

HERDE RÖSTEN.

“MINA FÅR HÖRA MIN RÖST.”
JOH. 10: 27.

Tidning för Evangeliskt Lutherska
Betania-församlingen.

Årg. XVII

FEBRUARI, 1925

No. 2

Gån in i Herrens portar med tacksägelse, i hans gårdar med lov; tacken honom, loven hans namn. Ty Herren är god, hans nåd varar evinnerligen och hans frofsthed från släkte till släkte. Ps. 100: 4, 5.

Your Money.

You sent your money across the sea
That bought a Bible for young Sing Lee,
And young Sing Lee, when he'd read therein,
Proceeded to turn his back on sin.
Then he rested neither night nor day
Till his brother walked in the narrow way,
And his brother worked 'till he had won
Away from their gods his wife and son.
The woman told of her new-found joy,
And Christ was preached by the happy boy.
Some of the folks who heard them speak
Decided the one true God to seek.
It wasn't long until half the town
Had left its idols of wood and stone.
And the work's not ended yet, my friend,
You started something that ne'er shall end,
When you sent your money across the sea
That bought a Bible for young Sing Lee.

—AMELIA P. AYRES.

Hurudan är din gudsfruktan?

En gudsfruktan med begränsningar kunna många vara med om. “Lagom” gudfruktiga vilja de själva vara, och sådana skola även de vara, som skola tillfredsställa dem. Deras gudsfruktan får icke vara så sträng och allvarlig, att den icke tillåter litet här och litet där av sådant, som allvarliga kristna i enlighet med Herrens ord och ett vaket samvete anse och fly som synd. En sådan gudsfruktan kan mycket väl förenas med ett finare världsväsende. Många världsmänniskor nöja sig med ett visst

sken av fromhet, blott det lämnar deras inre liv i fred. En gudsfruktan, som börjar med bättring och omvändelse och kräver ett helt utgående från världen, en fullständig brytning med synden, en ständig kamp emot densamma, ett leverne i helighet och rättfärdighet inför Herrens ansikte, försakelse av det egna jaget, är för svår för de flesta. Om en sådan vinnlägga sig endast de, som genom ny födelse blivit nya skapelser i Jesus Kristus och icke längre leva efter köttet utan efter Anden. De sträva efter att fullborda helgelsen i Herrens fruktan.

M. S. T.

The Pastor's Report for 1924.

Dear Bethany Congregation:—

Grace and peace!

Another year is passed. Again we meet to review the same and to look ahead. The Lord has continued his goodness toward us despite our unworthiness. Whatever good we have done or success won we heartily ascribe all glory to Him. What has hampered the necessary progress is to be found in ourselves, in our lack of spirituality and harmony which in a large measure should pervade a Christian church. And so at the beginning of this year and at this meeting we want to remind ourselves of the beautiful admonition of St. Paul to the Ephesians “to live lives worthy of the Call that you have received; always humble and gentle, patient, bearing lovingly with one another, and striving to maintain in the bond of peace the unity given by the Spirit.” And another Scripture passage says, “Try earnestly to live at peace with every one, and to attain to that parity without which no one will see the Lord.” May we look ahead to a year of peace with God and men.

HERDE-RÖSTEN

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The first congregational expression of Christian life is the divine services. These should have been attended, and we hope they will hereafter. The Word of God is taught in its truth and purity; there has been special music and singing at most of the services (not of course at the short services of the Sunday school). Much has been done to take care of the needs of young and old in both Swedish and English. The union service for all the first Sunday in the month should be made as impressive and inspirational as possible; and by united interest and effort we can make that the biggest service. We thank God for his blessed Word. May it dwell among us richly and bear much fruit.

The sacraments have been administered as

in the preceding year, that is, in both languages. We thank our blessed Saviour for the great privilege we have in the covenant of Baptism and of meeting Him at his holy Supper. As Lutheran Christians we believe in their efficacy as means of the Holy Spirit to create and nourish the spiritual life. May they continue to be of much blessing among us.

The Church Council and the Board have had several meetings during the year. These are important meetings, and I regret to report that two or three times there was no quorum. The same was the case last year with the Trustees, who continue to have monthly meetings. Aside from this I can say that many weighty matters have been seriously considered and decided upon or recommended for the benefit of Bethany.

The S. S. as the most important organization within the church has been aptly conducted by Mr. Lewis together with a good staff of teachers and secretaries. The secretaries report on what work has been done and the progress except in enrollment which is somewhat smaller this year. Mr. Lewis, I am sorry to say, has decided to discontinue his service here as Superintendent and has accepted that position for the S. S. in the South Shore section of our District where such a leader is also badly needed. Tho we of course regret very much to see him leave us in this capacity, we wish him much success and joy in the new field. We must now chose someone in his stead for Bethany.

During the summer a class of 22 regulars and 3 special students were confirmed and admitted into active membership. It was indeed gratifying to see these young people and adults confess their Lord publicly. The present class consist of 20 catechumens. — During July the Parochial school was conducted by Miss Josephine Young. The enrollment was rather small but very good work was done.

The Societies have done well except in the case of two perhaps. Tho the president of the Luther League and a few others have worked hard it has seemed almost impossible to bring out the interests and the attendance that we should expect in Bethany. Maybe the League has been going thru a crisis for the better, and there are indications to that effect. The Confirmation reunion under its auspices was a fine success. — The Confirmation League has been rather inactive, and the best solution probably is for the confirmed to join the Senior Mission Band. It has been rather difficult to maintain two societies made up of members of the same age. — The Priscilla Society, which organized a year ago in November in the place of the

Art Circle, has been very active, as was also apparant at their big lecture entertainment last month when the church was filled to capacity. They are working for a Grand Piano to be in service sometime this Spring. — The Senior Mission Band has purchased a printing press for the printing of announcements, tickets and other matter for the church and societies. It will doubtless prove most useful in our work, and give willing hands something to do. — The Brotherhood has done well. Their banquet this fall was a great success and a surprise. And now that the District Brotherhood is organized our local Society will receive added help and assistance. The Society has joined the District organization and thus also the Conference Brotherhood. The time has come for a more conscious responsibility on the part of all the men of our church to the kingdom of God. This subject was also discussed here at the District meeting in September, a subject of special interest to the men; but did you notice how many of our men were present although this discussion was held in the evening? — The other organizations have been busy also. The Ladies Aid remains a strong support. Their Midsummer festival was a delight. — The Ruth Circle

shows considerable vitality for being a small society. The Willing Workers had a successful sale in the fall. They have replaced the old stove with a large gas range as a gift to the church, a wonderful gift indeed, for which we are very thankful. — The Missionary Society and the Parent-Teacher Association have met quarterly and have had good programs.

The Choir has done splendid work with Mrs. Ida Linn Cooley as director and Mr. Clarence as organist. A most successful concert was given in May, and during the year they have also appeared oftener at services than formerly. During two months after the Summer vacation many of the members did not show sufficient interest, due probably to the usual difficulty of getting nicely started again after the vacation. Mrs. Cooley feeling that the congregation was not getting the music they had a right to expect, handed in her resignation. But the Choir prevailed upon her to stay, and so she did until the first of January. Because of certain circumstances the Board has had to act in the matter, and has certain recommendations to offer at this meeting. — A Girls' chorus has been started under the direction of Mrs. Nelson.

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They have appeared several times and give promise of a successful chorus.

Besides the big programs or meetings already mentioned or referred to, we also had a fairly successful Thanksgiving festival for three evenings. It may be well to hold this festival a little earlier hereafter. — In February a party was given to Mr. Linman in appreciation of his manifold services to Bethany. He has been free from Board duties a year but is now nominated for membership on the Board, and, may I say, that we need him again this anniversary year and longer.

(To be continued.)

Till haltande nykterhetsvänner.

Vi taga för givet att våra medlemmar vilja vara goda medborgare och såsom sådana tro på det 18:de amendementet i vår grundlag. Men att döma av det sätt varpå en del uttrycka sig, är vårt folks tro på nykterhetslagen ganska svag, ja, haltande. Riktiga nykterhetsvänner hålla starkt därpå, att om "The Volstead Act" modifieras, så brytes amendementet. Vi måste uppehålla landets grundlag och kämpa därför. Vi anföra dr Abrahamsons kraftiga ord i *Augustana* för den 8 januari.

"Vi tillfrågades (i Sverige), om det icke var sant, att brottens antal förökats under de senare åren i vårt land, och om icke orsaken därtill måste tillskrivas förbudslagen. Nu voro vi ledsna över att vi icke kunde obetingat besvara den första frågan med ett bestämt nej, men med hänsyn till den senare, så frågade vi tillbaka, enligt vilken logik man kan antaga, att det att människor icke få suppa sig fulla och i fylleriet begå alla möjliga världsgärningar kunna föröka brotten. Och såsom en ren dikt måste vi stämpla deras påstående, att det nu förtäres mera starka drycker i vårt land än vad det gjordes före förbudslagen antogs. Vi nekade icke till utan att på ett olagligt sätt säljes mycket spirituosa i t. ex. Chicago, men vi sade ock, att det var en försvinnande liten kvantitet jämfört med vad som före denna lags antagande utminuterades i stadens över åtta tusen krogar och i dess många brännvinsmagasin. Vi kunde ock säga, att krogarna voro ohyggliga lastens hålor, som ock buro ansvaret för en stor procent brott, som begingos, och för fattigdom, sjukdom och elände. Vi kunde ock konstatera, att den arbetande klassens levnadsförhållanden hava betydligt förbättrats, sedan förbudslagen antogs. Att brotten ha i många stater förökats sedan kriget, vilket statistiska uppgifter, som vi hava, konstatera, måste tillskrivas andra orsaker, och samma sorgliga förhållanden äger ock rum i Europas länder och

ha icke kunnat förebyggas där av sprithandeln."

Man väntar inte att krog- och lönnkrogsvänner skola försvara nykterhetssträvandena i landet, men det väntar man med rätta av varje församlingsmedlem. Det finns en 30 organisationer som verka mot nykterhetslagen. Vi böra kraftigt samverka med dem som försvara den. När får man höra sådant understöd inom församlingen? Må vi akta oss för att giva motståndarna vatten på deras kvarn!

PASTORN.

Minced Forms of Oath.

We often hear people use exclamations which to some of us sound terrible, but whose meaning they do not know or fully understand. They can not get along without expletives and so they get into the habit, some using only a few, others quite a variety. We are not referring to those who distinctly take the names of God and Christ in vain, but of those who employ the milder forms of oath. We give here a list together with their meanings.

Blasted cursed, used of one's self or another in coarse and irreverent imprecations.

Confound (ed)—to imprecate or wish ill upon anyone; a mild curse upon the mind; damnable.

Darn it—a minced (weakened) form for "damn it", God being understood as the subject.

The Duce—Formerly an oath invoking Deity (from Latin Deus — God); now used for an evil spirit or the devil.

The Dickens—Probably a corruption for Nick, the plural meaning little devils.

"Give a dam" is not an oath, dam being a coin in India worth little more than a cent, but sounds as bad as the word damn.

"O Gee" stands for the first letter of God or the first syllable of Jesus.

By George—This George was the patron saint of England in the dark ages.

By Gimini—a shortened form of the Latin, O Jesu Domoni, which means Lord Jesus.

My Goodness—used as a euphemism, a less offensive expression, for God, as can readily be seen in the phrase, Goodness knows.

My gracious!—Originally a substitute for an oath; other forms are: gracious me! good gracious! Goodness gracious! In each case God is understood.

By Golly—another form for "by God." And "Goll darn it" is a minced form for "God damn it."

O Gosh or by Gosh is also a minced oath, another form for God.

O Heavens!—stands for imaginary pagan deities. The Jews also employed the word heaven instead of God.

By Land—for Land's sake. Here Land is a euphemism for Lord.

My stars—a pagan expression. The heathen considered the stars as influencing births, fortunes and destinies.

Now these expressions—and there are others—are not merely slang, a violation of the accepted use of the language, but oaths in a modified form, and ought not to be used by any church member. They are sinful expressions, even if you have not known them to be such. The Bible says that if any one of the people sin unwittingly, and his sin be made known to him, then he shall offer a sacrifice for his sin.

In the Swedish language there are quite a number of minced oaths. We mention just a few.—"Jagu menas 'vid Gud,' gunås är en förkortning för Gud nåde oss"; bevars står för 'Gud bevare oss'; kors ellers kors ja menas 'vid Kristi kors'. De eder som syfta på den 'onde äro så grova, att vi utelämna dem'.

Our Catechism says that sinful oaths include the calling upon God in daily conversation, and swearing by the devil or any other object. Our Lord says: Swear not at all; neither by the heaven, nor by the earth, nor by Jerusalem, nor by your head. And he that sweareth by the

temple or by the heaven, sweareth by Him that dwelleth therein. These words weigh just as much now as when they were first uttered. And remember that "the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." Dr. Newman of England called "all this kind of language a sort of vocal worship of the evil one, to which he listens with special satisfaction." Remember, too, the words of Jesus that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

Be on your guard, dear friend, and pray as did David of old: "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips."

THE PASTOR.

A Letter of Thanks.

I wish to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the cheerful greetings—by way of plants—received during my illness, from the Church, Brotherhood, Sunday-school and Good Cheer Club. I also wish to express my sincere appreciation of the Christmas spirit brought to my home by the Good Cheer Club.

It was my pleasure to receive as a very pleasant surprise a visit from my co-workers of

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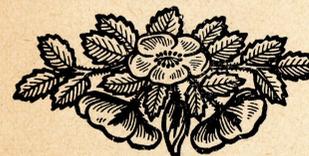
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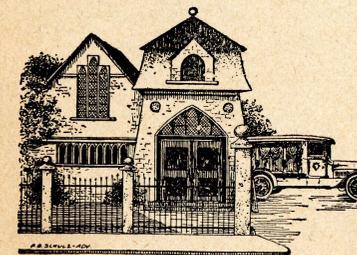
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the Sunday-school Saturday evening, Jan. 17th. I feel unworthy of all they have done for me as it was only through their loyal support, and the great blessings of our heavenly Father that I could accomplish anything in the Sunday-school.

I take this opportunity, to again thank my coworkers for the beautiful gifts presented to me and will always hold a fond remembrance for Bethany's Sunday-school and those who were near to me during the time I served as superintendent.

The kindness and friendship shown me by our people and pastor will never be forgotten by Mrs. Lewis and myself. RAYMOND J. LEWIS.

Instructions to Sunday School Teachers.

1. *Pray* for your class, both as a unit and individually.
2. *Prepare* your lessons well, and follow the adopted course.
3. *Never* be late; rather come a few minutes early.
4. Come *regularly*. Faithfulness is the best recommendation for a good teacher.
5. If *compelled* to be absent, provide a substitute and notify the department superintendent as to *who* your substitute is.
6. *Insist* that the pupils do their work, and do not give them credit unless they do it.
7. Always stay for the *church services*; your example is needed, and you are needed to sit with the class.
8. Look up absent members by visit or communication each week.
9. Attend faithfully the teachers' monthly meetings and the quarterly conferences of the District.
10. Pray that you may be the kind of a person you wish each of your pupils to be. (*S. S. Times*, with two or three slight changes.)

Sunday School Income for January.

Sunday-school	\$ 3.29
Missions	3.11
Loose Collections	8.59
Initial Offering	1.90
Coll. in 1924 envelopes.....	11.31

Total.....\$28.20
LEONARD LARSON.

Missionsföreningen

höll sitt möte den 4 dec. på inbjudan av mrs Ecklund och mrs Mathilda Olson i mrs Eckhunds hem. Detta var årsmöte, och följande blevo valda att tjäna under året: Ordförande,

mrs Albert Johnson, v. ordf., mrs Hugo Nelson; sekr., mrs Gust Johnson; kassör, mrs Ida Nelson.

Det bestämdes att möta detta år som förliedt med undantag av ett möte, som skall hållas på kvällen för att giva tillfälle för våra unga damer att vara med. Detta möte hålles i mrs Hugo Nelsons hem, 9237 Essex ave., torsdagskvällen den 5 mars kl. 8, på inbjudan av mrs Nelson, mrs Munson och mrs Hultquist. Alla äro hjärtligt välkomna. Ett gott program kommer att givas. Miss May Melander, som vi alla så gärna vilja höra, blir vår talare.

SEKRETERAREN.

The Luther League.

The January meeting opened with song, responsive reading and prayer. The election of officers resulted in the following: President, Mr. Clarence Johnson; v. pres., Mr. E. O. Bergquist, sec., Mr. Clarence Swanson, treas., Miss Hulda Lindvall, organist Miss Carrie Olson, Good cheer committee—Miss Anna Linman and Mr. Oscar Swanson.

Two new members were taken in, namely Miss Hilma Olson and Miss Irene Anderson. We welcome them most heartily to our Society.—We were favorede with a vocal solo by Miss Alma Thomson, for which we thank her.—Dues amounted to \$12.50.

Misses Hulda and Edith Lindvall and their brother Martin served refreshments. We wish to thank them most heartily, together with Mrs. Lindvall. INEZ EVANS.

A Lesson from Lincoln's Life.

The Government had set out with the manifest object, primarily, of preserving the Union. That is what the Northern army was fighting for. In the course of events, however, President Lincoln, after a promise to God, decided to proclaim the emancipation of the slaves. This he did first in a preliminary way in Sept. 1862, against the judgment of several members of his Cabinet. The sentiment of the country was not yet strong enough for it. This first Proclamation together with other minor causes turned many of the States against the President and the administration. In the November election the Democrats showed great gains. The Republicans almost lost control of the House. Illinois, Lincoln's own State, went Democratic by a majority of 17,000, and her Congressional delegation was eleven Democrats to three Republicans. New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois failed to support Lincoln in 1862. Soon after the election ap-

palling news came from the battlefield. The country was well-nigh desperate. Many speeches were made in the Senate, all expressive of a want of confidence in the President and his Cabinet.—“It seemed to him at that time, as he told Senator Browning, a close friend of his, that God was against him, and it seemed also that the people, whom he trusted next to God, had also cast him adrift. Repudiated at the polls, he was deserted by the Congress and betrayed by members of his Cabinet. He was near despair. In a few days, however, his conviction of having done right was as strong as ever. Though his army was defeated and without a general, his Cabihet was divided and without a heart, his Congress rebellious and his friends in despair, Abraham Lincoln stood calmly, with a new faith in God and the cause for which he was fighting”. (From Dearborn Independent for Feb. 7, 1925). He issued the second Proclamation Jan. 1, 1863, which made many friends for him and the Union cause, in Europe and elsewhere. And for a generation we too have seen his greatness.

The lesson: Leaders must trust more in God and the justice of their cause than in their fellow-men, who can not always see so far ahead. They will see the right by and by.

O. H. N.

Briefs.

HERDE-RÖSTEN congratulates Mr. and Mrs. Eric Milbrath, 10125 ave. M., upon the birth of a son and Mr. and Mrs. Julius Swanson upon the birth of a daughter. May God give these two babies a long and happy life.

* * *

Miss Eleanor Johnson wishes to convey a greeting through HERDE-RÖSTEN thanking her friends and the societies of the church for the flowers and kindness given her during her illness.

* * *

Five new members were received into the Ladies' Aid at its February meeting. We heartily welcome these five women and sincerely hope that many others will follow their fine example. Let us deem it a privilege to belong to the organizations within our own congregation.

* * *

Through an error of the printers in the previous issue, the cost of the Printing Press was reported to have cost \$80.00. We wish to make the correction at this time. The press and the equipment was purchased for \$180.00. The boys of the Senior Mission Band are working hard printing not only the weekly an-

nouncements for the congregation but have already turned out quite an amount of printing. Up to Feb. 13. they have printed the following:

- 50 copies of the Senior Mission Band Constitution.
- 225 Announcements Feb. 1st.
- 500 tickets for Bethany Brotherhood Concert.
- 250 Announcements Feb. 8th.
- 700 'Attention' Cards for Band.
- 20 Postal Cards for the Band.
- 100 Announcement cards for the Junior Mission Band.

125 Copies of the Banior.
Bethany wishes to congratulate our young boys upon their splendid work and we are indeed happy over the interest and fine spirit these young folks have shown toward their church.

* * *

Rev. Williams of Minneapolis has declined the call to Chicago Heights. This congregation has been without a pastor for several years and now has a big problem to solve.

* * *

Rev. Carl H. Rask, our good neighbor, has resigned from his present charge and accepted the call extended to him from Kane, Pa. We regret that he and Mrs. Rask will leave us soon. As the paper is ready for the press when receiving this news, we shall say more in a later issue.

* * *

The So. Chicago District of the Woman's Missionary Society held its annual meeting at the Gustavus Adolphus Church on Friday afternoon and evening, Jan. 30, 1925. The afternoon session was given over to the annual business of the district and we rejoice over the unanimous re-election of our good and efficient president, Mrs. Andrew Anderson of Bethlehem church. The ladies of the local church served “kaffe med dopp” in the afternoon and at 5:30 P. M. served a lovely course dinner to about 40 visitors. In the evening Rev. C. O. Bengtson of Immanuel church addressed the society and gave a very instructive and edifying “Study of Mary, the Mother of Jesus.” We can just briefly mention a little of this fine discourse. The speaker brought out very strong that Christian Motherhood is placed side by side of the holy ministry. A Christian mother planting Jesus in her child's heart is being a mother to Jesus.—Mothers, think of your responsibility! God expects every Christian mother to do her duty. The G. A. Octette sang several fine songs and Clarence Johnson gave two beautiful solos. We hope that our own Bethany people will take advantage of these wonderful opportunities in

the future than has been the case hitherto. About twelve ladies from Bethany attended this meeting.

Financial Secretary's Report.

Dues received during 1924.

1. Mr. and Mrs. Alexanderson.....	\$ 39.00
2. Miss Dagmar Alm—Gruber.....
3. Mrs. Emma Alm.....	4.50
4. Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Anderson.....	26.00
5. Miss Agnes Anderson.....	13.00
6. Mrs. Alfred Anderson.....	12.80
7. Miss Alida Anderson.....
8. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson.....	26.00
9. Mr. Arthur Anderson.....
10. Miss Augusta Anderson.....	10.55
11. Mrs. Bertha Anderson.....	10.40
12. Mr. Carl R. Anderson.....	7.60
13. Mr. Clarence E. Anderson.....	6.10
14. Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Anderson.....	13.00
15. Mr. C. W. Anderson.....	10.45
16. Miss Edith Anderson.....	7.80
17. Mr. Edward Anderson.....	13.00
18. Miss Eleonor Anderson.....	15.60
19. Miss Elfreda Anderson.....
20. Miss Ellen Anderson.....	8.00
21. Mr. and Mrs. Emil Anderson.....	31.20
22. Mr. and Mrs. Erland Anderson.....	39.00
23. Miss Evelyn Anderson.....
24. Mr. George Anderson.....	10.40
25. Mr. George A. Anderson.....	21.00
26. Miss Gladys E. Anderson.....	5.20
27. Miss Harriet Anderson.....	13.00
28. Miss Irene Anderson.....	5.20
29. Miss Jane Anderson.....	10.40
30. Mr. John Anderson (Deceased)....	8.00
31. Mr. Le Roy Anderson.....	7.00
32. Miss Lillian Anderson.....	5.20
33. Miss Minnie Anderson.....	13.00
34. Miss Minnie Anderson.....	13.00
35. Mr. Paul L. Anderson.....	26.00
36. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Anderson.....	18.75
37. Mr. Stanley E. Anderson.....	47.05
38. Mr. Theodore Anderson.....	27.00
39. Miss Tillie Anderson.....	10.40
40. Mrs. Anna Ball.....	7.35
41. Mrs. Carrie Barfknecht.....	13.70
42. Miss Blanche C. Berggren.....	30
43. Mrs. Emma Berggren.....	7.80
44. Mrs. Frank Bard.....	8.00
45. Miss Anna Bergquist.....	13.00
46. Mr. Arthur H. Bergquist.....	12.00
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248. Mrs. Alma Olson.....	4.80
249. Miss Carrie Olson.....	13.00
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May we all pray that He in His infinite love and mercy will continue to bless us so that this year when we celebrate our 45th anniversary it will bring great joy to us and "Praise and Glory to His Holy Name."

OSCAR H. SWANSON,
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