of matron's duties and teaching of arithmetic, pedagogy and the Gospel of John at the Institute. Said duties began after the mid-year vacation and took my full time till the school year terminated. I became more and more convinced, as did my predecessors in this work, that we must have a Colombian woman take over the position of house mother; I thank God that Leonilde Montoya has accepted that responsibility for this year. In religious pedagogy class we started the preparation of the Vacation Bible School material, but this had to be revised, typed, mimeographed and assembled in the ten days following the closing of school. This I was able to do with the kind assistance of Leticia Corzo and Opal Olson. Then came two weeks of Teachers' Institute during which I taught the class in the ~~XXXXXX~~ teaching of religion and directed the boarding department with Edilma Peña's able help. Luzmila Mendivelso had charge of the housing. During the two-week Vacation Bible School, I served as supervisor of all the schools in Bogotá but especially helped in Barrio Restrepo where the teacher had less previous experience. My parish work was initiated during the month of December when I had these opportunities to know some of the children in outlying barrios and was able to make a few home calls.

Another satisfying experience of this new term has been the teaching of a young people's confirmation class the many Sundays that Pastor Morck has had to be absent.

The closing days of the year brought a brief respite as I spent Christmas in Tunja and briefly visited the school in Sogamoso.

INFORME DEL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSEJO SINODICO DE LA IELC
CORRESPONDIENTE AL AÑO DE 1958, PRESENTADO ANTE DICHO
CUERPO EL 20 DE ENERO DE 1959.

El año de 1958 fué un año de acontecimientos históricos para el mundo, para las Americas, para Colombia, y para nuestra Iglesia. Mientras los habitantes del mundo contemplaban pasmados el lanzamiento de satélites artificiales, navegaciones bajo las heladas capas polares, y otras hazañas humanas, ha seguido la lucha entre las reinantes ideologías políticas sociales y religiosas. En las Americas se han verificado en ciertos sectores, al menos, corrientes populares de gran significado para la libertad política y social. Los acontecimientos en el medio colombiano nos dejan respirar con más alivio, libertad y esperanza en el futuro.

*completo
esto también*

En lo religioso continua la lucha entre el romanismo y las corrientes surgidas de la Reforma, complicada esta lucha por las actividades de sectas "izquierdistas" y pseudo-cristianas. De gran significado es la estrategia actual romana recomendada por el CELAM (Concilio Episcopal Latinoamericano) de no proceder con violencia contra el protestantismo, sino combatirlo con ideas y por un esfuerzo concertado para ganar la simpatía y el respeto de todas las capas de la sociedad. En Colombia están llevando a cabo un programa eficaz entre el obrerismo y en los sectores rurales donde sus escuelas de radio y programa agrícola bajo unos veinte expertos ya tiene gran influencia entre las masas. Por tal hecho y por haber el país empezado a registrar un espíritu más tolerante y democrático podemos esperar menos dificultades por el lado de las persecuciones a la fuerza, pero no pensemos por un momento que nuestra tarea de anunciar el puro Evangelio y de extender la Iglesia sobre bases firmes en el territorio nacional sea más facil. Por el contrario será más difícil. Exigirá más estrategia de nuestra parte, un programa más inteligente y concertado, más amplitud y sobre todo una renovación de nuestro amor para con Cristo y los que El nos ha llamado para servir. Exige un esfuerzo incansable en la enseñanza parroquial, o sea, la escuela dominical y la instrucción catequística. Sin restarle importancia al buen trabajo de nuestras escuelas primarias y el Instituto Bíblico-Cultural, veo la educación parroquial, que corresponde a cada pastor y sus colaboradores, como cosa de todavía más importancia.

*Escuela
Parroquial
reducida*

Otra gran potencialidad para la evangelización es la juventud que, con una coordinación más eficaz con el programa total de la iglesia, obraría milagros.

Nuestro Padre Celestial nos ha sostenido con su gracia para continuar su obra al travez de pruebas y dificultades. Para todos fué un golpe dura la inesperada muerte de nuestro hermano, Gerardo Ostrem, y nos han ~~conado de menos~~ *hecho mucha falta* él y su apreciada familia. Sin duda compartimos el sentimiento de lo que escribe Lorraine, "Nuestra navidad fué un poco sóla sin papá, pero sabemos que él está lo más feliz allá con Jesús."

Damos gracias a Dios porque se pudiera abrir una nueva obra en La Dorada donde se radicó el Rdo. Julio C. Orozco con su familia a principios del año. El 17 de agosto fué inaugurada nuestra propiedad en esa ciudad; capilla, casa pastoral y escuela. En el mismo culto fué instalado el pastor y hubo un número de miembros que se recibieron por bautismo y confirmación y fué administrada la santa comunión por primera vez en La Dorada en congregación luterana. Aunque no oficialmente organizada hasta ahora, se conoce la congregación por el nombre de "La Santísima Trinidad".

En el transcurso del año se pudo organizar la congregación de Tunja con el nombre, "Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de ~~la~~ "Príncipe de Paz".

La de Socotá, compuesta de miembros en las veredas de Parpa y Mausá, se organizó el 26 de diciembre con el nombre de "El Buen Pastor".

Así, el Sínodo organizado en reunión solemne el 26 de julio de 1958 en Bogotá cuenta con seis (6) congregaciones organizadas y una (la de La Dorada) para organizarse.

El domingo, 27 de julio, fueron ordenados al Santo Ministerio del Evangelio los Sres. Oliverio Mora y Julio Orozco.

Una ~~nueva~~ escuela primaria fué puesta a funcionar en el páramo de Rechíniga bajo la hábil dirección de la Srta. Hilma Bello.

Cabe decir que la obra en toda la región de Gutiérrez se ve prometedora. En Chiscas se puede volver a tener cultos y escuela con el respaldo del pueblo.

La escuela de Parpa, dirigida por la Sra. Fideligna Ayala de Camacho, pudo funcionar nuevamente todo el año con la excepción de un mes largo cuando quedó cerrada por orden de las autoridades locales eclesiásticas y civiles. Presentadas las correspondientes quejas ante las autoridades superiores, éstas la ordenaron abrir. En la vereda de Parpa los miembros de la congregación están para poner el techo sobre las paredes de la nueva capilla que han quedado sin cubrir desde 1956 por motivo de la violencia.

En todos los lugares la obra ha continuado sin mayores dificultades y, lo que da pena admitir, sin mayores conquistas sea en el sentido numérico o en el del crecimiento espiritual.

La ganancia neta entre todas las congregaciones es de _____ miembros bautizados, _____ miembros comulgantes, y _____ miembros votantes. Claro está que no disponemos de instrumento para medir el progreso espiritual de nuestros miembros y tampoco nos corresponde tal cosa. Pero sin duda todos anhelamos ver mayor solicitud y fervor en el evangelismo personal, una convicción más profunda del pecado y más espontaneidad en la promulgación de nuestra fe.

De personal contamos con siete pastores ordenados con sus familias, cuatro señoritas (profesoras o visitadoras parroquiales), dos evangelistas y diez maestros de escuela, ^{y dos profesores del S. A. E.} A mediados del año volvió el Sr. Gustavo Rodríguez de los EE UU (acompañado de su familia) donde obtuvo el grado de "Masters" en pedagogía otorgado por la Universidad de Minnesota. Desde entonces el Sr. Rodríguez ha venido desempeñando el cargo de director de educación en el campo de nuestra iglesia. Además, en las distintas partes contamos con "voluntarios" que dan su tiempo y sus talentos para servir al Señor.

Dos estudiantes teológicos continúan su preparación en Argentina y México respectivamente. La actividad personal del Sr. Octavio López en José C. Paz ha resultado en escuela y cultos dominicales para el barrio en los predios de la Facultad Luterana de Teología. López es conocido en el barrio y es consejal en la junta directiva de la escuela oficial. Sus estudios siguen satisfactoriamente.

Según nos informan del Seminario Augsburguro en México, el Sr. Juan Montoya está haciendo buen progreso en sus estudios. La situación precaria de la familia Montoya en cuanto a su "status" de visa es motivo de preocupación, y hasta ahora no vemos una solución al problema.

Desconcertante en alto grado es el hecho de no haber terminado el Sr. Rodrigo Quintero sus estudios en la Facultad Luterana de Teología. Los posibles motivos de este fracazo y la actual situación del Sr. Quintero ante sus obligaciones con el Sínodo serán tratados en la presente reunión del Consejo.

En resumen quiero expresar sincero agradecimiento a todos mis colaboradores por su paciencia conmigo, su constancia en la obra y el compañerismo franco que hemos gozado en el Señor.

En sentido de recomendación quisiera recalcar lo mencionado anteriormente referente a la educación parroquial y presentar para su consideración los puntos 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 y 12 de la Agenda, especialmente lo que al evangelismo se refiere. Permítanme enfatizar otra vez la importancia de que los pastores y los directores del Instituto procuren hacer que los fieles lleguen a apreciar la himnología, usando himnos que realmente enseñan, edifican y estimulan la adoración. Debemos nosotros esforzarnos en cantarlos al debido compás. Existe una tendencia a veces de cantar demasiado despacio y así hacer que el himno sea difícil y cansón de cantar. Esto sucede a veces cuando el pastor no se preocupe por seguir el compás que marca el órgano o cuando una persona no competente es reclutada para tocar en los servicios, tal vez sin oportunidad de ensayar, y resulta que sencillamente no encuentra las teclas a tiempo. Así es preferible cantar sin órgano.

A propósito, el organista y el director de coro, si hay coro, deben tener con buena anticipación los números de himnos que se van a usar en el culto mayor para poder ensayarlos. El pastor y el director de coro deben colaborar en la forma más estrecha para que el número que canta el coro tenga relación con el día respectiva del año cristiano o con el tema del sermón, especialmente cuando tal número se canta inmediatamente antes del sermón. ~~Sobra decir que la función del coro no es para el entretenimiento de la congregación sino que debe servir un propósito muy claro en la adoración de la misma.~~ Es de mejor uso en la iglesia el que la congregación cante un himno (El himno principal del culto) antes del sermón para de esta manera orientar el pensamiento para el tema del día.

Podemos esperar con alguna seguridad tener en nuestras manos el nuevo himnario en el primer semestre de 1960. Sugiero que mientras tanto copiemos a mimeógrafo unos himnos para el uso en las congregaciones (correspondientes a los respectivos ciclos del año cristiano.)

Observaciones sobre el progreso del programa de literatura luterana y la reunión de Pennsylvania⁹⁸ harán en lugar aparte.

Hoy es día de oportunidad en Colombia y debemos aprovecharlo. Dijo Dios a Josué y a su pueblo: "Yo os he entregado, como lo había dicho a Moisés, todo lugar que pisare la planta de vuestro pie...Nadie te podrá hacer frente en todos los días de tu vida: como yo fui con Moisés, seré contigo; no te dejaré, ni te desampararé. Esfuérzate y sé valiente: porque tú repartirás a este pueblo por heredad la tierra, de la cual juré a sus padres que la daría a ellos. Solamente te esfuerces y seas muy valiente, para cuidar de hacer conforme a toda la ley que mi siervo Moisés te mandó: no te apartes de ella ni a diestra ni a siniestra, para que seas prosperado en todas las cosas que emprendieres. El libro de aquesta ley nunca se apartará de tu boca: antes de día y de noche meditarás en él, para que guardes y hagas conforme a todo lo que en él está escrito: porque entonces harás prosperar tu camino, y todo te saldrá bien." Josué 1:3, 5-8.

A nosotros nos ha llamado a conquistar una tierra también - "todo lugar que pisare vuestro pie" - Vamos a la conquista confiados en el poder y la fidelidad de Quién nos ha llamado.

--Arnfeld C. Morck

IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA - SINODO DE COLOMBIA

Informe de la Presidencia presentado ante la
Séptima Asamblea General, Julio de 1959.

"Así, que hermanos míos, amados, estad firmes y constantes, creciendo en la obra del Señor siempre, sabiendo que vuestro trabajo en el Señor no es vano".

—I Cor. 15:58.

Estas palabras del gran misionero cristiano, San Pablo, vienen muy al caso cuando pensamos en el cometido de nuestra iglesia en Colombia. Pues encierran una amonestación de estar firmes y de crecer en la obra del Señor; y una promesa de que tal trabajo no es vano. No es vano porque creemos firmemente en la resurrección de los muertos y que las almas ganadas para Cristo han de participar en la gloriosa resurrección de los justos y que por tanto toda obra hecha para extender y edificar la iglesia de Cristo en el mundo es un trabajo permanente. Si nos parece un trabajo muy lento tenemos la promesa de que es duradero en cuanto es hecho en Cristo.

Con gratitud hacia Dios recordamos la sexta asamblea en que El nos permitió constituirnos oficialmente en un sínodo.

Las congregaciones que lo componen habían mostrado su coherencia como tales en Cristo a través de años de pruebas y de persecuciones y se habían reunido cuando fuera posible en asamblea general para tratar sus mutuos problemas y coordinar la marcha de la obra y habían establecido para tal fin el "Consejo Administrativo Provisional" desde el año 1954. Por tal razón decimos ahora que estamos celebrando la Séptima Asamblea General aunque apenas hace un año que nos constituimos en sínodo.

Desde entonces hemos visto y experimentado las continuas bendiciones de Dios. Se ha podido abrir 5 escuelas primarias en nuestro campo de trabajo, de modo que funcionan ahora once escuelas bajo la eficaz dirección de 16 maestros y con la supervisión de nuestro director de educación, el Prof. Gustavo D. Rodríguez.

"PASTORS' INSTITUTE" IN BOGOTA

Nov. 1959

LWF and Colombia Synod pastors met October 5-7 in Bogotá for a "Pastors' Institute". Present were: Pastors Herman Müller and Ernst Hochstrasser, and "Diakon" Frederick Tidow of the Lutheran World Federation; and Pastors Pausanias Wilches, Harold Olson, Gerardo Wilches, Julio Orozco, Oliverio Mora and Arnfeld Morok of the Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod. (Pastor Olger Quanrud is on furlough.)

Lectures were given by Pastor George Posfay of "Resurrection Lutheran Church", Caracas, Venezuela, on:

I. "Our Ministry"; II. "Jesus Christ, the Church and the Church's Ministry"; III. "The Law and the Gospel in our Preaching"; IV. "The Unity of the Church".

Pastor Posfay, a poliglot who preaches in five languages (Hungarian, German, Swedish, English and Spanish) spoke at the regular mid-week service of the Colombian congregation and conducted services in Hungarian for his countrymen and in Swedish for the Scandinavian colony.

Prof. Gustavo Rodríguez, Synod's Educational Director, lectured on: I. "The Objectives of Parish Education"; II. "The Sunday School: It's Organization and Function"; III. "General View of the Church's Teaching Program"; IV. "Different phases of Parish Education".

"Diakon" Tidow explained the work of the Diaconate in the German church.

Pastor Julio Orozco reviewed the book, "Bridges of God" by McGavran, on mission policies, making pertinent application to the Latin American situation.

Pastor Herman Müller was in charge of the devotional periods.

A Lutheran Ministerial Association for Colombia was organized with Pastor Herman Müller as President and Pastor Pausanias Wilches as Secretary.

Julio/59

2.

Tres lugares han sido dedicados para la celebración de cultos: La capilla de La Dorada, la nueva iglesia de Parpa, y la capilla de Chiscas. La Capilla en La Dorada fué inaugurada el 17 de agosto de 1958. En esta festiva ocasión predicó el Pastor Pausanias Wilches de Bogotá quién fué acompañado por el coro de su iglesia que contribuyó muchísimo en el enriquecimiento de los cultos. Fué instalado el pastor; hubo bautismos, confirmaciones y Santa Cena. La congregación de la Santísima Trinidad de La Dorada sin organizarse oficialmente es pastoreada por el Rdo. Julio C. Orozco, y la Srta. Luz Mila Mendivelso es maestra de la escuela recién puesta en marcha este año.

Felicítamos especialmente a los hermanos de Socotá por el triunfo de haber logrado, al fin, después de sufrir ^{tantos} ~~reverses~~, colocar el techo sobre las paredes de piedra y así ^{poder} tomar en uso su nueva iglesia. Este santuario fué dedicado el 26 de abril del año en curso, con la participación del Sr. José Ayala N., el Dr. Syrdal, el cuarteto de la iglesia de El Redentor y el suscrito.

Muy festivo fué también la dedicación de la casa en Chiscas el tres de mayo por el Pastor Olson, asesorado por el Dr. Syrdal y el cuarteto de Bogotá. Felicítamos a las Srtas. Helena Danielson y Carleli Silva, al Pastor Mora, y a los hermanos de esta región por la buena marcha de esa obra recién reanudada.

Según los informes estadísticos de 1958, las congregaciones del Sínodo contaban con ^{un total de} 585 miembros al finalizar el año. Hubo un aumento de 105 miembros; 2 adultos bautizados; 37 niños bautizados y 66 adultos confirmados. Estos últimos provienen del romanismo nominal. En todo hubo una ganancia de aproximadamente 22% sobre la cifra del año anterior.

Aunque pequeño el sínodo y pocos sus miembros, creemos que es, como dicen las Escrituras, una levadura que ha de leudar toda la masa que la rodea.

(Improvisar sobre este "desafío" de nuestra iglesia)

Linfield E. Mora R.
Secretario

PERSONAL REPORT - 1959

Belva M. Nerlien

"And such were...you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God."

I Corinthis 6:11.

Many years ago now this verse came to my attention when I particularly needed its comforting assurance. With each succeeding year I have needed it a disconcerting number of times. "If thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with thee..."

Not only the spiritual but also my physical limitations are distressing, and I am constrained to echo the Psalmist's words again as he says: "What is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him?"

But He does care and I trust that some of His loving concern for His earthly creatures has shone also through me in my work as Bible Institute teacher and parish visitor in Bogotá this past year...despite all my failings. My relationship with Pastor Olson, director, Gustavo Rodríguez, professor, and Leonilde Montoya, teacher and girls' matron, was a happy one. The latter two as new teachers this year did much to make the spirit of the school better than last year. I was especially appreciative of Srta. Leonilde's work as resident matron and am pleased that she will continue in this capacity during the coming year.

I have also developed an ever-growing appreciation for Pastor Pausanias Wilches, God's faithful servant in La Iglesia de El Redentor. His integrity, consecration and his disposition to insist on that which is right and let the chips fall where they may are to be admired. Be it as preacher, counsellor, or home visitor, he has much to give.

Perhaps a few homely glimpses into my work will best tell about the little everyday encouragements ...and difficulties: I remember Dolfenia's remark when she found her counsellor interested in her problems and willing to go out of her way to give a spiritual lift. "Little did I think you would be so concerned", she said. Surely there was cause for me to do a little self-examining; no doubt I had given the impression of being busy and preoccupied. But I was also filled with a sense of the tremendous worthwhileness of the work to which I am called as I saw her hopes revive and her courage return. It was she too who showed most enthusiasm for the visitation program carried out with the Institute girls this year. If another girl could not go on her scheduled day, I could always count on Dolfenia as a willing companion.

Thanks to the Holy Spirit's working, hearts were touched and blessed and spiritual growth resulted from the study of the Gospel of John, my only Bible subject. One sometimes waits in vain in class to see the sparkling eye that reveals joy in a new discovery, but to compensate there were unexpected references to something gleaned from this study, sometimes in a conversation, or in a chapel talk or letter. It was especially thrilling to find that their remarks indicated a deeper probing into the text in question and not only assimilation of what had been given directly in class. Here was evidence that the Word was living and acting in their hearts.

It was my privilege to accompany two teams of students on their deputation trips to the congregations. After the one in which we did hours of hiking on mountain trails to reach our destinations, fun-loving, joking Melco came back to give an impromptu chapel talk that showed that he has many a serious thought in his head after all:

"As we traversed the seemingly endless trails amidst the beauty of God's creation, I thought to Christ's words: Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. I remembered also that He said: I am the Way". After seeing what good these short trips did the students in terms of seeing the harvest field with new eyes, I am glad many of them were able to take an active part in the work as evangelists or vacation church school teachers during ~~xxxxxxx~~ December and January. They will be better students and more consecrated Christians for the experience.

Just as these glimpses of the work of the congregations have challenged the students, my visits to the homes of members and inquirers have challenged me to prayer and have stirred in me greater compassion for and understanding of the people I am in Colombia to serve. They range from the little old lady on the hillside whose home is a shambles full of junk (but who prefers to live alone rather than be with daughters-in-law who molest and ridicule her for her faith), to the lawyer's wife who despite her well-furnished home has her problems too with illness and a husband who is not interested in church...and to the Hungarian immigrant families, many of whom are the result of mixed marriages and whose still-meager knowledge of Spanish makes communication most difficult. One sweet lady is concerned about her backsliding husband (her prayers and ours have been answered and he is on a firm footing again now); a young man about his wayward brother (the suggestion to pray and watch for an opportunity to witness was followed and "brother" now attends church almost every Sunday). Many need encouragement to come out for the pastor's class on Sunday morning and prepare for church membership. All too many are happy to be visited but can find numerous excuses for never becoming faithful church-goers.

But...no more time for visiting now: there's a houseful of guests to receive, or a committee meeting to attend, a Sunday School session to plan, or any of a dozen other interesting things that need doing. Excuse me, please.

CELMOSA MISSION

Superintendent's Report for 1959

"...So that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God." II Cor. 4:15.

The purpose of our ministry is that the grace of God may extend "to more and more people". The result is that thanksgiving may increase, to the glory of God. In fact, we may say that this thanksgiving and resultant glory to God is also the purpose. For if the people we serve, and we ourselves, have really become thankful people in the true sense of the word, God has reached His purpose in our lives.

Undoubtedly we have seen evidences of this thanksgiving during the year upon which the curtain has just fallen. We may also have been keenly disappointed by a spirit of thanklessness in those whom we had expected thankfulness for the grace of God so abundantly received, a spirit of "let's get all we can and give as little as possible". Nevertheless, "having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart".

No Interference by Civil Authorities

We thank God because there has been no interference in our work by civil authorities. On the contrary, in one case, that of the school in Paz de Ariporo, where the local priest ordered our school closed, the mayor refused to do so without orders from civil authorities. Such orders never came and the school continued.

Eleven elementary schools have functioned during the year, headed by 16 teachers, with a total enrollment of .

Work Resumed in Chiscas, etc.

Regular work has been resumed in Chiscas with residence of missionary Helen Danielson and the opening of a day school under the direction of Miss Carlely Silva in that town. The good attendance is encouraging. The property, including living quarters, school rooms and chapel, owned by the Mission since 1949, was dedicated on May 3, 1959, by Pastor Harold Olson and Dr. Rolf Syrdal. The various pastors, the educational director and others have made occasional visits to Chiscas to hold services since Pastor Mora's extensive parish (the whole Gutiérrez region) does not permit him to serve Chiscas regularly. It should be possible soon to organize a congregation in Chiscas.

Work in the whole Gutiérrez region is promising and continues to expand under Pastor Mora's leadership. However, more personnel is needed, especially to attain more systematic catechetical instruction in the "veredas" of Chiscas, Cocuy and on up to Rechiniga.

Socotá

The "Good Shepherd" congregation of Socotá has made progress during the year under José Ayala's quiet and unassuming leadership. It seems that he has been respected in his own community and has not been "despised because of his youth". It was your superintendent's privilege to serve this rural congregation as the responsible pastor during the past year. This consisted of a schedule of monthly visits to both Parpa and Mause. Pastors P. Wilches and H. Olson and Mr. Rodríguez each filled in with one such visit. Gratitude is expressed to these brethren for filling in during trips to the U.S.A. and other duties.

Seven communion services were held in Mause, eight in Parpa and seven private administrations in Coscativá.

During the year, 11 children and 2 adults were baptized; 23 persons were confirmed. Of these, 4 were young people baptized in our church. The remaining 19 were gains from nominal Romanism, several of whom have for many years identified themselves with the congregations but only now took the step of public confession of their faith through confirmation. This represents a gain of 38 souls. However, there were 3 infant deaths, leaving a net gain of 35 members (or 41%) and a total membership of 120. Of this total, 7 now live in Bogotá and should be given letters of transfer. At least 4 others are inactive and have not attended services during the year.

It was a great satisfaction for us to dedicate, with Dr. Syrdal's help, the new stone church, the construction of which had been suspended since 1956 because of persecution.

The group at Mause is very active and appreciative. Due to the distance which separates them from Parpa, rendering any real cooperation and fellowship all but impossible, they are now planning to organize separately and build a chapel.

Other areas

In Casanare they are also thinking of building a chapel. A simple structure for a school is already under way.

The Unitarian ("Jesus Only") Pentecostals, active in some parts of the Plains, have confused some of our people. Our work in the Plains needs strengthening, by a resident pastor and a chapel, perhaps in the town of Paz de Aripuro.

Sogamoso and La Dorada have not developed as we had hoped. But they are both very strategic centers and there are new contacts that we believe will lead to growth in both cities.

Tunja, always hard soil to work, looks more promising today than ever.

In Bogotá things go on normally - too normally. Is it not time Redeemer Lutheran "mothers" a congregation in South Bogotá?

Institute

The "Instituto Biblico-Cultural" was happy with its choice of a Colombian dean of girls, Miss Leonilde Montoya. Proposal of reorganizing the Institute as a pre-seminary school was discussed in Consejo but tabled for further study.

Special Events

Special events during the year were: The Annual Meeting, with Dr. Andrés A. Meléndez of the Spanish Lutheran Hour as guest speaker; the Teachers' Institute; the Pastors' Institute, with Pastor Posfay and Gustavo Rodríguez as lecturers. A Lutheran Ministerial Association was organized with Pastor Herman Müller (LWF) as President and Pastor Pausanias Wilches as Secretary.

Our Synod was represented in the III Latin American Lutheran Conference in Buenos Aires by Pastor Julio Orozco and Mr. Octavio López.

Students and Leadership Training

Mr. López was graduated from the Facultad Luterana de Teología in December and has been called to serve in Tunja and Socotá.

Mr. Juan Montoya is expected to complete his theological training at Seminario Augsburguro in Mexico at the end of 1960. Three evangelists are granted scholarships to finish their secondary training with the view to continue on to seminary and prepare themselves for the Holy Ministry. Conversations are under way regarding a joint Lutheran theological training program in the Caribbean area in cooperation with the Mexico and Missouri Synods. The first step in this direction may lead to a special training program for lay volunteer workers or catechists, something very essential to the expansion and strengthening of our work everywhere.

Perhaps our greatest need is a deep-flowing, thorough-going spiritual revival in our churches, beginning with each of us - "so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God."

APPENDIX

Besides the time-consuming desk work required by his assignment on the Hymnal Committee, the reading of manuscripts that come to his desk through the "Lutheran Consultation on Spanish Literature", and the correspondence entailed

by the administration of Mission and Synod, your superintendent made the following trips during 1959:

- 3 to Chiscas and El Cocuy
- 3 to La Dorada
- 6 to Sogamoso
- 3 to Tunja (for services or business)
- 7 to Parpa and Mause
- 2 to the United States (for Hymnal and literature meetings)
- 1 to Cali for Conference on Communications
- 1 to Ibagué for Annual Meeting of CEDEC.

He regrets not having visited Casanare.

Much time has been spent on miscellaneous activities. For example:

- 1) Helping to entertain guests from abroad, such as: Halverson and Holmen (six weeks covering most of the field with them while filming the Colombia picture); Dr. Syrdal (several days); Dr. Wildrick (several days); Drs. Herman and Nuez (several days); Dr. Nehrenz (several days); Pastors Gussick, Meléndez, Cabán, Bertermann, Mr. Stevenson, Dr. Empie and others (shorter visits).
- 2) Regular and special meetings of Missionary Conference, Consejo and Executive Committee, Annual Meeting of Synod, Pastors' Institute, etc., with agendas, reports studies and programs to prepare before, and Minutes to draft and translate afterwards, in addition to the resultant correspondence with Boards, Committees and individuals.
- 3) Hours and days prodding customs' officials; drawing plans for chapel furniture; attending to property deeds and legal matters; advising on remodelling and repairing; untangling and completing church records; gathering and compiling required statistics;..and trying not to appear so busy that people would refrain from confiding in one.

These things have not been mentioned in my reports before. They have been taken for granted. And you all, no doubt, have shared some of the same sense of frustration when details of administration seem to crowd out the more essential things. Added to this is the drag of being an incorrigible "slow poke". Two whole books in manuscript still lie unread on my desk. Other items that should have gone to the press have been delayed. We should have been getting out a paper for the field, mimeographed if nothing else.

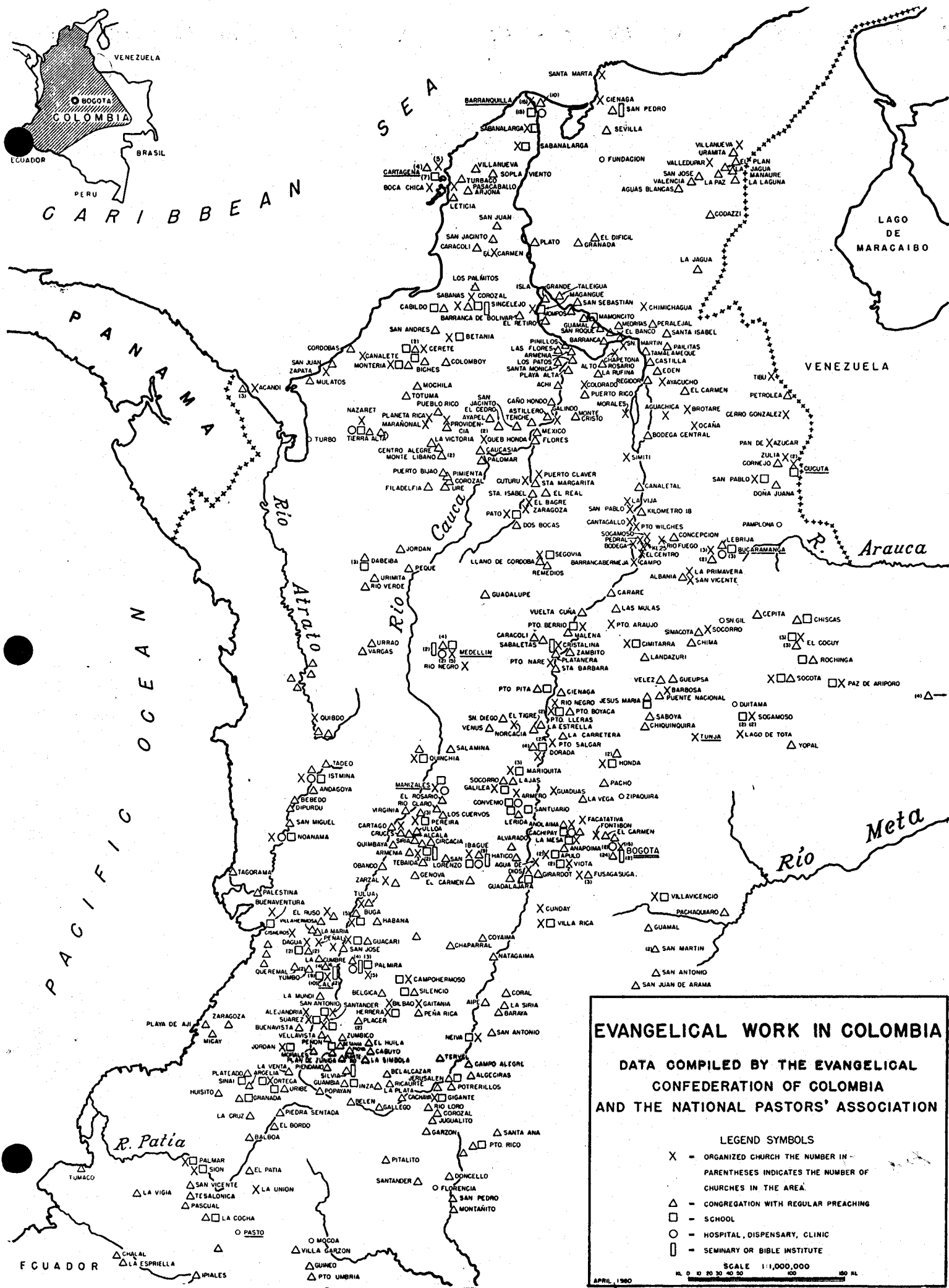
This is not said in self-defense, but in admission of falling far short of one's own demands and hopes. What we have done to avail our field of the resource:

of communication through literature, audio-visual aids, etc., is negligible. Not only have we lagged in the production of these means, but perhaps we have even failed more seriously in the distribution and effective use of available literature and promotional materials in our congregations. We have lost our opportunity for a full-scale book store in Bogotá. Is there not something to be explored in the direction of Ruth Temple's suggestion? Could we not have a live and active film service by which slides, filmstrips, movies and other materials can be kept constantly moving in our congregations? Would it not be worthwhile to invest in more projectors and good audio-visual materials?

There will be a Lutheran meeting on communications held in Latin America in 1961, God willing. Let's be "on the ball"! It will probably be held in Caracas, Lima or Bogotá. Shall we invite? Gussick, Cabán, Nehrenz and I are appointed as a committee to plan the program. Do you have any suggestions? (See the proposals we drew up provisionally at Buck Hill Falls.)

Thanks to each of you for cooperation and for fellowship in the Lord's work during 1959!

—Arnfeld C. Morck



EVANGELICAL WORK IN COLOMBIA

DATA COMPILED BY THE EVANGELICAL
CONFEDERATION OF COLOMBIA
AND THE NATIONAL PASTORS' ASSOCIATION

LEGEND SYMBOLS

- X - ORGANIZED CHURCH THE NUMBER IN PARENTHESES INDICATES THE NUMBER OF CHURCHES IN THE AREA.
- △ - CONGREGATION WITH REGULAR PREACHING
- - SCHOOL
- - HOSPITAL, DISPENSARY, CLINIC
- ▭ - SEMINARY OR BIBLE INSTITUTE

SCALE 1:1,000,000
APRIL, 1960

Map draftsman: Edgar Rincón P.

At a meeting of the Evangelical Confederation of Colombia, held in Ibagué in December of last year, the Rev. Robert W. Lazear, Jr., Executive Secretary of the Confederation and our pastor at Union Church during the summer and fall months of 1959) asked the conferees to place on a map of Colombia the Evangelical work in their individual areas. With the help of the National Pastors' Association, and several months' work, the above map was compiled. It is believed that this is the first such comprehensive map of Evangelical work ever to be made in Colombia. A breakdown of the Evangelical activity is as follows: 192 organized Protestant Spanish-speaking Churches, 401 congregations with regular services, 119 Protestant-sponsored schools, 22 hospitals, dispensaries or clinics, and 13 seminaries or Bible Institutes. Not shown on the map are approximately twelve English-speaking Protestant congregations and churches, including our own Union Church and St. Alban's Church of Bogotá.

April, 1960

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE CONSTITUTION
of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - COLOMBIA SYNOD

Amended 1960

PREAMBLE

In the Name of the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, supreme source of all inspiration and authority, we, pastors of the Lutheran Church and delegates from Lutheran congregations of Colombia, do hereby resolve that the following be the CONSTITUTION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - COLOMBIA SYNOD.

TITLE I

PRELIMINARIES

CHAPTER ONE

NAME

Article 1. The name of this church is: Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod, which in this constitution is called "The Synod".

CHAPTER TWO

DOCTRINE

Article 2. The Synod accepts and holds the Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the revealed Word of God, therefore the only infallible criterion of faith and life.

Article 3. The Synod accepts: (1) The Apostles' Creed, (2) The Nicene Creed, (3) The Athanasian Creed, (4) Luther's Small Catechism, (5) The Unaltered Augsburg Confession, as true and brief declarations of the doctrine of the Word of God.

CHAPTER THREE

LITURGY

Article 4. The Synod recommends the use of one common liturgy, the pericopes and hymnal "Culto Cristiano", and recognizes congregational freedom in the use of ecclesiastical vestments and ornaments.

CHAPTER FOUR

RELATIONSHIP

Article 5. The Synod declares its desire to cooperate with other Lutheran Synods and bodies within as well as outside the country and with the Lutheran World Federation.

Article 6. Believing in the "Holy Christian Church", the "Communion of Saints", The Synod recognizes oneness in Christ with the whole Christian Church Universal.

TITLE II

ONLY CHAPTER

PURPOSE

Article 7. The purpose of The Synod shall be to:

a. Assist the member congregations in the preaching and teaching of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments, in order to:

1) bring all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth
(I Tim. 2:4);

2) nurture the spiritual life of the believers for the building up of the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:12);

b. Promote the organization of new congregations in this country and carry out mission work in foreign countries;

c. Preserve the purity of doctrine and practice within the member congregations;

d. Preserve the unity of the true faith according to Eph. 4:3-16; I Cor. 1:10.

Article 8. In order to fulfill these purposes, The Synod will train pastors, evangelists and teachers, and will instruct and guide all believers in order that

they may carry out the work at home and abroad, will promote the publication of Christian literature, and will establish and maintain, according to its needs and possibilities, educational and social welfare institutions.

TITLE III
ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER ONE

MEMBERS

Article 9. The Lutheran congregations in Colombia, duly organized at the promulgation of the present Constitution, and which accept and follow it, will be members of the Synod.

Article 10. Any other organized congregation with no less than ten (10) voting members, and which accepts this Constitution, may ask to affiliate with the Synod. With the application shall be presented a copy of the congregation's constitution. The Synodical Council will study such application and make its recommendations to the General Synodical Assembly which will submit the application to a vote. A majority vote shall be required for acceptance.

CHAPTER TWO

GENERAL SYNODICAL ASSEMBLY

Article 11. The General Synodical Assembly shall be composed of ordained pastors who have charges within the Synod and of delegates elected by the local congregations according to the Synodical By-Laws. The method of election and number of delegates shall be determined in the By-Laws.

Article 12. The General Assembly shall exercise the highest authority of The Synod with legislative and judicial power.

Article 13. The regular meeting of the Assembly will be held once a year. The dates for such general Assembly and the procedure of calling such a meeting shall be determined in the By-Laws.

Article 14. Special meetings of the Assembly may be called by the Synodical Council when necessary or advisable.

Article 15. The Assembly shall establish such Departments or Permanent Committees as it may deem necessary for carrying out the different activities of the Church.

Article 16. From nominations presented by the Synodical Council, the Assembly shall appoint the members of the Departments referred to in Article 15.

Article 17. The Assembly may create special committees when necessary.

Article 18. The Assembly may not transact business without a quorum. A majority of the registered delegates shall constitute a quorum.

CHAPTER THREE

SYNODICAL COUNCIL

Article 19. The Synodical Council is the Executive Organ of the Synod and has the following functions:

- a. To carry out the actions of the General Synodical Assembly;
- b. To process routine matters;
- c. To prepare agenda for meetings of the General Assembly, as well as to send out announcements for such meetings not less than one month in advance;
- d. To study applications of new congregations for acceptance into Synod;
- e. To exercise legislative powers in case of emergency when the Assembly is in recess;
- f. To present nominations to the Assembly for the various Departments;
- g. To create special committees when needed.

Article 20. The Synodical Council shall consist of a president, a vice-president, who should be ordained ministers in good standing in the Church; a secretary, a treasurer, six members and two general substitutes. All members are to be elected by the General Assembly.

Article 21. The four officers mentioned in the previous Article shall be the same as those of the General Assembly and will hold office for a term of three years. The members and substitutes will serve for a term of two years, and of their number at least half should be laymen.

The officers as well as members and substitutes may be reelected for a consecutive period.

Article 22. The Council shall meet regularly three (3) times a year, and special meetings may be called in case of need. The quorum shall be two-thirds of its membership.

CHAPTER FOUR

MINISTERIUM

Article 23. The Ministerium of this Synod shall be made up of all its ordained pastors. The Synod shall maintain a clergy roster, in charge of the Secretary, where shall appear the names of all ordained pastors together with their respective vitae.

Article 24. From the members of the Ministerium, the Synodical Council shall appoint committees to examine and recommend to the General Synodical Assembly the candidates to the Holy Ministry and to counsel, admonish and discipline pastors and evangelists, and to resolve doctrinal issues.

CHAPTER FIVE

OFFICERS

Article 25. President. The President shall be the official representative of the Synod and shall have the following duties and rights:

- a. He shall guide The Synod according to the provisions of the Constitution and frequently visit the congregations within his jurisdiction.
- b. He shall, together with the Ministerium, ordain pastors to the Holy Ministry.
- c. He shall mediate in disputes and disagreements which may arise within the Synod, always watchful to preserve the purity of doctrine and practice.
- d. He shall call and preside at meetings of the General Synodical Assembly and the Synodical Council.
- e. He shall call and preside at special meetings of member congregations of the Synod in order to discuss and resolve matters relating to the work as well as problems in these congregations, when this is requested by the interested congregations, or if ordered by the Synodical Council.
- f. He shall install pastors in their charges and dedicate buildings or authorize someone to do so.
- g. He shall present a detailed annual report to the General Assembly concerning his work, the work of the Synodical Council and the general progress of the Synod.

Article 26. Vice-president. The Vice-president shall help the President carry out his duties and replace him when he is absent or when the Council determines that he is unable to carry out his duties. In this case, the Vice-president's duties shall be provisional.

Article 27. Secretary. The Secretary shall have the following duties:

- a. To record the Minutes at meetings.
- b. To be in charge of the files and archives and keep them up to date as well as to have in his custody the Synod's corporate seal.
- c. To carry on the correspondence, maintain the statistics of the Synod, and perform any other secretarial duties under the supervision of the President.
- d. To substitute on an interim basis for the Vice-president in his absence.

Article 28. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have the following duties:

- a. To receive and keep with proper security the moneys of the Synod.
- b. To keep the necessary books for the managing of the funds.
- c. To make the necessary disbursements as authorized by the Synodical Council.

- d. To present an annual financial report, and to prepare the regular proposed budget to be presented to the Synodical Council which in turn shall recommend it to the General Synodical Assembly for final approval.

TITLE IV

PASTORS: THEIR ORDINATION, THEIR DUTIES, THEIR RIGHTS AND THEIR DISCIPLINE CHAPTER ONE

ORDINATION

Article 29. A pastor shall meet the following requirements:

- a. He shall be a Christian with a good testimony and have satisfactorily completed studies in a seminary approved by the Synod;
- b. He shall have had adequate ministerial experience for at least one year;
- c. He shall have received a call from a local congregation or the Synodical Council;
- d. He shall have been examined and approved by the committee named by the Synodical Council.

CHAPTER TWO

DUTIES AND RIGHTS

Article 30. The pastors shall have the following duties:

- a. To preach and teach the Word;
- b. To administer the sacraments;
- c. To watch over the development and progress of the congregations entrusted to them.

Article 31. The pastors shall have the following rights:

- a. To receive the necessary financial support for themselves, their families and their ministry.
- b. To be delegates to the General Synodical Assembly and to be members of the Ministerium.

CHAPTER THREE

DISCIPLINE

Article 32. The pastors shall be subject to the discipline of the Synod in the following circumstances:

- a. When they preach or teach doctrines which are not in accordance with the principles of faith of this Synod;
- b. When through word or deed they have brought shame and dishonor to the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church;
- c. When they have disobeyed the provisions of this constitution or the decisions of the General Assembly, or have failed to carry out said decisions.

Article 33. The disciplining of Pastors shall be carried out by the President together with the Ministerium, but deposition from the ministerial office shall be carried out only after approval by the General Synodical Assembly. In case the President fails in the opinion of the Council to carry out his duties, the Vice-president shall call a meeting of the Church Council, which may make recommendations to the General Synodical Assembly.

Article 34. The purpose of disciplining pastors is for their correction and to insure the harmonious progress of the Church.

TITLE V

ONLY CHAPTER

EVANGELISTS: DUTIES, RIGHTS AND DISCIPLINE

Article 35. The duties, rights and discipline of evangelists shall be the same as for pastors as established in TITLE IV, CHAPTERS TWO AND THREE, except (b) of Article 30 and (b) of Article 31.

TITLE VI

ONLY CHAPTER

PROPERTIES AND FINANCES

Article 36. The Synod recognizes its stewardship responsibility in the extension of the Kingdom of God, and because of this adheres to the principle of autonomy in its government and economic sustenance.

Article 37. The Synod may receive contributions and donations, and shall cancel financial obligations that it may have incurred, being careful not to enter into burdensome and unwise transactions.

Article 38. During the period in which the Synod receives foreign mission subsidies, such subsidy funds shall be managed by the Synod.

Article 39. The real estate of the Synod and of the local congregations shall be provisionally held by the "personería jurídica" of the "Corporación Evangélica Andina". The local congregations shall have the sole use of their properties as long as these are limited to activities of the Church, always being responsible for the upkeep and repair of the properties which they occupy.

Article 40. The local congregations may transfer only those properties which have been acquired without restrictive clauses.

TITLE VII

ONLY CHAPTER

BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Article 41. The by-laws and regulations shall be determined according to need, but they may not conflict with the provisions of this Constitution.

TITLE VIII

ONLY CHAPTER

AMENDMENTS

Article 42. This Constitution may be amended, but the proposed amendment must be presented in writing and accepted by majority vote of the General Synodical Assembly and adopted at the next annual meeting of same. A two-thirds vote shall be required to adopt an amendment.

Article 43. CHAPTER TWO of TITLE I and this TITLE VIII may not be altered.

Signed in Bogotá on July 26, 1958.

Amended on July 26, 1960.

PERSONAL REPORT 1960

Arnfeld C. Morck

Viewing the year whose last hours are slipping away from me as I write, and trying to take inventory of its twelve brief months and of seventeen years in Latin America, I am reminded of our Savior's words in Luke 17:10: "So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'we are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'" --And then, if I have not even done what was commanded, what category does that place me in? Not only unworthy, but unfaithful? I can only take refuge in God's steadfast love, faithfulness and forgiveness for future days of more useful service.

Since Olger will be giving the Superintendent's report, I prefer to call this a personal report, even though it may have some bearing upon the total picture of our work.

The months of January to August included serving Tunja as "senior pastor", especially in Octavio Lopez's absence, administering communion there, and in Sogamoso when Gerardo Wilches was in Cassanare; trips to La Dorada, Miraflores and Mexico; helping with the final editing of Culto Cristiano, Ritual Cristiano, and working on other manuscripts; compiling data and writing "histories" for the congregations to go into the parish records (three are still lacking, unless someone else has done them). A less fruitful investment of time went into much house-hunting, sorting of files and other "chores".

We remember with gratitude the kindness of our co-workers who helped us wind up necessary details before coming north on furlough, those who came to "see us off" and all of you for cooperation and fellowship in Christ.

The year included special events such as the pastors' retreat with participants from Mexico and the general Caribbean area and guest speakers Franklin Clark Fry, Melvin Hammarberg, Stewart Herman, Odd Knaevelsrud and others.

The executive committee meeting of the LWF in Brazil brought other distinguished visitors to our midst, most of them only to Bogotá: Fredrick A. Schiotz, Bo Giertz,

Henrik Hauge, Arne Sovik, C.M. Hansen, and others.

In July we were happy to receive the new congregation at Chiscas into the fellowship of the Synod and to welcome Olger Quanrud back from furlough to continue his veteran ministry in our church.

Our Synod's executive committee represented the church at an important meeting in Mexico City last June at which, as a result of considerable previous negotiation, the first stones were laid for the foundation of a Lutheran seminary in the Caribbean area. An interim committee has continued to place more stones in the structure.

Upon Conference recommendation, Board approval and advice from Dr. Andrew Burgess (Dr. Syrdal was in Africa), I enrolled in the University of Minnesota's School of Journalism for a 15-hour load of studies. Fall Quarter courses were:

- Journalism 11, Reporting and News Writing
- " 78, Public Relations Methods
- " 130, Public Opinion and Mass Media, Survey Methods, etc.
- " 200, (A seminar covering research in many phases of Journalism)
- Political Science 155, Government, Politics and International Relations in Latin America.

I am registered for the Winter Quarter in:

- Journalism 121, The Mass Media and a Dynamic Society, covering among other things, International Press and Ethics of Journalism.
- Journalism 69, Radio and television production
- Journalism 74, Magazine editing
- Political Science 156, Continuation of 155 on Latin America.

I was lined up for enough graduate work to have finished residence studies for a Master's Degree, with a major in Journalism and a minor in Political Science on Latin America. But the first quarter shows me that too many of the graduate courses go too deeply into research and technicalities to give me the practical training I came here to get. Therefore, I have abandoned that ambition in obedience to the major purpose of my studies here and will take courses in winter and spring quarters that I think will yield the greatest returns in practical knowledge and skills.

The pressure of a 15-hour load did not permit thorough work in all courses even though grades are satisfactory except in one course in which I have had to take an incomplete. Only 12 hours are lined up for the winter quarter and the spring

quarter will be trimmed down more as the inevitable pressure of speaking engagements increases.

The courses are interesting, helpful, humbling and challenging, but they will not make an expert out of this old clay a bit too stiff for ready molding.

Three of the written assignments have been related to Colombia and our church, one a detailed survey design for study of "Communicating the Christian Faith in Colombia"; another was a public relations program for the church (external and internal relations). A term paper in Political Science will be written on church and state in Colombia. (Please keep me posted on recent developments.)

These things are being mentioned because you have a right to know what I am doing with your recommendation to study.

I hope it will help to prepare me a little more for an important phase of our work, the communication of the Gospel through all the media available to us. In all of the courses I try to make mental (and, as mentioned, some written) adaptations to our specific situation.

Kermit Roisen from Madagascar is studying business administration and advertising to sharpen himself up for management of their 80-man printing plant; Arndt Halverson is taking Education; Gordon Ruud, Radio; Harold Aasland (Japan) and Jim Wogstad (Formosa) are taking graduate work in Theology. Most missionaries are specializing in something, and I think we are on the right track doing so.

As mentioned incidentally in a letter to Harold, which he may share with you if he likes, progress has been made where missionaries have been placed in specialized fields: Evangelism, stewardship, literature, education, etc. There will always be more than enough to do in the parishes and in the administration of the church, but this must be the responsibility of the nationals first. Eventually, we trust that God will also call and prepare them in the specialized departments as the work expands.

Since Christian literature could be considered the handmaid of all of the departments, I would like to offer my continued services in that field and ask Conference to consider leaving my hands as free as possible for a full-time ministry

in the mass media. Much can be done through the regular appearance of a mimeographed bulletin, the preparation of materials for parish education, etc. In addition, I have been asked to serve as one of the editors for the program of "Publicaciones el Escudo". I would like to accept that appointment if Conference and Consejo can leave me free to do so. This will mean critical reading of manuscripts within a given deadline as they come from the various translators, then to be returned to the editorial chairman.

Doctors Syrdal and Field and I represented the ELC at the Hymnal Committee meeting and Consultation on Spanish Literature at Buck Hill Falls in November (Field, only the Hymnal Committee). The Culto Cristiano manuscript is all ready and I hope it will soon be printed. For the Biblical portions in the book we used what was to be the final revision of the new Valera version. Since then there have been further changes. But the Hymnal Committee does/^{not}want to delay publication of CC still further by revising it according to the latest changes made by the American Bible Society. Such revision at this stage would be a complicated and time-consuming task.

Minutes of the Literature meeting have not been received yet and I shall not comment further on that meeting at this time. "Publicaciones El Escudo" is formally organized and its corporate status will soon be cleared. Culto Cristiano and Ritual Cristiano will be printed under that name.

Sincere greetings in Christ our Savior,

Arnfeld C. Morck

(These suggestions, by no means exhaustive, have been prompted by correspondence with Pastor Peter Mathiasen, missionary to Brazil. They also arise out of a feeling of regret for mistakes made in Colombia and a desire that our great new venture on the Brazilian "frontier" may develop unimpeded, under God. Although drawn from 15 years of experience in Latin America, no particular research has gone into these suggestions. Nor do they claim to be conclusive or totally applicable in every situation. They are submitted as entirely personal and unofficial. —A. C. Morck)

I. The immediate development of a training program.

Develop a program for the training of national leaders and place responsibility on them right from the start.

II. The development of responsible congregations.

A. Find strategic locations in "fertile soil" where congregations of whole communities can move together into the church. This is not denying the individual relationship between God and man in accepting Christ. But too often has been stressed the "heroism" of individuals "coming out for Christ" and severing all relations with their community environment, in many cases becoming dependent socially and even economically on the foreign mission. All original and ethnic structure which is not directly in conflict with Christian teachings and morals should be preserved. Be sure not to confuse "civilization" with evangelization.

Avoid the static "mission station" approach in which the direction of the work continues long in the hands of the foreign missionary. The missionary should strive to "work himself out of a job". He should never do work that could be done by an available national nor hold an office if there is a national to replace him. Though dependable, the missionary must beware lest the congregation become dependent upon him rather than upon itself. For Christ is its head.

B. Place national catechists (ordained pastors when possible) in charge of congregations at the earliest possible date. It is important that the congregations support their catechist or pastor from the very beginning. Even if some initial support must in emergency be drawn from foreign funds, let it go through the congregational treasury as a subsidy from the very start so that the unwholesome psychology of pastors and workers being paid by the foreign mission can be avoided. If pastors or catechists are farmers, tradesmen or professionals, they may help support themselves in the initial stages by working part-time in these occupations until the congregations are able to take on complete support. By all means we should avoid developing the habit of looking to the foreign mission for help whenever a need arises.

C. Let local church properties be owned and improved (buildings erected, etc.) by the congregations. If local means are meager and progress is unduly retarded for lack of facilities, the foreign mission can help through a well-designed extension fund. But local responsibility must be substantially enlisted from the start.

Avoid setting up patterns in church administration and church building that would be beyond the financial reach of the national church, notwithstanding its subsequent development in Christian stewardship. But let us not be niggardly in the use of foreign funds where an investment at the right time and place may mean great advancement that could not be achieved otherwise.

D. Instruct and encourage continually key local leaders to teach their neighbors Bible and Catechism in the many outposts where Christian nuclei may develop. We may as well reconcile ourselves to the fact that we shall never have enough trained pastors and catechists to go around. In other words, let each local unit be a live

cell in itself and not too dependent for existence upon the visit of the catechist or pastor. The ideal situation of an ordained pastor for each congregation can by hard work and God's grace be reached later.

E. Use a didactically effective explanation of the Catechism as standard textbook for instruction of inquirers and members on the local level (in Colombia we use the Spanish version of the Explanation by Joseph Stump). Start teaching Catechism as soon as you can gather a class. Its members may come to Christ more readily through your teaching than by your preaching.

F. Develop an appreciation for good hymns. Use a Lutheran hymnal and service book. If there is none, prepare one. Let the people feed on and express themselves through worthy hymns rather than the chaff of sentimental and cheap choruses and "Gospel songs", many of which have little Gospel in them.

G. Be Lutheran. It is not necessary to flaunt the name Lutheran all over, but be it. Our Lutheran church, founded squarely on the Living Word, rooted in history, and its worship expressed in a rich, beautiful, Christ-centered liturgy, has a greater advantage in reaching the heart of the Latin American than has any other ecclesiastical group, unless it would be Rome itself, converted to Christ and alive with the message of "the Word alone, grace alone, faith alone".

III. The providing of literature and other promotional aids.

A. Develop early an effective literature program. You can't work without literature. It's your ammunition. Review all available literature in the language of your work and select what can profitably be used by Lutherans. Put a missionary on this promotional job right away and let him enlist capable national translators and editors to prepare literature to fill the needs of the field. You may, of course, have to resort to the employment of non-members and even non-Christians for technical know-how in the beginning. By the most optimistic standards, few people who acquire a language after, say, 20 years of age really get to the soul of it and are able to use it effectively and forcefully.

B. Radio. A foreigner may contribute greatly in the promotional, organizational, editorial and technical angles of radio work. But keep him away from the microphone unless he is a rare specimen with no tell-tale "hangover" from his particular mother tongue.

C. Audio-visual equipment. No one doubts the value of these as a teaching means, and here I have no particular "axe to grind", since there is no policy involved other than the obvious need of adaptation to language and environment. (Incidentally, there are inexpensive Mexican-made projectors available that take both slides and film strips and operate on flashlight batteries as well as current. These should prove useful for frontier work. I think they are about \$7.50 U.S. apiece.)

CONCLUSION: The overwhelming stress of this unscientific and almost off-the-cuff discussion is purposely on the congregation.

It goes without saying, and yet is not something to be taken for granted, that the development of strong, responsible congregations of grateful Christians is a gigantic spiritual task which only the Spirit Himself can do. Yet He has chosen to do it through the witness, work and prayer of ordinary, imperfect men like us in whose hearts still throbs a bit of apostolic restlessness.

Our task as foreign missionaries is not only to "preach the Gospel" but mainly to provide the permanent means by which the Gospel can be continuously preached and taught. This is accomplished when the church is "self-propagating" through the spontaneous witness of grateful and responsible Christians; grateful because they belong to Christ, and not to a foreign mission enterprise; responsible because they have known since they believed that the Lord's Business depends on them and not on the foreign missionary. The growth of the church must not only be on the horizontal plane but also on the vertical (Eph. 3:14-21). Yet we must not permit our preconceived ideas about standards of piety to hamper its horizontal growth at the "acceptable time". Most of the vertical growth must of necessity come after the "inquirers" become "members", as is the case with all of us.

The foreign mission's initial job is completed when the national church is so rooted and grounded that it will continue to grow independently even if all foreign missionaries were withdrawn. Actually, this stage may be reached before many missionaries realize and admit it. We tend to have a paternalistic attitude toward the church that God has given us a part in founding. In some cases it would probably come to stand on its own feet sooner if the foreign leadership were withdrawn.

When the national church has reached responsibility in self-propagation, self-government and self-support (these trite touchstone words listed, in my opinion, in order of importance), the missionary enters the second stage of his task. Now he is no longer the leader but the servant of the young church. But no less important is his job, be it in education, coordination, promotion or some specialized field, working with the young church for its maturing in Christ.

"Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our sufficiency is from God, who has qualified us to be ministers of a new covenant, not in a written code but in the Spirit; for the written code kills, but the Spirit gives life." --II Cor. 3:4-6.

INFORME DEL PRESIDENTE A LA NOVENA ASAMBLEA DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA- SINODO DE COLOMBIA. 17 de julio de 1961.

Estimados Pastores, Delegados Oficiales de las Congregaciones, y demás hermanos que nos acompañan en esta NOVENA ASAMBLEA de nuestra Iglesia:

Salud y bendición de Dios, sea con vosotros, ahora y siempre . Amén.

Tres años de vida organizada cumple en la fecha nuestra Iglesia. A través de ellos ha caminado con paso incierto debido quizá a la inexperiencia y falta de madurez, de la que un día constituimos en "Iglesia Evangélica Luterana - Sínodo de Colombia".

No es raro, pues, que las Congregaciones, así como los pastores y maestros, encuentren razones para criticarla, ya que todos nosotros pedimos mucho del infante cuando éste apenas empieza a asegurar sus pasos y a construir ordenadamente sus primeras frases.

Es bueno, pues, que nosotros con paciencia y resignación cristiana formemos el carácter de aquella que esperamos ver crecida; y de la cual esperamos y exigimos mucho.

Es por eso, estimados hermanos que la obra de la Iglesia en estos tres años de vida organizada, ha dejado mucho que desear. Pero no culpemos las cosas ni los individuos; sino culpémosnos a nosotros mismos, que como individuos y congregaciones, no hemos respaldado a medida de nuestras capacidades el trabajo Sinódico de nuestra Iglesia.

Es cierto que tenemos mucho que demandar de ella, pero es igualmente cierto que tenemos mucho que dar a ella, si queremos verla desarrollándose en una forma que pueda cumplir su cometido evangelístico y de gobierno a todas y cada una de las Congregaciones afiliadas.

La labor que a través de estos tres años se ha realizado, ha dejado mucho que desear. De esto seguramente estamos todos de acuerdo.

Pero una vez más, por la gracia de Dios, nos hemos congregado en este lugar con el propósito de descubrir sus yerros, considerar sus posibilidades y orientar su porvenir.

Quiera Dios que en esta ASAMBLEA nosotros podamos dar una orientación que, bajo la Nueva Mesa Directiva a nombrarse en esta ocasión, pueda llevar a adelante la obra de nuestra Iglesia en una forma que redunde en beneficio de las Congregaciones, y en la marcha general de la Iglesia.

Bueno, es, que nosotros hagamos un recuento en este informe que nos de una visión del pasado que pueda contribuir a orientarnos en esta Asamblea, en las deliberaciones y negocios de la misma.

El día 26 de julio de 1958, las cinco Congregaciones organizadas de la Iglesia Luterana, se dieron la presente constitución Sinódica, que rige nuestro Sínodo.

El Consejo Sinódico nombrado en aquella ocasión, ha sido renovado en la mayoría de sus miembros el año pasado; cesando en la presente Asamblea la Mesa Directiva que conforme a la Constitución Sinódica, funciona por tres años.

En los tres años que han corrido, dos nuevas Congregaciones han sido organizadas, siendo la última la de "San Pablo", del Frailejónal Socota, recientemente organizada; y de la cual tenemos solicitud de afiliación al Sínodo .

Hay actualmente ocho Congregaciones Organizadas que constituyen el Sínodo Luterano de Colombia, si bien la de "San Palbão" por ser recientemente organizada no ha entrado a formar parte del Sínodo. Esperamos que esta Asamblea de el visto bueno a su solicitud, y podamos desde ahora contarla como parte del Sínodo de la Iglesia Evangélica Lutera en Colombia.

El trabajo evangélico dentro de las Congregaciones se ha venido desarrollando mas o menos dentro de un ambiente de tolerancia, si se tiene en cuenta la abierta oposición que algunas de las Congregaciones sufrieron en años pasados.

Esto quiere decir que las Congregaciones han tenido una oportunidad maravillosa para instruirse en la Palabra de Dios, organizarse y trabajar, oportunidades que quizá no han sido aprovechadas sabiamente.

PROBLEMA FINANCIERO.- Uno de los problemas mas serios que la Iglesia tiene y que limitan en mucho su campo de acción, es el problema financiero de cada una de las Congregaciones.

La Iglesia para su desarrollo espiritual tiene la Palabra de Dios por la cual la fe se alimenta y se cultiva una mejor espiritualidad. Pero de esa vida espiritual alimentada y desarrollada or la Palabra de Dios, surge la responsabilidad cristiana del individuo, frente a cada una de las necesidades de la Iglesia. No se puede concebir lo último, sin lo primero. La responsabilidad cristiana de una sabia y conciente mayordomía, tiene que ser la consecuencia del desarrollo espiritual del individuo. Las posibilidades financieras de nuestras Congregaciones, exceden en mucho a lo que actualmente están respondiendo.

El hecho de que yo insista en este informe en llamar la atención a los pastores y delegados sobre este problema que resulta ser obstáculo en el desarrollo de la Iglesia; es el hecho de estar convencido de que nuestros feligreses podrían responder en mucho más, si amaran sinceramente la obra de la Iglesia.

Si amamos, servimos. Y si servimos, nos sacrificamos por lo que amamos. Tal ha de ser la actitud de cada uno de nosotros, frente a las necesidades de su propia Congregación.

En el Informe del Tesorero, y en la discusión que resulte en la aprobación del nuevo presupuesto para el próximo año, Uds. se darán una idea más amplia, en cuanto a las necesidades actuales de la Iglesia.

Bueno es, que los delegados de las Congregaciones tomen nota de esto, y sean los promotores en sus propias Congregaciones de una campaña sobre la Mayordomía cristiana, pues sólo así mejoraremos nuestro presupuesto en el futuro.

ESCUELAS : Qué podemos informar a Uds. en relación con esto ?

Nueve escuelas de enseñanza primaria funcionan en el presente año dentro del Sínodo, con un número aproximado de 300 niños matriculados, los que son enseñados por 13 maestras.

El costo de la educación de estos niños asciende en el año a la suma de \$ 52,530.00 de los cuales entran por pensiones la suma de \$ 35,896.25.

Si bien es cierto que en la educación hemos mejorado las entradas, in embargo, el presupuesto de educación podría verse elevado a causa de un reajuste de salarios, si es que la Asamblea ve la posibilidad de reunir dichos fondos.

PASTORES: El Sínodo se organizó con cinco pastores ordenados, de los cuales dos eran colombianos y tres extranjeros.

En los tres años de vida organizada, tres pastores más fueron ordenados al Santo Ministerio y uno más ejerce actualmente como licenciado, haciendo un total de nueve pastores, de los cuales tres no tienen parroquia.

Como ha sido señalado anteriormente, uno de los obstáculos en este campo de la Obra, es el problema financiero de las Congregaciones, que frena en parte la obra evangelística de las mismas.

Las entradas por parte de las Congregaciones para salario de los pastores, es realmente irrisorio, si se exceptúa a la de Bogotá que asume toda responsabilidad en cuanto a esto se refiere.

Si sumamos las entradas de las Congregaciones y las entradas de la Iglesia de El Redentor para pastor, nos daremos cuenta que no alcanza os a ofrendar para sostener a dos pastores ordenados en el año.

Esto pues, da una idea a la Asamblea en cuanto al por que el Sínodo no puede emplear a todos los obreros que quisiera por carecer de fondos para ello.

VISITAS: En el año en que por motivo de ausencia del Presidente Sr. Revdo. A.C. Morck, y que por ser Vice-presidente me tocó ejercer la presidencia, tuve la oportunidad de visitar todas y cada una de las Congregaciones del Sínodo, a excepción de la Iglesia "Príncipe de Paz" de Tunja, a quien le he quedado debiendo la visita.

AGRADECIMIENTOS: Como presidente saliente del Sínodo, quiero dejar constancia en el presente informe de mi agradecimiento a los pastores tanto nacionales como extranjeros, así como a cada uno de los demás obreros en la Iglesia que han venido laborando en el extendimiento del Reino de Dios.

A la vez quiero agradecer a la Junta de Misiones Foráneas de la Iglesia Luterana del Norte, por el Subsidio que ha hecho posible el desenvolvimiento de la Iglesia tanto en estos tres años como en el pasado.

Agradezco en manera particular la donación que se nos ha hecho para la consecución de un yesp destinado al trabajo pastoral de los Llanos de Casanare, el que vendrá a beneficiar grandemente la obra de aquella Congregación.

Al presentar a la Asamblea este informe y someterlo a su consideración, quiero terminar con un rotundo ~~xxx~~ "NO" en cuanto a la posible elección de mi nombre para ocupar alguno de los puestos de responsabilidad en la Mesa Directiva del Sínodo, pues no quiero ser obstáculo para aquellos que quizá consideran mi presencia en el Consejo Sinódico como un estorbo en la adquisición de sus justos reclamos.

Creo que el Sínodo tiene ahora quienes pueden conducir en una forma más efectiva a la Iglesia, por la senda que esta Asamblea se proponga trazarle. Pero si en algo me he opuesto al logro de justos reclamos, es porque me he dado cuenta que la Iglesia no es un Intitución comercial en la cual somos empleados; sino que es una Institución Divina de la cual somos miembros y que por lo mismo tenemos deberes que cumplir para con ella, y es a esto a lo menos que se está respondiendo, ya sea por los pastores, maestros, o miembros laicos.

Es por eso que espero que esta Asamblea pueda poner al frente de la dirección del Sínodo, aquellos que por su amor a la Iglesia y deseo de servirla, puedan sacarla de la encrucijada en que se encuentra y orientarla por la senda de la responsabilidad cristiana, para que todos nos veamos beneficiados por ella y dispuestos siempre a servirla.

Con Nehemías el deportado de Israel al regreso de Jerusalén, digamos: "¡Levantémonos y edifiquemos!" Neh. 2:18.

Si queremos ver una Iglesia grande, hay que levantarnos a edificarla y no a esperar a que otros la edifiquen y la sostenga.

Ya sé que algunos dirán que esto como teoría es una gran cosa pero difícil de realizarlo. Pero esta es responsabilidad de todos y cada uno de los esparcidos, que llamados por el Evangelio han llegado a formar el Cuerpo Místico de Cristo, su Iglesia.

Por eso " levantémonos y edifiquémosla!" pero con responsabilidad cristiana de parte de cada uno de sus miembros.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Wilches', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat cursive and spans across the line.

~~P. Wilches, Presidente saliente.~~

A.C. Morck
1329 Keston St.
St. Paul 8, Minn.

For THE SHEPHERD

1961

THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF COLOMBIA

By Arnfeld C. Morck

Write of the seven churches. ^P No, this is not a misquotation. The Apostle John was commanded to write to the seven churches of Asia Minor. The Editor "commanded" me to write of the seven churches in Colombia, South America, seven congregations which make up one of the youngest Lutheran bodies in the world.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod was formally organized by delegates of six congregations in July, 1958. Two years later the seventh congregation was received into the Synod. More Lutheran groups are in the process of becoming "congregations". (The five foreign-language congregations of LWF affiliation are not members of Synod.) For membership in the Synod a congregation must have existed as a coherent Christian group with a minimum of ten confirmed members over 18 years of age, meeting regularly for services, able to carry on even in the absence of a pastor, and presenting a functionally sound constitution in keeping with Lutheran principles.

Like the churches of the Apocalypse, all of the seven congregations have in some way been tried in tribulation - occasioned by the political upheaval which for 13 years has bled Colombia both literally and figuratively.

"Emmanuel" congregation lost its chapel, school and parsonage in 1950 when the town of La Aguada on the eastern slopes of the Andes was left in ruins after repeated attacks by blood-thirsty military police units and counter-attacks by guerrilla plainmen defending the area against the ravages of a dictatorial government.

Three brothers, members of the congregation, were tortured and killed by the police, two of them for alleged guerrilla activity. The third, definitely not involved, was probably hunted down simply because the family was marked. One of the police, who tried to save him, told later how when facing death he asked for time to pray. Kneeling on the ground, he prayed aloud the Lord's Prayer, followed by free intercession for his

tormentors. Then, rising to his feet and baring his chest, he died at the thrust of bayonets. The widowed mother of the three told Missionary Gerhard Ostrem later that her greatest comfort was the assurance that her boys were now with the Lord whom they had learned to know at home and in church.

Now scattered through the plains of Casanare, the whole congregation seldom gets together except for special meetings at Christmas and Easter. For some members this means a brisk walk two days long. During the remainder of the year, especially in the dry season when tropical rivers can be forded with less hazard, Pastor Gerardo Wilches rides his spirited mule to visit the scattered groups of families. The congregation is trying to raise money to buy him a jeep and has asked the Synod to intervene with Lutherans in North America for a larger share of the cost.

"El Buen Pastor" of Parpa, in one of the most bleak and rugged parts of the chilly cordillera, recently dedicated its new stone church to replace the adobe chapel destroyed in 1950, together with the parsonage, by anti-protestant fanatics. Some of its members live four hours by mule trail from the church. Pastor Octavio López of Tunja, the provincial capital, gives part of his time to serve this congregation and neighboring rural groups.

His own "Príncipe de Paz", still small and struggling in the frigid colonial atmosphere of conservative Tunja, needs his full-time attention. But López and members of the congregation also make occasional visits to a neighboring town. Many who have been won for Christ in Tunja have left the city to make a livelihood elsewhere. Windows and doors of the chapel still bear scars from stones and bullets of anti-protestant demonstrations.

"El Consolador" at Sogamoso, the "City of the Sun", only four miles from the Belencito Steel Mill, faces a challenging future in a developing industrial area. Of the ten elementary schools operated under Synod auspices, the boarding school in Sogamoso is the largest and best equipped. This congregation happens to be the only one served full time by a foreign pastor, our senior missionary, Olger Quanrud.

Five dusty hours by jeep farther northeast, Pastor Oliverio Mora serves scattered groups in and around the town of El Cocuy, at 9,000 feet higher than the sea. Jovial Pastor Mora, encouraged by the good response to the Gospel, leads members of "El Salvador" in the evangelization of many points in the extensive area where he, as a sort of one-man medical corps - sometimes captive, sometimes free - served both friend and foe during the days of guerrilla fighting. Four elementary schools operate under the direction of the congregation whose most urgent need is a large church in town.

Cupped in an exceptionally beautiful Andean valley, an hour by the rattling market bus from El Cocuy over a road that looks (and seems) like a mere scratch on the mountain side, lies the quaint little town of Chiscas. Here Juan Montoya, just graduated from Augsburg Seminary in Mexico City, serves the Synod's newest congregation. Its history, however, goes back more than 20 years when a young man in a neighboring valley bought a Bible and shared its dynamic message with his family and neighbors. The result was a considerable group of Christians who built themselves a rural chapel which, by the way, had electric light generated by the millstream of a generous member. Threatened when the chapel and several homes were destroyed, most of these Christians left the valley of Santa Ana and settled elsewhere, some of them in Chiscas.

Readers of "The Shepherd" will be interested in noting that the late Pastor Gerhard Ostrem was among the first missionaries to work in four of the areas mentioned in this article.

On Easter Sunday, 1949, the writer conducted the first Lutheran Spanish-language service in Bogotá for a small group of refugees from the above-mentioned areas. Now our largest congregation, "El Redentor" worships in an attractive brick church on one of the capital's main thoroughfares. Pausanias Wilches is the pastor. The organist is medical student Jorge Corzo, one of the several young people whom Joyce Bergh taught and inspired to express themselves through the keys of portable Estey organs and the piano. Jorge, however, plays an electric Wurlitzer at "El Redentor".

Attendance at that first Easter service would have been very small indeed had the students of the "Instituto Bíblico-Cultural" not been present. This school, which trains teachers, evangelists and catechists, had also moved away from constant harrassment and stonings in Duitama to a calmer existence in the capital. Among its alumni are pastors, pastors' wives, teachers, active lay members in many jobs, and aspirants to the Christian ministry. Students at IBC help the pastor and parish worker with the congregation's evangelistic outreach in the city and often go as "teams" to out-of-town churches and preaching places.

The Synod's pastors have received their theological training in Argentina, Mexico and the United States. Its educational director earned his master's degree at the University of Minnesota.

A theological seminary, in cooperation with other Lutheran bodies in the Caribbean area, possibly located at Bogotá, is a major item on the Synod's immediate agenda. A new Spanish hymnal and a cooperative literature program constitute another interesting story.

Colombia, about the size of Ontario, with a population estimated at 14 million, is a constitutional republic whose democratic structure suffered serious injury during the recent dictatorship. The country now having embarked on a program of national reconstruction, its minority religious groups are enjoying considerably more freedom.

Seven churches of your faith in this sister Synod, all formally organized since 1953, are not many. With greater obedience to Christ's command, with your prayers and the work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of more Colombians, there shall soon be not only seven but seventy seven.

The End



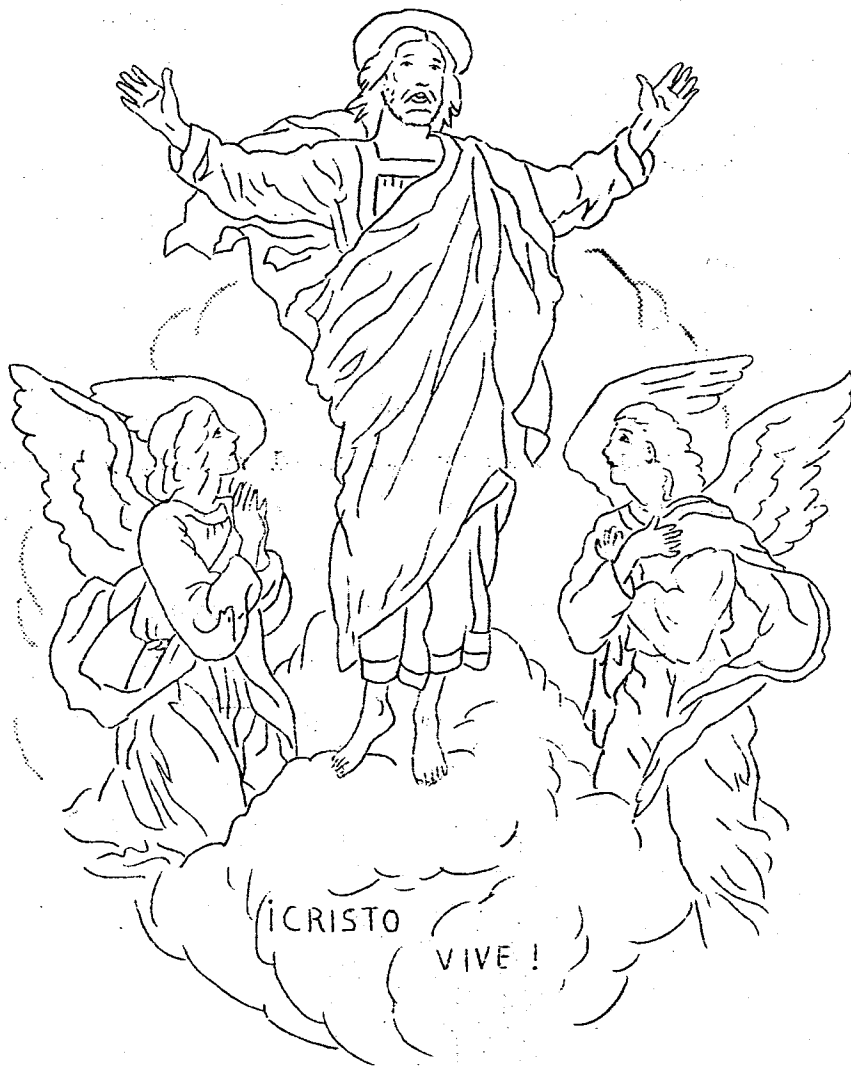
BOLETIN SINODICO

AÑO II

ABRIL DE 1.963

No. 4

Publicación de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana - Sínodo de Colombia



NOTICIAS...

Radio "Voz del Evangelio". El 26 de febrero de 1.963 se inauguró en Addis Ababa (Etiopía) la nueva radiodifusora de la Federación Luterana Mundial que con sus 100 kilowattios de potencia será una de las emisoras de mayor alcance en el mundo. El Emperador de Etiopía, Haile Selassie I, tomó parte en la inauguración junto con otros dignatarios de su gobierno y de la Federación Luterana Mundial.

El Nuevo Himnario con el título "Culto Cristiano" se espera que saldrá "a fines de 1.963". Será el primer himnario luterano en castellano, con música. Traerá más de 400 himnos y abundante material de adoración. Su primera edición será de 30.000 ejemplares. Al mismo tiempo saldrá a luz un manual de cultos para los pastores, intitulado "Ritual Cristiano".

Nuevo Secretario de las Sociedades Bíblicas en Colombia. El Lic. Gustavo D. Rodríguez ha sido nombrado Secretario Ejecutivo de las Sociedades Bíblicas en Colombia, cargo que ocupa desde el primero de febrero, en reemplazo del Secretario Ejecutivo Interino, Sr. Tomás Johnson. El Sr. Rodríguez, que ha sido profesor en el Instituto Bíblico-Cultural, seguirá sirviendo ad honorum a la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana - Sínodo de Colombia, en su actual calidad de secretario y Director de Educación. Deseamos, para el Sr. Rodríguez las copiosas bendiciones del Señor al ponerse al frente de la obra de las Sociedades Bíblicas en Colombia. Y al Sr. Johnson deseamos éxito en sus estudios.

Cambio de "Guardia" en Tunja. A principios del presente año salió el Rdo. Sr. Octavio López C., con su familia, rumbo a Nueva York para servir en una congregación luterana de aquella ciudad. El Sr. Luis Hernando Lara Ramírez fue nombrado por el Consejo Sinódico para llenar la vacante que resultó en la congregación "Príncipe de Paz", en Tunja. Les deseamos respectivamente un ministerio fructífero.

Refuerzos del Exterior. La Srta. Joyce Bergh, apreciada colaboradora en la obra en Colombia durante los años de 1.946 a 1.960, regresó a Colombia el 15 de febrero del presente año para colaborar en el Colegio Celco de Sogamoso, Sección Secundaria Femenina. ¡Muy bienvenida, Srta. Joyce! ¡Qué el Señor le bendiga al continuar sus abnegadas labores en nuestro medio!

Han sido llamados por la Junta de Misiones Mundiales de la Iglesia Luterana Americana para servir en Colombia: los señores Marlayne Jacobson y Walter Ludwigsen, y la Srta. Arlene Voelz. La Srta. Arlene es bien conocida y muy apreciada por su entusiasta actividad en la iglesia durante los dos años que permaneció en Bogotá.

Nuevos Hogares Cristianos. Contrajeron matrimonio en la Iglesia de El Redentor de Bogotá, el 12 de diciembre de 1.962, la Srta. Amira Jiménez y el señor Armenio Piñeros. El 30 de marzo de 1.963, ante el mismo altar, se casaron la Srta. Miriam Blanco y el Sr. Ramón Ruíz. Invocamos las bendiciones del Padre Celestial sobre estos hogares para que sean centros donde irradie la luz y el amor de Cristo.

Defunciones. El 25 de marzo del presente año fue llamado por el Señor nuestro muy apreciado amigo y hermano en Cristo, señor José Antonio Ayala. El Sr. Ayala había nacido el 25 de diciembre de 1.885. Durante su vida como creyente fue uno de los más fieles colaboradores de la obra en Parpa, vereda de Socotá. (Sigue)

NOTICIAS (Vienen)...

A la edad de 90 años murió en Bogotá el señor Crisanto Eslava, abuelo del señor Alirio Eslava, actual director del coro de la Iglesia de El Redentor, y Tesorero del Sínodo.

Para los familiares enlutados, por la desaparición de sus seres queridos, deseamos la consolación de Dios.

Décima Asamblea de la CEDEC. La Confederación Evangélica de Colombia celebró su décima asamblea general durante los días 5 al 8 de marzo de 1.963 en el lindo campamento presbiteriano de Sasaima. El Rdo. Sr. Antonio Olty de León, presidente saliente de la CEDEC, fue elegido Secretario Ejecutivo, y el Rdo. Sr. José Fajardo elegido como presidente. La reunión se caracterizó por un espíritu más progresista en los asuntos de evangelismo, responsabilidad social, educación, alfabetización y visión ecuménica.

Congreso de Pastores. Durante los días de abril 22 a mayo 3 se celebrará en Medellín el Segundo Congreso de Visión Mundial y de la Asociación Nacional de Pastores.

* * * * *

JESUCRISTO ES NUESTRO AMIGO

"Oh, qué amigo nos es Cristo" es un himno amado por toda la familia cristiana. La Biblia nos enseña que no ha habido ser más ricamente dotado del don de la amistad que el Señor Jesucristo. Busquemos ahora mismo unas citas que ayudarán a profundizar nuestro concepto de nuestro Amigo Supremo.

Mateo 11:19 lo llama un "Amigo de _____ y _____".

Juan 15:13 nos indica que la suprema expresión de su amor ocurrió cuando puso su _____ por sus _____.

Mateo 26:50 donde Jesús dice: _____, ¿a qué vienes? indica que el pecado más negro del corazón humano no puede anular ni alejar el amor del Salvador.

En cada una de las siguientes citas hallamos palabras o ideas que nos ayudan a completar el siguiente acróstico. Por medio de él veremos otros aspectos de la personalidad y obra de Jesús, nuestro Amigo Fiel.

A _____ de la vida (Hechos 3:15), de la _____ (Hebreos 5:9) y de la _____ (Hebreos 12:2).

M _____ entre Dios y los hombres (I Timoteo 2:5).

I _____ del Dios invisible (Colosenses 1:15).

G _____ (Mateo 2:6).

O _____ (Mateo 28:18).

Meditemos en la verdad que en estos momentos hemos estudiado y pidamos que el Señor de eterna misericordia llene nuestros corazones con su amor y con un nuevo aprecio y gratitud por la suprema amistad expresada en el don de su Hijo.

--Belva M. Nerlien



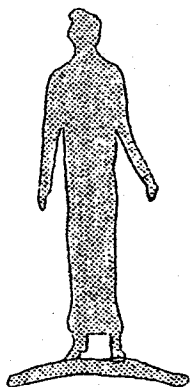
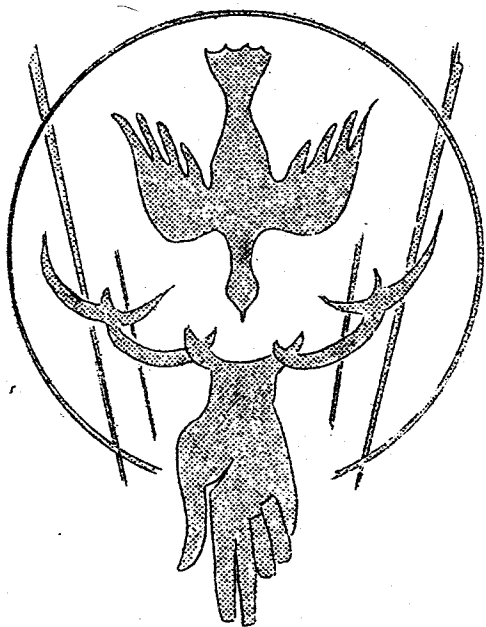
BOLETIN SINODICO

AÑO II

JUNIO DE 1963

No. 5

Publicación de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana - Sínodo de Colombia



"Y estando juntos, les mandó que no se fueran de Jerusalén, sino que esperasen la promesa del Padre, la cual, les dijo, oísteis de mí. Porque Juan ciertamente bautizó con agua, mas vosotros seréis bautizados con el Espíritu Santo dentro de no muchos días. Entonces los que se habían reunido le preguntaron, diciendo: Señor, ¿restaurarás el reino a Israel en este tiempo? Y les dijo: No os toca a vosotros saber los tiempos o las sazones, que el Padre puso en su sola potestad; pero recibiréis poder, cuando haya venido sobre vosotros el Espíritu Santo, y me seréis testigos en Jerusalén, en toda Judea, en Samaria, y hasta lo último de la tierra."

--Hechos 1:4-8

+ + + + +

¿QUIEN DIRIGE?

Cuántos de nuestros feligreses asisten a los cultos de oración y estudio bíblico? Cuántos se preocupan por leer y meditar en la Palabra de Dios y por orar a solas y en reunión con los de su casa? Cuántos asistimos al oficio mayor de la Iglesia más que todo por cumplir con un deber? Y cuántos porque sentimos el deseo de adorar a Dios en la comunión de los santos? Si contestamos estas preguntas personalmente, sin duda nos daremos cuenta de una terrible frialdad que no tiene por qué existir en nosotros.

El Señor, que se preocupa más por esta condición que nosotros mismos, desea hacer algo nuevo entre nosotros: quiere avivar el fuego del don de Dios en nosotros; quiere crear en cada hijo suyo verdadero amor para con Dios y el prójimo y un ferviente celo porque el mensaje evangélico se esparza por todas partes; quiere quitar las escamas de nuestros ojos para que veamos la gloria de Dios. Entonces habrá nuevo apetito por el Pan Espiritual, habrá gozo en la oración y libertad para testificar de Jesús y de su salvación.

Acaso hemos venido contristando y apagando el Espíritu de Dios por querer manejar los asuntos del Reino de Dios según nuestro propio parecer y sin la dirección de su Espíritu?

Un pastor asistía a una reunión de oración en una iglesia vecina. Todo se llevó a cabo con un orden perfecto y todo fue de gran provecho para su alma. Quedó admirado porque en ninguna parte se vió el dirigente. Después se dió cuenta de que la belleza, el valor y el orden de aquel servicio se debía a que el Espíritu Santo había sido su dirigente.

Cómo sería tal reunión de oración? No es cierto que despierta en nosotros curiosidad e interés? Leamos I Cor. 14:26-31. Luego escudriñemos I Cor. 12:4-11. Cosas grandes nos esperan cuando, rebosantes del Espíritu y bajo su dirección, ejerzamos los dones que El nos da. Con nuevas canciones alabaremos al Señor y con nuevas obras haremos su voluntad.

Belva Norlien

NOTICIAS

Congreso de Pastores

En los hermosos predios del Seminario Interamericano de la ciudad de Medellín, se llevó a cabo durante los días 22 de abril al 2 de mayo el Congreso de Pastores que "Visión Mundial" patrocinó, con el fin de reunir, en este magno acontecimiento, pastores de las repúblicas hermanas: Colombia, Venezuela y Ecuador. Se hicieron presentes 450 delegados que representaban 24 denominaciones. Nuestra iglesia estuvo representada por los pastores Harold Olson, Juan Montoya, Pausanias Wilches, y el Sr. Hernando Lara, actualmente encargado de la iglesia en Tunja. También estuvo presente el Rdo. Gerhard Gasde de la Federación Luterana Mundial y pastor en Cali.

Destacados líderes de la iglesia evangélica en el mundo, formaron el conjunto de "Visión Mundial", quienes disertaron sobre temas de interés para todos los asistentes. Fueron ellos, el Dr. Roberto Pierce, Presidente de "Visión Mundial", el Dr. Pablo S. Rees, teólogo y pastor de la iglesia de "El Pacto" en Minneápolis, Minn.; el Dr. Kyung Chik Han, pastor de la iglesia presbiteriana más grande del mundo en Seul, Corea; y el Dr. Fernando Vangioni, destacado predicador y evangelista de la república Argentina, quien se destacó por sus importantes conferencias sobre el ministerio cristiano. Algunos de sus interesantes temas fueron: "El Pastor, Reflejo de la Persona de Cristo", "El Deber de los Pastores hacia la Grey", "En qué manera debe el pastor conocer el estado de sus ovejas", "El precio de ser pastor", "Dá lugar a éste", etc.

Terminaron la conferencia la última semana el Rdo. Eugenio Lee quien disertó sobre la "Comunicación del Evangelio"; el Rdo. Eduardo Murphy sobre "El Evangelismo, la Misión Principal de la Iglesia"; el Prof. Justo González, de Cuba, sobre la alfabetización; y el Dr. David duPlessis sobre el Espíritu Santo y sus dones.

Cabe destacar que en general el Congreso fue de gran bendición y estímulo para los asistentes.

--Pausanias Wilches

NOTICIAS

Matrimonio en La Dorada

El 6 de abril a las 6:30 p.m., en la Iglesia Luterana "La Santísima Trinidad" de La Dorada (Caldas), contrajeron matrimonio la Srta. Carlely Silva, de Casanare, y el Sr. Alberto Herrera, de Puerto Salgar. Fueron padrinos de los contrayentes, por parte de la novia, la Srta. Silveria Díaz y el Sr. Juan Ayala; por parte del novio, el Sr. Joaquín Arias y señora. Como damas de honor, las señoritas Esneda Caicedo, Flor Cañón y Erlina Herrera. Deseamos las bendiciones y la dirección del Señor sobre el nuevo hogar.

Inauguración de Colegio en Trinidad

El nuevo edificio para el Colegio Celco de Trinidad (Casanare) fué inaugurado el 26 de mayo con la asistencia del Rdo. Harold L. Olson, vicepresidente del Sínodo, quien ofició junto con el Rdo. Gerardo Wilches C., pastor de la congregación "Emanuel" de Casanare. El nuevo centro de actividad en Trinidad fue iniciado por el Pastor Wilches a principios del año 1962 y promete, Dios mediante, resultar en una nueva congregación.

Obispo Luterano de Suecia visita a Colombia

El Rvdmo. Sr. Obispo Sven Danell, de Skara (Suecia), en su gira por América Latina estuvo de visita en Bogotá los días 11-16 de mayo. Fue recibido en la Curia Metropolitana por el Emmo. y Rvdmo. Sr. Cardenal Luis Concha, Arzobispo de Bogotá y Primado de Colombia. Predicó en la Iglesia de El Redentor en cultos de tres distintos idiomas: Alemán, Castellano y Sueco. Tomó parte activa en una reunión informal celebrada entre líderes Católico-romanos y Protestantes, en la casa del presidente del Sínodo. Asistieron elementos importantes de ambas partes, entre otros el Padre Alfredo Morín, Rector del Seminario Mayor y el Dr. Orlando Fals Borda, Decano de la Facultad de Sociología de la Universidad Nacional. Este franco y fraternal intercambio de ideas entre las dos confesiones tuvo tan buena acogida que se ha invitado a una segunda reunión de esta índole en el Seminario Mayor de Bogotá.

Asamblea Anual de la J.C.F.

Con el propósito de tener más tiempo para sus reuniones y asuntos a tratar, la Juventud del Castillo Fuerte ha decidido tener su asamblea los días 23-26 de junio. Esperamos la asistencia del mayor número de jóvenes, pues se desarrollarán temas de mucha actualidad, por conferenciantes especiales.

Asamblea Anual de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana - Sínodo de Colombia.

El miércoles 26 de junio, por la noche, será el culto de apertura de la XI Asamblea de nuestra Iglesia. Dicha Asamblea se prolongará hasta el día 30. Para tal fin habrá conferenciantes especiales tales como los Reverendos Señores Raimundo Rosales, de Cuenca (Ecuador) y Gerhard Gasde, de la Iglesia de San Martín (Cali). Habrá, además, participación de las Sociedades Bíblicas.

Esperamos su asistencia y deseamos que las bendiciones de Dios colmen dichas reuniones.

IV Asamblea de la Federación Luterana Mundial

Durante los días del 30 de julio al 11 de agosto se celebrará en Helsinki, Finlandia, la IV Asamblea de la Federación Luterana Mundial. Esta Federación une en vínculo fraternal a unos 75 millones de luteranos en el mundo y abarca como miembros a 62 cuerpos luteranos con una feligresía de 52 millones en 37 países.

Aunque el Sínodo de Colombia no se ha hecho miembro de la Federación estará representado fraternalmente en la Asamblea de Helsinki por el Rdo. Guido Tornquist y la Sra. Fanny de Rodríguez. Como invitada especial del Comité Coordinador de Damas Luteranas en Norteamérica, la Sra. Fanny asistirá también a una reunión internacional de damas que se llevará a cabo en Alemania.

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According to "Lutheran World", October, 1963, there are 707,900 Jews in Latin America. There are about as many Lutherans. If the Lutherans can claim a few thousand more on their lists, the Jews probably could also. At least, the figures for Colombia on the Jewish population are obviously low, since those given for Bogotá, Cali, Barranquilla and Medellín total more than the figure (9,000) given for the whole country. We know there are a number of Jews in Cartagena and other commercial centers.

The largest Jewish communities are in Argentina (450,000), Brazil (140,000), Uruguay (50,000), Chile (30,000), and Mexico (28,000). Then follow Venezuela and Colombia with 10,000 and 9,000 respectively, and the other Latin American countries with smaller numbers.

Of greater interest than the comparison of statistics is the fact that there are relatively large Jewish communities in all of the larger cities where we have Lutheran congregations in a position to reach them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The question arises: What rapport is there between Jews and Lutherans? What effort on the part of these Lutheran congregations to share their faith in Jesus, the Messiah, with their Jewish neighbors? In Colombia, so far as we know, there are no members of immediate Jewish origin in the six LWF-related congregations nor in the nine belonging to the ELC-Colombia Synod. The Union Church of Bogotá lists three Jewish members. It would be interesting to know the situation in other Latin American countries, even if the facts are predictable: In most congregations, none; in a few, a very small number.

The Lögumkloster meeting on the Church and the Jewish People, (April 26-May 2, 1964, (whose reports have gone to the church papers and news services) emphatically discouraged segregated "Jewish Missions" and encouraged that the outreach be accomplished through the existing Christian congregations whose doors should be open to receive Jewish members. The group report on Mission and Dialogue states in part:

"B. The witness to the Jewish people is inherent in the content of the Gospel, and from the commission received from Christ, the Head of the Church.

1. The mission will most effectively reflect the glory of Christ in His Gospel when it is pursued in the normal activity of the Christian congregation, which reflects itself in the Christian witness of the individual members.

"2. Where Jewish communities in the world cannot normally be reached by Christian congregations, mission organizations must provide for the proclamation of the Gospel to these people.

C. It is a Christian responsibility to seek respectfully to understand both the Jewish people and their faith.

Therefore responsible conversations between Christians and Jews are to be desired and welcomed. Such conversations presuppose the existence of common ground on which Christians and Jews may meet, as well as points of difference.

The conversations may be carried on through organized institutes, or by individuals and groups.

The conversations do not assume an equating of the religions, nor do they require that Christians abstain from making their witness as a natural outgrowth of the discussions. Similarly Christians will listen gladly as Jews explain their insights of faith.

Are we to wait for a special dispensation or epoc in God's economy and eschatology when the Jews will, as a nation, turn to Jesus of Nazareth as their Messiah? Or, is God waiting for the church to take the initiative in bringing about the hope and prophecy of St. Paul, who says: "and so all Israel will be saved"? (Rom. 11:25,26).

Is it now God's time for Lutherans (and all Christians) to undergo serious self-examination regarding, or responsibility toward, the Jewish people, aided by the example and admonition of St. Paul (Romans, chapters 9, 10 and 11) who lived in the tension of being in every fibre a Jew and to the depth of his soul a Christian?

Two things, or one of the two, may be impeding us from reaching the Jews: Outright antisemitism, or the sense of "hopelessness" in reaching the Jews with the Gospel whose very Center is the Jesus they have rejected. Or, wait... can we say that the present-day Jew has rejected the Christ whom we have failed to share with him? What the average Jew knows about the Christian witness is that we hold him responsible for killing Jesus.

In regard to these two problems, Karl Barth and K.E. Skydsgaard say, respectively

"By being hostile to Jewish blood, the world simply proves that it is the world: blind and deaf and stupid to the ways of God, as they are visible before it in the existence of this people. And if the Church tries to cooperate in this

hostility to Jewish blood, it simply proves that it, too, has become blind and deaf and stupid" (Lutheran World, Oct., 1963, p. 348).

"This hope that the Jewish people will be grafted on to the tree to which it, as the people of Israel, belongs, lives on but faintly and opaquely in the church, if it hasn't been altogether abandoned as a peculiar phantasy of Paul's. On the Jewish side it is considered to be part and parcel of a Christian hybris to which one has become accustomed. The mind is frightened by the words one speaks. This future unity of Israel and the church will not mean the victory of Judaism over Christianity, nor the victory of the church over Israel, but the victory of God over his people in its division. We do not rightly know what our words mean when we speak about these things, but is it right for this reason not to speak at all?" (ibid p. 351)

A small beginning has been made in preparing special materials in Spanish to be used in our witness to the Jewish people. The following, printed and distributed by Publicaciones El Escudo, Apdo. Aéreo 111-33, Bogotá 2, Colombia, can be had at a price that more or less covers the cost of distribution only:

"Mi Predicación de Cuaresma...Si un Judío me Oyera" . . .	\$.50 U.S. per hundred
"Lo que una Congregación Hizo por Rebeca" . . . . .	.20 U.S. " "
"Cómo Descubrí a Jesús" . . . . .	.40 U.S. " "
"Busqué al Mesías Verdadero" . . . . .	.15 U.S. " "

The first two are for promotion of the Christian witness to the Jewish people; the last two are testimonies by Jews who have embraced the Christian faith.

Please take note of the fact that the circular mailed to Lutheran pastors in Latin America advertising these materials, failed to state that the price indicated is per hundred, not per unit!

Arnfeld C. Morck

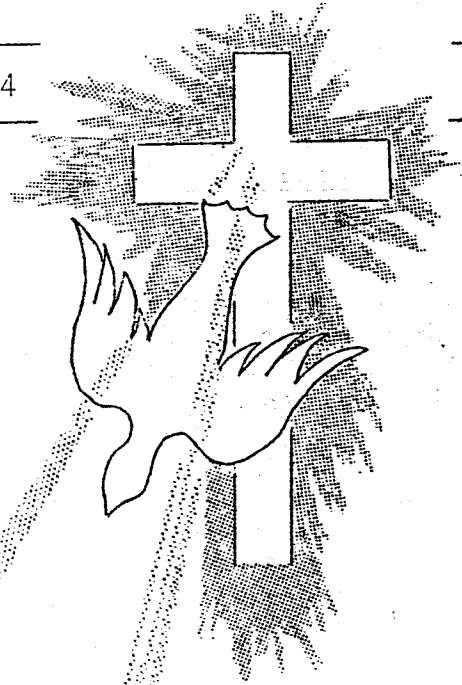


BOLETIN SINODICO

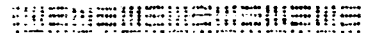
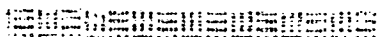
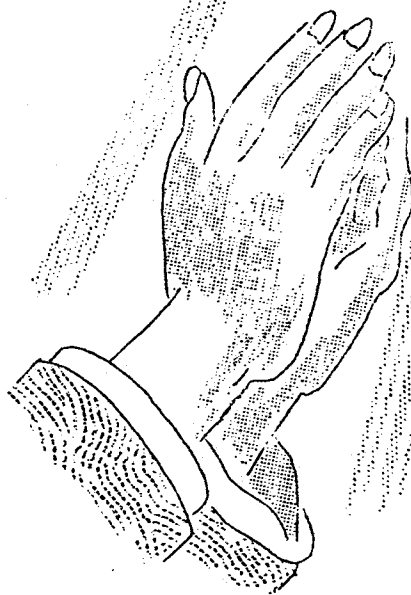
AÑO 3

MAYO, 1964

No. 10



P E N T E C O S T E S



VUESTRA TRISTEZA SE CONVERTIRA EN GOZO

Juan 16:16-24

Estimados lectores:

¿Queréis vosotros: 1) GOZO; 2) GOZO, QUE NADIE OS QUITARA; 3) GOZO COMPLETO?

El Médico Divino expide la receta única que produce tal bendición: "Me veréis; os volveré a ver".

La Magdalena llora al lado del sepulcro vacío y ni los ángeles le consuelan. Al oír: "María", la soledad se cambia en felicidad. Los discípulos temerosos, tras las puertas cerradas, "se regocijaron viendo al Señor". El camino sin esperanza se cambia en comunión agradable al sentir los dos discípulos de Emaús su corazón ardiendo mientras El abría las escrituras. Sí, la presencia del Resucitado convierte vuestra tristeza en GOZO.

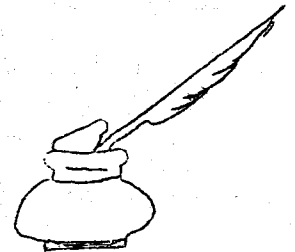
Nos sorprende leer en Lucas 24:52 que cuando el Salvador se despidió de sus discípulos, "ellos volvieron a Jerusalén con gran gozo". Por lo general, las despedidas son muy tristes. Pero El había declarado: "Toda potestad me es dada..." y basada en ella les dió un programa progresivo: "Id - haced" --- y "He aquí yo estoy con vosotros hasta el fin...". Añadió la promesa poderosa, "todo lo que pidiéreis en mi nombre, os lo haré", incluyendo: "mas recibiréis la virtud del Espíritu Santo, y me seréis testigos". Ciertamente la promesa del Ascendido Señor también convertirá la tristeza vuestra en el GOZO, QUE NADIE OS QUITARA.

Vino el Pentecostés y lo prometido fue entregado. Mientras oraban los ciento veinte, fueron llenos del Espíritu. Hablaron en diversas lenguas que fueron entendidas por los procedentes de diversos países. Algunos de éstos dijeron que aquéllos estaban borrachos. Pero Pedro enfatizaba que la profecía de Joel se estaba cumpliendo. Y ellos, con los

tres mil nuevos creyentes (Hechos 2), "comían juntos, tenían todo en común, con alegría y sencillez de corazón".

Tan completo era su gozo que ni el concilio ni la cárcel pudieron disminuirlo. Ellos volvieron a la congregación "gozosos de haber sido tenidos por dignos de padecer". Sin duda la plenitud del Dios Trino convertirá vuestra tristeza en COMPLETO GOZO. Así sea, Amén.

--Harold L. Olson



NOTICIAS...

Llamada otra Familia Misionera para Servir con la IEL-SC

El Rdo. Sr. Wilmer C. Westman ha aceptado el llamamiento que le extendió la Junta de Misiones Mundiales de la ALC para trabajar en Colombia. El Sr. Westman, junto con su señora esposa, Ruby E. de Westman, y sus dos hijos, Patricia y Marcos, viajarán pronto a San José, Costa Rica, donde se dedicarán al estudio del Castellano por un año antes de unirse a la obra de nuestra iglesia en Colombia.

Los pastores Mario Jacobson (con su familia) y Walter Ludwigsen, que están actualmente estudiando en el Centro de Idiomas y Orientación en Costa Rica, esperan llegar a Colombia en agosto y septiembre respectivamente.

Viaje a Europa

El pasado 22 de abril salió para Dinamarca nuestro apreciado amigo, y director de este Boletín, el Rdo. Arnfeld C. Merck, con el propósito de asistir a una conferencia relacionada con nuestra responsabilidad como cristianos frente a los judíos en el mundo.

El Pastor Quenrud Se Retira

Después de un ministerio de 26 años y medio en Colombia, el Rdo. Sr.

Olger Quanrud se retira de la obra de nuestro Sínodo a la edad de 67 años. El Pastor Quanrud llegó a Colombia por primera vez en octubre de 1937 acompañado de los esposos Gerardo Ostrem y Andrés Larson.

Volvió a los EE UU en 1940 donde se casó con Febe Engstrom en septiembre de 1941, junto con quien regresó a Colombia para iniciar la obra en Duitama a fines del mismo año. De su matrimonio nació un hijo, Natanael, en 1944, quien se graduará con especialización en música e idiomas de Waldorf College en Iowa el 31 de mayo del presente año.

El Pastor Quanrud quedó viudo en marzo de 1956 cuando su señora esposa, doña Febe, fue llevada a la presencia del Señor. El último de los mencionados veteranos de la obra luterana en Colombia que se retira, y el primero que se jubila, dejará un gran vacío en nuestro medio.

Habiendo ejercido pastorados en Duitama, El Cocuy, Bogotá, Medellín, La Dorada y Sogamoso, celebrará el culto de despedida en esta última congregación el 17 de mayo, el Día de Pentecostés. Luego empacará los escasos bienes que posee en este mundo, y viajará a su patria, donde dedicará un año a la promoción de las misiones foráneas de la Iglesia Luterana antes de aceptar su merecida jubilación.

Los amigos y hermanos en la fe, que hemos conocido al Pastor Quanrud y colaborado con él en el evangelio, le agradecemos sus abnegadas labores y su sincero compañerismo en Cristo, y les deseamos para él y su hijo, Natanael, las copiosas bendiciones del Señor sobre la continuación de sus actividades en norteamérica.

Gracias, hermano, por haber sembrado con fidelidad y constancia la preciosa semilla de la Palabra por los campos de Colombia, por habernos refrescado con su espíritu sereno y por habernos inspirado a cumplir nuestro cometido cristiano, expresado con

las palabras de San Pablo en Hechos 20:24:

"Pero de ninguna cosa hago caso, ni estimo preciosa mi vida para mí mismo, con tal que acabe mi carrera con gozo, y el ministerio que recibí del Señor Jesús, para dar testimonio del Evangelio de la gracia de Dios".

Luterano como Secretario Ejecutivo del MEC en Colombia.

En el número anterior de este Boletín, informábamos de la visita del Sr. Julio Antonio Loza a Colombia, en donde habría de permanecer por unos tres meses trabajando con el MEC (Movimiento Estudiantil Cristiano). En el presente número nos es grato informar que el Sr. Loza ha aceptado el llamamiento para trabajar como Secretario Ejecutivo de dicho movimiento en Colombia, durante tres años, a partir de marzo de 1965.

El Sr. Loza saldrá de Colombia a principios de mayo próximo, con destino a los Estados Unidos, de donde seguirá después a Ginebra (Suiza); a su regreso contraerá matrimonio en Estados Unidos y viajará luego a Bolivia, su país natal, mientras llega el tiempo de su regreso a Colombia.

El MEC, que como queda dicho, es un Movimiento Estudiantil Cristiano, tiene como meta trabajar entre estudiantes universitarios y de últimos años de Bachillerato. Cabe anotar aquí que el Sr. Loza habrá de continuar el trabajo del Sr. José Willis, quien acaba de salir de Colombia después de haber permanecido por un tiempo, como coordinador de tal movimiento. Como tal, el Sr. Willis logró interesar a las diferentes iglesias evangélicas de Colombia, tales como la Federación Luterana Mundial (Comisión para América Latina), la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana-Sínodo de Colombia, la Iglesia Presbiteriana, la Iglesia Anglicana y la Union Church (Iglesia Unida), para realizar un común esfuerzo en este trabajo entre los estudiantes colombianos, logrando darle a la vez un mayor carácter ecuménico a dicho movimiento.

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Apartado Aéreo 111-33
Bogotá 2, Colombia
June 12, 1964

The Rev. Alexander M. Allen
1420 Santo Domingo
Buarte, California

Dear Mr. Allan:

It was indeed kind of you to write me enclosing the documents regarding Mission negotiations back in 1945. These documents may be very interesting if I ever get around to writing the history on our work in Colombia, which I have so long wanted to do.

Besides, they bring back memories and a deep sense of gratitude to you for the understanding spirit and the wisdom with which you counselled us in those early days. Thank you again!

We still continue to enjoy the considerable more liberty in our work here, partly due to the Roman thaw; yet, of course, sporadic persecution and discrimination continues along with it. This, of course, we can expect for a long time. Nevertheless, the Lord is good to us in giving us open doors and opportunity to do more than we seem to be able to accomplish. We have added more classrooms to our boarding school in Sogamoso and have quite a nice plant there now; have government approval for the primary school and "licencia de funcionamiento" for the secondary school. For this also we hope soon to have government accreditation.

Last weekend our "Juventud del Castillo Fuerte", national Lutheran League organization for Colombia, held its annual meeting and spiritual retreat in Sogamoso. The last days of this month our Synodical Council meets and then July 1-5 is the annual meeting of our Colombia Synod. We are expecting two new missionaries in August who are finishing their language study in Costa Rica. Another family will begin studies in August and will be with us a year from now. These reinforcements are welcome, but we feel that our preparation of Colombian pastors and other workers is still lagging behind in spite of our efforts to remedy this situation. Last week we decided in Mexico to launch a new Lutheran theological training program for the whole Caribbean area. While all this is important, I feel that something deep is lacking in the rank and file of our congregations...a thorough-going spiritual awakening that can call forth a spontaneous witness of the entire lay level of the congregation. This, I believe, will come only through "prayer and fasting".

Please remember us in Colombia during these crucial days.

God's blessing be upon you as you continue to pray and labor for the extension of God's kingdom and the promotion of His love among men.

Gratefully yours,

Arnfeld C. Morck

1964

XII ANNUAL MEETING OF COLOMBIA SYNOD

Elects officers; Curtails educational program

Bogotá, July, 1964

The Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod held its XII Annual Meeting here, July 1-5.

Synod officers. ELC-CS officers elected for a three-year period were: Rev. Arnfeld C. Morck, president (reelected for a third consecutive term); Rev. Juan N. Montoya, vice-president; Dr. Jorge E. Corzo, Secretary; Rev. Pausania Wilches, Treasurer.

Morck, who has consistently striven for the election of a Colombian as president, resigned upon reelection, but consented to continue when the meeting voted non-acceptance.

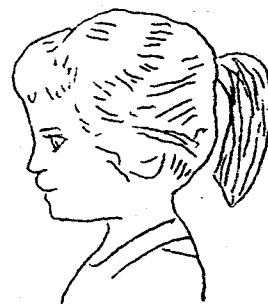
Boys' School Closed. The Synod voted to close its "Instituto Bíblico-Cultural" a Bible-secondary-normal school (presently for male students) which has served the church for more than 20 years.

The motion to suspend activities was softened by the clause, "until there is a possibility of continuing, or of implementing another educational plan." This hope is partly envisioned in Synod's action to establish a program of parish education to train lay catechists, and to study the possibility of a student hostel in Bogotá, where residents could receive some hours of Bible training while attending secular schools in the capital.

Reasons for suspending the IBC are: 1) Lack of students (only 6 in the present school year, with little hope of more in 1965); and 2) shortage of teaching personnel.

Girls' School Makes Progress. The training school for grade-school teachers and lay evangelists was coeducational until 1962 when a secondary department for girls was added to the Synod's "Colegio Celco" in Sogamoso, 150 miles north-east of Bogotá.

Colegio Celco acquired government accreditation in 1963 for its co-educational grade-school department and hopes to receive accreditation soon for the secondary department which has a present enrollment of 25 girls, in first and second years. Third year will be added in 1965 and fourth in 1966, when it will provide the full-fledged basic secondary courses, plus Bible and normal training.



Luis y Lucía saludan a sus amiguitos lectores y les invitan a que les escriban contándoles sus experiencias, sus penas o sus alegrías. Favor de dirigir sus cartas a Luis o Lucía

a/c Boletín Sinódico
Apartado Aéreo 20038
Bogotá 2, D. E.

Molinos 20 Interior 4
Mixcoac, México 19, D. F.
Mayo 21, 1965

Apreciados amigos y hermanos en Cristo:

Agradecemos al Boletín Sinódico por la oportunidad que nos da para saludar a todos nuestros amigos.

Ya han pasado varios meses sin verles, pero no han pasado varios minutos sin recordarles. Los primeros meses fueron difíciles pues todo era nuevo para nosotros. Este México es una ciudad muy grande y las costumbres son muy diferentes a las nuestras. Aunque ya nos estamos acomodando, no podemos dejar de pensar en el regreso a nuestro querido país para poder ser útiles en algo.

Los estudios son algo pesados pero les estamos haciendo la lucha. Ya hemos terminado el primer trimestre en el Seminario y estamos preparando exámenes para finalizar el segundo en la Universidad.

En el Seminario somos siete estudiantes de: Guatemala, España, México, Venezuela y Colombia. Deseamos que más amigos colombianos se decidan a trabajar en la obra del Señor, que necesita tanto de sus obreros. ¿Les esperamos el año entrante?

Deseamos que el Señor les bendiga ricamente y les pedimos el favor de que nos recuerden en sus oraciones.

De ustedes sus servidores en Cristo,

/fdo/ Hernán y Carola

Reunión del Consejo General del CETA.

El 23 de abril del presente año, se reunió en México, D. F. el Consejo General del Centro de Estudios Teológicos Ausburgo, siendo ésta la primera reunión oficial después de la organización definitiva del CETA.

En representación del Sínodo de Colombia asistieron el Lic. Gustavo D. Rodríguez y los Pastores Harold L. Olson y Arnfeld C. Morck.

Es grato informar a la feligresía de nuestro Sínodo que los estudios realizados por el Sr. Hernán Ariza en el CETA y en la Universidad de América, son altamente satisfactorios. Véase en otra parte del presente número, un saludo del Sr. Hernán Ariza y la Sra. Carola.

En camino de regreso de México, el Pastor Morck pudo visitar brevemente a la familia Orozco, en Guatemala, y a la familia Westman, en Costa Rica, quienes enviaron saludos a los hermanos en Colombia. Julio Orozco, anteriormente Pastor del Sínodo de Colombia, pastorea actualmente la Iglesia Luterana de "Cristo Rey", en la ciudad de Guatemala. Carlos Westman, llamado a servir con nuestro Sínodo, está, con su Sra. esposa, Ruby de Westman, estudiando el castellano en el Instituto de Lengua Española de San José, Costa Rica. Espera venir con su familia a Colombia en los últimos días de agosto.

Reuniones del Consejo Sinódico y de la XIII Asamblea Anual de la IEL-SC.

Para los días 28-30 de junio está programada la reunión del Consejo Sinódico de nuestra iglesia. Inmediatamente después (junio 30 a julio 4), se efectuará en Bogotá la XIII Asamblea Anual de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana, Sínodo de Colombia. Como predicadores especiales estarán el Pastor Néstor Chamorro, de la ciudad de Cali, quien dirige el movimiento "Círculo Estudiantil ALFA y OMEGA", y el Pro-

fesor Karl Lenkersdorf, rector del CETA.

Esperamos que con la ayuda de Dios, ésta sea una ocasión en la cual podamos dar pasos firmes respecto al adelanto de nuestra grande misión como luteranos y como miembros de la Iglesia de Cristo.

Contribuciones al CETA.

Recordamos nuevamente a las congregaciones, de la decisión tomada en la Asamblea General de 1964, de cubrir el 1% del presupuesto del CETA, y del Memorándum Sinódico de marzo 19 de 1965, sugiriendo las cuotas para las congregaciones.

Agradecemos a las congregaciones que ya han enviado su contribución en parte o totalmente, para el presente año.

La Casa del IBC se convierte en Colegio para Niños con Retardo Mental.

Por decisión del Consejo Sinódico se ha arrendado la casa del Instituto Bíblico-Cultural a la Asociación Colombiana Pro Niño Retardado Mental, (ACPNNRM). Los salones y piezas, tan conocidos por los exalumnos del IBC., se hallan pintados de colores vivos, con figuras alegres de animales, aves y frutas, y todo lo necesario para facilitar el aprendizaje de estos niños (y jóvenes) de limitada capacidad mental y física. Se trata de una escuela de carácter comunal, organizada por el Club de Madres de la ACPNNRM. Las clases se iniciaron el 1 de junio, con 37 alumnos matriculados.

Por otra parte, y también por decisión del Consejo Sinódico, los inquilinos que allí vivían, fueron trasladados a la casa de la calle 75 No. 20-54.

Asamblea de "Castillo Fuerte".

La Mesa Directiva de la "Juventud del Castillo Fuerte" informa a las sociedades de jóvenes de nuestras congregaciones que su Asamblea Anual se llevará a cabo en Sogamoso, durante los días 25 a 27 del presente mes; en su defecto se efectuará en Bogotá.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE BYLAWS
of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - COLOMBIA SYNOD

Amended
July, 1965

SECTION ONE

MEETINGS

See Constitution.

- A. All business meetings shall open with the reading of Scripture and prayer.
- B. The President shall preside over all business sessions of the General Synodical Convention and Synodical Council, unless otherwise ordered.
- C. Voting by secret ballot shall be required in the following cases:
 - 1. To elect Synodical officers;
 - 2. To elect members of Synodical Council;
 - 3. To adopt or amend any of the articles of the Constitution or of these Bylaws;
 - 4. To suspend or dismiss from office any Synod officer.
- D. The annual plenary session of the Synod shall be held during the month of July, or if necessary, in June or August. The exact dates and place will be set by the Synodical Council or by the President in consultation with the members of the Council. The President will advise in writing, at least one month in advance, the date, place and agenda of the meeting (Constitution, Title III, Ch. II, Art. 13). (Note: Amended, July, 1965, in order to hold the General Convention during the first half of January.)
- E. The procedure for the business meetings shall be:
 - 1. Minutes.
 - 2. Correspondence.
 - 3. Reports given by
 - a) the President
 - b) the Treasurer and auditing committee
 - c) other reports.
 - 4. Consideration and acceptance of congregations which desire affiliation with Synod.
 - 5. Elections.
 - 6. Unfinished business.
 - 7. New business.
- F. As to matters of parliamentary procedures not specified in the present Bylaws, these will follow the order as set up in "Parliamentary Procedures" by Heriberto Money.

SECTION TWO

ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING

- A. All disbursements of Synod funds shall be made by check, signed by the Treasurer and one other person authorized by the Synodical Council.
- B. The Synod in its annual plenary session shall designate an auditing committee or an accountant to audit the books. The respective reports shall be presented at the following plenary session.

SECTION THREE

REPRESENTATION IN THE SYNOD

- A. Each member congregation of the Synod shall have a right to send two (2) delegates to the General Synodical Convention, and if the number of voting members exceeds fifty (50) it will have a right to one (1) delegate per twenty (20) voting members. In no case shall the representation from one congregation exceed ten (10) delegates. (Constitution, Title III, Chapter II, Art. 11).

- B. The delegates shall be elected by the congregation which, not less than eight (8) days before the opening of the Convention, shall send a letter of credentials to the office of the Synodical President.

APPENDIX

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN - COLOMBIA SYNOD
AND THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MISSION IN COLOMBIA

1. The foreign missionaries: pastors, wives and unmarried workers, may be associate members of any congregation in the Synod, with all the responsibilities and privileges of members of the congregation.
2. All the ordained missionaries shall have voice and vote in the General Synodical Convention and shall be members of the Ministerium. They may be elected as members of the Synodical Council in proportion not to exceed a third of the representation in said Council.
3. Unordained missionaries may be elected by the congregations, of which they are associate members, as delegates to the General Synodical Convention.
4. The Synod recognizes and accepts the right of the Mission to actively maintain the existing Missionary Conference which shall not be under the control of the Synod, nor will the latter be subjected to the jurisdiction of the former, but both groups shall work together in a mutual and harmonious manner.
5. The reports on work and activities of the Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod, should be sent to the Board of World Missions which maintains constant interest in the advancement and development of the work in Colombia. Such reports should be duly authenticated by the Synod President.
6. The Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod, sincerely welcomes the missionaries sent by the Board of World Missions to help her in her work. In times of special need, this Synod may request the Board of Missions to send more missionaries. She may also inform when she believes there is no more need to increase the number of missionaries, or when it would be advisable to withdraw some of its number.
7. Every missionary should be recommended to the Synodical Council by the Missionary Conference. The Council, taking into account the desires and aptitudes for service of the recommended missionary, shall assign him work in accord with the obligations he may have with his own Missionary Conference. If the work is specifically connected with a local congregation, the latter shall extend him the appropriate call.
8. If a foreign missionary, in the opinion of the Synodical Council, is not competent for the work, the Council may request his withdrawal addressing such petition to the Missionary Conference who in turn will pass it on to the Board of World Missions.
9. All institutions supported by the Mission shall have representatives in their directorship, elected by the Synod. The budgets of such institutions shall be included in the budget of the Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod.
10. The foreign missionaries shall continue to be supported by the Board of World Missions, but when one of them serves a parish, the congregation which he serves shall contribute to the Treasury of the Synod the sum budgeted for the support of its pastor.
11. The Synod and Missionary Conference, based on experience and observation, recommend as a general principle that the congregations be served by national pastors. Only in the case of proven urgency and necessity shall a foreign missionary serve as parish pastor.

Accepted by the Synod in its Seventh General Convention, the 30
of July, 1959, in Bogotá, D.E. (See Minutes of same, V. Bylaws)



Pentecost—1967

MRS. VIESTURS PAVASARS
COLOMBIA

On Pentecost Sunday the first Vesper Service of the new Lutheran work in Cali was held in the small chapel in our home. What better time to begin than on Pentecost when the first Christian Church was born by the might of the Holy Spirit!

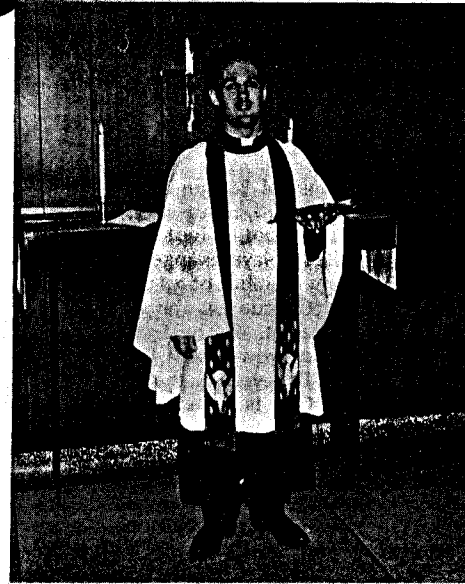
As we think of that first Pentecost and of our own Pentecost Sunday in Cali, we praise God for His continual workings. We remember that on the first Pentecost people were present from many lands as we read in Acts 2:9ff "Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, . . ." How amazed we were after our first service to find that among the 23 people present, there were twelve Colombians, five Ecuadorians, three North Americans, one Cuban, one German and one Latvian.

Also we remember Peter's Spirit-empowered sermon in a language all could understand and we thank God for His strengthening so that the pastor, after only eleven months in Colombia, could deliver his sermon with power in Spanish, the language all could understand. Only after one has delivered his first message in another language, can he truly appreciate the words of St. Luke, "For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." (Lk. 12:12)

We have appreciated this same verse as each afternoon we set out to visit our neighbors in this upper-middle class suburb of Cali. Often we know not how to convert our friendly chit-chat to discussion of the things of God, but much to our amazement God opens the doors and the Holy Spirit gives us words to answer the many questions of our neighbors.

There is much curiosity about our faith and many thought-provoking questions are asked. However, the most difficult part for many of our neighbors is to have sufficient courage to investigate by attending the Bible studies or Sunday services. As one man stated, "We are afraid of two things. One is to study the Bible. For many years this has been a book forbidden by the Catholic Church. Even though the Church now says we may read it, there still remains this fear within us which was implanted in us as youngsters. The second fear is what our neighbors will think. Many will say we are converting to another faith if we attend evangelical services." We encouraged this neighbor to investigate and not to fear man's opinion, and we praised God when he came to the Sunday evening service two weeks ago.

14



We ask your prayers for this man and for our other neighbors to whom God, by means of His Spirit, is calling to the study of His Word and to a deeper, fuller knowledge of Himself. Pray also that this same Spirit will enlighten and empower each of us, His servants, to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the same force we see in the Book of Acts. May we all be Peters and Pauls in this year 1967 whenever God may have called us to serve.

PASTOR VIESTURS PAVASARS in the new Lutheran Chapel, Cali, Colombia.

In a letter received from Viesturs and Arlene shortly after Easter they told of a visit to Popayan on Good Friday.

" . . . We were happy to accept the invitation of one of our neighbors to visit Popayan, his home town, on Good Friday. This small city, the colonial capital of the department of Cauca, is very famous for its Holy Week processions, so we were especially appreciative of the opportunity to visit these on Good Friday and to witness this important part of the Colombian culture.

"The procession was very solemn and impressive. The many heavy floats laden with the Passion figures, flowers, candles, and many golden decorations, were laboriously carried by eight men dressed in purple. Between each float, hundreds of children and adults solemnly marched with candles. Each float told part of the Passion story with the final scenes showing the empty cross and Christ in the coffin. However we were rather disturbed with the last float, showing Mary, extravagantly dressed in gold with many angels around her and a queenly light streaming from behind. It was a rather unfortunate ending to an interesting procession—almost as though it were saying, "Christ is dead. Long live Mary!"

We ask your prayers that we may be able to bring the risen and living Christ to the Colombians who seem to have a religion that comes to a pitch of fervor during Holy Week and then dies with Christ on Good Friday. The joy of Easter Sunday and the presence of the risen Christ in our lives seems to be lost in the sadness of Christ's death."

THE MISSIONARY
Sept., 1967

15



OPPORTUNITIES FOR WITNESS

IN THE PLAINS of Eastern Colombia, rivers are used as highways. Below: This 30-foot, 6-foot beam, dug-out called "Nave Evangelista," is owned by a member of a Lutheran group at Orocué on the Meta River. (See map p. 4) The Spanish writing on the prow reads: "Read the Bible," "Believe on the Lord Jesus," and "God Is Love."



With both the spoken and written word, missionaries and evangelists share the Gospel in the newly-opened bookstore (Librería "El Escudo") located on the south side of Redeemer Lutheran Church in North Bogota. Wilmer Westman director, says, "Christian literature is of no value to anyone until it is put into the hand of a seeking person. Then it goes into action, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to open the blind eyes and lead him into a new and living experience with their Lord, Jesus Christ. It is then that the Church, His body, is able to help this person grow in his relationship with Christ and become oriented into an effective worker in reaching others with the Gospel message."



FROM HER CLASSROOM in Colegio Celco, in So-gamoso, Missionary Joyce Bergh writes: "The second year high school religion class studied purgatory, Christ's descent into hell, etc. Verses were looked up in different Bible versions. After the class Gloria came to the teacher and asked, 'Que religion salva' (What religion saves?) Once again she was pointed to the authority of the Word."



UP THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRAIL, Missionary Norman Omodt (left), climbs to hold services in mountain chapels. THE MUD-WALLED BUILDING shown below is used for worship services when Evangelist Nehemias Parada makes the two hour trip (on horseback) from Socota.



The congregation at Santa Helena gathered in this grass-roofed chapel when Missionary Walter Ludwigsen (third from left in third row) visited and held services here. Pastor Ludwigsen is Missionary superintendent and president of ELC-Colombia Synod.



Nov. 28, 1969

DECLARACION EVANGELICA DE BOGOTA

Los aquí reunidos, creyentes en Cristo, miembros de las diferentes comunidades denominacionales que trabajan en nuestro continente entre el pueblo latinoamericano, nos hemos congregado en este Primer Congreso Latinoamericano de Evangelización en el Nombre de Dios el Padre, Dios el Hijo y Dios el Espíritu Santo. Creemos que el Espíritu Santo mismo nos ha guiado a este encuentro, con la finalidad de examinar de nuevo nuestra misión evangelizadora a la luz de la enseñanza bíblica y de la actual situación latinoamericana.

Nuestra presencia en este Congreso ha sido manifestación de nuestra Unidad en Cristo, cuya naturaleza espiritual y no organizacional hunde sus raíces en nuestra común herencia evangélica, fundamentada en las verdades de la Biblia, cuya autoridad como Palabra de Dios iluminada por el Espíritu Santo afirmamos categóricamente.

Como consecuencia, esta declaración que presentamos al pueblo evangélico latinoamericano es expresión de un consenso en el cual hay acuerdo en lo fundamental; pero hay también lugar para la diversidad que proviene de la multiforme gracia de Dios al dar sus dones a su pueblo: Diversidad dentro de la Unidad.

Esta declaración quiere también reflejar la toma de conciencia que en estos días el Señor Jesucristo ha querido darnos, haciéndonos sentir lo agudo de la crisis múltiple por la que atraviesan nuestros pueblos, y el carácter imperativo de su mandato a evangelizar. Juntos hemos reconocido la necesidad de vivir plenamente el evangelio, proclamándolo en su totalidad al hombre latinoamericano en el contexto de sus múltiples necesidades.

Compartimos con un sentido de urgencia lo que el Señor Jesucristo nos ha mostrado pero sin intentar legislar en la vida de las iglesias latinoamericanas. Invitamos más bien al pueblo latinoamericano a considerar y estudiar estas declaraciones que expresan las convicciones a que el Señor Jesucristo nos llevó durante el Congreso.

ASI DECLARAMOS:

1. La presencia evangélica en Latinoamérica es fruto de la acción de Dios a través de un inmenso caudal de amor cristiano, visión misionera, espíritu de sacrificio, trabajo, esfuerzo, tiempo y dinero invertido aquí por las misiones extranjeras que han venido trabajando desde hace más de un siglo, inclusive la Obra de las Sociedades Bíblicas. Esta mirada a nuestra historia no puede menos que despertar en nosotros un espíritu de gratitud por la obra pionera cuya dimensión reconocemos. Al mismo tiempo, al mirar hacia el futuro, estamos conscientes de las nuevas responsabilidades, nuevas tareas y nuevas estructuras que son un verdadero desafío a los creyentes latinoamericanos, y al liderato autóctono en todas las dimensiones del ministerio.
2. La comisión de anunciar el evangelio a toda criatura es un imperativo claramente expresado en la Palabra de Dios. La evangelización no es algo optativo: es la esencia misma del ser de la Iglesia, su tarea suprema.
La dinámica de la tarea evangelizadora es la acción del Espíritu Santo. Es El quien da los dones a la Iglesia, capacita al evangelizador, da testimonio de Cristo al oyente, lo ilumina, convence de pecado, de justicia, de juicio y de eterna perdición; lo convierte en nueva criatura, y lo hace parte de la Iglesia y colaborador con Dios en la evangelización. Cuando no se reconoce esta iniciativa del Espíritu Santo, la evangelización se torna mera empresa humana.
3. Nuestra teología sobre el evangelismo determina nuestra acción evangelizadora, o la ausencia de ella. La sencillez del evangelio no está reñida con su dimensión teológica. Su naturaleza es la autorevelación de Dios en Cristo Jesús. Reafirmamos el carácter único de su obra mediadora, gracias a la cual el pecador encuentra el perdón de los pecados, y la justificación por la sola fe, sin reiteración de aquel sacrificio.
Reafirmamos asimismo que Cristo es el Señor y la Cabeza de la Iglesia, y que la manifestación final de su señorío sobre el mundo será evidente en su segunda venida, la cual es la esperanza de los redimidos. Estas son las buenas noticias cuya proclamación y aceptación transforman radicalmente al hombre.
4. Los campos de la América Latina están blancos y listos para la siega. Grandes sectores de la población manifiestan receptividad al evangelio, pero esta hora de oportunidad demanda una estrategia adecuada. Debemos evaluar los actuales métodos de evangelización a la luz de los resultados visibles en el crecimiento asombroso de ciertas denominaciones. Dicha evaluación, unida a una consideración cuidadosa de la vida de la Iglesia neo testamentaria, demostrará en primer lugar la importancia de una movilización total de la Iglesia para la tarea

- evangelizadora. Afirmamos para ser fieles a la Biblia que esta movilización ha de ser obra del Espíritu Santo, que usará los medios que la Iglesia proporcione con inteligencia y creatividad, comenzando a nivel de la congregación local.
5. En nuestro siglo somos testigos del progreso asombroso de los medios de comunicación que, por su eficiencia y por la falta de ética de quienes los manejan, contribuyen a crear un caos de voces que confunden al hombre latinoamericano. En medio de tal confusión la voz clara, distintiva, sencilla y poderosa del mensaje de Cristo, debe encontrar su camino hasta el oyente. El mensajero de Jesucristo tiene la urgente responsabilidad de comprender y utilizar las técnicas modernas de comunicación a fin de captar la atención del hombre latinoamericano, dialogar con él y comunicarle el evangelio en forma inteligible y pertinente a su situación vital.
 6. El proceso de evangelización se da en situaciones humanas concretas. Las estructuras sociales influyen sobre la Iglesia y sobre los receptores del evangelio. Si se desconoce esta realidad se desfigura el evangelio y se empobrece la vida cristiana. Ha llegado la hora de que los evangélicos tomemos conciencia de nuestras responsabilidades sociales. Para cumplir con ellas, el fundamento bíblico es la doctrina evangélica y el ejemplo de Jesucristo llevado hasta sus últimas consecuencias. Ese ejemplo debe encarnarse en la crítica realidad latinoamericana de subdesarrollo, injusticia, hambre, violencia y desesperación. Los hombres no podrán construir el reino de Dios sobre la tierra, pero la acción social evangélica contribuirá a crear un mundo mejor como anticipo de aquél por cuya venida oran diariamente.
 7. La explosión demográfica nos presenta el desafío de una población juvenil que aumenta vertiginosamente, justo en el momento en que la Iglesia comprueba por su parte un éxodo de su juventud y una crisis del ministerio frente a las nuevas generaciones. El empuje de la Iglesia debe renovarse de acuerdo con una estrategia orgánica que comprenda el diagnóstico realista de la crisis juvenil y la reformulación de las demandas de Cristo. El reto del Señor ha de enunciarse de manera que capte la imaginación y la energía de la juventud, lanzándola precisamente a la conquista de Latinoamérica para Cristo. El entusiasmo, el vigor, el espíritu de servicio y aventura de una juventud que haga de Cristo su señor y líder, podrá convertir en realidad las profundas transformaciones que nuestros pueblos esperan.
 8. La tarea de la evangelización no termina con la proclamación y la conversión. Se hace necesario un ministerio de consolidación de los creyentes nuevos que les brinde capacitación doctrinal y práctica para vivir la vida cristiana dentro del ambiente en que se mueven, para expresar fidelidad a Cristo en el contexto sociocultural donde Dios los ha puesto. El proceso de planificación de la tarea evangelizadora debe proveer también las bases teológicas y los métodos prácticos para realizar esta tarea de consolidación.
 9. En un continente de mayoría nominalmente católica, no podemos cerrar los ojos a las inquietudes de renovación que se advierten en la Iglesia de Roma. El "aggiornamento" nos presenta por igual riesgo y oportunidad: los cambios en materia de liturgia, eclesiología, política y estrategia, dejan sin embargo incólumes los dogmas que separan a los evangélicos de Roma. Pero nuestra confianza en la Palabra de Dios, cuya difusión y lectura se va acelerando dentro del catolicismo, nos hace esperar frutos de renovación y nos proporciona oportunidad para el diálogo a nivel personal. Este diálogo ha de ser inteligente y demanda en nuestras Iglesias una enseñanza más profunda y consistente de la herencia evangélica, a fin de evitar los riesgos de un ecumenismo ingenuo y mal entendido.
 10. En actitud de agradecimiento al Señor Jesucristo por la forma en que nos ha permitido la expansión del evangelio en estas tierras, confesamos al mismo tiempo nuestra incapacidad y nuestras fallas en el cumplimiento de su mandato en esta hora crítica. Pero afirmamos nuestra fe en los recursos de su gracia, que capacitan a los suyos a la medida de las tareas que El les demanda, y en la asistencia y el poder del Espíritu Santo prometido a la Iglesia "hasta el fin del mundo". Al Señor y Salvador al cual damos la gloria ahora y por los siglos, nos encomendamos. AMEN.

El Comité Ejecutivo del Primer Congreso Latinoamericano de Evangelización:

Carlos J. Lastra	Clyde W. Taylor	Efraín Santiago
Miguel Ángel Suazo	Harold Stacey	Antonio Eifas
Jorge Bidduiph	Jonás González	Pablo Finkenbinder
Virgilio Zapata A.	Sergio García	Roberto Anderson
Félix Calle	Asdrúbal Ríos	

MENSAJE A LAS IGLESIAS EVANGELICAS LUTERANAS EN LATINOAMERICA

Nosotros, los luteranos asistentes al Primer Congreso Latinoamericano de Evangelización reunidos en la ciudad de Bogotá, Colombia, durante los días 21 a 29 de noviembre de 1969, enviamos a las iglesias luteranas del continente las siguientes conclusiones tomadas de las ponencias tratadas:

1a. Que la evangelización constituye la misión fundamental de la Iglesia de Cristo.

2a. Que la evangelización consiste en comunicar las Buenas Nuevas acerca de Jesucristo con la mira de la conversión del hombre incrédulo. Esta comunicación revela a Cristo como el Reconciliador entre el hombre y Dios y entre los hombres. La conversión - arrepentimiento y fe - se completa con el Bautismo y la formación personal basada en las Sagradas Escrituras dentro de la hermandad cristiana.

3a. Que tal comunicación se hace básicamente en forma verbal. Cuando este mensaje es recibido produce en el individuo, y por ende en la comunidad, cambios positivos y duraderos. Esta confrontación verbal requiere un contexto de amor y servicio.

4a. Que frente al hecho del nominalismo religioso de la gran mayoría de los habitantes de Latinoamérica - fenómeno reconocido aún por la iglesia católica romana - las iglesias luteranas tienen también un gran campo de acción y una grave responsabilidad evangelizadora.

5a. Que se hace necesaria y urgente la preparación del elemento laico de las iglesias luteranas para que participe eficazmente en la obra evangelizadora. En consecuencia, se recomienda a los seminarios inculcar en los futuros ministros una seria inquietud evangelizadora. De otra parte, cada congregación luterana será un campo de adiestramiento para sus miembros comprometidos con Cristo.

6a. Que la acción misionera de la iglesia es más eficaz si las estructuras son sencillas y se adaptan a las circunstancias ambientales. Téngase en cuenta el valor del testimonio personal en la obra evangelizadora.

7a. Que los esfuerzos evangelizadores con otras denominaciones pueden rendir abundantes frutos, pero requieren una cuidadosa preservación de nuestra identidad doctrinal.

8a. Que el Evangelizador verdadero es el Espíritu Santo y que a la Iglesia le ha correspondido el privilegio de ser instrumento Suyo.

9a. Que es necesaria la realización de congresos o consultas luteranas de evangelización para tratar de la teoría y la práctica de la misma. Los resultados de tales reuniones deben llegar a todos los miembros de nuestras congregaciones para despertar en ellos un genuino espíritu misionero.

10a. Que la iglesia luterana se ha distinguido en el campo teológico y en el ministerio docente pero no así en la tarea evangelizadora. Por lo tanto hacemos un cálido y urgente llamamiento a todas las congregaciones luteranas de América Latina para que intensifiquen el ministerio de la comunicación del mensaje del evangelio y para que participen y hagan suyo el tema de nuestro Congreso: "Acción en Cristo para un Continente en Crisis".

Bogotá, Colombia

28 de noviembre de 1969

Rvdo. Samuel Acedo
Ig. Evang. Luterana
Argentina

Sr. José Roberto Aponte
Sínodo Luterano del Caribe
Puerto Rico

Rvdo. Almer Fenner F.
Evangelista Iglesia Luterana
en Bolivia

Rvdo. Roberto F. Gussick
Coordinador del Propuesto Consejo Luterano
Latinoamericano - Guatemala

Lic. Hernando Lara R.
Iglesia Evangélica Luterana -
Sínodo de Colombia

Lic. Gustavo Rodríguez
Gerente de Sociedades Bíblicas
en Colombia

Prof. Raymond S. Rosales
Sem. Lut. Augsburg
México

Rvdo. Gerardo Wilches
Pastor iglesia Luterana San Lucas
Bogotá, Colombia

PERSONAL REPORT OF ARNFELD C. MORCK
to the
COLOMBIA LUTHERAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

Return to Colombia:

In response to reinstatement to the list of active Canadian missionaries on loan to the ALC, my leave-of-absence status of three years was terminated July 1, 1970. On August 1, 1970, Hildur, Fred, Rob and I arrived in Bogotá. We were overwhelmed and encouraged by the warm welcome given by members of the two congregations in the Bogotá area, and their pastors, Mario Jacobson and Gerardo Wilches. As you know, our three daughters remained in Alberta.

Assignments and activities:

Even though it was indicated earlier by President Wilches and General Director of World Missions, Morris A. Sorenson, Jr., that my main assignment would be related to the Synod's lay training program, this was not confirmed by "Consejo Sinódico" until its October meeting. At this time, Consejo named me as "director general" of the Synod's proposed seminary by extension program, with Mario Jacobson as advisor.

Other responsibilities are: Chairman of the "Junta Asesora" for the book store, member of the Board of Directors for the Social Service Center at St. Luke's in Ciudad Kennedy, and member of the Executive Committee of the Lutheran Literature Committee for Latin America.

Activities since returning to Colombia include: An evangelistic-teaching trip, together with Pausanias Wilches and Juan Saenz, on the Meta, Guachería and Pauto Rivers, September 4-22; correspondence and organization relative to the meeting of the Lutheran Literature meeting held in Bogotá, December 2-4; numerous consultations, meetings and inquiries re Social Service Center at Ciudad Kennedy; meetings and consultations re book store; reading, preparation, editing, etc., for the seminary extension program; promotion of same in the congregations of Chiscas, El Cocuy, Carri- zal and Ciudad Kennedy, the latter together with Jacobson; occasional preaching in San Lucas and other places.

Hildur and I have spent considerable time in scouting out possibilities for Robby's schooling. The solution seems to be an English-speaking class for the retarded on the grounds of one of the many Bogotá schools contacted, classes to start in February.

Most of Hildur's time goes into operating "Hotel CLAM" on Carrera 9 No. 79-35, where it has been our privilege to host all of you at some time or other, as well as numerous guests from abroad, including Sorenson, Dahlen and Halverson of the Minneapolis office. She also managed the food and lodging for the Lutheran Literature Committee meetings held at San Mateo in Usaquen.

In spite of an observable amount of stagnation in certain areas of our Colombia church life, we are encouraged and challenged by other signs of growth and development: Capable Colombian leadership coming up; the live Christian cell groups along the rivers visited; the multi-sided, grass-roots ministry of men like Oliverio Mora; the prospect of now launching this thrilling new concept of theological in-service training so ably planned and outlined by Mario Jacobson and others; a greater sense of dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit rather than on human structure, organization and know-how.

Brethren, we are glad to be back in your midst and determined to serve you and our Colombian brethren to the best of our limited ability, and to God's glory!

Sogamoso, January, 1971

January 22, 1971

The Rev. Morris A. Sorenson, Jr.
Division of World Missions, A.L.C.
422 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415
U.S.A.

Dear "Bo":

No doubt we all appreciate your invitation to submit suggestions on policy. As you will know from Walt, our Association meeting came and went without time to discuss the matter. So it was decided that each of us should send in our individual contributions. I am afraid that mine will contain nothing very illuminating and perhaps only things that have often been discussed by the Board. Nevertheless, I submit the following for what it may be worth.

SUGGESTIONS ON POLICY AND STRATEGY

I. Within the Indigenous Church

- A. Emphasis on a "tent-making" ministry, developed by an in-service training program for natural community leaders called by God. This is as new as St. Paul, and I have the uneasy feeling that if this strategy had been followed from the beginning of our work in Colombia, we might have had a vigorous, self-supporting church now. However, it may not be too late to start it now. Obviously, there are some hide-bound traditions to break. This is evident from the opposition to having our new extension program for theological training lead to ordination into the ministry. For years we have realized that our congregations were too pastor-centered and too pastor-dependent and that there was a great lack of a total ministry of a congregation, as the body of Christ, for its own growth for sparking new groups into existence and growth. You are acquainted with the seminary extension concept in Latin America, so I shall not enlarge on that. The plan was approved by the annual meeting of the ELC-OS, January 15-17, 1971.
- B. Foster more "Power Cells". A decade ago, upon the request of the pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bogotá, I prepared a plan for developing Bible Study and Prayer Cells throughout the area of our churches. Other churches, especially the Mennonites, used the material to good advantage. But our Lutheran churches have been slow to develop such groups. The Roman Catholic church in many areas is now experiencing renewal through Bible Study groups led by laymen.
- C. Less expensive and more functional congregational centers. When the worshipping group grows and a congregation is organized, a special place of worship seems necessary. Church buildings should be attractive but unelaborate and as inexpensive as possible, and their accompanying facilities as functional and versatile as possible. But, in the urban areas, you have construction standards, and architects' ambition to contend with. The result is often that simplicity is lost and the congregation is saddled with expensive maintenance, not to say a white elephant in some cases.

Stress should be on the human resources rather than on the physical plant.

Churches should be open for a variety of activities throughout the week. Protestant churches in Colombia are known to be "closed all the time". This has its explanation partly in a persecution history. But that time is for the most in the past and it is time that our Spirit-guided imagination discovers ways of serving the community with opportunities and activities through open doors throughout the week.

- D. Cultivate good relations with Roman Catholic priests and people. Never before has there been such a God-given opportunity for fruitful dialogue as today in Colombia. This time of ferment and renewal (confusion, on the part of some) may not last forever and should be utilized for a total Christian impact, without the denominational desire to proselite. Both conservative and progressive priests should be encouraged to stay within the ranks of a changing structure to make their increasingly evangelical witness felt right where they are. The Holy Spirit has never, to my knowledge, agreed to work under the auspices of the Lutheran Church! He is sovereign and is obviously, vigorously and powerfully at work with magnificent disregard of our tottering human structures and is building His church in human lives where He is permitted to fill them regardless of the labels they may carry.

Certainly, the Gospel can more quickly and effectively reach the hearts of Latin America's two hundred millions of nominal Roman Catholics through Spirit-renewed witness through their own channels than by a (not always spiritual) cross-denominational conversion process through the doors of Lutheran churches or those of other Protestants.

True Christian renewal and reform within the Roman Catholic community (needed also in our own church) may depend to a great extent upon a sincere, unselfish, non-proseliting effort in prayer and interpersonal sharing. The Roman Catholics have gone farther in some areas than Protestants on the whole are willing to go. The English "Good News for Modern Man" now appears with the R.C. "Nihil abstat". And who can believe it? The next edition of its Spanish counterpart by the United Bible Societies will also have the R.C. green light for its readers.

II. Between Sending and Receiving Churches

- A. A sharing ministry. It seems that there is still a justifiable need for sharing personnel and money with the growing young church. Much wisdom, faith, empathy and daring is needed in the happy administration of this sharing. Perhaps it is not possible to come up with any sort of unified policy, but only flexible guide lines.
1. When there is an open door for urgent action in a given area, forces should be mobilized for the best strategy without too rigid regard as to whether they are foreign or national. The more indigenous the thrust can be, the better. So, local sources should be harnessed first. But a policy principle should not be held so rigidly that opportunities are lost which could have been met through a more flexible course of action.
 2. When foreign personnel is needed for some specialized service, the request, obviously, should come well in advance from the receiving church so that the candidate can be called and trained (in the language) in due time for the assignment.
 3. Insofar as possible, foreign candidates should be placed in specialized services where local talent has not been developed, with a view to training his national counterpart as soon as possible. This would help avoid the gaps created by furloughs, resignations, retirements, etc.

4. When feasible, the sending church should receive from the receiving church. (This, of course, is nothing new, for it has often been done when church leaders have been in North America for study and other reasons.) It is wholesome for the sending church to see the picture of its work abroad through the eyes of receiving church leaders: at conventions, rallies, special study groups, on pannels, etc.

B. Sharing of material stewardship. There are times when financial help from abroad is of inestimable blessing in extending and building the church. But there is also the grave danger that such help under certain conditions will stifle the growth of the church and delay self-support. The difference is sometimes hard to predict. Leaders in the receiving church should, from the beginning, have the main responsibility in the administration of such funds. It is important that their dignity be respected and their independence be strengthened rather than weakened by such help. Here, also, the greatest investment should be in persons, and their training, rather than in things. Structures should be as mobile and flexible as possible, without going to the extreme of anarchy.

Self-support has often been held up as one of the cardinal earmarks of a truly indigenous church. Important as it is, it must not overshadow the all-important function of the total church; the proclamation of the Lordship of Christ in obedience to Matthew 28:18-20. This has been called "self-propagation" along with self-government and self-support. All are good when the "self" (the church as an end in itself) is not substituted for the absolute Lordship of Christ.

I know I am talking in generalities, but to enter into specific detail on the administration of shared funds requires much more space in describing cause and effect in a number of varying circumstances.

III. Between Board and Missionaries

- A. The call. Would it not be advisable, especially in the case of younger graduates from seminary, that the candidate for service abroad have a few years of service at home before being accepted by the Board? Maturity in the ordained ministry, especially in an inter-cultural situation, is perhaps more essential than in any other form of ministry.
- B. Basic equipment. Would there not be considerable saving on the shipping of missionary equipment if a heavy item, so universally used, as a washing machine, be included in "basic furniture"? This premise is based on the assumption that a person responsible enough to be called is also responsible in treating mission equipment with at least as good care as his personal belongings.

Sincerely,

Arnfeld C. Morck

REPORT TO CLMA ANNUAL MEETING
(Personal and President's)
Bogotá, January 27-28, 1975

SELITE, as you know, has continued to be my "full-time" assignment. Freed, a year ago, from being Secretary of Synod, I was asked to be the Synod's Evangelism Director. Two things, at the moment of this surprise election, kept me from refusing it. First, a feeling that it could be from God (I still believe some Church and Church Council decisions are). Second, I saw the possibility of combining this with extension teaching, and involving the students more directly in evangelism. You already know from reports to Synod on SELITE and Evangelism that this has been possible to some extent. See also, if you like, my story on TRE BY DUG-OUT.

Since Ray Rosales got back from his sabbatical late August, the pressure of work with Co-Extensión and Aliste has been much lessened, even if I did just now work out the basics of a questionnaire for Co-Extensión. It was most refreshing to teach Lutherans and Pentecostals together at the annual extension school encounter last March in Venezuela. Both groups seemed in equal need, and responded equally well to the subject matter I was asked to teach: "The Holy Spirit and Us: His Work in the Individual and in the Church". I have been asked to do the same in Bolivia, along with practical homiletics.

The "Gringo Group" (which we have been serving with a monthly communion service, and a Bible study in between, since they approached us over a year and a half ago) has been more worship than work; more joy than job. We were hesitant to "take them on", but said we would if they meant business with Christ. They did, and we did. It has been a pleasure to see God at work in them, and He, through them, in others: Lives changed and enriched; some released and salvaged from destruction. We cannot speak as enthusiastically about various other people whom we think God has sent our way for a purpose. Some cases are most depressing. However, it seems that He has taken us at our word when we told Him we wanted to serve people, not just do things, as mentioned in last year's report.

The combination of work and vacation in Cali, replacing the Wyses for 5 weeks, was very refreshing.

Being translator for the Synod President continues to be one of the built-in extras, but considerably lightened now, thanks to having "literate" (in Spanish) officials in Minneapolis and Geneva. The Synod office has recently reciprocated very kindly in this relationship, since secretary Marta has, on occasion, typed up letters and materials for me.

Again, thank you for good, warm and sincere fellowship in the Lord.

--Arnfeld C. Morck

ASAMBLEA GENERAL DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA-SINODO DE COLOMBIA

PAZ DE ARIPOZO, CASANARE, ENERO 21-25, 1976

INFORME DEL DIRECTOR DE "SELITE" Y DE EVANGELISMO:

Hermanos en Cristo:

Con el presente informe combinado trataré de ilustrar algunos aspectos importantes de nuestro esfuerzo en la promoción del evangelismo y en la educación teológica, según lo vemos al terminar el año de 1975. Por lo que nos ha permitido lograr le damos gracias a Dios y gloria a su nombre por su fidelidad y paciencia con nosotros.

I. Hablaremos primero de la promoción evangelística

En primer lugar debo de denfesar que al ofrecimiento (que hice en el informe del año pasado) de dirigir la recomendada auto-evaluación en las varias congregaciones, no recibí ni una sola invitación.

Por el lado positivo, sinembargo, me fue muy grato ver que la Asamblea (y el Cuerpo ministerial) aceptó el plan de evangelización que habíamos recomendado para el Río Pauto, inclusive la autorización pastoral que se concedió a los evangelistas, alumnos de Selite en aquella región. Seguimos recomendando la misma estrategia de evangelizar por medio de grupos de extensión.

Con la esperanza de que tal plan podría encontrar su adaptación a otros campos del Sínodo pusimos en manos de todos los pastores, evangelistas y alumnos copias del Plan de Jorge Paeterson de Honduras, sobre el particular.

Luego hicimos lo mismo con el atractivo folleto de Duglas Smith de Bolivia sobre como mobilizar todo el cuerpo de Cristo para la evangelización.

En tercer lugar fue enviado a todos los pastores y evangelistas una carta circular llamandonos a ponernos de acuerdo en orar ^{concentradamente} ~~concentradamente~~ por una renovación en nuestra iglesia y, por ende, una evangelización espontánea. De esta carta se circularon suficientes copias para que cada familia pudiera tener una, y así ayudar en la formación de cadenas de oración.

Todo esto, aunque no sea tanto, se ha hecho con ánimo de concientizarnos a la necesidad de orar y luego ser impulsados por la oración a obedecer al Espíritu Santo en ser testigos de Jesucristo, no sólo por obligación sino más que todo por amor a El y al prójimo.

II. LA EDUCACION TEOLOGICA POR EXTENSION:

1. Alumnado y profesorado de Selite: Han venido estudiando, durante el año de 1975 21 alumnos matriculados:

En El Cocuy	8
En Sogamoso	85
En Bogotá	2
En Casanare	3+3=6
Total	<u>21</u>

~~27~~

Además han empezado a estudiar de "contrabando" (sin matricularse oficialmente hasta ahora):

En Casanare (Río Pauto y Meta)	4
En Bogotá	3
(unó en la Carcel Modelo) Cali	1
Total	8

También se ha provisto materiales para 3 Sálivas y su profesor, en Morechito en las Costas del Río Casanare. Uno de ellos está estudiando ya en el Hospital Santa Clara, en Bogotá. Los otros dos empezarán a trabajar en febrero.

En cuanto a profesores, han seguido enseñando: Pastor Oliverio Mora, en el centro de El Cocuy, Victor Pavasars en Sogamoso, Benjamín Ojeda, en Paz de Ariporo; y el Director de Selite en Bogotá y Bocas del Pauto. El Pastor G. Wilches le ha reemplazado a éste en su ausencia en Bogotá.

Progreso en los Estudios:

Desde el segundo semestre de 1971, cuando Selite inició tareas, ⁴⁶ 42 alumnos han rendido el siguiente progreso:

1 ha aprobado	8	materias	<u>El Cocuy;</u> (continuación)	
2 han "	7	"	6. Noé Pérez	2 Materias
13 " "	6	"	7. Arturo García	4 "
16 " "	5	"	8. Vidal Mora	6 "
20 " "	4	"	9. Leonidas Buitrago	6 "
21 " "	3	"	10. Felix M. Blanco	2 "
39 ³⁵ " "	2	"	11. José O. Torres	5 "
40 " "	1	"	12. Ubaldo Mora	6 "
2 nuevos	0	"	13. Victor Lizarazo	2 "
			14. José Martínez	4 "
			15. Antonio Torres	6 "
			16. Hilma B. de Buitrago	6 "

Son ellos de 5 centros así:

Bogotá

1. Fulvio Alvarez	2	Materias
2. Oskar Henao	6	"
3. Luis E. Ramírez	3	"
4. Carmen O. Martínez	1	"
5. Urid Mendivelso	1	"
6. Alberto Rodríguez	1	"
7. Cecilia de Rodríguez	1	"
8. Dionila Tuay	4	"
(Curso parte en Casanare)		

Casanare:

1. Clodomiro Camargo	6	Materias
2. Juan Sáenz	6	"
3. Ambrocio Sogamoso	6	"

El Cocuy:

1. German Arciniegas	6	Materias
2. Juan H. Alvarado	6	"
3. Hernan Torres	5	"
4. Pedro J. García	2	"
5. Salomón Ussa	2	"

Sogamoso:

1. José A. Ayala	8	Materias
2. José F. López	7	"
3. Rafael Castellanos	2	"
4. Alvaro Leal	2	"
5. Julia de Díaz	4	"
6. Rosa de Cortéz	1	"
7. Marina de Botero	1	cursando 1ª materia
8. Helena Niño	"	" " "

Tunja:

1. Matilde de Suarez	2	Materias
2. Manuel Olivarez	2	"

viaje P.D., P. 5

Nota: Hay varios alumnos que dejaron una o dos materias sin completar o sin presentar exámenes. Los indicados arriba son aprobados)

Las Materias cursadas hasta ahora son:

1. Orientación en los Estudios Bíblicos
2. Evangelización
3. Iglesia y Evangelismo
4. Los Hechos de Los Apóstoles
5. Crecimiento de la Iglesia
6. Historia y Composición del Antiguo Testamento
7. San Marcos
8. Hogar Cristiano
9. Romanos

2. El Encuentro General de Selite;

Se llevó a cabo en Sogamoso los días 7 al 12 de julio con la participación de 26 personas incluyendo a los pastores y profesores. Del Instituto Teológico Juan de Frías de Venezuela asistieron 4. El Profesor Roberto Hoferkamp del Seminario Augsburg de México enseñó sobre la "Misión y el Ministerio en América Latina", y el Prof. Marcos Kempff de Juan de Frías, en dinámica de grupos.

Cabe decir que la colaboración de las dos Instituciones (Selite y Juan de Frías) fue muy grata y de mucho provecho. También estamos muy contentos con la colaboración que ha venido prestando el Seminario Luterano Augsburg a nuestro Encuentro los últimos 3 años. El Prof. Hoferkamp también dirigió estudios para los pastores sobre el Evangelio de San Juan y sobre la teología de Liberación, en la reunión que hubo en Sogamoso los días 13 y 14 de Julio.

3. Co-Extensión, Unico y Aliste:

En febrero (3-6), el Lic. Benjamín Ojeda nos represento en la reunión de UNICO y nos trajo un buen informe de la misma, recomendando especialmente el plan allí presentado por Jorge Patterson en cuanto a la evangelización por medio de cadenas de extensión. Según Benjamín recomendó, dicho plan fue circulado dentro del Sínodo con la sugerencia de que se podría adaptar a situaciones nuestras en Colombia.

EN la última quincena de febrero y la primera de marzo el director de Selite enseñó en dos talleres en Bolivia, uno en Coaba, con alumnos Airmaras y otro en Apolo con Quechuas.

(Hágase referencia aquí a la vida y la himnología de la iglesia Boliviana).

El director de Selite sigue sirviendo como presidente de Co-Extensión y como tal asistió a la reunión anual de este comité, realizada en Cuenca, Ecuador a últimos de Julio.

Como Uds. saben, Co-Extensión y Semla están planeando una Consulta internacional sobre educación teológica, a llevarse a cabo en Colombia durante los días 21-25 de Junio de 1976. Esta es la razón por la encuesta que se ha venido levantando en las congregaciones.

Aliste sigue ofreciendo el curso de especialización en la enseñanza por extensión y la preparación de materiales autodidácticos. Por tres años sucesivos, Co-Extensión ha ofrecido becas a candidatos de nuestro Sínodo. Pero desafortunadamente no se han visto en condiciones de aceptarlas. Aliste está proyectando el mencionado curso para tres distintas partes de América Latina en 1977. Ojalá entonces, nuestra iglesia podrá aprovechar con al menos uno o dos candidatos, pues entendemos que uno de los cursos puede realizarse en Colombia si así lo solicitamos.

El Pastor Hernando Lara y el suscrito representaron al Sínodo en el Seminario sobre teología contemporánea que hubo en Medellín los días 11 al 14 de Diciembre. Sobre el particular se ha entregado al Presidente del Sínodo un informe grabado y en parte escrito.

4. Publicación de Materiales: Con derechos de autor en Colombia Selite ha publicado la versión española del importante folleto de Larry Christenson, intitulado "Y del Bautismo Qué?" creemos que hasta ahora a gozado de mayor circulación en el exterior que en Colombia, a pesar de ofrecerlo aquí a un precio poco más ~~o~~ menos del mero costo de la impresión.

Recomendado por Co-Extensión para publicación en 1975 fue el libro programado por el Lic. Alfonso Corzo C. y Arnfeld C. Morck para estudios sobre los Hechos de los Apóstoles. Pero debido al poco rendimiento que hemos podido dar a la revisión, esta segunda edición de la obra aparecerá empresa apenas en el presente año. Dios mediante. Como se sabe, la primera edición fue sacada en mimeógrafo.

Ha salido en(mimeógrafo)un excelente manual programado, de introducción a las Epístolas de San Pablo, traducido del Portugues por el Prof. Rodolfo Blank de Juan de Frías, Venezuela. Merece estudio no sólo por alumnos de extensión sino también por Pastores y otros interesados en los escritos paulinos. El Prof. Blank piensa sacar también una introducción a los demás libros del Nuevo Testamento. Esto para mencionar sólo unas de las publicaciones proyectadas por Co-Extensión.

5. Agradecimientos: Selite agradece profundamente los servicios prestados tan gentil y eficazmente por el Lic. Alfonso Corzo en su calidad de Secretario-Administrador de Selite, cargo que ha desempeñado desde ponerse en marcha Selite en 1971. ! Mil gracias, Hermano, Alfonso!

Para llevar la contabilidad de Selite Dios nos ha provisto con otra persona de preparación especial. Es la señora Mary de Seger a quien agradecemos sus servicios voluntarios. La Sra. Mary preparará el informe financiero correspondiente al año 1975. Selite agradece también a la Sra. Martha de Esguerra secretaria del Presidente del Sínodo, los trabajos ocasionales gentilmente hechos, sin otra remuneración que los servicios de traducción y redacción que hemos podido prestar al Sínodo.

Agradecemos también a los Pastores y congregaciones que han prestado su buen apoyo al programa de Selite y que han dado sus ofrendas para su sostén, recordándonos en el "Día de Selite"celebrado en el Día de Pentecostés. Muchas gracias ! Esperamos que para el presente año Dios llame a más alumnos decididos y consagrados para el estudio teológico. Creo que, más que todo, compete a las congregaciones mismas descubrir tales personas idóneas y animarlas para que estudien.

A veces no reconocen sus propias dones de liderazgo. Manos a la obra, hermanos, para el extendimiento de la iglesia y para la gloria de Dios!

Atentamente,

Arnfeld C. Morck

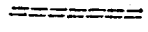
P.D. De Paz de Ariporo nos llega a última hora este informe - Las siguientes personas han cursado 2 materias (Orientación en los Estudios e Iglesia y Evangelismo): Claudio Tarache, Rita Tarache de Villalba, Luis Niño, Domingo Pérez. Están cursando actualmente Orientación en los Estudios: Donaciano Kurcho, Orlando Cely y Valcrio Pérez.

INFORME DE TESORERIA AL 31 de DIC./75

<u>CONCEPTO</u>	<u>INGRESOS</u>	<u>EGRESOS</u>
Saldo en el Banco a 31 de Dic. 1974	\$11,985.51	
<u>Ofrendas y Donaciones:</u>		
del Canadá	\$4,141.80	
de Cali	216.50	
de Sogamoso	500.00	
de El Redentor	600.00	
de un amigo	1.877.80	
" " "	803.25	
	<u>\$9,082.35</u>	
Subsidio Sínodo	10,000.00	
Venta de materiales	2,870.45	
Servicio de Mimeógrafo	1,406.60	
Reembolso de Préstamo al Rv. Lara	836.00	
	<u>35,237.91</u>	
	TOTAL INGRESOS	
Materiales, útiles y textos		\$9,541.80
Correspondencia, portes y Mimeógrafo		940.17
Viajes y Viáticos (Directiva y Profesores)		5,046.00
Retiros y Encuentros		8,837.00
Otros Gastos (Cheques, chequera, varios)		904.50
		<u>\$25,269.47</u>
		TOTAL EGRESOS
Saldo en el Banco al 31 Dic. de 1975		<u>9,968.44</u>
	TOTAL EGRESOS MAS SALDO	\$35,237.91

Mary J. Seeger, Tesorera

A LAS IGLESIAS LUTERANS QUE TRABAJAN EN AMERICA LATINA



Yo, PAUSANIAS WILCHES F., ciudadano colombiano, nacido el día 2 de Junio de 1922 (56 años cumplidos), pastor de la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana-Sínodo de Colombia y en la cual he realizado un ministerio de más de 30 años, en cumplimiento a disposiciones legales de las leyes laborales de Colombia, se me ha pedido , por parte de mi iglesia, mi retiro a partir del 31 de Diciembre de 1978; por lo cual ofrezco mis servicios a las - Iglesias Luteranas que trabajan en América Latina, si es que alguna de ellas está interesada y considera que la experiencia lograda durante estos años, puede servir al ministerio de alguna de ellas.

Cursé estudios teológicos en el Seminario Concordia de Villa Ballester, Buenos Aires, Argentina (perteneciente al Sínodo de Misurí), durante los años 51, 52, y 53. Antes de viajar a Argentina, había cursado dos años y medio de estudios en el Instituto Bíblico de mi propia iglesia.

A mi regreso del Seminario, serví en el pastorado de la Iglesia de El - Redentor en Bogotá, desde Enero de 1954 al 31 de Diciembre de 1963, o sea por un lapso de diez años.

En el año de 1964 enseñé en el Instituto Bíblico de mi iglesia y en el año de 1965 fui trasladado a Sogamoso donde enseñé en la sección secundaria en el Colegio que la iglesia tiene en esa ciudad. Esta responsabilidad la ejercí los años 1965 a 1968 inclusive; habiendo aceptado a la vez en febrero de 1967 el pastorado de la Iglesia de El Consolador de la misma ciudad, cargo que ejercí hasta el año de 1968. En este año, en Asamblea de mi iglesia fui elgido al cargo de presidente del Sínodo, cargo que desempeñé por tres períodos consecutivos, hasta Enero de 1977. Conjunto con este cargo, ejercí el pastorado de la Iglesia San Lucas, de Ciudad Kennedy, Bogotá, desde el año de 1971 a Enero de 1976.

Otros cargos desempeñados dentro de mi iglesia a partir de 1954 fueron: Secretario del Consejo Sinódico, Vice-presidente del Sínodo. En mi carácter de tal y por ausencia del titular, ejercí la presidencia desde Julio de 1960 a Julio de 1961. Tesorero del Sínodo, años 1965- 1967 inclusive. Presidente del Consejo General del Seminario Luterana Augsburgu de Méjico y por un período de cuatro años, cargo del cual fui relevado el 3 de Marzo de 1978. Vice-presidente y Tesorero de la CONFEDERACION DE IGLESIAS EVANGELICAS DE COLOMBIA (CEDEC), hasta agosto del presente año (1978).

Otras responsabilidades en mi iglesia, maestro en escuelas primarias, donde inicié mi ministerio, evangelista, promotor de una campaña de Hanyordomía, representé a mi iglesia en reuniones internacionales, ya de la Iglesia Luterana Americana o de la Federación Luterana Mundial y mi último pastorado, nuevamente en la Iglesia de El Consolador de Sogamoso, desde Enero de 1978 a Diciembre 31 del mismo año, fecha en la cual se me ha pedido retirarme del ministerio activo de la iglesia; quedando así libre para aceptar, si fuere el caso, llamamiento al ministerio de otras iglesias luteranas que trabajen, ya en Colombia o en otros países de América Latina, si es que la experiencia adquirida durante estos años puede servir a alguna de ellas.

Para quienes tengan interés en esta comunicación, me permito agregar, que mi familia la constituye el matrimonio y dos hjas solteras, las cuales ya han terminado sus estudios universitarios, habiendo la una graduado como Enfermera y la otra como Trabajadora Social.

Quienes quieran constatar esta información y los motivos de mi retiro, pueden hacerlo con las directivas de mi iglesia, Revdo. Gerardo Wilches, Apdo. Aéreo 51538 Bogotá 2, Colombia.

Los pastores Arnfeld C. Horck, Box 1242, Camrose Alberta, Canadá y Harold L. Olson, 1720 W. Lampenteur Av. Apartament 2L St. Paul, Minn. 55113, misioneros que fueron por largos años en Colombia.

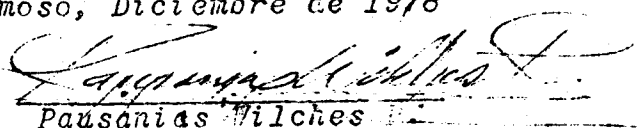
Prof. Leonardo Stahlke, Director del Seminario Luterano Augsburgo, Apdo. Postal 20-416, México 20, D.F.

Revdo. John C. Westby, Secretario para América Latina de la ALG. 422 South Street, Minneapolis, Minn. 55415, EU.

Dr. Luciano Jaramillo, presidente de la Confederación de Iglesias Evangélicas de Colombia, Cedec, Apdo. Aéreo 173, Cali, Colombia.

Toda correspondencia, a partir de Febrero de 1979, puede ser enviada a nombre del suscrito a: Cra. 41 C # 10-60 Sur, Bogotá D.E. Tel. 2-37-83-17 .

Sogamoso, Diciembre de 1978


Gerardo Wilches

Cover Sample

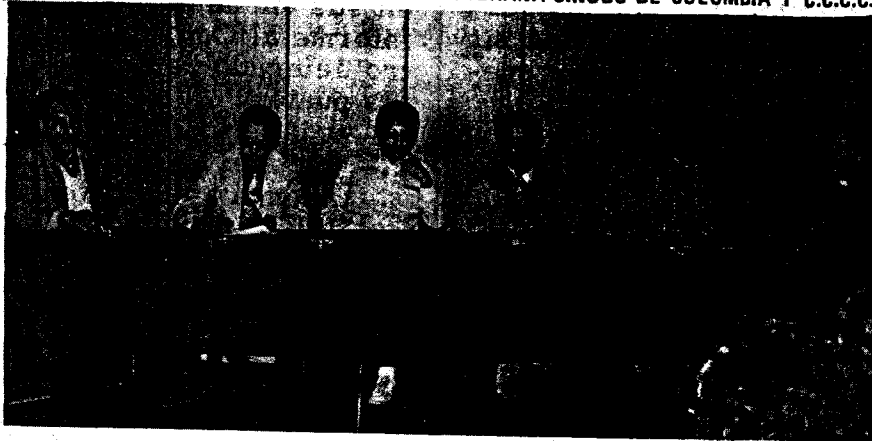


Los Unos

A

Los Otros

DIC. 78. PUBLICACION DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA SINODO DE COLOMBIA Y C.C.C.C. N° 2



De izquierda a derecha aparecen Jorge Corzo, Ramón Ruíz, Gonzalo Delgadillo, Armenio Piñeros, Gerardo Wilches y Roy Seger. Una vista de la reunión entre miembros de la ALC y IEL-SC, celebrada en el Hotel Bacatá.

SALUDO DE NAVIDAD DEL PRESIDENTE DEL SINODO A LOS MIEMBROS DE LAS CONGREGACIONES DE LA IEL-SC

Estamos para finalizar el año de 1978 y las grandes ciudades se visten de gala navideña; empiezan a sentirse los cánticos de villancicos, alegría preludio de navidad. Todo esto ocurre en el mundo secular.

La iglesia se prepara para dar principio al nuevo Año Eclesiástico. Hemos iniciado el adviento, que para el Pueblo de Dios quiere decir "Preparación". Pero es una preparación para establecer una mejor relación con Dios, quien nos da en la Navidad. Allí, Dios en su amor se ha humanado para dar comienzo al camino de la reconciliación, con el propósito de que el hombre, en su integridad e individualidad, reciba el regalo de Dios; su Hijo Cristo Jesus.

En la Navidad Dios demostró que El realmente quería reconciliar al mundo y fue con este fin que su Hijo nació entre nosotros. Millares de personas desde entonces, han caminado los mismos senderos que El anduvo.

Su natividad no ocurrió en Jerusalén, la ciudad Capital del País. Su lugar de nacimiento no fue un palacio. Desde el principio hasta el final, su humildad caracterizó su vida, porque nació en una desconocida aldea llamada Belén y murió en el Gólgota, en las afueras de la Ciudad.

Porqué sucedió así? Para que ningún hombre sea excluido de lo que Dios ha hecho y hace hoy. Desde la primera Navidad ya no estamos solos. El hijo de Dios nació, vivió entre nosotros, vino a nuestro encuentro y por este hecho Dios nos ha regenerado como hombres de valor, hombres de Dios. Llegando



EXCITING EDGE

News direct to you from the
DIVISION OF WORLD MISSIONS
Paul Nostbakken, Director



Paul Nostbakken with Pastor and Mrs. Arnfeld Morck

Morck completes Spanish book

CREO EN EL ESPIRITU SANTO is the title of a book written by Pastor Arnfeld C. Morck. The manuscript for the book, written in Spanish, has just been completed after two years of intensive work. Mrs. Hildur Morck is credited with "correct spelling and punctuation, as well as the patient typing and re-typing of the manuscript in final form for publication".

In the prologue, Pastor Morck says: "With all glory to God, this self-teaching work is dedicated to my Hispanic extension students, and to my colleagues who are teaching theology by extension. These pages are an expansion of material taught in TEE workshops in Venezuela and Bolivia. It has grown like leavened dough as we have delved deeper into the dynamic concepts of the third article of the Apostles' Creed."

The book is designed as a self-teaching text on the Holy Spirit and His work, based on the third article of the Apostles' Creed. It is written for use in the extension program of the Latin American churches, and grows out of Pastor and Mrs. Morck's long years of experience in the Theological Education by Extension (TEE) program. Interest has already been expressed in having this book translated into English for use in our own Church.

Pastor and Mrs. Morck have served for over thirty years as missionaries to Colombia. They went out under "CELMOSA" (Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America) and were part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod following its formation in 1958. Their work has varied from parish ministry to

founding and teaching in a Bible School, and in the latter years, Theological Education by Extension. The Morcks returned to Canada in 1977 for health reasons, and reside in Camrose. Because of their qualifications in the Spanish language as well as in teaching, the Colombian Church asked them to continue serving the Church by writing study materials for its Extension program. They have now been asked to write study materials based on the books of Galatians and Ephesians.

All these study materials will be utilized by the Spanish-speaking churches of Latin America, as well as by the Evangelical Lutheran Church - Colombia Synod.

Exciting Edge readers rejoice with the Spanish-speaking churches at the completion of this project, and join in prayer for God's continued direction and inspiration for their on-going efforts.

ESTATUTOS DE LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA
LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA

PREAMBULO

EN EL NOMBRE del Dios Trino: Padre, Hijo y Espiritu Santo, fuente suprema de toda inspiración y autoridad, nosotros los pastores y delegados de las Congregaciones luteranas de Colombia, decretamos los siguientes ESTATUTOS.

ARTICULO 1. DEL NOMBRE

El nombre de esta IGLESIA será : IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA y que en estos Estatutos se llamará LA IGLESIA.

ARTICULO 2. DEL DOMICILIO

LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA tendrá -- como domicilio la Ciudad de Bogotá, D.E. y su radio de acción será la República de Colombia.

ARTICULO 3. NATURALEZA

LA IGLESIA es una Entidad de derecho privado, Cristiana y Evangélica, sin ánimo de lucro y sin utilidades pecuniarias para ninguno de sus miembros y persigue exclusivamente fines religiosos, educativos y de bienestar social, así como también fomenta, facilita y apoya materialmente a personas naturales o entidades que se ocupen en los fines expresados y sin ánimo de lucro, en la República de Colombia.

ARTICULO 4. DURACION

LA IGLESIA funcionará por tiempo indefinido.

ARTICULO 5. DE LA DOCTRINA

a. LA IGLESIA recibe y acepta las Escrituras Canónicas del Antiguo y Nuevo Testamento como La Palabra Revelada de Dios; por lo tanto es el único criterio infalible de fé y vida.

ACTA DE LA REUNION ORDINARIA DEL CONSEJO DE LA
IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA

Bogotá, D.E. Julio 18 y 19 de 1981

MIEMBROS PRESENTES :

Rev. GERARDO WILCHES C., Presidente
Rev. HERNANDO LARA R., Vice-presidente
Ing. JOSE AYALA N., Secretario
Sr. EFRAIN TORRES, Tesorero
Lic. ALFONSO CORZO C., Fiscal
Rev. BENJAMIN OJEDA G., Vocal
Lic. PEDRO NUÑEZ C., Vocal
Sta. HELENA NIÑO, Vocal
Sta. YANETH BECERRA, Vocal
Sr. JOSE LACHE, Vocal
Sr. VIDAL MORA, Vocal
Sr. ELIECER RODRIGUEZ, Vocal

DESARROLLO :

I. DEVOCIONALES

Las devocionales fueron dirigidas por los Pastores Gerardo Wilches y Benjamín Ojeda.

II. PROYECTO DE AGENDA

El Proyecto de Agenda fue aprobado tal como fue presentado por el Presidente, Pastor Gerardo Wilches.

III. LECTURA Y APROBACION DE ACTAS : Consejo y Mesa Directiva.

Se dió lectura al Acta de la reunión anterior del Consejo y las Actas de la Mesa Directiva de fechas Marzo 14 y Junio 6 de 1981. Fueron aprobadas.

IV. LECTURA DE CORRESPONDENCIA:

Fue leído el siguiente resumen de correspondencia :

1. De La Iglesia " SAN PABLO " : Solicitando la ubicación del Rev. FELIPE ANDERSON como Pastor de medio tiempo de esa Congregación.
2. Del Pastor ARISTARCO SILVA : Asuntos relacionados con su posible ubicación.