

A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

*Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America Archives*



Global Missions, Series 1

Primary Source Media



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*Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America Archives*



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ISBN: 978-1-57803-389-6

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Printed and bound in the
United States of America

2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Scope and Content Note.....	v
Source Note.....	viii
Editorial Note.....	ix
Reel Index	
<i>Part 1: American (Danish) Evangelical Lutheran Church.....</i>	1
<i>Part 2: American Lutheran Church, 1930-1960.....</i>	2
<i>Part 3: General Council [of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America].....</i>	4
<i>Part 4: Iowa Synod [Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States].....</i>	5
<i>Part 5: Joint Synod of Ohio [Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Ohio and Other States]... </i>	6
<i>Part 6: United Lutheran Church in America.....</i>	7
Appendix: Administrative Histories.....	11

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Since 1842, when Rev. J.C.F. Heyer went to India as a missionary of the Pennsylvania Ministerium, representatives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its predecessor bodies have helped spread the Gospel throughout the world. This microfilm collection provides essential and unique research materials for the study of the role of missionary activities in developing countries, the impetus for missionary work, and the development of the Lutheran Church worldwide.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Archives Global Missions, Series 1 consists of 108 reels and is organized by predecessor church bodies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Correspondence and memoranda, mission program materials, minutes of meetings, photographs, and financial materials make-up much of the collection.

Part 1: American (Danish) Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1 reel

This reel consists of materials from the Women's Missionary Society (WMS) of the American (Danish) Evangelical Lutheran Church. The WMS, founded in 1908, developed a program for home mission activities, similar to the various foreign mission board of the Lutheran church. It did work in the area of foreign missions, but not to the same degree as its home mission work. This was due in part to the fact that foreign work, namely the Santal Mission in India, already had its own board and operated as a quasi-independent mission group with support from several churches. The Women's Mission Society always encouraged its members to contribute to the Santal Mission and maintained an interest in its work.

Part 2: American Lutheran Church, 1930-1960, 22 reels [India, Ethiopia]

In 1930 the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States (Iowa Synod), the Joint Synod of Ohio (Ohio Synod), and the Buffalo Synod united to form the American Lutheran Church (ALC). The Iowa Synod brought New Guinea mission work and the Ohio Synod brought India mission work to this merger. The Buffalo Synod, although not directing any mission work of its own, brought a history of financially helping the Hannover Free Church Mission in South Africa. In 1957, mission work spread to Indonesia, Ethiopia, and Tanganyika.

Of the 22 reels, 12 reels include materials from the Board of Foreign Missions (including 1 reel regarding Ethiopia and 8 reels regarding India), 9 reels from the ALC Missionary Federation, and 1 reel from the ALC Mission Auxiliary.

Part 3: General Council [of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America], 7 reels [India]

The General Council materials highlight the activities of the Women's Missionary Society (WMS) and the Board of Foreign Missions. The WMS was established in 1888, and by 1911 became the Women's Missionary Society of the General Council--

representing all women's mission activities. India was the primary foreign mission of the WMS. Beginning in 1867, the issue of foreign missions has been an important part of the work of the General Council. The General Council maintained a strong presence in India well into the middle of the 20th century.

Part 4: Iowa Synod [Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States], 2 reels
[Papua New Guinea]

Lutheran work began in New Guinea with the 1886 arrival of Johann Flierl in Kaiser-Wilhelmsland. Kaiser-Wilhelmsland was a German colony in the northern part of Eastern New Guinea. Flierl, sponsored by the Neuendettelsau Mission Society of Germany, also had the encouragement of (and some limited financial aid from) the Lutheran Immanuel Synod in South Australia where he had been working (1878-1885) as a missionary with the aborigines.

Flierl began work in Finschhafen among the people of the New Guinea Company (a trading company) and the governor's family. He was joined three months later by Karl Tremel. Due to an epidemic in 1891, the New Guinea Company withdrew from the area. This withdrawal may have helped establish the mission work, for after it the missionaries were not as closely allied to what seemed to the nationals to be a repressive foreign government.

New Guinea was Neuendettelsau's only mission field. During the next two decades Flierl and others established ten additional mission stations in and around Finschhafen. World War I saw the Australian takeover of what had been German New Guinea. German missionaries were allowed to remain, provided they would swear an oath of neutrality. However, it became difficult to receive funds from Germany, and the mission appealed to Australia for help. F. Otto Thiele of Australia organized relief efforts and persuaded Lutherans of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iowa and Other States (Iowa Synod), led by President F. Richter, to provide funds for the orphaned German missions in New Guinea. The Iowa Synod had already been following progress in New Guinea under the German missions and had been providing some support for them.

Part 5: Joint Synod of Ohio [Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Ohio and Other States], 8 reels
[India, Brazil]

The Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio (JSO) showed its first evidence of interest in foreign missions when the Eastern District established a Domestic and Foreign Mission Society in 1837. The society did not establish any foreign mission work of its own, but encouraged support of the India mission work of Father Heyer (General Synod and General Council). In 1908 a committee was appointed to explore the feasibility of opening a field in South America and establishing work in India.

The 8 reels in this part include the following materials: 3 reels from the Board of Foreign Missions- India, 1 reel from the Board of Home Missions - Brazil, and 2 reels from the Women's Mission Federation (Women's Missionary Conference).

Part 6: United Lutheran Church in America, 68 reels [India, Liberia, Argentina, Japan, China, Malaysia, Singapore]

When the church was formed in 1918, the United Lutheran Church in America took over the foreign mission work of the merging groups: that of the General Synod in India, Liberia, and British Guiana; that of the General Council in India, Japan, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico; and that of the United Synod South in Japan. In 1919, it took over the Argentina work of the Pan-Lutheran Society for Latin America. In 1924, it purchased the Berlin Missionary Society's Shantung mission in China. It was given the Schleswig-Holstein Society's field in East Jeypore, India in 1928. In 1952, when forced to withdraw from China following the Communists' rise to power, work was undertaken in Hong Kong in cooperation with Augustana, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Lutheran Free Church. In 1953, a new field was opened [in] Malaya. Supervision of the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico missions which had been in charge of the ULCA's West Indies Mission Board was transferred to the Board of American Missions in 1928.

The 68 reels in this part are all from the files of the Board of Foreign Missions. 22 reels are General Administration files, 8 reels are materials from the Secretary for Japan-Japan Missions, 8 reels relating to Liberia, 7 reels from the Secretary for Asia (including Malaysia, Singapore, and China), 19 reels of materials from the Secretary for India, and 4 reels of materials from the Secretary for South America-Argentina.

SOURCE NOTE

This collection, filmed by Yale Divinity Library, is part of the “Kenneth Scott Latourette Initiative for the Documentation of World Christianity” from the holdings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Archives.

The Latourette Initiative is a proactive program to preserve and provide access to the documentation of world Christianity. It provides funding for the microfilming of published and archival resources documenting the history of Christian missions and the life of the churches in countries where missionaries served. The Initiative is named for Kenneth Scott Latourette (1884-1968), who was D. Willis James Professor of Missions and World Christianity at Yale Divinity School. Latourette was instrumental in changing the focus of the Day Missions Collection at Yale from a resource for training missionaries to a collection documenting the history of Christian missions. The endowment he established to further the work of the Yale Divinity Library provides the funding for the Latourette Initiative.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Archives are the collective memory of the ELCA church wide organization, including records of predecessor church bodies, inter-Lutheran organizations, and certain records relating to ELCA synods and their predecessors, as well as leaders and congregations of the church.

This guide to the current microfilm edition was compiled from the finding aids and administrative histories created by the staff and project archivists at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Archives.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Organization and Format

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Archives: Global Missions, Series 1 has been organized into the following six parts:

Part 1: American (Danish) Evangelical Lutheran Church	Reel 1
Part 2: American Lutheran Church, 1930-1960	Reels 2-23
Part 3: General Council [of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America]	Reels 24-30
Part 4: Iowa Synod [Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States]	Reels 31-32
Part 5: Joint Synod of Ohio [Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Ohio and Other States]	Reels 33-40
Part 6: United Lutheran Church in America	Reels 41-108

Each part consists of individual collections that have been assigned a unique identifier (such as ULCA 19/1/5 and ULCA 19/1/7/1/1). The letters are a brief acronym for the church body, ULCA = United Lutheran Church in America, and the first number (19) represents the Board of Foreign Missions (Record Group 19), and then is subdivided there under by their different departments and/or functions (i.e. 1/5 = General Administration. Annual Reports, 1919-1961 or 1/7/1/1 = General Administration Executive Secretary, Earl S. Erb, Correspondence, Program Files, 1952-1963).

Supplemental Materials

Additional documents were filmed for each collection: a comprehensive finding aid (including background information and folder level inventory), a guide to the original microfilm, and a catalog record. Please refer to the beginning of the specific reel to review these documents (for example: see reel 91 for the ULCA 19/7/2/1 documents). In addition to the above, administrative histories were also written for the various church bodies/record groups. As a reference for the user, the available administrative histories have been reprinted in the appendix of this guide (pages 11-40).

Notice of Reel Number Changes

Please be advised that Primary Source Microfilm (PSM) has retained the original microfilm targets, including the former reel numbering information. PSM has re-numbered all of the reels in this product consecutively. The guide to this microfilm edition reflects the new reel arrangement. For example, reel 68 in this microfilm edition was originally reel 2 of ULCA 19/2/3. (ELCA negative number 116). The new and original microfilm targets can be found on the microfilm.

Reel Index
Part 1: American (Danish) Evangelical Lutheran Church

REEL 1

- DELC 21/1 Women's Mission Society. Historical Files and Constitutions, n.d., 1908, 1938, 1942, 1946, 1958
- DELC 21/2 Women's Mission Society. Minutes and Reports, 1938-1961
- DELC 21/3 Women's Mission Society. Correspondence, 1958, 1960-1962
- DELC 21/6 Women's Mission Society. Miscellaneous Files, n.d., 1958, 1961

Note: The administrative history for DELC 21 has been reprinted on pages 11-13 of this guide.

Reel Index
Part 2: American Lutheran Church, 1930-1960

REEL 2

ALC 29/2 Board of Foreign Missions. Financial Records, 1932-1960

REELS 3-5

ALC 29/3 Board of Foreign Missions. Program Files, 1883-1960 (bulk 1944-1960)

REEL 6

ALC 29/6/2 Board of Foreign Missions. Ethiopia. Program Files, 1956-1968 (bulk 1956-1960)

REEL 7

ALC 29/7/1/1 Board of Foreign Missions. India. India Section. Minutes, 1930-1940

REEL 8

ALC 29/7/1/2 Board of Foreign Missions. India. India Section. Correspondence, 1937-1968 (bulk 1946-1960)

REEL 9

ALC 29/7/1/4 Board of Foreign Missions. India. India Section. Publications, 1931-1958

REEL 10

ALC 29/7/1/5 Board of Foreign Missions. India. India Section. Reports, 1930-1940

REELS 11-12

ALC 29/7/1/6 Board of Foreign Missions. India. India Section. Subject Files, 1920-1968 (bulk 1930-1960)

REELS 13-14

ALC 29/7/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. India. India Conference (Andhra Lutheran Conference). Minutes, 1920-1973
Reel 13: 1920-1945
Reel 14: 1946-1973

Reel Index
Part 2: American Lutheran Church, 1930-1960

REEL 15

- ALC 52/1 Women's Missionary Federation. Historical Files, n.d., 1927-1934
ALC 52/2 Women's Missionary Federation. Constitutions and Bylaws, n.d.
ALC 52/4/1 Women's Missionary Federation. General Convention. Convention Material,
1932-1958

REEL 16

- ALC 52/5/1 Women's Missionary Federation. Missionary Education. Program Packet
Material, 1942-1955

REELS 17-21

- ALC 52/5/2 Women's Missionary Federation. Missionary Education. *Women's Missionary
Outlook*, 1931-1960
 Reel 17: 1931-1939
 Reel 18: 1940-1946
 Reel 19: 1947-1951
 Reel 20: 1952-1956
 Reel 21: 1957-1960

REEL 22

- ALC 52/6 Women's Missionary Federation. Subject Files, 1936-1960

REEL 23

- ALC 30/1 Mission Auxiliary. Constitution, Bylaws and Minutes, n.d., 1931-1948
ALC 30/2 Mission Auxiliary. Correspondence, 1938-1948
ALC 30/3/1 Mission Auxiliary. Chairman. William A. Foege Files, 1936-1946
ALC 30/3/2 Mission Auxiliary. Chairman. Rev. Theophilus Fritschel Files, n.d.

Note: The administrative histories for ALC 29, ALC 29/7, ALC 52, and ALC 30 have been reprinted on pages 14-19 of this guide.

Reel Index
Part 3: General Council
[of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America]

REEL 24-26

GC 16/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Reports, Publications, and Minutes, 1875-1920

REEL 27

GC 16/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. India Files, 1880-1911

REEL 28

GC 14/1 Women's Missionary Society. Constitution and By-Laws, n.d (c. 1911-1918)

GC 14/2 Women's Missionary Society. History, 1902-1919 (bulk 1902-1911)

GC 14/4 Women's Missionary Society. Records, 1913-1918

GC 14/5/2 Women's Missionary Society. Publications. Pamphlets, 1894-1918

REEL 29

GC 14/3/1 Women's Missionary Society. Convention Minutes, 1911-1917

REEL 30

GC 14/3/2 Women's Missionary Society. Executive Committee Minutes, 1911-1917

Note: The administrative histories for GC 16, GC 16/2, and GC 14 have been reprinted on pages 20-23 of this guide.

Reel Index
Part 4: Iowa Synod
[Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States]

REELS 31-32

IOWA 26/4 Board of Foreign Missions. New Guinea, Publications, 1891-1936

Note: The administrative history for IOWA 26 has been reprinted on pages 24-26 of this guide.

Reel Index
Part 5: Joint Synod of Ohio
[Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States]

REEL 33

JSO 9/1/1 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Minutes, 1910-1929

REEL 34

JSO 9/1/2 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Correspondence, 1908-1930

REEL 35

JSO 9/1/3 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Financial Records, 1914-1915,
1921-1930

REEL 36-37

JSO 9/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. India. Program Files, 1910-1930

REEL 38

JSO 10/6/1 Board of Home Missions. Brazil. Reports, Correspondence, Subject Files, 1921-
1926

REEL 39

JSO 11/1 Women's Missionary Conference. Historical Records, 1927, [1929]

JSO 11/2 Women's Missionary Conference. Minutes and Reports, 1913-1931

REEL 40

JSO 11/3/1 Women's Missionary Conference. Publications. *Monthly Missionary Programs*,
1915-1930

Note: The administrative histories for JSO 9 and JSO 11 have been reprinted on pages 27-31 of this guide.

Reel Index
Part 6: United Lutheran Church in America

REELS 41-52

ULCA 19/1/1 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Board Minutes, 1918-1962
Reel 41: 1918/20-1924
Reel 42: 1925-1928
Reel 43: 1929-1933
Reel 44: 1934-1935
Reel 45: 1936-1939
Reel 46: 1940-1943
Reel 47: 1944-1947
Reel 48: 1948-1950
Reel 49: 1951-1953
Reel 50: 1954-1956
Reel 51: 1957-1959
Reel 52: 1960-1962

REELS 53

ULCA 19/1/2 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Executive Committee, Minutes, 1953-1960

REEL 54

ULCA 19/1/3 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Cabinet of Secretaries, Minutes, 1945-1961
ULCA 19/1/4 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Council of Secretaries, Minutes, 1935-1944

REELS 55-56

ULCA 19/1/5 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Annual Reports, 1919-1961

REELS 57-60

ULCA 19/1/7/1/1 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Executive Secretary, Earl S. Erb. Correspondence, Program Files, 1952-1963

REEL 61

ULCA 19/1/7/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Executive Secretary, Luther A. Gotwald, Earl S. Erb. Correspondence, 1947-1962

Reel Index
Part 6: United Lutheran Church in America

REEL 62

- ULCA 19/1/8 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Statistics and Reports, 1945-1962
- ULCA 19/1/9 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Incorporation Papers, 1919, 1949

REEL 63-64

- ULCA 19/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for Japan, Japan Missions. Subject Files, 1909-1942
Reel 63: 1909-1926
Reel 64: 1927-1942

REELS 65-66

- ULCA 19/2/2 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for Japan, Japan Missions. Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church Files, 1946-1962

REELS 67-69

- ULCA 19/2/3 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for Japan, Japan Missions. Japan Lutheran Missionaries Association Files, 1947-1964

REEL 70

- ULCA 19/2/4 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for Japan, Japan Missions. Ecumenical Planning and Programs for Japan, 1948-1962

REELS 71-78

- ULCA 19/4/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Liberia. Minutes, Publications, Files, 1923-1965 (bulk 1923-1962)

REELS 79-80

- ULCA 19/1/7/1/2 Board of Foreign Missions. General Administration. Executive Secretary, Earl S. Erb, Malaya Correspondence, Reports and Subject Files, 1952-1962

REELS 81-82

- ULCA 19/5/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for Asia-Malaya and Singapore. Paul P. Anspach Files, 1923-1962 (bulk 1955-1962)

Reel Index
Part 6: United Lutheran Church in America

REELS 83-84

ULCA 19/5/1/2 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary of Asia-China. Minutes, Correspondence, Subject Files, 1922-1959 (bulk 1924-1951)
Reel 83: Minutes, 1931-1948/Correspondence, 1923-1937
Reel 84: Subject Files, 1932-1959

REEL 85

ULCA 19/5/1/4 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for Asia-China. Joint Committee for Lutheran Work in China Minutes and Correspondence, 1948-1962

REELS 86-90

ULCA 19/7/1/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for India. Council of the India Mission, Minutes, 1913-1962
Reel 86: 1913-1927
Reel 87: 1928-1934
Reel 88: 1935-1943
Reel 89: 1944-1954
Reel 90: 1955-1962

REELS 91-96

ULCA 19/7/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for India. Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church. Minutes, 1928-1961
Reel 91: 1928-1947
Reel 92: 1948-1950
Reel 93: 1951-1953
Reel 94: 1954-1956
Reel 95: 1957-1959
Reel 96: 1960-1961

REELS 97-103

ULCA 19/7/2/2 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for India. Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church. Program Files, 1895-1974 (bulk 1922-1962)

REEL 104

ULCA 19/7/3/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for India. Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church. Publications. Pamphlets, Booklets, 1931-1962

Reel Index
Part 6: United Lutheran Church in America

REELS 105-108

ULCA 19/8/2/1 Board of Foreign Missions. Secretary for South America. Argentina. Program
Files 1919-1963

Note: The administrative histories for ULCA 19, ULCA 19/2, and ULCA 19/7 have been reprinted on pages 32-40 of this guide.

Appendix DELIC 21 Administrative History

DELIC 21 Administrative History

Compiled by: Catherine Lundeen, Project Archivist, October 2002
American (Danish) Evangelical Lutheran Church
Danske Kvinders Missionsfond/Women's Mission Society

A small group of women in the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (DELIC), who desired to do Christ's work, held a meeting during the church's national convention at St. Stephan's Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois, June 1908. At the meeting approximately twelve women and two pastors discussed the need for an organization to serve as a bond between the various district and congregational women's organizations, and act as a conduit through which congregations could participate in the national and international mission work of the church. As a result of these discussions, the group in attendance created the Danish Women's Mission Fund, or Danske Kvinders Missionsfond (DKM), as it was first known.

The goals of the DKM were to create a love of mission within the church, proclaim God's blessings created from being part of a Christian fellowship, and to aid small congregations and young pastors in their ministerial efforts. Groups who contributed money to the DKM included congregational mission groups, ladies' aid societies, and guilds.

At this first meeting the DKM elected an executive board comprising Mrs. Sofie Madsen Gregersen, president; Mrs. Karoline Brandt Kjolhede, secretary; Mrs. Anna Refshauge Hostrup, treasurer; and board members Mrs. Kjerstine Jacobsen and Mrs. Annie Larsen.

The DKM adopted a set of governing rules that addressed the aim of the society, who could become members, who comprised the executive board, provisions for electing the board, where to send contributions, and how congregations were to apply for aid from the society. Its first rule was also its mission statement: "According to ability to support the mission work of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, wherever such support is needed."¹

In 1919 the society began publishing *Aarsskrift for Danske Kvinders Missionsfond*. This yearbook contained timely articles, as well as an accounting of funds received by the society and how these funds were dispersed. It was a Danish-language publication that was discontinued in 1937 when it was decided there were not enough young people reading Danish to justify its continued existence. Sometime around 1940 the women were given a page in the DELIC publication *Lutheran Tidings*. Known as the "Women's Page," this served as the society's publication until the time of the merger that created the Lutheran Church in America. The first editor of this page was Mrs. Ernest Nielsen.

In its first few decades in existence, the society was loosely organized and throughout its entire existence it never had a headquarters or paid staff. The smaller scale of the organization warranted neither. Its founders believed in not having too much organization and the board preferred to conduct its business on a more informal basis. At first the DKM did not conduct business meetings and there were no reports or elections. In 1936 when Mrs. Anna J. Stubb became the secretary for the DKM, she asked about a secretary's book and was told there was not one. Subsequently, Mrs. Stubb asked that since the society would celebrate its 30th anniversary in 1938, should not they start the fourth decade by beginning to keep

¹*Women's Mission Society*. (Cedar Falls, Iowa: Holst Printing Company, 1946), 4.

Appendix

DELC 21 Administrative History

records? A secretary's book was purchased for her use and she began it with a short history of the work of the society's first 30 years.

Several changes in the organization occurred in the late 1930s and early 1940s. At the annual meeting in 1937, the first group of women born in the United States was elected to the board, and in 1940 the society had its last meeting conducted in Danish. At the 1940 annual meeting, the office of district representative was created. One representative from each of the DELC nine districts and one member from Canada served on an advisory board for a term of three years. They would serve as a link between the national organization and congregational mission groups. Also at the 1940 meeting, it was decided to change the name of the society from Danske Kvinders Missionsfond to Women's Mission Society (WMS) of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church. At the annual meeting in 1941, the hymn that was the society's theme song was sung in English, and also at that meeting the issue of the name change was raised because two other societies had the same name. After discussion, it was voted on to keep the name they had decided on the previous year, but to keep DKM on the society's letterhead. The 1941 meeting also had the last Danish language report issued and the first English language report issued.

The primary interest of the society was that of home mission work. It supported the building of new churches and gave aid to Grand View College and Seminary, Des Moines, Iowa. The society also actively supported the DELC Canada mission by, for example, providing a car for a pastor's use in Saskatchewan. Throughout its history the DKM/WMS provided financial aid for the building of new churches and parsonages. In particular the society contributed more than \$1,200 toward rebuilding efforts of a church in Texas that was destroyed by a hurricane in 1945.

The society also actively supported the work of Grand View College and Seminary, Des Moines, Iowa. It aided seminary students by providing funds for travel expenses during ordination, student loans, and scholarships to attend conferences. From 1946-1950 the society provided more than \$9,000 dollars toward a project to furnish a new girl's dormitory on the campus. During the 1950s the society contributed funds toward the renovation of a lecture hall, to enable the publishing of a collection of songs by S.D. Rodholm, toward the renovations of a boy's dormitory, and the improvement of the seminary facilities by contributing to the seminary's purchase of the Young People's Home in Des Moines, Iowa, for conversion into student housing.

The society did work in the area of foreign missions, but not to the same degree as its home mission work. This was due in part to the fact that foreign work, namely the Santal Mission in India, already had its own board and operated as a quasi-independent mission group with support from several churches. DKM/WMS always encouraged its members to contribute to the Santal Mission and maintain an interest in its work. Examples of the society's aid to this mission include the purchase of a tape recorder for use by missionaries in the field, many of whom were American Evangelical Lutheran Church (AELC) members, and funds contributed for the construction of a hospital at Mohulpari, India. Local DKM/WMS groups also had special projects devoted to Santal Mission work whereby funds collected went into the general fund of the Santal Mission. In later years the DKM/WMS tried to encourage interest in the Santal Mission by promoting subscriptions to the publication, *The Santal Missionary*. It also encouraged local mission groups to become more interested in foreign missions in general.

The WMS struggled throughout its existence to strengthen the bond between the national organization and congregations' mission circles, or other churchwoman groups. The majority of women who returned a WMS questionnaire in 1955 believed the society was not organized in such a way that it could help

Appendix DELC 21 Administrative History

women of the synod's congregations carry out their Christian work. Women in local congregations desired assistance from the society in program planning, and increased availability of pamphlets and other materials they could use in furthering their Christian work. Specifically they wanted a WMS handbook containing basic information about the WMS and its goals, aims, history, purpose, a copy of its constitution, and leadership helps.

In response to this and other concerns voiced by women, the WMS constitution was revised and the society reorganized in 1957. This revision in the constitution and organization was known as the Six Point Plan. Where before emphasis had been placed on individual memberships, the society decided to organize member groups and use these groups as the link between the national organization and individual members. There would also be an increase in missionary education efforts. In addition to these changes, a district constitution was adopted at the same time the national constitution was revised. After the reorganization, several standing committees were created that issued reports at executive board meetings, as well as annual reports at the national convention. These committees included, but were not limited to, nominations, budget and finance, publications, education and program, handbook, and constitution. There were also special committees created on a temporary basis, for example, the Golden Jubilee Committee.

The WMS celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 1958. It marked this occasion with a special Golden Jubilee Thankoffering earmarked for use as a scholarship fund for students with a desire to perform Christian service full-time in an AELC field, and to publish a special commemorative issue of *Lutheran Tidings* devoted entirely to the society's Golden Jubilee.

The last convention for the WMS took place in Tyler, Minnesota, in August 1961. At this meeting officers were elected and reports were given. There was much discussion about the pending merger of the United Lutheran Church in America, the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church Suomi Synod, the Augustana Lutheran Church, and the America Evangelical Lutheran Church. Discussion centered on where the WMS and its goals and objectives would fit into the new church's women's auxiliary. The society proposed and passed its final budget for 1962, and also passed a motion allowing the executive board to begin the process of making arrangements for the dissolution of the WMS in anticipation of the merger that would create the new auxiliary, Lutheran Church Women of the Lutheran Church in America.

Sources: DELC 21/2 Minutes and Reports, 1938-1961.

Lutheran Tidings. Vol.14, Number 19, May 5, 1958.

Mortensen, Enok. *The Danish Lutheran Church in America: The History and Heritage of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church*. Philadelphia: Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, 1967.

Women's Mission Society. Cedar Falls, Iowa: Holst Publishing Company, 1946.

Appendix ALC 29 Administrative History

ALC 29 Administrative History

Compiled by: Rosalita J. Leonard, Project Archivist, July 2000.

American Lutheran Church (1930-1960)

Board of Foreign Missions

In 1930 the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States (Iowa Synod), the Joint Synod of Ohio (Ohio Synod), and the Buffalo Synod united to form the American Lutheran Church (ALC). The Iowa Synod brought New Guinea mission work and the Ohio Synod brought India mission work to this merger. The Buffalo Synod, although not directing any mission work of its own, brought a history of financially helping the Hannover Free Church Mission in South Africa.

The ALC continued the Iowa Synod New Guinea work and the Ohio Synod India work, dividing its Board of Foreign Missions (BFM) into a New Guinea Section and an India Section. It also continued the financial support of the South Africa work until the depression made such funding impossible. Each section had its own officers. Work was begun in Ethiopia and Indonesia in 1957, and occasional ALC missionaries were assigned to Tanganyika under the National Lutheran Council.

P.H. Buehring served as chairman of the BFM from 1930 until his death in 1958. The vice chairman, A.W. Sund, served temporarily as chairman, completing Buehring's term. T.H. Rossing became chair in 1959, serving until 1960, when a merger of the American Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church created The American Lutheran Church (TALC). Secretaries of the BFM were F. Braun, 1931-1938; E.W. Schramm, 1939-1941; Carl Henkelmann, 1942-1943; and E.R. Dornbirer, 1944-1959.

Initially the board met annually. Later years saw more frequent meetings but not a set number. The board heard reports from both fields and set budgets and personnel policies.

Direct administration of the mission work came under the Executive Secretaries of the New Guinea and the India Sections. Richard Taeuber served as Executive Secretary of the New Guinea Section and C.V. Sheatsley as the Executive Secretary of the India Section from 1930-1943. Sheatsley died in 1943. The two sections were combined in 1944, with Richard Taeuber named as the first Executive Secretary of the combined board. He was succeeded by Theodore P. Fricke from 1948-1960. Fricke had previously served as Commissioner from 1944-1947, visiting and surveying the mission fields, a task he continued as Executive Secretary.

In 1960 the work of the Board of Foreign Missions of the ALC became a part of the Board of World Missions of the newly formed The American Lutheran Church. Fricke served as Associate Director of the Division of World Missions (DWM) from 1961-1962 and as Executive Director from 1963-1970.

Sources: American Lutheran Church, Board of Foreign Missions, Minutes, 1932-1959.

American Lutheran Church, Yearbooks, 1931-1960.

Braun, F. and C.V. Sheatsley, *On Both Sides of the Equator*. Columbus, Ohio: Lutheran Book Concern, 1937.

Appendix

ALC 29/7 Administrative History

ALC 29/7 Administrative History

Compiled by: Rosalita J. Leonard, Project Archivist, September 2000

American Lutheran Church (1930-1960)

Board of Foreign Missions

India

When the American Lutheran Church (ALC) was formed in 1930 by the merger of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and other States (Iowa Synod), the Buffalo Synod, and the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio (JSO), it assumed the mission work in India previously carried out by the JSO (see JSO 9 and JSO 9/1).

Administrative oversight was placed under the India Section of the Board of Foreign Missions (BFM). P.H. Buehring served as chair of the India Section throughout its entire history (1930-1943). C.V. Sheatsley served as Executive Secretary of the India Section from 1930-1943, having served previously on the Board of Foreign Missions of the JSO from 1920-1930 and as Commissioner to India for the JSO in 1920. Upon Sheatsley's death in 1943 the India Section and the New Guinea section were combined, with Richard C. Taeuber, formerly Executive Secretary of the New Guinea section, serving as Executive Secretary of the combined board. Taeuber served in that capacity from 1944-1947 and was succeeded by Theodore P. Fricke from 1948-1960. When the Board of Foreign Missions was absorbed into the Division of World Missions of the newly created The American Lutheran Church (TALC) in 1960, Fricke continued in an administrative capacity until 1970. Thus the India work was administered primarily by only three men throughout the entire existence of the Boards of Foreign Missions of the JSO and the American Lutheran Church and the Division of World Missions of TALC.

On the field, the work was administered by the India Conference, consisting of the male and single female missionaries. In 1945 the South Andhra Lutheran Church (SALC) was established, with gradual control of the work and properties going to this indigenous body.

Sources: Braun, F. and C.V. Sheatsley, *On Both Sides of the Equator*. Columbus, Ohio: The Lutheran Book Concern, 1937.

Lutheran World Missions, edited by Andrew S. Burgess. Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1954.

American Lutheran Church, Board of Foreign Missions, India Section, Minutes, 1930-1943.

American Lutheran Church, Board of Foreign Missions, Minutes, 1930-1960.

Appendix ALC 52 Administrative History

ALC 52 Administrative History

Compiled by: Catherine Lundeen, Project Archivist, November 2002

American Lutheran Church (1930-1960)

Women's Missionary Federation

On May 12-13, 1931, 164 delegates met in Toledo, Ohio, to organize the Women's Missionary Federation (WMF) of the American Lutheran Church (ALC). They represented the Women's Missionary Conference of the Joint Synod of Ohio, the Iowa Synod's General Federation of Women's Organizations, and local women's societies of the Buffalo Synod. Preparations for a merger had been underway since at least 1929 when representatives of the three groups began attending each other's annual business meetings.

At that first meeting at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio, a draft constitution was submitted for consideration at the organization's next meeting. Also that first day, delegates approved a resolution calling for the position of president to be paid a salary of \$2,000 annually. Other matters addressed were the decisions to retain projects started by predecessor organizations; continue the "Women's Department" page in the English and German-language church periodicals; and adopt *Women's Missionary Outlook* as the federation's official publication. The remainder of business conducted at the first meeting included election of officers, formation of new regional organizations, and general planning for the work of the WMF.

The first officers elected were: Miss Katharine Lehmann, president; Mrs. Anna Trebel Poppen, first vice-president; Mrs. Gertrude Heiman Meier, second vice-president; Mrs. Margaret Atzinger, general secretary; Mrs. Faery Huber Adams, financial secretary; and Miss Clara Seward, treasurer. The president and treasurer were salaried positions and each was elected to a six-year term. The vice-presidents and secretaries each had four-year terms. The officers comprised the Executive Committee. Also elected to four-year terms were the chairpersons of six inaugural departments: Thankoffering, Life and In Memoriam Memberships, Junior Department, Special Needs, India Lace, and Missionary Education. These department chairpersons, along with the executive officers and district presidents, comprised the Executive Board. The two executive bodies were responsible for all business transacted between the federation's biennial conventions. The Executive Board met annually, while the Executive Committee met when needed.

The purpose of the WMF, as outlined at its first meeting, and subsequently in its constitution and bylaws, was to aid the American Lutheran Church with its missionary endeavors; assist local congregations in their missionary endeavors; recruit and train young women for service in the mission field; encourage women to read missionary literature; publish and make available promotional and educational material regarding mission work; and bring together the women of the American Lutheran Church to think and pray about the church's mission work.

Membership in the WMF included women's societies, junior mission bands, life members, "in memoriams", and honorary life members. The federation was composed of eleven districts, the boundaries of which were approved by the WMF Executive Board. Within each of these districts were groups that comprised congregational women's organizations. The composition of each district was approved by its executive board. Operating funds for the federation came from membership dues, Thankofferings, and Life Members and In Memoriam.

The WMF actively supported home and foreign mission work. It was involved in projects that began within predecessor organizations and it sought to create new opportunities for service in mission work for women of the ALC. The federation supported an industrial school, widow's home, work of Bible women, and hospital in India. It also sent general supplies, medical supplies and furnishings to ALC mission fields in Papua New Guinea. Both of these projects started in predecessor women's organizations.

Appendix ALC 52 Administrative History

In regards to mission work at home, the federation promoted the work of the Diaconate and other Christian service work. Through its Junior Department it supported a mission school in San Antonio, Texas. It established a “special needs” department designed to assist orphans, pastor's widows, retired pastors, and missionaries through distributions of special gifts. Examples of special needs gifts included household items, clothing, and money for hospital bills and other living expenses not covered by church salaries or pensions. The federation also actively supported students studying to become missionaries and it raised funds to build a women's dormitory at Luther College, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

The women also participated in coordinating annual Thankofferings to raise funds for continued work. The Thankoffering, as in other church's women's mission organizations, was not a new idea. After the creation of the WMF, the women decided the first Thankoffering project of the new federation would be to raise funds for the construction and outfitting of a hospital in Papua New Guinea. As the years progressed, additional projects, at home and abroad, received Thankoffering funds.

One purpose of the WMF was to educate churchwomen about mission work and service. The Missionary Education Department originated in the JSO Women's Missionary Conference where it was the Literature Department. With the merger that created the WMF, it became the Missionary Education Department. Missionary education included the publishing of educational and promotional material in the form of pamphlets, leaflets, tracts, monthly missionary programs, material submitted to the church's periodicals, and the monthly publication *Women's Missionary Outlook*.

Initially, the Women's Missionary Conference of the JSO produced a publication titled *Women's Missionary Outlook* (WMO). This publication had grown out of a similar publication that comprised monthly missionary education programs. When the WMF was created in 1931, it decided to adopt the WMO as its official publication. Its first editor was Mrs. Julia Bauch Burman. She remained in that post until her resignation in 1952. She was succeeded by Miss Althea Christenson in 1954. The editor of the WMO was also the chairperson of the Missionary Education Department and received a salary. In addition to this periodical, the WMF also had a women's page in each of the church's papers. In the *Lutheran Standard*, it had two pages in the first issue of each month and in the German-language *Kirchenblatt* the WMF submitted German translations of tracts and leaflets. Other items carried in both papers included news items and excerpts from convention proceedings.

By 1960 participation in the WMF had grown to more than 1,800 societies with a total membership of more than 79,000. Its operating budget was more than \$400,000. In July 1960, the WMF joined with the women's organizations of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church to form the American Lutheran Church Women (ALCW), the women's auxiliary for the newly created The American Lutheran Church.

Sources: ALC 52/1 Historical Files, n.d., 1927-1934.

ALC 52/2 Constitutions and Bylaws, n.d.

ALC 52/4/1 Convention Material, 1932-1958.

Atzinger, Margaret, Mrs. L.J. Kutz, Miss Katharine Lehmann. *The Spirit That Quickeneth*. Columbus, Ohio: Women's Missionary Federation, American Lutheran Church, 1955.

Lagerquist, L. DeAne. *From Our Mother's Arms: A History of Women in the American Lutheran Church*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1987.

Appendix

ALC 30 Administrative History

ALC 30 Administrative History

Compiled by: Catherine Lundeen, Project Archivist, April 2003

American Lutheran Church (1930-1960)

Mission Auxiliary

The Mission Auxiliary (MA) of the American Lutheran Church (ALC) was a continuation of an organization created by members in Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States (IOWA). At the time of the merger that created the ALC, auxiliary leaders had offered to merge with a mission society from the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States, but leaders of the ALC decided the auxiliary should retain its independent status. Its objective remained to support the missions of the ALC and create and promote interest in missions among members of the church.

Officers of the MA were the same officers in place at the time of the last meeting of the Iowa Synod Mission Auxiliary: the Rev. William F. Kraushaar, Chairman; the Rev. John G. Baermann, Secretary; the Rev. August Hoeger, Treasurer, the Rev. Carl Taubert, Business Manager. In later years the auxiliary added the office of Publicity Secretary. The auxiliary had a General Board comprising members of the Executive Committee and district chairmen. It met annually, but also would meet if the Executive Committee called any special meetings. The Executive Committee, comprising the officers and editors of the mission publications, met whenever needed. Special committees met at various times.

When the official merger took place, the Mission Auxiliary was not among those organizations listed as carrying over into the new church. Apparently it was an omission without any explanation as to why it occurred. The suggestion was made once again that the auxiliary merge with existing organizations, but this request was again declined. Church leaders believed it important for the auxiliary to retain its independence. The Mission Auxiliary was officially recognized as an organization of the ALC at the 1938 church convention.

The MA as an organization had membership open to men, women, and children. When the organization was a part of the Iowa Synod, women's societies within the church could also join, but after the merger, it was decided to restrict membership to individuals so as to not conflict with the ALC's Women's Missionary Federation.

The main objectives of the MA were to promote an interest in foreign mission work and disseminate mission information. Both these objectives were accomplished with ALC guidance through its Board of Foreign Missions. To achieve its goals, the MA published the two mission publications, pamphlets and tracts, produced mission films, and in its earlier years, participated in special projects to raise funds and awareness for the cause of foreign missions.

The MA raised funds for medical mission work until that responsibility was transferred to the Luther League. It also had responsibility for the Christmas Boxes of Cheer program, where items were sent to missionaries deployed in the field. It administered this program until it was transferred to the Women's Missionary Federation. The MA also administered the Mission Stamp Project. This project involved ALC members saving used stamps and donating them to the MA, who would in turn sell the stamps. Funds raised would be set aside for postwar reconstruction work in the New Guinea mission fields.

Occasionally the MA would undertake a project at the request of the ALC's BFM. One such project undertaken during World War II was to raise funds to replace missionaries who had lost their lives in the New Guinea field. The project known as the Memorial Fund was completed during the 1944-1946 biennium and achieved its goal of \$14,000. The MA also raised \$10,000 for the Printery Fund which was established to furnish a new printing office and literature for the people served by the New Guinea mission field.

Appendix

ALC 30 Administrative History

In addition to projects undertaken by the MA, it also published two magazines devoted to mission work. These two magazines were started in the Iowa Synod and continued after the 1930 merger. *Die Missions Stunde* was the German-language publication and *The Lutheran Missionary* was its English-language counterpart. These monthly publications were a vital part of the MA's objective of promoting mission work of the ALC. *Die Missions Stunde* ceased publication in 1943 due to a decrease of ALC German-speaking members.

Unfortunately, by 1948 membership in the auxiliary had severely declined. A decrease in membership meant a decrease in funds raised for mission work. The auxiliary came to the conclusion that not enough people within the church were interested in the work it was doing. It considered dropping the membership requirement and becoming an organization that only published a mission magazine and raised funds for mission work, but it felt that did not represent the definition, in spirit, of an auxiliary.

In the spring of 1948 the MA entered into discussions with the BFM about transferring its work to that board. At the 1948 convention of the ALC, a resolution passed allowing for the transfer of the work of the Mission Auxiliary to the Board of Foreign Missions. The Assistant Executive Secretary of the BFM would be in charge of affairs related to the auxiliary: New Guinea scholarships, *The Lutheran Missionary*, and any other projects undertaken by the auxiliary. When it dissolved in 1948, the auxiliary had a membership of 1,521 persons, but the impact of its 31 years of promoting the foreign mission work of the ALC was immeasurable.

Sources: ALC 2/1 American Lutheran Church (1930-1960) Conventions, Minutes, 1930-1960.

ALC 30/1 Constitution and Minutes, n.d., 1931-1948

Die Missions Stunde. Waverly, Iowa: Mission Auxiliary for New Guinea within the Evangelical Lutheran Iowa Synod and Other States, 1913-1943.

IOWA 28/1 Constitution and Minutes, 1916-1930

Appendix GC 16 Administrative History

GC 16 Administrative History

Compiled by: Rosalita J. Leonard, Project Archivist, October 1999

General Council

Board of Foreign Missions

In 1867 the first regular convention of the General Council of the Lutheran Church in America (renamed General Council of the Lutheran Church in North America in 1876) appointed a committee to outline a plan for home missions. The matter of foreign missions was referred to this committee as well. The committee presented a report to that same convention that included the recommendation that "In reference to Foreign Missions, it is respectfully suggested that the Executive Committee of Missions of the Pennsylvania Synod be requested to effect arrangements for the prosecution of the work of Missions among the heathen during the coming year." The Ministerium of Pennsylvania had already had a missionary committee for several years and was cooperating with other missions. They immediately began efforts to open work in China. However, the 1868 General Council convention rescinded its directive before any China work had begun, and appointed a committee of its own.

Meanwhile, the General Synod was considering transferring its Rajahmundry and Samulkot work to the Church Missionary Society of the Church of England. Former General Synod missionary, the Rev. C.F. (John Christian Frederick) Heyer, alerted the Ministerium of Pennsylvania to this planned transfer and succeeded in having the Rajahmundry work transferred to it instead, with the expectation that the General Council, of which the Ministerium of Pennsylvania was now a part, would subsequently assume this responsibility. The General Council did indeed accept this responsibility at its 1869 convention and appointed the Executive Committee of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania to serve as the Executive Committee on Foreign Missions of the General Council.

This structure continued until 1876, when the Executive Committee, hoping to increase work, urged the formation of another committee and a general secretary who could devote his entire time to this work. A Committee on Foreign Missions, consisting of seven people located in the vicinity of Philadelphia, was appointed, and the appointment of a general secretary and the matter of publishing a mission paper referred to them. Publication of *Missionsbote* began in 1878 and of *Foreign Missionary* in 1880. The matter of the general secretary does not seem to have been addressed.

The names Committee on Foreign Missions, Committee of Foreign Missions, and Committee for Foreign Missions seem to have been used interchangeably in the early years. In 1891 the name of the Committee on Foreign Missions was changed to Board of Foreign Missions, and the appointment of a Superintendent of Missions was recommended. This was done in 1893 with the appointment of the Rev. John Telleen of the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church as the Superintendent of Foreign Missions. In 1897 the number on the board was increased to sixteen.

Mission work was inaugurated in Puerto Rico in 1899. The office of Superintendent of Foreign Missions was discontinued in 1903. Rev. George Drach became the first General Secretary in 1905.

During World War I the All-India Lutheran Missionary Society was formed by Indian initiative, merging the General Council work in the area of Rajahmundry with the General Synod work in the area of Guntur. In 1918 the mission work of the General Council came under the umbrella of the Board of Foreign Missions of the newly formed United Lutheran Church in America. Although the Augustana Synod did not participate in this merger, they did continue to relate to the work in India now under the ULCA.

Sources: Ochsenford, S.E., *Documentary History of the General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America*, Philadelphia: General Council Publication House, 1912., pp. 458-470

Appendix

GC 16/2 Administrative History

GC 16/2 Administrative History

Compiled by: Rosalita J. Leonard, Project Archivist, April 2000

General Council

Board of Foreign Missions

India

The General Council of the Lutheran Church in North America (General Council) came to its work in India in a roundabout way. Work in the Rajahmundry area was started by the North German Missionary Society in 1845. In 1850, due to financial difficulties, this work was transferred to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States of America.

Soon the General Synod made plans to transfer its Rajahmundry work to the Church Missionary Society of the Church of England. Rev. C.F. (John Christian Frederick) Heyer, the first American Lutheran missionary to India, alerted the Ministerium of Pennsylvania to this planned transfer and succeeded in having the Rajahmundry work transferred to it instead. (Heyer had originally gone to India under the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, although he was first appointed by and then withdrew from the General Synod. Later he returned to India under the General Synod.)

The Ministerium of Pennsylvania had become part of the General Council and asked it to assume this responsibility. (The General Council had separated from the General Synod in 1867.) The General Council did so at its 1869 convention and appointed the Executive Committee of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania to serve as the Executive Committee on Foreign Missions of the General Council.

By 1918, the General Council had work in eight districts in India. In addition to evangelistic work, their reports list a Boys' Central School, Girls' Central School, Hindu Girls' School, medical work, Zenana (Women's) Work, two Peddapur High Schools, Bhimawaram High School, Training School for Masters, Rangoon Work, and a Theological Class. There was a Hospital for Women and Children in Rajahmundry. The Bible Training School in Luthergiri provided the first Lutheran theological training in India, later becoming the Luthergiri Theological College.

In 1918 the General Council, along with the General Synod and the United Synod South, reunited to form the United Lutheran Church in America (ULCA). The work in India now came under the Board of Foreign Missions of the ULCA, and the Rajahmundry work of the General Council was joined with the Guntur work of the General Synod.

Sources: Administrative Histories, General Council (GC 16) and General Synod (GS 15).

Appendix GC 14 Administrative History

GC 14 Administrative History

Compiled by: Catherine Lundeen, Project Archivist, January 2002

General Council

Women's Missionary Society

The origins of the Women's Missionary Society in the General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America are found in the creation of conference and synodical women's missionary societies. Women representing seven congregations of the Pennsylvania Ministerium's Allentown Conference met in 1885 to discuss topics related to the mission work of the General Council. They officially established their women's missionary society in 1888. In 1890 women from the Philadelphia Conference attending the Allentown Conference decided to organize a similar society.

The General Council saw it was only a matter of time before additional conference and synodical societies formed. Delegates to the 1891 General Council convention adopted a series of resolutions calling for the formation of women's missionary societies at the congregational, conference, and synodical levels.

In 1909, there was talk of a movement to bring together the synodical societies into one General Council Woman's Missionary Society. A call was issued for representatives of all synodical societies to meet during the General Council convention to discuss forming a federation of women's missionary societies. Six synodical societies were represented at the meeting. Plans were created, adopted, and given to the respective synodical societies for further discussion.

The Women's Missionary Society of the General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America was organized September 11, 1911. Its constitution and bylaws were adopted the following day. Its objectives included uniting the women's synodical societies of the General Council for mutual furthering and strengthening of the work of each society, cooperating with the missions and church extension boards, and conducting missionary operations through regular channels of the General Council and its synods.

Elected officers were Miss Laura V. Keck, President; Mrs. G.L. Eckman, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Frank E. Jensen, Corresponding and Statistical Secretary; and Mrs. H.N. Miller, Treasurer. Officers were elected at each convention. Conventions were held biennially. Officers were not eligible for more than two consecutive terms, except in the position of treasurer, and, in later years, statistical secretary. The president of each synodical society was a vice-president in the Women's Missionary Society (WMS). The Executive Committee comprised the elected officers and chairpersons of the standing committees. The committee held meetings annually and special meetings at the call of a quorum, which was five members.

The work of the WMS was divided among standing committees. These included Mission Study Work, Life Membership, Medical Missions, Home Missions, Porto Rico, India Lace, India Post Card, Permanent, Organizing, Inner Missions Work, and Junior Work. In later years, additional committees were added as different needs arose.

There was no central office for the WMS. Each officer, chairperson, and standing committee received correspondence at an address specified by them. The only office was that of the Society's official publication, the *Lutheran Mission Worker*. It was published quarterly at 2323 North Seventh Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Since the WMS was a federation of synodical and conference societies, one of its primary roles was that of facilitator. Its principal aims were to raise funds for mission work, encourage synodical support of various mission endeavors, and raise public awareness and support for missionaries and their work. The Society tracked and reported on the work of synodical and conference societies. It published literature for

Appendix GC 14 Administrative History

dissemination in General Council congregations in order to publicize mission work and raise funds. It created a permanent exhibit of literature, photographs, and other interesting objects to be made available for mission outreach purposes. It initiated fund-raising campaigns for various mission programs, made suggestions to synodical societies as to what projects might need additional attention, and informed societies about new projects and appeals.

At its 1917 convention, the WMS adopted a resolution addressing the frustration it felt at the lack of full information and regular communication with mission fields about their needs and operations. It believed that at times these obstacles hampered helpfulness in its aiding the work of the mission boards. The resolution, sent to the General Council convention, was to allow the WMS to submit a slate of nominees for presentation to General Council convention delegates for election as full and voting members on mission boards. The General Council at its convention said the resolution would be adopted if it could legally do so. The matter was then referred to a special committee. The issue was not addressed again until 1920.

The Women's Missionary Society of the General Council continued its work until November 16, 1918, when it was carried on by the Women's Missionary Society of The United Lutheran Church in America. This was the church formed by the merger of the General Council, General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States of America, and United Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the South.

Sources: Bachmann, E. Theodore. *The United Lutheran Church in America, 1918-1962*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Press, 1997.

General Council 14/1 Women's Missionary Society, Constitution and Bylaws, n.d.

General Council 14/2 Women's Missionary Society History, 1837-1911.

General Council 14/3/1 Women's Missionary Society, Convention Minutes, 1911-1917.

General Council 14/3/2 Women's Missionary Society, Executive Committee Minutes, 1911-1917.

Appendix IOWA 26 Administrative History

IOWA 26 Administrative History

Compiled by: Rosalita J. Leonard, Project Archivist, July 2000

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Of Iowa And Other States

Board of Foreign Missions

Lutheran work began in New Guinea with the 1886 arrival of Johann (or Johannes) Flierl in Kaiser-Wilhelmsland. Kaiser-Wilhelmsland was a German colony in the northern part of Eastern New Guinea. Flierl, sponsored by the Neuendettelsau Mission Society of Germany, also had the encouragement of (and some limited financial aid from) the Lutheran Immanuel Synod in South Australia where he had been working (1878-1885) as a missionary with the aborigines.

Flierl began work in Finschhafen among the people of the New Guinea Company (a trading company) and the governor's family. He was joined three months later by Karl Tremel, and together the two moved on to the village of Simbang, about an hour away from Finschhafen, to open the first mission station. Due to an epidemic in 1891, the New Guinea Company withdrew from the area. This withdrawal may have helped establish the mission work, for the missionaries were now not as closely allied to what seemed to the nationals to be a repressive foreign government.

New Guinea was Neuendettelsau's only mission field. During the next two decades Flierl and others established ten additional mission stations in and around Finschhafen. Flierl was usually referred to as Senior Flierl. Although the number of workers and stations grew, there were no baptisms until 1896, and these were baptisms of workers in the missionary households. It was not until 1905 that a baptism at Sattelberg included ten villagers. The breakthrough finally came when the missionaries, especially Christian Keysser, realized the need to understand the local culture and religious beliefs. Once this happened, there were not only many New Guinea converts, but these converts in turn began to evangelize others, with the backing of their local congregations.

While the work was developing around Finschhafen, the Rheinische Missions Gesellschaft (RMG, translated Rhenish Mission Society) of Barmen, Germany, was granted the right to begin work in the area of Madang at Astrolabe Bay. Wilhelm Thomas and Friedrich Eich were the first two missionaries sent by Barman, arriving in 1887. Eich established the first station at Bogadjim. As the Finschhafen work had prospered by the withdrawal of the New Guinea Company and German government, so the Madang work suffered by the transfer of this same company and government to Astrolabe Bay.

World War I saw the Australian takeover of what had been German New Guinea. German missionaries were allowed to remain, provided they would swear an oath of neutrality. However, it became difficult to receive funds from Germany, and the mission appealed to Australia for help. F. Otto Thiele of Australia took a leading role in this change. Thiele organized relief efforts and persuaded Lutherans of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iowa and Other States (Iowa Synod), led by President F. Richter, to provide funds for the orphaned German missions in New Guinea. The Iowa Synod had already been following progress in New Guinea under the German missions and had been providing some support for them.

The Versailles Peace Treaty, which ended the war, called for the expulsion of all Germans, including missionaries, from former German colonies. The Australian government decreed that all German missionaries would need to leave New Guinea by 1922. Thiele negotiated for them to be allowed to stay. The government agreed, but the New Guinea missions could no longer belong to the German mission groups. In 1921 the two mission fields, Finschhafen and Madang, were united under the name of Lutheran Mission New Guinea (LMNG). The year 1921 also saw the formation of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Australia (UELCA), which included the Immanuel Synod already aligned with the New Guinea mission. The LMNG was to be jointly administered by the UELCA and the Iowa Synod,

Appendix IOWA 26 Administrative History

with legal ownership resting with the UELCA. Thiele was designated Mission Director and directed the work from Australia.

Though the New Guinea work of the Iowa Synod was directed by Thiele, there was active administrative work done by Iowa as well. A New Guinea Aid Society (later called the Mission Auxiliary) was established in 1916. W. Kraushaar was elected chairman and Richard Taeuber secretary. In 1917 the Iowa Synod appointed a Heidenmission Komitee, translated Heathen-Mission Committee or Foreign Mission Committee, soon renamed the Board of Foreign Missions (BFM). The first meeting of this group was in 1919. G. Gundel was chairman, George Fritschel secretary, F. Braun treasurer, and A. Hoeger and Richard Taeuber were two additional members. Taeuber became secretary in 1920 and served either as secretary or chairman from that time until 1930, when he became the Executive Secretary of the New Guinea Section of the Board of Foreign Missions of the American Lutheran Church, a post he held until 1948. Braun likewise served into the early 1940s, both as financial agent and chairman of the New Guinea Section of the ALC (see ALC 29).

The Mission Auxiliary published *Die Missions-Stunde* beginning in 1913. In 1921 it began, in cooperation with the BFM, to publish the English-language monthly magazine *The Lutheran Missionary*. Most of the mission records of the Iowa Synod, however, are in German.

The first missionaries sent to New Guinea by the Iowa Synod were Friedrich and Emma Knautz and sisters Ida and Luthilde Voss. From 1921-1929 the Iowa Synod sent 21 missionaries, only 14 of whom were ordained. Although the Iowa Synod and the UELCA had legal and financial responsibility, the majority of staff was still provided by Neuendettelsau and Barmen.

When Germany entered the League of Nations in 1926, the way was opened for German mission societies to return to New Guinea. There was a struggle among the UELCA, Iowa Synod, Neuendettelsau Mission Society, and RMG over land and work then held by the UELCA and Iowa Synod. In 1929 the four groups met in Brisbane and agreed that the RMG would take back Madang. Because the RMG was not exclusively Lutheran, the other three did not feel they could work cooperatively with it. They instead agreed to divide the Finschhafen work into two districts, with Neuendettelsau administering Finschhafen and Iowa Synod administering a new district called Finisterre. The UELCA was to oversee recruitment, furloughs, and pensions. William Flierl was designated president of the Finschhafen District, George Hueter of the Finisterre District, and Stephan Lehner was superintendent of the two together.

The division of Finschhafen into two districts did not go well. The local churches had not been consulted. The American missionaries who had been working in Madang were pulled away from established work in languages already mastered to struggle with new languages and programs.

In 1930 the Iowa Synod united with the Buffalo Synod and the Joint Synod of Ohio to form the American Lutheran Church (ALC). When the RMG realized it would be unable to continue its work in Madang, both because the division of territory had left it little room in which to expand and because of financial difficulties, it negotiated the return of the Madang work to the ALC. In 1932 the ALC happily returned to the Madang work. The New Guinea work was now separated into the Lutheran Mission Madang, administered by the ALC, and the Lutheran Mission Finschhafen, administered by Neuendettelsau. There was some overlap of staff and program, but the field was not again united into the LMNG until after World War II.

Appendix
IOWA 26 Administrative History

- Sources:* Bachmann, E. Theodore and Mercia Brenne Bachmann. *Lutheran Churches in the World*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1989.
- Braun, F. and C.V. Sheatsley. *On Both Sides of the Equator*. Columbus, Ohio: Lutheran Book Concern, 1937.
- The Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea: The First Hundred Years 1886-1986*, edited by Herwig Wagner and Hermann Reiner. Adelaide, Australia: Lutheran Publishing House, 1987, revised edition.
- Lutheran World Missions*, edited by Andrew S. Burgess. Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1954.

Appendix

JSO 9 Administrative History

JSO 9 Administrative History

Compiled by: Rosalita J. Leonard, Project Archivist, September 2000

Catherine Lundeen, Project Archivist, February 2003

Joint Synod of Ohio

Board of Foreign Missions

The Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio (JSO) showed its first evidence of interest in foreign missions when the Eastern District established a Domestic and Foreign Mission Society in 1837. The society did not establish any foreign mission work of its own, but encouraged support of the India mission work of Father Heyer (General Synod and General Council).

When the American Civil War caused financial difficulties for the General Synod work in India, the Hermannsburg Mission Society in Germany sent an experienced India missionary, August Mylius, to aid in the work at Rajahmundry. Because conditions had improved, however, the General Synod was reluctant to accept help. Mylius therefore moved south, selecting a new field and choosing Nayudupet as a headquarters. He then petitioned Hermannsburg for additional help. Hermannsburg sent three additional missionaries in 1886. Their work was called the Hermannsburg Evangelical Lutheran Mission. The JSO took an interest in this mission and provided some financial support for it.

Meanwhile, there was increased interest among the members of the JSO in a foreign mission field of its own. In 1908 a committee was appointed to explore the feasibility of opening a field in South America, establishing work adjoining Hermannsburg work in India or in Africa, or purchasing part of the Hermannsburg mission field. This committee, with Edward Pfeiffer as chairman and G.W. Lose as secretary, met annually from 1910-1912.

In 1912 two actions established JSO work in foreign missions. The first was the creation of the Board of Foreign Missions (BFM), with The Rev. Edward Pfeiffer as president, the Rev. Joshua H. Schneider, secretary, and A.W. Werder, treasurer. Pfeiffer, who served until his death in 1927, was replaced by the Rev. Augustine H. Dornbirer (1927-1930). Schneider served as secretary for the entire tenure of the board. Werder was followed by William Altmann (1914-1924), the Rev. Otto George Gerbich (1924-1925) and George L. Conrad (1925-1930).

The second event of 1912 was the JSO purchase of two of the Hermannsburg stations in India, Puttur and Kodur, for a purchase price of approximately \$18,000. Hermannsburg agreed to continue to provide missionaries for these stations until the JSO was able to send its own. The outbreak of World War I, however, resulted in the return to Germany of all of the Hermannsburg missionaries except C. Scriba, an Indian-born British subject. Scriba was appointed acting secretary for both Hermannsburg and the JSO mission.

Because during this period the Indian government did not allow the entrance of missionaries from either Hermannsburg or the JSO, oversight of the already established work was undertaken by Scriba and an inter-mission committee of five from the Guntur Mission (General Synod and United Lutheran Church in America), American Baptist Mission, Wesleyan Mission, Australian Presbyterian Mission, and the Dutch Reformed Mission. In 1916 Hermannsburg transferred the remainder of its Indian field to the JSO. Still unable to get missionaries into India, the JSO borrowed S.C. Burger, an India missionary of the United Lutheran Church in America, as provisional secretary, a post he filled from 1918-1921. The work continued during this time of restrictions on missionaries, but much ground was lost in both property and membership.

In 1920 the JSO was finally able to get four missionaries on the field. It also sent C.V. Sheatsley, commissioner of the Board of Foreign Missions, to India in 1920 to organize the work and report back to

Appendix JSO 9 Administrative History

the board. Sheatsley organized the India Conference (see ALC 29/7/2), a governing body for the oversight of the mission work on the field.

When restrictions against the German missions were lifted, Hermannsburg was eager to return to its former fields. The JSO sent C.C. Hein, president of the synod, and C.V. Sheatsley, then president of the board, to Germany in 1929 to discuss the India missions with Hermannsburg. At that time Hermannsburg agreed to turn all of its India work over to the JSO instead of returning to administer the work itself. In return for the field so gained, the JSO gave a contribution of \$15,000 to Hermannsburg for its mission work in South Africa. The JSO had also acquired work in India formerly held by the London Missionary Society and the Arcot Mission in 1928.

The BFM also had a brief involvement in the JSO foray into Mexican Missions. At the 1922 convention, it was reported by the Texas District that a Spanish school had begun in San Juan, Texas the previous year. As a result of this news, the JSO decided to budget 2500 dollars per year for this work. It was decided to place responsibility for this new mission work with the BFM. BFM involvement began in September 1922 and it subsequently held monthly meetings to discuss matters pertaining to Mexican mission work. In February 1924 the first BFM Mexico Mission missionary, the Rev. Albert Ell of Saskatchewan, Canada, began work. The Texas District was heavily involved in this work and even had a committee devoted to Mexican Missions. This committee did much of the work of administration and budgeting and then submitted final reports and requests for review and approval by BFM. It was acknowledged at the 1924 JSO convention that the BFM had much work to do in the India field and that a special board needed to be elected for Mexican Missions. This committee held its first meetings in October 1924 and at the 1926 JSO convention it submitted its first report which included a constitution for the Board of Mexican Missions submitted to the convention for approval.

In 1930 the JSO became a part of the newly formed American Lutheran Church (ALC). The work of the Board of Foreign Missions of the JSO was taken over by the ALC, becoming the India Section of the Board of Foreign Missions of the ALC (see ALC 29/7).

Sources: *Lutheran World Missions*, edited by Andrew S. Burgess. Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1954, pp. 20-34.

Minutes of the Forty-Seventh Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States. Columbus, Ohio: Lutheran Book Concern, 1924.

Minutes of the Forty-Eighth Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States. Columbus, Ohio: Lutheran Book Concern, 1926.

Sheatsley, C.V., *History of the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States.* Columbus, Ohio: Lutheran Book Concern, 1919, pp. 215-223.

Appendix

JSO 11 Administrative History

JSO 11 Administrative History

Compiled by: Catherine Lundeen, Project Archivist, February 2003
Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod Of Ohio And Other States
Women's Missionary Conference

While attending with her husband, the 1913 convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States (JSO) Men's Missionary Conference held in Sandusky, Ohio, Mrs. Wilhemina Young Kuhlman became inspired to form a women's counterpart to this men's organization. Mrs. Kuhlman mentioned the idea to her husband, the Rev. J.H. Kuhlman, and after much discussion, the idea was presented to the conference's Resolutions Committee. A resolution encouraging women of the Synod to form their own organization was read. After some opposition it carried and the Fremont Conference was asked to formulate plans for a women's organization. At the Fremont Conference's next meeting, recommendations were presented regarding the formation of a women's conference organized along the same lines as the Men's Missionary Conference.

Women's missionary societies from the Eastern, Western, Northern, and English districts were asked to appoint two members to a committee to plan the first meeting of the new organization. This first meeting of the Women's Missionary Conference (WMC) took place at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio, on September 24-25, 1913. At this meeting presentations were made, missionary papers read, services held, and mission topics discussed. An executive committee was elected to plan for the next meeting and the creation of a formal organization. It was at the second meeting of the conference on September 22-24, 1914, that a constitution was presented and officers were elected. They were: Mrs. Wilhemina Young Kuhlman, president; Mrs. Perry Davis, vice-president; Mrs. E.T. Corner, corresponding secretary; Miss Katharine Lehmann, recording secretary; Mrs. Mary Conwell Parks, financial secretary; and Mrs. Arthur Schmidt, treasurer. Though the conference started by meeting annually, in 1916 it switched to holding its general conventions biennially.

The Executive Board comprised the conference's executive officers, presidents of the district conferences, department chairpersons, editors, and past conference presidents. It met annually, in February, and also after the close of the biennial conference meeting. An Executive Committee comprised the officers of the conference and one member-at-large. This committee met when needed. These two bodies were responsible for all administrative matters needing attention between the biennial meetings of the conference. In 1928 the office of president became a salaried position and the office of a full-time field secretary was created. Miss Katharine Lehmann was the first elected to serve in that post.

Throughout its existence, the WMC did not have a headquarters. Officers, the field secretary, and editors for WMC publications worked out of their homes. Meetings of the executive board and conference conventions occurred in churches. In later years, the executive board would meet on several occasions at the offices of the Lutheran Book Concern, Columbus, Ohio.

Speaking before the WMC at its 1916 convention, the Rev. C.H.L. Schuette, president of the JSO, encouraged the conference to take up special work of its own and pursue it vigorously. Up until this point, the conference was more of a forum in which to examine various missionary topics and present papers for discussion and review. Starting in 1919 and continuing through 1928 the WMC established the following departments of work: Junior, Life Membership and Memorial, Statistical, Thankoffering, India Lacer, Literature, Extension, and Special Needs. Each department concentrated on a specific aspect of WMC work to support mission endeavors of the church-at-large. The WMC divided its time and attention between home and foreign missions and missionary education.

In terms of foreign mission work, the conference participated in support of the JSO mission field in India. In 1922 the WMC initiated a Dollar Drive to collect money for the construction of a hospital in Renigunta, India. Through this drive the WMC collected more than \$15,000 and when a special

Appendix JSO 11 Administrative History

Thankoffering was issued, it collected the remaining amount needed. In total the WMC met its goal of raising \$75,000. The women also supported work of the India mission by marketing and selling, through the India Lace Department, lace and embroidery work created by young women attending the Lace School at Gudur, India. Other support for India mission work was channeled through the WMC Junior Department where children's organizations, known as Junior Mission Bands, collected funds for the construction of a hostel for missionaries at Kodaikanal, India. The WMC used pamphlets, leaflets, booklets, and picture sheets it created through the Literature Department to educate members about the work in India, the mission field itself, and to promote an interest in supporting that work.

The WMC was also involved in efforts to support home mission work. The Life Membership and Memorial Department provided support for JSO Mexican Missions. The conference decided in 1926 to use interest from invested funds to help pay the salary of a woman missionary working in Mexican mission work in Texas. When the Special Needs Department was established in 1928, its mission was to distribute needed materials to retired clergy, widows, orphans, senior citizens' homes, and home missionaries who found themselves in situations where they were in need of either financial or material assistance in filling basic needs. Special gifts distributed included household items, apparel, money, and quilts sewn by conference members. Other home mission projects were those that benefited from funds collected through Thankofferings. These included the Parsonage Building Fund established for mission congregations to borrow money to build a parsonage, and a WMC project to outfit the kitchen at the girl's dormitory at Capital University, Columbus, Ohio.

One of the principal responsibilities of the WMC was to promote the mission work of the JSO among its members and to educate members about the various mission fields in which the church worked and projects supporting those mission fields. Through promotion and education, the WMC was able to fulfill one of its constitutional mandates to Zealously aid the great work of home and foreign missions by developing the missionary activity of its own members and of all the congregations of the Synod. This shall be done by papers and discussions at the meetings, and by circulating missionary literature.²

The WMC published, through its Literature Department, pamphlets, booklets, leaflets, picture sheets, and monthly missionary programs for use by local congregations interested in furthering the cause of JSO mission work. The Literature Department was created in 1924 as an outgrowth of the work done by the office of Literature Secretary created in 1922. The WMC also promoted mission work of the church, as well as its own work, through its own mission publication, *Monthly Missionary Programs* and Women's Department pages in the JSO church publications *Lutheran Standard* and *Lutherische Kirchenzeitung*.

The WMC created its own mission publication as a result of a request of the Literature Committee of the Fremont District to create a booklet containing a study outline for monthly missionary education programs. *Annual Missionary Programs* was published from 1916-1923. The Executive Board of the WMC had a committee of three people responsible for preparing this publication. Mrs. Corra Libbe Long served as committee chairperson from 1916-1920; Mrs. Julia Bauch Burman, 1922-1926; and Mrs. Anna Trebel Poppen, 1926-1930. Starting in 1924, the publishing frequency increased to twelve issues and the publication was renamed *Monthly Missionary Programs*. Additional pages in each issue were added in 1929, as well as additional features such as department reports. It was printed at the Lutheran Book Concern, Columbus, Ohio. By 1930 the publication had a subscriber's list of 10,975.

The Women's Missionary Conference remained in existence until the 1930 merger of the JSO, the Evangelical Lutheran Iowa Synod and Other States, and the Lutheran Synod of Buffalo which created the American Lutheran Church (ALC). The women's organizations of these churches merged to create the

²*Constitution of the Women's Missionary Conference of the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States*. JSO 11/2 Minutes and Reports, 1913-1931. pp. 110.

Appendix

JSO 11 Administrative History

ALC Women's Missionary Federation. At the time of its dissolution, the WMC had a membership of approximately 14,600 women with 330 societies in seventeen districts across the United States.

Sources: Atzinger, Mrs. John, Mrs. L.J. Kutz, Miss Katharine Lehmann. *The Spirit that Quickened: A Brief History of the Departments in the Women's Missionary Conference of the Joint Synod of Ohio, General Federation of Lutheran Women's Organizations of the Iowa Synod, Women's Missionary Federation of the American Lutheran Church.* Columbus, Ohio: Women's Missionary Federation, 1955.

Kuhlman, Wilhemina Young. *A Brief History of the Women's Missionary Conference.* Columbus, Ohio: Lutheran Book Concern, n.d.

Lagerquist, L. DeAne. *From Our Mother's Arms: A History of Women in The American Lutheran Church.* Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1987.

JSO 11/2 Women's Missionary Conference, Minutes and Reports, 1913-1931.

Official Reports of the President and the Various Boards and Committees. Columbus, Ohio: Lutheran Book Concern, 1930.

Appendix ULCA 19 Administrative History

ULCA 19 Administrative History

Compiled by Rosalita J. Leonard, November 1999

United Lutheran Church in America

Board of Foreign Missions, 1918-1962

When the church was formed in 1918, the new body took over the foreign mission work of the merging groups: that of the General Synod in India, Liberia, and British Guiana; that of the General Council in India, Japan, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico; and that of the United Synod South in Japan. In 1919, it took over the Argentina work of the Pan-Lutheran Society for Latin America. In 1924 it purchased the Berlin Missionary Society's Shantung mission in China. It was given the Schleswig-Holstein Society's field in East Jeypore, India in 1928. In 1952, when forced to withdraw from China following [the] Communists' rise to power, work was undertaken in Hong Kong in cooperation with Augustana, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Lutheran Free Church. In 1953, a new field was opened [in] Malaya. Supervision of the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico missions which had been in charge of the ULCA's West Indies Mission Board was transferred to the Board of American Missions in 1928.

It was the policy of the ULCA to encourage and promote the establishing of autonomous churches in the various mission areas. After such churches were formed under indigenous leadership, continued assistance and cooperation were offered in the form of personnel, facilities, and funds. As soon as a new church received full legal status all property was turned over to the church according to a time table that was mutually satisfactory. Where an indigenous church was established missionaries were sent out only on the request of that church and by it assigned to their posts of service. Areas of missionary activity included evangelism, education, medical, social and student work, agricultural missions, and other specialized ministries." (from ULCA finding aids, Administrative History, pp. 3-4)

Officers and Administrators

The opening convention of the ULCA elected board members and employed the three heads of the uniting mission boards (George Drach, General Council; Luther B. Wolf, General Synod; and Charles L. Brown, United Synod) to direct the new Board of Foreign Missions. Members of this board in turn elected their own officers, including the three above named, to serve as general secretaries. The work of these three was defined and divided among them. Although Brown died in Africa in 1921, Wolf continued until 1933 and Drach until 1943. The officers were president, vice president, recording secretary, and treasurer, with Drach and Wolf serving as recording secretary (1918-1943) and treasurer (1918-1928) respectively. The president and vice president were chosen from the elected board. In 1924 a field secretary was added, J. Frank Heilman for one year only and then M.E. Thomas. In 1928 an Executive Secretary, Paul W. Koller, was appointed, serving over the general (sometimes called department) secretaries, field secretary, and treasurer. Thomas became a general secretary in 1933, and the designation field secretary was dropped. When Koller died in 1937, the term executive secretary was dropped temporarily, with Drach and Thomas becoming administrative secretaries, and Edwin Moll general secretary, with Moll's work similar to that of the original field secretaries. In 1945 the term administrative was dropped and in the late 1940s through the 1950s the number of secretaries increased as duties were divided. The position of executive secretary, directing the work of the other secretaries, was reinstated in 1946. The first woman listed officially as a secretary was Helen Shirk (1947-1954). See attached list for the names, dates, and position titles of the many secretaries as well as the officers.

Board Membership

The board was composed of 21 members, 13 clergy and 8 lay. The president and vice president were chosen from this group. Terms were six years and individuals could serve no more than two terms consecutively. The board nominated its own members, with the nominations sent to the ULCA for

Appendix

ULCA 19 Administrative History

approval. This board met bi-monthly until 1933 when the frequency of meetings became quarterly due to financial constraints, and then further decreased to three times a year in 1947.

From the beginning there were advisory members from the Augustana Synod, the United Danish Church of America (later the United Evangelical Lutheran Church), and the Women's Missionary Society. In 1932 the Icelandic Synod began providing advisory members. When Augustana requested full board membership in 1919 it was denied, but it and the United Danish Church were then designated cooperating members and were granted the right to vote on committees that dealt with the countries in which they provided financial support or personnel.

By 1921 the Augustana representatives were being listed as board members, but when the Danish Church requested similar listing and voting privileges in 1936 (granted in 1937), the ULCA again stressed that both the Danish and Augustana members were to vote only on the committees to which their work was related. Augustana threatened to pull out altogether if this rule were applied too stringently. In 1940 the Icelandic Synod representative was also listed as a member. These bodies chose their own representatives, but their names had to be approved by the ULCA. The number of these cooperating members was not to exceed 3 (later 5) and they were in addition to the 21 ULCA members. Sometimes they were listed in the yearbook as members, sometimes as cooperating or advisory members.

The Women's Missionary Society requested full membership in 1920, but they remained listed as advisory members until 1946. Throughout the entire ULCA history, however, the BFM and WMS worked together very closely in selecting, screening, financing, and directing the work of the missionaries of the ULCA.

Board meetings and administrative work took place in Baltimore until the ULCA headquarters moved to New York City in 1945.

Sources: Administrative History ULCA

Minutes, Board of Foreign Missions, ULCA 1918-1962

Appendix

ULCA 19/2 Administrative History

ULCA 19/2 Administrative History

Compiled by: David L. Lindberg, March 1997
United Lutheran Church in America
Board of Foreign Missions
Secretary for Japan, Japan Mission

United States Lutheran Mission activity in Japan prior to the formation of the United Lutheran Church in America (1880-1918).

In 1886 the United Synod, South (USS) was formed by a union of the General Synod, South (GSS), the Holston Synod and the Tennessee Synod. The GSS, through its Board of Missions and Church Extension, had been doing mission work in India, but its missionary there had just resigned. That board, now part of the USS, decided in 1887 to begin mission work in Japan instead.

After several clergymen declined calls to serve and one man resigned his appointment before going overseas, two men from Virginia volunteered. One was James A. B. Scherer from the Southwest Virginia Synod and the other was Robert E. Peery from the Virginia Synod. Both men were examined, ordained and sent to Japan in 1892. Although Scherer resigned in 1897 because of poor health, Peery was joined in 1898 by the Rev. Charles L. Brown and in 1900 by the Rev. C. K. Lippard, both of whom were supported by the USS.

The Lutheran Missionary Society of West Schleswig, Germany appointed a missionary from Denmark, the Rev. J. M. T. Winther, to go to China; but while visiting Japan in 1898 he decided to work in Japan instead. In 1903 the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (UDELC) began supporting Winther as well. He soon began cooperating on an informal basis with a Mission Conference organized by Peery, Brown and Lippard.

In 1908 the USS Board and the Foreign Mission Board of the General Council began to discuss cooperative work in Japan. The latter Board had been formed at the time that the General Council was formed in 1867. Its first missionary to Japan, the Rev. Frisby D. Smith had arrived in 1908. Prior to his arrival Peery had resigned but two new USS missionaries, The Rev. A. J. Stirewalt and the Rev. L. S. G. Miller had begun work in Japan, joining Brown and Lippard. These five men formally urged the USS and General Council to cooperate in educational work in Japan. In the United States the USS Board, at its 1909 meeting, invited the UDELC to join the talks as well.

In 1910 representatives from the USS, the General Council and the UDELC met to implement joint educational work in Japan and also to approve a common conference of Lutheran missionaries in Japan to represent the three American churches. In this organization, called the Joint Conference of Lutheran Missions Cooperating in Japan, all missionaries, regardless of board affiliations, were considered equal. Reports of the meetings were sent to all three churches and the conference assigned all workers including missionaries to work stations and a common treasurer received and disbursed all funds. This arrangement continued until the United Lutheran Church in America was formed in 1918. After the Rev. Robert C. Holland died in 1915, Charles L. Brown from the Japan Mission became the USS Mission Secretary in the United States. The Rev. George Drach was the mission secretary in the United States for the General Council during this period.

Appendix ULCA 19/2 Administrative History

United Lutheran Church in America Mission activity in Japan prior to World War II, (1918-1941).

The ULCA was formed on November 11, 1918, thereby uniting the mission boards of the General Synod, General Council and the USS. On August 23, 1918, the Joint Conference of Lutheran Missions Cooperating in Japan had already asked the new Board of Foreign Missions of the ULCA and the UDELIC "to effect, if possible, a relationship... whereby the missionaries... may be one body, engaged in one unified work, irrespective of distinctions in supporting boards..." In September 1919, after the UDELIC had approved an official union with the mission field in Japan, the board of the ULCA invited two representatives of the UDELIC "to participate in all the deliberations of the board, as voting members of the Japan committee, and also as cooperating members in the general meeting." At the time of the formation of the ULCA, twelve Japan missionaries were supported by the General Council, twelve by the USS and four by the UDELIC. The Icelandic Synod (U.S.), had begun work in Japan in 1916 as part of the General Council.

In 1918 the new Board of Foreign Missions of the ULCA had unanimously elected the three secretaries of their predecessor boards as secretaries of the new board: USS - Charles L. Brown; General Council - George Drach (Corresponding Secretary for Japan); and General Synod - L. B. Wolf. Charles K. Brown died in Liberia in 1921, L. B. Wolf retired in 1933 and George Drach retired in 1943. Paul W. Koller served as Executive Secretary from 1928 to 1937.

A standing committee on Japan Missions handled the detailed work on Japan for the ULCA Board of Foreign Missions. As already noted, representatives from the UDELIC served on this committee. From 1918 until 1945 the foreign mission headquarters of the United Lutheran Church was in Baltimore.

Prior to the first convention of the Japanese Evangelical Lutheran Church (JELC) the Joint Conference of the Lutheran Missionaries Cooperating in Japan in 1919 had already adopted "A Basis of Cooperation Between the Japan Mission of the ULCA and the NENKWAI of the JELC." The two organizations; one comprising missionaries and the other, the NENKWAI, comprising Japanese pastors, evangelists and lay delegates from local churches, were each to adopt their own constitutions and elect their own officers. They were to hold their annual meetings at the same time, in the same place, but the business sessions were to be held in separate chambers and "no members of one chamber shall be present at the business sessions of the other except by invitation." However, any resolution from either chamber concerning new work, employment or dismissal of Japanese pastors or evangelists, and the location of both missionaries and Japanese workers required approval by both chambers. (Final authority regarding seminary decisions was in the hands of a Board of Trustees). There would also be a Joint Ministerium consisting of all ordained men from the Mission and the NENKWAI. At the first convention of the JELC held in Kumamoto on April 6-13, 1920, the Rev. Kokichiro Takimoto was elected chairman of the Joint Ministerium. While this constitution remained in effect the chairmen of the Joint Ministerium were:

Rev. Kokichiro Takimoto: 1920-1921, 1922-1923
Rev. J. P. Nielsen: 1921-1922
Rev. Edward T. Horn: 1923-1925, 1930-1931
Rev. Tsunekichi Yonemura: 1925-1926, 1927-1928, 1929-1930
Rev. L. S. G. Miller: 1926-1927
Rev. J. M. T. Winther: 1928-1929

In 1927 a committee was appointed to begin work on a new constitution and special agreement which would clarify the specific responsibilities of missionaries. A new constitution finally came

Appendix

ULCA 19/2 Administrative History

into being on April 27, 1931, after numerous revisions both in Japan and the United States. The bicameral arrangement of the two chambers was discontinued as well as the Joint Ministerium. The Japan Mission of the ULCA as well as the Japan Lutheran Church, however, still continued to meet separately: the latter operated under the new constitution and the former under "Standing Rules."

The Ministerium also continued without the designation of "Joint." Rev. Inoko Miura was elected and re-elected president of the JELC through 1942. The presidents of the Mission during this period were:

Rev. C. W. Hepner: 1931-1936, 1941-1942

Rev. L. S. G. Miller: 1936-1940

Rev. Edward T. Horn: 1940-1941

"The Law for the Control of Religious Organizations" was passed by the Japanese government in 1939 and took effect April 1, 1940. The JELC reorganized under a new constitution in 1940. It had been hoped that any denomination with as many as 50 congregations and 5,000 members might receive separate recognition as a denomination by the government. The JELC had 5,152 members but only 44 congregations. In October 1940 the smaller Evangelical Lutheran Church Finnish (ELCF) with twelve congregations and 2,000 members together with the JELC approved a merger. Missionaries who had served in executive or administrative posts in church institutions resigned. By the time the U.S. joined World War II in December 1941, all missionaries except A. J. Stirewalt and the Rev. and Mrs. C.W. Hepner had left Japan, who were then expatriated in 1942.

At its convention in May 1941, upon being assured that Lutheran faith and practice would be guaranteed by a new Protestant constitution mandated by the government, the Japan Lutheran Church voted for a new "union" with other Protestant denominations. This new organization was called "Nippon Kirisuto Kyodan" also known as The Church of Christ in Japan (KYODAN). The Rev. Inoko Miura who had been president of the JELC served as its vice president during World War II although the guarantee of maintaining Lutheran faith and practice was abolished by the new church in 1942.

United Lutheran Church in America Mission activity in Japan after World War II (1945-1962).

Two months after the surrender of Japan to the United States on August 14, 1945, the ULCA Board of Foreign Missions received word from the Japan Committee of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America that arrangements had been made for a group of Christian leaders to go to Japan to contact Christian leaders there. The Lutheran board immediately informed the Foreign Missions Conference that E.T. Horn, L.S.G. Miller and Nona Diehl would be its first postwar representatives in Japan. Upon their return from Japan the Foreign Missions Conference concluded that for the time being only a few missionaries should be sent to Japan.

In Japan the Rev. Inoko Miura, the former president of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church, became chairman of a committee to prepare a new constitution for the Kyodan which would have made that ecumenical body a federation of independent churches. Others in the Kyodan, however, insisted that it remain a church and not a federation. The consequence was that the Lutherans withdrew in 1947 and re-organized in 1948 as the JELC and the ELCF. Meanwhile six permanent representatives of the Foreign Missions Conference were sent to Japan as a commission to act as an agent of different mission boards in securing clearance for missionaries to enter occupied Japan. Through their assistance, Lutheran missionaries A.J. Stirewalt, Maude Powlas, and Annie Powlas

Appendix

ULCA 19/2 Administrative History

returned to Japan in 1947. Martha Akard and L.S.G. Miller had returned to Japan in 1946, the latter without special assistance from the commission.

In 1950 the JELC, which had been an associated synod of the ULCA prior to World War II, became an "affiliated church" instead. It divided itself into four districts in 1951: one each in the Tokyo and the Osaka areas and two in Kyushu. When the Augustana Lutheran Mission began in Japan, a fifth district was established in southwest Honshu. A sixth district was formed in 1953 when the ELCF again united with the JELC. This was in Northwestern and Northern Japan.

The presidents of the JELC from 1948 until 1962 were:

Chitose Kishi: 1948, 1956-1958, 1959-1962
Kiyoshi Hirai: 1948-1953
Yukichi Makise: 1953-1955
Rokuro Yamaouchi: 1958-1959

Between 1948 and 1953 eleven new Lutheran missionary groups from the United States and Norway began work in Japan. The Evangelical Lutheran Church from the United States began work in 1949 and established a close relationship with the Japan Lutheran Theological Seminary by providing a professor and financial support. The Augustana Lutheran Mission, as already mentioned, organized congregations in a new district of the JELC and also contributed financially to both the church and its seminary. As had been true prior to World War II the UELC, formerly the UDELIC, continued to send missionaries as part of the United Lutheran Church in America Mission. That mission was renamed the Japan Lutheran Missionary Association in 1947 in order to indicate a closer relationship with the JELC.

The presidents of the association from 1947-1962 were:

L. S. G. Miller: 1947-1951
Howard A. Alsdorf: 1951-1955
Harold Deal: 1955-1957
Lloyd Neve: 1957-1960
Alexander Meyer: 1960-1961
Charles Dawkins, 1961-1962

In 1945 the Foreign Mission headquarters of the ULCA moved from Baltimore to New York City. The Rev. Edwin Moll was the General Secretary in 1945, the Rev. Luther Gotwald became Executive Secretary in 1948 and the Rev. Earl S. Erb served in that capacity from 1953 until 1962.

The secretaries for Japan during this time were:

Ms. Helen M. Shirk: 1948-1954
The Rev. Warren C. Johnson: 1956-1959
The Rev. David Vikner: 1959-1962

Vikner was an Augustana Lutheran missionary who served in Japan from 1950 until 1959.

Appendix
ULCA 19/2 Administrative History

Sources: Huddle, Benjamin P., History of the Lutheran Church in Japan (1958) Wolf, L. B., "History of the American Lutheran Foreign Missions," 1935-1935 (unpublished manuscript)

A Statement of the Structural Organization of the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Lutheran Church in America" (unpublished manuscript)

Appendix

ULCA 19/7 Administrative History

ULCA 19/7 Administrative History

Compiled by: Rosalita J. Leonard, Project Archivist, April 2000

United Lutheran Church in America

Board of Foreign Missions

Secretary for India

Mission work of the United Lutheran Church in America (ULCA) in India was a merger of work begun by two of its predecessor church bodies, the General Council of the Lutheran Church in North America (General Council) in the area of Rajahmundry and the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the USA (General Synod) in the area of Guntur. This merger occurred in 1918 when the General Council and General Synod, along with the United Synod South, merged to become the ULCA. For information on the work of the General Council and General Synod in India, see GC 16/2, GC 16/2/1, GS 15/2, and GS 15/2/1. Although the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church, at that time known as the Augustana Synod of the General Council, did not participate in this merger, they did continue to relate to the work in India under the ULCA.

The Board of Foreign Missions (Board of World Missions after 1956) of the ULCA had administrative oversight of the work. Initially, three general secretaries (later called administrative secretaries) divided administrative oversight of the mission work. George Drach, among other duties, had oversight of the work in India. Drach served as General Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions (BFM) from 1918-1943, having previously served in a similar capacity in the General Council from 1905-1918. Successors to Drach, as far as supervision of the India work was concerned, were J. Roy Strock, 1944-1946; M. Edwin Thomas, 1946-1947; Luther A. Gotwald, 1947-1952; and Earl S. Erb, 1952-1954. In 1954 J. Frederick Neudoerffer became the first Secretary for India, a post he held until his retirement in 1984, although the title was changed to Secretary for Southern Asia and the Middle East in 1973. Neudoerffer thus served as a bridge between the ULCA and its successor, the Lutheran Church in America (1962).

Much of the work in India centered around medical and educational projects. Two institutions in which the ULCA was involved were Andhra Christian College and Luthergiri Seminary. Andhra Christian College, located in Guntur, India, was initially a cooperative effort of the missionaries and the British civilian officers of the district. In 1857 it received recognition from the government. Due to financial difficulties, it was closed in 1863 and was not re-opened until 1874, at which time Lemon L. Uhl oversaw its reorganization. In 1885 it became affiliated with the University of Madras as a Second Grade College, with Luther B. Wolf becoming the first principal. In 1926 it was upgraded to a First Grade College and affiliated with the newly established Andhra University, with its students pursuing the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

In its earliest days the college was named American Evangelical Lutheran Mission College (General Synod). Later it became the United Lutheran Church Mission College (ULCA), with administration falling to the ULCA Council of the India Mission. In 1928, with the added cooperation of the Church Missionary Society and the American Baptist Mission, it became known as the Andhra Christian College, although the ULCA still maintained much of the property and provided most of the funding. Ultimately the direction of the college was undertaken by the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, with the property held by the Council of the India Mission. Sometime in the early 1960s the property was transferred to the church as well.

Luthergiri Theological Seminary began as a Bible Training School of the General Council in Rajahmundry in 1885, moving to Luthergiri in 1908. Similarly, the General Synod opened a Bible Training School in Guntur in 1883. The two schools merged in 1921 at Luthergiri under the ULCA. In 1939 the Theological Department of Andhra Christian College was transferred to Luthergiri,

Appendix

ULCA 19/7 Administrative History

changing its name from Luthergiri Theological College to Luthergiri Theological Seminary (although the terms college and seminary seem to have been used interchangeably), and adding the Bachelor of Divinity degree. In addition to the ULCA and Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, the seminary was also supported by the American Lutheran Church and the Andhra Lutheran Church South. In 1964 Luthergiri became a part of the newly established Andhra Christian Theological College.

Sources: Minutes, Board of Foreign Mission, United Lutheran Church in America

Minutes, Board of World Missions, Lutheran Church in America

Minutes, Division for World Mission and Ecumenism, Lutheran Church in America