

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference -- Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LOUISE SCHODTS, CHAIRMAN, 30-43 36TH STREET, L. I. C., NEW YORK
AMY GREER THOMPSON, SEC. TREAS., 419 WEST 110TH STREET,
NEW YORK CITY
FRANCES AFFLECK, ELIZABETH FRACKER, AGNES HODGKISS,
ANNA MACDONALD, RUBY THOMSON, FRANCES WARD

FEBRUARY, 1938

The present officers of the Executive Committee very much regret the omission of the November issue of the Prayer Leaflet and The Deaconess but due to lack of a quorum in Cincinnati the election of Officers could not take place there and after an election by mail Deaconess Hodgkiss, the new Chairman, felt unable to continue in the office. Your officers ask your co-operation in sending Intercessions for the Prayer Leaflet and items of interest to the Deaconess. Please send these direct to the Secretary.

THE MEETING OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH

Date: Saturday, October 9, 1937.

Place: St. Andrew's Mission, Addyston, Ohio.

Present: Twenty-six Deaconesses, Bishop Jenkins and Dr. Randall.

Bishop Jenkins of Nevada, celebrant, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Randall of the Chicago City Mission.

Breakfast followed in the Parish House, served by the Woman's Guild—charge thirty-five cents.

The meeting was called to order at ten A. M. by the Chairman, Deaconess Gillespy. Business meeting postponed in order to hear the addresses of Bishop Jenkins and Dr. Randall—two very practical, interesting and helpful addresses, a summary of which will be found appended to this report.

Minutes of the last Triennial Conference (Atlantic City, 1934) read by the Secretary and accepted with two modifications.

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Deaconess Semle, was read and accepted. Reported balance in the treasury, \$45.09, \$29.00 being Emergency Fund balance.

The report of the Chairman, Deaconess Gillespy, voiced two needs: (1) a greater sense of corporate fellowship in the Order and (2) the need to spread information about the Order among young women.

The report of the election of four members to serve on the Executive Committee follows: two hundred ballots were sent out, one hundred were returned, electing Deaconess Anna MacDonald, Mary Frances Ward, Frances Affleck and Elizabeth Fracker.

The report of the Duplex Envelope offering showed \$243.75 for the Deaconess' Retiring Fund and \$103.10 for the Emergency Fund.

Deaconess Edith Adams in the absence of Deaconess West, Sec'y of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses, reported for the Retiring Fund a present balance of \$66,377.97; that is, \$4,377.77 more than was reported January 1, 1937.

Moved that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Edmund Ruffin Beckwith for his expert care of our funds and the generous gift of his time.

(Lunch was served at this point by the Woman's Guild at a charge of fifty cents.)

Meeting resumed at two P. M.

Greetings were read from several Chapters, whose members could not be present.

Deaconess Colesberry's report of Committee on Associates for the Order was presented by Deaconess Gillespy. The Chicago Chapter had registered itself officially as being opposed to the idea, and suggested that cooperation of the Woman's Auxiliary would meet all needs of this kind. Discussion followed, both for and against the plan.

It was moved by Deaconess Phelps and seconded by Deaconess Adams that an organization be formed to promote interest in the Order of Deaconesses among the members of the Church.

It was moved that a committee be appointed to consider the matter of Associates.

Deaconess Gillespy stated that as outgoing Chairman of the Conference she had no desire to appoint a full committee, but she appointed as representing the continuing Executive Committee, Deaconess Affleck; Deaconess Phelps to be Secretary of the Committee on Associates as previously moved.

Deaconess Gillespy asked permission to move that whatever plan was accepted, if any plan is, it be left flexible enough to meet the needs of various dioceses so that they might organize as seemed best to them.

The Treasurer was authorized to settle accounts at her convenience and to pass on the funds to the next Treasurer, who will be elected by the Executive Committee.

Letters from absent deaconesses were read.

A resolution regarding a Rule of Life, sent by the Nevada Chapter of Deaconesses was discussed. Deaconess Phelps moved that a committee be appointed to collect and consider various "Rules of Life," that might be helpful to the Deaconess Order. Carried. The Chairman noted that this instruction as to the appointment of a committee would be handed on to the new chairman of the National Conference, when she was elected.

Several Deaconesses present gave brief reviews of their work. Deaconess Edith Adams gave a very interesting account of her visit to England and her contacts with the Order of Deaconesses in London where she visited three Centres—St. Andrew's Community House, Gillmore House and St. Catherine's House; also Central House in Hindhead about eighty miles from London. Deaconess Adams brought copies of the *News Sheet* and the *Prayer Leaflet* used by the English Deaconesses.

Vote of thanks was given to Deaconess Fracker and the Woman's Guild who served two delicious meals, and the Rev. Mr. Alling, rector of St. Andrew's Mission.

The Rev. Mr. Alling gave a brief account of the history of St. Andrew's, and the long service of Deaconess Beeson, for many years parish worker there.

Tea was served by Deaconess Fracker's Scout Troop.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCES SEMLE, *Deaconess*.
Secretary-Treasurer.

The following Deaconesses were present at the meeting:

Adams (Edith)	Cartwright	Gilliland	Phelps	Semle
Affleck	Cooper	King	Parsons	Shaw
Bedell	Fracker	Le Hew	Pitcher	Smith (Eleanor)
Betz	Fuller	Noßler	Potter	Squires
Booth	Gillespy	Patterson (Mary)	Robinson	Ward
Byllesby				

A SUMMARY OF TWO ADDRESSES TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

St. Andrew's Mission, Addyston (Cincinnati) Oct. 9, 1937

Both Bishop Jenkins of Nevada, and Dr. Randall of Chicago had been asked to speak on the general question. What is most necessary for deaconesses (in training, personal qualities, or from any angle desired.)

Bishop Jenkins said: "I am sure that the Schools know much more than I do about how deaconesses ought to be trained. However, I do know about the Order, and I do know what I expect of a deaconess when she comes to Nevada to work.

"The Order is apostolic in origin: it has been revived and is at present 'going strong.' It is the only Order of Ministry for women that has the official sanction of the Church: we should do something more to spread information about it and to recommend it to young women as a vocation." The Bishop suggested that there might be associates to pray for the Order and to make it known among young Churchwomen.

The following practical suggestions as to the equipment of a deaconess were made by the Bishop:

1. Every deaconess should wear the garb, and must if she is to work in Nevada. It is protection for the wearer and a means of making her available to people who need her help.
2. Every deaconess should know how to keep house nicely.
3. Every deaconess should be warm-hearted and hospitable, (not so much so as to run into debt entertaining!)
4. Deaconesses should be methodical in their habits of life; rise at a certain hour, do things in regular ways at regular times, etc.
5. Deaconesses should be ready to exercise their office in emergencies, such as baptizing when there is no priest at hand. They need not preach usually.
6. Every deaconess should know how to play hymns.
7. Every deaconess should be able to sing enough to "raise the tune" and carry it through.
8. There ought to be one central place, a sort of clearing house, where bishops and others who need workers might apply, and might get to know something about the applicant for a position from those who knew her.
9. Deaconesses ought to have a rule of life that they themselves have made in the Order.

Dr. Randall began his address with an expression of happiness in being a part in the Corporate Communion, and in the Conference; and with a tribute to the deaconesses of the City Missions staff, at Chase House. Deaconesses have proved the value of women's ministrations in the Church, doing some things better than men, and some that men cannot do. Their natural sympathy and their ability in making contacts with women is often of great value in the work of the City Missions.

Dr. Randall reminded us that although this type of work has its own difficulties and needs, fundamentally all our work is the same, and certain things are needed in all women workers. He selected three for special emphasis:

Spirituality. We are apt to lay stress too much—on office, rather than on spirituality. We must keep before us the doing of God's will—this is the basis of true spirituality. As we think of the earthly life of our Lord, one of its outstanding characteristics is this: "I come to do Thy will, O God. . . . My meat—my very life—is to do the will of Him that sent me—to finish His work." And at the last he was able to say "I have finished the work Thou gavest me to do." Our Lord has given us the outstanding example of what the motive of life should be—doing the will of God; and if that is our primary motive, we need not fear. It did not lead Him to fair places, to a chapel of ease, freedom from work—it led Him to the Cross. But the Cross was only the stepping-stone to the garden of victory. So we not only have the example of our blessed Lord, but we may be sure we will have the grace of God's Holy Spirit to help us follow through.

Second—*Sanity.* With our spirituality we need sanity—a balanced way of life, enabling us to fit into situations as one finds them. To do this one must have sympathy; one must be able to realize the situation from the other person's point of view. For example, it means a real experience for a person to climb up into a hospital bed for even a few weeks, in new surroundings, away from friends, amid suffering and pain; and it is well for those who stand by the bedside to realize what may be going on in the heart and mind of such a person. So we need sympathy, fellow-feeling. Let us be both sane and sympathetic.

Third—*Service*—service in the spirit of our Master. We are told again and again "He was filled with compassion"—not sentimentality. It is that practical compassion which should be the fruit of spirituality. Spirituality must be maintained. We have the same temptation in our clergy. We are so busy, have so much to do, that we are tempted to let our prayers go, or neglect our offices. No one can do that in such work as yours and ours. There must be time for development of one's own spirit and prayer life. As Bishop Anderson said: "The more one has to do, the longer time he must spend on his knees"—Prayer and provender are never a waste of time.

Therefore, three things to remember: 1. Spirituality. 2. Sanity with sympathy. 3. Service.

REPORT OF TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

1934—1937

October 9, 1937.

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$587.03
EXPENDITURES:	
For Printing	
Deaconess and Prayer Leaflet, Ballot and Letter-heads	
Due Notices	\$327.55
For Postage, etc.	56.33

From the Emergency Fund for Grants.....	140.00	
	<u>\$523.88</u>	
For Bank Charges for 3 Years.....	18.06	
	<u>\$541.94</u>	541.94
BALANCE		<u>\$45.09</u>
EMERGENCY FUND BALANCE	\$29.07	
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	16.02	
	<u>\$45.09</u>	
BALANCE IN BANK		
Respectfully submitted,		
FRANCES SEMLE, Deaconess Treasurer.		
Received from Deaconess Semle—December 27, 1937		
General Fund	\$32.22	
Emergency Fund	132.17	
	<u>\$164.39</u>	

AMY G. THOMPSON, Deaconess Secretary-Treasurer.

CINCINNATI, 1937

As the months go, and still more as they seem to go, the General Convention of 1937 recedes into the past; and to those who were present in Cincinnati any account of it is an old story. But within a few weeks one deaconess has said "I have heard nothing whatever about what happened to us. Will there be some report?" There may be others asking the same question, and it is for them that these notes are written. The memories group themselves under general headings.

First—naturally—the setting—To one who had imagined Cincinnati as damp, dark, smoke-laden, probably only too obviously recovering from the effects of a devastating overflow from a muddy river, the contrast was from the first moment exhilarating. The active, but not too active business center was ringed around with suburban sections, parks, and hills from which one could look out on the broad curves of the Ohio, the towns of the Kentucky shore, and the warm autumn coloring of tree-covered slopes. One was taken to see some trace of the flood, or was shown the line on this building or that where the water had risen—but it had to be pointed out. The wonderful building in which Convention was held has been described repeatedly; but its size and at the same time the convenience of its arrangement, had to be experienced—a hall or a room for every meeting, of every size, all quite separated but all within easy communication, and two great crypts or lower-level halls for every type of exhibit.

The spirit of cooperation, on the part of the whole city, and especially of those in charge of the Convention arrangements, was unfailing. For months beforehand these committees had been planning every detail—thick packets of letters are evidence of the forethought of the Women's Organization, the Hospitality Committee, the Committee on Exhibits, the Committee on Corporate Communions, the Committee on Conferences and Meetings. And through all these months and through the Convention days, there was no one apparently too busy, too tired, or too tried, to help any visitor with any problem.

Then, as to the special "Deaconess" interests.

I. Official action of Convention.

1. The Resolutions of the Joint Commission on the Work of Deaconesses were accepted by both Houses. These are in substance:

- (1) Endorsement of the Retiring Fund as "a proper and necessary means for providing for the needs" of Deaconesses retiring after active service; and of the request "that the members of the Church be urged to make gifts of money to that Fund."
- (2) Emphasis on the desirability of providing scholarships in the Training Schools for deaconesses.
- (3) Suggestion that the Order of Deaconesses, its history, requirements, and present opportunities be presented by Bishops and clergy to eligible women as a vocation for life-service.
- (4) Continuance of the Commission.

2. The Joint Commission on the Work of Deaconesses was made an Advisory Commission.

3. The Rev. Dr. Randall (Chicago) presented in the House of Deputies a memorial from the Diocesan Convention of Chicago petitioning the General Convention "to provide through the Church Pension Fund or otherwise, a system of pensions for the Order of Deaconesses in the Church." This was referred to the Commission on the Work of Deaconesses.

II. *Presentation of the Deaconesses Vocation* to the triennial meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary.

In the morning session of the Woman's Auxiliary, October 12th, four types of service were presented before the women of the Church: Sisterhoods (Sister Elspeth, All Saints); Deaconesses (Deaconess Edith Booth, Dante, Va.); Professional Work, Miss Hilda Shaul, (Religious Education, Southern Ohio); Volunteer Work, Miss Ruth Gordon, Boston.

III. Exhibits.

At Cincinnati, unlike Atlantic City, the Training School exhibits and those of the Order of Deaconesses were in separate booths, each 10 ft. x 10 ft. in size. These were in good location, not far from the entrance of the Exhibit hall, and attracted many visitors. The Training School booth had exhibits from the five schools, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Berkeley, Raleigh (Bp. Tuttle Memorial); from each a panel, framed in red and gold, with large photographs and captions uniform in general effect; and also from each School a wall-exhibit and descriptive literature. The Deaconess Exhibit, in the booth adjoining, could not have been prepared without the help of the many deaconesses who responded to our general request for photographs and information. A friend of Deaconess Semle's, in Providence had made a screen of heavy cardboard, with ten panels about 22 inches high, each carrying the heading of some field of Deaconess work; Foreign, Rural, Institutional, Foreign-born, City Missions, Diocesan, etc. These were illustrated on each panel by the smaller photographs sent in; and a central panel, taller than the rest, summed up the work in a series of tiny pen and ink sketches showing deaconesses in typical occupations. This screen made the exhibit at the rear of the booth; with larger photographs mounted and labelled separately, on the wall above, and printed matter on the table on which the screen stood—a copy of the Canon, leaflets on "Deaconesses," etc. Other features of the exhibit were the four wall-scrolls used at Atlantic City, with the history of the Deaconess Order; The Retiring Fund banner brought up to date in amount; R. F. D. leaflets including the new one "Martha's Vocation"; other mounted photographs showing special fields in some detail. And there were several comfortable chairs in which visitors might relax while—we hope!—meditating on the exhibit and the Order.

IV. Triennial Conference, Saturday, October 9

The Minutes of the Meeting, the report of the Treasurer, summaries of the informal addresses made by Bishop Jenkins, are all printed separately in this issue, and need no further comment at this time. But again one must come back to the note of appreciation on which this report began; the setting for our meetings was so much more delightful than one could have foreseen, and the hospitality so cordial and so unstinted. The little Church of the Resurrection, Fernbank, is on a hillside, and almost hidden from the road by trees, a lovely quiet spot for our Corporate Communion. Deaconess Fanny Beeson served there and at Addyston for nearly thirty-five years, and inside the door of the church is a plaque with memorial inscription to her. The rector, Fr. Alling, was present to welcome us. Bishop Jenkins as celebrant and Dr. Randall assisting had been brought out by motor the ten miles from Cincinnati, as had also the deaconesses who were staying in town, and the cars were waiting to take us on to Addyston later. Breakfast was served at tables set in the parish hall—so delicious a breakfast and served so expeditiously that one could hardly realize everything had been prepared in the rectory next door, and was being carried across under umbrellas, through a drizzly rain which had begun to fall!

St. Andrew's Mission, Addyston, is a long, low group of buildings on a village street cut out along a hillside—so that the windows on the farther side look out over a dip of land, with trees close against the windows, and a tangle of shrubbery and undergrowth falling away to a little flower-garden below. The church and large parish-hall at one end of the line, the offices for two nurses at the other, and the living-quarters of the deaconesses between—all connected and all under one roof—make a wonderful centre for the mission work, and also for a meeting such as ours! Deaconess Fracker and the mission nurse, Miss Trome, had planned everything for our comfort: the morning meeting in the two living-rooms that make up the depth of the house, lunch served by the fine women of the parish in the hall where we stayed on for our afternoon meeting, the hospitality of the newly uniformed Girl Scout troop who served tea for the Conference and for Fr. and Mrs. Alling—these last driving over from Fernbank to end the day as they had begun it, in hospitality to the deaconesses. Fr. Alling spoke to us briefly of the history of St. Andrew's Mission and of Deaconess Beeson's long service there. Then suddenly it was five o'clock, and a bus, making detour from its usual route, drove up before the door to take back to Cincinnati all but the half dozen fortunate deaconesses for whom St. Andrew's was headquarters during Convention as well as for the day of Conference.

JANE BLISS GILLESPIE, Deaconess.

THE MID-WINTER MEETING OF THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

A very interesting and successful meeting of the R. F. D. was held at Deaconess Edith Smith's lovely home in Morristown, N. J., on Wednesday, February 9th. Deaconess Smith had cordially invited the Directors to spend the previous night so the meeting might begin early the next day. Deaconess Adams from Chicago; Deaconess Goodwin from Boston; Deaconess Hodgkiss from Brooklyn and Deaconess West from New York availed themselves of this privilege and Deaconess Dahlgren came from New York early the next morning. Deaconess Colesberry, to the regret of all, was detained in Philadelphia by illness.

The meeting began promptly at 10 o'clock and the blessing of uninterrupted work continued until lunch time. Hence the value of an out-of-town meeting. While the Fund is not yet large enough for future needs, it is encouraging to see that contributions continually swell the principal and that there has been a decided increase during the last year. Plans were made at the meeting for future publicity and in our next report, we hope to write more fully about them. As every Deaconess is interested in this project, we must depend upon everyone to speak of it whenever possible. The "runs, rills and rivulets" feed the ocean and we must never neglect an opportunity to gain something, however small it may be, to complete a Fund which will mean ease of mind and body to many faithful servants of the Church who surely deserve this recognition of their labors.

REMOLA DAHLGREN, Deaconess.

LETTER FROM DEACONESS KNAPP

Affectionate Greetings from a Retired Deaconess

This is addressed especially to those who have retired and comes from one who has not only retired but who is a permanent invalid. In the first place I recommend to you Bishop Montgomery's little book entitled "Old Age." Growing old is a sad experience if it is the only growing we are doing. But one of the experiences of old age is that of increased self-knowledge, which if rightly used will lead to growth in grace and understanding. And then we come to realize that the busy ones look to one for counsel when they are in perplexity and for comfort when they are in trouble.

My own experience as I sit in my old Boston Rocker and think prayerfully of those who are busy and perhaps sadly overworked has proved to me, the usefulness of quiet and seemingly idle days. My own sitting is specially full of privileges, for my home is in the midst of the happy scene of University life and surrounds me with the most interesting people. An English clergyman, who is on the faculty of the University, has volunteered to be my Chaplain. He comes every Sunday morning to my home to celebrate the Holy Eucharist as I cannot go to the College Chapel. More than that he stands ready to help me whenever I am in need.

Some women friends, missionaries or wives of missionaries, come to me at stated times to read, so that I can be kept in touch with modern books that are worth while and then there are always individual students to be helped in one way or another and whose affectionate response does my heart good.

And last but not least, there are the flying visits of graduates of St. Faith's and others who are travelling and whose steamers are waiting in port at Yokohama for a day. Today I am to have Sister Ruth Magdalene (Ruth Kent) for flying visit of an hour. Those who know her will realize how happy it will make me to see her. She is such a fine person.

My love to all of you and every good wish. Your devoted friend,

SUSAN T. KNAPP.

DEACONESS WILLIAMS RETIREMENT

"Deaconess Williams left on the first of September, and how lonely it is without her. No one will ever forget her, her love, her sympathy and her service to these people. They made for her a Book of Remembrance; over fifteen hundred persons, white and black, Americans and foreigners here in the camp and in the surrounding mountains signed their names, and that with a large check was given to her on her last Sunday here, an attempt to show how much they loved her and appreciated her many years of service and her many kind deeds. She will never be forgotten. She cannot be, she has been too close to the people."

E. B.

SET APART SINCE THE GENERAL CONVENTION

Mary Christiana Hettler, December 21, 1937, at Grace Church, Oak Park, Chicago, by Bishop Stewart. Deaconess Hettler is to be Assistant to Deaconess Fuller, Chase House, Chicago.

DEATHS

Maria Pitts, Deaconess, at Ocean City, Maryland, on September 13, 1937.

Helen Giles, Deaconess at New York City, September 19, 1937.

May the Souls of the Faithful Departed through the Mercy of God Rest in Peace.

THE DEACONESS

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National Conference -- Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 427 SOUTH 45TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA
EDITH M. ADAMS, FRANCES AFFLECK, ELIZABETH FRACKER,
ANNA MACDONALD, KATE S. MAYER, ELEANOR P. SMITH,
MARY FRANCES WARD

MAY, 1941

That this issue of "The Deaconess" is making so late an appearance is greatly regretted by the Editor. Until the machinery of the Executive Committee can function smoothly, Deaconess Amy Thompson, Maple Hill, Upper Red Hook, N. Y., has consented to act as Sec.-Treas. ~~pro~~ tem. We are greatly indebted to her for her willingness to continue in office. She will be glad to receive items of interest, changes of address and, last but not least, your dues!

THE MEETING OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH

Date: Saturday, October 12, 1940.

Place: St. Andrew's Church, Kansas City, Missouri.

Present: Twenty-one Deaconesses.

Bishop Randall of Chicago, Celebrant, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Jewell, Rector of St. Andrew's. Breakfast and luncheon were served by the ladies of the Parish at a nominal charge.

The meeting was called to order by Deaconess Edith Adams in the absence of the Chairman, Deaconess Schodts. Deaconess Mary Truesdell was appointed Sec.-Treas. pro tem. in the absence of Deaconess Amy Thompson.

The minutes of the last Triennial Conference (Cincinnati, 1937) read and accepted.

The report of the Sec.-Treas., Deaconess Thompson, read and accepted. Balance reported: General Fund, \$70.29; Emergency Fund, \$17.67.

Report of the offering taken at the Corporate Communion:

Undesignated offering total	\$13.65
Retiring Fund	64.75
Emergency Fund	53.75

Voted to divide "Undesignated" equally between Retiring and Emergency Funds.

Telegram read announcing death of Deaconess G. Edwardina Crane in Washington, D. C.

Letter from Deaconess Schodts read, expressing her regrets for inability to be present and suggesting topics for discussion by Conference.

MOTIONS CARRIED:

Voted that the Treasurer send bills "for dues now due and that postal card reminders be sent out at beginning of each fiscal year."

Voted "to leave the dues at present rate (50 cents per year or \$1.50 per triennium) but to suggest that if possible \$1.00 per year be paid to help the General Fund."

Voted "that the Executive Committee choose a strong working Committee composed of one Deaconess in each Province to act as a regional representative or 'CLEARING HOUSE AGENCY' for the Committee."

Voted—appreciation to Bishop Randall, to Dr. Jewell and to the ladies of St. Andrew's Parish.

—greetings to Deaconess Fuller; to Deaconesses Dahlgren and Gillespy; to Bishop Manning; to our sister Deaconesses in England.

—message of sympathy to Deaconess Macdonald.

—"thanks to Deaconess Thompson and other officers" for preparing material for the Prayer Leaflet and "The Deaconess."

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: New members elected—Edith M. Adams, Ruth Johnson, Kate S. Mayer, Eleanor P. Smith. Deaconess Adams appointed Deaconess Smith temporary Chairman, and Deaconess Mayer temporary Sec.-Treas. to serve until the new Executive Committee could meet and begin functioning.

Letters from absent Deaconesses were passed around for reading.

The meeting adjourned.

Deaconesses present at the meeting:

Adams, Edith Betz	Brainerd	Crow	King	Parsons	Truesdell
Allen	Booth	Brereton	Gilliland	Le Hew	Sargent
Bedell	Booz	Cooper	Hettler	Ormerod	Smith, Eleanor
					Weaver
					Wilson

TREASURER'S REPORT—DEC. 27, 1937 — OCT. 4, 1940

GENERAL FUND

RECEIPTS	\$433.79
EXPENDITURES:	
"The Deaconess" and Prayer Leaflet printing and postage.....	\$242.31
General Convention expenses	66.72
Mimeographing ballots and appeals.....	17.82
Secretarial expense, postage	36.65
	<hr/>
	363.50
BALANCE	\$70.29

EMERGENCY FUND

RECEIPTS	\$142.67
DISBURSEMENTS, grants	125.00
	<hr/>
BALANCE	\$17.67
Total in Treasury, October 4, 1940.....	\$87.96

Respectfully submitted,
AMY G. THOMPSON, Deaconess, Sec.-Treas.

Treasurer's Report, Feb. 24, 1941:

GENERAL FUND	\$75.67
EMERGENCY FUND	78.25
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TOTAL	\$153.92

AMY G. THOMPSON, Deaconess, Treas. pro tem.

FURTHER BUSINESS of meeting in Kansas City:

It was reported that fewer issues of "The Deaconess" and the Prayer Leaflet were necessitated by the lack of sufficient funds in Treasury.

Discussions:

1. Advisability of ending one Deaconess to General Convention to manage the Deaconess booth, paying her expenses from National Conference funds. (No action taken).

2. How meet the need for a central headquarters of the Order? Various suggestions were made: that a "Head Deaconess" be elected; that the New York Training School be made the center, and the head of that school to act as "Head Deaconess"; that a provincial organization be set up with a "Head Deaconess" in each Province. This discussion resulted in the vote noted elsewhere that the Executive Committee set up a committee of provincial representatives.

3. The matter of Associates. The idea back of the plan is "that Associates and Deaconesses work and pray for each other in a plan of mutual helpfulness and benefit to the Order as a whole, particularly in the education of Church people as to the value of the Order to the Church." A committee was chosen to work out details,—Deaconess Newbold, Chairman; Deaconess Sargent and Deaconess Eleanor Smith with The Very Rev. James P. DeWolfe, New York, as adviser.

Deaconess Eleanor Smith extended a cordial invitation to all Deaconesses to always consider St. Faith's their headquarters in New York, and Deaconess Sargent extended a cordial welcome to all to consider the Chicago School as headquarters in the middle west.

Deaconess Sargent also gave an interesting account of the history of Deaconess work in Chicago. Thanks to friends of the Order, the Deaconesses in Chicago now have a home of their own (212 So. Ashland Boulevard) and the Training School is entirely separate from Chase House Settlement. Deaconess Wilson is the acting head of the School.

OTHER MEETINGS:

OPEN MEETING, Friday evening, Oct. 11th, at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral Guild Hall for purpose of interesting delegates to General Convention in the Deaconess Order. Bishop Wing of South Florida presided. Speakers were: Rural work—Bishop Jenkins of Nevada and Deaconess Brereton, Dante, Virginia; City Mission work—Bishop Randall of Chicago and Deaconess Weaver, Chicago.

Meeting of the RETIRING FUND for DEACONESES held immediately following National Conference was adjourned for lack of a quorum.

REUNIONS: N. Y. Training School at Harvey Hotel.
Pacific Training School at Hyde Park Hotel.

EXHIBIT: The Exhibit was planned and arranged by Deaconess Wilson (in charge) and Deaconess Weaver. Its purpose was "to show the consecrated life of the Deaconess and also to show the Retiring Fund." On either side of a large silver Cross a poster was hung,—*"Set Apart,"* a picture of a Deaconess receiving a blessing before a figure representing Our Blessed Lord, and *"The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses,"* a picture of a Deaconess looking off into the sunset. Effectively hung on one side of the blue-curtained booth were the Scrolls showing the history of the Order, and opposite was a table displaying Deaconess literature for distribution.

(NOTE: Copies of the Deaconess Scroll in black and white are available at twenty cents a copy by applying to Deaconess West, 2914 Broadway, New York. Proceeds will go to the Retiring Fund.)

COMMENT by Deaconess Booth and Deaconess Brereton, Dante, Va.

"Much has happened since we drove away from the Cathedral at Kansas City with the Bishops' Pastoral Letter ringing in our ears, inspiring us to go 'Forward in Service,' but many of the incidents are still fresh in our minds. One of the most inspiring memories was seeing so many Deaconesses hurrying hither and yon! It was interesting too, to note the number who had charge of exhibits, showing the work in which they are engaged. The Deaconess booth was patronized by many who really wished to know more about the Order, and Deaconess Brereton was much impressed with the number of Clergy who came down to secure information after the Deaconess Canon had been under discussion. It was wonderful to meet and know so many of the Order, who up to this time had merely been names to us, and to gain from them that feeling of corporateness as we are united in the Master's work. Deaconess Betz deserves much credit and praise for the way she planned for our comfort and activities. She seemed to be everywhere at once, and made us feel entirely at home. It was a grand Convention and our only regret is that the whole Order of Deaconesses could not have been there one hundred per cent to share in all the inspiration and blessings we received."

Ordered during the Triennium

Mary Christiana Hettler,	Dec. 21, 1937, Chicago
Amelia Brereton,	May 12, 1938, New York
Ruth Johnson,	May 12, 1938, New York
Evelyn E. Seymour,	May 12, 1938, New York
Anne W. Newman,	May 11, 1939, New York
Mary S. E. Dawson,	May 28, 1939, Berkeley, Calif.
Marian Brown,	June 8, 1939, Philadelphia
Madeline Dunlap,	Sept. 8, 1939, Springfield, Ill.

There are THREE CANDIDATES for the Diaconate:

Miss Alice E. Sweet, a graduate of the Hartford School of Religious Education, who is in charge of the Mission of the Good Shepherd, Splashdam, Virginia.

Miss E. E. Carter, from the Diocese of Atlanta, a student of the New York Training School for Deaconesses.

Miss Gayle Lansing, from the Diocese of West Texas, an alumna of The New York Training School.

Miss Carter and Miss Lansing were admitted to a special period of testing as candidates. During the service, a small silver Cross set in a wooden Cross was presented to each of the two Candidates by the Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Sparks, who also made the address. The Rev. Dr. Charles N. Shepard read the prayers and pronounced the benediction.

"The Diaconate—A Call to Women." Such is the title of the little booklet written by Deaconess M. Christian Synge, our English sister Deaconess. Are we American Deaconesses doing all we can to call women to enter a life of service which has brought us inspiration and joy? May we feel the need for this ministry so strongly ourselves, that we may become active instead of passive, and "let our lives enforce what our lips utter"! The days before us in this country will need the ministry of Deaconesses, and the need will be urgent. Let us pray, work and succeed in "bringing many souls to Thy love,"—Servants in the Church of Christ.

ROMOLA DAHLGREN, Deaconess.

The many friends of Deaconess Knapp will be glad to know that in these troublous times she has left Japan for her own land. She is not at all well and went from the steamer to a hospital in Los Angeles, but may be reached through her friend and former nurse, Miss Florence Henderson, 1825 South Oxford St., Los Angeles, Calif.

The permanent address of Deaconess Dahlgren and Deaconess Gillespy is Paradise Road, R. F. D., Newport, Rhode Island.

What Deaconess or group of Deaconesses will assume responsibility for editing "The Deaconess" in the future? This Editor CANNOT again undertake to do so. Please communicate with the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Excerpts from "THE NEWS SHEET" of the ENGLISH CONFERENCE of Deaconesses for January, 1941.

EDITORIAL: "How privileged are those of us whose work has called us to and kept us in a 'bombed' area. . . . The comradeship of mutual suffering and mutual carrying on in difficult circumstances, men and women are level indeed when all are brushing up glass from shattered windows while rain water pours down the staircase. The Church means something more than a building when its worship is housed in a schoolroom, or with gaping holes in the roof. Barriers are quickly pulled down when you share a common shelter. And how unconcerned we gradually become. During the early raids every sound was a danger; now we have learned to gauge the distance of bombs, and barrage, and incendiaries are, with luck, a matter of buckets of earth and dustbin lids."

Annual Conference (Advance programme) June 18th and 19th. "It is hoped that the Conference may be held in London at Gilmore House. Seer Green, Beaconsfield, has been suggested as an alternative. Subject, 'Religious Education'."

The "News Sheet" lists the ordinations of two deaconesses last September, and quotes from the sermon at one,—on the *Ministry of Building and Restoration*. "It is not the buildings but the

soul of the people that matters: . . . A people which holds fast to the Eternal Truth revealed in the Incarnate Son of God can never be either conquered or enslaved. . . . The enduring work is that which is personal, which brings a soul not to a gathering but to the Cross."

The regular training course is being carried on in a new location, Gilmore House having become a "noisy and dangerous place." Six appointments are listed for the Southwark Diocese (London).

"*News from Overseas*" speaks of a Retreat in the Los Angeles Deaconess House.

Three deaconesses "since Coventry's bad raid seem to have been having rather varied experiences, such as 'making out ration-books for cows' and being 'shot out of a Post-Office delivery van on a slippery morning with, fortunately, nothing worse than a few bruises.'" The "cheery letter" ends, "I wonder if you heard our Provost on the wireless on Christmas Day . . . when he spoke from the ruins of the Cathedral? I think he was typical of the spirit of the Church in Coventry . . ."

Under the heading "*Books*" an article (in bombed England!) begins "Deaconesses will doubtless be keeping a patch on the Penguin Special Publication," and ends with "There must be many valuable and delightful books which Deaconesses have read during the last twelve months. It would indeed be good if through the NEWS SHEET such advantage and enjoyment could be suggested to others."

During the past Triennium some of our sister Deaconesses have entered the Larger Life:

Amelia P. Butler,	Feb. 8, 1939	Clarine Woodward,	Sept. 5, 1939
Mary C. Carroll,	Feb. 9, 1939	Josephine A. Lyon,	Jan. 10, 1940
Mary B. Mott,	Apr. 21, 1939	Mabel L. McKinlay,	Mar. 29, 1940
Julia Morand,	May 5, 1939	Jean M. Colesberry,	May 21, 1940
Mary L. Kneeves,	July 5, 1939	Nora A. Van Nostrand,	Sept. 9, 1940
G. Edwardina Crane, Oct. 9, 1940			

Since National Conference in Kansas City:

Ellen S. Humphreys,	Oct. 23, 1940
Eva H. Crump,	Jan. 27, 1941
Anna M. Barbour,	May 10, 1941
Agnes Hodgkiss,	May 10, 1941

"Eternal rest grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them."

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess *Jean W. Colesberry*, set apart October 2nd, 1898, died May 21st, 1940. For a year she was Deaconess Sanford's assistant at the Church Training and Deaconess House in Philadelphia, after which she was appointed by Bishop Whitaker to open and direct St. Martha's House, Philadelphia, which shortly became a great power for good in the district. Deaconess Colesberry loved her Lord and hence loved humanity. She was sensitive, and sympathetic, and withal, had a keen sense of humor which was a help to her as well as to her associates. Deaconess Colesberry had an especial gift for dealing with young women. "Some Reminiscences" written just before her death reveal the happy home life of her childhood.

Deaconess *Ellen S. Humphreys*, who had been set apart in Philadelphia, May 1911, died October 23rd, 1940. Her first work took her to New York where she served under the City Mission. Later Deaconess Humphreys went to the Church of the Advocate in the Bronx, New York; here she spent several years doing particularly successful work with a Weekday School of Religious Education. For a while Deaconess Humphreys assisted Deaconess Stuart in the Church Training and Deaconess House, Philadelphia.

Mary Louise Kneeves and *Eva Hammitt Crump* began a life long friendship when they were students in the New York Training School. Both were graduates in the Class of 1907, and although they worked in different fields after they were set apart, they spent their vacations together. After their retirement, Deaconess Kneeves from Trinity Church, Ossining, N. Y., and Deaconess Crump from High Shoals, N. C., they lived together in England and later returned to this country. In the summer of 1938 Deaconess Crump suffered a stroke from which she never recovered, although she lived in a Nursing Home until January 27, 1941. In the summer of 1939 Deaconess Kneeves died in New York after a short illness leaving her invalid friend to the care of others. These friends had each made a will leaving her estate to the survivor. When Deaconess Crump died she left her estate and also what she had inherited from Deaconess Kneeves to The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses. Both of these friends were buried from Trinity Church, Ossining, and the bodies laid to rest in adjoining graves in Dale Cemetery, Ossining.

On October 9, 1940, Deaconess *Edwardina Crane* died at the Episcopal Eye and Ear Hospital in Washington, D. C. On the Sunday before her death she observed her thirty-first anniversary as Deaconess. She was a graduate of the New York Training School. Deaconess Crane was engaged in the work of religious education most of her life. She worked as a missionary in Cuba and Puerto Rico; a teacher at Hannah More Academy in Reisters, Maryland; Dean of Women at St. Mary's School, Knoxville, Ill.; Director of Religious Education at St. Luke's Church, Baltimore. The last ten years of her life she was House Mother at the Episcopal Eye and Ear Hospital. She was a noble spirit, who bore her years of almost constant suffering with fortitude and patience. A memorial winlow, the subject of which is the Incarnation, has been given in her memory by the nurses, and will be placed over the Altar in the Hospital Chapel at an early date.

May they go from strength to strength and be permitted to behold the King in His Beauty.

Deaconess Johnson

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference — Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 427 SOUTH 45TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA
EDITH M. ADAMS, FRANCES AFFLECK, EDITH A. BOOTH,
ELIZABETH FRACKER, ELEANOR P. SMITH, MARY FRANCES WARD
AMY G. THOMPSON, SEC.-TREAS. PRO TEM, UPPER RED HOOK, N. Y.

NOVEMBER, 1941

THE MEETING OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH

Date: Friday, October 3, 1941.

Place: St. Faith's House, New York.

Present: Thirty-three Deaconesses.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A. M. by the Chairman, Deaconess Ruth Johnson, who opened with prayer. A short address of welcome was given by Bishop Manning with his blessing. When the death of Deaconess Mitchell was announced the Conference stood for silent prayer.

At the suggestion of the Chairman the minutes of the meeting preparatory to the Triennial, and also those of the Triennial were omitted since the May "Deaconess," copies of which were in the hands of those present, contained a full account.

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Deaconess Amy Thompson, was read. After discussion it was voted to pay expenses for mailing notices of the Retreat and Conference from the proceeds. Six dollars and sixty-one cents were refunded, with which correction the Report was ordered on file.

Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Associates: Since Dean De Wolfe and Deaconess Eleanor Smith, appointed by National Conference, 1940, had been unable to meet with her, Deaconess Newbold, Chairman, summarized her own and the opinions of several other deaconesses with whom she had discussed the matter. While the idea of Associates was approved it was VOTED that a Rule of Life be not required of Associates. VOTED that during the coming year all Deaconesses endeavor to enlist lay women of the Church to work and pray for the advancement of the Order, a report to be made at the next Conference.

The Chairman reported the resignations of Deaconesses Macdonald and Mayer from the Executive Committee; also that Deaconess Amy Thompson had been asked to continue as Secretary-Treasurer until a successor can be found; that, in response to the appeal made in the last issue, Deaconess Ethel E. Spencer had offered to edit the November "Deaconess." The Conference approved these appointments.

Adjournment for meeting of Corporation of The Retiring Fund:

The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Corporation of The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses met at St. Faith's House, New York, on October 3rd, being adjourned from September 26th, for lack of a quorum. Twenty-seven deaconesses were present. The President, Deaconess Edith M. Adams, and the Vice-President, Deaconess Frances B. Affleck, being unavoidably absent, Deaconess Ruth Johnson presided at the meeting.

The Secretary, Deaconess Mary C. West, read the Annual Report and a summary of the Treasurer's Report. The past year has been an unusual one in several ways; there were no meetings of the Directors, the business being carried on by correspondence; no deaconesses were "ordered" but six died, one a Beneficiary of The Retiring Fund. The distribution and use of the Pence Box, brought an offering at the Annual Meeting of \$145.51. A bequest of \$4,000 came to the Fund from the will of Deaconess Eva Hammitt Crump. Other contributions were just short of \$1000. The Woman's Auxiliary of Chicago is still the largest contributor, their monthly checks totalling over \$200 during the year. Almost every parish and mission in the Diocese of Los Angeles has given during the year past. Yearly contributions come from the Dioceses of Pittsburgh and Dallas, also from Calvary Church, Summit, New Jersey. A Night Branch at St. John's Church, Georgetown, Diocese of Washington, is a monthly contributor. Deaconess Patterson sent in \$18.00 from the sale of her hand painted Christmas Cards.

The Treasurer reports the value of the Fund according to present market quotations (which change daily) at \$60,000. Investments of the Fund bring an average income of 4% which amount pays the necessary expenses and the grants to the Beneficiaries. As Savings Bank interest is 2% or less, investments are necessary. The Fund has had very few losses, owing to the good judgment and constant care of the Treasurer, Mr. Edmund Ruffin Beckwith. Stocks and bonds are worth much less than when they were bought, in some cases, which keep the Endowment from being quoted at a higher figure. But the Fund as a whole is sound and in safe keeping and is doing what it was incorporated to do.

At the Annual Meeting, Deaconess Henrietta R. Goodwin was re-elected a member of the Board of Directors, and Deaconess Gertrude Stewart was elected a new member. At the Directors meeting, also held on October 3rd, Deaconess Edith Adams was re-elected President; Deaconess Ruth Johnson, Vice-President; and Deaconess Mary C. West re-elected Secretary.

The Pence Box Offering will be made at each Annual Meeting, by vote of the members present at the Corporation Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY C. WEST, Secretary.

The Conference next considered the recommendations and actions of the Triennial in Kansas City.

PROVINCIAL CHAIRMEN—to represent the Order at Provincial Meetings, assist the Executive Committee to further the interests of the Order, each Chairman to be a committee of One on Publicity. Motion carried.

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES—

- Prov. 1—Deaconess Henrietta P. Goodwin, 15 Newbury St., Boston, Mass.
- Prov. 2—Deaconess Lydia A. Ramsay, 419 West 110th St., New York City.
- Prov. 3—Deaconess Elizabeth G. Newbold, 8622 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia.
- Prov. 4—Deaconess Harriet Bedell, Glade Cross Mission, Everglades, Fla.
- Prov. 5—Deaconess Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago.
- Prov. 6—Deaconess Mary P. Truesdell, 126 W. 14th St., Davenport, Iowa.
- Prov. 7—Deaconess Lillian W. Crow, 229 N. Ewing Ave., Dallas, Texas.
- Prov. 8—Deaconess Margaret Booz, Pacific Grove, California.

PRAYER LEAFLET Editors:

- Nov. 1941: Provinces, 5, 6—Deaconess Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago.
- Feb. 1942: Provinces 3, 4—Deaconess Margaret S. Bechtol, 1440 M. St., Washington, D. C.
- May 1942: Provinces 7, 8—Los Angeles Chapter, 542 So. Boyle Ave., Los Angeles.
- Aug. 1942: Provinces 1, 2—Deaconess Gertrude Stewart, Rutland, Vermont.

Material for the Prayer Leaflet should be sent to the Editor before the first of the month designated.

Motions Carried:

Voted that one Deaconess be sent to General Convention to manage the Deaconess Booth, her expenses to be paid from the General Fund.

Voted to begin plans now for next Triennial Conference, to endeavor to secure a place on the Programs of the Woman's Auxiliary and of the Youth Conference.

Voted to send a telegram to Dean De Wolfe expressing sympathy on the death of his mother; Deaconess Dahlgren to send telegrams to Deaconesses Knapp and Fuller.

Voted that Deaconess Eleanor Smith send to the Conductor of the Retreat a letter of appreciation and thanks.

Letters were read from absent Deaconesses. Deaconess Dahlgren read excerpts from the English News Letter, Deaconess Booth told of advance work in Southwestern Virginia, Deaconess Crow of continued growth in the Texas Mission. Deaconess Armstrong reported on work at Upper Red Hook, Deaconess Amy Thompson teaches a class in Religion at the Public School, Red Hook. Deaconess English told of a class in Religion, All Saints, Virgin Islands, held during released time from the Public Schools.

TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND:

Balance November, 1940.....	\$ 76.29
Dues, Gifts 1941	119.50
	<u>\$195.79</u>

EXPENDITURES:

"The Deaconess" and Prayer Leaflet printing.....	\$ 33.50
Retreat Notices	6.61
Statement of Dues.....	9.75
Secretary's Expenses	6.00
Chairman's Expenses	6.30
	<u>62.16</u>
Balance	\$133.63
Refund	6.61
Total Balance, October 11, 1941.....	<u>\$140.24</u>

EMERGENCY FUND:

Balance November 1, 1940.....	\$ 78.25
Receipts, 1941	6.00
Total	<u>\$84.25</u>

Treasurer's Report, October 11, 1941:

GENERAL FUND	\$140.24
EMERGENCY FUND	82.25
Total	<u>\$224.49</u>

Respectfully submitted,

AMY G. THOMPSON, Deaconess, Sec.-Treas., pro tem.

Deaconesses present at Retreat and Conference, St. Faith's: Mabel Adams, Armstrong, Booth, Brereton, Lillian Brown, Crow, Chappell, Dahlgren, Dora Dawson, Dowding, English, Gillespy, Goodwin, Mary Johnson, Ruth Johnson, Mayer, Eliza Mills, Newbold, Nicholas, Katrina Patterson, Peck, Pennock, Ramsay, Ranson, Schodts, Simpson, Eleanor Smith, Stewart, Amy Thompson, Ruby Thompson, Tileston, and West.

COMMENTS ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING PROVISION FOR OLD AGE

In April 1940 a questionnaire was sent out by the Advisory Committee on Deaconesses, to all Deaconesses of the Church, asking definite information on financial status—for a record not of individuals but of the Order in general. Exactly 200 questionnaires were sent, and 182 returned—an unusual record of cooperation for any survey. Of the 18 missing 8 were of Deaconesses abroad.

The questions were for the purpose of finding out how many deaconesses need financial aid, their approximate ages, and also the sources of support chiefly used, and to assist in making tentative plans for aid. Certain facts indicated by the questionnaire should be considered by all of us.

1. Of the 182 replying, 36 report only partial provision ("reasonably certain") for old age, 36—no provision. Among these are a number of Deaconesses in the "over 65" age-group. This should be remedied quickly, but the percentage of need in this group is lower than in any other. Sources of income for this group—private resources, annuities, pensions, Church Homes—unpledged recognition of years of faithful service.

2. A large proportion of those in the age groups from 25-55 report inadequate security for old age. While we all know of Deaconesses who, having given themselves to the service of the Church without assurance of personal security, have found the way opened for them step by step into tranquil old age, yet it would seem that definite provision should be made for old age security to the younger members of the Order, and for those who shall enter in the future.

3. Few Deaconesses in any age-group have either annuities or endowment insurance payable at a given age. Of these few some listed theirs as "very small," with some, ability to continue payment of premiums was uncertain, one had been obliged to let her policy lapse. Perhaps this indicates one line along which we should work—urging the taking part of annuity policies, and supplementing the already invaluable work of the Retiring Fund by assisting, where necessary, the keeping up of payments.

4. One of the most serious facts shown by the replies is not financial, and the remedy should be largely in the hands of the Deaconesses themselves—especially the younger ones and those in active service. A large proportion of the Order are in the upper age-groups, 56-65 and over. The Order is not being sufficiently recruited from younger women. Let every Deaconess have this in mind and heart and prayer. And the younger Deaconesses—precisely those who are so busy, so absorbed in the immediate, pressing demands of their own tasks that the Order as a whole is given little thought—are those upon whom naturally falls the greatest responsibility for maintaining the Order. They are the ones whose example must be contagious, and whose appeal to their contemporaries is natural. In every way open to us we must each take her part in stabilizing and increasing the Deaconess Order.

JANE BLISS GILLESPIE, Deaconess.

RETREAT NOTES:

St. Faith's House, New York, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 1941.

Subject—AND THE LORD SPOKE UNTO US.

Conductor—The Rev. Leicester Lewis, Ph.D., S.T.D., Philadelphia.

A Liturgical Retreat—"The soul illuminated by the light of God needs and desires more freedom." The growing freedom of the soul is bound up with the structure and meaning of the Eucharist. The soul needs freedom from (1) The present, with pressure of constant demands, to be gained now in a silence active within the soul. (2) The past, with pressure of previous bad habits, sins, negligences, through confession and absolution. (3) The future, by resolutions offered for God's blessing.

THE EUCHARIST: The approach—Priest's silent preparation—43rd Psalm—declaration of will to worship, confession, absolution. Aloud—Prayer for Purity, the Kyrie—cry of the soul to God.

Penitence and contrition begins with a vision of God, not self. A sense of unrelieved sin results in psychological frustration, shame. Sins of commission are on the outskirts of the soul, the centre is marred by the "great undones." The only complete satisfaction is through our Saviour.

After the Kyrie, the soul, having looked up to God, now opens itself to God through the teaching of Collect, Epistle, Gospel, and Creed. The function of the intellect is to expand the news of God into every realm of life. See—The Hymn of St. Patrick, No. 525.

The Prayer for the Church takes us back into the devotional atmosphere. Prayer is not trying to make our own plans triumphant, but putting ourselves into God's hands, that we, and those for whom we pray may be united in LOVE which is endless, changeless, in Whom we live eternally. The experience of twenty centuries of Christianity is the laboratory test of the validity of Prayer.

The Sursum Corda—The worship of man united with the angelic hosts of heaven.

In the "Consecration" we offer thanks for the gift of Christ, asking the blessing of The Holy Spirit upon the commonplace offering of bread and wine,—the priest, as Christ's representative, brings us to the Body and Blood of our Lord. So Christ lives in us, and through His Spirit we share Him with others. Sacrifice is not death but development.

The Gloria in Excelsis: Our thanksgiving is offered in deepest gratitude for our Lord, for His gifts, and for the reconsecration of our lives. His perfection and power, added to our imperfection, enable us to see the goodness that He saw in the souls of men. He gives us the peace of the Holy Trinity, peace in the midst of stress, not static but vibrant—that peace consistent with agonizing struggle which yet becomes radiant freedom in the lives of men.

LILLIAN M. CROW, Deaconess.

Retreat for Deaconesses, St. Katharines' School, Davenport, Iowa.

Time—September 9-12, 1941.

Conductor—The Very Rev. Rowland F. Philbrook, D.D., Davenport.

The Sisters of St. Mary offered the hospitality of their school and hill-top campus for our first Middle West Deaconess Retreat. The addresses were based on Revelation 1:10, 12, 17, 18, 19 and 20. Six Deaconesses attended, and all found it most helpful and inspiring. It is hoped that a Retreat may be held again in the Middle West for those Deaconesses who cannot go to New York.

MARY P. TRUESDELL, Deaconess.

Retreat for Deaconesses and Sisters, St. Mary's Deaconess Chapel, Los Angeles, California, October 27-30, 1941.

Conductor—The Rev. Wesley A. Havenmale, La Crescenta, Sec'y Retreats, Los Angeles.

Six Deaconesses and four Sisters attended. The Conductor provided each of us with a full outline, typed, with space between each division to be filled in with our own notes, a most helpful method, based on the Ignatian system of meditation.

Subject: Our Vocation. There were six addresses: Day of "Ordering," Our Example, Forebearance and Mercy of God, Our Joys, Lukewarmness and the Attracting Power of the Passion, and The Blessed Sacrament. Each address was followed by a period of silent meditation when the Conductor, who made the Retreat with us, took his place in the congregation.

ETHEL E. SPENCER, Deaconess, Sec'y, L. A. Chapter.

TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR DEACONESSSES

The *New York School* will operate for the coming year on a plan that is new in its history. Because of its conservative budget, St. Faith's House has introduced a cooperative arrangement whereby students will share in household duties. Another new feature is the opportunity being offered to students who hold the degree of Bachelor of Arts to work at Teacher's College, Columbia University, toward the degree of Master of Arts. One senior is already doing this outside work. Students may also take secretarial work.

The changes in no way interfere with the regular work of the school, nor its hours. As before, emphasis is placed on training for the Deaconess Order, or for Church work in other fields. (The Living Church). A senior student, Helen Leslie Taylor, is a candidate for the Diaconate.

St. Margaret's House, 1820 Scenic Ave., Berkeley, California. This year there are four students in training, two of whom have special fields. One is interested in college work; another, in teaching.

Concerning two graduates of the Deaconess Training School of the Pacific: Deaconess Margaret Booz has, within the past year, transferred her field of service from Yerrington, Nevada, to the parish of St. Mary's-by-the-Sea, Pacific Grove, Diocese of California.

Deaconess Mary Dawson, ordered in 1939, after completion of St. Margaret's full training course, returned to her former field, the Philippine Islands. She is working at one of the most remote stations in the Islands, St. Francis Assissi, Upi, Cotabato, Mindanao. A pony, the gift of the W. A., carries her where traveling in other ways would be almost impossible. She writes, "As we went along today we noticed many homes deserted, which looked discouraging for our meeting. But upon reaching the place of meeting our two hostesses were cheerful. 'They are all coming,' they said, one pointing with her chin down the steep slope to the rice fields below. There we saw a line of people winding along a path, our congregation, leaving their rice harvesting to come. They made a pretty picture, some with baskets on their heads, some carrying babies on their hips. Little children flocked around them. In ten minutes they were all with us."

ETHEL M. SPRINGER, Dean.

The Training School of the Diocese of Chicago.

For some years the City Mission Deaconesses lived at Chase House, a Settlement House carried on by the Church under the direction of Deaconess Fuller. Three years ago, owing to ill health, Deaconess Fuller was unable to continue her work. When a house was bought across the street from Chase House, it was hoped that she would be able to carry on the Training School here when her health recovered. However, she is still in a nursing home. There are no students in the House this Fall, but the Deaconesses will be very glad to welcome into residence any one who may come for training under the direction of Miss Aimee Drake at the Seabury Western Seminary.

CITY MISSIONS, in the Diocese of Chicago, is under the Department of Church Extension, and the members of the City Mission staff, four priests, five Deaconesses and several part time workers visit Institutions in and about Chicago for the purpose of extending the Kingdom of our Blessed Lord. The Deaconesses assist the Clergy at Services carried on regularly in twenty or more Institutions. They prepare people for Holy Baptism and Confirmation, visit the sick and dying, and try to cheer and help the lonely and discouraged.

On the first of October Deaconess Agnes Bradley came to Chicago to carry on the work at Chase House. The City Mission Deaconesses are all delighted to have her here, and feel sure that Chase House will successfully go forward under her wise and careful direction.

GRACE E. WILSON, Deaconess.

EPISCOPAL EYE, EAR AND THROAT HOSPITAL, 1147—15th St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Founded as a charitable institution, since its doors opened on April 8, 1897, it has been in continuous operation with an excellent record. Besides our hospital work in treating and operating for eye, ear and throat, we have a full time Dental Clinic, an Anti-Luetic Clinic to treat syphilis as it relates to serious eye afflictions, a Speech Clinic to rehabilitate adults and children burdened with such handicaps as stuttering, stammering and aphasia. We also have a lip-reading clinic for the Hard of Hearing.

There are four Deaconesses here, the Superintendent of the hospital, the Superintendent of Nurses, the Housemother at the Nurses' Home, and a Deaconess who has taken our special one year course, and is now in charge of the Orthoptic Clinic to correct squint. Most of her patients are children, with whom she is very successful.

A Deaconess conducts a daily service in our beautiful chapel; on Sunday a priest administers the early Eucharist, after which the Deaconess goes with him to take the Blessed Sacrament to Church patients. A Deaconess plays the organ and trains the choir, and one of us has charge of a Guild for our Episcopal nurses. This Fall we are having Vesper services, which are conducted entirely by the nurses, one of whom plays the organ. We have also inaugurated a Question Box, and answer the questions once a week at morning Chapel service. This fall our Chapel Guild began its activities with a lecture by Canon Draper of the Cathedral on "Religious Symbolism."

The beauty of our Chapel was increased last spring by a stained glass window, a memorial to Deaconess Crane, the beloved Housemother for many years. Marriages, Baptisms and Confirmations are performed in our chapel, and it is used by patients, nurses and visitors for private devotions.

Deaconess Margaret Bechtol, after eight years of missionary work in Puerto Rico, has succeeded the late Deaconess Crane as housemother in the Nurses' Home, and we are happy to have her with us. Our Hospital is a busy place with many opportunities for spiritual as well as physical work.

INSPIRATION—"Lofty thought . . . creative power" (Dictionary definition)

Surely the report of the recent Annual Conference of Deaconesses at Gilmore House, Clapham, England, must produce in us, their sister Deaconesses, some soul-stirring thoughts! A few quotations from the 1941 Report of the Conference will inspire us!

"A real Conference . . . One of the best we've had. . . It was an optimistic Conference. And it was a united Conference, we felt our unity as a body animated by a common purpose and a common endeavor. . . It was an animated scene for though numbers were naturally small in comparison with those pre-war days, the Conference was representative and was undoubtedly keen. . . The perfect summer weather and absence of air raids helped us to forget the war or rather to get it into its right place and to look and plan ahead for that much more important, and in some ways more serious, time which will come after the cessation of hostilities. . . The Conference discussed future methods of working and the need of concentrating on people rather than buildings."

The address by the Chairman has the same vital and courageous spirit.—"I am convinced that it has been right to hold the Deaconess Conference in this fateful year. The inner sanctuaries of the Holy Spirit are surely more real than ever to Deaconesses who during the past year have seen the Church in which they worshipped destroyed, parish hall, vicarage and their own rooms gutted . . . So far one is thankful that there has been no loss of life among Deaconesses through enemy action."

While some of the Deaconess Houses have been closed "for the duration" others are continuing, as Gilmore House reports, "all normal activities." Six new Deaconesses have been ordained during the past year.

The main subject for discussion at the Conference was Religious Education. "No other can compare with this for importance today. On decisions made now about religious education in our schools virtually depends the future of England as a Christian or non-Christian country. The Head Master of Winchester said recently at the Southwark Diocesan Conference, that today was, 'the accepted hour' for the revival of Christian education, but another hour may be too late." The papers by the Deaconesses at their Conference emphasized this point:

Christian Education in Secondary Schools. Christian Education from an Orange Box (i.e.) Tower Hill at the Workers lunch-hour). Christian Education in a Bombed Parish.

One cannot condense so much that is valuable and helpful into a few sentences, but one paragraph from the Report of the Central Deaconess House should be included:

"Just now there is added strength from very small hands, those of our little guest, John Bishop. I wish you could see him kneeling at my prayer desk:

'Please Jesus, bless the soldiers and sailors and airmen, and all the Deaconesses and the Germans and baby Michael and the cat.' This list grows longer every day."

ROMOLA DAHLGREN, Deaconess.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 427 SOUTH 45TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA 4.
EDITH M. ADAMS, FRANCES AFFLECK, EDITH A. BOOTH, JANE B. GILLESPIE,
ELEANOR P. SMITH, MARY FRANCES WARD, ELIZABETH FRACKER, SEC.-
TREAS., ST. ANDREW'S MISSION, ADDYSTON, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

EDITOR, ETHEL E. SPENCER, 256 VIA ALTO MIRA, PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.

JUNE, 1943

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES: I Henrietta R. Goodwin, 101 Chestnut St., Boston, Mass.
II Hilda Dieterly, 1700 Genesee St., Utica, N. Y.
III Anne Newman, Grace House, St. Paul, Va.
IV Harriet M. Bedell, Glade Cross Mission, Everglades, Florida.
V Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
VI Marian Brown, Ethete, Wyoming.
VII Lillian W. Crow, 229 N. Ewing Ave., Dallas, Texas.
VIII Margaret Booz, St. James' Army and Navy Chapel, Monterey, Calif.

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Treasurer reports \$75.00 in the General Fund and \$91.75 in the Emergency Fund.

In order to insure issues of "The Deaconess" and the Prayer Leaflet in the autumn there must be added to the General Fund at least \$25.00.

It is not out of place here to remind Deaconesses of the motion that was carried at the meeting of National Conference in Kansas City, 1940: VOTED "to leave the dues at present rate (50 cents per year or \$1.50 per triennium) but to suggest that if possible \$1.00 per year be paid to help the General Fund." To date not many Deaconesses have followed this suggestion!

Annual dues of fifty cents are inadequate. Even if every Deaconess paid her dues the amount would be insufficient to pay for two issues of "The Deaconess" and the Prayer Leaflet yearly.

The Treasurer is "in a receptive mood"

Perhaps the Chapters will be willing to come to the fore with small gifts?

In April a letter was sent to all Deaconesses concerning the omission of the regular meeting of National Conference this year. The return postals inclosed with this letter are still coming in. Of the 170 cards sent out, 95 were returned or are accounted for.

With the exception of one Deaconess all were in agreement with the action of the Executive Committee in omitting the meeting. Varied were the suggestions as to "items to be brought before the Order by correspondence or through 'The Deaconess'." Heading the list were items concerned with the "Growth of the Order," "Candidate Training," "Re-opening of St. Faith's" and a "National Training School."

Other suggestions:

A designated week of prayer for: 1. Growth of the Order; 2. Pension plan, and 3. Central House.

Corporate Retreats.

To look into the question of adequate salaries, a pension plan and Retirement Home.

St. Faith's as the Head Deaconess House.

"Associates" of the Order.

Constitutional changes,—dues and Executive Committee membership.

Report on the "Provincial Representative plan."

Need of a Central Placement Bureau.

Immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Corporation of the Retiring Fund at St. Faith's House on September 24th, there will be an informal conference conducted by the Chairman. If you have subjects for discussion kindly send them to the Chairman or to your Provincial Representative before September 1st.

—R. J.

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

The Directors held a meeting in Easter week when the Treasurer made a final report on "St. Faith's Pension & Benefit Fund" which is the estate left by Deaconess Knapp and of which The Retiring Fund is the Trustee. The morning meeting was held at the office of the Treasurer and the afternoon meeting at Grace Church. The two funds make a total asset of over \$100,000. The Annual Meeting will be held at St. Faith's House, on Friday, September 24th, at 9.30 A. M. The Pence Box Offering will be made at that time.

The *New York Chapter of Deaconesses* has sent a Memorial to The Advisory Commission on the Work of Deaconesses asking them to petition General Convention to establish a National Training School for Deaconesses. There were twelve signers. The same petition was sent the Commission by the Deaconesses of Long Island and of Philadelphia.

THE TRAINING SCHOOLS

The New York School: It is rather extraordinary and very interesting to be beginning life for the third time in the same spot! When we left St. Faith's four years ago, after twenty years in charge of the School—which still earlier we had left as new deaconesses, for city and rural mission work—we had no thought of living again in this much-loved place. And to return, after absence, to a school from which one has definitely resigned, needs some word of explanation. To put it quite simply, we have been living in our own house outside of Newport—we are now living at St. Faith's. The School, closed as you all know for the past year, is not ready to open; when it is, we shall not be here. But we can in this interim open the House or a part of it, we can welcome our friends and the friends of the School, deaconesses and alumnae, we can look open instead of sealed; then when the full life of the Deaconess House and Training School begins again (as please God it may!) our work here will end. So it seemed to us when we offered ourselves for this to the Trustees, and on this basis they welcomed us with unstinted cordiality and helpfulness. Already the very partial "opening" which is all we contemplate has shown its value. We hope that any deaconess coming to or through New York will connect with us and if possible come to see us. And although war conditions and our own limitations make it impossible to have a large Retreat this year, we are trying to arrange for a small one at Michaelmas. Of course the annual meeting of the Retiring Fund and a Deaconess Conference can be held here as usual at that season, and as the year goes on this House may be used in many ways for the Order.

(Signed) ROMOLA DAHLGREN, Deaconess
JANE BLISS GILLESPIE, Deaconess

Dean Springer reports that *St. Margaret's House, Berkeley, Calif.*, has had a busy year. With a household of 26 young women (over half were Episcopalians), this group was a strong influence for good, and leaders in the Canterbury Club of the University. *Dss. Ormerod*, a graduate of St. Faith's, was a guest for 5 weeks for "refresher study" before taking up her new work at Vallejo, Calif., where the Church is facing a great need for expansion owing to a large increase in population, especially of ship-builders. The Church training course closed on May 7th, with no one ready to graduate, and reopens in September with a prospect of 4 students. Never before has there been greater need for women workers. Let us redouble our earnestness in prayer for "an ever increasing number of faithful women devoted wholly to God's service."

The Chicago School. Miss Grace Brisbane has been in training at the Chicago Church Training and Deaconess House since October 1, 1942, transferring from the New York Training School. She has attended Seabury-Western Seminary 4 days a week, receiving her practical training under the City Mission Deaconesses, with one evening at Chase House each week, and one afternoon at Benton House. Experience in parish work has been received for 6 weeks in one of the large city churches, and through visiting many Sunday and week day schools of Religious Education. Twenty City Mission Institutions have been visited, where she has sometimes held services. She has also worked under the Family Service Department of the National Red Cross. During the summer she will do government work in Kalamazoo, Mich., and later volunteer work in her home parish of St. Luke's. The deaconesses are all sorry to have Miss Brisbane's year in Chicago come to a close

GRACE E. WILSON, Deaconess.

DEACONESSSES AT WORK

Deaconess Clara Orwig (Indian Reservation, Fort McDermitt, Nev.), "One hundred six came to Christmas Day service and 189 were in the council hall for the pageant and Christmas tree the following night. The school children gave over six dollars for Christmas presents for Hawaiian children. Thought that was pretty good for 35 children. Last October the pump house next to the Mission burned to the ground. It was but 15 ft. from the Chapel and not a spark fell on the Mission. No wind and some of the Indians had presence of mind enough to open the dam as soon as they saw the flames. About 25 men were here in a jiffy and after six hours we were

safe." In May Deaconess Orwig wrote that her Indian children and adults would have to wait until late in the month for their Easter celebration on account of a siege of whooping cough. Meanwhile mite boxes were being well filled.

Deaconess Isabel Ormerod has taken up work at the Church of the Ascension, Vallejo, Calif. She is doing extensive calling and working with the Church School, and reports that the people are responding wonderfully. "The Church has been crowded so that you have to get there early to get a seat. Easter Day we had five services, each one crowded. At the 11 o'clock service people were standing in the sacristy and out on the sidewalk." Vallejo is near Mare Island, "the place that Japan will probably attack first." Our prayer will be that this shall not happen.

Deaconess Muriel Thayer (Visiting Institutions in Berkeley and Oakland, Calif.): "I am not doing anything spectacular, just regular every day visiting, and just now hunting for an old lady of ours who walked out of a nursing home, at night, without proper clothing, her teeth, or money. She is seventy-two years old. Have run down many clues, and have a new one to tackle in the morning."

Deaconess Katherine Phelps (retired, living in Newport Beach, Oregon). Deaconess Phelps begins a letter,—“Being retired, I don't do much.” Then she proceeds to write about the Christmas doings of a small but very active Sunday School which was turned over to her. Their gifts of food and toys, presented as part of the Nativity Tableaux, were later distributed to needy children whose names were supplied by the County nurse. “Our children received only a bag of candy each but they sent toys to *Deaconess Peppers* (Relocation Centre, Idaho) for her Japanese young ones, and shared with the Toledo Sunday School in the \$30 expense of helping one English child for a year. I suppose the Government supports the child and this money is for incidentals. . . . The Vicar wants to get Sunday Schools started in some of the many little places up and down the Lincoln County Coast . . . also at a place on the road inland—200 children in the school (there) and no religious instruction anywhere! It is a great opportunity.”

Deaconess Alice Reynolds wrote about her third Christmas at Battle Mountain, Nevada. A well-attended Carol Service with a volunteer choir of ten adults opened the festivities at 11:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day the Eucharist was celebrated, Father Bodimer coming up from Winnemucca for the Service. The following Sunday afternoon, Bishop Lewis conducted the service for the Church School.

Deaconess Evelyn Seymour will go to Washington, D. C., on July 1st, to be on the staff of the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital.

Deaconess Agnes Bradley writes from Chase House, Chicago: “In spite of being ill, I have continued to direct the work of Chase House, as well as doing all the bookkeeping, etc. Really I live a very active life, as well as a very full and happy one.” (Let us all pray for complete recovery for our dear sister who is carrying on so bravely.) From Chase House Newsletter by Josephine Ewalt: From a nearby war factory came this plea to Chase House on May 4th . . . “We have a woman on the payroll whom we greatly need, an efficient worker; but she has a boy of five who must be taken care of. Have you a place for him?” There were 14 in the kindergarten already but Deaconess Bradley and Miss Racheva made room for Johnny. So one more threat of absenteeism was banished by the existence of Chase House Kindergarten. . . . The summer program is going to be the most ambitious Chase House has ever undertaken. All-day care for children up to 12 years old is being planned as soon as school is out. Where the home cannot function, Chase House must step in. That is the challenge of the War to us.”

From Glade Cross Mission, Everglades, Florida, there is always much of thrilling interest in *Deaconess Harriet Bedell's* work, but unfortunately space only permits a brief mention. The great and joyous event is the baptism of Elizabeth Osceola, great, great grand-daughter of Chief Osceola, and a daughter of a present member of the Seminole Indian Council. Dss. Bedell was god-mother after mothering and teaching her for two years, since her family took her away from the Government Indian School in North Carolina, where she was for five years, being afraid that she would be weaned away from them in “the white man's school.” She has spent much time at the Mission, and it is hoped that, after she has finished school, she may become a Mission worker. This is the first baptism since the time of Bishop Gray. Though the Council has not met, the father and uncle, both being members, thought their consent was enough. Several “Households” are ready for Baptism but must wait for the Indian Council to meet with the Mission. Let us pray that this time may be hastened; it will mean the whole tribe accepting Christianity.

Gladys Hall, Deaconess Candidate, writes enthusiastically of her “exciting and challenging” work under Deaconess Whitford at the Church Home, Spring Hill, Alabama.

St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N. Y., reports the formation of a growing group of associates, requests from the Woman's Auxiliary for a Retreat such as was held last spring, and which is planned for this June; opportunities for Devotional Hours for the W. A. in distant parishes. A Retreat is planned for Associates as soon as is expedient. Icy roads, heavy snow storms, and intense cold proved the wisdom of the new venture last autumn of Religious Education by mail.

The House Oratory has been used during the three coldest months for Parish Services and Church School. Many requests are sent in for Intercessions.

St. Hilda's House, New Haven, Conn., has sent at our request some excerpts from the book by Deaconess Josephine Lyon regarding the founding of the house, and its work within and in the Parish of Christ Church. *St. Hilda's* has carried on a deeply spiritual work since its opening on May 3, 1911, with the emphasis on Retreats. We regret that space does not permit publishing the article in this issue.

The *Deaconess House in Los Angeles* reports that there are in residence now four deaconesses and a retired missionary sent by Bishop Littell from Honolulu. Fr. Baker of City Missions celebrates the Eucharist on Sundays, Holy Days and Thursdays in the Chapel, named for St. Mary. The Bishop held his usual "Quiet Morning" during Lent, when the Sisters of the Holy Nativity, working in Los Angeles, attended, with the Deaconesses of the Los Angeles Chapter.

This charming letter from *Deaconess Libby* had to be omitted in the last issue; she wrote in part—There has been less activity in the Massachusetts Chapter of late because Old Age came stealing along and overtook many of our active members and whispered to them that it was time to lay their armor by. While ready to obey the voice which said retirement, some of our older deaconesses have been unwilling just to sit by the fire and spin, and have been glad of opportunities that have opened for service here and there, to be helpful in small ways in Church and in various forms of War Work. So with our older deaconesses everywhere, with a little work and more leisure there has come "light at eventide."

Deaconess Goodwin, Boston, Mass., sends in the following quotation from "Ideals of the Ministry of Women," E. Underhill. "What, after all, is Christian Ministry, male or female, lay or ecclesiastical? It is, or should be, the attempt of someone who cares supremely about God, to cherish or help in one way or another the souls that are loved by God: to be as one that serveth. And moreover, it is an attempt that is made, not because we feel like it, or choose it, but because we are decisively pressed, called, put to it. 'Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.' The word vocation does not mean that we do the calling. It is true, alas! that we often seem to see this principle ignored; but is it worth while to consider the sort and degree of pastoral work which we *might* do, unless we are prepared to do everything which comes our way from that centre? 'Lovest thou Me? Feed my sheep.' That is the real point, isn't it? and the only one. Over and against all that, all discussions about our call and status, and what we ought to be allowed to do, and what we have to contribute, and whether the shepherds accept us as trained shepherdesses, or more often regard us as auxiliary dogs—all that fades into silence . . . We surely cannot wish to give up the sacred privilege of the lowest place."

Will not other deaconesses send the Editor suitable quotations which they find in their reading? Speaking of dogs! have you read that delightful book "The Fireside Book of Dog Stories," edited by Jack Goodman? Some of us have found a dog is an "open sesame" to friendship. We find it so when soldiers and nurses and chaplains and little children come to visit in our little home in the desert.

Deaconess Mary F. Ward writes from Tucson, Arizona: Dear Deaconess, You little know the cheer your card brought and the feeling that some one I knew was not too far away. I have been here since Nov. 22nd, and concentrating all my energies upon getting well. I have one of the finest arthritic specialists in the country; he is most encouraging and assures me that I will be well again and able to work. Church people in Tuscon have been kind. Bishop and Mrs. Mitchell have been to see me several times, as well as my dear Bishop Zeigler of Wyoming. God is good and I am in His care. Lovingly, Mary Frances Ward, Deaconess.

Our *Sister Deaconesses in Australia* write of being very busy in Melbourne, and that they have work being carried on in the "Bush." Later on they hope to tell us about that most interesting field. May God keep them safe, and bless them.

In Memoriam: Deaconess Emma J. Smith, retired United Thank Offering worker, died at Good Samaritan Hospital, Portland, Ore., March 31st. She was born in Lockport, N. Y., in 1855, and most of her years of active Church work were spent in Nebraska. Upon her retirement 25 years ago she came to live with a niece in Portland. Funeral services were held in St. Paul's Church, by the Rev. H. V. Myers, vicar, (The Living Church.)

Deaconess Margaretta James died in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., after several years' illness. Funeral services were held on June 15th at the Church of the Redeemer, Morristown, N. J., where Deaconess James had been the parish deaconess before taking up work at Holy Cross Mission, Afton, Va. Representing the Order at the funeral were Deaconess Dahlgren, Deaconess Gillespy, and Deaconess West.

May they rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 427 SOUTH 45TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA 4.
EDITH M. ADAMS, EDITH A. BOOTH, MARGARET BECHTOL, JANE B. GILLESPIE,
ELEANOR P. SMITH, GERTRUDE STEWART, AMY THOMPSON.
SECRETARY-TREASURER, EDITH A. BOOTH, DANTE, VIRGINIA.

EDITOR, ETHEL S. SPENCER, 256 VIA ALTA MIRA, PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.

NOVEMBER, 1943

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

- | | |
|---|--|
| I Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement Street,
Worcester 3, Mass. | VI Marian Brown, Ethete, Wyoming. |
| II Amy G. Thompson, Upper Red Hook,
N. Y. | VII Lillian W. Crow, 229 N. Ewing Ave.,
Dallas, Texas. |
| III Anne Newman, St. Paul, Va. | VIII Margaret Booz, St. James Army and Navy
Chapel, Monterey, California. |
| IV Harriet M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida | |
| V Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd.
Chicago 7, Ill. | |

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK

The meeting was held at St. Faith's House on Friday, September 24th, with eleven deaconesses present. They were Deaconesses Bechtol, Booth, Byllesby, Chappell, Dahlgren, Gillespie, Ruth Johnson, Mills, Nicholas, Stewart and West. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Deaconess Ruth Johnson. The result of the election by mail of the new members of the Executive Committee was announced as follows; Ninety-three ballots were returned, and those elected were: Deaconesses Margaret Bechtol, Edith A. Booth, Gertrude Stewart, and Amy Thompson.

Deaconess Gillespy moved that the reading of the minutes of the last Conference be omitted. This was passed. The Treasurer's report, sent by Deaconess Fracker, was read by the chairman, and was accepted. The offering sent in for this meeting through the Duplex envelopes for the General Fund amounted to over \$100.

Unfinished Business. The report from Deaconess Newbold in regard to *Associates for the Deaconess Order* was read. Nothing further has been done along this line as the chairman of the committee had not been able to contact the members of the committee. In order to clarify the minds of those present, Deaconess Newbold's report of 1942 was re-read. Much discussion followed and the matter referred to the Executive Committee for their decision.

Reports were read from the *Provincial Representatives*. In most cases the representative had been in contact with the deaconesses in their own provinces in a friendly, social way. Deaconess Crow had written to the Bishops in her Province, hoping that the replies from them might be an inspiration and help to the Order.

The matter of the *Prayer Leaflet* was presented and discussed, as to whether it was meeting the need it was intended to meet. Contributions to it should come in spontaneously, from those who wished all the deaconesses to share in their problems and joys. This has not been so. The editors had to write to others asking them for items for each issue. Deaconess Gillespy suggested that we discontinue publishing a separate folder, and add any such items as are sent in, to a space allowed for them in the regular numbers of "The Deaconess." This was passed.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1 P. M., which was served in St. Faith's Refectory. All present felt a thrill at sitting once more around the tables in that beloved place.

The meeting reconvened at two o'clock.

The matter of *Dues* was presented by the Chairman. The suggestion made at the last Triennial Meeting, that those who could, pay \$1.00 a year instead of 50 cents, had not been followed by many deaconesses. Now it is suggested that each one state clearly on which basis she is paying

her dues, the old or the new way, so as to help the Treasurer keep her accounts in proper dates. There are 184 listed deaconesses. 105 are in active service; 72 are retired but 20 of that group are active in volunteer service; and 5 are either ill or their addresses are unknown.

Chapter Reports were read from Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Chicago and New York. The New York Chapter sent a report on the Resolutions which it had sent to the Commission on Deaconesses, pertaining to the Order, and the opening of a National Training School, hoping that it would be at St. Faith's House. A letter from Bishop Randall, Chairman of the Commission in answer to the Resolutions was read by Deaconess West.

The Chicago Chapter reported the Setting Apart of Helen Taylor to the Diaconate, on Holy Cross Day, September 14th.

Regarding the *return postcards* sent out with the letter from the Executive Committee, concerning the Triennial Meeting to be held in Cleveland at the time of the General Convention, it was reported that 170 cards were mailed and 98 returned. Some of the suggested topics for discussion were considered:

1. Corporate Devotional suggestions—the need of a Rule of Life.
2. Provincial representation on the Executive Committee.
3. Growth of the Order—Extension, Publicity and Accomplishment
 - (a) Awareness of the needs of the Clergy
 - (b) Training School Support by the whole Church
 - (c) More specialized training for Deaconesses and other Church workers.
 - (d) How to interest those young women who are now in war work, in the work of the Church, at the close of the war.

It was suggested that these questions and others sent in be put in the next issue of "The Deaconess" for the consideration and comment of the members.

The need for growth in the Order was brought forcibly to the minds of those present at the meeting, when it was reported that during the 1937-40 Triennium, twelve deaconesses had entered the larger life and eight were Set Apart. During 1940-1943, twenty members have died, and only two have been Set Apart. There is only one Candidate for the Order at the present time.

Deaconess West and Deaconess Gillespy told of the three funerals held near New York, for three of our members: Deaconess Goodwin, Deaconess Whiting, and Deaconess James. They were remembered in Prayer during the meeting of the Directors of the Retiring Fund.

A rising vote of thanks was given to our hostesses, Deaconess Dahlgren and Deaconess Gillespy for the use of St. Faith's House. It was definitely a joy to be once more in the Library for the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,
Edith A. Booth, Deaconess, Secretary.

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Corporation was held at St. Faith's, New York, on September 24th, 1943. The gathering was the smallest in our history, illness and lack of transportation keeping many away. One of the Directors, Deaconess Goodwin, had died on the 17th.

The President, Deaconess Stewart, presided at the meeting. Bishop Manning came with his usual greeting and the Treasurer, Mr. Beckwith made his report in person. The Directors for the coming year are:

President, Deaconess Gertrude Stewart
Vice-President, Deaconess Ruth Johnson
Secretary, Deaconess Mary C. West

Deaconesses Margaret E. Bateman, Margaret Bechtol, Hilda Dieterly, Clara Searle.

Contributions for the year were \$1,177.35. The Diocese of Chicago still sends the monthly check and annual gifts come from the Diocese of Dallas, of Kansas, and Calvary Church, Pittsburgh. A monthly check comes from St. John's, Georgetown, Diocese of Washington, and very frequently one comes from the Diocese of Los Angeles. An unexpected gift of \$500 came from The Midnight Mission, a New York Foundation. Deaconess Booz sent the first War Bond. The offering on September 24th was \$268.95, the largest we have ever had. It all helps to take on one more Beneficiary. There are now nine who draw a monthly allowance.

The Treasurer reported on both the Retiring Fund and St. Faith's Pension and Benefit Fund (The Susan T. Knapp Estate). He has been especially interested in the apartment house which makes up the bulk of St. Faith's Fund. All the details as to taxes, insurance, and general condition have been given the greatest care and many hours of work. The house is in good repair and completely rented, giving a return of 6%. The two Funds now have a value of over \$100,000. Mr. Beckwith is looking forward to a time of prosperity after the war and thinks our funds could not be in better care having the Bank of New York as custodian of securities. E. W. Axe & Co., a well known firm as financial advisors, and a prominent firm of auditors, Lybrand, Ross Bros., and Montgomery. It is good to know that the Treasurer thinks the outlook is favorable, and also he will continue as Treasurer and Counsel. His interest and judgment are beyond price.

A reprint of the By-laws will be sent to all Deaconesses in a short time.

Mary C. West, Secretary.

A CARD OF THANKS

In some circles it is not considered good taste to express thanks in a news sheet. But a busy secretary is going to ask you to disregard good taste and accept this way of showing her gratitude for the many and generous contributions received for both the National Conference and The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses. It was her plan to acknowledge each check as it came in. But in case the plan failed, and in fact some envelopes came anonymously, she wishes to thank all who sent gifts so promptly and generously. The envelopes are still coming in (it is never too late) but at the present date the contributions to The Retiring Fund amount to \$270.00.

Very gratefully yours,

Mary C. West, Deaconess.

TREASURER'S REPORT—October 28th, 1942 to October 13th, 1943.

GENERAL FUND:

Received from Deaconess Thompson—October, 1942.....	\$ 52.45
Received from Dues.....	85.00
Received from extra gifts.....	54.50
Total.....	\$191.95
Interest.....	.54
	\$192.49

EXPENDITURES:

Printing	\$ 79.75
Postage	11.15
Chairman's Expenses	20.90
Paper	1.75
Refund Dues	2.00
Total	\$115.55
Balance	\$ 76.94

EMERGENCY FUND:

Received from Deaconess Thompson.....	\$ 84.25
Gifts	8.50
	\$ 92.75

General Fund Balance.....	\$ 76.94
Emergency Fund Balance.....	92.75

Balance both funds—Sept. 20, 1943.....	\$169.69
Sept. 20, 1943. (Signed) Elizabeth C. Fracker, Treasurer.	
General Fund Balance—Nov. 1943.....	\$ 76.94
Contributions	131.45
General Fund Total.....	\$208.39

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the members of the Executive Committee was held following the Conference. Those present were Deaconess Gillespy, Deaconess Ruth Johnson and three of the newly elected members, Deaconesses Bechtol, Booth and Stewart. Officers were elected: Chairman, Deaconess Johnson and Secretary-Treasurer, Deaconess Booth.

The work of the Provincial Representatives was discussed and the following decision reached: "It is assumed that the duty of the Provincial Representative is to transmit to the Executive Committee any finding, questions or desires on the part of the deaconesses in her Province."

In regard to the Committee on Associates: Decided that the Chairman contact Deaconess Newbold, Chairman of the Committee on Associates, thanking her for her effort and work as Chairman, but not holding her responsible for further work on the Committee other than to accept any suggestions that may come to her attention. Such suggestions should be presented to the Executive Committee.

Concerning "The Deaconess": The response to the appeal for funds to continue issuing "The Deaconess" at least twice a year was gratifying. Contributions came in from Chapters and from individual Deaconesses, and the contributions via the Duplex envelopes further added to the General Fund. The Chairman expressed her appreciation of the editing done by Deaconess Spencer undaunted by physical handicaps. She was grateful too to Deaconess Mabel Adams who addressed envelopes—many envelopes. Deaconess Stewart volunteered to be responsible for contacting the printer and getting "The Deaconess" into the mail.

A BISHOP'S ENCOURAGING MESSAGE

The Rt. Rev. Thomas Casady, S.T.D., Diocese of Oklahoma, writes to Deaconess Lillian W. Crow, Dallas, Texas: "I believe the time is rapidly approaching for the wider use of Deaconesses in the rural areas of the Southwest. I find myself in complete sympathy with the recent article in one of the Church papers calling attention to the need and opportunity for a larger number of Deaconesses. It is my intention to present this need to the women of my diocese at the same time that I am calling attention to the need of recruits for the Ministry."

TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR DEACONESSSES

The *Chicago Training School for Deaconesses* has a new student, Miss Gertrude Brisbane, sister of Grace Brisbane who graduated last June, and is now working at Benton House Settlement (Epis) on the south side of Chicago.

Saint Margaret's House, Berkeley, California:

Deaconess Clara E. Orwig, from Fort McDermitt, Nevada, was in residence for summer courses. This fall, the regular Church training course opened on September 20, bringing young women from widely scattered places. The students are graduates of Willamette University, Oregon, Santa Barbara State College, and from the Universities of Washington, Wyoming and Minnesota. Besides these, Miss Gertrude Selzer of Wusih, China, is living at Saint Margaret's House and studying Mandarin at California College in China, the Chinese Language School, located on the Campus of the University of California since it was evacuated from Peking. Among the undergraduates, some are looking forward to Church work, including one who is preparing to be a missionary doctor.

The *Department of Women of the Philadelphia Divinity School* has begun its fifth year's work. Dean Grammer writes, "There are many evidences that we have settled down. Under the new agreement between the two schools there is definite arrangement made for the status of the women as students in the Divinity School with all the rights, privileges, and obligations pertaining thereto. Opportunities for placement are coming to me without solicitation. There are five students in training now. One is a senior, three are middlers, and one is a junior."

The *Church of England Deaconess and Missionary Training House*, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, F. M. Watts, Deaconess (on furlough from Honan, China) Acting-Principal. "We had ten students in training last year, three of whom finished the three year's course and graduated this April. One is supervisor in an Indian School for Girls, the other two are working in parishes which have never had a trained woman worker before. Graduates are not usually ordered Deaconesses until they have put in at least one year's service. We hope to have several graduates ordained Deaconesses this coming winter. There are more openings for Deaconesses these war days than we have workers to fill the posts.

Six young women are entering for training this fall, chiefly W. A. students sent for training of longer or shorter periods by the Missionary Society. There is a strong feeling that more trained women are needed to work amongst women and girls in war industries.

We hope to keep our Jubilee this fall and winter, and shall be glad to send you our report."

A GRADUATE OF NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL IS ORDERED DEACONESS

Helen Leslie Taylor, M.A., was ordered Deaconess by the Rt. Rev. Wallace Edmonds Conkling, D.D., Bishop of Chicago on Holy Cross Day, September 14th, 1943, in the Lady Chapel of St. Luke's Church, Evanston, Illinois.

GREETINGS FROM THE RT. REV. EVERETT HOLLAND JONES, D.D., BISHOP OF WEST TEXAS.

"I am happy to send the greetings and good wishes of the Diocese of West Texas to the Church's Order of Deaconess. Our present diocesan life is enriched by our association with Deaconess C. Pitcher (whom we have loaned to Louisiana) and Deaconess Frances Affleck. Many others have blessed us in the past. We trust we shall have many more such consecrated women intimately related to us in the future."

DEACONESSSES AT WORK

The Diocese of Chicago:—Deaconess Edna M. Sargent writes, "We are quite thrilled to have two new Deaconesses for the Diocese of Chicago. Deaconess Eleanor Smith who takes the place of the late Deaconess Edith Cooper on the staff of City Missions, Chicago, and Deaconess Helen L. Taylor, from the Church of the Redeemer, Elgin, Illinois to be Director of Religious Education for the Diocese of Chicago. We are having a meeting of the Deaconess Chapter to welcome them. The annual retreat which was to have been held September 26-29, at De Koven Foundation (Sisters of St. Mary) had to be called off on account of a bad fire there. This was a great disappointment."

CHASE HOUSE. Deaconess Agnes Bradley has had a miraculous recovery after a four hour operation, transfusions, and oxygen. She says, "My heart is overflowing with thankfulness for all of God's mercies to me His unworthy servant."

Deaconess Bradley was operated on at St. Luke's Hospital on September 14th. Just two weeks later she was directing the work of the house, and caring for the financing and budgeting. What an inspiration to those of us who travel oft in pain! Truly the prayers of all who love her have been answered.

Chase House has been especially active during the past summer caring for the children of employed mothers from 7 in the morning until 6 at night, sending as many children as possible to summer camp, and conducting a Daily Vacation School with Religious instruction.

Glade Cross Mission, Florida—Deaconess Harriet M. Bedell in Charge.

An air base being established at the edge of the town of Imokalee, where the Indian Mission Building for entertaining young married Indians was located, has made it necessary to move to a site on the Tamiami Trail. The new dwelling, built by the Indians, was made possible by the gift of lumber equipment from various friends. There are five small family dwellings to be maintained by an Indian caretaker and his wife as a model village enclosed by a six foot fence of palmetto fronds which will give privacy. Elizabeth, the Indian girl for whose Baptism we gave thanks, is a frequent visitor at the home of Deaconess Bedell. When new Indian babies arrive the parents are getting the habit of sending for Deaconess Bedell to pray for God's protection and care over them. Incidentally the Deaconess brings with her babies' blankets and other necessities.

When an Indian girl marries, she and her husband must stay in her mother's village for at least four months, then they may go where they please.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM A BISHOP

The Rt. Rev. Harry T. Moore, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas to Deaconess Lillian W. Crow. "I am interested in your letter of the 15th (September)—I have had more or less, experience with Deaconesses in the Diocese of Dallas and it is a pleasure to bear witness to their faithful and efficient service, and *I would welcome additional assistance* of the same character. May they all wax strong and vigorous."

Deaconess Lillian W. Crow reports, "We were fortunate enough to finish our Chapel (St. Paul's, Dallas, Texas), have put in used pews, and enlarged our hall by removing a partition. The children and I canvassed the new part, papered and kemptoned it, thus saving \$30. In spite of losing many of our young people for work elsewhere we are doing well."

REGARDING RETREATS

Owing to economic war conditions it has been found impracticable to hold the large retreat at St. Faith's, New York, which has meant so much to us in precious spiritual help and fellowship in the past. In our individual retreats our hearts will respond to the following from "The Need and Purpose of Retreats"—"In their attempts to cure the ills of the world men are liable to concern themselves with symptoms rather than causes. For instance, if peace-conferences, peace-treaties, peace-leagues could bring peace, we have already earned peace for at least a thousand years because we have had so many of them. But the trouble is that no machinery of peace can bring peace till people want peace, till the idea of peace deep down in our minds has become so strong a motive that it can prevail against selfishness and aggression.

The same thing holds true in the work of the Church. There is so much of religious activity—directed towards methods and machinery—but life is not really moved by machinery but by ideas. How much are we doing to create or revive ideas?—When we turn to the Bible we find that the formation of clear and strong ideas depends largely upon the condition of stillness and silence, that is to say, withdrawal for a time from the world's affairs into the stillness of the Presence of God—which should be given a regular and considered place in our lives as they were in our Lord's life. It is VISION more than book-learning that our souls need. "Give us," we say, "a RETREAT HOUSE in every town—and in two generations we will show you a Church renewed in vision and power."

CHAPTER REPORTS—(For 1940 to 1943)

New York:

Four meetings of the New York Chapter have been held within these three years. Eight deaconesses, formerly at work in the city have moved away, and four members of the chapter have died, so their numbers have been much depleted. A committee of the chapter visited the Presiding Bishop on January 13, 1943 and discussed with him the Order as the Ministry of Women authorized by General Convention, and the attitude of the clergy toward it, etc. Bishop Tucker was cordial and spoke highly of those deaconesses with whom he had worked. This meeting resulted in a Resolution being sent to Bishop Randall, Chairman of the Advisory Commission on the Work of Deaconesses, to be presented to the General Convention in Cleveland.

Pennsylvania:

Ordinarily, the Chapter has three meetings a year, but the increasing difficulty of travel, due to the war has made this impossible. Five meetings were held. One was a Quiet Day at the Divinity School, conducted by the Dean, which made the deaconesses familiar with the new

arrangement, and also gave the students an opportunity to see the deaconesses, the duly constituted official means adopted by the Church for the Ministry of Women. Some of the meetings have been for luncheon and routine business. At the April meeting of 1943, they passed a resolution endorsing that of the New York Chapter sent to Bishop Randall. Two members of the chapter have retired and moved away.

Chicago:

During the past two years only five deaconesses were at work there. Now they are happy to have two more added to their list. They have not held Chapter meetings as they were within daily contact and all items to be considered could be talked over at any time. They regret that their offerings have been smaller than in years past when the Chapter had more members. They are fortunate in having Bishop Randall's ever ready interest in the whole Order, as a help to them individually as well.

Los Angeles:

A very helpful Retreat was held for the Chapter and several sisters of the Holy Nativity, in Lent, by Bishop Stevens. Due to war conditions the Fall Retreat was not held. Two other meetings were held but they were concerned with Chapter business.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS ABOUT SUGGESTED TOPICS

CORPORATE DEVOTIONAL SUGGESTIONS. Deaconess H. Alice Nutter writes, "What has occurred to me as to many others I am sure, is the need for a bond of definite devotion for us as members of the Deaconess Order. We all lead busy lives in widely scattered fields and there is always a spiritual risk for us personally. But beyond that we need each other, for in union there is strength, and companionship in spiritual things is a source of real power. Could not some one gifted in such matters devise a simple daily rule of life, if only a prayer to be said before noonday? Knowing as I do, how very crowded our lives usually are, I had dared to hope that some definite spiritual reading might be outlined for us, not as a part of our daily task, but above and beyond that, as a bond of union. The idea of "Prayer Partner" is not new, but I would love to see it tried within our own Order. Here, perhaps, some who are retired might helpfully function."

HOW TO EXTEND THE FIELD OF THE ORDER. Deaconess Lillian W. Crow writes, About the problems of how to extend the field of the Order, there are several items:

- A. Publicity as to accomplishments.
- B. Awareness of the needs of the clergy for certain types of service.
- C. Training ourselves for specialized, as well as for general work.
- D. Educating the clergy to call for deaconesses instead of lay women.

A. I believe sometimes we are afraid to make our fitness known for fear of being forward. Nothing is so convincing as good work and a fine ability to get along with people. In a number of dioceses, I see young lay women being used as directors of religious education. In many instances these young women are soon married leaving the work in an upset condition. Why can we not feature our continuing in a position without such problems? The same is true in other positions in the Church. How to get publicity and still be modest? When one of us accomplishes a good piece of work, get a short notice in some Church paper, not featuring ourselves, but the work. Inspire someone else to send it in.

B. Awareness of the needs of the clergy. When we are where they are, learn through interest in *their* work what they need, and make them know there might be one of us trained to do what they want. There are many kinds of work but trustees never think of looking for deaconesses. We have as well educated women as lay people, but we don't run large schools. A few of us run children's homes, but Boards look mostly for lay women.

C. Special training. Many of us have no opportunity to get anything more after being Set Apart. But we could specialize after experience. Why not pick a few fields and develop leaders in those fields and then advertise?

D. Educating the clergy to call for deaconesses. In the first place we need a central association or person whom they may approach. I think we need a Head Deaconess—(Why not use the Presiding Bishop plan?) Clergy have told me they have no idea where to write for personnel. Why not ask a number of leading clergy to give suggestions as to what need they have for women workers?

Deaconess Kate S. Mayer writes, "*Special training*, it seems to me would indicate a more adequate background than many of us possessed when we entered the Training School. With better preparation to start with, it would be possible to know what particular work each one was best fitted to do, and could therefore put more emphasis on what one might hope to use in the future. Or there might at least be possibilities in directing further studies for those who feel the greatest need. To be specific; if one desired to do Religious Education, a college degree would be essential either before or subsequent to the training in the school. The same would be true for student or social service. I think it would be well to have this understood.

Deaconess Ruth E. Bylesby writes, "Can any way be prepared to try to enlist the interest in our Order—of young women who are in war work, after peace comes? Could it be called to the attention of the Committee on Women's work which sent out that elaborate questionnaire." May we have some reply to these questions, please?

Deaconess Emily M. Elwyn, (as a suggested topic)—What it has meant to those who have been Set Apart. Would some one like to reply to that? Several replies would be better. Please think about it.

Deaconess Phelps suggests 1) that Associates "might be interested to contribute funds for the travel expense of the Provincial Representative."

2) Provincial Representation on the Executive Committee.

For the spiritual direction of the Order Deaconess Booz offers the idea of a "Chaplain General appointed by the Presiding Bishop" and a Chaplain in each Province.

ODDMENTS

It may interest the Deaconesses to know that 99 Bishops have received copies of one or both of the issues of "The Deaconess" during the past year.

Chapter Treasurers please take note! When forwarding dues to the Treasurer please state carefully,—1) the names of the individual Deaconesses whose dues are being paid, and

2) whether the Deaconess is paying at the rate of \$.50 or \$1.00 per annum.

From the Treasurer's book:

122 Deaconesses have paid 1943 dues at \$.50 per annum

32 Deaconesses have paid 1944 dues at \$.50 per annum

A GREETING FROM ENGLAND

To wish you a truly Happy Christmas, and may 1944 be to you a year of true Joy and Peace. From Martha Lockyer, Head Deaconess.

Ethel Luke, Deaconess.

(This year there will not be sent to you a notice of Ordination Commemoration but you will be especially remembered in Chapel.)

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess *Edith R. Whiting* died at Flushing, New York, on August 10th, 1943 and was buried on the 12th. A member of the New York Chapter of Deaconesses she had worked for many years at St. Phoebe's Convalescent Rest Home in Brooklyn. Being in ill health she had retired several years ago.

Deaconess Henrietta Goodwin died at her summer home in Annisquam, Mass. on September 17th, 1943. Funeral at Pro-Cathedral of the Nativity, Bethlehem, Pa. on September 22nd. Her work began at Emmanuel Church, Boston, after which, for many years she was Field Secretary for the Student Missionary Movement, visiting all girl's colleges. After several years as Head of Religious Education at the National Cathedral School for Girls she returned to Emmanuel Church, Boston, where she worked until her retirement 2 years ago. At the time of her death she was a Director of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

From the Sunday Leaflet, Emmanuel Church, Boston, September 26, 1943. "Our Deaconess Goodwin died on Friday 17th. She had been somewhat limited in her activities the latter part of the summer but we had not expected her sudden going. Yet her readiness for entrance into her immortality was always clear. Her life was of prayer and mystic fineness. Her burial from her girlhood church in Bethlehem, Pa. had complete fitness for she was baptized, confirmed and set apart before its altar. She was a key member of the Adelynrood Associates, where she found such complete joy and devotional opportunity. Her unusual beauty was not only of face, but of mind and heart. At the Lindsey Chapel on the 28th a Memorial Service will commemorate her life and work with such simple reverence as she herself would desire, attesting our gratitude for her gift of self to us all."

May they go from strength to strength in that life of perfect service, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

THANKSGIVINGS

That the prayers of many were answered in the wonderful recovery of Agnes Bradley, Deaconess. Let us pray for God's strength and blessing upon her in her work at Chase House.

For the loving kindness and care extended to two Deaconesses recently in the Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles, and especially for the Blessed Sacrament brought before an operation and at other times by the beloved Chaplain.

For the strengthening of the Chicago Chapter by the addition of two more deaconesses.

For the blessings received by many Service men now scattered over the world from their contacts with St. James' Chapel and Hospitality House, Monterey, California.

For the blessed fellowship experienced in illness through editing "The Deaconess."

For the life and example of our beloved Deaconesses, our missionaries and all our dear ones who have passed into Eternal Life; for the courage and self-sacrifice of all who have laid down their lives for righteousness and freedom.

"For making us one with Thee through Thine all holy Body and Blood we praise and adore Thee, our Holy Lord."

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray:

For Mary Frances Ward, sick in Tuscon, Arizona.

For Helen Leslie Taylor ordered Deaconess on September 14th, 1943

That as women ministered to our Blessed Lord during His earthly ministry, so now in this time of great need, an increasing number of young women, of gifts and devotion, may offer their lives in complete surrender to serve Him as Deaconesses.

That all things necessary for the re-opening of The New York Training School may be speedily provided.

— PRAYER —

Lord, when I am weary with toiling,
And burdensome seem Thy commands,
If my load should lead to complaining,
Lord, show me Thy hands,
Thy nail-pierced hands, Thy cross-torn hands,
My Saviour, show me Thy hands.

Christ, if ever my foot-steps should falter,
And I be prepared for retreat,
If desert or thorn cause lamenting,
Lord, show me Thy feet,
Thy bleeding feet, Thy nail-scarred feet,
My Jesus, show me Thy feet.

O God, dare I show Thee—
My hands and my feet!

Amen.

—By Thomas C. Darst,
Bishop of East Carolina.

Sent in by Deaconess Anna L. Ransom.

(Send contributions, news items, prayer requests to Deaconess Spencer, Editor, before April 15, 1944 for the May issue.)

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 419 W. 110TH ST., NEW YORK 25, N. Y.

EDITH M. ADAMS, EDITH A. BOOTH, MARGARET BECHTOL,

ROMOLA DAHLGREN, JANE B. GILLESPIE, ELEANOR P. SMITH

GERTRUDE STEWART, AMY THOMPSON,

SECRETARY-TREASURER, EDITH A. BOOTH, ST. PAUL, VA.

EDITOR, ETHEL E. SPENCER, 256 VIA ALTA MIRA, PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.

MAY, 1944

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

1. Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
2. Amy G. Thompson, Upper Red Hook, N. Y.
3. Anne Newman, 419 W. 110th St., N. Y. 25, N. Y.
4. Harriet M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida.
5. Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.
6. Marion Brown, Ethete, Wyoming
7. Lillian W. Crow, 229 N. Ewing Ave., Dallas, Texas.
- 8.

WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Plans for the reopening of the New York Training School for Deaconesses are going forward steadily

What progress is being made? As Head Deaconess I am now in residence at Saint Faith's and have the valued assistance of Anne Willis Newman from the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia.

The House itself is gradually being prepared for occupancy. The Board of Trustees of the School authorized the repainting of the library, foyer and the basement kitchen and that refreshing has been completed with gratifying results.

Students' rooms on the second floor, are being cleaned. (Do you know how twenty-odd-months-old dust smells and tastes and feels when disturbed?)

The financial support resulting from the widely-spent appeals is heartening. There is now a total of \$1600 in the Fifth Avenue Bank, none of which has yet been used. The bills incurred in the printing and mimeographing of all Reopening material to date was underwritten by a gift given for the purpose of meeting the initial publicity expenses. In this connection there are several points which I would like to call to your attention:

Pledges: Some of you have pledged \$50 or \$60 for this year. If you have not already begun payments on the pledge, will you please let me know whether you plan to make your payments monthly, quarterly or semi-annually or . . . ? , and at what date I can count on your first payment?

Publicity: the form letters of appeal:

Now that all the Bishops have been notified by letter regarding the Reopening plans, and the other Clergy have received notices suggesting the sending of "recruits" to the Training School, would it not be timely to send out more of the form letters of appeal as well as to keep in touch with those persons to whom you have already sent out appeals? To the latter might be sent the enclosed postals or notes containing any items you may have at hand concerning the progress of our Reopening effort. The printed postals can also be sent to lay persons who are prominently active in parochial affairs. More cards can be secured from the Chairman or from Deaconess Stewart, Leamy Home, Roumfort Road, Philadelphia 19, Pa. Keeping the Church in constant touch with our effort will be more fruitful of results than an avalanche of announcements followed by silence.

Ways and Means: No doubt many of you are making contacts with various groups as Deaconess Crow is doing in Texas. As the result of her publicity three Branches of the Woman's Auxiliary, as well as the Daughters of the King, have sent checks to swell the Reopening Fund.

Another Deaconess is securing gifts from the friends of an interned Deaconess to make up what the absent Deaconess is unable to contribute. She calls it a "Thank Offering for the Life and Work of Deaconess Massey."

Perhaps others of you are making similar efforts to secure contributions as Thank Offerings or Memorials given by friends of their beloved Deaconesses? Very good-looking printed posters in black and white are available, advertising the "New York Training School for Deaconesses and Other Church Workers." Write to the Chairman.

In the matter of publicity I want to take this opportunity to extend my hearty "Thank you," (1) to those of you who have been instrumental in securing space in Diocesan papers for the announcement of the Reopening plans; (2) to you who will distribute the leaflets at various Conferences; (3) to you who helped address envelopes and the thousands of postals to the clergy. Your ready offers of assistance were greatly appreciated and, as you know, promptly used! Thank you!

We all recognize the impossibility of meeting for Corporate worship and directed meditation. Your Chairman therefore, in diffidence but moved by deep earnestness, suggests as the subject of private meditations,—*"I am the true Vine . . ."* St. John 15:1-8.

Can we not think of our Order as one of the branches of His Vine? Is it not required of us that we contribute consecration and life-stirring effort toward the continued healthy growth of our branch?

Let there be rededication.

Let this rededication express itself in an outpouring of effort. Individual talents and abilities will dictate the lines of activity.

There are two important lines of action in which we can all take part. We can all *pray*; pray that God will bless our efforts to reopen the Training School; pray that the Holy Spirit will give clearer vision and deeper understanding, especially to those in whose hands has been placed the actual operation of the School; pray that suitable women may come forward to be trained for consecrated service.

We can all *talk* about the planned Reopening; discuss vocation and finding one's vocation in the deaconess life; stir up in the hearts and minds of suitable women the desire to serve the Church as trained workers; create such nation-wide interest that ample financial support will be forthcoming and our effort be shared by many.

A retired Deaconess closed one of her letters to me with the following: ". . . with every good wish for rich blessings on our adventure. . ." Do you note that "*our*"? "*our adventure!*" Let us venture forth!

"And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied: 'Go out into the darkness and put thine hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to thee better than light and safer than a known way.'"

Ruth Johnson.

St. Faith's Deaconess Training School

Excerpts of data collected by the Warden, The Rev. Chas. N. Shepard, D. D.

The School was designed primarily to prepare candidates for the Deaconess Order, though it has from the first accepted other students, and its course of study has always been framed in accordance with the Canon "Of Deaconesses".

History of the School—(1st Period—1890-1919.) Founded by Rev. Dr. Wm. R. Huntington, and under his direction for the first 19 years. The dominant personality during the rest of the period was Deaconess Susan T. Knapp, Dean of the School from 1903-1917. The Wardens who succeeded Dr. Huntington were the Rev. Drs. Milo H. Gates, 1909-1914; Wm M. Grovenor, 1914-1916; Wm. E. Gardner, 1917-1920.

During this period of 284 women admitted to the school, 169 graduated, of whom 95, or 56% became deaconesses. It is not to be supposed that all or most of the non-graduates failed to undertake service in the Church. Six became Deaconesses.

(2nd Period in the history of the School, 1914-1942.) Deaconesses Romola Dahlgren and Jane B. Gillespy were in charge, 1919-1939 and Deaconess Eleanor P. Smith from 1939-1942.

The Wardens were: The Rev. F. B. Blodgett, 1920-21; The Rev. R. B. Pomeroy, 1920-24; The Rev. S. Brown-Sermon, 1924-32; The Rev. C. N. Shepard, D. D., 1933 (still acting).

During this period 30 women entered the Deaconess Order from the School.

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES, INC.

A copy of the new edition of the By-Laws of the R. F. D. has recently been sent to every Deaconess. St. Faith's Pension and Benefit Fund is included in the book, and a page from the Treasurer's pen in regard to bequests. The value of the combined funds is over \$100,000, now serving ten beneficiaries. The late Dss. Mercedes Gore was a beneficiary for many years.

M. C. West, Deaconess Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT, NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

MARCH 1944

RECEIPTS:

Balance on hand	\$ 76.94
Special offering of General Fund (September 1943)	159.95
For publication of "The Deaconess"	12.00
Dues	21.50

TOTAL RECEIPTS\$270.39

DISBURSEMENTS:

Stationery	\$ 3.00
Mailing "The Deaconess"	5.22
Printing "The Deaconess"	45.00
Deaconess Johnson (postage)	4.61

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 57.83

Balance on hand—March 31, 1944.....\$212.56

Note: Dues are now payable to the Treasurer.

Deaconess Edith A. Booth,
R. F. D. 1, St. Paul, Virginia.

THE DEACONESS

Deaconesses at Work:

The *Chicago Deaconesses* had a Quiet Day on Monday of Holy Week in the Chapel of the Church of the Epiphany. We regret that Deaconess Bradley has had to be in the Hospital for observation for her heart. Regular Chapter Meetings are not held as Deaconess Eleanor Smith and Deaconess Taylor are on the north side and transportation is difficult. "We are all so busy that all we can do is to keep plugging away at our own jobs" The student in training, Miss Gertrude Brisbane, lives at the Deaconess House and attends lectures at the Theological Seminary daily.

Deaconesses in Upper Red Hook, New York.

We are planning to have a Conference of the Deaconesses of this province at St. Clare's House in the near future. The number of associates is growing, their generous support being invaluable to the work. The Chapel has a W. A. which has sent a fine missionary box, the Ladies' Guild and the Sunday School, part of which is conducted by correspondence. An Epiphany Pageant was presented, and under Dss. Byllesby's direction preparation is being made for one at Easter.

Deaconesses in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia.

The deaconesses who work in this diocese met and organized a Chapter of the Deaconess Order while we were attending the annual meeting of the Diocesan W. A. in Lynchburg last autumn. There were six, Deaconesses Maria Williams, Bertha Radford, Edith Booth, Binns, Brereton, and Newman. We expect to get together twice a year, when attending the annual Council in the spring and the Auxiliary meeting in the fall.

Deaconesses Booth and Brereton are living in the Mission cottage at Honey Branch. Dss. Brereton has charge of the mission work there and at Dante, while Dss. Booth has the diocesan handicraft work. Dss. Binns is in Nora, and Dss. Newman on the mountain thirteen miles distant at Grace House.

Since the meeting in Lynchburg, Deaconess Margaret Booz has come to work at St. Peters-in-the-Mountains, Callaway, Va., making another deaconess for the Chapter and for the work in this diocese.

St. Peter's-on-the-Mountains, Callaway, Va.

Dss. Margaret Booz arrived at her new field on Ash Wednesday, and is trying to get used to the weather. One day daffodils and violets can be picked in warm sunshine, then comes a snow storm and ice, on account of which a worker's conference had to be postponed.

There is a ten room dwelling house and a two-story school of grey stone, once a private school for mountain children, now closed, the children going by bus to the school five miles distant, and a large church of stone, all on 68 acres of land on top of a mountain with sunshine and a view. The hard working priest, the Rev. G. Wm. Beale, has charge of Callaway, Ferrum and Rocky Mount. Holy Communion is at present administered at Callaway at 3 P. M. every other month. The emphasis has formerly been on secular education and social service, now the Bishop wishes to emphasize the evangelistic side, religious education, preparation for Holy Baptism and Confirmation.

The Deaconess received her call to this mountain work through "281" and is supported by U. T. O. as she was in Nevada. California's loss is Virginia's gain, but service men now scattered throughout the world will carry with them the inspiration of her presence and comradeship which they found at St. James Chapel and Hospitality House, Monterey.

As she drives her "used Ford" over the mountain roads of Virginia many a home will be gladdened by her visits, and those who come to the house on the mountain top, its rooms refreshed by paint newly applied by her hands will feel at home with the kerosene lamps and the wood burning range. Burning wood does smell so fragrant, but it's hard on the pots and pans, and apt to raise the price of Dutch Cleanser!

While on furlough in Florida the Deaconess had the opportunity of speaking at the 11 o'clock service at Lake Worth on The Order of Deaconess when there were present a bishop and several retired clergymen. A young woman of seventeen there is interested in the Order.

Los Angeles—A Quiet Morning.

On March 1st the Rt. Rev. W. Bertram Stevens, D.D., conducted a Quiet Morning in St. Mary's Deaconess Chapel, beginning with Holy Communion at 7.30 A. M. Present were five deaconesses and three Sisters H. N. The meditations based on 1 Timothy 6 were: 1. Be a good teacher—put God first, self last. 2. Without teachers the Gospel of the Kingdom will not be known, each of us must teach, not only by word but by example. 3. We must always be learning, growing, have flexibility of mind. II. Be sympathetic. A good teacher must make prayer a reality. God often answers prayer by bringing out our own possibilities—be co-workers with Him—be concerned about people. III. Be anticipators, expectors of the Grace of God: Having received His Grace, use it. God gives us power to carry through when He gives us responsibility.

At the close of the morning of retreat the Chapter met to pay dues and to vote \$25.00, which has been sent to Head Deaconess Ruth Johnson for St. Faith's Deaconess Training School.

PERSONALS

From Philadelphia, Deaconess Gertrude Stewart writes that she is very happy living at Leamy Home, Roumfort Road, Mt. Airy, Phila. 19, and is busy all the time. At the Episcopal Hospital she works as a nurse's aide two days each week; often is asked to speak on China, and to attend fine meetings of the W. A.

"The grounds of Leamy Home are spacious and well wooded in part, so I am looking forward to the beautiful spring weather when the trees will begin to have flowers and leaves, and the garden to become colorful."

Deaconess Anne W. Lovell writes that she is busy every minute with Red Cross work, besides being assistant treasurer of All Saint's Church, Worcester, Mass.

Deaconess Emily M. Elwyn writes, in sending material for the Prayer Leaflet, "I feel very strongly that as so many have offered for service in the Army and Navy, and Red Cross for War purposes, that an effort should be made to enlist some of these women in Church Work. They are needed, and if it is brought to their attention some may follow it up by seeking instruction on these lines through the Church Training Schools. We all know the world would not be in the condition it is, if there had been deeper devotion to God, and more effort to spread the Gospel."

From St. Clare's House—"Deaconess Byllesby has been here for the winter; it is a great pleasure to have her, as well as the greatest help."

Deaconess Harriet C. Hyde writes that she has been reading with interest "Anglican Evangelicalism," edited by Dr. Zabriskie, and "The Book of English Collects" by Dr. Suter.

We regret that Deaconess Julia Clark being so much in demand for deputation speaking, and under Doctor's orders to do only a limited amount, has not been able to send us the promised "something about her work," but we shall look forward to having it for the November issue. Many of us, no doubt, read the "Front Page" article in the Living Church about some of her experiences.

ODDMENTS

St. Faith's House needs a mimeographing machine. Do you know of a stray one waiting to be used for Training School purposes?

The Woman's Auxiliary of Vermont has promised help toward St. Faith's support as its special gift for this coming year. Many thanks to all concerned.

A CORRECTION

From the Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Darst, Bishop of East Carolina, to the Editor, dated Dec. 27th, 1943: "Someone kindly sent me a copy of the November issue of "The Deaconess" a few days ago, and I am writing at once to say that while I would be proud to claim the authorship of the beautiful little poem "Prayer," printed on the last page of "The Deaconess," I regret to say it was not written by me.

I have used the little poem in sermons from time to time, but have always been careful to state that it was the product of an anonymous writer whose name I had never been able to learn. If the poem has appeared in any of my printed sermons or addresses it should have been with quotations marks.

Kindly state in your next issue of "The Deaconess" that I cannot claim the credit of authorship as much as I would like to do so. With cordial good wishes for the New Year, I am

Yours faithfully,

Thomas C. Darst,
Bishop of East Carolina.

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess Sophie R. Miller died on October 26th, 1943, in her own home in Los Angeles. The burial service was held in St. Columba's Chapel, St. Paul's Cathedral, by the Rt. Rev. W. Bertram Stevens, D. D., Bishop of Los Angeles. The Committal Service in Rosedale Cemetery was also taken by the Bishop.

The Rt. Rev. Joseph H. Johnson ordered Sophie Miller Deaconess May 28th, 1905, in St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral, Los Angeles. Her work as Diocesan Deaconess was among the Indians in San Diego County on the La Jolla Reservation where the Diocese had a Mission House at Valley Center. Among her activities she taught the Indians lace making, working especially with the W. A. and the G. F. S.

Deaconess *Victoria Lillian Ives*, formerly of Trinity Church, New Haven, Conn., died in Sherbrook Hospital, Quebec, Canada, Dec. 8, 1943, after a long illness, at the age of 79. She went to Trinity Church as a nurse in 1895, and was ordered Deaconess in 1899. Her ministry of 33 years was spent at Trinity Church where her work with children, mothers and young married couples won the respect and affection of the entire parish. In 1932 she retired to Vermont, but after nine years returned to her native Quebec.

Bishop Gilman writes as follows:

"*Deaconess Han*, the only Chinese deaconess in the District of Hankow, died of tuberculosis on Dec. 29th, 1943. For years, and especially during the war, she was Deaconess Stewart's other self. After Deaconess Stewart left, Miss Tomlin counted on Deaconess Han for everything. She had to handle all the difficulties and take the blame. Fortunately after having had a long siege of T. B. when she was younger, she seemed to have entirely recovered. However, after the Chinese were forced to leave St. Lois' School, she became ill again. It seems too bad that we could not have been near her and cared for her at the end." One can feel sure she will hear the Master's "Well done, good and faithful servant; Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Deaconess *Mercedes Gore* was found dead in her little log house near Cuba, Missouri, on Jan. 13th, 1944. The Rev. O. V. Jackson, Rector of Christ Church, Rolla, Mo., immediately got in touch with her sister in El Paso, Texas, and carried out her wishes.

Funeral services were conducted on Jan. 17th in St. John's Church, Lafayette, Ind., by the Rector, the Rev. R. F. Thornton, the burial being beside the grave of her father.

Deaconess Gore was canonically attached to the Diocese of Springfield. The letter from her Rector says, "Deaconess Gore was a devout person, and was always proud of her profession as a Deaconess. The last few months she was in very poor health. However, she had just returned from a trip to St. Louis when her body was found."

May they rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

THE DEACONESS

THE PRAYER SHEET

Prayer is being with God.—Bede Frost.

Thanksgiving:

For the privilege of serving in All Saints' Chapel and St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, New York.

For the life and work of Harry H. Pike, a faithful friend of Deaconesses. May he rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon him.

Mary Potter, Deaconess, gives continual thanks to God for the lovely home with friends He has given her, and for the love and prayers of many deaconess friends during a long illness, now happily ended.

That missionaries obliged to return to Canada from Japan are able to continue their work with interned Japanese and to live among them at Tashme, B. C.

That St. Faith's Deaconess Training School is to re-open in October, and for the courage and faith which is making this possible.

That Mary Ward, Deaconess, is slowly making progress toward recovery in Tuscon, Arizona.

For the loyal friend who is making continued and renewed efforts to bring about recovery of a deaconess from arthritis and for doctors who co-operate so generously.

For the opportunity during Lent to gain fresh insight into the problem of pain through a deepening experience of our Heavenly Father's yearning love, and for the glorious message of Easter in this sorrowing world.

For the life and work of Deaconess Henrietta Rue Goodwin.

M. S. J. and R. T.

For a happy visit with relatives and the opportunity of seeing the younger members of a niece's family, born during my sojourn in the West.

M. B.

For strength still to do a little visiting and to attend services.

E. M. E.

For congenial work, strength to do it, friends, opportunities for service.

F. S.

That circumstances are making it possible for a deaconess to continue work in a rural field. L. R.

For the gifts of Church Organizations and individuals which have helped us in our rural work.

E. R. T.

That a consecrated man has accepted a call to become rector of the home parish of a deaconess.

For the restoration to health of a deaconess's sister.

That a deaconess and her sister have been able to establish a home together. E. H. C.

Let us Pray:

For God's loving protection and the realization of His Presence to our loved ones in the Service; and to our Chaplains, the guidance of the Holy Spirit in every moment of their lives.

For the victory of Right, that peace may come speedily to a repentant and chastened world.

That among women now in the Service of their Country many may eventually find their vocation in the Ministry of the Church.

For St. Peter's-in-the-Mountains that many young people may offer themselves for Holy Baptism and Confirmation during the coming summer.

For a retired priest from Nevada, who has been very ill, that his operation may bring recovery of health. For Agnes Bradley, Dss. complete healing.

That God will guide a priest to renew his ordination vows.

That many may volunteer for the Church's work.

That Celia may regain her health and be able to test her vocation to the Diaconate as she plans.

For Genie and her Work Camp this summer in Maine. L. R.

That a position may be found for a deaconess who must work in a definite locality. E. H. C.

That a young mother who is facing a serious emotional problem, not knowing which way to turn, may be given strength to hold to a truly Christian course of behavior and remain loyal to her family. F. S.

For a young Churchman in the Merchant Marines, who has looked forward for many years to entering the priesthood.

For the Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Maine, where there is at present no priest or minister in charge, that the right men may be found and funds contributed. E. R. T.

For wisdom and understanding for those who have the reopening of St. Faith's, in their charge; especially for Ruth Johnson, as she assumes the work of Head Deaconess.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 419 W. 110TH ST., NEW YORK 25, N. Y.
EDITH M. ADAMS, EDITH A. BOOTH, MARGARET BECHTOL,
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GERTRUDE STEWART, AMY THOMPSON,
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EDITORS { ETHEL E. SPENCER, 256 VIA ALTA MIRA, PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.
GERTRUDE STEWART, THE LEAMY, MT. AIRY, PHILA. 19, PA.

DECEMBER, 1944

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

1. Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
2. Amy G. Thompson, Upper Red Hook, N. Y.
3. Anne Newman, Callaway, Va.
4. Harriet M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida.
5. Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.
6. Marion Brown, Ethete, Wyoming.
7. Lillian W. Crow, 229 N. Ewing Ave., Dallas, Texas.
- 8.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

SEPTEMBER 29, 1944

The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of this Corporation was held at St. Faith's, last September (24th) with eleven Deaconesses present. Deaconesses Margaret Bechtol, Ruth Johnson, and Mary C. West were elected to serve in Class III until 1946. Deaconess Hilda Dieterly was elected by the Directors to fill out the unexpired term of Deaconess Goodwin. The officers remained the same, Deaconess Stewart, President; Deaconess Ruth Johnson, Vice-President; Deaconess West, Secretary. The Treasurer reported the Retiring Fund together with the St. Faith's Pension and Benefit Fund to be worth over \$100,000, with both the apartment house and the securities being in good order. There were no ordinations during the year but seven members of the Corporation entered Paradise:

SOPHIE MILLER	.....Oct. 26, 1943,	Los Angeles
VICTORIA IVES	.....Dec. 8, 1943,	Quebec
H. T. HAN	.....Dec. 29, 1943,	China
MERCEDES GORE	.....Jan. 13, 1944,	Cuba, Mo.
ANNA M. H. GIBSON	.....Sept. 1, 1944,	Richmond, Va.
MARY SHEPARD	.....Sept. 25, 1944,	Salt Lake City
SARAH BARKER	.....Sept. 28, 1944,	Bridgeport, Conn.

This is the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of The Retiring Fund and since it began to function in 1934, it would seem to be both interesting and profitable to review the last ten years.

REVIEW

In 1934 the General Convention met at Atlantic City and it was at that time that Deaconess Edith C. Smith announced in her Treasurer's report that the sum of fifty thousand dollars had at last been attained; which meant that grants could then be made to beneficiaries. This had been accomplished in seven years and Deaconess Smith had been Treasurer during all of that time except the three months in 1934 when Mr. Charles Thompson was the Treasurer. He had made the plan to announce that the first goal had been reached, but his sudden death threw the Treasuryship back to Deaconess Smith again.

The first Beneficiary was META GRIMSHAW who lived less than one year. Other Beneficiaries who have died are

MABEL McKINLEY ELLEN S. HUMPHREYS ANNA MAYNARD BARBOUR
MERCEDES GORE

There are today nine Beneficiaries who draw a monthly grant. One other was carried for a few years until her securities matured. Making a total of fifteen who have been served by the Fund.

There have been three PRESIDENTS of the Board of Directors: Deaconesses ROMOLA DAHLGREN (1924-1937), EDITH ADAMS (1938-1941), GERTRUDE STEWART (1942-).

Other Directors have been Deaconess FRANCES AFFLECK, MARGARET BATEMAN, MARGARET BECHTOL, JEAN COLESBERRY, HILA DIETERLY, HENRIETTA R. GOODWIN, AGNES HODGKISS, ELLEN HUMPHREYS, RUTH JOHNSON, FRANCES SEMLE, CLARA SEARLE, EDITH C. SMITH, ELEANOR P. SMITH, MARY C. WEST. Five of these Directors have died, four of them having been in office in 1934.

In 1934 the total number of Deaconesses in the Corporation was 215. In ten years 54 have died; 2 resigned; 4 married; 1 transferred to Canada; 1 entered a Sisterhood. There have been 23 Ordinations, leaving a total today of 177 (according to the Living Church Annual).

Deaconess ELIZABETH CHAPPELL as Field Secretary (1934-1937) and Mrs. Goodrich Fenner as Chairman of the Lay Woman's Committee both did much in raising both large and small amounts and in interesting a great many people in our cause. No direct appeals for funds have been made by the Directors but letters to all the New York lawyers were sent last winter asking them to recommend our Fund to their clients who wanted advice in making wills.

Besides several leaflets about the Fund there have been four publications during the ten years: A Gallant Life (Virginia Young); Martha's Vocation (H. Alice Nutter); Set Apart (Mrs. Perry); The History of The Retiring Fund. Occasional articles and advertisements have appeared in the Church papers and now there is an ad in FORTH, which will run for a year. The Deaconesses themselves and their friends have been the best advertisement.

The By-Laws have been amended twice: in 1927 to add the disability clause; and in 1943 to include St. Faith's Pension and Benefit Fund.

There have been but two Treasurers during the ten years, Deaconess Edith C. Smith being succeeded by Edmund Ruffin Beckwith, Esq. That we have any Fund at all today is due entirely to the present Treasurer. He insisted when he took office that we employ a firm of Financial Advisers and E. W. Axe & Co. have kept us from being snuffed out by the chaotic financial world. Without such expert advice I doubt if any group of seven Directors could have carried on. Mortgages have been cleared up; securities of higher income value have replaced those of lower income; and the Fund kept in a perfectly sound condition.

It was this safe and sound fund that induced the Surrogate to grant the trusteeship of the Knapp estate to us. The Treasurer's interest and many hours of work gained for us St. Faith's Pension and Benefit Fund which was almost as large as The Retiring Fund itself and put the entire value at over \$100,000. This doubling of our Fund is the outstanding fact of the ten years past.

There is little time to mention contributions. But various sums have been given in memory of Deaconess Josephine Lyon; Edith C. Smith; Fannie Beeson; and Eva Crump's entire estate of \$4,000 came to us. There are annual contributors: The Diocese of Chicago; Diocese of Dallas; Diocese of Kansas; Calvary Church, Pittsburgh; St. John's, Georgetown; an organization in Nevada. Mr. E. W. Axe, the President of our Financial Adviser firm gives \$100 per year.

We should mention the growth of the Pence Box Offering, started to give those who cannot contribute large sums a chance to make an offering once a year. In 1940, it amounted to \$19.84; in 1941, \$145.51; in 1942, \$175.45; in 1943, \$295.90, (General Convention year).

From \$50,000 in 1934, The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses has had a steady, normal, and healthy growth to 1944; it has served every one who applied to it for assistance; it has come into its own as evidenced by the recent bequest of \$10,000 from MYRA CARTER CHURCH, a person unknown to us.

When the Commission on Deaconesses appealed to General Convention for Pensions for Deaconesses, the request was refused; but the Convention recommended The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses to the entire Church as a substitute.

We who have been deeply concerned with the progress and inner workings of The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses through its whole eighteen years of life, can thank God for the privilege which has been ours in building up a strong and stable incorporated Fund which bids fair to be a blessing to future generations of Deaconesses. God grant it may be so.

MARY C. WEST, Secretary.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE

At 2 P. M. the Deaconesses who had attended the annual meeting of the Corporation of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses met in the Library for a Conference, led by Deaconess Ruth Johnson, Chairman of National Conference.

The Treasurer of National Conference sent a report, which is appended.

As the result of formal action two telegrams were sent: One to Deaconess Gillespie in reply to her letter to the Conference telling of Deaconess Dahlgren's critical illness; and one to Bishop Randall on the occasion of the Fifth Anniversary of his consecration.

At the suggestion of Deaconess Mary Patterson a Committee, consisting of Deaconess Searle, Chairman, Deaconess Betz and Deaconess Ramsay was appointed to investigate the possibility of publishing the Chart of the Church Seasons, originated by Deaconess Patterson, the proceeds of such a sale to benefit the New York Training School for Deaconesses and other Church Workers.

A motion by Deaconess Betz was carried, that a committee be appointed to promote and to publicize the Deaconess Order. (Deaconess Fuller's "Deaconesses" and "Deaconess Canon 50" can be obtained from Deaconess Johnson, St. Faith's House, 419 West 110th Street, New York 25, N. Y.)

A report was made by Deaconess Clara Searle of Utica on the Provincial Meeting held in June at St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N. Y. The matter of publicizing the Order was dis-

cussed, and a plan evolved by which Deaconess Amy Thompson will try to furnish packets of publicity material on request.

Deaconess Anna Newman, Provincial (III) Representative, sent a report announcing the forming of a new Chapter in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. A hearty welcome!

A card sent out by Deaconess Newbold to all the clergy in the Diocese of Pennsylvania announces that at Bishop Hart's suggestion, she desires "to present to the women of the Diocese now serving with the armed forces . . . the opportunity which the Church offers for worthwhile service to others at the close of hostilities." Deaconess Newbold requested the clergy to send her the names and addresses of women in the Service in order that she might make personal contacts. If Deaconesses in other Dioceses would compile such lists and send them to St. Faith's House, they would be gratefully received for use in later publicity.

Deaconesses Gadsden, 142 Church Street, Charleston, S. S., requested information concerning "Deaconesses Louise," who founded the House of the Holy Comforter in The Bronx, New York, in 1879.

Have you any information to offer?

An offer to investigate this and similar situations would be gratefully accepted. Such research might yield valuable contributions to the history of the Order.

SUGGESTIONS:

- that a project similar to the one carried on in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, in regard to names and addresses of women in the Service, be attempted elsewhere.
- that Deaconess Candidates be looked for among the Alumnae of our Training Schools.
- that clergy be asked to call the attention of their congregations, at least once a year, to vocation for Church women in Church work.
- that the Woman's Auxiliary be asked to publish a pamphlet of information, and that one be included in the Youth Movement literature.
- that our ultimate aim should be to increase the Endowment Fund of the New York Training School. To this end, it was suggested that a professionally trained person be employed on a commission basis.

As Head of the New York Training School for Deaconesses and other Church Workers, Deaconess Johnson reported on "the state of the nation" in regard to the fund for the reopening of the School. To reach the \$6,000 goal for this first year we need to raise \$1,600.

TREASURER'S REPORT

September 29, 1944

GENERAL FUND

Receipts

Balance on hand Sept. 1943.... \$76.94
Contributions to General Fund.. 159.95
Dues 28.00
For Publication of "The Deaconess" 12.00

Total Receipts \$276.89

Disbursements

Stationery\$ 3.00
For printing and mailing 2 issues of "The Deaconess".... 94.70
For Printing "Deaconess Canon" and Dss. Fuller's pamphlet on Deaconesses 41.00
Chairman's expense for postage

re reopening of School..... 4.61

Total Disbursements 143.31
BALANCE ON HAND, Sept. 29, 1944....\$133.58
EMERGENCY FUND REPORT

Receipts

Balance on hand, Sept. 1943.....\$ 92.75

Disbursements

Gifts to a Sick Deaconess
Nov. 26, 1943.....\$ 25.00
Feb. 4, 1944..... 25.00

Total Disbursements 50.00

Balance on hand Sept. 29, 1944.....\$ 42.75
(Signed) Edith A. Booth,
Treasurer.

RE-OPENING OF ST. FAITH'S

The planned-for Reopening of the New York Training School for Deaconesses and Other Church Workers has been effected, and St. Faith's House is humming with activity. Many are the problems that confront us, and many have been the difficulties that have arisen, but *the School is open*, and that was our aim!

There are five students: Avalon Malouf, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Merita Cooney, Worcester, Mass.; Dorothy Lovejoy (widow), Pittsfield, Mass.; Rebecca Low, Summerville, S. C.; Jane Gordon, Boonton, N. J. Miss Gordon is non-resident. Their ages range from twenty-two years to forty-seven years. With the exception of Miss Gordon the students have done little studying in recent years, and as a result there has been uphill work catching on to the trick of studying. They are a joy to work with, for they are so frankly eager to learn "all about it."

In July Deaconess Anne Newman, who had come to assist me, decided to return to her rural mission work in Southwestern Virginia. In September Deaconess Clara Searle of Utica spent three weeks of her vacation, helping me get the House ready for the Reopening. Without her volunteered aid I do not think we would have been ready to receive the Deaconesses in Retreat and Conference at Michaelmas. When Deaconess Searle returned to Utica Deaconess Affleck came to stay for two months. No sooner had Deaconess Affleck come than the cook left (not cause and effect!) whereupon Deaconess took over the cooking while I desperately searched for a willing dispenser of food. For almost four weeks Deaconess Affleck was "cook." Then, earning our

heartfelt gratitude, Mrs. Harry Hibbard came to the rescue. Now our kitchen is ably manned, and Deaconess Affleck freed for other House needs. By the time this is read Deaconess Affleck will have returned to Texas, and Deaconess Searle will have come again to Saint Faith's, this time on six-months' leave of absence from the House of the Good Shepherd in Utica. This has been made possible by Deaconess Dieterly's willingness to take charge of the work in Deaconess Searle's absence. The word "unfeignedly thankful" come to mind as expressing my feelings at this point.

It has been most heartening to have the continued support and the cheering letters from Deaconesses and Alumnae and their friends. And there can be no doubt that prayers have been raised in our behalf for otherwise we could not have reached this point. All of which makes me conscious of the keen and widespread interest in our project and the responsibility we share in this common adventure. Please know that I do regret my inability to keep up with my correspondence. However as the winter sets in and we settle down on an even keel I look forward to writing from time to time about the progress of the School.

I wish it were possible to list here all the gifts that have been accepted for the School—gifts of money and gifts of work. Deaconesses have given of their time. So have their friends. Deaconess Crow's publicity in Texas is unceasing and successful. Deaconess Massey's Fund amounts to \$114.00. There are Memorial Funds: Deaconess Josephine A. Lyon, Deaconess Julia P. M. Morand, Deaconess Susan T. Knapp. A fund in memory of Deaconess Dahlgren was started with two checks so designated, received the week after Deaconess' death. The reopening of St. Faith's was close to Deaconess Dahlgren's heart and mind. A "Deaconess Romola Dahlgren Fund" to help maintain the Training School at St. Faith's is a fitting memorial to her life and work here.

Ruth Johnson, Head Deaconess.

RE: PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS TRAINING FOR CHURCH WORK

Excerpts of letter to the Chairman from Deaconess Olive M. Robinson, Birmingham, Michigan: "I am trying to influence young women here to consider training at St. Faith's—but I have much more success in selling Deaconesses to the clergy! What are we going to do about the situation? Until there is better protection for Church workers, both as to salary and employment as well as retirement, young women, the kind we want, just will not consider such an uncertain profession—even to try their vocation for it."

Pertinent and timely is Deaconess Robinson's query, "What are we going to do about the situation?" What ARE we going to do about it? I am moved at this time to add that within the week I have had requests for Deaconess assistance from four Rectors of large parishes in three dioceses.

R. J.

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess *Anne H. Gibson* of the Diocese of Virginia, died September 1st, 1944, in Richmond, Va. After the death of her husband, Henry Gibson, a Richmond attorney, she took training at the Church Training and Deaconess House in Philadelphia, from which she was graduated in 1910. Then she was set apart as deaconess by the late Rt. Rev. Robert A. Gibson. She served the church for thirty years.

Deaconess *Sarah K. Barker* died in Newtown, Conn., on September 28, 1944, following a long illness. She was in her 86th year. The funeral service was held in Trinity Church, Bridgeport, Conn., on Sept. 30th, the Rev. Joseph A. Racioppi, officiating. She was a graduate of the New York Training School for Deaconesses, and served on the staff of Grace Church, New York, for twenty years, becoming Deaconess Emerita in 1916. Her niece sent the following poem, written by Deaconess Barker and published in the Churchman in April, 1931.

WAITING

Father, the years pass slowly now,
The days are often drear:
My spirit waits thy call with joy,
Without a doubt or fear.

I miss the dear ones gone before
To join the heavenly throng:
I long to clasp their hands again
And join with them in song.

I long to see the mansions fair,
Within thy house above:
How beautiful that life will be,
All light and peace and love.

Father, the light of thy great love
Illuminates the way;
Support us through the darksome night
Until the radiant day.

Deaconess *Mary Shepard*, Class of 1911, New York Training School for Deaconesses, died in Salt Lake City, Utah, on September 25th, 1944. She was particularly well prepared for active service in the Church: a graduate of Wells College, and a trained Librarian, she had much to give. After her graduation at St. Faith's in May, 1911, she remained at the School for a time, cataloguing Dr. Huntington's library, which had been willed to the school. St. Faith's on the Cathedral Close was a new house and this class of 1911 was the first to be graduated from it, so the work of settling the books and cataloguing them was of great importance to the school—a debt we owe to Mary Shepard. Set apart as Deaconess by Bishop Spalding in Utah in 1913, she served in that Diocese faithfully for the remainder of her working years. Many of the people for whom she worked in the Missions of the Church came long distances to her funeral in the Cathedral. The interment was in her dearly loved birthplace, Dansville, N. Y.

A faithful worker in the Master's vineyard, a warm-hearted, generous friend. May light perpetual shine upon her. Sent by Ella Pier.
By the will of Deaconess Shepard the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses receives one hundred dollars outright and one-third of the residuary estate, which is not large according to the executor.

Deaconess *Romola Dahlgren*, head of the New York Training School for Deaconesses from 1919 to 1939, died in Newport, R. I., on October 9th, 1944. She was born in Rome, where her father was in diplomatic service. After his death, she and her mother lived with her grandfather, the Rev. Dr. William F. Morgan, rector for over thirty years of St. Thomas Church in New York. She was educated privately and was presented at the Court of St. James and at the Italian court. She entered the New York Training School for Deaconesses in 1910, after the death of her mother; and was set apart as a deaconess in 1914. She served in rural missions in the diocese of Rhode Island, until she was appointed head of the school. She has been Vice-president of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses; a member of the Commission on Deaconesses of the Protestant Episcopal Church; and an honorary Director of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered; accept our prayers on behalf of the souls of thy servants departed, and grant them an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IN MEMORIAM — DEACONESS DAHLGREN

On Friday, November 10th, immediately following the Octave of All Saints' so beloved by Deaconess Dahlgren, a Memorial Service was held in the Chapel at St. Faith's House in New York. Bishop Manning conducted the Service, assisted by Dr. Shepard and Canon Sparks. There were thirty-five of us present,—a representative group of Alumnae and friends, as well as our own household of five students.

The Service was short and impressive. Bishop Manning paid glowing tribute to Deaconess Dahlgren and the work she accomplished in and for the Church, "St. Faith's" always taking first place. After the Service we automatically moved into the Library—in the familiar St. Faith's manner—and there visited and reminisced. Our hearts were full of sadness, but there was no air of heavy grief. The "gracious dignity" (as one expressed it) of Deaconess herself prevailed, and there were flashes of mirth now and then when some amusing anecdote was recalled.

It was an evening we shall long remember.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses express their deeply felt sorrow in the loss by death of Deaconess Romola Dahlgren. Deaconess Dahlgren's personal charm and her unusual gift for friendship and hospitality were grounded in her deep spiritual life. A leader among women, her great ability and her devotion to the Deaconess Order and its future expressed itself throughout her many years of influence as Head of the New York Training School for Deaconesses and as Honorary President of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the records of the National Conference of Deaconesses of the Church and a copy be sent to Deaconess Jane Bliss Gillespy, her close friend and associate.

October, 1944

(Signed) Ruth Johnson,
Chairman.

TRIBUTES TO DEACONESS ROMOLA DAHLGREN

Romola Dahlgren was a delightful classmate, with her sparkling humor, gay laugh, affectionate courtesy, high breeding, serious interest in her studies, and loyalty to the School.

One incident stands out as typifying her relation to her Class. Before her Setting Apart, she asked the others of the Class to meet her in the Senior Room. When we were together she said she wanted us to know before it was announced, where she was to serve first as a Deaconess, telling us something of the work and where she was to live. She asked for our prayers and assured us that she would pray and care for us always.
Class of 1914.

Amy G. Thompson, Deaconess.

It would be difficult to add one new note of appreciation or even of affection to all that is being thought and said of Romola Dahlgren, Deaconess. It would however be more difficult to be silent at this time. For over fifteen years we lived with her at St. Faith's, and they were years of ever deepening love and admiration. This was natural, the natural response to the beauty of character she so constantly evinced. It was *her* love for us that was unique—her glowing love and interest in all. Everyone responded to her enchanting wit and sympathy, and it was that quality of maturity, which so constantly gave strength and courage and confidence to all with whom she came in contact. She was a woman rare in utter devotion and givingness to others, to her Order and to her Lord.

Anna R. Armstrong, Deaconess.
Clara H. Simpson, Deaconess.

I have such lovely memories of Deaconess Dahlgren, her happy smile, her voice, the many

things she taught us at St. Faith's, especially about the ancient Order of Deaconesses. Thank God for such a life with all its gifts devoted to His service through our Order.

Ruth Parsons, Deaconess.
Deaconess Residence, Chicago.

A true and faithful Handmaid of the Lord was our sister in Christ, and may the blessed vision of our dear Lord comfort her, the glorious light of His Cross shine upon her, His holy Angels bring her into the land of the living and the glorious Queen of Saints present her before His Throne.

Eleanor P. Smith, Deaconess.

Great in mind; great in spirit, with the endurance of a saint, she gave her all to the Order in which she believed. As her last gift, with her beloved friend, Deaconess Gillespy, she spent a difficult year just to keep the school open. Those of us whom she trained so diligently and lovingly stand awed before all that she was and is, forever.

Lillian W. Crow, Deaconess.

As gardener has a special touch that makes plants respond to sunlight, so Deaconess Dahlgren had as special touch that made souls respond to the Love of our Blessed Lord. To love her meant to love Him more dearly and to serve Him more sincerely. She led her students ever onward and upward and left them with the sweet assurance that "underneath are the everlasting arms." Her life was a benediction to us all.

Harriet H. English, Deaconess.

As a missionary on furlough in 1923, I had the privilege of living at St. Faith's for the Spring Term, taking refresher courses with the classes, and being a member of the household. Deaconess Dahlgren made me very welcome and often talked over with me problems of the school and of mission work. Later in 1927 to 1931, when I was in charge of the Church Training and Deaconess House in Philadelphia, I appreciated her sympathetic friendship in our parallel work, and on all occasions of meeting, I found her deeply interested in the welfare of our school, and always a wise, devoted, helpful leader of the Deaconesses of the Church.

Gertrude Stewart, Deaconess.

The Deaconesses of Chicago held a Memorial Service for Deaconess Dahlgren on October 27th at 7 A. M., when all the City Mission Deaconesses and Deaconesses Bradley were present. Two deaconesses who live in Wilmette were unable to be present at so early an hour. The service was held in the Chapel of the Church of the Epiphany. The Rev. Arthur Johnstone, one of the City Mission priests, was the celebrant.

Many great people have monuments raised to their memory, to keep alive in our minds their noble deeds, but no monument of stone need ever be built in memory of the life of our beloved Deaconess Dahlgren. She raised her own monument in the lives of the many women trained for the Church's service at St. Faith's. The women whose lives she touched have gone to the uttermost parts of the earth, and now, they in turn are influencing others for good because of her loving influence.

Only we who lived with her at St. Faith's can truly know how strong her influence of love was. How weak and ignorant we were when we entered the School, and how much we grew during our days with her. Her charm, her love, her sense of humor—such treasures!—but permeating all as her own faith and spiritual life which shone forth, strengthening many a student when her own faith was weak.

The Church Militant is stronger today because she lived. May we keep burning the torch she passed on to us—and in turn pass it on to those who will follow!

Honey Branch Mission
St. Paul, Virginia

Deaconess Edith A. Booth
Deaconess Amelia Brereton

To write of Deaconess Dahlgren without including Deaconess Gillespy seems impossible because their friendship and fine co-operation was, I believe, largely responsible for the beautiful atmosphere which pervaded St. Faith's during their twenty years' incumbency. There were the yearly Retreats, the stillness, the perfect orderliness, even a pad and sharpened pencil provided in each room, Deaconess playing the hymns in the organ loft of St. James Chapel. When stairs were difficult provision was made for a convalescent deaconess to use the gallery in St. Faith's Chapel; when obliged to be in New York under a specialist the gracious offer of hospitality with the use of the infirmary diet kitchen; over the years coming to St. Faith's was coming home for a brief space. There is the blessed memory of one's last journey east to visit one's family when there was a week end in the "Prophet's Chamber" as guest, the quiet strengthening talk with Deaconess Dahlgren before an open fire in St. Faith's library following the dear familiar evening service sung in chapel. We offer thanks that in the blessed Communion of Saints we are all united in Christ, those of our beloved Deaconess in Paradise and we who still struggle in the suffering world.

Ethel E. Spencer, Deaconess.

TRAINING SCHOOLS

St. Margaret's, Berkeley, California has unusual resources for training young women for work in the Orient not only in the Oriental Department of the University of California but on the Campus is the Chinese Language School evacuated from Peking. Also at the Pacific School of Religion there is a training course for post-war work in China. *The National Council offers six scholarships to young college women preparing for work in the Orient.*

The Canadian Deaconess and Missionary Training House has just celebrated its jubilee when His Grace, Archbishop Owen and the Archbishop of Rupert's Land honored the House with their presence. Fifty of the Alumnae came from all parts of Canada. In March five recent graduates were ordered deaconesses in St. James Cathedral, this service being preceded by a Quiet Day in the House Chapel.

The House motto is "There they dwell with the King for His work." Three hundred women have been trained here, of which one hundred were ordered deaconesses. Members of the Alumnae have served in six foreign countries as well as among Indians and Eskimos in Canada. Some are Bishop's Messengers to scattered white settlers in Western Canada besides those who are in Parish and Community work.

His Grace, Archbishop Owen in his foreword to the Jubilee Report concludes with these words, "There are many problems to be solved in relation to women's work in the Church. I ask the prayers, thought and co-operation of the whole Church in this work so necessary and important."

NEWS ITEMS

Deaconess Harriet C. Hyde has been in the hospital in Middletown, Conn. since July with an infected foot. We hope she will soon be well.

Deaconess Anne Newman, who has been the missionary at Grace House on the Mountain, St. Paul, Va., in Wise County, almost continually since June 1939, is now serving with Deaconess Margaret Booz at St. Peter's in the Mountains, Callaway, Franklin County, Va. Succeeding Deaconess Newman at Grace House are two sisters, Misses Gertrude and Grace Brisbane.

Have you the inclination and the time to build a *scrap book* on "Personalities" using past issues of "The Deaconess" as the source? Write to the Chairman.

Have you any of the *early issues of the Prayer Leaflet*? There is a record that the first issue "be dated April, 1927." In the Prayer Leaflet file the earliest issue is that of November, 1931. If you have any of the Prayer Leaflets dated prior to Nov. 1931, are you willing to send them to the Chairman? We are trying to make this file complete.

Last but not least: PLEASE send a postal to the Chairman notifying her of any *change of address*. Thank you!

THE PRAYER SHEET

God is love. Everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God.

THANKSGIVINGS. For all those who through sacrifice and pain have come to a knowledge of God.

That St. Faith's Deaconess House has opened with five students.

That it was possible to have a retreat at St. Faith's this autumn.

For the life and work of Romola Dahlgren, Deaconess, for her strong and gracious leadership at St. Faith's for twenty years.

For fifty fruitful years vouchsafed the Canadian Deaconess and Missionary Training School.

Almighty God, Who art the author and giver of all good gifts, we beseech Thee to send Thy blessing upon all Deaconesses and Missionary Training Houses. Pour out Thy Holy Spirit on all who have gone forth in Thy Name to be witnesses of Thy love. Ever raise up from Thy Church an increasing number of young women of gifts and devotion, who shall consecrate their lives to the glorious work of making Thy Name known throughout the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. (Prayer used by Canadian Deaconess House).

For the restoration to health of her sister and that they were rescued from the hurricane without ill effects. E. H. C.

For the comfort and refreshment of a week's rest in a beautiful environment. E. E. S.

God be praised for health and protection.

That Fr. Baker is able to celebrate the Holy Communion regularly in St. Mary's Chapel, Los Angeles Deaconess House. L. C.

That Deaconess Agnes Bradley, for whom we prayed, has greatly improved in health, and is able to carry on her work as head of Chase House.

For her home in the Los Angeles Deaconess House. L. C.

For the life and work of Romola Dahlgren; for all the care and skill used to give her comfort and keep her from suffering; for the quiet and peace of her final passing from this life; for the joys of long companionship and the sense of its continuance under different conditions; for the certainty of Eternal Life. J. B. G.

For the joy of continuing my work with children and for improving health; for our three churches and two Auxiliaries; for our successful garden this last summer and the many cans of good food of our own raising. E. R. T.

INTERCESSIONS

LET US PRAY—

For our Sister Deaconesses interned, for Kate Shaw, Charlotte Massey, Mary Dawson in the Philippines, for all interned missionaries.

For all our Deaconesses who are ill and infirm, for Harriet Rearden and Anna C. Norris.

For all our British Sister Deaconesses, especially those in the War Zones.

For all our relatives and friends in the Service.

O Christ, our only Saviour, so come to dwell in these Thy servants that they may live with the Light of Thy hope in their eyes and with Thy faith and love in their hearts.

For the souls of our departed Sisters in the Order, for Romola Dahlgren, Anna H. Gibson, Mary Shepard, Sarah Barker.

May they rest in peace, and may light perpetually shine upon them.

For guidance in the care and training of a boy fifteen, who shows complete defiance of all authority. E. H. C.

For all isolated Church people and the unchurched, particularly in the rural areas of Maine.

For a large family recently baptized, that they may grow in the Christian life. E. R. T.

For the New York Training School and for all Deaconess Training Schools throughout the world.

For all candidates for the Deaconess Order.

For Ruth Johnson and all assisting her in the work at St. Faith's.

For those who have served in China and Japan and who long to return. J. B. G.

For a great spiritual awakening on this earth and the peace of God for all mankind. E. M. E.

For the Episcopal Deaconess House, Los Angeles, that a deaconess may be found to take charge of the House and be Head Deaconess, and that it may become possible to accommodate deaconesses needing nursing care. L. C.

ANNUAL RETREAT

The Rev. Gerald V. Barry gave three meditations and led very helpful devotions for the Deaconesses attending the Annual Conference at St. Faith's on September 28th.

The subject was Vocation. This centered around our Lord's call of the twelve apostles. The greatest call is to be a Christian. A religious call is a part of this greatest call. Our own salvation is God's first desire. It is not selfish to put this first—it is necessary. Self-surrender is our first vocation, and the second is special. God assigns a particular function to every one. Our Lord is our standard. Then he considered the Apostles one by one, analyzing their characters and drawing some point from each for our own warning, or encouragement. Some of the thoughts were:

Judas was the only failure. He wanted to force our Lord to declare himself. He was stubborn. We are apt to say, "This is the thing that ought to happen. This is the way it must be done." His sins were presumption and independence. Over-assertion is apt to be one of our sins. Watch for the symptoms. Peter was also presumptuous. He differed from Judas in his penitence. He did not sever himself from the group, and after his confession was given the commission "Feed my sheep." A part of our vocation is penitence, love and commitment to God. Our sins are often presumption, boasting pride, satisfaction, and impenitence.

Matthew met the challenge. The first reply is easy, keeping on is hard. Obedience is the mother and source of all virtues. Vocation is desire plus opportunity. We are in danger of trying to run things. The willingness to mortify ourselves and desires is the first step in becoming the right kind of a servant. A hunger and thirst after God must be insistent.

Thomas had a fine type of faith. He could not honestly believe because he had not seen, but he stayed with the others. When we are doubtful we separate ourselves from the fellowship of the group. Experience can prove the truth. By action and word we are called to witness. Unwitnessing Christians are dead ones.

Andrew was ready for his call. He was enthusiastic, humble and always seemed to know what to do. James and John were over zealous, they wanted to call down fire. We must watch our good qualities and not let them get out of hand. Both were purged, both drank the cup of suffering.

The Church's mission is to teach. We teach a life, not a philosophy. Our job is to teach people to see Jesus. We must not limit our responsibilities. We are to bring people to our Lord. We must know them and love them. Get a big vision of a Christian world. Growing holy is our chief job. A rule of life is necessary.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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JUNE, 1945

WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Greetings!

Our adventure is now one year old. That "our" has been more heartening than you can know as this first year has moved on toward its close.

Thank you for your prayers and for your encouraging letters. Thank you too for your patience in waiting to hear how the year has gone. It has gone well. At the moment the four students are engaged in their ten-week summer work; there is a comfortable balance in the bank; and we are well along in plans for next year!

I have just completed a report of the work of this first year and am now summarizing it for you. This will be sent out to you very soon.

And next year? We are looking forward to having with us a Candidate from the Diocese of Newark, Mrs. Celia Brown, and, as a "Special," a Candidate of the Missionary District of Shanghai who has already passed her Canonicals. Miss Evelyn Ashcroft writes, "I studied in the Philippines and passed the canonical examinations in camp. For one set of oral examinations there were two rows of barbed wire between the Examining Chaplains and myself!"

You will take joy in welcoming Gladys Hall who was set apart on Tuesday in Holy Week at St. Paul's Church, Spring Hill, Alabama, by Bishop Carpenter. Deaconess Hall, B.A., a great niece of Bishop William Mercer Greene, is a graduate of Texas State College for Women. She was prepared for the Diaconate by Chaplains appointed by her Bishop while she assisted Deaconess Whitford in the Church Home in Spring Hill. Deaconess Hall will continue teaching homemaking and assisting Deaconess Whitford. All joy to you, Deaconess Hall, and may you serve long and fruitfully!

R. J.

REPORT OF MID-YEAR MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held at St. Faith's House on February 15, 1945. Five members of the Executive Committee were present,

Deaconess Ruth Johnson
Deaconess Jane Bliss Gillespie
Deaconess Gertrude Stewart
Deaconess Clara Searle
Deaconess Edith A. Booth

Deaconess Searle was appointed to take the place on the Committee made vacant by the resignation of Deaconess Eleanor Smith.

Possibilities for a new Deaconess Representative for the Eighth Province were discussed to be followed up by the Chairman.

Deaconess Stewart reported the progress made in the Philadelphia Chapter regarding the subject of Associates. The Chapter has made a beginning and their plan has been accepted by Bishop Hart. She will present a more detailed report at the Fall meeting.

It was suggested by Deaconess Gillespie, that a copy of a Prayer be given to those people who have contributed toward the upkeep of the School, and for the Deaconess Order, and also that copies of "The Deaconess" be sent to them.

Plans for the National Conference for 1946 were discussed, especially regarding the printing that will be necessary for that meeting.

The problem of reaching young women now serving our country in the WACS and WAVES, etc., was discussed at length and it was suggested that the Provincial representatives find out where such Training Centers are located in the Provinces and contact the names of the Clergy near such centers. Also that material pertaining to the Deaconess Order and Training for Church Work be placed in such Training and U.S.O. centers.

A Committee for Publicity and Promotion of the Deaconess Order was appointed, with Deaconess Phelps and Deaconess Stewart as Co-Chairmen.

The Executive Committee is deeply grateful to the Editor of the Diocesan Church News of Philadelphia for publishing three articles on the Deaconess Order in his Diocesan Paper.

Deaconess Johnson gave the Committee a most encouraging financial report on the School. A detailed report will be sent to all Deaconesses at the end of the first fiscal year, May 31st, 1945.

Since the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Conference has a double burden to carry as head of the New York Training School, it was decided at this meeting to divide the work of the Committee so that all the responsibility would not fall on the Chairman's shoulders. The division was as follows:

Publicity and Promotion (including Printing and Distribution of "The Deaconess")	Deaconess Stewart
Printing and mailing Packet on the Deaconess Order collected by Dss. Thompson	Deaconess Thompson
Revision of Materials, etc.....	Deaconess Gillespy and Deaconess Searle
Plans for WACS and WAVES.....	Deaconess Bechtol
Business pertaining to the School.....	Deaconess Johnson

Respectfully submitted,

Edith A. Booth, Deaconess,
Secretary.

NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

The best news we have, surely, is the safe arrival home into the dear U. S. A. of our three Deaconesses, Dawson, Massey, Shaw after their internment in the Philippines. We can understand how they longed to stay and help in the rehabilitation of the people for whom they have given so many years of their lives. We pray that the time is not far distant when, rested and strengthened they may be able to return to the Philippines. Meanwhile our hearts are almost bursting with thanksgiving that our prayers for them are answered, and that the long silence is broken, God bless them abundantly. And let's give them lots of good food. This deaconess would gladly spare some of her points to help restore curves to their bodies, as the doctors say.

The Rev. Stephen C. Clark D.D., writes of Deaconess Clark: "My sister, Julia, has been in Washington, D. C., since last September. She is working for the China Department of the Oriental Division of the Office of Strategic Service. It is quite confidential work and I know little about it. It is, of course, only a stop gap and she is hoping for the day soon when she may be permitted to go back to China. Meanwhile I think she quite enjoys the work and seems to keep quite well."

FROM HAWAII: Letters from Dss. Laura May Knepper tell of the work she and her Sister are doing at St. Mary's Home for Japanese Children in Honolulu. They visit the parents of the children for St. Mary's Church, and are also on duty in the Home three evenings a week and every other Sunday afternoon and evening so that the rest of the staff can have time off together. She is also Corresponding Secretary for the Diocesan Woman's Auxiliary. It has been pleasant renewing old memories of days at St. Faith's, N. Y. with Helen Fessenden (Mrs. Arthur Smith), a graduate of St. Faith's and an ardent lover of her Alma Mater.

Of Dss. Swinburne, Dss. Knepper writes, "Dss. Swinburne is on Kauai now, doing a very fine bit of work in religious education, and things are developing at another centre there where she will soon be moving. She came to see us the first Sunday we were here last August.

I read the Living Church every week and enjoy the good news about the School in New York.

I hear that some bright youngster has nicknamed us oldsters who return to the service "retreads." There is a chance for us now-a-days, and it is nice to be "needed and wanted."

Deaconess Frances Semle has been busy with herself for once in thirty years. She writes: "I had to go to hospital for a major operation on April 5th, and have been at home for ten days now slowly recovering. I am sure the prayers of all my good friends have helped to make this a much less trying time than it might have been without their help."

St. Paul's Mission, Dallas, Texas, Dss. Lillian W. Crow: This mission, last October opened a campaign to pay off the remaining \$1500.00. Every person, young and old, gave something. January 1st saw the debt reduced to \$1000.00, and that has been given by the American Church Building Fund Commission. We are now out of debt with enough in the bank for a year's salary for a part time priest we are seeking. We are preparing for a joyous dedication and thanksgiving service.

Dss. Margaret Bateman after doing outstanding work at the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital in Washington, D. C., together with her associate, Dss. Anna E. McDonald, on April 1st,

became superintendent of the Children's Education Foundation, Mercer Island, in the State of Washington.

Dss. Clara Searle is in residence at St. Faith's, New York, assisting Head Deaconess Ruth Johnson.

Dss. Harriet Hyde, after being hospitalized for six months with an infected foot, is able to walk again.

Dss. Leonora Kelton while away from the Los Angeles Deaconess House in the East, had a happy visit at St. Faith's, New York, and was able to see the fine work being done by Head Deaconess Ruth Johnson. In a visit to her Alma Mater in Philadelphia, where she was a fellow student of Dss. Stewart's, she met some of the deaconesses. She liked their plan of having lunch together when they meet and says, "With a Bishop who is sympathetic they are a very happy wide-awake group."

Dss. Laura Callaway writes on Rogation Sunday from the Los Angeles Deaconess House, "The Refugee Ship from the Philippines came in. Dss. Dawson called on us, and Deaconesses Massey and Shaw came to dinner on Friday. Dss. Massey may be with us for awhile, coming after the consecration service of Heber Gooden who is so well known to some of our family—Bishop Gooden is so happy—we are so excited about it all."

St. Paul's-in-the-Desert, Palm Springs, California. The article, "Plain Talk about Church Publicity" in the Living Church, April 29th, interested us because of the fine weekly reporting given our Church news by our paper, "The Desert Sun." This deaconess, having been appointed Chairman and Leader for 1945, Palm Springs World Day of Prayer appreciated the fine co-operation and publicity given to call together in one united service all people to pray in this time of world agony. Our own people co-operated loyally in this service of Worship, Thanksgiving, Confession, Intercession and Dedication.

St. Cecilia's Girl Choir, in their red and white vestments entered the Church in procession with the Vicar, the Rev. Robert Hogarth, singing and carrying the Cross and the flag. Six little girls took their places reverently in the sanctuary for a unique ceremony,—lighting colored candles in turn to symbolize the wartime prayers: Blue, mourning for loved ones; Red, for the wounded; Brown, for those bombed out of house and home; Green, for farmers and migrants feeding the world; Yellow, for Missionaries and Chaplains bringing Light; White, for all innocent children in want and suffering.

On February 1st the Vicar drove three of us to Redlands where we had tea with his Grace the Primate of Canada, who was resting at the home of his cousin, Mrs. Sewell, after a strenuous week as Guest of Honor at the Jubilee of the Diocese. The afternoon was a benediction to this deaconess, the Archbishop having been a beloved friend of our family in joy and in sorrow over many years. She received his Episcopal blessing, and left with him the November "Deaconess" in which we had quoted him in regard to the work of Women in the Church, a matter of prayerful interest to him. He returned "The Deaconess" later with a letter which we shall treasure always.

We are also glad to report that this year, for the first time, St. Paul's-in-the-Desert W. A. has contributed to the Deaconess Retiring Fund. May it become a yearly offering.

Ethel E. Spencer, Deaconess.

At a street fair given by the Church here, a small boy, whom I had never seen before, ran up to me, took hold of my hand and said affectionately, "Hello! I know you. There are lots of you in New Haven!"

E. E. S.

Dean Ethel M. Springer is retiring on September first from her work as Head of St. Margaret's House in Berkeley, California. Miss Katharine A. Grammer, the present Dean of the Department of Women of the Philadelphia Divinity School, will on that date become the new Head of St. Margaret's House.

Deaconess Anne Newman, the Provincial Representative for the Third Province, has done a very interesting thing. She wrote a letter to each Deaconess in the Province and asked her for a short account of herself, and then she embodied such items of news in a paper called "News and Views of the Deaconesses of the Third Province." There are thirty-seven on the list. A good many are elderly and retired, yet some of these are still doing volunteer service in various ways. The younger ones are mostly in the Mountain Mission Work, while others are in parish or institutional work. The Discussion Corner puts one in mind of a Triennial meeting of deaconesses at the time of the General Convention. It must have involved lots of work and some expense, but apparently Deaconess Newman and her colleague, Deaconess Booz, were pleased to undertake that part of it for the good of all.

A QUESTION FOR YOU

Have any of you contacted the Women in the Armed Forces from your Diocese or parish? (As suggested in the December issue of "The Deaconess").

If so, please send your list of names and addresses to Deaconess Johnson, so that she can send school material to them. If not, please do it NOW.

— IN MEMORIAM —

Deaconess Mary Ellen Barlow, 1903 graduate of St. Faith's, New York, died at her home in the Bronx on January 23rd, 1945. The funeral was held on St. Paul's Day, and interment was at Fall River, Mass., in the family plot. Deaconess Barlow's last work was at the Church of the Mediator, New York City. She died after an illness of several years.

Deaconess Mabel Wayman Nicholas, 1908 graduate of St. Faith's, died in St. John's Hospital, Brooklyn, December 17th, after an illness of several months. Since 1921 she had been in charge of St. Phoebe's Mission and Convalescent Rest Home in Brooklyn. The Diocesan Paper of Long Island paid tribute to her faithfulness to the Church and to her vows, her steadfast devotion to her Parish, her alert mind and strong leadership, her capacity for warm friendships, her notable career of following the Master in the work of healing, teaching, and spreading the word of the Gospel.

Deaconess Bertha M. Garvin died on March 23rd, 1945, at her home in Sanbornville, N. H. A beautiful Memorial Service was held for her at Grace Church, New York, on April 8th, at which the Rector, the Rev. Louis W. Pitt, D.D., officiated, the Rev. W. Russel Bowie, D.D., Rector from 1923-1939, giving the address.

Deaconess Garvin graduated from The New York Deaconess Training School, in 1901, after which she became secretary to the Rev. Dr. Huntington, Rector of Grace Church, New York, and after his death remained at Grace Church as secretary to the Rev. Dr. Slattery. Following his election to the Bishop Coadjutor of Massachusetts she became secretary to Dr. Bowie. When the Rev. Dr. Pitts succeeded Dr. Bowie in 1939, Deaconess Garvin remained until failing health made it necessary for her to retire. She spent forty years in notable service to Grace Church.

Deaconess Garvin not only knew everyone in the Parish, but also knew many of the clergy and laity in the Diocese of New York. Her personal beauty and lovely character drew to her all who knew her.

May they go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in Thy heavenly Kingdom, O Lord, and may we, persevering in our struggle here upon earth, be permitted with them, to behold the King in His beauty, Who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Ghost one God world without end. Amen.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

At two meetings of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses of the Church (one held in September, 1944, and the other in February, 1945), much discussion took place, about how to promote the knowledge of the Order of Deaconess and to increase interest in it. The result has been to form a Committee on Publicity and Promotion. The following persons have agreed to serve as members of the Committee:

Co-Chairmen: Deaconess K. E. Phelps, Georges' Mills, N. H.

Deaconess G. Stewart, The Leamy, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia 19, Penna.

MEMBERS

DEACONESS

Dorothea F. Betz, Long Island
Margaret S. Bechtel, Washington
Margaret Booz, S. W. Virginia
Katharine Putnam, Chicago

LAY WOMEN

Miss Elizabeth McCracken, New York
Mrs. James De Wolf Perry, Rhode Island
Mrs. Robert Adams, Virginia

THE PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

(By virtue of their office)

- | | | |
|----------|------|--|
| Province | I. | Deaconess E. H. Coe, Worcester, Mass. |
| " | II. | Deaconess Amy G. Thompson, Upper Red Hook, N. Y. |
| " | III. | Deaconess Anne Newman, Callaway, Va. |
| " | IV. | Deaconess H. M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida. |
| " | V. | Deaconess E. M. Sargent, Chicago, Ill. |
| " | VI. | Deaconess Marian Brown, Ethete, Wyoming. |
| " | VII. | Deaconess L. W. Crow, Dallas, Texas. |

It was felt that this large group would be able to provide a variety of opinions, and to give a real opportunity for publicity everywhere through the Church. The general idea is not to have meetings, but to be in touch through correspondence, and to work together for this cause. We hope that articles about the Order and Work of Deaconesses can be published in diocesan and even in parish papers, and that at meetings of the Woman's Auxiliary, Young People's Fellowship, Church School, and Summer Conferences, we might have the chance to speak about the need for trained workers and to explain the Order of Deaconess. There are several pamphlets

already prepared for our own information or to pass on to others or to be adapted for local publication. These can be secured at the New York Training School for Deaconesses, St. Faith's House, 419 West 110th Street, New York, 25, N. Y. Quotations from various members of the Committee are tabulated as follows:

"I have felt for a long time that this was what was needed."

"I think all deaconesses are speaking both formally and informally on the need of trained workers and the Deaconess Order."

A lay woman who declined to become a member said in her letter, "All the deaconesses I have known have been outstanding women. The rest of us can be very proud of you."

"Would it not be feasible for someone to try to get in touch with the Heads of Church Schools for Girls, also with those responsible for Church girls in colleges?"

"I have been pained by the lack of knowledge as to the Order of Deaconess among the clergy and church people. It seems to me that until the Church as a whole and the clergy in particular are informed on the subject we cannot hope for any increase in the Order."

"When we had our Girls' Camp (before the war) I used to be given time to present to them the work of women in the Church, and as a result there is one girl who desires to become a deaconess. I have talked to the Daughters of the King and hope to speak at the Diocesan Meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary next month."

"Can't some of the young and attractive deaconesses be sent to Summer Conferences and Diocesan Conventions?"

"I think that a lot of us older ones who have time to gad about, ought to be suppressed, and locked out of sight, especially in some places, since the only deaconesses one sees are the old and decrepit."

"My suggestion would be that we pick attractive deaconesses as speakers and send them to our girls' schools. I think many of our young people might become interested in this vocation if it was presented to them in an intelligent manner."

"Not nearly enough recruits are coming in to carry on when the deaconesses now at work lay their armour down. We ought to make quite sure whether or not the Church wants deaconesses. It is up to the Bishops to say in General Convention just what the Church will do to support them, and also to put the Setting Apart Service in the Prayer Book. I think the publicity should be from outside the Order, unless there was a deaconess whose sole work was to speak in the Churches and Seminaries about it."

Deaconess Crow of Dallas, Texas, has sent a letter to each clergyman in her Diocese. It is as follows:

Dear Sir:

The Order of Deaconess is very eager to have the New York Training School for Deaconesses (affectionately called St. Faith's House), known to our young women. There is a great need for trained women in the Church. Perhaps you may have some well balanced, practical, deeply devoted women in your Church whom you might send.

Will you speak about this some Sunday soon? Enclosed is a poster, the Canon on Deaconesses, and a folder about St. Faith's House.

If you will present it, please mail the enclosed postal, merely signing your name. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Lillian W. Crow, Deaconess.

How would you like to do something like this in your diocese?

AN APPEAL FOR EXTRA FUNDS

The Committee on Publicity and Promotion is hoping to do something worth while, but there are no funds for such work in hand. The printing and mailing of "The Deaconess" is always a question to be considered in view of the Treasurer's balance. One Deaconess has recently sent ten dollars to help in that uncertainty. The Treasurer, Deaconess Edith Booth, St. Paul, Va., will gladly receive any amount, large or small, that you can spare to help in this work. With gratitude for your interest and support, we are sincerely yours,

Katharine E. Phelps,
Gertrude Stewart, Co. Chairmen.

PRAYER LEAFLET

"The life-blood of the Church is prayer for one another, and the adoration of the Lord is its vital breath." (Khomiakov).

THANKSGIVING:

For the safe return of our missionaries from internment in the Philippines, especially of Deaconesses Dawson, Massey, Shaw, and Helen Boyle (graduate of Chicago Training School, and for Dorothy Sims (graduate of St. Faith's).

For the joy of entertaining them at the Los Angeles Deaconess House.

For the safe return of Dss. Putnam a year ago from China, and for the good work she is doing in the Chicago City Missions.

For the recovery of Dss. Sargent from an illness of several months. G. E. W.

That the Church is awakening to the need for Deaconesses as demonstrated by requests from the Clergy for their services.

For the cessation of war in Europe and the release of prisoners of war, both civil and military.

For two Deaconesses who are doing good work in Hawaii.

For the preservation of many nephews in the Service. For two who have made the supreme sacrifice. May they go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service. E. E. S.

For relief from an incapacitation illness of two months. L. R. C.

For the devotion of a friend who provides for a deaconess; for improved health bringing increased opportunity for service.

For all who have found Christ anew through suffering, for the noble example of War Chaplains, for those who have laid down their lives in the line of duty; for the courage of youth in the Service, their compassion towards the oppressed, their tenderness towards little children. E. E. S.

For consecrated doctors and nurses, and that they may increase in numbers. L. K.

For improvement in health of a deaconess, and for friends given to her in time of need.

That two deaconesses, Clara and Edith, and their friend, Ethel, were spared serious injury or death in an automobile accident.

For a beautiful Ascension Day. M. F. W.

"However quietly we may speak, He is so near that He will hear us. We do not need wings to go to see Him but only to consider Him within us. He is the great King whose kindness has led Him to be our Father." (S. Teresa). As Thou hast called us to Thy service make us worthy of our calling.

INTERCESSIONS:

That a Deaconess may hear the call to come and take over the management of the Los Angeles Deaconess House. L. R. C.

That facilities may be provided for deaconesses, missionaries, and other church workers to be cared for in illness and failing health. L. K.

That many more young women, especially those returning from war service, may find their vocation in the Order of Deaconess, and that means may be provided for their training.

For all Deaconesses and Missionary Training Schools, especially for St. Faith's, New York, that they may increase more and more in wisdom and knowledge under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

For all Deaconesses that we may be given power to persevere in spiritual growth, that meditation and prayer may be interpreted into our daily living.

For complete restoration to health to a deaconess that she may be able to work again; and that she may have learned through suffering to accept God's way for her and to trust Him at all times.

For God's blessing and special direction for the work of St. Paul's Mission in Phoenix, Arizona; that all bitterness may be put away and that the people may all work for the common good "to make Christ known."

That God will accept the offering of the work of the Arapahoe Indians in Wyoming, and bless and direct the people and workers in that field.

That God will speak to the heart of a deaconess and tell her what He will have her do at this time, when she is trying to make a decision in her work.

For restoration to health for Ethel, suffering from a back injury; for comfort for Mildred in her sorrow (due to the loss of her father); for all deaconesses who need a home, that they may find a haven of rest; for peace to come speedily to all the world.

M. F. W.

For a deaconess in distress, due to having to move suddenly, that a suitable house may soon be found for her. E. E. S.

Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Ephes. 3:20-21.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 419 W. 110TH ST., NEW YORK 25, N. Y.

EDITH M. ADAMS, EDITH A. BOOTH, MARGARET BECHTOL,

CLARA SEARLE, JANE B. GILLESPIE,

GERTRUDE STEWART, AMY THOMPSON,

SECRETARY-TREASURER, EDITH A. BOOTH, ST. PAUL, VA.

EDITORS ETHEL E. SPENCER, THE DESERT INN, PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.

GERTRUDE STEWART, THE LEAMY, MT. AIRY, PHILA. 19, PA.

DECEMBER, 1945

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NATIONAL CHAIRMAN A Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year to All!

Greetings from St. Faith's House!

Some weeks ago our academic work began and now the School is in full swing. There are nine students—three Seniors, four Juniors and two "Specials". The last are Deaconess-Candidates: Miss Evelyn Ashcroft, Missionary District of Shanghai, and Mrs. Celia Brown, Diocese of Newark. The seven students come from the Dioceses of Chicago, Dallas, Long Island, Massachusetts, New York, South Carolina, and Southwestern Virginia.

We delight in having with us Deaconess Shaw returned from the Philippines, and Miss Nellie McKim from Japan via internment in the Philippines. A few weeks ago Miss Marian Davis (The Philippines) came to spend a few months. Another returned missionary deserves special mention for not only is she living with us (while she continues her Chinese studies) but she is giving the School untiring and wholehearted assistance. She is Elda Smith, Class of 1937.

Like many another family we have "domestic difficulties." Can you imagine this House without maids? without one maid? Such is our plight. However, the students valiantly share in keeping the House tidy and in keeping the dishes washed.

As to the curriculum, generally speaking, it remains the same. Father Pittenger gives the instruction in *Theology*, adding "Christian Ethics" for Senior consumption. The Rev. John D. Wing, Jr., tutor at General Seminary teaches *New Testament*. Father Rosebaugh has added to his *Religious Education* courses a separate term's work in *General Psychology* for both Juniors and Seniors. In the class "*Recreational Activities for Children*", Miss Mary S. Shafer, Teachers College, has led the students into discovering that they possess a surprising number of muscles! Imitating jumping kangaroos and hopping rabbits may be fun on Monday but not as much fun on Tuesday! Another course we are enjoying greatly and learning much from is Canon Green's "*The Choral Service*." We are looking forward in high anticipation to Canon West's three lectures, "*The Arts as Impressive and Expressive Media of the Church*," beginning Friday, November 30th, at 8 P.M. Do join us if you are in or near New York.

So much for the present.

As for the future: We are hopeful that some service women returning to civilian life may discover their vocation to Church work either as Deaconesses or lay workers. Your help is needed in being on the lookout for such women as may qualify and in directing their attention to training. Many positions are vacant and no applicants!

That the School was in a position last fall to begin the second year must have been a source of great satisfaction to those of you who helped in one way or another to reopen it a year ago. It WAS a venture of faith and your faith evidenced by your generous and steady support made the operation of the School possible. Many are the times when thanks to God have been offered—for you, for your faith in us, and for your "works" supporting it. The outlook for this year is most promising in the matter of good student material and willing faculty co-operation. If the Executive Committee can have the assurance that you will share with them the financial responsibility of operating the School and if you will continue to make the welfare of the School one of your daily intercessions, then can we be hopeful of a fruitful year.

Deaconess Searle joins me in bidding you welcome whenever you may find it possible to come to St. Faith's House.

RUTH JOHNSON
Head Deaconess and
Chairman, Executive Committee

REPORT OF CONFERENCE

September 29, 1945

A meeting of the Conference of Deaconesses was held at St. Faith's House following the meeting of the Corporation of the Retiring Fund, on September 29, 1945.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted. The Treasurer's report was read and passed.

Deaconess Johnson reported on what had been done and what must still be done in regard to the School. She told of the writing of a paper on the Order of Deaconesses to be included in the set of pamphlets on Vocation being published by the National Council.

Letters from Deaconesses unable to attend the Retreat and Conference were read.

Dr. Pepper's reply to the letter regarding the Selective Service Act for nurses was read. He stated that there were ten responses from different Churches and all would wish to claim exemption—reasons all uniform.

Letters from Bishops Roberts and Craighill were read, thanking Deaconess Johnson for the use of the House for the China Conference.

Reports of Committees followed:

Committee on Publicity for Deaconess Patterson's Chart reported no action.

Committee on Publicity and Promotion—Much has been done by this committee. Material is on hand and ready to be sent to our colleges or other places. Those wishing material are requested to write Deaconess Phelps, 611 Beaver Street, Santa Rosa, Calif.

A report was made on Deaconess Coe's work in contacting the WACS and WAVES. She has secured long lists of them and their parish connections in the Province of New England.

Deaconess Newbold reported on what had been done along this line in Philadelphia. She has also secured the names of all the women of the Diocese in the armed forces.

It was suggested that the prayer for the Increase of the Order be sent to the Priests of the Church for their use in Churches.

It was reported that there are now 160 deaconesses in the Church, about one-half active and one-half retired. (Some retired ones are active as volunteers in worthwhile work.)

The work being done by some of the Provincial Representatives was called to the attention of the meeting. The News Letter published by Deaconess Anne Newman, representative for the Third Province, was shown to the group.

The Chairman requested that we all give serious thought to our General Conference to meet at the time of the General Convention next September. It was suggested that our meetings be scheduled for Monday, September 9th, the day before the General Convention opens, so that all who attend could be there for the great Opening Service. Some others wanted to keep to the first Saturday of the Convention, that would be September 14th. (*May we have some opinions from you expressed as to choice—Editor.*) It was suggested that we try to secure Old Christ Church as the place of our meeting.

The Philadelphia Deaconesses would like the names of those who are planning to attend so that they can secure rooms for them.

Deaconess Phelps suggested that the alternate plans for the time of the meeting be sent out for the information and vote of those hoping to attend.

A motion was passed that a message of thanks be sent to the Director of the Retreat for his inspiring and helpful meditations.

Respectfully submitted,

EDITH A. BOOTH, Deaconess,
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

September 29, 1945

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand, Sept. 29, 1944 \$ 133.58
Dues, Sept. 1944—Sept. 1945 123.00
Gifts for Printing 99.50

Total Receipts \$ 356.08

DISBURSEMENTS

Printing two issues of The Deaconess \$ 95.02
Printing and Mailing, Prayer, for Promotion and Publicity
Mailing The Deaconess 12.32

Total Disbursements \$ 107.34
Balance on hand 248.74

\$ 356.08

EMERGENCY FUND

Balance on hand Sept. 28, 1944 \$ 42.75
Receipts 00.00

Disbursements \$ 42.75
00.00

Balance on hand \$ 42.75

Edith A. Booth, Deaconess,
Treasurer

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES**

September 25, 1945

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held at St. Faith's House on September 25, 1945.

Deaconess Johnson reported on the progress of the School, and discussion followed as to what will happen at the end of the fifth year. Deaconess Johnson recommended that we give serious thought to this.

A motion was made as to the policy for the House for consideration by General Conference: that the Executive Committee give special consideration to the use which might be made of this house, (not implying in this a Home for retired Deaconesses) but as a Central House for the Order of Deaconesses in addition to its use as a Training School.

The Committee on Publicity and Promotion was empowered to enlarge their Committee in an effort to promote publicity for a Central House.

The question of WACS and WAVES was considered and it was reported by the Committee on Publicity and Promotion that material was now ready to be sent out.

The Executive Committee expressed their thanks to the Deaconesses for their response to the Appeal made in THE DEACONESS for funds for publishing the same. (See Treasurer's Statement.)

The Chairman of the Executive Committee was requested to get in touch with the Financial Committee of the Board of Trustees of the School to find out about permanent repairs for the House.

A resolution was passed that the Executive Committee request a joint meeting with the Board of Trustees in January 1946 to report to them the progress of the School, and especially to consider preservation and restoration of the fabric of the School.

Respectfully submitted,

EDITH A. BOOTH, Deaconess,
Secretary

**THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION
OF THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES**

The Corporation of The Retiring Fund held its Eighteenth Annual Meeting at St. Faith's House, New York, on Friday, September 28, 1945, from 9.30 to 10.30. Twenty Deaconesses were present. The President, Deaconess Stewart, presided and opened the meeting with prayer.

The election of directors was held by ballot and Deaconesses Dorothea Betz and Clara Searle were elected to serve in Class III until September, 1948.

The Secretary, Deaconess West, read her annual report saying in part: She had brought the contributors' file covering nineteen years up to date, selecting the names of all those who had given fifty dollars or over to the Fund. This list will later be written up in a book; a Memorial Book is also in the making containing the names of all those who have contributed fifty dollars or more as a memorial. Contributions for the year past were \$3,515.84. Among the largest were:

The estate of Henrietta Rue Goodwin (1/3 Residue)	\$1,169.82
The estate of Mary Shepard (1/3 Residue plus \$100)	600.33
Mrs. Margaret Hayes in memory of Romola Dahlgren	300.00
Mrs. Reginald Pearce in memory of Romola Dahlgren	50.00
Mrs. Jessie Landis	500.00
Mr. E. W. Axe	100.00
W.A. Diocese of Dallas	62.50
W.A. Diocese of Kansas	43.00
W.A. Diocese of Chicago	231.00
Pence Box Offering	75.79

The Treasurer, Col. Beckwith, made his report in person and said: As every precaution of prudence and wisdom is being used to safeguard the Fund, everyone should understand this and feel no apprehension. Two separate accounts are kept and always will be, one for The Retiring Fund and one for St. Faith's Fund. A Revolving Fund has been set up to provide cash at the end of the fiscal year assuring no borrowing and no overdraft. The expenses last year were \$2200, 10-1/3% of the capital. The present amount in War Bonds is \$20,000, paying 2-1/2%. Thru contributions and the sound advice of E. W. Axe & Co. in buying and selling securities, the Fund now stands at \$122,000 and the income for the coming year for distribution to the beneficiaries will be \$5,000. Advertisements are being run monthly in FORTH and occasionally in the Living Church.

There was one ordination during the year, GLADYS HALL, at Spring Hill, Alabama.

Five members of the Corporation have died: Deaconesses ROMOLA DAHLGREN, MABEL WAYMAN NICHOLAS, MARY ELLEN BARLOW, BERTHA M. GARVIN, ELIZA DICKEY.

The Corporation passed the following RESOLUTIONS:

Be it RESOLVED that the Corporation of The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses express appreciation and gratitude for the life and work of Romola Dahlgren, Deaconess, who for ten years served as President of the Board of Directors. Her deep concern for Deaconesses who after years of faithful service to the Church must retire without

means of support, led her to evolve the idea of a Retiring Fund which with God's grace has so far exceeded anything she could hope or desire for it.
Be it further **RESOLVED** that a copy of this **RESOLUTION** be placed on the records of The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

It was suggested that an investigation be made by the Directors to see if any provision could be made by which The Retiring Fund would take out a policy in the Church Life Insurance and pay the fee if the annuity were made payable to The Retiring Fund. This would be for newly-set-apart deaconesses. Or—if such information could be made available to deaconesses who might be able to take the responsibility for themselves.

MARY C. WEST,
Secretary

AN APPRECIATION

We regret to record the passing of our friend and adviser, Dr. John Henry Hopkins, on All Saints Day, 1945. His was a dynamic personality and he greatly influenced every person and organization with which he came in contact. His teaching was bold and clear cut and will live long in the lives of those who were privileged to sit under him. His daily prayer for The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses at the early Communion was one of his priceless gifts to us. From Paradise his intercessions for us will be our heritage and our blessing. May he rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon him.

MARY C. WEST,
Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

It would be nice to be optimistic, but it is discouraging when some members of the committee do not report any action, so that we cannot report much progress at this time. Few have asked for the material we have on hand for publicity.

Ninety-nine, of the one hundred-and-fifty-odd, deaconesses on our list, have agreed to use the prayer for the increase of our Order. To each of them we are sending several copies of our leaflets which we hope they will try to place in the hands of clergy and Auxiliary officers, with a personal word about the demand for deaconesses exceeding the present supply. We ought to be able to count on their help in making known to suitable young women the possibility of service in the Office of Deaconess.

Will any deaconess not receiving the leaflets, and yet willing to help in this way, please let us know, and those wishing more material, also? We have on hand more of the prayer cards which we would like to have widely used by all friends of our Order. Now that St. Faith's is reopened and we have once more a real School for Deaconesses, and several candidates in prospect, it is surely our duty to do all we can to help meet the urgent need of the Church for consecrated trained leadership—the demand is there, the training is available, and so we must all help to find the women.

Katharine E. Phelps (611 Beaver St., Santa Rosa, Calif.)
Gertrude Stewart (The Leamy, Philadelphia 19, Pa.)
Co-Chairmen of Committee on Publicity and Promotion.

NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

Deaconess E. Nehls, of the Diocese of Alabama, writes of her work as follows:

"For the past nine years I have been connected with the Church Home, the Diocesan Orphanage, at Spring Hill, first as assistant House Mother, and then as dietitian, and assistant to Deaconess Whitford, the Matron.

"In September, 1941, Bishop Carpenter asked me to take over the City Visiting. As you know there are people coming from every section of the country to work in Mobile. Our ship yards, airports, docks, paper mills and other manufacturing plants have attracted thousands of workers and their families, and it is these people that I visit. They are strangers to our city and are usually very lonely. The majority of them are young couples with little children to be placed in Church Schools, or young girls who have just been married a short time to soldier boys, who will soon be sent over seas. There are quite a lot of Episcopalians among them, but if they aren't Episcopalians I visit them just the same. We have a grand time discussing our home towns, and just where they will go to Church in Mobile. They are a fine bunch of people and I have enjoyed my work with them very much."

Deaconess Ethel E. Spencer has been ill for some time this fall, and is having great difficulty in finding a place to live. Friends have come to her rescue several times and she has had a pleasant room in the Desert Inn for awhile, which is limited to December 15th. She describes it thus: "Now I am lying on my hospital bed with a gorgeous view, a large quadrangle, around which are grouped cottages (Old Mission Style). We move my bed from east to west on my own terrace. This is the loveliest hotel in Palm Springs, quiet and gracious, with a great white cross on the

mountains directly behind, where Easter Dawn Services are held." We hope that God will supply all her needs, as He has done thus far.

Deaconess Laura Knepper writes from Honolulu, Hawaii, that she is working at Trinity Japanese Church. Housing difficulties there are the same as here. She and her sister have found temporary refuge with a friend. She says she will never again take a roof over her head for granted.

Deaconess Rachel O. Hemphill writes of her return from Florida to her old parish in Greenwich, Conn. She says: "I am in a nursing home. I have been ill for sometime, and having to stay in Florida through the summers during the war, the heat took its toll of me, and I was advised to come back North. God has been very gracious to me in bringing me back to my dear church home, and the many friends I have here, and while I am not able yet to attend service, our rector and his associates are most kind in ministering to me here. I feel that our Heavenly Father is very near to me and I am resting in His love."

Deaconess Anna W. Lovell says that she and her sister have sold their big house and have moved into a nice little six-room cottage. The address is 17 Prudential Road, Worcester 6, Mass. "It is three miles from All Saints, but quite near St. Michael's. Our car is still running and there is good bus service. The country is lovely and the neighbors delightful."

Deaconess Frances Semle of Providence, R. I., writes: "My work is the same as it has always been, regular city parish work. Organizations and visiting and Sunday School. I am Superintendent of the Educational work in the Woman's Auxiliary and help with the Altar Guild—just the same sort of thing that every Parish Worker is called upon to do. I love the work as much as I ever did, and thank God I am able to continue."

Deaconess Mary S. Johnson writes of their pleasure in having had a visit from Deaconess Shaw at their home in New Haven, Conn.

Deaconess Griebel is spending the winter with her sister, Mrs. Geib, 4920 46th St. N.W., Washington 16, D. C.

Deaconess McNulty is working under the auspices of the New York City Mission at Schermerhorn House, Milford, Conn. She says, "It is a lovely work." She is in charge of all religious activities, except those done by the Chaplain.

Deaconess Bedell in Florida, continues her work at Glade Cross Mission, Everglades. She writes of a new work recently undertaken, that is of giving religious instruction to the children of isolated Church families. There are fourteen such children being dismissed from school for the class. Her main work is with the Indians, however. She says, "It took me three years of prayerfully ignoring their unfriendliness, to win their confidence. Now there is not one who is not friendly, and they are at the Mission nearly every day. What prayer doth bring about!"

A LIFE OF SERVICE TO OTHERS

We are glad to bring to the attention of all deaconesses the fine record of work that *Deaconess Lillian M. Yeo* was permitted to make, in her long service at the House of Mercy in Washington, D. C.

Deaconess Yeo was graduated from the New York Training School in 1901 and went to this work then, being retired this year, so for forty-four years she served faithfully the many women who came to her in their time of need. She writes of it as follows: "My work has been my life, and I have had time to do very little outside my special care of my family, which has numbered over 600 girls and 400 children, in all these years, girls from all over this country; and today I am in communication with at least half of that number, perhaps more." Many of us remember with pleasure her great hospitality extended to us in 1928 when the General Convention met in Washington and she offered to the limit of available space the use of her Home to the Deaconesses attending the Convention. Especially do we remember the Day of Conference there—the service in the beautiful chapel and the good food served us by her household, so that we did not have to go out for any purpose all the day. We offer our congratulations and pray for God's blessing upon her now in a peaceful and happy retirement.

Deaconess Margaret Booz has been taking a three months course in Practical Nursing at the Jefferson Hospital in Roanoke, Va. This is to enable her to care for the people in her regular work in Callaway, Va.

Deaconess Anne Newman is to be away for several months after New Year's to assist in a Survey of the Rural Work in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia.

NOTES ON THE ANNUAL RETREAT

The Conductor of the Retreat was the Rev. Thomas Lee Brown, Rector of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Newport, R. I.

Introduction. Lent was considered a time for real practice for the battle of life. When temptations come we are uncomfortable. Life is a battle from the cradle to the grave. A deaconess is out in the storm of life, busying herself with the problems of others. They are leaders, fighters in the Church of God. We, ourselves, must fight and help others to fight. This warfare is against greed, oppression, fear, and hatred. We are called to a high station, to be like God. The power to choose good or evil is a dangerous power, which only man, of all God's creatures, possesses. The glory of God is living man, and the pearl of great price is the vision of God. It is easy to say, "I will serve God," but preserving and being loyal to the vision each day is difficult. If one big effort to prove our devotion to God was enough, that would be easy, but to choose Him each moment of our lives is hard. The Prayer Book shows this—"no power of ourselves to help ourselves", "in-

crease in us true religion", "Be ye perfect". We need help to keep always "on the beam". We are here in retreat for that purpose. Retreat is a military term. We withdraw for a time of refreshment, to be alone with God, to "be still and know that I am God". It is a spiritual rest, not a bodily or mental rest. It is to let God do a special work in our hearts. It is partly a time to take stock of ourselves but also a time for a renewal of strength. God's voice doesn't speak to people in the same way. Our relation to God is not only that of one person, but that of a family, in relation to the Father. We come to the dynamo of power to be made strong. Our meditations are to be on The Eucharist and its application to our daily lives. How we are to relate our purpose in life to the sacrament of the Altar.

MEDITATIONS

God made me to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him here on earth and to be happy forever with Him in heaven. The parable of the Rich Fool in St. Luke 12, shows us a man that the world would not think of as a fool. He was prosperous, but God called him a fool. Why? He was living in complete forgetfulness of God—the only real thing that mattered. He was self-assertive, self-satisfied, and failed to acknowledge that all his gifts came from God. "A fool hath said in his heart 'There is no God'." Many people today consider a person all right if he does no harm. We may be busy with good works and yet give little attention to God. God made me first to know Him. That does not mean to know about. The disciples knew Our Lord. They cultivated His friendship. We must remember that God is the source of all our being. He wants *all* of us. The Church is a fellowship. We are very members of His body. Death does not sever us from our bond with Christ. Am I too busy with outward things? Do I neglect the spiritual? Can He say to me—"Well done"? Am I rich toward God, or am I a fool?

St. John 12. "Now is the judgment of this world . . . And I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto me." Our Lord prayed that we would be one. As we look at the church today it seems very far from being one. But in the Eucharist we are one, although it is offered on a thousand altars. He dwells in us and we in Him and thus we become one with others in Him. We worship as the family of God, fed with one food. The fruit of true worship is holy living. Is the Eucharist only a memorial of one who is dead? Certainly not that at all. It is not a repetition of Calvary but a re-presentation of Calvary, the only acceptable sacrifice. It is the place of meeting, an offering of the whole body of Christ, the living and the dead. It is the extension of the Passion in history, it is the drama of our salvation. Christ is lifted up for the sins of the world, and is the center of our unity.

Prayer is talking with God. Our frequent use of the Lord's Prayer makes it almost mechanical. We who live in close connection with holy things may become indifferent. We use terms too glibly, "surrender", "love God, Serve Him". God chooses how we are to serve him. We are "called", "chosen". We have a vocation, not a profession. We obeyed because we believed we were called. It is hard to know the will of God and even harder to do it. That is our goal. We must strive to do God's will.

God made me to love Him. Jesus was killed for the sin of blasphemy. He identified himself with God—"made himself equal with God." "I and my Father are one." The triumphal entry into Jerusalem was a spontaneous outburst of appreciation and Jesus accepted it. So we see that Jesus claimed to be God and accepted the worship of the multitude. He ordained the Eucharist as a new form of worship. The Temple sacrifices soon ceased as they were the shadows of that to come. God supplied Himself with a victim, His only Son, the Lamb of God. In this service we offer to God "That only offering perfect in thine eyes, the one, true, pure, immortal sacrifice."

St. John 6, in the feeding of the multitudes, our Lord used the people's offering. The child's loaves and fishes in no way equalled the demand, but Christ blessed it and it was more than enough. The Blessed Virgin's purity and obedience made the Incarnation possible. That offering was necessary. Do we really connect ourselves with that offering on the altar? Do we connect our giving with it? It is a threefold gift. 1. The Passion and Sacrifice of grace. 2. Man's gifts—bread and wine, represent his labor. 3. Ourselves—our souls and bodies. This is a real communion, an "at-one-ment". Man gives, God hallows and gives back to man. We go out as Christ's bearers, carrying Him to the world. The Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man is made real to us only in the Holy Communion.

God is our beginning and our final destiny. Men must learn to be brothers, realizing they are all of one family, travelling toward the throne of God. Superficial religion is sacrilege in God's sight. Our Lord reproved hypocrites. St. Matt. 23, the parable of the sheep and goats shows us that worship and right living go hand in hand. "If ye love me keep my commandments." We serve Christ when we serve others. "In as much" is our assurance. Serving Christ through man, and God through Christ, is our task. Deaconesses have taken this yoke. You serve the church all for the love of Christ. Place that offering always on the altar. "I can do all things through Christ Jesus that strengtheneth me."

PRAYER LEAFLET

FOR CHRISTMAS.

O God, to whom glory is sung in the highest, while on earth peace is proclaimed to men of good will, grant that good will to us and to all people; cleanse us from our sins, and give perpetual peace. Amen.

O heavenly Father, who hast declared thy Love to men by the birth of the Holy Child at Bethlehem, help us to welcome him with gladness and to make room for him in our common days; so that we may live at peace with one another, and in goodwill with all thy family; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVINGS

Let us thank God:

For the end of active warfare, and the safe return of the many loved ones from overseas.
For the return to health and homes of the many interned war prisoners from all the battle areas.

For the number of students at St. Faith's House, and their adaptability to the extra household duties required by shortage of help.

For a number of priests in the Diocese of Maine recently ordained.

For several young married couples accepted as new missionaries for China.

For the helpful Retreat and Conferences of Deaconesses held in late September at St. Faith's in New York.

INTERCESSIONS:

Let us pray God:

To over-rule all disorders of Labor Movements in our Country and that a solution of fairness to all may be forth-coming, and that our people may dwell together in peace and happiness.

To bring order out of the great chaos now evident in all countries, that a just and strong government may emerge, and the peoples strive to live in harmony and mutual helpfulness.

To take under thy Fatherly care all sick and disabled deaconesses, giving them the sense of Thy presence in their weakness.

For two children ill from serious causes; for God's comfort to a family who recently lost a small boy due to accidental shooting; that the older boys in the rural areas of Maine will continue to attend Church School. E.R.T.

That all our deaconesses may strive to help our Order grow, by prayers for candidates, and by speaking of the work and need whenever possible, and by passing on carefully all publicity material sent to them.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Miss Evelyn Ashcroft, M.A. of the Diocese of Shanghai, will be set apart as Deaconess at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, on Saint Paul's Day, 1946.

A POEM

Lord, let me learn to greet each day, with calmness, be it bright or gray.
If skies are blue, let my heart sing and courage to the dark hours bring.
And, Lord, this too I ask of You—Let sad hearts bring their grief to me
And comfort find and sympathy. Make me a neighbor, helpful, kind,
And may each fellow creature find in me a friend, dear Lord. Amen.

PRAYER

O God, the God of all goodness and grace, who art worthy of a greater love than we can give or understand; fill our hearts, we beseech Thee, with such love toward Thee that nothing may seem too hard for us to do in obedience to Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Have you considered that the richest gift
Is close at hand for just so many days,
But that the heart-felt love which prompted it
Lives on to cheer another's heart, always?

By Dave Mack.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO PONDER AND ACT UPON

1. Have you any suggestions for the Triennial Conference of Deaconesses in Philadelphia next September, at the time of the General Convention? Send your topics for discussion or suggestions to our Chairman, Deaconess Ruth Johnson, 419 W. 110th Street, New York 25, N. Y.

2. Will any deaconess who has not heard from her Provincial representative about our plans for publicity, and who desires to help, please write to Deaconess Phelps, 611 Beaver Street, Santa Rosa, Calif.

3. Will any deaconess who desires an up-to-date revision of Anniversaries of Deaconesses, send a post card saying so, to Deaconess Phelps at the above address.

4. Important. Please pass out all literature sent to you to some worthwhile person—your Bishop, your rector, the officers of the Woman's Auxiliary, and the teachers of the Senior Girls in Church School. Will you do this carefully and prayerfully—as a work of love?

IN MEMORIAM

ELIZA DICKY, Deaconess

Deaconess Eliza Dickey, who died in Los Angeles on June 22nd, was born in Ohio 89 years ago. She was a graduate nurse of Massachusetts General Hospital and a licensed M.D. of Cincinnati, where for many years she was superintendent of the Episcopal Hospital for Children. She came to Los Angeles in 1918 and was ordered deaconess by Bishop Vincent. She worked in various parishes in this city, notably at the Church of the Redeemer and St. Michael's Mission.

Funeral services were held at Holy Faith Church, Inglewood, Calif., on June 27th, by Bishop Gooden, assisted by the Rev. R. V. Hinkle. Interment was in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

May she rest in peace—and may light perpetual shine upon her. Amen.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RUTH JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, 419 W. 110TH ST., NEW YORK 25, N. Y.

EDITH M. ADAMS, EDITH A. BOOTH, MARGARET BECHTOL,

CLARA SEARLE, JANE B. GILLESPIE,

GERTRUDE STEWART, AMY THOMPSON,

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EDITORS { ETHEL E. SPENCER, THE CLIFTON SPRINGS SANITARIUM,
CLIFTON SPRINGS, NEW YORK
GERTRUDE STEWART, THE LEAMY, MT. AIRY, PHILA. 19, PA.

JUNE, 1946

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

1. Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
2. Amy G. Thompson, Upper Red Hook, N. Y.
3. Anne Newman. Callaway, Va.
4. Harriet M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida.
5. Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.
6. Marion Brown, Ethete, Wyoming.
7. Lillian W. Crow, 229 N. Ewing Ave., Dallas, Texas.
- 8.

IMPORTANT. KEEP THIS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

Program—NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH.

Place—Christ Church, 2nd Street north of Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa. (Use any Market Street car going East, marked "Front and Market". Get off at 2nd STREET. Walk north one-half block.)

Time—Monday, September 9, 1946.

8.30 A.M. Holy Communion.

Breakfast after the service, in Neighborhood House at rear of Church. Price 50 cents.

10.15 to 11.00 Meditation. Director: The Rev. Alfred M. Smith, City Mission, Philadelphia.

11.00 to 11.30 Quiet Time.

11.30 to 1.00 Conference in Neighborhood House.

1.15 Luncheon at Neighborhood House. Price 75 cents.

2.00 to 5.00 Conference continued.

If it is found necessary to have an evening session, there are near-by restaurants where supper could be secured, but we hope all can be finished by five o'clock.

NOTICE. Deaconesses desiring hospitality must write as soon as possible, giving exact dates, to DEACONESS NEWBOLD

8622 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia 28, Pa.

WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Greetings from St. Faith's House. Our "venture of faith" seems now to be well launched. Again we shall close our books with a balance in the bank. If next year's receipts do not fall below those of 1945-46, and if a good entering class is registered for the autumn, we can expect the school to move forward surely and steadily. Our gratitude and heartfelt thanks go out to those of you whose financial support helped to make this year a success.

It has not been an easy year. The difficulties in securing domestic help have been great and very trying. However, those very difficulties may have had much to do with welding our school life into a closely knit family life, a family with a fine esprit de corps.

Elsewhere in this issue you will read about our Commencement—a happy day indeed.

I am looking forward to National Conference in Philadelphia on September ninth, hopeful that many of you may find it possible to attend. In order that we may cover as much ground as possible in the short time at our disposal on that day, will you please send me your suggestions as to topics for discussion and send them early in August if possible?

It is not planned to send out another notice of the National Conference time table. SAVE THIS ISSUE of "THE DEACONESS" for future reference and bring it with you.

RUTH JOHNSON

On the occasion of St. Faith's Commencement the offering was designated for the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses and it amounted to \$91.05. That was a fine gift, and the Directors of the Fund appreciate it greatly.

Change of Addresses.

Deaconess E. Suzanne McNulty, Schermerhorn House, Milford, Conn.

Deaconess Hemphill, 40 Locust St., Greenwich, Conn.

Deaconess Beard, 27 Prospect St., Dover, N. H.

Deaconess Phelps, George's Mills, N. H.

Please Note. Since Deaconess Phelps has received only six requests to revise the list of Anniversaries of Deaconesses, she is not having the booklet reprinted. Please insert in your copy the name and dates for Deaconess Evelyn Ashcroft, Ordained on Jan. 25th, Born on May 10th.

Motto. Of this we may be sure; that thoughts winged with peace and love breathe a silent benediction over the world.

—Ted Bentz.

NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

Deaconess Maude T. Henderson, after a residence of nearly forty-three years in China, (being now seventy-nine years old) has returned to her old home in Lexington, Virginia. She was interned as a war prisoner in a British-American camp in Shanghai, and came to the U.S.A. on an army transport. Extracts from a Seattle newspaper give some items of interest about her as quoted here. "The poor and afflicted" knocked at Maude Henderson's door in a village near Shanghai for forty-two years and were aided and comforted. She went to China in 1903. She had wanted to be a missionary since childhood, but her going was delayed until she was over thirty, because she had to care for a younger sister. She went under the Episcopal Church, but later resigned to carry on an independent work. She is a trained nurse as well as a deaconess. She called her refuge for the poor "St. Faith's House", for it was established on faith and it was faith that kept it going. She was known as "grandma" to all in the village.

While in the prison camp she told the Japanese Commandant that her uncle, Commodore Alexander Henderson, had accompanied Commodore Perry as Chief Engineer, when they delivered President Fillmore's letter to the Japanese Emperor in 1853. After that he gave her very courteous treatment. She remembers her childhood visit in the home of General Robert E. Lee, and that he kissed her and gave her a cookie. In a letter to a friend since her return she writes, "Of course I long for my family in China, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One of my last visitors was a grandmother who came to me as a child forty-two years ago."

Those who have seen her work, through the years, cannot help feeling that her loving and unlimited service to China's poor will merit our Lord's most gracious praise, "In-as-much" . . . "Ye have done it unto Me."

Deaconess Katherine Wood was retired on May 15th after 41 years of active service at All Saints' Church, Atlanta, Ga. In addition she has also worked at Holy Innocents' Mission in Atlanta.

Deaconess Clara E. Orwig resigned from Nevada last December and accepted Bishop Randall's offer of full time City Mission work in Chicago, beginning January 1st, 1946.

She gave up the Indian work in order to be near her sister in Toledo, Ohio.

Deaconess Phelps writes that she has a Church School class in Sonoma, a confirmation class, and is now finishing a white brocade altar set. Last year she made the purple set. This in spite of the fact that she has arthritis in her hands! The Santa Rosa Church has been robbed of its vestments.

She writes, "You must miss the California sunshine!" The sun does manage to squeeze through every now and then, and it was lots of fun seeing and smelling the beautiful snowflakes, after 16 years without them. They fell right up into May. It's so warm indoors that we keep our window wide open day and night, and there is such a dear friendly spirit in this house and beautiful Chapel from the Chaplain and Head Nurse down to the old men who keep the marble floors clean! Of course the treatments are the best ever, and what do you think! They let a dog sleep in a patient's room, and one of the nurses has a darling cocker spaniel, Woo, a lady, only we forget and call her Peter. They give special rates to the Church, so there are always missionaries from far countries here.

E. E. S.

Deaconess Riebe, Clark and Putnam have all reached China safely and are happy to be back at their work.

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess Dora Dawson (Sister Dora) was born August 7th, 1848 and died on December 28th, 1945. Miss Mary Barron of The Church Home, Hartford, writes, "On the evening of December 17th Sr. Dora was stricken and lingered partly paralyzed. She was conscious and interested in all of the seasonal doings in which we were engaged until the very last day. We miss her more than I can say. She was always cheery, a comforting and gay companion to all members of our household. I have known her since she came to Hartford and always enjoyed her. She was buried at Newbury, N. Y. where services were conducted by Bishop Budlong of Connecticut, a friend of many years, and by an old Rector whom she had known in days gone by."

In 1897 she joined The Christian Helpers and nursed at St. John's Episcopal Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y. She not only gave her time and herself to care for the sick in Brooklyn, but she was one of the number who nursed sick soldiers of the Spanish-American War who were taken to the Chapel, temporarily turned into a ward. Later as a member of the Visiting Nurse's Association she became very valuable, nursing in more prosperous families. A friend writes, "She was a wonderful woman, and many had cause to call her blessed."

Bishop Budlong writes of her—"She left Brooklyn to come to help me in a downtown parish in Christ Church, St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1910, and was of inestimable assistance to me there and later in St. Peter's Parish, Chicago, Illinois; in the Church of the Ascension, Pittsburgh, Penna., and in Christ Church, Greenwich, Conn. It was while she was serving in Pittsburgh that Bishop Whitehead admitted her to the Order of Deaconesses.

"For the past ten years she had lived in the Episcopal Church Home in Hartford, where she was much beloved as she had been by all who knew her throughout her life. She passed into the Life beyond life two days after Christmas, 1945."

On January 14th *Deaconess Leonora Marie Kelton* died in Los Angeles, California, after an illness of several months. She was born of New England parentage May 16, 1875, in Brooklyn, N. Y.

The funeral service was held in St. Paul's Cathedral, Los Angeles, on January 17 at 11:30 A.M., Bishop Stevens, Bishop Gooden and Fr. Hause, Chaplain of the Hospital of the Good Samaritan, officiating, the pallbearers being six priests of the Diocese. Deaconess Kelton's three favorite hymns were sung.

She received her training at the Church Training and Deaconess House in Philadelphia, and after graduating in 1907 was sent as the first Thank-offering worker to Cuba where she did teaching and social service work for war orphans.

On account of a break down in health she returned to New York, engaging in institutional work at Holy Trinity Church where a thousand children attended.

In 1916 she was called to Sacramento, California, and on May 16, 1917 in St. Paul's Church was ordered deaconess by Bishop Moreland. She organized the first interdenominational and interracial work in that city, being instrumental in establishing St. Barnabas Community Home with fifteen different nationalities attending. When plans were being made to build St. Barnabas, Bishop Moreland informed her that he had a mortgage on the lot of a thousand dollars. She prayed that the money might be supplied. Without any knowledge of her need a sister in New York wrote that her share of a piece of family property had sold for a thousand dollars.

In 1927 she re-established the Home of the Merciful Saviour for crippled and invalid children where also girls received vocational training. Another phase of the work was among Japanese women by a woman who had lived in Japan.

Deaconess Kelton was a member of the Los Angeles Deaconess Chapter and of the Los Angeles Colony of the National Society of New England Women.

Deaconess Theodora L. Paine was born on February 6, 1871 at Troy, Penna. She was graduated from Smith College in June 1896, and then from the New York Training School for Deaconesses in 1902. She went to China in the fall of 1905 and gave a long service in the Diocese of Shanghai, mostly in the city of Changshu of the Kiangsi Province. Her work was evangelistic with a group of Chinese Bible Women as assistants in the rural parishes in that area. She resigned from the work in 1929, and since then had lived again in her home town, Troy, Penna., where she died on March 3rd, 1946. She never came out to any gathering of Deaconesses during these years, so few of us knew her at all. We are sure that many of her Chinese associates would be glad to add their tribute to her loyal service in their midst were that possible.

Deaconess Mary E. Libbey was born in Boston, Mass. in 1859, and died there in April 1946.

She was educated in the Boston public schools and in the New York Training School for Deaconesses, being graduated in 1901. Then she worked at the Cathedral in Washington, D. C., until she returned to Boston, the city she loved, in October 1905. She worked in Emmanuel Church from then until her retirement in 1936. For many years she was House-Mother of the Students' House established in 1907 for girl students, having no place to live in Boston. She saw this work grow in size and usefulness until the later establishment at 96 Fenway. She also car-

ried on a fine vacation house in the summer, for poor mothers and children, from the mission church which Emmanuel Church supported, and during the years conducted a Mothers' Meeting weekly. She had the care of the Altars and was Choir Mother for these many years as well.

Her funeral was held in the Lindsey Memorial Chapel of Emmanuel Church, at 2:30 on April 29th. Her death came as a sorrow to hundreds of her friends, and to many clergymen, as well as to former members of the choir.

She had remained a faithful member and worshipper to the end.

May she rest in peace, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon her.

PRAYERS

Call upon me and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you, and ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the Lord.
THANKSGIVING:

For a beautiful life just passed into His nearer Presence. E.H.C.

That the many different nationalities represented in the Toronto Training School have brought a new vision to all connected with the school.

We give thanks for the joy of ministering to the needs of those entrusted to our care—God's Holy Name be praised. G.T.S. and H.H.E.

Let thanksgiving be offered that the Bishop of Eau Claire has requested deaconesses to help him with his rural work, and that one Deaconess has already been able to accept his call. E.E.S.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered, whose goodness passeth man's understanding: we give Thee humble and hearty thanks for the gifts which Thou hast bestowed upon us; and as Thou hast heard the prayers of those who have called upon Thee, so do Thou evermore dispose the way of Thy servants toward the attainment of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Think of stepping on shore and finding it heaven!
Of taking hold of a hand and finding it God's hand!
Of breathing a new air and finding it Celestial Air!
Of feeling invigorated and finding it immortality!
Of passing from storm and tempest to perfect calm!
Of waking and knowing "I am Home!"

By "A Sister of Mercy."

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS:

May God grant wisdom and courage to the Deaconess-in-Charge of Brownson Home, Victoria, Texas, in the upbringing of thirteen little boys and girls that theirs may be an abundant and fruitful life. G.H.

For a returned soldier crippled with infantile paralysis a realization of God's comforting and healing Presence. E.H.C.

For Laura Napper, Deaconess, permanent benefit from her stay in the Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles.

That a Deaconess may offer to take charge of the Deaconess House in Los Angeles, and that it may be made a home for those needing nursing care.

That the Deaconesses and guests may find the Chapel the heart of the House, and so find inspiration for daily life. L.R.C.

That Deaconess Steiger, who at the age of 93 is still sometimes able to go to the County Farm, may be blessed in her ministry there.

For our Deaconesses and Missionary Training Schools in all lands.

O God of light and truth, we pray Thee for all schools and colleges at home and in mission lands, that those who teach in them may be taught of Thee, and that those who learn may be guided by Thy Spirit and instructed by Thy heavenly wisdom: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For More Workers: Grant, O Lord of the Harvest, that a greater number of our young men and women with the gifts of teaching and healing may be filled with a hearty desire to make Thy way known upon earth: Give them grace to dedicate their lives to Thy service, and this we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

For Deaconesses Grace E. Smith and Harriet H. English, in their joyous work at St. Anne's Mission, El Paso.

For a fruitful ministry to the Deaconess working in a new field in the Diocese of Eau Claire. That other deaconesses may respond to this need. That priests may be found to take charge, and that all of us working together may further the work of the Master. E.S.

O living Christ, make us conscious now of thy healing nearness. Touch our eyes that we may see thee; open our ears that we may hear thy voice; enter our hearts that we may know thy love. Overshadow our souls and bodies with thy presence, that we may partake of thy strength, thy love, and thy healing life. Amen.

TRAINING SCHOOLS

ST. MARGARET'S HOUSE, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

KATHARINE A. GRAMMAR, *Dean*

We have at present six students, three of whom will complete their training this year. One of the three is in the process of making plans to go to the foreign field but her appointment has not yet been made.

We have made a change as to the degree offered, and we have made various changes in our household equipment and management.

St. Margaret's Messenger is a new venture of the Alumnae. In the March issue Dean Springer writes from Washington, D. C. where she has gone to live with her friend, Miss Legg. Dean Grammar writes of "the necessity to find that rhythm of worship, study, physical work, play and rest which is most beneficial to the individual. For such appropriate rhythm will be needed later where it will be hard to locate it on the job." In regard to the degree, it will mean the acquisition of certain recognizably needed knowledge and skill.

A new venture in the course is that students are now ministering to isolated families through the Church School by mail. Twenty-four families are contacted monthly by a letter to the parents and to the individual children, thus assisting the parents in the Christian education of their children.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND DEACONESS AND MISSIONARY TRAINING HOUSE IN TORONTO

Deaconess F. M. WATTS, *Principal*

The past year has been a good one, ten students returned after various types of summer work on Sunday School by Post Vans, Camps, Indian Schools and Parish Work. Eight new students entered for training, making eighteen in all. They have been an unusually interesting group, both interracial and international. One girl from the Canadian Diocese of Honan, China, is working for her M.A. degree. A Canadian born Japanese is a missionary candidate. A recently baptized Hebrew girl is full of joy and zeal, and hopes to work among her own people. A Cree Indian now completing a two year course hopes to work among her own people; a young missionary from Nigeria, Africa, taking a special course made Africa more real to us. One left us during the term for Africa. Two others are preparing for India, two for China, and the rest for various fields of work in Canada.

Two graduates have done excellent work as assistants to the Chaplains in the Camps of our Canadian Women's Corp.

Some of the students have presented their call and training at various meetings, thus extending the interest in this important task of preparing trained leaders for the Church. The challenge is for more young men and women to train for the many opportunities of service presented in these post-war days.

DEACONESSSES AT WORK:

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, MAUSTON, WISCONSIN

Deaconess EVELYN E. SEYMOUR

My work in Wisconsin, Diocese of Eau Claire, is very different from anything I have done until now. At the present time I have complete charge of three town churches, Mauston, Tomah and Sparta. The rural area surrounding these towns covers two entire counties. Needless to say, without a car I can do little visiting except where I can walk. The Greyhound busses have convenient schedules so that I can arrange to be in town each week to hold services.

These missions hold every promise of becoming independent parishes, but for the present are at a low ebb due to the lack of clergy and pastoral care. We have Mission Boards or Vestries

which take a real interest in the upkeep of the property. We try to have vestry meetings once a month and discuss the affairs of the Mission. Holding Vestry meetings with doctors, merchants, lawyers, building contractors and well-to-do farmers is a new experience to me. Our biggest problem at the present is one of education. Men, women and children know little about their Church or what it should mean to them. To many the Church is just another club that they like to belong to. The Church Schools are small with little or no equipment, and no suitable places for classes.

A Deaconess in these parts is a rare curiosity, and I am sure it will take some time before we can make a place for ourselves in the Community. Although I do the work of a pastor, folks aren't used to a "female deacon". I have no "parsonage", no office, no home, only a room where I try to carry on some work. Meetings are held in the homes, and at Tomah I have had to be the janitor as well as the "preacher", when I hold service.

Because we have no Priest within a reasonable distance, the Bishop has Reserved the Blessed Sacrament, and given me permission to carry it to the sick or dying in emergencies. I would be interested to know if Deaconesses in other remote areas have been allowed this privilege. The Bishop comes once a month for the Service of Holy Communion, and this year it meant services on the first Sunday in Lent and Palm Sunday only.

Since taking over this work I have had to contract for repair work, and investigate heating plants, check up on State laws concerning public buildings, and represent the Church in the local Ministerial Association: I have been invited to take part in the Union Services.

The folks have been most responsive to my efforts on their behalf, and I wish that we could have a Deaconess at every Mission where there is no resident Priest. It is my earnest desire to do my work so faithfully that the people and Priests in this diocese will make this demand. I am confident that there are many women who will want to answer a call as challenging as the work here in the Diocese of Eau Claire.

BROWNSON HOME, VICTORIA, TEXAS

Deaconess GLADYS HALL

Brownson Home is a very beautiful gracious home, endowed by Mrs. Brownson as a memorial to her husband. A beautiful building—one story, spreads itself comfortably in the midst of ten acres of lawn, trees, roses and such glorious Easter lilies as to leave one breathlessly excited.

Mr. and Mrs. Brownson had no children, so Mrs. Brownson is doing for these children what they would have done for their own. There have never been more than the thirteen boys and girls—"Charter members"—and but four families are represented in this original group. A happy group I have found them, well, lusty, wholesome, having made for themselves an enviable place in church, and school and community.

Our Lent was a good one. As an Easter offering for self, and sacrifice of time and effort, the older boys and girls were learning a Bible verse, a psalm or hymn each day. They were given a piece of money for their self denial card or mite box. Margaret Anne, age five, our only pre-school child, who manages remarkably well to maintain her identity and voice midst a predominantly older group, was puzzled for the moment how to meet this situation. The very audible process of memorizing solved Margaret's problem. She had learned this verse or psalm even before she had realized it, for when boy or girl stumbled she could prompt them! Then the whole came pouring forth, and Margaret Anne walked away with honors and a mite box full to overflowing. Her little voice and sweet face were a paean of praise.

Richard, our stormy petrel, our joy and our despair, rushed in a week ago with some bird's eggs which had fallen from a nest destroyed by wind and rain. We are now in the process of hatching the eggs. By day they nest quietly in cotton bath neath the hot water heater. By night I have my suspicious that they lie precariously nested in the curve of his arm held close to his impulsive heart, so eager, so confident, so impatient to shorten the hatching period. I am careful not to let him see too much of the doubt I may feel for the fruition of his experiment and high hope.

There is much of thanksgiving in my heart for such kind and generous folk who make possible this home for children who have too many parents. There is thanksgiving for the democratic society which makes possible so comfortable an adjustment, and always there are intercessions for their well being in Christ Jesus, Who died with arms outstretched that theirs might be an abundant and fruitful life.

ST. ANNE'S MISSION, STATION A, BOX 3097, EL PASO, TEXAS

GRACE E. SMITH, Deaconess

HARRIET H. ENGLISH, Deaconess

Our numbers are few, but what we lack in quantity is overbalanced by quality.

During the Epiphany season the children of the Church School gave \$6.10 for the Reconstruction and Advance Fund. Then they began working hard to earn money for their mite-boxes. One small boy was offered 25 cents if he would go with the Deaconess to get some manure for her garden patch. He jumped at the chance and worked like a Trojan cleaning out a neighbor's hen house.

But instead of putting it in his mite box he gave it to his mother for her Thankoffering box. Truly that offering is twice blessed. This boy is one of five preparing for confirmation, all equally thoughtful and self-giving. We are very grateful for the privilege of ministering to the needs of these His children committed to our care.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LILLIAN W. CROW, CHAIRMAN, 627 W. 10TH, APT. 1, DALLAS 8, TEXAS
MARGARET BOOZ, CLARA SEARLE, JANE H. GILLESPIE, MARGARET BECHTOL,
EDITH A. BOOTH, GERTRUDE STEWART, RUTH JOHNSON
SECRETARY-TREASURER, EDITH A. BOOTH, ST. PAUL, VA.

EDITORS

GERTRUDE STEWART, THE LEAMY, MT. AIRY, PHILADELPHIA 19, PA.
ELIZABETH NEWBOLD, 240 RIVERBANK, BURLINGTON, N. J.

DECEMBER, 1946

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

1. Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
- 2.
3. Anne Newman, St. Paul, Va.
4. Harriet M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida.
5. Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.
6. Marion Brown, Good Shepherd Mission, Fort Defiance, Ariz.
7. Frances B. Affleck, Montell, Uvalde Co., Texas.
8. Margaret Booz, 542 S. Boyle Ave., Los Angeles 33, Calif.

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

O heavenly Father, who hast declared thy love to men by the birth of the Holy Child of Bethlehem, help us to welcome Him with gladness and to make room for Him in our common days; so that we may live at peace with one another, and in goodwill with all thy family; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM OUR NEW CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

It was with amazement that I found myself elected Chairman of the National Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses. I am most grateful to be so honored.

To carry such responsibility, the cooperation of each deaconess will be necessary. The members of the National Executive Committee join me in asking each of you to send in suggestions that we may strive together to carry on the Master's work. Please pray earnestly that I may have added consecration, wisdom and courage. Also please let me know if one of you has a serious illness. Your prayers helped me so much last spring.

The deaconesses and other friends of St. Faith's have done marvelously well, the last two years in supplying funds for operating the Training School. As costs are rising, we must put forth more effort and even increase our gifts. Now is the time people are looking at their income taxes. Let us offer them the chance to give some of that 15% allowed by the government to St. Faith's House. Ask your Woman's Auxiliary. Most of them have money. Send at once to Deaconess Johnson for publicity material. Let us "get the publicity out; Get the money in."

Faithfully yours,

LILLIAN W. CROW,
Chairman

Deaconess Johnson reports that there are two Juniors, one Special Student, and four fine Seniors at St. Faith's for this new term. She is thankful for efficient help in the domestic part of the school as well. So are all of us who know of the hard time they had last spring due to lack of help.

THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Christ Church, Philadelphia, Sept. 9, 1946

The Triennial meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held on September 9, 1946 at Christ Church Neighborhood House, Philadelphia, Pa. The meeting was preceded by Holy Communion in Christ Church, the Rev. Alfred M. Smith of City Mission, Philadelphia, celebrating assisted by the Rev. Felix Kloman, Rector of Christ Church. After a quiet breakfast in the Neighborhood House, Meditations were conducted in the church by the Rev. Alfred M. Smith.

This was followed by the Business meeting of the Conference. It was opened with prayer by the Chairman, Deaconess Ruth Johnson. Twenty-eight deaconesses were present, representing 18

dioceses. The newest deaconess, Celia Brown was introduced to the group and given a warm welcome.

Minutes of the last Triennial meeting held in Kansas City (1940) were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted:

Balance on hand September 9, 1946

General Fund	\$91.51
Emergency Fund	42.75

TOTAL\$134.26

The Chairman appointed Deaconesses Betz, Seymour and Dunlap to act as tellers with Deaconess West, Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

The Chairman reported on the state of the Deaconess Order since the last meeting at Kansas City in 1940, there having been no meeting in 1943 at Cleveland. Since that time 35 Deaconesses have entered into the Larger Life; and five have been Set Apart—making a total of 162 deaconesses in the Church at the present time.

REPORTS

(See Reports appended)

Provincial reports were read and placed on file.

Chapter reports were read and placed on file.

At 12 Noon INTERCESSIONS were conducted by the Chairman.

Deaconess West reported on the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

Deaconess Phelps reported on Publicity and Promotion.

Discussion followed the report on Publicity and Promotion. Those deaconesses who had attended summer Conferences told of what had been done, or what they themselves had done at such conferences to publicize the Deaconess Order.

While on the subject of Publicity and the securing of students for the school, problems concerning the choice of such students were discussed at this time, resulting in the following suggestions:

(a) Week-end conferences at the Training School to give the Head Deaconess an opportunity to know the applicant.

(b) Send an applicant to a mission, for a month of work, to assist a deaconess in her work there.

(c) Keep in constant touch with High School girls who are interested until they are "of age".

Meeting adjourned for Luncheon which was served at Neighborhood House. After luncheon a picture of the group was taken.

Then the Meeting re-convened.

A Report was given by Deaconess Ruth Johnson, Head Deaconess of the New York Training School.

This was a detailed report of the re-opening process, as all this had taken place since the last Triennial meeting in 1940.

The Head Deaconess reported the School was financially in a healthy state. She told something of the students and their work during the past year. The deaconesses who had had the students under their supervision during the summer reported on the high quality of the young women now in training.

(Deaconess Phelps at this time asked if any of the present students came to the school through the Publicity that had been sent out. It was discovered that three of the four came definitely through contact with deaconesses).

Deaconess Johnson told of the new course to be given to the students this year at Bellevue Hospital.

Deaconess Stewart gave an interesting report on the Central Deaconess House at Hindhead, England.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The matter of continuing the Provincial Representatives was discussed and whether or not this office was still necessary. The question was referred to the Executive Committee for further study and decision.

NEW BUSINESS

It has been brought to the attention of the Deaconesses that there is no Directory of any sort for anyone to find out anything about Deaconesses. It was moved by Deaconess Betz and seconded that the Executive Committee be requested to investigate the possibility of Deaconesses being included in Stow's Directory, or if that is not possible that something similar be arranged. Motion carried.

The suggestion was made by Deaconess Johnson that a monthly paper be sent out to Church members containing information about deaconesses and their work, which could perhaps be used in Parish or Diocesan papers, in an effort to keep the work of Deaconesses constantly before the people.

The question of Deaconess Patterson's Chart on the Christian Year was presented. The Committee reported that they understood Deaconess Patterson herself was making plans for re-printing same, so they had withdrawn their investigations.

Deaconess West presented the subject of canonical Residence of Deaconesses, as when a pension is desired through the Retiring Fund there is often confusion as to the place of canonical residence of the deaconess in question. She also reported that one of the conditions for the Retiring Fund is that an applicant must be a deaconess in "good standing". This term has never been definitely understood. It was suggested that the Chairman write to the Deaconesses to ascertain what is really their canonical residence.

The Chairman referred to the splendid "History of Deaconesses" written by Deaconess Amy Thompson. This was turned over to the new Executive Committee for further study and action.

The Advisory Commission's report to be sent to General Convention was read by Deaconess Johnson. The report did not meet the approval of the Deaconesses present as no provision was made in the report for a Deaconess Training School under the supervision of a deaconess. A motion was made by Deaconess Newbold that a Committee be appointed made up of those Deaconesses on the Commission to take suitable action regarding the report of the Advisory Commission, including seeing representatives of the Church Press. Motion seconded by Deaconess Bechtol. Motion carried. (See Living Church Sept. 7, 1946, for report).

It was moved and seconded that letters of appreciation for the splendid way the Conference had been entertained be sent to:

The Pennsylvania Chapter of Deaconesses,

Mrs. Jeffries, Dr. Kloman, The Sexton, Fr. Smith.

Report of the Nominating Committee for members to the Executive Committee was read: 83 Votes Cast—the following were elected: Deaconess Jane B. Gillespy Deaconess Clara Searle

Deaconess Lillian Crow. Deaconess Margaret Booz

The members who remain on the Executive Committee are as follows: Deaconess Margaret Bechtol

Deaconess Amy Thompson—(Resigned—place to be filled) Deaconess Edith A. Booth

Deaconess Gertrude Stewart

It was moved by Deaconess Bechtol and seconded that the Head of the New York Training School for Deaconesses be a member of the Executive Committee Ex-Officio. Motion carried, so Deaconess Ruth Johnson is also a member.

Meeting adjourned 5 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

EDITH A. BOOTH, *Deaconess, Secretary*

DEACONESSSES PRESENT AT MEETING

ARIZONA

Miriam B. Allen

CENTRAL NEW YORK

Hilda L. Dieterly

CONNECTICUT

Ruth E. Byllesby

CALIFORNIA

Katharine Phelps

DALLAS

Lillian W. Crow

EAU CLAIRE

Evelyn Seymour

HANKOW

Gertrude Stewart

LONG ISLAND

Dorothea F. Betz

NEWARK

Lydia A. Ramsay

NEW YORK

Ruth Johnson

Mary C. West

PENNSYLVANIA

Celia E. Brown

Mabel Adams

Lillian M. Kaighn

Zulma Bispham

Elizabeth Newbold

SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

Madeline Dunlap

SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA

Margaret Booz

Amelia Brereton

Margaret D. Binns

Anne W. Newman

Edith A. Booth

VIRGINIA

Grace Cox

WASHINGTON

Frances B. Affleck

Margaret Bechtol

WESTERN MICHIGAN

Mary C. Hettler

RHODE ISLAND

Jane B. Gillespy

QUINCY

Mary P. Truesdell

REPORTS GIVEN AT MEETING

Report of the Committee on Publicity and Promotion:

In February 1945 our Committee on Publicity and Promotion was formed. During the summer the co-chairmen met for a few days and sent out letters to all committee members with suggestions for action; and to all deaconesses a prayer for the increase of the Order. Two thirds of our membership promised to use it, some asked for copies to distribute to friends, some have got it used by their rectors and Auxiliary officers.

In some dioceses good work was done by getting the names and addresses of Churchwomen in the armed forces and cards were sent them calling their attention to the needs of the Church for the service of women, and the opportunities for training at St. Faith's.

Some Bishops agreed to send our folders to each of their clergy and a few deaconesses also sent copies to all the clergy in their dioceses.

Deaconesses who get about to Conferences and Convocations or Church meetings carry our literature and have distributed a good deal, as well as speaking about the order. Deaconess Mary Dawson, on furlough from the Philippines, has had many opportunities to speak of her work and usually finds an opening to speak of our Order, especially where she is the first deaconess ever seen.

Deaconess Putman had a fine opportunity and made good use of it at a seminar on Religious Education in Cambridge. Many young clergymen wanted to know what deaconesses were and were glad to have the printed information.

It has been felt by many that too few young women ever know about the possibility of service as deaconesses because the clergy have never told them about it. So, as a means of enlisting the interest and cooperation of the clergy of the future, letters were sent to the Deans of each of our Seminaries with our folders and leaflets, asking that the subject be presented to the students. Berkeley and Sewanee invited deaconesses to come and speak to the student body. Others replied they would present the subject in the autumn. Deaconess Booth, who spoke to the students at Sewanee—she had previously spoken at the Virginia Seminary—was received with great interest, and she feels strongly that the personal contact is of much more value than literature alone which is often not read.

Two new leaflets have been prepared: one, The Call to be a Deaconess, was written by the Executive Committee and published by the National Council, and a copy of this was sent by Bishop Randall to each Bishop in the Church and to the Diocesan Educational Secretaries of the Woman's Auxiliaries.

Each Bishop also received copies of the Service of Setting Apart of a Deaconess and of the Sermon preached at the Setting Apart of Deaconess Ashcroft.

Miss Elizabeth McCracken has been able to get items about deaconesses into The Living Church and several Diocesan papers. And so some of the dense ignorance about the Deaconess Order is being gradually dispelled.

But surely the most effective publicity is the deaconess herself who shows by her joy in her vocation that her way of life is one of great satisfaction and happiness.

GERTRUDE STEWART
KATHARINE E. PHELPS

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

TRIENNIAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY—1943-1946

The Corporation of this Fund,—which includes every deaconess in the Church,—has greatly changed in membership during the three years since 1943. One Deaconess was set apart in 1944 and two in 1945 which is most encouraging. But there have been twenty (20) deaths and the total number now stands at 161.

Two Beneficiaries died, Mercedes Gore and Leonora Kelton, leaving ten (10) who are now drawing an allowance each month, totalling nearly five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year. The general allowance has been raised from \$20 to \$30 because of additional income available. Others receive variable amounts according to their expenses and other income which they receive.

The present Directors are Deaconesses Bechtol, Betz, Dieterly, Johnson, Searle, Stewart, and West. Deaconesses Bateman and Eleanor Smith were on the Board part of the time, and Deaconess Goodwin died while in office.

We note the loss also of our very good friend and advisor, The Rev. John Henry Hopkins.

Contributions trickle in steadily and continuously. Starting with the Pence Box Offering for expenses which has grown to about \$200 a year and gives a chance to many to contribute small sums; then there are annual gifts from Woman's Auxiliaries, Dallas, Kansas, Pittsburgh; Chicago gives every month in the year; and other dioceses occasionally. Los Angeles has been very generous; surprising gifts come from various individuals; and there have been four Bequests: totalling nearly \$12,000.

Mrs. Myra Carter Church	\$10,000
Deaconess Henrietta Rue Goodwin	1,169
Deaconess Mary Shepard	600
Miss Maria Kinnaird	200
	\$11,969

Copies of the By-Laws are available, reprinted so as to include St. Faith's Fund; also copies of the History of the Fund; and "A Gallant Life" is for sale, (a biography of Deaconess Virginia Young.)

To keep before us the many memorials that have been given to the Fund, a Memorial Book has been prepared, covering the years 1928-1945.

A second book of LARGER GIFTS includes the names of all who have given \$50 or more and is very illuminating, especially the record of the earlier years when we struggled up from the first \$100.

For some years no special appeal for the Fund has been made, the advertisement in FORTH and in the LIVING CHURCH are all we have now but one will also be in the next edition of STOW'S DIRECTORY.

The amount and status of the Fund is due entirely to the vigilance and expert management of the Treasurer, Gen. Beckwith. He employs the best Financial Advisors, (Lybrand Ross Bros. and Montgomery); the best auditors (B. W. Axe & Co.) and the funds are kept in the Bank of New York; all of which proves the care with which the Fund is guarded. The apartment house which brings in 6% is about 1/3 of our assets; except a few unfortunate mortgages, the rest is in stocks and bonds. During the war we had \$22,000 in War Bonds, as we are tax exempt, it seemed a patriotic thing to do. Investments are changed as better bonds with higher interest come on the market so that income is kept at the highest figure within safety.

May we say in closing that we have never refused any application for lack of income. We wish we could raise the allowances and do so periodically. We look forward to the years 1946-1949 with great hopes that the present \$130,000 may be largely increased, if not doubled. It has doubled in the last four years.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY C. WEST, *Sec'y*

OPEN HOUSE AT ST. FAITH'S

The staff and students of the New York Training School joined the Alumnae Association in keeping Open House at St. Faith's on Friday afternoon, Nov. 15th. The main object was to acquaint the clergy of Manhattan with the School. The Executive Committee of the Alumnae Association sent out the invitations and over seventy-five guests responded, twenty of whom were clergy. The Seniors acted as guides in showing the House, not only the first floor but the students' rooms on the second floor and the Common Room on the third floor. Tea was served in the Refectory, Mrs. Hand, Mrs. Shepard, and Deaconess West assisting in pouring. In the Library the Story of St. Faith was presented, Victoria Kilgore taking the part of St. Faith and Lorraine that of the student. Evensong was sung in the Chapel at 5 o'clock, the guests singing the processional hymn as they moved from the Library to the Chapel. Canon Sparks conducted the service and Lorraine Bush read the lessons. One of the honored guests was Bishop Gilbert.

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

The Church News of the Diocese of Dallas has a printed picture of the group of Deaconesses attending the National Conference in Philadelphia, on September 9th, and a few statements about the Conference. How about your Diocesan paper? Can you not give items to it for publication at various times? Just watch for items of interest concerning the Order and pass them on to others. In that way, everyone can help others know more about it, and thus gain new candidates for the Order and promote the work of the Church.

MEDITATIONS AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

September 9, 1946, at Christ Church, Philadelphia

The Rev. Alfred M. Smith, Conductor

AN EXAMINATION OF OUR LORD'S PRAYER LIFE

In assuming humanity, our Lord identified himself with us, except for sin. Through all the Gospels we are told how He prayed. At His Baptism He came out of the water praying; in His temptations He prayed; when He called His disciples He prayed as He considered their qualifications; He cast the traders out of His Father's House of Prayer. He was instant in prayer, and so intense was His prayer that His disciples asked Him to teach them to pray. He prayed without ceasing and prayed fasting. He said "This kind comes not out except by prayer and fasting". Always He prayed. Do we? Are we too busy? Do we put it off? Or do we do it like He did?

Prayer is a state, difficult of approach, only through the "Abba, Father". We must live it, surround everything with an atmosphere of prayer, with a frequency of prayer. As He prayed He healed a leper, He went into the desert and he fed the multitude. He cried, "I thank Thee Father." He spent whole nights in prayer, and anytime, every time He prayed. How often do we pray? How often do ejaculatory prayers rise to our Father?

Consider the intensity of our Lord's life; in the wilderness so intense was He that He was unaware of hunger; at the Transfiguration He was really transfigured by the very intensity that poured through Him. In the 17th Chapter of St. John how full of meaning is His great high-priestly prayer; in Gethsemane what intensity could have been so great as to bring great drops of blood upon His brow; what intensity could conquer death? How intense are our prayers? Do we agonize as He did? Do we pray our problems through? Do we pray just through habit, or until temptation is conquered? Are our prayers just words? Are we recollected in our Communion? Are we cursed with wandering thoughts? How we fail by His standards! Do we say with Peter, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man?" We are bidden to strive for His perfection; we never know how far we can reach. Never give up; struggle to reach His infinite perfection. That is our ideal. Importance, frequency, intensity.

In every thing He did, He prepared. He spent forty days in the wilderness, resisting Satan's efforts to cause Him to take a short cut, to do less than His Father's will. In Gethsemane He prayed and the disciples slept. How great a difference in the result! They ran away, He overcame death and rose victorious. Do we prepare with searching prayer? Do we accept the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Do we fail to listen? Is our thinking imperfect? He prayed much. If he felt the need, how much more should we?

Our Lord's life of prayer was characterized by Power. His human personality was a channel by which God revealed Himself. Things happened in His life. No other did such works the people said. His prayer life was related to His Father and to His work. He said, "I seek not my own will but the will of my Father." Our own wills get in our way. We seek our wants, not our needs. Peace, harmony with God are the reward. It is not easy, so we fail. He changed things with His prayers, the sick, the apostles and others. We see Peter and Paul filled with power by prayer and being close to Him. St. Paul said, "No longer I—but Christ" and "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." We must make our lives reflective, receptive. To do effective social

work we must follow His way, frequent, regular, systematic, never neglected, intense, concentrated prayer, then are we co-workers with Christ.

He tried to glorify God, never Himself. When He raised Lazarus He said it was to glorify His Father. In the upper room He said "herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit". What we think and do and are, is the searching test. Is God glorified by my life? Do I get myself between Him and His work? Does our weakness cause others to offend? Does our sloth or procrastination harm others? Are we saving ourselves or others? Saving instead of spending? His mercy, His kindness, His self-sacrifice, His unending efforts were all for others, not one thing for Himself.

Christ established a Kingdom. Satan tried to draw men away. He glorified God by prayer—"Hallowed be Thy Name". He lifted others up, never by stepping down. O that men might glorify God on account of my life—that I might be a co-worker with Him!

First—His name hallowed and glorified by my life.

Second—His kingdom strengthened by my prayers and efforts.

Third—My will always in harmony with His will.

It is difficult, but possible.

My will plus God's grace to supply power will make all things possible, as St. Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". May we rededicate our lives to God.

THE RETREAT.

The Retreat at St. Faith's House had a smaller attendance than usual this year, due to many deaconesses having been in Philadelphia at the National Conference and for part or all of the General Convention, and so were not able to go to New York as well. Yet there was a group who felt it a great privilege to have the time together in the beauty of the Cathedral for part of the time and in St. Faith's Chapel for the series of meditations, given by the Canon Precentor, the Rev. James Green. The Retreat began on Wednesday evening, September 25th, and closed after the morning service on Friday, the 27th. That morning the Corporation of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses met in the Library of St. Faith's, with nine deaconesses in attendance, which just gave a quorum to conduct the business necessary. The minutes of that meeting follow for your information.

An informal conference was then held, Deaconess Johnson presiding. It was to go over some of the points covered in the National meeting on September 9th for the information of some who had not been in Philadelphia at that meeting.

MEETING OF THE CORPORATION OF THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Corporation of The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses was held at St. Faith's House, New York, on September 27, 1946, with nine members present. Deaconess Lillian W. Crow was elected a member of the Board of Directors succeeding Deaconess Margaret Bechtol. The Treasurer announced that the Fund had gained \$20,000 during the year and is now held at \$140,000. The allowances paid to beneficiaries was \$480 more than any previous year. A suggestion was made to the Executive Committee of the National Conference by the following Resolution: That in handling publicity and promotion for National Conference both publicity and promotion for The Retiring Fund be included.

MARY C. WEST,
Secretary

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess Anna C. Norris died October 3rd in Christ Church Hospital, Philadelphia, after a long illness. She was the daughter of the late Dr. John C. Norris and Mary Irvin Norris. Bishop Mackay-Smith of Pennsylvania ordered her a deaconess on May 10th, 1911. During her 25 years work in the Diocese of Pennsylvania she was on the staff of St. Martha's Settlement House, and St. Agnes' House, and was engaged in work among the Polish children. She retired in 1936.

A Requiem Mass and the Burial Office were in St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia, on October 7th by the Rev. Robert C. Hubbs, assisted by the Rev. William H. Dunphy. Interment was in the West Laurel Cemetery, Philadelphia.

Elizabeth C. Fracker, Deaconess, 60, on the staff of St. Andrew's Mission, Addyston, Ohio died August 27th in Christ Church Hospital, Cincinnati. The Rev. Benjamin Priest administered the last rites.

Deaconess Fracker was born in Zanesville, Ohio, and was graduated from the public schools there. She later was on the staff of the public library in Zanesville. Having attended St. Faith's School for Deaconesses in New York, she was ordered deaconess in 1921 by the late Bishop Reese of Southern Ohio, in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. She became a member of St. Paul's Cathedral staff, Cincinnati, but after a short time went to Christ Church, Dayton. After working in the Diocese of Vermont, and the District of Nevada, Deaconess Fracker joined the staff of St. Andrew's, Addyston.

Services were held in St. Andrew's, August 27th, by the Rev. Stephen Alling and the Rev. Canon G. P. Symons. A Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. James' Church, Zanesville, on August 30th, by the Rev. Duncan Weeks. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Zanesville

"The Messenger" Diocese of Southern Ohio pays a beautiful tribute to Deaconess Fracker in the September-October issue. Part of it is reprinted here.

"This Office is being read for one of God's faithful servants, *Deaconess Elizabeth Chambers Fracker*, who for ten years has gone in and out among you on errands of mercy, and who has been called to join the great company of the 'blessed dead who, having finished their course, do now rest from their labors.'"

Knowing as we do her deep love and devotion to our Blessed Saviour and the faithful service that she gave, we may be sure that she has entered into the joys of Paradise, where pain and suffering are no more, and where the just rejoice in the presence of their Lord. But more than this "her works of mercy, kindness and love will follow her"—for they will live in our hearts as we remember all that she so patiently and self-sacrificingly did, not for any earthly reward or praise but only that she might be of help to others. Her one thought, her one desire was that she might be of service, and she gave her life that this community might be a better place for her having lived in it. She still loves you and prays for you, for love is of God, and love is immortal, and in response to that love let us take upon our lips this prayer of the ancient Church, "May her soul rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon her."

May they rest in peace.

PRAYERS

True Prayer is waiting on God for Orders.

Faith is spiritual sight.

THANKSGIVING

For the return of our missionaries to China, and to other foreign fields.

We rejoice that we have the privilege of being allowed to come back and resumé our work for our Lord and His Church in this land of China.—K. P.

That it may please Thee to fill the whole order of Deaconesses, that being filled with love they may serve Thy holy Church in purity, humility and self-sacrifice.

For all deaconesses laboring in foreign parts that they may have strength to endure, patience to persevere, and a rich reward in Thy Heavenly Kingdom.

For the return of a priest, who has been serving as chaplain in the Navy, to his parish, and for his devotion and enthusiasm as he takes up his work again.—E. R. T.

For the safe return of most of the young men of our parish, from the armed forces, and for the good condition of so many of them.

For returning health and energy; and for the devoted, loyal helpers in the Church School, Girl's Friendly Society, and Woman's Auxiliary.—F. S.

For the privilege of being a delegate at the Triennial Meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary, and for all the inspiration of the General Convention.—G. S.

A THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S BEST GIFTS

O God of Love, we yield thee thanks for whatsoever thou hast given us richly to enjoy, for health and vigor, for love and care of home, for joys of friendship, and for every good gift of happiness and strength.

We praise thee for all thy servants who by their example and encouragement have helped us on our way, and for every vision of thyself which thou hast ever given us in sacrament or prayer; and we humbly beseech thee that all these thy benefits we may use in the service and to the glory of thy Holy Name; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

LET US PRAY

That God will raise up workers, both American and Chinese in the great field of China that is ripe for the Master's harvest.—K. P.

For the work of Deaconess Harriet Bedell in Glade Cross Mission, Everglades, Florida, among Indians and white people.

For two rural Church Schools in Maine, that more pupils may be added and that God will guide and bless the teachers in their work.

For a newly opened Church School in a small town, where there has not been any work for children for many years.—E. R. T.

For the consciousness of God's loving presence for two dear relatives who are very ill.—E. H. C.

For St. Faith's Training School—blessing on its life and work, and strength and grace for the Head Deaconess, Ruth Johnson.

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

O Lord, our heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be ministered unto, but to minister; we beseech thee to bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of their fellow men, especially all deaconesses. Endue them with wisdom, patience, and courage to strengthen the weak and raise up those who fall; that, being inspired by thy love, they may worthily minister in thy Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the sake of Him who laid down his life for us, the same thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

SETTING APART OF CELIA ELIZABETH BROWN

On September 6th, 1946, the Rt. Rev. Benjamin M. Washburn, Bishop of Newark, set apart Celia Elizabeth Brown to the Office of Deaconess, at St. Mary's Church, Sparta, N. J. The service was held at eleven o'clock and was followed by the Holy Communion Service. Some guests had been entertained over night and others arrived that day in time for the service. The women of the parish prepared and served the luncheon to seventy-five persons, using the Town Hall for the occasion. It was a tribute of love and was beautifully done. The candidate was presented by the Vicar of St. Mary's Church, the Rev. Edwin S. Ford, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. William J. Alberts, Rector of Christ Church, Media, Pa., to which parish Deaconess Brown has been called as parish deaconess.

Mrs. Celia Brown was born in Caribou, Maine, and received her early education there, graduating from High School in 1923. She then entered the Massachusetts Woman's Hospital Training School for Nurses in Boston. She was graduated from there in 1926 and immediately married Eugene M. Brown of Caribou. Upon the death of her husband four years later, she resumed her Nursing profession. In 1936 she entered the Aroostook State Normal School from which she was graduated in 1939. She then taught school for six years in Caribou. She has a young married daughter and a fine baby grandson.

Deaconess Lydia A. Ramsay, now of St. Mary's Church, Sparta, was a worker in Northern Maine for some time, and became interested in Mrs. Brown, and encouraged her to consider Church work as her profession. She came to New Jersey and taught one year in Vernon. During that time, she was taking special religious studies and helping in parish activities. Last year she was a student at St. Faith's House in New York. Last summer she worked at Chase House in Chicago, conducting a vacation Church School. She brings these various talents into her work as Deaconess, and we pray for her a long, happy and blessed service in her work for our Lord and His Church.

NOTICE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Where can one get rubberized collars and cuffs made to order?

At—Parsons and Parsons Co., 6545 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio

Where can one find studs for a deaconess to use?

At—Waldorf Clothing Co., 212 Union Street, Providence, R. I.

(price \$1 for a card of three.)

NEWS ITEMS

Deaconess E. M. Sargent of Chicago writes: The Chicago Deaconesses are planning to have a Quiet Day with Bishop Randall as Conductor, at the Diocesan Retreat House, of which Deaconess Eleanor Smith is head. This will be held on the first Monday in Advent. Deaconess Clara E. Orwig is now a member of the City Mission Staff. She has taken up the work of Deaconess Katharine Putnam, who has returned to China, and whose address is American Church Mission, Soochow, China.

Dss. Putnam set out for China from Houston, Texas, on March 9th, and arrived in Shanghai April 10th, being one of two passengers on a freighter. After the long trip the muddy waters of the Yangtse were a welcome sight, as were also the Mission Traffic Manager and the office coolie to help her through the customs. Until recently she was in charge of one of the houses for incoming missionaries where she was happy to welcome Deaconesses Riebe, Clark and Ashcroft on their way to their stations. Until Miss Lamberton's arrival, she acted as secretary to Bishop Roberts. Upon the arrival of several of the missionary wives who were able to take over the hospitality house she was released to go to her station in Soochow, which is headquarters for diocesan work for women, religious education etc. She will visit the various stations, hold short term schools and classes for country people who have had no regular instruction in the Christian Faith, or who wish to know more of the Church to which they belong or are preparing to enter. She must organize religious education classes in the churches and in the day schools. She writes, "I can hardly wait to get started on the outside work, but it is necessary to supervise repairs on the house, as drain pipes, floors and beams need replacing, having rusted or rotted away. I have been using packing boxes for furniture as there was none in the house when I arrived. With one kerosene burner for cooking I was getting my own meals at great expense to time and strength. Things are not arranged for us to do our own work out here, and it is poor economy for missionaries to spend their time drawing water from a well with a bucket and rope, mopping floors, etc. So now the man of all work does the cooking, the cost of one servant being almost half our own pay nowadays.

"In August the Women's Committee of the Diocese held a Retreat and Refresher course for the women evangelistic workers of the Diocese of Shanghai for two weeks where they had rest and recreation and study, plenty to eat and no worries as to cooking and buying food. They had not had a chance to get together and discuss their common problems for ten years, and this was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship. They are a faithful group of women, our only difficulty is that there are not enough of them for the work in the diocese. That will be another of my duties—to find and train more workers to take the place of those who have grown old in the service and are retiring. We must advance to larger work. Please pray again for workers, both American and Chinese, in this great field that is ripe for the Master's harvest."

Now that Dss. Evelyn Ashcroft, recently set apart, is to continue her teaching at St. Mary's Hall, this fall returned to its own grounds after being "refugee" on St. John's University Campus, there will be two deaconesses in the Diocese.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LILLIAN W. CROW, CHAIRMAN, 627 W. 10TH. APT. 1, DALLAS 8, TEXAS
MARGARET BOOZ, CLARA SEARLE, MARGARET BECHTOL, EDITH A. BOOTH,
GERTRUDE STEWART, RUTH JOHNSON, DOROTHEA F. BETZ, HILDA DIETERLY
SECRETARY-TREASURER, EDITH A. BOOTH, ST. PAUL, VA.

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ELIZABETH G. NEWBOLD, 240 RIVERBANK, BURLINGTON, N. J.

JUNE, 1947

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

1. Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
2. Dorothea F. Betz, 67 Hilton Ave., Garden City, L.I., N.Y.
3. Anne Newman, St. Paul, Va.
4. Harriet M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida.
5. Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.
6. Marion Brown, Gallup, N. M., Star Route Ise Bonito.
7. Frances B. Affleck, Montell, Uvalde Co., Texas.
8. Margaret Booz, 542 S. Boyle Ave., Los Angeles 33, Calif.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM OUR NATIONAL CHAIRMAN:

Dear Members of the Order:-

Since you made me Chairman of the Executive Board, we have had two meetings of the Board in New York, and also two meetings of the Advisory Commission on the Work of Deaconesses.

One thing which has been in the forefront of our thought has been retirement provisions. In this day of considering insurance as the building of an estate instead of a provision for dying, every person should plan how he is to be supported in the years when earning is past.

There are several types of insurance---Endowment policies are those for which a certain sum is paid in every year, and at the end of the period---10, 20, 30 years---the cash plus interest is paid. Annuities are paid by the month or year to a certain age---60, 65, or other age---and the assured then begins drawing a certain amount monthly for life. Information may be secured from The Church Life Insurance Corporation or from a responsible company.

We urge each deaconess to see what fits her particular program and to do something about it.

If we do not die first, we know we are going to get old! Let's be ready!

I have received an appointment to the National Commission on the Work of Deaconesses from the General Convention through Fr. Barnes, Secretary, to fill Deaconess Gillespy's place. I wish it could have come some other way.

Miss Gammack has also been appointed to the Advisory Commission.

Faithfully yours,

LILLIAN W. CROW,
Chairman.

Report from Miss Ellen B. Gammack, Personnel Secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary and Member of the National Commission on the Work of Deaconesses:-

"I am sending along copies of the reports of the Committee on the Employment and Training of Women regarding training and salaries. The full report, costing fifty cents, will be ready in the fairly near future." (We suggest that deaconesses buy it and study it.) Ed.

GREETINGS FROM ST. FAITH'S

Commencement Day, May 8th, closed another year at St. Faith's. Four students were graduated and the two graduates of 1946 received their diplomas. It has been a year of earnest and hard endeavor, and the students left highly commended by the Faculty.

Again we can report that we close the year with a balance in the bank. Your gifts and your continued payments on pledges have made this possible. For this loyal and generally unsolicited support please accept our grateful thanks.

The new course "Clinical Pastoral Training" proved to be of inestimable value. Under the close supervision of one of the City Mission Society Chaplains the four Seniors had the opportunity of applying their education to real situations weekly at Bellevue Hospital. One of the Seniors is continuing the Clinical Training as her summer work. The other summer assignments are varied: two students are at the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital under Deaconess Bechtol; two are at Sleighton Farm School, near Philadelphia; one is at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, living with the Deaconesses at the Chicago School and one is in Virginia with Deaconess Booth and Deaconess Brereton.

Have you heard about St. Faith's "Open House"? Three times during the winter we were "at home" to our friends and to the Clergy of New York and neighboring dioceses. The Alumnae Association of the School helped us with these affairs which were held for the purpose of acquainting the clergy and key people of their parishes with the work of the House. The Students themselves escorted the guests throughout the House and answered the many questions summed up in "What is included in your training for Church work?" It was wonderful to find the Chapel inadequate to hold the congregation when time came to read Evening Prayer!

Many are the guests who have called or spent a night or more with us. Of this number there were 30 Deaconess guests. It would give us great pleasure to have more of you calling on us---a very warm welcome awaits you.

As we make plans for 1947-1948 we again ask your prayers, your financial support and **RECRUITS**. There are far too few students in the School--far too few qualified women offering themselves to fill the thinning ranks of active Deaconesses in the Church. Are you satisfied to end your own years of service as a Deaconess without prayerfully and earnestly trying to secure at least one Candidate to carry on?

A crisis is at hand.

RUTH JOHNSON,
Head Deaconess.

ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Rt. Rev. Edwin J. Randall, Chairman of the Advisory Commission on the work of Deaconesses has been very active in his duties on our behalf. Two meetings have been held, one in February and one in April. He has written an article for publication in one or more of our Church papers. (Be on the look-out for it!) He writes to the editors of "The Deaconess" as follows;

"I am hoping that between now and the time of the meeting of the House of Bishops in November we can formulate some constructive suggestions for consideration on the part of Bishops.

There is to be a conference on Vocations for Women Workers at the College of Preachers beginning September 8, for a day or two. I certainly hope the Order of Deaconesses can be represented. I am hoping to attend myself."

In October of last year, just after the General Convention, he sent out a letter to some of the Bishops, (members of the Commission) and when the other members saw it they approved it highly, and asked to have it more widely circulated. He has granted permission to quote it in this issue of our little paper. We feel sure that every deaconess will be grateful to him for this appreciation of our Order, and for his helpful suggestions for the future.

The quotation follows;

"I am convinced that the Order should receive more attention from the House of Bishops; that there are great opportunities for constructive work in the Church by capable and well-educated young women who are willing to dedicate themselves to such work and yet who do not care to become members of one of our Religious Communities.

I was very favorably impressed by the young women of the Order who were at General Convention.

I believe that there should be more supervision of the Order by the Bishops; that Deaconesses should not be allowed to be "free lances," as some of the older ones seem to be; that Bishops should exercise more discipline over them; that definite efforts should be made to interest suitable young women in the Order, and that the Church, under the leadership of the Bishops, should make some adequate provision for their care when disability or advancing age require

their retirement from active service in the Church.

We should cease what seems to be a mere tolerating of the Order, or neglect of it. I believe that the Order can be made a far more effective agent than it has been, or is at present.

The National Conference of Deaconesses is making a courageous effort to revive and carry on St. Faith's House for the especial purpose of training young women for the Order. They have, I think, had no official recognition or encouragement from the Bishops. We should not let them struggle on unaided.

I am therefore taking the liberty of asking you to give this whole matter careful thought, and that we exchange views by correspondence, with the hope that we can present the matter with earnestness and conviction to the attention of the next meeting of the House of Bishops.

We have eight capable and consecrated Deaconesses in this Diocese, five in City Missions, one who is Head Resident at Chase House, one who is Secretary of our Department of Christian Education, and one who has charge of our Church school work among isolated children and who is also in charge of our Diocesan Retreat House for Women. All eight are doing excellent work."

SPECIAL NOTICES

You are invited to contribute to St. Faith's Deaconess Dahlgren Memorial Fund. Gifts to the Fund total \$2224.00.

Deaconess Johnson attended the Young Women's Conference on Vocations in the Church held at Sayville in the Diocese of Long Island last month.

The Annual Retreat will be held at St. Faith's House in New York during the last full week of September. Notices will be sent to you later. We hope for a large attendance of Deaconesses, and a good day of Conference at the close.

One very important thing to come out of Bishop Randall's work for the Deaconesses is the defining of what "a deaconess in good standing" really means; and another is a thorough check-up on each one's canonical attachment to some diocese. Do you know your own for sure? If not, ask the Bishop's opinion, and act upon it.

Many of the Deaconesses are being asked the second time to register for Stowe's Clerical Directory, as the list should be complete, whether you are retired or not. Please act promptly in this.

Please send to either editor your requests for Thanksgivings and Petitions, for your special interests, for our next issue of "the Deaconess" by November 15th.

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

The Fund has recently been the recipient of a bequest from Miss Elizabeth R. Storrow in memory of Deaconess Colesberry. The amount is \$10,000.

The Directors of the Fund until September, 1947, are: President, Deaconess Clara Searle; Vice-President, Deaconess Dorothea Betz; Secretary, Deaconess Mary C. West; Directors, Deaconesses Lillian Crow, Hilda Dirterly, Ruth Johnson, Gertrude Stewart.

CORRECT ADDRESSES

One of the most difficult problems is a list of correct addresses for the Living Church Annual. The Secretary of the Retiring Fund (because every deaconess is a member of the Corporation of the Fund) and the Head of the New York Training School send in the list. It would help very much if any change of address from the one listed in the 1947 Annual would be sent to either Deaconess Johnson or Deaconess West as soon as possible. A special effort will be made to get the list we send in, printed. But as we never see the proof, mistakes have happened. We ask the cooperation of each and every deaconess in this matter. Please print the address. For which we will sincerely thank you.

SUMMARY OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS HELD IN 1947

Two meetings of the Executive Committee have been held at St. Faith's House, on February 12th, and May 7th, respectively. At both meetings Deaconess Johnson reported on the condition of the School, which is most encouraging. The progress made during the past three years is gratifying. While the School is not in the "red", it must be remembered that Funds must be obtained for next year.

At the February meeting a letter was read from Deaconess Affleck suggesting that a course for training Institutional workers be given at St. Faith's. This was further discussed at the May meeting, and it was recommended that Deaconess Johnson consult further with Deaconess Affleck regarding this matter.

It was also voted at the May meeting that the Executive Committee contact the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses for the purpose of securing the services of a Field Worker for the Order and to work for all the interests of the Order.

Two new members were elected to the Executive Committee at the May meeting, Deaconess Dorothea Betz, and Deaconess Hilda Dieterly.

EDITH BOOTH,
Deaconess.

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess Helen Bookman, a graduate of the Church Training and Deaconess House, of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, in 1908, gave her years of service in the parish of The Holy Apostles, Philadelphia. The parish paper pays the following tribute to her:

Deaconess Helen Brookman-The Parish will be grieved to learn of the death of Deaconess Helen Brookman on Saturday, April 5th, in an emergency operation after a very short illness.

Deaconess Brookman was for over thirty years the faithful and devoted servant of Christ in this Parish and her consecrated personal work influenced the lives of hundreds of people who are better men and women today because of her Christian character. Our understanding sympathy is extended to her sister, Miss Alice M. Brookman, and her brother, the Rev. Donald M. Brookman, D. D.

Surely she receives the benediction, "Inasmuch as ye have done the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

She retired a few years ago and went to live with her sister, Alice, in Berkeley, California. Another married sister, Mrs. Angell, and her brother were near-by. Deaconess Thayer writes, "The funeral was held in the Chantry of St. Mark's Church, Berkeley, Monday, April 7th, at 2 P. M. The Rev. Russell B. Staines read the services. The Chantry was full of friends, her family and three Deaconesses (Saunders, Dawson and Thayer) being among them."

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

Small packages of the December Number of "The Deaconess" were sent to each Provincial Representative to distribute to key figures in her Province. We hope in this way to interest new friends.

Watch for an article in "Forth" soon to come out, probably in the July-August number, on "Deaconesses at Work." Material and photographs were collected from various deaconesses, representing all the schools, all types of work and all parts of the country. It was a big parcel of material sent to Mr. William E. Leidt, Editor of "Forth" to choose from in preparing his article. Thank you every one who responded so promptly to the request for items about your work and for the photographs. We think this is real publicity, the biggest venture yet, at least in the numbers it will reach. We are truly grateful to Mr. Leidt.

Our printed material, now being eight different kinds, is being sent in small packages to a great many summer Church Conferences, through-out the country. Twenty such parcels are ready to post.

GERTRUDE STEWART
ELIZABETH G. NEWBOLD
Co-Chairmen.

NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

1st Province: *Theodora Beard*: I am permanently settled (I hope) with my family--North Avenue, Westport, Conn.----*F. Semle*: 7 Douglas Avenue, Providence, R. I. I have been ill, and have not been working regularly, just attend Church service and an occasional meeting.----*E. Suzanne McNulty*, Shannock, R. I.: After having to leave the Southern work which I always loved, I was placed by the N. Y. City Mission Society in Schermerhorn House, Milford, Conn. After 2½ years, this splendid 41 year-old Institution was obliged to be sold, could not meet the high cost of everything. So turning down a tempting Parish call, as I was anxious to return to rural work, I came here as rural missionary in the Diocese of R. I., in "South County" to reopen a work closed about 12 years ago. The area is large with little villages, and scattered population. The Bishop has given me a dark blue 1942 Willys, matches my uniform! We had 12 baptisms on Easter Even. Our Church School is tiny as our families have no children or only very small ones! Our Y.P. are lively and interesting. I drove 2 girls and 2 boys to their first Church Conference, and all said "How often do they have these things anyhow?" This whole community is so friendly, I wonder why people say "New Englanders are cold". There is much heart-rending work, too, terribly immoral conditions, 2 of my boys and girls are court cases. Hard though it is to arouse people who have had no service, not even the Holy Communion, for twelve years, our Lord is blessing the work.----*Elizabeth Coe*, lost her sister, Mary Ellen Coe

(social worker) on January 21st-Worcester.

2d Province: St. Clare's House, Maple Hill, Upper Red Hook, N. Y.: The past year has been full of blessings--a beautiful Retreat for a group of deaconesses; a Day of Devotion for the Woman's Auxiliary of Dutchess County; opportunity to lead a Devotional Service for a neighboring Auxiliary; health and strength to carry on; work of All Saints' Chapel going ahead, the Easter congregation being the largest in our six years experience, communions made by all but three on the list. Our kind friend, Mr. Harvey Pike, has helped largely with the coal bill by sending a check for \$200, and other gifts have been received. A collector of antiques said "Oh! that sweet old house just opens its arms to you!" We want you to know it is ready to embrace you all! BUT it does need a second bath room! --and painting!--and repairs! A storm in June did much damage.----*Lydia Ramsay:* has left the Western Counties Mission, Sparta, N. J., after six years work there.

3rd Province: The Society of St. Stephen, composed of deaconesses held its meeting on January 29, 1947 at St. Margaret's House, Philadelphia; this Society was founded forty years ago for prayer and companionship.----*Madeline Dunlap: Dabney House, Java, Virginia.* This past week one of our two county newspapers ran a page on our work, with pictures. We do hate to have Maude Cutler leave this diocese; someone must have been a good talker as Stowe's is adding us to their directory. Talk about publicizing the Order--in January I sent a full uniform to Louisville, Ky., for a pageant given for their annual W. A. Diocesan meeting. The Wickers are sold on the Order, and felt it should be represented "----*Anne Newman, Grace House, St. Paul, Va.,* "Your letter was slow getting to me; the RFD's wife died and he was unable to get a substitute for three days and as our car was broken down for a month we couldn't get down the mountain for mail!--*Elizabeth Newbold, Burlington, N. J.* "I retired October, 1946, but at my sister's request am carrying Bible classes for the Freshmen and Sophomores in St. Mary's Hall, and also going into Philadelphia every Wednesday to carry on the work of the Lending Library and Literature of the Auxiliary."

4th Province: Kate S. Mayer. My work at St. John's Church, Montgomery, Ala. is growing, and Church School is enthusiastic. Now with a financial secretary, I am released for parish visiting which I was supposed to do.

5th Province: Chicago: Edna M. Sargent: I had a letter sometime ago asking me what we did at our Chapter meetings. The truth of the matter is, the majority of us live here, Deaconess Bradley across the street. We are all so busy that we do not want to take time for formal meetings when we can talk things over informally from day to day. Deaconess Smith and Deaconess Taylor live at the Retreat House in Evanston; We see them when we go for Retreats.----*Clara Searle* has gone to St. Andrew's Mission, Addyston, Ohio, to carry on the work which Deaconess Fracker who died in 1946 had done.

7th Province: E. M. Brainerd, City Mission, St. Louis, Mo. She has been a member of the staff for over 25 years and has done a quiet but effective work in a number of public Institutions: At this time, she is visiting the TB Hospital; the General Hospital for colored people; the women in the Jail and Workhouse; Juvenile Court wards; in an Honor School for delinquent girls; and a Home for Epileptic and Feeble-minded children. She drives her own car in all weather and at all hours.----*Frances B. Affleck, Montell, Texas.* After 14 months at the House of Mercy, Washington, D. C., she returned to Texas in October, 1946, and has given most of her time to a member of her family. Montell is a center of stock raising. The only Church activity is a Guild Auxiliary of 20 members, which stands high in the per capita giving of the UTO. This partial retirement has been a busy time, for she has done a fine piece of work and has sent these news items (How about others doing likewise?)Ed.) She hopes soon to be back at full time work.----*Lillian Crow, Dallas.* In 1939, she started a work in a neglected section of Dallas, Texas, with two small boys and no roof over their heads. Now, 1947, a Rector has been called to take charge of St. Paul's Mission; with her Mission secure, she now becomes City Missionary to represent all of the Parishes in Dallas, in Public Institutions and general welfare work.----*Harriet H. English and Grace Smith, St. Anne's Mission, El Paso, Texas.* The Junior Choir has added much to the Service. Thursday nights during Lent there has been an average of 17 for the Litany and Office of Instruction. The Mission has recently acquired a Ping Pong table and also plates, cups, saucers for 24. The Ping Pong table is also used for a sewing table, and breakfast after the Easter Eucharist. Members of the Sunday School have earned money for their mite boxes by washing the schoolroom windows." I recently spoke on the Deaconess Order at our Auxiliary meeting in Los Comas, and we will speak on the Order at the Convocation in Gallup, N. M. "----*Gladys Hall, Brownson Home for Children, Victoria, Texas:*

" We have had a splendid year, interest in Church, 4 H Club, School Music--a household of busy, happy children. " She was one year in Philadelphia, then completed her training under her Bishop in Alabama.----*Charlotte Massey, Comfort, Texas*. In February 1947, she celebrated the second anniversary of her release from " Los Banos " prison in the Philippine Islands. This town in Texas was settled several generations ago by a group of German immigrants who built a church but refused to have a Pastor as they preferred being known as agnostics. She was set apart in 1904, and came to work under Bishop Johnstone of West Texas; the bishop decided to build a chapel to begin work in this " foreign field " ; a house for the deaconess was constructed next door, and in 1907 the Chapel was dedicated, and the deaconess moved in and carried on 'till in 1913, when she entered St. Luke's Hospital, N. Y. C. for training. From 1916 until the Japanese occupation, she carried on work in the Philippines Islands, and it is now her dearest wish to go back and "pick up the pieces". While she was visiting in Texas in 1946, a delegation from Comfort called on her urging her to return to her old residence and resume work there. The old house was worse for neglect, but friends came to help and all are eager to make the apartment comfortable, hoping she will be won back to work and live there where she began, and where many rise up and call her blessed.

8th Province: Episcopal Deaconess House, Los Angeles, Cal.----Laura Calloway

" Deaconess Margaret Booz came to us in direct answer to prayer. I have reached the stage where the responsibility to carry on is beyond my strength. Deaconess Booz is not the new broom that has swept all traditions and habits out, as worn out, but has adopted us in a wonderful sympathetic and understanding manner. I want to thank our Heavenly Father for sending us such a capable and consecrated Head Deaconess." Margaret Booz writes; *Los Angeles Chapter*: "Five deaconesses are living in the House, and Deaconesses Dorothea Badgley of Canada, a former missionary in China, and Dss. F. Harriet Mytton attend our meetings regularly; others find transportation too difficult. Dss. Reardon is in a Rest Home at Mentone and we visit her from time to time. I visited Deaconess Phelps and her sister at Pacific Grove, and went to San Francisco but my train left before Deaconess Dawson arrived, to sail to P. I. I saw Deaconess Thayer there. My 25 or more letters to deaconesses in the 8th Province brought little response. Many retired ones feel they have little to contribute, but if they are anything like those living in this house (even at their advanced age, they have all been out to vote today) they would still be active. The Board of Managers of our House have decided to limit residents here to deaconesses and missionaries, the latter for a month's time. That means we have room for those passing through to foreign fields or returning on vacation.----*Katherine E. Phelps, Pacific Grove, Cal.* " We leave June 2d for a two month's motor trip to take in visits in Oregon and Washington and Glacier and Yellowstone Park and perhaps Estes in Colorado. I had rather drive a car than cook any day, so am looking forward to a vacation from housework. Motoring is now the only pleasure Louise (her sister) can enjoy on account of her crutches." *Eleanore I. Sime*, has resigned from her work at the Episcopal Mission at Fort Hall, Idaho.

Overseas: Mary Dawson. She was in a concentration camp in P. I. and before that was cared for in the jungles for a year or more by natives; her health suffered from the after effects, but she has returned to her work at Upi, Mindanao, P. I. She can no longer ride through the jungles on horseback but can do work at the Church. A personal friend writes: " I was with Mary Dawson this afternoon. She is quite busy, shopping and packing and making ready to leave. She was shopping for a piano, two common sinks (and they are hard to get now) one toilet and a hand wash bowl."----*Julia A. Clark, Hankow, China*. At Christmas time she sent a fine circular letter to many friends giving details of her work as Diocesan Director of Women's Evangelistic work, and Supervisor of the native Bible Women. She expressed her gratitude to the friends at home who had given her gifts of clothing and money for relief work in China. She told many interesting stories of personal aid she had given to worthy Chinese people.

London: At a chapter meeting, consideration was given to the situation at the Church Assembly when Resolutions concerning Deaconesses were under debate. Pamphlets had been circulated by the Society for the Equal Ministry of Men and Women. To correct the resultant misunderstanding the Bishop of Durham was asked to write a letter to the Times:--(1) The Council has never suggested that deaconesses should administer Holy Communion. (2) The Council has no connection with the Society for Equal Ministry of Men and Women.----At the Conference it was decided that a longer time than usual should be given to talks by deaconesses from Overseas.

Australia: There are about eighteen deaconesses working in Melbourne now, and

three in Perth, some in Adelaide, two in Tasmania, in all about fifty deaconesses in Australia.

New Zealand: is leading the way with a central college to which all women training for Church work will go.

DEVOTIONS

"praise the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, praise his Holy Name."
Thanksgivings.

Let us thank God

- for Bishop Randall's efforts to arouse the Church, through the Bishops to a sense of responsibility for the Order of Deaconesses, and for the plans for strengthening it in the near future.

- for God's blessings and comfort granted to a deaconess through months of anxiety due to a physical disability, and for a good recovery from an operation.

- for the brave facing of difficulties by the missionaries who have returned to their fields of work in China, Japan and the Philippines.

- for the year's successful work at St. Faith's; and for the four fine young women graduated in May.

- for the great number of people who will attend summer conferences, and for the inspiration they will receive.

- for the growth of the work at St. Paul's Mission in Dallas, Texas, and that it has a rector now.

- for the safety of a brother's family during the recent flood in Rutland, Vermont, although the house was flooded.

LET US PRAY

That God may grant to those who attend summer conferences a great blessing and strengthening of the inner life.

That our parish priests may seek out many fine young women and present to them the vocation of deaconess.

That united efforts for peace and good-will may be able to overcome suspicions and prejudices among races and classes throughout the world.

That God's Holy Spirit may guide the leaders in India to right decisions, and give them power to accomplish His will for the good of all the people.

That China may become a united country again, soon, and that the economic problems may be solved, and the people relieved of such hardships they have had to endure for so long.

That the new Director of Women at the Philadelphia Divinity School, Maude Cutler, may be blessed and guided in the work, and that students may be ready to enroll for this fall term.

That God's blessing will rest upon St. Paul's Mission in Dallas and crown the work with success.

PRAYERS USED BY ST. CLARE'S HOUSE, MAPLE HILL, UPPER RED HOOK:-

"Clare, the handmaid of Christ called by Him to serve in humility and simplicity, found in Him all joy and love.

Antiphon - As the lily among thorns, so is my beloved among the daughters.

Response - As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the daughters.

I found Him whom my soul loveth.

I held Him and would not let Him go.

O God, our Heavenly Father, Who didst richly give to Thy servant Clare serenity, love, and peace; so bless, we beseech Thee, this House which bears her name; that all those who enter or dwell herein, may find rest and peace and joy in Thee, Who liveth and reigneth One God, world without end. Amen.

THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL ARE IN THE HANDS OF GOD.

They pass beyond our touch, beyond our sight,

Never, thank God, beyond our love and prayers.

And even as, out of the darkest night,

Dawn steals unawares,

So from our night of sorrow and distress,

We, who are left in loneliness below,

May catch some vision of the blessedness

Which our beloved know.

We kneel to offer up to God above

The one true, pure, sufficient Sacrifice,

And in our prayers remember all we love,

Here and in Paradise.
O Holy Jesu, in Thy Presence sweet,
Joined in Communion, mystical, divine,
We, upon earth, and our beloved meet,
And we, and they, are Thine.

A. R. G.

PRAYERS

A Prayer for Deeper Devotion

O Lord, my Saviour, Who bestowest Thy mercy at all times on them that love Thee, and Who art never far off from them that serve Thee, abide, I entreat Thee, perpetually with me, Thy servant, whom thou hast called and suffered to be a Deaconess in Thy Holy Church. Never forsake me, in work or watching, in suffering or ease, by day or by night, alone or with others, to my life's end. Order all my steps in peace; make me holy, harmless, undefiled. Give me a pure heart, a gentle temper, a Christian tongue, and a strong courage for Thee. In the midst of troubles or distresses keep me calm. When I am weary keep me from complaining or discouragement. Help me to be patient in provocation. Show me how to bear Thy cross. Refresh me with Thy Bread and Cup. May I never fall back into sins of self-will or self-love that I have repented of. Forgive me, gracious Redeemer, all my offences. Heal all my infirmities. May I not forget my covenant or Thy tender consolations. Drive away evil thoughts and wrong desires. Remember for good each one of those dear daughters of Thy love and grace who are called with the same holy calling to a service of charity. Increase their number, send Thine angels to protect them, and give them the joy of their Lord, and victory at last. Bless this Diocese, my Bishop, and Thy whole Church, for Thy great goodness' sake, Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest ever one God, world without end. Amen.

A Waking Prayer

O Heavenly Father, I love Thee; I thank Thee for love and the gift to us of Thy dear Son; for life and love, and beauty; and all the things which Thou hast given us; for rest and sleep and waking and the new day; Make it Thine; Bless our dear and precious ones; Guide and guard, protect and direct them, with Thy merciful love, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Prayer for Vision. (Printed in Arizona Church Record)

O God, be Thou our Leader all the day long of this wondrous life, and as the dawn breaks and the morning brightens on us, and the busy world seems beckoning, and we wait wondering what work must be begun, then to Thy glory show us our true calling to high and noble service; and may we live eternally for Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts which no unworthy thoughts can drag downwards, unconquered hearts which no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts which no unworthy purpose can tempt aside; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(St. Thomas Aquinas.)

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LILLIAN W. CROW, CHAIRMAN, 718 NO. ZANG'S BLVD. DALLAS, TEXAS
MARGARET BOOZ, CLARA SEARLE, MARGARET BECHTOL, EDITH A. BOOTH,
GERTRUDE STEWART, RUTH JOHNSON, DOROTHEA F. BETZ, HILDA DIETERLY
SECRETARY-TREASURER, EDITH A. BOOTH, ST. PAUL, VA.

EDITORS

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MARCH, 1948

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1. Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
2. Dorothea F. Betz, 67 Hilton Ave., Garden City, L.I., N.Y.
3. Anne Newman, St. Paul, Va.
4. Harriet M. Bedell, Everglades, Florida.
5. Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.
6. Marion Brown, Gallup, N. M., Star Route Ise Bonito.
7. Frances B. Affleck, Montell, Uvalde Co., Texas.
8. Margaret Booz, 542 S. Boyle Ave., Los Angeles 33, Calif.

AN EXPLANATION

There was no December 1947 issue of "The Deaconess" due to lack of funds. Since then some dues have been paid and one generous gift has been given to enable us to have this number. Our dues are too small and our members too few now to meet the high cost of printing. So further gifts for this purpose will be gratefully accepted. Without extra help the future publication is very uncertain. The Minutes of the Annual Conference held on Sept. 25th, are summarized, as some of the important details are included in other reports in this issue. The minutes of the National Executive Committee held on January 31st, 1948, are given in full, as they bring us up to date with the latest developments in regard to the future of our Order. A copy of the Canon, now No. 51, is enclosed for your convenience in seeing the recommended changes as reported in the minutes of the Advisory Commission.

Editors, GERTRUDE STEWART
ELIZABETH G. NEWBOLD

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES ST. FAITH'S HOUSE, NEW YORK, SEPT. 25, 1947.

Attendance; 25 Deaconesses, the largest number in some years.

Registration; Deaconesses Edith Adams, Mabel Adams, Affleck, Armstrong, Betz, Booth, Boorman, Brereton, Booz, Byllesby, Crow, Dieterly, Gillespy, Ruth Johnson, Marling, Massey, Newbold, Ramsay, Ranson, Searle, Shaw, Simpson, Stewart, West and Williams.

Reports; Publicity and Promotion. (Had been in July Issue of "The Deaconess")

St. Faith's House. Deaconess Johnson reported that there would be no Junior Class for this year. There are three Seniors, and one Special Graduate Student who is specializing in Social Service, but she shares in the household and chapel duties and does some work under the Instructors by required reading and papers on assigned subjects.

Washington Conference on Women Workers, held in early September, was reported by Deaconess Johnson.

Visit of an English Deaconess, Cecily Ford, Brought greetings to the American Deaconesses from the English Deaconesses. She said they are having difficulty in securing candidates for the order now. Many do not wear the garb, but they have a uniform cross for all members of the Order. Their students receive their M.A. from some college before they enter a Church Training School. They plan soon to have a Church sponsored William Temple College for the special religious training. (This was reported by Deaconess Johnson).

Plans and Policies. The several recommendations by the Advisory Commission were considered and discussion followed each suggested change in the canon. Each point was voted upon and passed by the Conference. (See details under Notes on Advisory Commission, in this paper).

Associates. Another long discussion on this subject resulted in it being tabled once more, until after the meeting of the Lambeth Conference to know its decisions concerning deaconesses.

Thanks. Votes of thanks were given to the following persons:

1. To Bishop Randall for his work for the order and especially for his suggestions in the changes of the canon.

2. To Father Schlueter, for his beautiful and helpful meditations during the Retreat.

3. To Deaconess Ruth Johnson for her fine leadership as Head of the School and for the hospitality of St. Faith's.

4. To Deaconess Margaret Booz for securing help in having the Book of Remembrance hand printed free and brought up to date.

5. To Deaconess Affleck for her services in keeping St. Faith's open during the summer for the use of Columbia students, and thus providing added income for the school.

6. To the Central House at Hindhead, England for the greetings from English Deaconesses, and Deaconess Johnson was asked to send the letter with our greetings to their Deaconesses.

7. To the Chairman, Deaconess Crow, for fine guidance of the meeting.

The group then stood while the Chairman read the names of the four Deaconesses who had entered into the Larger Life during the past year:

Deaconess Helen S. Brookman

Deaconess Lillian M. Yeo

Deaconess Jessie L. Gardner

Deaconess Eliza B. Mills

And prayers were offered for them.

Full minutes signed by EDITH A. BOOTH
Secretary.

Condensed by the Editors.

Note. Since that meeting, four more deaconesses have entered into Life Eternal. These are:

Deaconess Anna E. Alexander

Deaconess Viola Young

Deaconess Laura Napper

Deaconess Frances Semle

TREASURER'S REPORT - JANUARY 31, 1948
TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

RECEIPTS

Balance on Hand Sept. 1, 1947	\$16.08
Gifts for Printing and Dues received from Sept. 1, 1947 - Jan. 31, 1948	48.05

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$64.58

DISBURSEMENTS

*Forwarded to Retiring Fund	5.50
Printing	3.50

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		9.00
	Balance	55.58

*Many deaconesses include their gifts to the Retiring Fund in their check for dues. This therefore has to be sent to Deaconess West, Treasurer of the Retiring Fund.

EDITH A. BOOTH,
Treasurer

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE R. F. D.

The Corporation of The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses held its Twentieth Annual Meeting at St. Faith's, New York on September 26, 1947 at the close of the Retreat with 24 Deaconesses present. Bishop Gilbert gave his welcome and the President, Deaconess Searle presided. The Secretary reported changes in the Board Advisers, Bp. Sherrill taking the place of Bp. Tucker, and the Bishops of New York, Chicago, and Delaware, Canon Sparks and Mr. C.P. Ladd being added. Mr. Ladd attended the meeting and gave some good advice from his experience as a banker. The number of beneficiaries has risen to 12. Deaconesses are listed in Stowe's Directory for the first time. The Treasurer, General Beckwith, reported in person that securities are now well over \$100,000 and endowment totals \$140,000. In the preceding year, \$4,800 was paid out in benefits, more than any other year. In investigating the question of annuities, the Treasurer found that \$1,000,000 would be required and the idea has been given up for the present. The largest gifts to the Retiring Fund thru the year were \$500 from Mrs. Charles I. Landis; \$500 from Deaconess Gillespy as a memorial to Deaconess Dahlgren; and \$10,000 from Miss Elizabeth Storrow in memory of Deaconess Colesberry. A Promotion Committee was appointed, Deaconess Betz, Chairman, and Deaconesses Stewart and West as members. There were no ordinations during the year and four deaths, bringing the total number of deaconesses down to 156. At the election, Deaconess Amelia Brereton was elected to succeed Deaconess Gertrude Stewart. Deaconess Hilda Dieterly was elected President of the Board of Directors and Deaconess Dorothea F. Betz, Vice-President. Other members of the Board are Deaconess West, Secretary, Deaconesses Crow, Johnson, and Searle.

MARY C. WEST
Secretary

NOTES ON THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON WORK OF DEACONESSES

A meeting of this Commission was held at St. Faith's House on Sept. 22nd, 1947. Several points will be of general interest to the Order.

The findings of the Washington Conference on Women's Work, held in early September were reported and considered. Two important decisions came from that Conference. First that all women must have college training before taking Church Training. Second that there should be but one School in New York under our Church for this special training.

The Chairman was asked to request the Presiding Bishop to appoint Miss Cutler, Head of the Department of Women of the Philadelphia Divinity School to membership in the Commission.

Changes in Canon 51, of Deaconesses, were suggested and passed, to be recommended to General Convention. These consisted of changing the preliminary educational standard to read, "That she is a graduate of a college or university, or equivalent thereof", - and adding to section 8 the following:

"The fact of the admission of a deaconess shall be transmitted by the Bishop to the Recorder of General Convention, together with the following data:

1. Her full name.
2. Place and date of birth.
3. Date and place of such admission as a deaconess.
4. Any change in the status of a deaconess should be likewise notified to the Recorder by the Bishop.

The Commission also asked the National Conference of Deaconesses to issue a statement that they are of the opinion that the duties of a deaconess, as now outlined in Canon 51, Section 2 (b) constitute a sufficient statement of the functions of a deaconess.

THE ANNUAL RETREAT SEPT. 24th AND 25th, 1947

Lunch and supper were social, giving an opportunity for visiting, as many had not been able to come during the War Years.

At 8 P.M., the first Meditation was given, after which Silence began.

The Conductor was the Rev. Edward Schlueter, now Chaplain General of the Sisters of St. Mary.

The theme was--

"With twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly." Isaiah 6:2

'With twain he covered his feet' ... humility, prayer, self oblation.

There is no visible enclosure for us. A Retreat or daily meditation in silence provides our inclosure. The more we have to do, the more we must pray.

Thursday, Sept. 24: Holy Communion at 7:30 A.M.

10 A.M. 2nd Meditation:

The Old Testament exemplifies 'visual education'. e.g.

'I am the vine', there was an actual vine carved on the door.

The Life of Our Blessed Lord was a great picture. He lived

His message.

'With twain he covered his face'--illustrates worship, i.e. the first thought is not 'give' but 'hallowed'.

How worship? The Holy Communion equal action, 'do', not emotion. Teach others how to do, but do nothing for effect, but everything you do produces an effect. God in them equal God in us. We need gentleness which is derived from 'family', the feeling of being well born.

Make a resolution.

Reverence God in me.

At noon intercessions.

3:30 P.M. Third Meditation:

'With twain he covered his feet', self oblation, humility. Pride is the root of evil, love of self to the exclusion of God. Humility, what is it? Turn to our Blessed Lord, 'look unto me', gives no definite pictures. Definitions need a teacher but any child can understand a picture. Study the Bible--that through the Bible you may look at Jesus and learn to know God.

'Learn of me', cf. the humility of the Saviour,--chose to be born of a woman of low estate, born in a stable, poor, nowhere to lay His head, chose fishermen to call sinners; at twelve years of age, He was almost teaching, yet 'was subject to them'; there was eighteen years of self-emptying; then the Cross.

Humility is not self-depreciation, it is virtue, power.

'The humble never grumble .

Thursday, September 25, 1947, 7:45 P.M.

Fourth Meditation:

Again look at the angels----

'But with twain they did fly'

Worship is not to be substituted for work, nor humility an excuse for doing nothing. Worship and humility must produce work. Worship becomes self-effacement, then work. Jesus called men at work, finds them in their work--the shepherds were watching, the magi studying the stars, the disciples fishing. Jesus summed up His life. 'I work'. Love is God's character in action. N.B. story of Peter, 'I have nothing, but in the name of Jesus Christ',- Do I serve in the character, i.e. the Name of Jesus?

We need not only a general rule but a rule for each day. Our Blessed Lord lived by rule, e.g. 'mine hour has not yet come'.

Sometimes we are too lazy to go to bed. Keep your work Christian by doing it on time, i.e. by rule.

If prayers are due when a disagreeable letter comes, the answer cannot be put off by saying 'I must pray'; or if the Meditation is done on time, the need for it will not interfere with seeing a disagreeable visitor. That is, Self-sacrifice equals self-discipline. Religion is not a technique but a revelation.

We are to be co-workers with God.

NOTICE FROM THE NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSSES

As Warden of the New York Training School for Deaconesses it is my duty to make the following announcement to the Deaconesses, Alumnae, Former Students and Friends of the School.

When the Trustees of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine permitted the erection of St. Faith's House on the Cathedral property, it was upon the condition that they might at any time acquire the House and other rights enjoyed by the School after a year's notice and upon payment of a price to be determined as fair but not to exceed the original cost of the building. The Cathedral Trustees have now elected to exercise the option which they hold and have given the required notice as of November 17th, 1947. They propose to remodel the House for Cathedral offices.

In this situation it is obvious that it will be impossible to make plans for continuing our work as soon as next year. Bishop Gilbert, who is now President of our Board of Trustees has been authorized to appoint a committee to meet with the Trustees of the Cathedral and to look after the property interest of the School. It is of course our hope and expectation that the educational resources provided by the work and benefactions of the Rev. Dr. W. R. Huntington and Archdeacon Tiffany and by their associates and successors will continue to be devoted to the training of Deaconesses and other women for the service of the Church.

St. Faith's House
January 20, 1948

CHARLES N. SHEPARD
Warden of the School

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES JANUARY 31, 1948

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held at St. Faith's House, New York on January 31, 1948, with eight members present: Deaconesses Crow, Beehtol, Betz, Booz, Booth, Dieterly, Johnson and Stewart. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Chairman, Deaconess Crow. The minutes of the meeting held on September 27, 1947 were read and approved. It was announced that Deaconess Sargeant of Chicago, however, was to take the place of Deaconess Wilson who had been appointed to serve as a member of the Survey Committee.

Deaconess Johnson reported informally on what she knew had been done by the Survey Committee up to the present time.

Letters were read by Deaconess Crow from the Trustees of the Cathedral to the Trustees of the New York Training School for Deaconesses, requesting them to relinquish the use of the School to the Cathedral for Cathedral use, in accor-

dance with the contract made with the School in 1909 when it was built on Cathedral property.

A letter was also read from Canon Sparks, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the New York Training School for Deaconesses explaining the above action, and asking that the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses cancel their five year plan of operation of the School. It was moved by Deaconess Stewart, and Seconded by Deaconess Booz that we conform with this request, and that we thank the Board of Trustees for their willing cooperation and help during the past four years. Motion carried.

Deaconess Crow at this time told of her Publicity Plan in her Diocese for the Deaconess Order, in sending literature and letters regarding the order to all Auxiliaries in the Diocese. This plan has netted about \$200 for the School and shows what can be done in other Dioceses.

The Executive Committee, realizing the need for the Trustees of the School to have someone from the Executive Committee with whom to consult during this time when plans are being made for the future of the school voted on the following motion made by Deaconess Booz and seconded by Deaconess Bechtol:

That Deaconess Johnson be given authority by the Executive Committee to carry out whatever is best to further the interests of the Deaconess Order, and that the Board of Trustees be so notified. Motion carried.

Canon Sparks came in at this time to explain the action of the Board of Trustees of the Cathedral.

A request was made by the Rev. Gordon Gillett that a deaconess attend the Youth Conference in Long Island in May, to tell the young women of the vocation of Deaconess. Deaconess Bechtol was asked to accept this assignment which she consented to do.

The question of the Retreat in September 1948 was discussed and Deaconess Betz was appointed to find a suitable Retreat House, and in consultation with Deaconess Johnson and Deaconess West, to secure a conductor for same. She will notify the deaconesses of the time and place.

Deaconess Booth reported on her inability to continue as Secretary-Treasurer. Her resignation was accepted and Deaconess Betz was elected to serve in this position.

Respectfully submitted,

EDITH A. BOOTH,
Secretary

Note: Deaconess Betz notified Deaconess Booth on February 6th, that her term as a member of the Executive Committee will expire in September 1948, and suggested that no books be sent to her, as she did not think it worthwhile to make the change for so short a time. Deaconess Booth therefore will have to continue as Secretary-Treasurer until the next meeting.

E. A. B.

GREETING FROM ST. FAITH'S HOUSE! FEBRUARY 28, 1948

With less than three months remaining of this academic year tentative plans for Commencement week are in the making. Barring unforeseen complications we are planning:

IMPORTANT

Wednesday, May 12th ...	Deaconess Conference
Thursday, May 13th ...	Commencement
Friday, May 14th ...	Deaconess Quiet Day or possibly Retreat into Saturday morning.

You will be glad to hear that when Father Schlueter was asked if he would again direct our Retreat he replied that he "should like to very much". The final schedule will be mailed as soon as the Quiet Day (or Retreat) arrangements have been completed. However it is none too soon to send in your reservation for the last week of our occupancy of this House.

You have received the Warden's announcement that the Trustees of the Cathedral have exercised their right to take over the building that houses our

School. This action on the part of the Cathedral Trustees made it necessary for the Executive Committee of the National Conference to abrogate the arrangement they had made in 1944 with the Trustees of the School by which they were to operate the School for a trial period of five years. At the end of this academic year therefore the responsibility for the operation of the School reverts to its Trustees. It is not known at this writing what plan or plans are being formulated for the continuation of the activities of the School but we are confident that they will be for the glory of God and the honor of the revered Founder of the School, the Rev. Dr. William Reed Huntington.

You will read elsewhere of the deeply satisfying Retreat and Conference held here last September. Twenty-five Deaconesses were present. Since then twenty Deaconesses have been our guests, their stay ranging from overnight stops to a three-month residence. That our students could thus meet and talk with so many Deaconesses gave the Head Deaconess great delight and much gratification. Because of Deaconess Robinson's visit we know about the challenging rural work being done in Michigan and we thrilled to Deaconess Hill's descriptions of some of her experiences in Eau Claire.

On Friday, January 30th, there were more Deaconesses than students present at dinner - the occasion being the impending meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference. This preponderance of Deaconesses called for a cake extraordinary. Each of the two tables was presented with a cake decorated with tiny figures of deaconesses complete with chiffon veils and white painted crosses, collars and cuffs. The tiny deaconess figures had at one time decorated a Birthday cake made for Bishop Manning. Mrs. Manning thoughtfully gave the figures to me hopeful that they might again bring pleasure. They did! To each of you who has been with us one time or another: Thank you for having given us the pleasure of your visit.

We have also enjoyed the companionship of three of Deaconess Ashcroft's Chinese co-workers in Shanghai. They hold Deaconess in deep affection and praise her work and life most highly.

I cannot send out this last "Greetings from St. Faith's House" without expressing my deep appreciation of your unfailing support of our effort to operate the School these past four years. Your pledge payments and generous contributions (often at a sacrifice, I know) were most heartening facing as we did (and do!) prices for food and wages far in excess of the budget set up in 1944. A wide variety of gifts, from foods to cleaning cloths, showed your active interest. "Heroic" is the word for the mileage covered by Deaconess Affleck and Deaconess West as they treadled and treadled to satisfy the insatiable demand of the Head Deaconess for window curtains - and more window curtains. Most important of all your prayers. I have been upheld more often than you can know by the comforting assurance that your concern for us has been and continues to be lifted Godward. For these and other evidences of your ever-present interest and co-operation I offer you my heartfelt gratitude. I am confident that you join me in asking God's guidance as the Trustees of the School make plans for the future.

RUTH JOHNSON
Head Deaconess

DEVOTIONS THE YEAR OF CHANGE - 1948

It is startling news the Warden writes us! St. Faith's House!! It stands for home, for friendship, for conference, for training, for great experiences in our lives; a center thru many years where those of difference ages, different schools and different activities have met and woven together the web and woof of spiritual life. How shall we accept this inevitable, change?

Let us give THANKS

For what St. Faith's has stood for during almost two score years. For all the blessings we have received within its walls. For those laborers in the Vineyard who have received inspiration, training, equipment for life's work. For what it has meant to the Order of Deaconess. "We thank Thee, O God".

Let us have TOLERANCE.

It is so easy when changes come, especially when they are disturbing changes, to blame. Blame someone. Blame everyone. Everyone but ourselves. You, - and I - who have been threads in this warp and woof, am I blameless? Are you? Let us realize that many years, many circumstances, many people have contributed to the loss of St. Faith's House and blame No One Person, No One Group. Let us have tolerance. "Grant us thy love, O God".

Let us have FAITH.

St. Faith's was so called because it was a venture of faith and it was opened on St. Faith's Day. Can we Deaconesses afford to lose faith today, because we have lost a house? The venture of faith is still ahead of us and our defeat is our opportunity. We must believe that ways will be found that the spiritual values may not be lost. That the future may interpret the Church to future generations according to their need and capacity. "Lord I believe. Help Thou mine unbelief".

Let us have HOPE.

What shall we hope for? First, that in our "homeless days" we may show in our lives that spiritual health for which our training and our Order stands. That we may prove to the world that CHARACTER is the soul of the Order and that houses may come and houses may go but that Deaconesses hold to their vocation. That the Lord under whose wings we are come to trust will guide us into the knowledge of His will for us. And that He may bring victory out of the present defeat. "I will hope continually, and will praise Thee yet more and more." "And having done all to stand".

But let us have PRAYER.

Almighty God, Who in Thy love hast planned the purpose of our lives, grant that by the teaching of the Holy Ghost we may learn Thy Holy Will and give ourselves obediently to fulfill our vocation. In the changes and chances of our life today may the Holy Spirit illuminate our minds, purify our hearts and quicken our wills that we may cheerfully do those good works which Thou hast prepared for us to walk in so that our Order may be acceptable to Thee and a blessing to Thy Church. Grant this, O Christ, for Thy blessed Name's sake. Amen.

O God, Who in the days of old didst raise up women for the service of Thy people; be mercifully pleased in these days to call forth women to serve Thy Church in the Order of Deaconesses, and grant that hearing Thy call they may offer themselves willingly to be trained and with humble and thankful hearts surrender themselves to Thy purpose through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IN MEMORIAM

1947

BROOKMAN, Helen S., died on April 5th. Notice appeared in The Deaconess, July, 1947

GARDNER, Jessie Lewis, died on August 4th, in the Martha's Vineyard Hospital, after an illness of several weeks, caused by a broken hip; she was 85 years old. She took the training and was set apart after the death of her husband, the Rev. George E. Gardner, in 1891. For thirty-four years, she was on the staff of Grace Church, New York City, and after retiring from there was parish deaconess at St. Paul's Brookline, Mass., for six years. She retired in 1933, having completed forty years as an active worker, and then gave ten years of volunteer service in St. Andrew's Church, Edgartown, Mass. The funeral service was held in St. Paul's, Brookline, with a memorial communion service in St. Andrew's, Edgartown, and burial at Utica, N.Y., overlooking the beautiful valley where her early home was situated.

YEO, Lillian Marie Arundel, died on August 4, in Washington, D.C., 80 years old. She was born in Devonshire, England, and was graduated from The Training School for Deaconesses in New York in 1901. She made The House of Mercy in Washington her life work, being in charge for forty-four years, retiring June 1, 1945. The funeral was held in the Bethlehem Chapel of the Washington Cathedral.

- MILLS, Eliza Budd, died on August 12th. She was born in Jersey City, Nov. 22, 1863. In 1914, she went to the Training School for Deaconesses in New York and was a special student for one year, after which she was set apart. She spent twenty-three years in the Close of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, first as a student, then assistant at St. Faith's, eight years as housemother at the Choir School and thirteen years as Sacristan at the Cathedral. When she retired, she went to St. Luke's Home, New York. Her unwavering faithfulness at whatever work she did was a joy to her and an example to all who knew her.
- ALEXANDER, Anna E. B., died on November 17th. She opened her missionary work in a Baptist Church in 1902 when still a young girl, but built it up into The Good Shepherd Mission, Pennick, Ga., ten miles from Brunswick, where there is now a school building beside the neat church. She taught school, held services, performed various parochial duties, walked around the countryside caring for and ministering to her people. She had retired previous to her death. She was the only colored deaconess.
- YOUNG, Viola, died on December 27th. She was born in Covington, Ky., 75 years ago, and was trained in the Training School for Deaconess, New York. She worked first in the Berkshires, and then for twelve years was in charge of St. John's Settlement House in Philadelphia. Two sisters and a brother survive.
- 1948
- NAPPER, Laura, died on January 22nd. She was born in Sussex, England, 70 years ago, trained in the Toronto Deaconess House; worked a few years in Canada, then came to St. Paul's Cathedral in Los Angeles. She suffered a series of accidents before her death. The funeral was held in the Cathedral.
- SEMLE, Frances, died on February 16th, after a long and serious illness. She was born in New York City in 1883. She was graduated from the Church Training and Deaconess House in Philadelphia in 1912, and was made a deaconess in September of that year. All her work was in Providence, R. I. as a parish deaconess. She continued her studies as she worked, doing work at Brown University and at Biblical Seminary.

"The righteous live forever more; their reward is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High."

May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

Deaconess Betz has sent out twenty-two letters to Diocesan Papers asking for rates for advertising The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses. She has received eight answers. Five have given rates, and three have promised occasional free space. The others have not replied. We hope to take advantage of this way to make known to more people the need of this Fund.

Deaconess Gilliland wrote an interesting article for "The Watchman", the Diocesan Paper of Salina, in Sept., 1947. It gave an account of her work at St. Faith's House in Salina, and drew attention to the Article in Forth about the Work of Deaconesses, and then gave a summary of the duties as defined in the canon, and made an appeal for candidates.

Deaconess Margaret Booz of Los Angeles made a radio broadcast in December on "A Churchman views the News". She gave a history of the Episcopal Deaconess House and told of the work the various deaconesses had done in the diocese, and also the general work of all deaconesses.

At the Cathedral in December, she made an address at the Evening Prayer Service. She also spoke at a Young People's Panel Discussion on Vocations. She says of that, "They asked searching questions and showed that they were really in earnest in looking forward to a life that will count".

Deaconess West sends the following notice of the R.F.D.

TOO LITTLE FOR TOO FEW

About April 1st the Directors of The Retiring Fund will mail a booklet with the above title to all deaconesses. It is a report of the Fund and the first appeal we have had for several years. It is hoped that each deaconess will distribute as many copies as possible thru her parish or her friends. Copies may be had from the Secretary on request. It is interesting to note that the Pence Box Offering in 1947 paid for the printing of the booklet, with a couple of dollars left over for postage. Thus many deaconesses have had a share in sending out this appeal.

GERTRUDE STEWART
ELIZABETH G. NEWBOLD,
Co-Chairmen.

Notice. Calls for workers continue to be made. The last "We-are-in-need of-assistance" call was received by Deaconess Johnson from the rector of a rapidly growing parish in Virginia. A deaconess is asked for. If you are interested, get in touch with Deaconess Johnson.

NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

1st Province: Deaconess Coe, Representative.

Deaconess Hyde: 'No news of myself, but Deaconess Massey was with me for a night.'

Deaconess Emily M. Elwyn: I should like to have an intercession that some one in this Diocese may want to become a Church Worker.

Deaconess Rachel O. Hemphill, Greenwich, Conn.: "I am not able to get out much".

Deaconess Mary S. Johnson and Deaconess Ruby Thompson, New Haven: I am afraid the things we do, would not make an interesting article.

Deaconess A.W. Lovell, Worcester, Mass: The Guild is still meeting weekly and making surgical dressings for local hospitals and clothing for Overseas Relief.

Deaconess Trask, Gardiner, Maine: Early in the summer, we had to move, but were thankful to find, in these days of housing shortage, a comfortable apartment very near the Church, rectory and parish house, but miss our oratory, garden and guestroom and the nearness to The House of the Good Shepherd.

We would give thanks for the sparing of most of the Church property in the areas where our recent fire disasters have occurred and for all the help from many sources which has come to our Maine people in this calamity and would pray for comfort and help to those who lost their homes and businesses and for guidance to the clergy and people.

2nd Province: Deaconess Dorothea F. Betz, Representative.

Deaconess Celia E. Brown, 423 W. 46th Street New York 19: February, 1948 It is indeed nice to be well and able to do things. I enjoy my work in New York very much. I live with a delightful family on 18th Street near the Seminary. It is possible to get to the Church in ten or fifteen minutes at the most.

Deaconess Elizabeth G. Newbold, St. Mary's Hall, Burlington, N.J.: For 110 years, it has been the custom here for the Bishop to give a Feast to the School. This was always a very delightful party, with best clothes and beautiful decorations and a turkey for the piece de resistance. This year, Bishop Gardiner asked the School if they would agree for him to give the cost of the dinner to the Presiding Bishop's Fund for Overseas Relief. They agreed and entered into the spirit of making it the Bishop's Fast instead of the Bishop's Feast. The Freshmen were in charge of the decorations and produced a surprising number of knit articles which were hung from the chandeliers and around the room. At the entrance was a large poster with the one word 'Inasmuch' on it; the tables were bare, no doilies or flowers; they had made very rough candlesticks out of clay and in them were any stubs of candles they could find, all colors and sizes; on the Menu was a poem composed by a student carrying out the

thought. The Physiology class made up the menu to consist of the number of calories which the people in Europe can have for one day---tomato soup with barley (no service plates), cornbeef hash, stewed corn (no seconds) one slice of bread and three prunes. They wore their old clothes which were then put in the bags for Church World Service. The Bishop presented a Fifty Dollar bill and on their side the students through the Service League presented a check for Fifty Dollars.

3rd Province: Deaconess Newman, St. Paul, Va., Representative.

Deaconess Edith A. Booth has had some trips for speaking about her work this fall and winter, and on each occasion had the opportunity to present the Deaconess Order. She was in Iowa, Baltimore, New York and Boston. (She is a living example of the Order at its best - joyous in her work for Christ, full of energy and enthusiasm and with love for all mankind. May she have many such chances to present the Order to the women of the Church. Ed.)

4th Province: Deaconess Bedell, Everglades, Florida, who writes: June 12: My headquarters are in the town of Everglades, and as there is no Church nearer than 80 miles, I am almost as isolated as I was in Alaska. I always go to Palm Beach once or twice a year to Bethesda-Church-by-the-sea. Our Suffragan Bishop and Father Wilkes of Coconut Grove have just visited us for a few days going with me to the several centers of our work. This is a tourist town, gate to the Ten Thousand Islands. Many Church people from all over the United States call at the Mission; all are interested in our Seminole Indians. When possible, I give out our Deaconess literature and one lady was interested in the Retiring Fund.

5th Province: Deaconess Edna M. Sargent, Representative.

Deaconess Searle, Addyston, Ohio, November, 1947.

Quotation from 'St. Andrew's Evangel':

Director of Church School, Deaconess Searle.

Our enrollment has reached 66. October 12th, 3 teachers and 2 officers attended a regional teachers' meeting at the Church of the Advent, Cincinnati. October 26th, our cross and flag bearers, Joe Benter and Jimmy Crosby with Miss Tromey and Deaconess Searle, attended the annual service of the Acolytes' Guild.

6th Province: Deaconess Marion Brown, Gallup, N.M., Representative.

Quotation from St. Faith's News, May, 1947:-

"The Good Shepherd Mission, Fort Defiance, Arizona ministers to the neighboring people in this area at four different centers. At one of these, Deaconess Peppers is working while Deaconess Marion Brown works at Coal Mine, Window Rock and also at the Mission. Their Religious Education Program is broad. There are the Church Schools throughout the year as well as weekday classes in winter and daily Bible Schools in summer. Plans are going forward for a girls' camp for the 'teen age group, and for a Young People's Fellowship. The Woman's Auxiliary has 90 members. Deaconess Brown writes: 'It is our aim to reach every person in our communion, who is not connected with another Communion, and to bring him to a realization of our Lord and the more abundant life He came to give.'" Last summer, Deaconess Brown was in charge of the work of the students sent to this district by the Student Field Service of the National Council. In January, the National Council brought her East to attend the Conference for Youth at Seabury House.

7th Province: Deaconess Affleck, Texas.

Deaconess Affleck has been busy as Chairman of the Survey Committee in getting that work under way, through correspondence and interviews. She is expecting to go into residence at St. Faith's in March and to stay for sometime assisting Deaconess Johnson in the many duties before her.

8th Province: Deaconess Booz, Los Angeles. She writes from The Episcopal Deaconess House: Feb. 9th.

Today we have Deaconess Jane F. George for a day's visit. She only lives at Santa Barbara but had never been here to this house and no one knew her. She is very charming. She lives with a friend.

Deaconess Mytton is coming to live with us. She has always lived alone.

We hope she will like us after she gets used to us.

Deaconess English and Smith (Texas) stopped here on their summer tour.

Deaconess Steiger, Gallaway and myself live here now.

OVERSEAS

Quote from St. Faith's News, May, 1947.

"At Commencement we were thrilled to receive a radiogram from Shanghai signed 'Ashsmith'. Could it be a joint message from Deaconess Ashcroft and Elda Smith?"

Soochow, Kiangsu, China, November 15, 1947: Deaconess Putnam: Next week, I start off for my next Short Term School for women at Changshu which is one of our large centers, having some six country stations attached to it, and all will send representatives. As my assistant, Miss Lucy Shao, who is new to this post but an old and valued friend and a seasoned worker, will go with me. We shall go in style (if you can call a truck bus style) and it will take us less than two hours instead of five days on a small boat. We shall have women from inquirers to old Christians, from Kindergarten to seventy year olds.

I have also been asked by Bishop Roberts to visit the day schools of the diocese, check up on deficiencies etc., hardly a popular assignment.

This summer, this Diocese had the privilege of entertaining the General Synod of the whole Chinese Church, and the national meeting of the Women's Missionary Service League. It was wonderful to see the delegates from all over China and to know that we were knit together again as one body in the Anglican Communion in China but sad to hear of the unrest in civil war areas. I wish we could show some of the 'Parlor pinks' in America what this brand of communism means in actual practice. The present government is not perfect and sadly needs reform, but it is the only constituted government at present and we should stand by it and help in its reform.--But meanwhile the Church of Christ goes on.

England: A common cross for the Order has now been adopted.

Canada: Deaconess Margaret Newton, Fairview, Alberta.

We hit 65 below one night and remained under 30 for nine days, but had plenty of wood. I vanned around in the summer but broke down 17 times. Once we walked five miles. I had to travel the last twenty miles with the mailman in his horse-drawn wagon, but at the end of the trail lives one of our best families who have raised fifteen children right out there. I baptized the three youngest.

India: In spite of communal rioting and uncertainty as to the future, the work goes steadily on.

Lahore: St. Hilda's: A young soldier who spent his leave here wrote ----
Oct. 20, 1947

St. Hilda's is a well built house with wide hall, large, airy lofty rooms, and a flat roof, suited to the climate. There is a glorious chapel. One is early conscious that here dwelleth a family and that this is their home. From my bedroom window, I could see the Cathedral, and the children at play, running and shouting. -- Fourteen days at St. Hilda's and I still hear the laughing voices of those Anglo-Indians." A few days after this, the Head Deaconess Dora Murdie died of cholera; a few days previously, Miss Turpin had succumbed to the same disease.

THE DEACONESS

MARCH 1949.

Gertrude Stewart, Editor.

Due to the high cost of printing there has not been any issue of "The Deaconess" for a year. Special letters have been sent out at various times, and more are soon to be sent to you. It was felt by the National Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses that this was the best way to keep you informed about the present situation and future plans for our Order. News items of past events are listed so that you may know what has happened since the last issue.

May 12, 1948. A.M. The National Executive Committee met in New York at St. Faith's House. There was much discussion of the material presented by Deaconess Affleck for the Survey Committee.

P.M. A Conference of Deaconesses was held, with 17 Deaconesses present. Routine business with reports and discussion of future plans took up the time. It was especially interesting to have three from the Mid-West, Deaconesses Sargent, Robinson and Seymour, and one from the Far-West, Deaconess Potter, present, and they were helpful in their points of view.

May 13th. St. Faith's Commencement in the Cathedral. It was an impressive service with a fine sermon by the Rev. Dr. Louis W. Pitt, on "A Blessed Vocation." A reception and Luncheon at St. Faith's House gave a delightful social time to all the guests.

May 13th (evening) to May 15th (morning). The Retreat for Deaconesses (total attendance 21). Director, Rev. Father Schlueter. Subject, "The Great Forty Days." Summary of Meditations.

I. A time of being with Christ. He made it clear to the disciples that it was really he, himself, so that they forever after had the sense of his real presence "even unto the end".

II. A time of schooling his disciples. "He opened their understanding." Meditation is an experience of facts. 1. Read; 2. Think; 3. Feel; 4. Do. It requires our heads, hearts and hands.

III. A time of waiting for Power. The Holy Spirit is the source of this power. "He will take of mine and show it unto you." The Church is His creation and the Sacraments give living contact with Him.

IV. A time of joy. After the Ascension they were filled with joy--- a fruit of the Spirit, next to love. Let us magnify the Lord and we shall be saved from our troubles. Joy either converts or confounds others.

November 3rd. A meeting of the National Executive Committee was held in Washington, D.C. in the Nurses' Home of the Episcopal Hospital. The usual routine business was accomplished, and reports made. One very important resolution passed at that time was as follows:

"Resolved that the office of Executive Secretary be created for a period of one year, beginning January 1, 1949, for the purpose of carrying out the program to be set up by the Executive Committee."

Deaconess Ruth Johnson was appointed Executive Secretary to establish headquarters for the Order.

Deaconess Affleck stated that the Survey Report will be sent to all Bishops, Deaconesses and interested persons, early in 1949.

January 6, 1949. The first circular letter from the new Executive Secretary was sent to all Deaconesses, and reply cards were enclosed. We hope that a good response has been made.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

It is now time to begin planning for National Conference to be held this year in San Francisco on Friday, September 23rd. Deaconess Margaret Booz (542 S. Boyle Avenue, Los Angeles 33, Calif) has been appointed Chairman of Arrangements. She has already conferred with some of our Order on the West coast and later on she will outline what each of us can do.

The future life of the Order depends upon our getting our needs before General Convention. The sympathetic interest of the House of Bishops and of other clergy must be enlisted. We plan to ask General Convention to establish and support a training school for the Order. The Deaconess Order, in turn, must take an active part in the program set up by the Executive Committee through their Executive Secretary. We urge your cooperation if or when Deaconess Johnson assigns you a share in the work to be done before September.

Will you send suggestions as to topics for discussion at National Conference? Suggestions heard before have again come forward: a Center, a closer organization, associates. Since a number of Bishops and other clergy who have the interest of the Order at heart have indicated that the lack of the above is a weakness of the Order, it is high time that National Conference do more than table a discussion of these needs.

NEWS ITEMS

Deaconess Margaret Booz has been released as Head Deaconess of the Los Angeles Episcopal Deaconess House, and has taken up work on the staff of the Church of the Advent in Los Angeles. Her address is 4976 West Adams Blvd, Los Angeles, California.

Deaconesses Edith Booth and Amelia Brereton are now working in St. Paul's Mission, Amherst, Virginia. It was a big break from their work in Dante and St. Paul, Virginia, from their many years of devoted service there.

Deaconess Mary Louise Steiger of Los Angeles, California, was honored by an article of appreciation in the L.A. Edition of Forth recently,

giving details of her long service in the Church in that city. She is now ninety-six years old.

Deaconess Amelia M. Propper celebrated her 100th birthday on November 10, 1948. It was noted in both the public press and in the Church papers. Her work had been among the Indians in Dakota, and as a nurse in Alabama. The beginning and ending of her life have been in New York.

Deaconess Mary C. West reports for the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses: "The printing and mailing of a report and appeal, 'Too Little for Too Few', was good publicity and brought a fair response in contributions, \$2341 were received last year, and one bequest of \$683. The need for the Fund has greatly increased, beneficiaries now numbering sixteen, and the Treasurer and Directors realize that a larger endowment is absolutely necessary." In regard to the Pence Box Offering, she says: "It is presented at the Annual Meeting, and is used for expenses, not endowment. We suggest that everyone keep this in mind and send SOMETHING, even if only postage stamps. The amount received in 1947 was \$104; in 1948, \$76.23. The corporation of the Fund includes every deaconess and the Pence Box Offering should be a corporate offering."

From the February 3rd issue of The Witness, we quote: "St. Faith's House has recently been taken over by the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The trustees of the Training School, however, have been allotted space in the building and will carry on the work of the School by granting scholarships to properly qualified women to pursue studies and training consistent with that set forth in the canon on Deaconesses, under the guidance of a representative of the School. Deaconess training as prescribed by the canon can be secured at any of the Church Training Schools.

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconess Addie F. Morris entered into Life Eternal on May 30, 1948, in Philadelphia, where she had served in Neighborhood Houses and Parishes as a faithful servant of Christ.

Deaconess Louisa A. Freeman died on October 8, 1948, in Switzerland. Her work had been in parishes in Philadelphia.

Deaconess Clara E. Le Hew passed to the Life Beyond on October 13, 1948 in Richland Center, Wisconsin. She had worked in the Dioceses of Western Nebraska, Wyoming, and Central New York.

Deaconess Mary I. Potter died on December 14, 1948, in Los Angeles, Calif. She had served in Japan, Hawaii, New York and California.

Deaconess Lucy N. Carter died on January 1, in Shirley, Virginia. Her work had been among various tribes of Indians in Nevada.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered, accept our prayers on behalf of the souls of these thy servants departed, and grant them an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE DEACONESS

ISSUED BY THE

National Conference—Deaconesses of the Church

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March, 1950 (last issue March, 1949, mimeographed)

TESTIMONY OF A DEACONESS

The Deaconess Conference in San Francisco was my first one, this General Convention likewise my first. I was whole heartedly enthusiastic, and knew them both as inspiring stimulating experiences.

I was thrilled to meet the twenty or more deaconesses whom I met. It gave me, a deaconess who does not have ready access to an active community of deaconesses, a glimpse of the body of which I am a member. This glimpse was further heightened in General Convention - the Church Universal ("all one body we"). There came a stunning realization of the power we hold in our possession as members incorporated - as partakers of Christ, and we often dissipate all this thru a negativistic attitude and role.

There came an illuminating moment, challenge in those missionary sessions and - would you believe it? There were empty seats among the delegates' sections! Truly it's "high time to awake out of sleep", time "to put on the Lord Jesus Christ". I gained the impression at General Convention that there was a "boldness in Christ" to be recaptured; "an authority" to be regained; a singleness of purpose and a rededication to be desired, if we keep to the high purpose we declared when we received the manifold gifts of grace.

I was keeply moved, deeply stirred to an appreciation of those martyrs who have held high the torch, the light, through centuries of apathetic Christians.

(Signed)

GLADYS HALL,
Deaconess.

GREETING FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESS

January 18, 1950

Dear Deaconesses:

This is a letter of greeting from the new Chairman of the Executive Committee. I have accepted this office with great reluctance and humility.

knowing full well the importance of the problems we are facing in these next few years.

At the meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses in San Francisco, we stressed our "one-ness" in the Order. We realized that if the Order of Deaconesses is to continue, we must all work together as never before. A good beginning was made last year in the Provincial meetings called by our Executive Secretary. We must continue to draw closer together, by meetings and correspondence. The Executive Committee needs the co-operation of every member of the Order. If we are to go forward, we need your suggestions, your advice and your prayers. We must further the sense of unity which was demonstrated in our meetings in San Francisco. It was good to meet so many deaconesses who had been only names to many of us and it should be much easier for us to realize the bonds that unite us in the service of our Blessed Lord. Let us pray that it may please Him to guide and inspire the whole Order of Deaconesses, that being filled with zeal, we may serve His Holy Church in purity, humility and self-sacrifice, to the glory of His Holy Name.

Faithfully yours, (Signed)

HILDA L. DIETERLY,
Chairman.

THIS AND THAT
FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S DESK

ACTION BY GENERAL CONVENTION, SAN FRANCISCO, 1949:

Re-affirmed (1931) the Church's recognition of the office and work of deaconesses as "the one and only order of the ministry for women which we can recommend our branch of the Catholic Church to recognize and use".

Adopted a canonical amendment providing that the recorder of General Convention be notified of the setting apart, or any change in the status of a deaconess.

Noncurrence by the House of Deputies on proposed canonical amendment to require that a deaconess candidate "be a graduate of a college or university or the equivalent thereof".

THE ADVISORY COMMISSION, 1950-1952:

The Bishop of Alabama,	Deaconesses Bechtol, Crow,
The Bishop of Chicago,	Dieterly, R. Johnson,
The Bishop of Los Angeles	Truesdell.
The Rev. W. Carroll Brooke, Southwestern Virginia	
The Very Rev. Gerald G. Moore, Dallas	
The Rev. Canon Thomas A. Sparks, New York.	
Mrs. Arthur B. Kinsolving, II, Miss Elizabeth McCracken.	

THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE:

To date, the membership consists of Frances B. Affleck with Mary Truesdell as co-chairman; Lydia Ramsay (New York), Evelyn Seymour (Salina), Katharine Phelps (California). The last three members are prepared to distribute Deaconess printed matter in their respective areas. Orders sent to your nearest "supply depot" will be expeditiously filled.

To help defray mailing costs, a gift of "postage" will be appreciated.

.....

The Executive Secretary requests that there be sent to her office the names, titles and addresses of clerical and lay leaders in your diocesan departments of Promotion, Religious Education; also summer conference

heads, diocesan or provincial. Since its publication some changes have occurred in the 1950 Living Church Annual. Names received will be placed on a master list which will be available to the Publicity Committee and to other committees now under consideration. Success in extending our publicity will depend in great part on YOUR full co-operation in supplying names asked for. Thank you.

Indications point to Racine, Wisconsin, as the meeting place of the 1950 National Conference during the second week of October. Details will be forthcoming in the Executive Secretary's next letter.

As (if!) the pressure of time-consuming activities decreases, personal notes will acknowledge the many heartening messages of encouragement received from so many of you. In the meantime THIS AND THAT concludes with a grateful "Thank you". Appreciative acknowledgment is also made here of the many informative replies to queries about yourselves and/or your work, and of the quick response you made to the last communication. Concerning the latter, it is now my privilege and pleasure to announce for the Board of Trustees of the New York Training School for Deaconesses the election of our Executive Committee Chairman, Hilda Dieterly (Central New York) to membership on the Board. Our prayerful good wishes go to this Board as they make other decisions in regard to the School's future training program.

**RESUME OF MINUTES OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD FRIDAY, Sept. 23, 1949
St. James' Church, San Francisco.**

Twenty-five Deaconesses present from thirteen Dioceses and five Missionary Districts.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

1. WHEREAS, The Lambeth Conference of 1948 reaffirmed Resolution 67 of the Conference of 1930 that "the Order of Deaconesses is for women the one and only Order of the Ministry which we can recommend our branch of the Catholic Church to recognize and use"; (Resolution 114) and

WHEREAS THE General Convention of 1931 adopted a Resolution affirming its acceptance of the above mentioned Resolution 67 of the Lambeth Conference of 1930; and

WHEREAS THE Lambeth Conference of 1948 passed a Resolution (116) recommending "that in all parts of the Anglican Communion the work of deaconesses should be encouraged and their status and function defined"; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Convention of 1949 be requested to reaffirm the Resolution adopted by the General Convention of 1931, "that the Order of Deaconesses is for women the one and only Order of the Ministry which we can recommend our branch of the Catholic Church to recognize and use", and be it further

RESOLVED, that such a re-affirmation, if adopted, be made known to the Church at large through such channels as the Presiding Bishop may select.

2. Amendment of By-Laws, Sec. 4...Dues shall be One Dollar per year, payable annually.

3. Amendment of By-Laws, Sec. 5...The Conference shall meet annually. During the year of General Convention, the Conference shall meet at the time and place of General Convention, and is to be known as the "triennial meeting". The Executive Committee shall designate the time and place of other annual meetings. Legislation shall be effected only at the triennial meeting.

(Note: Proposed at the meeting in 1949, the above two amendments will be voted on at the triennial meeting in Boston, 1952).

OTHER ACTION:

Recommendation was voted that Deaconesses be urged to complete work for undergraduate and graduate degrees.

The office of Executive Secretary created by the Executive Committee, Nov. 1948 was approved. The National Conference commissioned the Executive Committee to determine ways and means of making this a permanent office. (Deaconess Johnson was re-appointed Executive Secretary for 1950 at a subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee.)

The Executive Committee was also commissioned to set up two committees of Publicity and Finance as recommended by the Executive Secretary, and to look further into the matter of training, the establishment of a Central House, and the setting up of a Working Deaconess Center.

REPORTS READ AND ACCEPTED: Chairman, Lillian Crow.

On Survey and Evaluation, Frances Affleck

(The filing of this Report concluded the work of this Committee and it was discharged with an appreciative "Well done".)

Executive Secretary's with Recommendations, Ruth Johnson.

Advisory Commission's Report to General Convention, read by the Chairman.

Provincial Reports, read by the Chairman.

Chicago Chapter, Ruth Parsons.

National Conference reconvened on Wednesday, Oct. 5th and after minor business adjourned sine die.

REPORT OF TREASURER TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 23, 1949

GENERAL FUND

Cr.	
Dec. 31, 1948, Balance on hand	\$ 151.11
Receipts, dues, gifts, interest...	<u>69.24</u>
	\$ 220.35
Dr.	
To mimeographing "The Deaconess",	
1949	<u>13.10</u>
By balance	\$ 207.25
Cr.	
Jan. 15, 1950, By receipts, dues, gifts, interest	<u>33.57</u>
	\$ 240.82
Dr.	
To National Conference Expenses...	<u>39.00</u>
By balance on hand	\$ 201.82

EMERGENCY FUND:

Sept. 23, 1949, By balance on hand	\$ 000.00
Cr.	
Sept. 23, 1949 By offering at San Francisco,.....	329.00
Dr.	
By grant to a deaconess	<u>50.00</u>
Jan. 15, 1950 By balance on hand	\$ 279.00

RETIRING FUND:

Sept 23, 1949 By offering at San Francisco	<u>\$ 410.00</u>
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CONCERNING PAYMENT OF DUES:

Since no statements have been issued by a Treasurer for many years, it is hoped that very few errors will be found in the Treasurer's records in regard to DUES paid to date. Your indulgence is besought! The Executive Committee suggests that those Deaconesses who approve the proposed amendment (to raise dues to \$1.00 per year) May wish to indicate their approval by paying their dues for this Triennium at the proposed rate of \$1.00 per year. Beginning with 1950, the Treasurer's bookkeeping will be simplified because Deaconesses will be billed for dues annually not later than January 31st, and Deaconesses will pay individually and not through Chapters.

(Signed) CLARA M. SEARLE,
Treasurer.

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

A Directors' Meeting was held in San Francisco and the officers elected for the year are - - -

President, Ruth M. Parsons, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.
Vice-President, Ruth Johnson, 419 W. 110th St., New York 25, N.Y.
Secretary, Mary C. West, 2914 Broadway, New York 25, N.Y.

The other directors are: Amelia Brereton, Lillian Crow, Hilda L. Dieterly, Ruby H. Thomson.

Counsel and Treasurer, Joseph P. Smyth, Jr., 230 Park Ave., N.Y.
17, appointed Feb. 1, 1950.

This Fund has suffered a severe loss in the death of its Treasurer and Counselor, Edmund Ruffin Beckwith. After a long and tedious illness, he died on Dec. 17th. During this long illness, he kept the Fund's business up-to-the-minute. When he became Treasurer in 1935, the Fund was about \$50,000. Steady progress has been made until today, it amounts to over \$150,000 and has just ended its best year;--best in income and with the highest amount of benefits paid. Two beneficiaries died during the year--- F. Harriet Mytton and Zulma Bispham. Kate Sibley Shaw was also a beneficiary for a short time. The Number now is 15.

The offering at San Francisco was the largest in many years, \$410.00
Since then the following memorials have been received:

From Deaconess Gillespy in memory of Deaconess Shaw,	\$ 100.00
From George H. Sibley in memory of Deaconess Shaw,	10 0.00
From Miss C. Estelle Smith in memory of her sister,	
Deaconess Edith C. Smith	100.00
In lieu of flowers at funeral of General Beckwith	100.00
Various contributions since September	344.00
Total received for the last three months.....	<u>\$1154.00</u>

EAST-MEETS-WEST DINNER

On the evening of September 22, 1949, in San Francisco, twenty-five deaconesses, representing 17 dioceses, met for a very informal dinner in a little eating house near the Cathedral, sitting at small tables. Following the dinner, the deaconesses assembled in a room of the Chapter House of Grace Cathedral. We sat around the room in a large circle, and each in turn gave her name and told of the work she was doing. An interesting variety of service was reported, including care of children in a Church Home, city mission visiting, Church settlement work in various rural communities, work among the Indians, parochial duty and religious education. Present also were deaconesses who have retired from active duty. It was a very enjoyable meeting and brought together deaconesses that had never met before. One expressed it, "I was set apart and sent at once into the field. I have met but few of the Order. It was an inspiring and thrilling experience to meet so many sister deaconesses and to realize I am a part of an Order doing such fine work in so many places in Christ's Vineyard"

M.P.T.

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

1. Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
2. Dorothea F. Betz, 22-93 222 Street, Queen's Villa, N.Y.
3. Anne Newman, St. Paul, Va.
4. Harriet M. Bedell, Glade Cross Mission, Everglades, Florida

5. Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
- 6.
7. Gladys Hall, Brownson Home, Victoria, Texas.
8. Margaret Booz, 4976 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 16, Cal.

(Each Representative acts as Correspondent for her Province.)

NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

1st Province: Elizabeth H. Coe, Representative.

Hemphill, Rachel O., 40 Locust St., Greenwich, Conn.

Very comfortable and happy. Many friends come to see me and we talk about the old days when we were busily engaged in the service of our King. Some of them still are, but I have reached the waiting period when retrospect seems pleasant.

Hobart, Mabel, Westover, Washington, Conn.

I am retired and doing no Church work except the Womans Auxiliary in our parish for which I have done the box work for several years. As I am one of the older deaconesses, few would know me.

Lovell, Anna W., 17 Prudential Rd., Worcester 6, Mass.

In January of this year, I resigned my job as Asst. Treas. of All Saints (and it now takes two people to do what I did!) but I'm still parish chairman for the Diocesan Supply Dept. and in charge of surgical dressings at our weekday all day meetings. Margaret hasn't been well for the past two months so I'm rather tied down at home.

Johnson, Mary S., St. Hilda's House, New Haven 11, Conn.

Everything goes with us in a happy routine. We are busy as can be, always much that is interesting to do, but very uninteresting to write about.

McNulty, E. Suzanne, 66 Benefit St., Providence 3, R. I.

I have been in bed with a 3rd attack of gripe. I've been organizing 2 new missions, 25 miles apart in rural R.I., one now has basement church, very lovely, the other meets in a fire station hall. In March, I could only stagger (nice for a deak!) so Bp. Bennett gave me a beautiful free apartment here. May be in part time work in September.

Thomson, Ruby Helen, St. Hilda's House, 80 Broadway, New Haven 11, Conn.

It seems strange not to be able to make a thrilling and heart warming story of our happy routine, but it doesn't seem possible. We have a wonderful young rector and splendid assistant.

Trask, Elizabeth R., 86 School St., Gardiner, Maine.

The work goes on in the 3 places, as usual. On Holy Innocents' Day we had a big group at the children's Christmas service and party here at Christ Church, the day being bright and mild. On Thursday evening, our Church School children at St. Andrew's, Pittston, presented creditably the pageant "God's Greatest Gift" at the Christmas service and enjoyed their tree afterward. It was the traditional weather for St. Andrew's, very cold and blustery. The church stands high on a hill above the Kennebec. However, the small part of the Church we are able to heat in winter was well filled with parents, babies, guests and 23 of the 24 on our Church School roll. At St. John's, Dresden, we have our Christmas service and tree on Jan. 1.

2nd Province: Dorothea F. Betz, representative.

Armstrong, Anna R., St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N.Y.

Every Deaconess is remembered by name during the intercessions at Terce. Recently another group of Vassar girls had a day of devotions or retreat. The Associates of the House have contributed generously to its comfort and support.

Simpson, Clara H., St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N.Y.

On Dec. 4, 1949, celebrated 57th anniversary of having been set apart as a Deaconess.

Brown, Celia Elizabeth, St. Clement's Church, N.Y.

On Saturday afternoon, with Deaconess Ramsay, meets for prayer and study, with others living nearby joining them.

Ramsay, Lydia A., Flushing, N.Y.,

The Church School at St. Mark's-in-the-Bouwerie is growing rapidly; through this channel am able to contact the unchurched parents.

Betz, Dorothea F., Garden City, L.I., N.Y.

Certainly wish we could in some way have a quarterly paper with deaconess news. Maybe we could have an Executive Secretary News Letter monthly.

Newbold, Elizabeth G., St. Mary's Hall, Burlington, N.J.

I am not teaching in the School this year--realized the age span between me and the Freshmen was too great; also, we are very fortunate in having as teacher Rachel Walker of St. Mary's Hall, Shanghai.- trained and competent. I continue to help the Dept. Christian Education of the Auxiliary in the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Propper, Amelia M., House of the Holy Comforter, New York, 58.

Recovered marvelously from an eye operation at the age of 101.

Patterson, Katrina L. and Mary T., 248 Madison Rd., Scarsdale, N.Y.

Are in poor health which comes with advancing years.

Thompson, Amy G., St. John's Home for the Blind, Brooklyn 13, N.Y.

Is enjoying better vision since her eye operation.

3rd Province: Anne W. Newman, Representative.

Binns, Margaret D., Nora, Va.

St. Andrew's, Nora, is a busy place, and their young people's work is especially active now. She is only thirteen miles from Grace House, St. Paul, so we get to see her oftener than the others.

Booth, Edith A., Amherst, Va.,

Brereton, Amelia, Amherst, Va.

They have been located here at St. Paul's Mission since Feb. 1, 1949 and are very happy. Miss Mayer and I spent a night with them in November. Deaconess Booth is busy with her Handicraft Department work and is teaching many of the people in that community to do the work. Deaconess Brereton teaches part of every day in the Day School which is connected with the Mission helping the one teacher who has over forty pupils in all grades.

Dunlap, Madeline, Vernon Hill, Va.

She and her nurse associate, Miss May Bonner, are busy as can be at Dabney House; Miss Bonner runs the little hospital and clinic, and Deaconess Dunlap works with Sunday Schools, Auxiliary groups and other activities of the Church.

Newman, Anne W., Grace House, St. Paul, Va.

We have been having almost an epidemic of influenza and pneumonia here on the mountain. Also a tiny three-year-old girl who has cancer, had an operation in Charlottesville, and came home the first of January; since then, we have been driving to Bristol, fifty-six miles away, three times each week to take her to the doctor there for X-ray treatments.

In the spring, a meeting of the deaconesses of the State of Virginia was held at Ascension Church, Amherst, when Deaconess Johnson, met with us. Present were deaconesses Hutton, Booth, Brereton, Dunlap, Redd, Radford, Boorman, and Miss Mayer. We all enjoyed it so much.

4th Province: Harriet M. Bedell, representative, Glade Cross Mission, Everglades, Florida. Writes: I distribute the literature and have given three talks on the work of the Order. Distances are too great to keep in touch with other deaconesses. The tiny 4 room house I live in is the headquarters of the Mission. The field is a large one, extending 80 miles East to Miami, 72 West to Ft. Myers, 40 miles North to Immokalee. Here the people are mostly white cattle ranchers who were baptized and confirmed by Bp. Gray. Now literature is distributed, children baptized, and occasional services held. In 1898, Bp. Gray established this mission of

Glade Cross among the Mikasukies. The work consists of visits to the Indian villages and industrial work, often among the descendants of the original baptized persons. Nearly every day, they come to the Mission or send for me to come to them--sick ness, letters to be read or written, a new baby born, blankets given, prayer offered, a funeral conducted.

5th Province: Edna M. Sargent, Representative.

In October, we had a very helpful three days' Retreat at De Koven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin. The Foundation is under the Sisters of St. Mary. Each Year, we go at this particular time. The quietness and dignity of the Sisters' Chapel is a benediction in itself. The conductor was The Rev. Geo. B. Gibbs, one of the Cowley Fathers (S.S.J.E.) working with us on our City Mission staff. In Advent, we went to St. Mark's Church, Evanston, for our annual Quiet Day. In Holy Week, we will have another one.

Bradley, Agnes, Evanston, Ill.

She has leased a house here and is working as Director of Religious Education in St. Mark's Church.

Smith, Eleonor, 203 North St., Elgin, Ill.

She is Devotional Secretary for the Diocese, does a great deal of traveling over the Diocese, speaking on the Devotional Life for women and holding Quiet Days. This is in addition to her Church School Correspondence School in the Town and Country Council.

Taylor, Helen, 203 North St., Elgin, Ill.

She is doing Religious Educational work in several of our Western suburbs.

Wilson, Grace., Weaver, Dorothy, Parsons, Ruth M., Orwig, Clare E.

Sargent, Edna M., All working with the City Missions,

212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Ill.

6th Province. No report.

7th Province: Gladys Hall, Brownson Home, Victoria, Texas.

English, Harriet H., St. Anne's Mission, El Paso, Texas.

Smith, Grace E., St. Anne's Mission, El Paso, Texas.

In two years, we shall retire. We are constantly biting off more than we can chew and feel the need of a priest who can shoulder the responsibility of management.

We now have two groups of the Guild-Auxiliary that meet evenings. On Saturday, they are giving a tamale sale to raise money for their share of the scholarship which the Auxiliary of this Diocese (New Mexico) voted to raise for a young man who wants to study for the ministry. Our Auxiliary is sponsoring and providing the supper for a 'Teen-age group; which meets Sundays from 5-8 P.M. The menu is usually tamale, enchiladas or tacos. In lent, we have a special dish called capirotada. It is very yummy. In Lent, we go every Wednesday night to a little Church in Canutillo to give meditation and prayer. It is a drive of about 20 miles, part of it through mesas, quite wild, then through cotton fields. We start in the late afternoon as the sun is setting; the shadows and coloring are heavenly. We have a guest room so if you come this way, please stop for a visit.

8th Province: Booz, Margaret, representative.

The Deaconess Home, Diocese of Los Angeles, according to the plans of the Diocese will be closed soon.

Badgley, an English deaconess retired after years of service in China is at The Deaconess House recovering from a serious operation.

Booz, Margaret, is working with the Church of the Advent, going well' Massey, Charlotte G., San Diego, Cal.

She is pleasantly situated and helping in the parish work at All Saints' Church.

Calloway, Laura, The Deaconess Home.

She is well and active with her Chapel work and flowers.

Rearden, Harriet, Yucaipa, Cal.

She is in a Nursing Home.

Steiger, Mary L, She is in a Nursing Home, now 97 years old.

Nosler, Myrtle C., is at The Deaconess Home.

Adams, Edith M. Tucson, Ariz.

"Between being a householder and caring for Deaconess Carter, she is kept busy, although she has interests in the Church's affairs and serves as she can. She is the new director of the work in the rural field. Deaconess Carter is very frail",

Allen, Miriam B., Monteagle, Tenn.

"She has gone back to her beloved work in Tennessee."

Brown, Marian, Gallup, N.M.

"She is in the Northern part of the State, working very hard, has no time to write letters, 'or make visits'."

Tileston, Mary W., Tucson, Ariz. is very frail

Ward, Mary Frances, Phoenix, Ariz.

"I am physically inactive, but with the help of volunteers, can direct the work of the Church School by mail.

OVERSEAS:

China: Ashcroft, Evelyn M., St. Mary's Hall, Shanghai.

October: The school is going on here, For ten days in the spring, we commuted to the American School, but were back here for exams and commencement. Classes began on Sept. 12th. The window panes broken by shrapnel have been replaced. Vines are growing over the fence. 277 pupils are enrolled in the junior and senior high school. I was able to help a girl out of a 'special'; her little sister cried because she had to stay home. So far there has been little interference with the curriculum. The attendance at voluntary church services and Bible classes is good. For the little group of faithful Christian Chinese teachers and the missionaries who are here, there has been a wonderful sense of the Absolute. The future? We shall plant the seed of the Faith, and care for the young plants, as long as possible.

Putnam, Katharine, Shanghai.

May: I hope the Order will be preserved to continue to serve the Churches, but I think we should make any adaptation modern times may require. I feel our personal *Preferences* should not be confused with *Principles*. I know the Canadian deaconesses can do just as good work without the garb, or wearing it on duty like a nurse. The garb does not make us; if we cannot make ourselves felt without it, we are poor indeed.

Philippine Republic: Dawson, Mary E. S., Upi, Mindanao.

August: She has just been widowed. The language barrier was complete.

I gave her a picture of Gethsemane. She knew the story, and put it on her wall and seemed pleased.

Another woman in distress! "Have you a picture like that one you gave----?" Gethsemane again! Thanks to you I had it.

A boy's knock---"I like a picture of the 'Last supper'. Do you hab? Ramon he likes also but is shame to ask." Your pictures do help.

A foul, hastily built "sanitary arrangement" has been replaced by a fresh wholesome one; galvanized iron patches over my kitchen windows have been replaced by glass, so now I can see in rain and wind, as well as fair weather.

"She has a sink in her kitchen, and now a tap there, too.

She takes a bath in the bath tub, A faucet flows there, too

She cooks her food in the kitchen, And eats at a table, too"

At Labungan and Nangi, new chapels have been erected.

Thanks to you and the Reconstruction and Advance Fund!

October: Minor and major ailments keep our new Dispensary nurse, Miss Eperanza Somebang, busy almost the clock round, but
PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! PRAY FOR A DOCTOR FOR UPI!

November: Our Fiesta was celebrated by a pageant of St. Francis out doors with a trellis of pink flowering vine as a backdrop. Thanks to material gifts sent by our friends, our actors were arrayed in real splendor, -silks, velvets, brocades, laces. The pageant was written before the war, carried by a catechist from mountain to mountain, all through the war years.

IN MEMORIAM

1949

- CARTER**, Lucy N., died January 1 in Shirley, Virginia. Her work had been among various tribes of Indians in Nevada.
- CHRISTMAN**, Eliza A., died July 9, in Quakertown, Pa. She was the widow of the Rev. Morris Christman. A fine tribute was paid to her by the Rev. Hiram R. Bennett, a former rector of Christ Church, Williamsport, Pa. under whom she worked for some years. He said in part--"For upwards of half a century, she was the parish deaconess of Christ Church and as such, she was the first trained social worker in Williamsport, if not in Central Pennsylvania. As rector, I saw her fine Christian character and keen strength as a builder of good men and women. It has been granted to few people to have the close influence over the lives of men and women that 'Sister Eliza' had in Williamsport. Literally, unto the fourth generation, there are people who may - and do - rise up and call her blessed. She was the guide and counsellor of the whole community, and at various times, she was active in the City's several social agencies. But her chief love was at the altar of Christ Church, from which she drew the strength she needed. At the end of her ministry, it was her great joy to act as sponsor for Mary Frances Ward when she became a deaconess. 'Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord.' "
- MYTTON**, Harriet F., died August 4, at the age of 82 years, due to an automobile accident near her home. She was born in New Zealand, was educated in England and studied in the Cambridge Training College before being graduated from the Church Training and Deaconess House in Philadelphia in 1904. She was set apart that November by Bishop Whitaker of Pennsylvania, then went to take up work in Los Angeles, Cal. after a few years at Trinity Church, Reno, Nev. and in Spokane, Wash.
- BISPHAM**, F. E. Zulma, died October 12. She was set apart by Bishop Rhineland of Pennsylvania in 1918 and was a member of the Deaconess Chapter of that Diocese. She served most of her working years as a deaconess in the Memorial Chapel of the Holy Communion. She had been in failing health for several years, but was retired only two years ago.
- SHAW**, Kate Sibley died October 20, at the House of the Holy Comforter, New York, where she had been ill for several months. Born in 1879 she was graduated from the Church Training and Deaconess House in Philadelphia in 1917 and remained as assistant for two years, working also with the Philadelphia City Mission; served a term at St. Mark's Cathedral, Grand Rapids, Mich., and from 1921 to 1925 was on the staff of the Diocese of Western New York, when she went to work with her brother at All Saints' Mission, Bontoc, P.I. During the recent war, she was interned for three years, being returned to the United States in 1945, retiring the following year. Her fellow deaconesses, instead of sending flowers to her, sent a sum of money as a memorial to the Bishop of the Philippines, who, in acknowledging it, said.....

"Deaconess Shaw was a wonderful character and a great missionary. I miss her terribly in the work at Bontoc. It has been my privilege to work with Deaconess Carlsen and with Deaconess Ransom, now retired, in Japan, and with Deaconess Massey as well as Deaconess Shaw. They were all fine women and remarkable missionaries. Therefore, you can understand my high regard for the Order of Deaconesses."

BEARD, Theodora, died Nov. 6, in Westport, Conn., at the age of 79, having retired only three years ago. She had been the head of the Curtis Home in Meriden, Conn., on the staff of Trinity Church, Boston, worked with the Church of San Salvatore, Manhattan, but for 18 years, presided over Huntington House, a girls' residence club in New York City.

BECKWITH, Edmund Ruffin, Dec. 17, 1949

He was born in Petersburg, Va., son of the Bishop of Alabama, and was graduated from the University of the South, took a law degree at the University of Alabama, and began the practice of law at Montgomery, Ala.

In 1927, he came to New York and became a leader in bar associations of the city and state. He was considered one of the leading authorities on the law as it affects the militia and from 1940 to 1946 was Judge Advocate General of the New York National Guard.

From Jan. 15, 1935 to Dec. 17, 1949, he served as Treasurer of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses. This Fund has suffered a severe loss in his death.

COX, A Grace entered into rest Feb. 11, at Winchester, Va., after a long illness.

*Rest Eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
And let Light perpetual shine upon them.*

DEVOTIONS LITANY FOR THE DEACONESS ORDER

THEME: To magnify our Office, even while struggling to achieve humility as individuals.

We thank Thee, O Lord, for that Thou hast called us to work with Thee in furthering Thy Kingdom.

R: We thank Thee, O Lord.

For those whose lighted torch led us to follow in their vocation,

R: We thank Thee, O Lord.

For all those who have delighted to serve under the shadow of Thy wings, especially in far away and lonely places,

R: We thank Thee, O Lord.

For those saintly souls, living on earth and in Paradise who are members of the Deaconess Order.

R: We thank Thee, O Lord.

O Christ, who art the Head of the Order, may we feel Thy shepherding care for each one of us and may that loving care bring a feeling of oneness with each other as well as with Thee.

V: Lord, hear our prayer.

R: And let our cry come unto Thee.

As We are united to Thee by the Holy Spirit in our ordination, grant that by the same Spirit we may be more closely joined to each other,

V: Lord, hear our prayer.

R: And let our cry come unto Thee.

O Lord, Who hast joined us link by link in the chain of our vocation, strengthen the chain of that union.

V: Lord, hear our prayer.

R: And let our cry come unto Thee.

Grant that through the Chain of our Order, we may be more closely joined to each other in service and worship.

V: Lord, hear our prayer,

R: And let our cry come unto Thee.

Grant that each link in the Chain may be so strong as never to be broken.

V: Lord, hear our prayer,

R: And let our cry come unto Thee.

May our oneness with Thee so shine through the Order as to draw others into like fellowship.

V: Lord, hear our prayer,

R: And let our cry come unto Thee.

O God, our Father, by Whose Providence we have been set apart as deaconesses of Thy Church, grant us Thy grace that in singleness of purpose and with a willing mind we may faithfully fulfill our vocation, to the praise of Thy glory and the benefit of those we serve.

May we have such a sense of union with Thee as to make us feel the oneness with each other which shall strengthen the Order for worship of God and service to men. Grant this for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

MCW.

O Lord, except Thou build the house, their labour is but lost that build it; we beseech Thee, therefore, of Thy mercy to revive Thy Deaconess Order.

R: Lord, revive Thy Deaconess Order beginning with me.

Open our hearts and minds to recall our utter dependence on Thee and through Thee on one another.

R: Lord, revive Thy Deaconess Order, beginning with me.

Help us individually to wait upon Thee without distraction.

R: Lord, revive Thy Deaconess Order, beginning with me.

Open our hearts and minds to a clearer realization that only in emptying ourselves of self can we know Thy will and so fulfill Thy purpose for us in Thy Deaconess Order.

R: Lord, revive Thy Deaconess Order, beginning with me.

Help each one of us in loneliness to know Thy nearness in all-embracing love and to be confident of the upholding prayers of sister-deaconesses.

R: Lord, revive Thy Deaconess Order, beginning with me.

Replenish us with those spiritual gifts that may lead other women to find their vocation in Thy Deaconess Order.

R: Lord, revive Thy Deaconess Order, beginning with me.

Give us grace in our work to use our powers to Thine honor and glory for only in so doing can we extend Thy Kingdom on earth.

R: Lord, revive Thy Deaconess Order, beginning with me.

O Lord, accept our petitions to revive Thy Deaconess Order as we say the prayer our Head taught us when He said,-

R: Our Father.....

DAILY:

Remember, O Lord, Thy Deaconess Order. Open our hearts and minds more and more to Thy Love, that empty of self, we may know Thy Will and let Thy Holy Spirit work His work in us, through Jesus, Christ, our Lord and Head, AMEN

RJ.

THE DEACONESSES
 issued by the
 NATIONAL CONFERENCE-----DEACONESSES OF THE CHURCH
 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Hilda Dieterly, 1700 Genesee St., Utice, N. Y.
 Secretary-Treasurer: Clara Searle, Box 123, Addyston, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Executive Secretary: Ruth Johnson, 1047 Amsterdam Ave., New York, 25,
 Affleck, Frances B. Robinson, Olive H. Seymour, Evelyn E.,
 Crow, Lillian M., Sargent, Edna M. Truesdell, Mary F.
 Editor: Elizabeth C. Newbold, 240 Riverbank, Burlington, N. J.

December, 1950 (last issue March, 1950)

THE STABLE

The cold light of the lonely stars
 Shines on this quiet place,
 Wherein the Lord of all mankind
 Lies in His infant grace.

This starry night pure music is,
 With angels everywhere-
 They fill with their delicious sound
 The eager, listening air.

This is a very humble place,
 For here dwell sheep and kine
 Who breathe the incense of their breath
 Around the Child divine,

His gentle, forespent mother rests
 In deep and silent joy
 For that the Saviour of our world
 Is also her young boy.

Adoring shepherds kneel nearby
 And bread and honey bring,
 While weary kings and sages wise
 Make precious offering.

Oh brothers, brothers everywhere
 In each bewildered nation
 Come, here is safety, here is home,
 Here, only here, Salvation!

-Margaret Lloyd.

DAILY PRAYER

Almighty God, Everlasting Lord, and Giver of every good and perfect gift,
 bestow upon us at this time a House of training and refreshment for the further-
 ance of the Deaconess Order.

Stir up in thy Church a ready will to share generously in the support of
 this work in a spirit of love and good will.

Raise up the rightful persons to be set over this work and give them wis-
 dom and understanding that both teachers and students may serve Thee truly for
 the extension of Thy Kingdom and the glory of Thy Name through Jesus Christ our
 Lord.

E. M. S.

AMEN.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES.

The 1950 meeting of National Conference was held at DeKoven Foundation,
 Racine, Wisconsin, on October 10th, 1950 following a short Retreat. The Chair-
 man of National Conference, Hilda Dieterly, presided welcoming the 19 Deaconesses
 present, representing 12 dioceses and missionary districts, Ruth Johnson, Adams,
 Betz, Bradley, M. Brown, Crow, Dieterly, Donsig, Hill, Orwig, Parsons, Putnam,
 Sargent, Seymour, Smith Taylor, Truesdell, Weaver, Wilson.

Executive Secretary's Report: This Report was in effect the report of the acti-
 vities of the Executive Committee for the first
 year of the 1949-1952 Triennium.

- I The Executive Secretary reviewed the instructions given to the Executive
 Committee by the National Conference in San Francisco last year: 1. "to
 determine ways and means of making permanent the Office of Executive Secre-
 tary." This resulted in the setting up of the "Deaconess Fund for Budget
 and Promotion". The Executive Committee purposes to use this fund to meet

essential expenses incurred in furthering the interest of the Order during the Triennium. This fund is solely for immediate needs and is not intended for use in connection with the proposed Central House or training school.

(As of November first, 1948, had been contributed by
36 Deaconesses.)

2. "to look further into the matter of training." In this regard the Executive Secretary reported on the proposal of Daniel Baker College in Brownwood, Texas, to set up a course of training for Church work. Such a course would be incorporated in the four-year college curriculum leading to the B.A. degree. The requirement of Canon 51 will be met. Opportunities are available for practical work as well as some hospital training. The Deaconess in charge of the Girls' dormitory will have a place on the faculty which is headed by President Richard A. Hayes, D.D.

II The Executive Committee requests the co-operation of every Deaconess in the following suggestions:

1. Talk with ONE young woman about the Order and try to show her the challenge. If she is not personally called she will at least become familiar with the history of the Order and be able to act for us and spread the word.

2. Inform ONE priest about the Order. We should then have a nucleus of informed and interested Clergy who would be on the alert to inform others and to call the attention of earnest and qualified women to the ministerial office of the Deaconess.

III National Conference in San Francisco unanimously agreed that the establishment of a placement bureau would be of great benefit both to Deaconesses and to the Clergy. Notice of this was included in the report sent out immediately after the 1949 National Conference but to date no one has registered by sending data about herself.

(At Racine the Executive Secretary was asked to be on the lookout for a parochial position in Prov. 5. She would appreciate information as to any vacancy or impending opening. R.J.)

After the reading of the Executive Secretary's Report, the Conference began discussions on several topics recommended in the Report.

The proposed amendments: 1. that there be annual meetings of National Conference. The opinion was unanimous that such annual meetings "are most worthwhile" and should be planned for. Planning for the 1951 Conference is in the hands of Clive Robinson.

2. that dues of \$1.00 be collected annually. No objection was raised by any at the meeting.

(N.B. These dues go to the Treasurer of National Conference and are used to issue "The Deaconess" and to take care of other Expenses of National Conference NOT of the office of the Executive Secretary. The expenses of the latter are taken from the "Deaconess Fund for Budget and Promotion." R.J.)

Executive Committee action resulting from suggestions made at Racine:

1. Funds in National Conference Treasury will permit only one yearly issue of "The Deaconess" in printed form this Triennium. In order that Deaconesses may have news of one another more frequently, "The Deaconess" is to appear in mimeographed form. Elizabeth Newbold continues as Editor and Mary Hettler will do the mimeographing and mailing. (May we have your reactions? Ed.)

2. A Deaconess Pence Can. You will receive information about this. Helen Taylor accepted the responsibility of Chairmanship, securing materials and writing a flier to explain the idea.

At the conclusion of reports and discussion, Mary Truesdell gave a showing of "The Deaconess Story," opening with pictures of deaconesses at work in various places. "The Deaconess Story" presents with great effectiveness a young woman with a sense of vocation to the Deaconess life and then proceeds to take her along the required canonical steps of candidateship to her Ordering and Setting Apart.

Next a most interesting account of Deaconess work in England was given by Katherine Putnam who had spent some weeks there enroute from China. We were particularly interested in her presentation of the training of the Anglican Deaconess; life at the Central House, Hindhead; and the establishment of the home for retired Deaconesses, "The Close" at Staines. She brought for display a number of publications pertaining to the Deaconesses in England. R.J.

What can I DO?

There is much YOU can do!

I. Distribute literature

- at meetings re vocations
- in Church racks
- enclose in envelopes with your letters
- ask to have literature sent to a summer conference you expect to attend
- have some on hand in your handbag
- send new publications to those who have had them in the past

Deaconess Seymour reminded the Conference that literature can be secured from: Deaconess Ramsay, 129 East 10th St., New York 3, N.Y.

Deaconess Phelps, Rt. 1, Box 210, Carmel, Calif.

Deaconess Seymour, St. Faith's House, 714 North 9th St. Salina Kansas.

When you order literature, PLEASE BE DEFINITE! How many copies are wanted? What date are they to be used? It is difficult to fill orders satisfactorily when a request asks for "some copies for a talk next month."

2. Ask your Rector for prayers on your Anniversary and for the Order on the Feast of the Annunciation.
3. Use the Deaconess prayer sent out this past summer.
4. Send pictures and/or colored slides to the Promotion and Publicity Committee in care of Deaconess Truesdell, 126 West 14th St. Davenport, Iowa.
5. Have you a prospective Candidate in mind? or a lay worker? Suggest to her that she write to the Executive Secretary (Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Av., New York 25, N.Y.)
6. The Executive Secretary is collecting copies of Setting Apart Services. Have you one to send her? (She now has several copies of the Service used at Philadelphia School and the New York School.)
7. Plan for a spring or summer showing of "The Deaconess Story." Watch for news of the release date. For further information contact Mary Truesdell.

The Executive Committee met on August 15, 1950

It asks us to note well--

THIRTY YEAR CYCLES: 1889--The Order established by General Convention
1919--National Conference set up.
1949--Reaffirmation by General Convention that the Order is the only order of ministry for women, etc.
The Order at low ebb in numbers,
No training School for Candidates.
BUT 1950!!!

NOTES ON THE RETREAT GIVEN FOR THE NAT'L
CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

October 8th(evening) through Oct. 10th (morning)

The Rev. Alexander Simpson, Conductor,
and Rector of St. Luke's Church, Racine, Wisconsin.
Retreat held at De Koven Foundation, Racine

FIRST MEDITATION

St. Luke 10:38-42 (read)

Introduction: JOY: lack of it in the world today; lack of Christian Joy.
St. Paul refers to it as "fruit of the spirit"

- I. The Life of Christ: Joy; calmness; serenity; peace. He possessed an outward poise that was "catching". The disciples: "teach us to pray". Nothing could have the power to destroy His joy--not even the thought of impending death on the Cross--"who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross"(Heb. 12:2). How account for it? It was the result of His complete interior surrender in devotion to the Father. This same devotion was found also in the early Christian Church. A good example of it is found in St. Paul, the arch-persecutor

who turned follower.

"Sorrowful, yet joyfull---
Rejoice in the Lord alway---
Complete interior surrender and
devotion".

II. Life of St. Francis of Assisi:

He looked at the world through God's eyes; he radiated Joy
wherever he went.

III. Story: St. Luke 10:38-42 and its application:

Christ's journeys to Jerusalem were frequent; stopped off in
the home of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. Jesus' physical needs
were Martha's immediate concern; she rebukes Mary, her sister,
and the Master she asks: "Lord, dost thou not care that my
sister hath left me to serve alone? Then His answer: "Mary
hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken from her."
Today we and the Church concerned with a multiplicity of ex-
ternal works as was Martha---encumbered with much works---
organizations within the Church take the place of ushering in
the Kingdom of God.

GOD IS MUCH MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE CHARACTER OF THE WORKER
THAN THE WORK: what we are, more than what we do is the con-
cern of God.

Things or acts which bring about primary concern can result
only in a delusive peace and spiritual stupor; there is no
JOY in such.

Therefore:

1. Become good
2. Do good

"Be still and know that I am God". Experience the Joy of the
Master when there is complete surrender and constant communion
with God and He is your companion.

SECOND MEDITATION

St. Matthew 5: 43-48 (read)

I. Surrender: it involves

Duty of Perfection: "be ye therefore perfect, even as
your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

The Call of Christ is nothing less than striving to
perfection. Moral and spiritual mediocrity, of which
"lukewarmness" hardest thing to cure--especially so
in the Christian Life. There is no "getting by" in
the Spiritual Life. St. Augustine has said "our hearts
are restless until they find their rest in Thee"
NO MUSICIAN, NO POET, NO CHRISTIAN EVER BECOMES GREAT
UNLESS THEY BATHE THEIR SOULS IN THE BEST IN MUSIC,
IN POETRY, AND IN SPIRITUAL PURSUITS.

Seek perfection in thought, word, and deed. God desires
the heart's full devotion. "Go out and produce" is the
slogan today in the secular and religious worlds.

Look to Jesus Christ for the answer as to perfection
in your own life.

Consider the subordination of Jesus Christ's Will to
the Father: from the wilderness to Calvary complete
submission; the Spirit of Prayer never
left Him; His was an ever-present Vision
of God, although very busy among men.

Remember: "He who would become his own teacher, becomes
the pupil of a fool." St. Bernard.

II. Sanctification: the secret of

Lies in not being made holy---there are no selfmade
saints, but this GOD ALONE IMPARTS. Who is so free
as God who cannot sin?

Sanctification comes through PATIENCE---try to over-
come sin by the help of God; He has complete faith
in us.

Begin today to make more of God's Guidance; be more watchful, more thankful, Some never look in to find the Presence of Christ; the Fruits of His OWN Life is never found in theirs.

SURRENDER: "Thou shalt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee." "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, no height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

THIRD MEDITATION

~~Job 42: 1-6 (read)~~

I. God the Holy Ghost: He only makes us holy, but only as we are co-operative.

Stages in Holiness:

1. Conquest of actual sin
2. Gradual rise beyond struggle--the immortal "within"--slow, gradual growth of the soul
3. Love and Union: the soul beyond earth and comes down to earth; a "life of beatitude"

Repentance: not to despise self, but turn from an unworthy view of self; the dignity of self: "A child of God and an inheritor of the Kingdom"
Admit to a "givingness" of all we are and have.
Practice habitual self-examination: "see ourselves as we really are"
Morbid Introspection is not to be confused with self-examination:

Test the soul with one of the following list; use for thorough examination:

The Ten Commandments

- " Lord's Prayer
- " Baptismal Vow
- " Beatitudes
- " Seven deadly Sins
- " Words of Christ

II. Our Lord's attitude:

Our Blessed Lord has the deepest sympathy with us.
There can be no spiritual progress without repentance--no repentance without confession.
We obtain God's absolving Love through: Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving.

Where we have a loss of simplicity of character, then "~~come ye apart while~~".

Difference between St. Peter and Judas Iscariot:

St. Peter was truly penitent and saw beyond penitence to Joy in the Lord

Judas was not merely sorry, not penitent, but sorry for himself; he could not see beyond himself to the Saviour, hence his self-obliteration

III. Love of God's Son:

Think upon the Immortality of the Love of the Son of God:

Duty becomes eucharist (thanksgiving)

Obedience comes as the result of love

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS LIFE UNION WITH GOD. He bids us "Abide in My Love". Heaven is NOW in the love of Christ. God comes to live always in the Christian whether at work, play or in social contacts.

Whatever you do or suffer, seek to live in Him and see Him in all

FIND GOD IN ALL THINGS

FOURTH MEDITATION

St. Luke 10:38-42(read)
St. John 11:1-28 (read) for comparison

As we read St. John's account we find Mary still the calm person, but Martha is changed in this story. She has learned to see things as really were-- a new Martha; she has now the faith of one who has learned the lesson; here we witness complete submission, confidence and trust. Jesus Christ tests her faith: "Believest thou this?"

In conclusion let us not lose sight of the importance of the "health" of the spirit which means that body, and mind must be sound to bring about this health. Conserve your strength in order to be ready for service of God in important matters.

"The Master is come, and calleth for thee" are the words of the new Martha to Mary.

We can't stay long on the Mount; we must come down into the valley and go out again to our several tasks. Recall St. Peter's elation when having "reached the heights" during the incident of the Transfiguration he said to our Lord, "Let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias". He knew not what he said.

And so "down from the heights, the mount" which we have scaled during our retreat and back to our work---the "Master is come, and calleth for Thee".

REPORT OF THE PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRMEN: DEACONESSES AFFLECK AND TRUESDELL *****

1: We are in the process of making up new literature for the Order. We wish snapshots of you and your work, clear, sharp, black and white prints showing the Deaconess in action.

2: Another project is a series of 35mm slides, in color-kodachrome Transparencies-presenting the Vocation and work of a Deaconess. The section showing the Call, Training and Setting Apart of a Deaconess have already been made, with the help of the Bishop, Clergy and camera fans in the Diocese of Quincy, and were shown at Salina to the Executive Committee who were pleased. A talk is being written to go with the slides. This Slide Series, titled 'The Deaconess Story', with accompanying talk we hope to have ready for loaning by January 15th.

Send more material. You can use the Camera Club or camera fans in your neighborhood:

- N.B. 1: Use Eastman Kodachrome Film--#828 or #135.
2: Send us the original Transparency
3: Send us a description in a few words about the picture.

3: Historical material: In the near future, we hope to compile a book (scrap book?) about the Order. Particularly, we request that retired deaconesses send a short biographical sketch.

(Editor's note: This is very essential).

Send all material to Deaconess Mary P. Truesdell,
126 W. 14th St., Davenport, Iowa.

THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON THE WORK OF DEACONESSES

Members: Bishops: The Rt. Rev. Wallace E. Conkling, Chicago, Chairman
The " " Charles C. J. Carpenter, Alabama.
The " " Eric Bloy, California.
Presbyters: The Reverend W. Carroll Brooks, Southwestern Virginia
Very " Gerald G. Moore, Dallas.
" Canon Thomas A. Sparks, New York
Deaconesses: Bechtol, Washington; Crow, Dallas; Disterly, Central N. Y.;
Truesdell, Quincy; Johnson
Lay Women: Mrs. Arthur Kinsolving, Arizona;
Miss Elizabeth McCracken, New York.

The Commission met in Chicago, on Nov. 14th, Bishop Conkling presiding. None members were present. Plans were discussed which we hope will give us our much sought for place of training where candidates for the Office will be trained by and will live with deaconesses.

Mary P. Truesdell.

THE ADVISORY COMMISSION is functioning! Under the masterly chairmanship of Bishop Conkling, the Advisory Commission has begun considering problems of the Order. Because the meeting was held recently and because there has not been time to receive replies to certain communications sent out by the Commission, I am not free to report on the discussions held and the action taken. BUT first steps in regard to Deaconess training have been taken. Committees have been appointed and contacts are being made. The outlook is most promising.

The Deaconess-members of the Commission are greatly heartened and we do not hesitate to say that we have every reason to believe that this Commission will be an active link between General Convention and the Order.

When definite statements can be made I shall take great pleasure in notifying you all. In the meantime, your prayers, please!

November 20, 1950

Ruth Johnson

(Editor's note; The four page leaflet 'The Forgotten Women in the Church' written by the Rt. Rev. Wallace E. Conkling, is a clear and concise statement, both of the value of the work of deaconesses, and also of the ignorance of the Order. We should distribute it widely. It can be secured from Ruth Johnson)

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

Officers for the year: President; Ruth H. Parsons,
Vice-President: Ruth Johnson
Secretary: Mary C. West, 2914 Broadway, N.Y. 25
Treas: Joseph F. Smyth, Jr., 230 Park Ave., N.Y. 17

On Sept. 29, 1950, at the annual meeting of the Retiring Fund, nine deaconesses were present: Armstrong, Betz, M. Johnson, R. Johnson, McNulty, Nutter, Ramsay, R. Thompson, West; also present were the Treasurer and Canon Sparks. The discussions were relevant and very interesting.

The pence box offering amounted to \$106.

The response to the Treasurer's appeal is meeting with gratifying response. To date \$1355.00 has been received. Memorials to deaconesses Dahlgren, Colesberry and Edith C. Smith are among the contributions.

The memorial given by Geo. H. Sibley to Kate Shaw was \$300, not \$100 as stated in the March, 1950 issue.

Mary C. West, Secretary.

NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES acting as correspondents:

- 1: Elizabeth H. Coe, 2 Clement St., Worcester 3, Mass.
- 2: Dorothea F. Betz, 93-41 222 St., Queen's Village, N. Y.
- 3: Anne Newman, St. Paul, Va.
- 4: Harriet M. Bedell, Glade Cross Mission, Everglades, Florida.
- 5:& 6: Edna M. Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
- 7: Gladys Hall, Brownson Home, Victoria, Texas.
- 8: Margaret Booz, 4976 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 16, Cal.

1st Province:

Hamphill: Still a shut-in, but living comfortably and contentedly with her good friend, Mrs. June, 40 Locust St., Greenwich, Conn.

Johnson and Thompson, New Haven: Still very busy, work interesting to do but not to write about.

Marling: Now a housemother at Merricourt, Berlin, Conn., a Church School. She wants to be free in the summer to spend some time at her farm near Hudson, N. Y. She is much missed at Utica.

McNulty: 601 W. 144th St., New York 31, N. Y. Spent some time in St. Luke's Hospital shortly after Easter, is better now, still unable to work, but hoping to some day.

Trask: Quite ill and in hospital some weeks in June and July, not actively at work yet but able to do some writing of Church School lessons, etc. at home to help Miss Gunther, who is carrying on. They are comfortably settled in a pleasant apartment at 49 Pleasant St., Gardiner, Maine.

Gillespy: Still a 'secretarial' position as volunteer with S.C.H.C.

2nd Province:

The deaconesses of this province held a meeting May 3, 1950, seven being present. Since this Chapter has become Provincial, revision of the by-laws was discussed. Deaconess Johnson reported having attended a meeting of the National Executive Meeting in Chicago, on March 22, and a meeting of the National Woman's Auxillary at Seabury House in April. At this meeting, the members were very cordial, seemed to have a genuine interest in deaconesses, and asked many questions. Alice Nutter is now living at St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N. Y.

3rd Province:

The representative sent letters asking for news to the twenty-six other deaconesses of the province with no results, to date.

4th Province: No report.

5th & 6th Provinces:

Marian Brown spent a week at the Deaconess House in Chicago as she was speaking on her work at Fort Defiance in Chicago and Wisconsin. The Chicago deaconesses plan to have a quiet afternoon on the first Monday in Advent at St Mark's Evanston with the Rector.

We desire to register our appreciation and gratitude to Ruth Johnson for the excellent piece of work she is doing for the Order as our executive secretary -- many, many hours at the typewriter for one thing. Thank your, Ruth--this from all of us.

Effie Brainerd, 9903 Gravois Rd., Affton 23, Mo.

Margaret Peet was out here several years ago for a short time at a small mission seemed too frail to do the work. I seem so alone out here, wish I could go to Chicago for the Retreats; it would give me inspiration. The Rev. J. H. George is my Superintendent, but has been ill for several months. If he has to give up, I will no doubt be expected to retire, tho I feel I could go on working. I still drive my car, and hold services and Bible classes as well as visit in hospitals and prepare patients for communions, and get the groups together. The home for delinquent girls I like best. I have a large class for Baptism there each year. We have a highly trained educational secretary but no deaconesses--and once there were ten in this Diocese!!

7th Province: No report.

8th Province:

Deaconess House is closed; the chapel is to be used in Arcadia, California for new mission there.

Margaret Booz:

I had a long trip, leaving July 23 for El Paso, visited English and Smith; their work among the Mexicans is very interesting. Then on to Dallas; Roanoke, Va.; St. Peter's, Callaway; Washington; Rockville, Md.; Perth Amboy, N.J.; Glen Rock, N. J. to visit my family; Toronto, where I spent a lovely time at the Anglican Women's Training College. I found a real live Order there, with 35 to begin training soon, two large homes being occupied and an addition being built in between for dining hall, class rooms and infirmary. Candidates are taken at 17 with three years of intensive training, practical work, interspersed. Then on to Detroit, Chicago and home. Since then, with Every Member Canvass, dinner, Bazaar, Rummage Sale., W. A. meetings, Church School, G.F.S., etc., I have little time.

Laura Gallaway is at the Episcopal Old People's home in Alhambra.

Knepper is in San Diego doing volunteer work.

Massey ditto.

Nosler is back and forth between her niece' home in the Northwest, and Seattle.

Peppers is in Hawthorne, living with her daughter.

Phelps is in Carmel

Rearden is in a Nursing Home in Yucaipa.

Steiger just passed her 96th birthday.

Sterne is living at Hotel Clark, Los Angeles. She seems to be enjoying her stay in California after her long period in Alaska.

Mary Hettler, Pioche, Nev. out of the goodness of her heart mimeographed this number of "The Deaconess".

England:

The Church Assembly has expressed a wish to have a yearly report from the Council for the Order of Deaconesses.

IN MEMORIAM

1950

April 14, Harriet Courtney Hyde: aged 83, at her home at Middle Haddam, Conn.

For several months, she was disabled from a stroke. She was admitted to the Diaconate in 1902, and served in New York City missions Trinity Church, Hartford, Conn.; St. Boniface Church, Comfort, Texas; St. Mark's, San Antonio, Texas; and the Chapel of the Incarnation, N. Y.

June 14, Lane (No record of her: Editor) In Massachusetts.

August 24: Mary W. Tilestone in Tucson, Ariz. She was a graduate of Radcliffe College and of the Church Training and Deaconess House, 1908. She served as a parish worker in several places after being made a deaconess by Bishop Whitaker in May, 1909. Then for many years, she was at home caring for her aged mother, compiler of "Daily Prayers for Daily Needs". After her mother's death, she went to live in Peking, China. She was far past the age for appointment, but she had studied Chinese for years in Cambridge, Mass. with Chinese students at Harvard. She visited Chinese patients in hospitals and tried to be a witness of Christ to all whom she met. When she returned to the U. S. A. due to the war with Japan, she lived in San Francisco and became deeply interested in the Chinese work there. Her last few years were spent in Arizona.

Sept. 4: Katrina Patterson, of Scarsdale, died in a nursing home at the age of 84. She compiled a worth while chart of the Church Year.

Sept. 19: Margaret S. Feet, in Hartford, Conn. in the Armsmear Home. She was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., was graduated in 1907 from the Church Training and Deaconess House. She had served in the Church's work in several dioceses, her last work being in Hartford. The Executive Secretary of the Home writes: "The Deaconess has been bedridden for over a year; she does not suffer, but her mind is affected. We have an excellent nurse for her".

May they rest in peace

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

This material arrived too late to incorporate in the body of the text:

Deaconess A. K. Thompson can be addressed at 6960 California Way, Seattle, Washington.

Province 3 - "Mail delayed for nine days by heavy snow storms at St. Paul, Va."

Province 7 - "Reports delivered too late for this issue."

EGN

NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSSES
Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, New York

January 26, 1951

To the Deaconesses:

As Executive Director for the Trustees it is my privilege and pleasure to inform you of the appointment of Deaconess Katharine Putnam to the faculty of Daniel Baker College to direct the work of the newly set up Department of Church Work Training.

The Advisory Commission on Work of Deaconesses formally initiated the effort to establish this training program when they requested the Trustees of the New York Training School for Deaconesses to underwrite the salary plus maintenance allowance of the Deaconess to be appointed to direct the training.

The Trustees of the School gave this request favorable consideration and also voted to nominate Katharine Putnam for appointment by the College to their faculty.

As a member of the faculty, Katharine Putnam holds the rank of Assistant Professor with the title of Director of Church Work Training. Deaconess is now resident at the College:
Daniel Baker College, Brownwood, Texas.

As soon as I receive the informative literature that is being prepared by the College I shall send copies to you.

Prayerful, co-operative and determined effort on our part is now called for. High school graduates of high caliber should be approached and informed of the opportunities available at this Church-sponsored college. It is our prayerful hope that under the wise and devoted leadership of Katharine Putnam some students may find their vocation to the Deaconess life. We can all share, in one way or another, in bringing this information concerning the college and the new training program to the attention of earnest-minded high school seniors; young women who have not completed the four years of college; and older women, perhaps professionally trained, who are considering the Deaconess life and work as their vocation. A special course has been prepared for the last group.

In the knowledge that General Convention's Advisory Commission on Work of Deaconesses is endorsing the project and that the NYTSD has voted to aid the venture, can we not feel assured that this is the opportunity for which we Deaconesses have been waiting - yes, praying?

Come, then, let us pray, think, talk, and act in support of this long-hoped-for opening. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit may our recruiting not only be active but fruitful.

RUTH JOHNSON

Executive Director
for the Trustees

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES
Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, New York

January 27, 1951

Dear Deaconess:

I had prepared the enclosed for mimeographing when I received electrifying news from Bishop Conkling. As Chairman of the Advisory Commission on work of Deaconesses, Bishop Conkling presented to the House of Bishops, recently convened in El Paso, Texas, a report on our present project for training at Daniel Baker and the plans for a Central House for Deaconesses as had been discussed at the meeting of the Advisory Commission last November. The House of Bishops approved the establishment of the Training School to be set up in connection with Central House.

Bishop Conkling writes that "we should now proceed with definite plans . . . since the program has the knowledge and blessing of the House of Bishops." Voice another Thanksgiving!

Your prayers, please, as we "proceed with definite plans" - as we venture under the leadership of Bishop Conkling,

Yours in high expectation,

RUTH JOHNSON

Executive Secretary

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, N.Y.

February 15, 1951

ODDS AND ENDS FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

You will rejoice to hear that Alice W. Mayer, Deaconess Candidate, co-worker with Anne Newman, has passed her canonical examinations and now awaits word from her Bishop as to the date of her Ordering.

Note this on your calendar and plan your vacation accordingly:

Event: Annual Meeting of National Conference

Place: College of Preachers, Washington 5, D.C.

Time: Monday, Sept. 10 - - Thursday, Sept. 13, 1951

Details later.

Mary Truesdell writes that notice will soon be given in the Church papers concerning the release of our colored slides and script, "THE DEACONESS STORY". I do hope you have made plans to show the slides to Church groups, - not only in connection with possible recruiting but simply for the purpose of educating our Church family. If you haven't signed up for a specific time will you not ask Deaconess Truesdell for a reservation?

It is possible that I may be "on the road" in Province 3 between mid-April and mid-May. I shall expect to have a set of slides with me.

Any groups you'd like addressed?

Any suggestions as to Church boarding schools for me to visit for purpose of recruiting?

Any individual women for interviews for same purpose?

The 1950 meeting of the National Conference took up with enthusiasm a proposal that the use of a Deaconess Pence Can be considered. The Executive Committee was requested to make arrangements.

Deaconess Helen Taylor, Chicago, was made Chairman. She accepted the responsibility of creating a container and a folder to accompany it.

The purpose of the Pence Can has been stated by Deaconess Eleanor P. Smith who proposed the plan:

"Day by day we gather at God's Altar for the Bread of Life, and pray for one another. As members of the Deaconess Order, at each meal of the day, we say a prayer of Thanksgiving for the food God has provided for us, and make an offering of a penny a meal,- 'Thrice a day these prayers
I say,
Thrice a day a Pence I pay.

"This accumulated Offering received at designated gatherings will prove to be of great help toward the Promotion of the Order through the work of the Executive Secretary. Each Deaconess is privileged to ask one or more friends to share in the corporate acts of praying, working, and giving for the extension of our work. It is Faith and Courage we need together with ways and means to promote the work of the Order."

The National Conference of 1950 was hopeful that the response to their suggestion would be ready and prompt. You will shortly receive a card from Helen Taylor together with a reply card. We should be grateful if you would sign the reply card and send -do I dare suggest?- by return mail.

The Executive Secretary wishes to acknowledge the generous assistance of Mary Hettler (Nevada) and Celia Brown (New York) in giving time and effort to mimeographing and mailing material for Deaconess consumption. Lydia Ramsay too has helped greatly in sending literature to those inquiring about the Order. There has been a heavy demand for the brochure "The Deaconess and Her Ministry" which is listed as part of available resource material for this year's Lenten Mission Study in Church Schools. And, when you see the Pence Can material you will realize how indebted we are to Helen Taylor.

Reactions to any or all of the above will be appreciated.

Your Executive Secretary
RUTH JOHNSON

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES
Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, N.Y.

Please check either of the two possibilities listed below and
mail to RUTH JOHNSON at above address
before Wednesday, March 28th.

RE the Distribution of the printed Appeals for Funds
to set up the Central House for Deaconesses:

WILL YOU PLEASE 1) list below on this sheet those names and
addresses to whom I can mail the printed appeals?

If you want your name mentioned please say
so here. (_____)

OR, DO YOU PREFER 2) to send the printed appeals yourself
with personal notes?

If so, how many printed appeals shall I
send to you? (_____)

N.B. If you checked #2: A list of those to whom you expect to
write might be given here so that in this office I can
check for duplications.

(Continue names on other side.)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES
Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, N.Y.
March 12, 1951

E X T R A
(sent out with all speed by the Executive Secretary)

TIME: Now
PLACE: Where you are
SUBJECT: Printed Appeal to secure funds for the Central House
for Deaconesses

Each one of us who has bemoaned the loss of the building housing her Alma Mater knows what it can mean to anticipate a spot that can be called "home."

Bishop Conkling is championing our cause. In January, reporting the proposal of the Advisory Commission to set up a Central House, the Bishop received the approval and the blessing of the House of Bishops.

"And now," writes Bishop Conkling in effect, "is the time to make our appeal for funds to secure the House, - A House of training for Candidates, refreshment for Deaconesses."

I have read the appeal Bishop Conkling proposes to send out. It is very good- concisely stated in a four-page folder. Bishop Conkling has made the start and now comes our share in this effort.

This letter asks you for names, not money. Your Executive Secretary asks as many Deaconesses as can to help her secure the names of persons to whom the printed appeals can be sent.

Will you please FILL OUT THE ENCLOSED SHEET AND RETURN TO ME WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS, i.e. MAIL IT BEFORE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28th?

I need not list the benefits that can come to the Order through an actively functioning Central House. Too many of us have hoped and worked and prayed for this to need any reminders of the reasons for wanting a Central House.

For the good of the whole Order, present and future, I simply ask you therefore to pitch in and send me the information asked for on the enclosed sheet. Thank you.

May the coming Eastertide bring you and yours rich blessings.

RUTH JOHNSON

Executive Secretary

Encl: Dss brochure
Daniel Baker "

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES
Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, N.Y.

March 19, 1951

MEMORANDUM TO Deaconesses
FROM the Executive Secretary

1. ANNUAL CONFERENCE, preceded by RETREAT
College of Preachers, Washington, D.C.
Monday, Sept. 10 - Thursday, Sept. 13
Retreat Conductor: The Very Rev. Stanley Brown-Serman, D.D.
Virginia Theological Seminary

Chairman of arrangements: Deaconess Olive Robinson

If there is the slightest possibility that you may be able to attend, please send a line requesting details to Deaconess Robinson, Parishfield, Brighton, Mich.

-
2. Deaconesses of Province 3 are meeting in Retreat and Conference, Tuesday, Apr. 10 - Thursday, Apr. 12, in Chambersburg, Penna. at the invitation of the Rector of Trinity Church, the Rev. Carlton N. Jones, and Deaconess Anna L. Ranson.

I understand that not only the Parish but the community are offering hospitality. Deaconesses outside the Province are most cordially invited. Deaconess Ranson writes, "There will be no expense except your own traveling expenses. And it is all right for any to come on Monday evening." Doesn't it sound like a wonderful opportunity for fellowship! I expect to attend and I shall delight in presenting all up-to-the-minute news of our various ventures, projects, etc.

-
3. Anne Newman writes that her co-worker, Alice Mayer, will "probably be Set Apart here at Grace House (St. Paul, Va.) on the 26th of April." We will have you, Alice, in our hearts and minds then as well as now when you are preparing for that high moment in your life. ECCE ANCILLA DOMINI!

DIOCESAN HOUSE, 1047 AMSTERDAM AVENUE
NEW YORK 25, NEW YORK

May 25, 1951

Dear Deaconesses,

Enclosed you will find the material mailed from this office to those persons whose names some of you sent to me.

I should welcome more names, especially of those W.A. groups and/or parishes to whom the last sentence in my letter might make a special and personal appeal. Please help to distribute the Appeal widely. And your prayers!

The ANNUAL RETREAT AND CONFERENCE will be held at the College of Preachers, Washington, D.C., Monday, Sept. 10th through luncheon on Thursday, Sept. 13th. You may arrive during the afternoon of the 10th.

Quiet Day Conductor: The Very Rev. Stanley Brown-Serman,
Virginia Theological Seminary

The cost will be \$5.00 per day, i.e. \$15.00 for the full Conference period.

RESERVATIONS should be made before the last week in August.

Mail reservations to: Deaconess Bechtol
1147 Fifteenth Street
Washington 5, D.C.

Looking forward to a fruitful outcome of each of the above and with all good wishes,

Very sincerely,

RUTH JOHNSON

Executive Secretary

P.S. I find that the addition of this letter to you increases the postage. I am therefore omitting the brochure "The Deaconess in the Episcopal Church" which you have already seen. The brochure will be included in all other envelopes. RJ

MEMORANDUM

FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 1951

A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY***

Recruitment is our immediate concern. "Our" means each individual Deaconess as well as the Executive Secretary. Only as each Deaconess puts her self into this effort can we make progress. Each Deaconess can PRAY. Without that feeling of being upheld by the Order, we, whose special concern recruitment is, may find ourselves acting as isolated units instead of acting as agents of a body uniquely bound in cooperative effort.

At the undergraduate level Deaconess Putnam reports the possibility of several in residence in the fall. It is too early in the summer to make definite statements. At the graduate level there may be two Candidates-to-be, studying at Gilmore House in London for the first year of training. One is now finishing a year's teaching engagement in a Church School for girls, and she expects to stay on in England for the Gilmore House training. The other prospective student is awaiting the results of my investigation of Gilmore House training. She has a private income and is ready to make the trip. Both of these women are in their twenties and hold M.A. degrees.

We had hoped that the establishment of the Central House might have been assured for this fall. A start could then have been made. However, the response to the recent appeal does not warrant setting up a training center even on a temporary basis this fall. We even question the expediency of a "temporary basis."

Recruitment and training depend one on the other. There is no doubt that were we in a position to announce that several candidates were waiting for training, benefactors, with both desire and means, would find themselves impelled to provide the assurance of the substantial nucleus that is needed for the Central House Fund. (Only 25 Deaconesses sent in names of persons to whom appeals could be sent.)

Will you think on these things and then, as you can, do something about Recruitment and/or the Central House for Deaconesses and Deaconess training?

June 28th. 1951

Ruth Johnson

SPECIAL NOTICE !!!

May we remind you that Pence Can contributions were to be returned by the end of May - 1951. Send to: Dss. Ranson 58 S. Second St., Chambersburg, Penna.

REPORT FROM DANIEL BAKER COLLEGE

Deaconess Katharine Putnam

Our Department of Church Work Training in Daniel Baker College, Brownwood, Texas, is becoming a reality and, although the course was planned to open in September one student who hopes to become a Deaconess has already entered, beginning with the summer term. At least three other students are already accepted and expected, one for the Deaconess training and the other two as freshmen beginning their general college work.

In January I went to Brownwood to begin the spadework for the foundations. I have written to all Bishops of the Church in America and Mission fields, telling of the opportunities for training offered as well as to many other Church people in positions to introduce students. I have also traveled extensively in various dioceses in Texas and in Mississippi, and have made our plans known at Hood College, as well as the Wellesley Conference. You have all seen the notices given us in the Church papers.

It is our hope to have a house of residence especially for the Church Work Training students, but for the present we do not have enough students to warrant that added expense to the college, so our students will be housed with other women boarding students and take their meals in the college refectory. However, I expect them to use the sitting room in my apartment as a "Common Room" for our own particular activities and devotions, and extra curricular classes. The first term must of necessity be experimental, as this combination of college life and the Church Work Training will have to be worked out. But our first student is already most enthusiastic about the college and the plan. We hope with the grace of God, and the guidance of His Holy Spirit to bring more and more young women to the joy of the service of our Lord in His Church. May I again ask for your prayers and interest and enthusiasm to carry us over the first hard days and along the right road.

SPECIAL NEWS *** JUST READ THIS!!!!!!

It is most heartening to receive news that a "Conference of Deaconesses" has been placed on the official program for the Synod of the Southwest..... The Deaconesses have been allotted time at 9:30 A.M. at St. Paul's Church, San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 23rd. Dss. Gladys Hall, Provincial Representative, is in charge of details. It is hoped that as many Deaconesses as possible will be there. How about you??

Exerpts from the minutes--Meeting of the Executive Committee--Meeting in Chicago - June 8th. 1951--

Members present: Dsses. Crow, Dieterly, Johnson, Sargent, Seymour and Truesdell

Treasurer's Report:

Bal. on hand Jan. 1st. 1951
in General Fund \$232.19
in Emergency Fund 279.00

\$511.19

Dues received in 1951

67.75

Bal. from Phila. Chapter

4.25

Total Receipts to Jul. 1st.

\$583.19

Disbursements:

Office expenses \$ 3.35

The DSS. 2 issues 29.60

Printing labels 10.75

Total Disbursements \$ 43.70

Balance July 1st. 1951 539.49

\$583.19

Notes from the meeting of the Advisory Commission which had met the previous day were read and discussed. These had to do mainly with the plans for the establishment of a Central House in Evanston. Mrs. Chamberlin of Chicago was present at both meetings and is most interested in this project. Suggestions found elsewhere in this sheet were discussed and approved.

It was voted to divide the "Committee on Publicity and Promotion" into two Committees, namely - "Committee on Publicity" with Dsses. Truesdell and Allfleck in charge; and "Committee on Promotion" with Dss. Ramsay as Chairman working with Dss. Ruth Johnson as Consultant. (Dss. Ramsay has accepted the appointment according to word from the Executive Secretary.)

Another pamphlet is to be made up and ofcourse this calls for pictures. Please have some good ones made of you at your work. Have these done by good photographers - either amateur or professionals. (Incidentally the Committee is willing to pay for the right shots) Please send as soon as possible to Dss. Mary Truesdell-126 W. 14th. St., Davenport, Iowa.

The Second Annual Meeting or Conference to be held between the Triennial Meetings will meet at the College of Preachers in Washington, D.C. Dss. Bechtol (address-1140 M. St., N.W. Wash. 5, D.C.) is arranging the local details Begins: Dinner, Monday night-Sept. 10th. Tuesday- Quiet Day with Meditations ---

conducted by Dr. Brown-Sermon
Wednesday - outside speaker
- tea at the E.E.E.T. Hospital
Thursday a.m.- Deaconess Conference

Publicity possibilities for the next General Convention were discussed. As there is no Deaconess working in Boston there are many problems to be worked out for the meeting of the National Conference.

The question was asked whether

Deaconesses should co-operate with the Social Security program of the Government. Dss. Truesdell read from the minutes of the Commission, Bishop Conkling opinion: "If a Deaconess is holding the kind of a position which would entitle her to come under the Social Security provision, she should by all means co-operate. Even though listed as a "lay-person" in the Social Security records this would not in the least change her ecclesiastical status."

Dss. Truesdell reported that the slides, "The Deaconess Story" were being used and that she supplimented with copies of the new brochure.

(By the way - have you seen this new smaller brochure? Send for copies for yourself-your friends and your parishes. Dss. Ramsay-141-25 N. Hempstead Turnpike, Flushing, N.Y., or Dss. Seymour, 714 No. 9th. St., Salina, Kansas.

THE CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES*****

Suggestions that have come to the desk of the Executive Secretary in the matter of raising funds for the establishment of the Central House, are :-

Ask the Rector to permit one Sunday being called "Deaconess Sunday", the loose offering to go to the Central House fund. There are many parishes in which beloved Deaconesses worked in the past and such parishes could be approached in the matter of a possible "Deaconess Sunday."

Interested Clergy could be asked to preach on Vocation and specifically on the Order, Requesting that the offering of his congregation be donated to the Central House fund.

Silver teas, cake and candy sales card parties are quite possible. Deaconess Ramsay has arranged for a card party to be hold in the Parish House and she has enlisted the support of two parishes where Deaconesses worked up to some few years ago. R.J.

* * * * *

Deaconesses have been in the news lately....Dss. Hutton of Stanley, Virginia was given a free trip to New York by the General Mills and had an interview over a nationwide hook-up.

Dss. Marian Brown of Ft. Defiance, Arizona had an article about her work in the summer issue of FORTH Magazine.

Of the dozen pictures chosen for the new brochure "We Work for the Church" ("281") - two are of Deaconesses.

* * * * *

PLEASE NOTICE !!!

If you have not already paid your dues, wont you please get them into the mail today? Thank you.
Send to: Dss. E.E. Seymour, Acting Treas. 714 No. 9th. St., Salina, Kansas

Ds. Bechtol
Barnes
Fri. Oct 5

THE DEACONESSES

November 1951

(last issue May 1951)

Executive Committee - National Conference of Deaconesses

Chairman: Hilda Dieterly, Episcopal Home for the Aged, 206 E. Burd St., Shippensburg, Pa.
Secretary: Clara Searle, Box 273, Addyston, Ohio

Acting Treasurer: Evelyn E. Seymour, 714 No. 9th. St., Salina, Kansas

Executive Secretary: Ruth Johnson, Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Ave., New York 25

Frances Affleck, Lillian Crow, Olive Robinson,

Edna Sargent, and Mary Truesdell

ANNUAL RETREAT & CONFERENCE - 1951

Place-College of Preachers, Cathedral Close, Washington, D.C. Sept. 10-13th.
Present: Bechtol, Brereton, Byllesby, Dieterly, Dunlop, Johnson, McNulty, Newbold, Parsons, Ramsay, Ranson, Redd, Searle, Seymour, Eleanor Smith, Robinson, Hutton, and Orwig.

Monday night a social evening followed dinner at six-thirty with coffee served in the Common Room. Compline at nine-thirty in the Chapel began the Retreat, led by the Rev. Stanley Brown-Sermon, Prof. of New Testament Language and Literature at the Virginia Theological Seminary, "as well as the Dean." His theme on Tuesday was "Our Spiritual Life", which he presented in four inspiring meditations: Our Prayers, The Body of Christ (the Fellowship of the Redeemed), Our Sacramental life, and our common work.

Holy Communion was celebrated each morning, first in the Chapel of the College of Preachers, other days in the Cathedral chapels.

Tuesday evening was passed in informal discussions regarding methods of raising funds for the proposed Central House and the Pence Cans. Dss. Ranson, custodian of the Pence Cans reported that 28 Deaconesses and one layman contributed just \$100. in the Spring ingathering. (Since the meeting she has sent in \$120.52 from the fall contributions.)

Wednesday morning, Sept. 12th. Mrs. H.C. Kelleran, Director of Christian Education-Diocese of Washington, presented the background, and progress of the work being done by the National Council Department of Christian Education. The Rev. Jesse Trotter, Associate Professor of Apologetics and Homiletics at Virginia Theological Seminary presented the Theology upon which the new curriculum is being developed. (Shortened too much?)

The afternoon on Wednesday the Conference was delightfully entertained at tea at the Nurses' home of the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital. That evening at the College, Canon Cleaveland of the Cathedral staff told us the story of Mr. Cochran and his gift of the College of Preachers, and also outlined the function of the Cathedral Library, offering us the privilege of borrowing books.

The slides "The Deaconess Story" were shown. She had the "film".

Amelia Brereton gave a vivid account of the setting apart of Alice Mayer on August 6th. at Grace-House-on-the-Mountain, St. Paul, Va. The plan was to have

the service out of doors, but when it began to rain, all moved into the small chapel; then the sun came out, and all returned out of doors. Twelve clergy and six deaconesses were present, marching in the procession. Two sister deaconesses-Binns and Williams, presented the Candidate. People in the Diocese love Alice so over 200 were present, and the silence of those 200 present could be felt a true spiritual uplift. As the Holy Communion began, a gentle rain fell, but only enough to fog spectacles and no one moved to cover.

At the close of the service, the chairs were pushed back, and tables set for a buffet lunch of turkey, ham, potatoes, tomatoes, ice cream and coffee.

Thursday morning a more formal meeting was conducted with the Chairman-Hilda Dieterly in the chair.

Treasurer's Report - The GENERAL FUND consisting of dues and gifts received at National Conference in San Francisco in 1949, and dues and gifts received since then to date - September 9th, 1951

Total Receipts.....\$315.19

Disbursements.....\$54.20

Balance - Sept. 9th. \$261.09

The EMERGENCY FUND consists of the gifts received at National Conference in San Francisco in the duplex offering envelopes.

Receipts.....\$279.00

Disbursements.....\$64.00

Balance Sept. 9th. \$215.00

Publicity Committee--chairman, Mary Truesdell.

In the absence of the chairman, Evelyn Seymour reported that everything published has been sent out, and asked all to distribute as much as they could to keep something about Deaconesses in the Church racks. Mary Truesdell continues working on new pieces to be published.

Discussion of plans for the National Conference to be held in Boston in 1952 were next, with requests for ideas about exhibits. The Rev. Gardiner Day, Chairman of arrangements in Boston is most helpful and co-operative.

A wire of greeting was sent to Katharine Putnam and her students. (The Dept. of Church Work Training began their fall term on the day of our meeting in Washington. Ed.)

Miscellaneous matters of moment to the ORDER:

The Committee on Promotion and Pub-

* Forget to add in your note about M.B. being subpt.

muffed this sorry - but didn't change it when I saw what I had done

out of order

missed this she had and then

rearranged all this as she jumped from morning to night & then back to afternoon etc -

added by CES by train names or something

Thanks for writing this - J.

OK? should have said at DB C do

licity has been divided into two committees: tional English. Can any of you secure a sponsor to underwrite the travel expense of \$1200.00? If so, please speed word of it to the Executive Secy.

Suggestions made to achieve a closer fellowship --

Idea proposed that notices of serious illness, death, Setting Apart, need of prayers, etc. be sent immediately to the Executive Secretary, and all Deaconesses notified. (The Executive Committee later instructed Exec. Secy. to send out all such notices immediately on their receipt.) DEACONESSSES: please take note and send such notices to the Exec. Secy. R.J.

Another idea will be followed up, i.e. anniversaries of Ordering will be remembered by a card through the Exec. Comm.

The Anniversaries of Ordering and birthdays is being brought up to date and will soon be sent to all Deaconesses in mimeographed form. A corrected mailing list will be enclosed (Suggestion from Dsses. meeting at San Antonio, Texas) so that anyone wishing to remember her sister deaconesses with a card or letter may have the latest address. *Chand up?*

REPORTED BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1. Greetings to the Conference sent by Deaconesses Gillespy, Hill, Squires, Putnam and Ashcroft. The latter regretted her inability to get to Washington when she was so near. She had just arrived in New York from England, having made many stop-overs enroute on her flight from China. She was to fly from California for the Philippines later in September. She will spend six or eight months in Sagada and then take up residence in Bontoc.

2. The Advisory Commission is asking for contributions for the Central House from the Woman's Auxiliaries. Diocesan Presidents were approached with the request that they distribute the printed appeals in their dioceses and districts. Thirty-three Presidents expressed their willingness to do this. As a result 3616 appeals and enclosures were sent out to the 33 Dioceses and districts.

(N.B. In mid-October, contributions amounting to \$438.00 have been received from 33 W.A. groups. R.J.)

3. In regard to Recruitment and Training: Word has been received that 8 students are expecting to be enrolled in the Department of Church Work Training at Daniel Baker College this fall. Six are in the freshman year and two in the junior year. Of the latter one is understood to be a prospective Candidate, Mary Godfrey, a nurse by profession, from the Diocese of Dallas.

Another prospective Candidate who had high hopes of enrolling this fall has had to postpone her arrival. She is Mary T. Nagasawa of Tokyo, who needs only the travel expense. All other arrangements have been completed. Deaconess Knepper and her sister have invited Miss Nagasawa to spend a few months in their home as a sort of orientation course in conversa-

tion. Can any of you secure a sponsor to underwrite the travel expense of \$1200.00? If so, please speed word of it to the Executive Secy.

Two prospective candidates are sailing for England to train at Gilmore House, Margaret Dewey who was teaching in England last year, and a graduate of Radcliffe; and Phyllis Spencer, a graduate of Mount Holyoke and Columbia. Write to them:-- Gilmore House, 113 North Side Clapham Common, London S.W. 4, England.

Deaconess Fund for Budget and Promotion: April 1950 - Sept. 1951 (18 months)

RECEIPTS:

From Deaconesses	1498.00
From others	268.00
Pence Can Offering	100.00 *
Refunds	139.00
Total	\$2005.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

Travel (Advisory and Exec. Comm.)	\$957.
Office Expenses, Publicity, etc.	612.
Total	\$1569.
Balance on hand, Oct. 1st. 1951	436.
	\$2005.

Review of Proposed Amendments to be voted on in Boston, 1952:

- Raising dues to \$1.00 payable annually.
- Setting up Annual Conferences to be held in various parts of the country without legislative power.

Suggestion that By-Laws provide for opportunity to vote on proposed amendments by mail.

IN MEMORIAM

Anna Kathleen Thompson of St. Mark's Mission, Alaska, died April 17, 1951, and was buried in Alaska.

Mary Thayer Patterson died on December 25, 1950. She was in her 90th year. She was born in Orange, N. J. She attended High School, the Normal College at Albany, N. Y., Teachers' College, New York University, and in 1895 was graduated from the New York Training School and set apart as a deaconess in November of that year. Two sisters survive her.

Julia E. Stephenson, died March 9, 1951 in Cohoes, N. Y. She was born in New York September 9, 1867, and in 1906 was graduated from the New York Training School and ordained a deaconess in May of that year. For three years, she served on the staff of the Bronx Church House in New York and then for many years was in charge of St. Margaret's Home in the parish of Christ Church, Red Hook, N. Y. She was a familiar figure in the community and parish. On the first Sunday in Advent, 1950 a sanctuary lamp in her memory, given by one of the former girls of St. Margaret's was blessed.

Julia A. Clark died July 2, 1951 in California. She recently returned from China.

Some how this got in.

for the record - or -

I sent you a copy that happened to be 3 separate sheets but all the rest were like this -

Don't this money be left. I hope you didn't mind me doing this to your statement

R.N. had ordained - but changed it to "set apart" but the girl who helped me just here didn't get it as I told her

THE DEACONESS

November 1951

page 3

Mary Savage Johnson, born Utica, N. Y. died New Haven, Conn., August 14, 1951. She was set apart as a deaconess in the 1890's. During her work in New Haven, as head of St. Hilda's House, she served under four rectors. Interment was at Utica, N. Y.

"The beautiful life of Deaconess Mary Savage Johnson has enriched this world; and the many lives she touched, in her fifty-seven years of service as a Deaconess, will ever feel the inspiration that has come from her devoted and dedicated life. Her saintliness, gentleness, humility, serenity, growing from her life in our Lord, patience, courage, charity and great tolerance for others, with rare gifts of sanctified common sense, quiet humor, and great wisdom and understanding has endeared her to all whose privilege it was to know her. Her loyal and great devotion to her Church, family and friends will be a blessed memory and she will always live in their hearts."

Tribute by Ruby Thomson.

Rest eternal grant unto them,
O Lord, and let light perpetual
shine upon them.

NEWS OF DEACONESES

Province 1: Deaconess Lovell and her sister flew to California to visit their brother, and at a Church service met Gertrude Heywood, for many years the head of St. Margaret's, Tokyo. In Seattle, they had lunch with the staff of the Diocesan House. They included Victoria, Vancouver; on their return stayed for a time at Woodstock, Vt. also.

Elizabeth Trask, after a year's convalescence was able to resume work in September at St. Andrew's, Pittston, Maine, a mission of Christ Church, Gardiner, she being unable to continue work at Christ Church.

Ruby Thomson, for thirty-three years associated with Mary S. Johnson in the work of St. Hilda's House, New Haven has been asked by the Rector and vestry of Christ Church to carry on that work as a memorial to Mary S. Johnson.

Deaconess Lloyd has had a small collection of her best poems printed by a friend. Perhaps some of your would like to contact her about this accomplishment at the tender age of 80. Address 51 Curve Street, Wellesley, Mass.

Province 2: On December 4, Clara Simpson will observe the 58th anniversary of her Setting Apart as deaconess. The privilege to have her among us can be seen by all who know her as a reflection of the great joy that comes from unselfish service to God and His Church."

Province 4: Deaconess Byllesby, 2122 Laura St., Jacksonville, Florida attended the Conference in Washington, driving her car, and bringing Anna Ranson from Chambersburg, Pa. Dunlop and Brereton returned with her.

...oo.

Provinces 5 & 6: The following have been guests at the house this summer: Sister Veronica (SHN), Sister Hillary (SHN), Sister Dorothea (Transfig); Naomi Skeeters formerly in Brazil, now teaching in the Cathedral School in Washington; Gertrude and Grace Brisbane, graduates of St. Faith's and Chicago, now working in North Carolina; Mary Elizabeth Hyde, Director of Christian Education in Greenwich, Conn.; Angeline Nicholas, graduate of St. Faith's, now working in Peoria, Ill. Agnes Bradley, St. Mark's, Evanston, Ill. lost her father in August. She has since broken her right arm.

Two members of our staff attended the Retreat and Conference in Washington.

Province 7: Frances Affleck will return to her canonical residence, West Texas late in October. She spent six months in Salt Lake City, where she attended the consecration of Bishop Watson and attended the meeting of the Synod of the 8th Province. She saw Bishop Gordon, and he paid high tribute to Deaconess Thomson, whose death delayed his arrival. Alaska wants more deaconesses.

Katharine Putnam: I should be most grateful for any books. I left what little I had after the last looting to my Chinese associates. Books on Religious Education, Church History, Devotional topics would be most welcome.-- When in Dallas, Deaconess Crow lets me make headquarters with her.-- I have been busy traveling around; there seems to be wide interest in this Diocese and State.-- There are 3 students accepted and registered in the Church Training Dept. of Daniel Baker College. They come from all over--Washington State, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Venezuelea. --I am now in a small cottage on the grounds of the Girls' Dormitory where I have at least a living room where I can carry on student activities and interviews. This little house is ideal as it is apart and yet in the midst. I have a kitchenette for waffles, breakfast, etc. I have put Chinese hangings on the walls, so we look festive.

Ethel Spender says "although retired, I am glad to have opportunity to give quiet days and meditations to Auxiliaries and Guilds. The Rector at Port Lavaca is the Rev. Theodore Branch once in Wyoming, beloved of our deaconesses. I am continually grateful for Glayds Hall, and her loving thoughtfulness. The young people of Brownson Home helped cut my grass, and we then went on a picnic."

Evelyn Ashcroft has arrived at her new station and for the next six months or so will be at St. Mary's Convent, Sagada, Iir. Province, The Republic of the Philippines.

* The Deaconesses of the 7th. Province had a quiet day at St. Paul's Church, San Antonio, Texas, on Monday preceeding the Synod meeting, Oct. 22nd. The Rev. H.P. Osborne, rector, was in charge. A general meeting on Tuesday morning attracted several visitors.

* Added by EES. with no report from them.

Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Av., New York 25, N.Y.

February 18, 1952

TO the Deaconesses
FROM the Executive Secretary:

The purpose of this communication is to give you a brief summary of progress made toward the establishment of our Central House in Evanston, together with a brief report on the Deaconess Fund for Budget and Promotion.

RESULTS OF APPEAL FOR FUNDS MADE BY THE ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Quoting Bishop Conkling: "The Fund grows very slowly....at present we have received something over \$4000.00." The Bishop feels that no purchase can be considered until more funds are in hand. While we are hopeful for a substantial grant from the U.T.O., there should be a sizable amount with which to begin the operation of the House.

Can you - will you - consider the possibility of increasing the Fund by means of Benefits held this spring? Perhaps inviting the co-operation of a local W.A. group? Two highly successful Benefits were held by Margaret Bechtol, (a sale), in Washington, D.C. and by Lydia Ramsay (a card party) in New York. These Benefits were "successful" not only because they netted over \$400.00 but because the incidental publicity was widespread.

The Deaconesses in the New York area expect to hold a benefit sale similar to Margaret Bechtol's on May 6th on the Cathedral Close. Articles for her sale were secured from Puerto Rico, Southern mountains, and India. I commend this method of securing funds for the Central House and at the same time publicizing the Order (literature and posters). I shall be glad to send details.

In response to the Central-House-Appeal-letters which were sent from this office to the Diocesan Presidents of the Woman's Auxiliary at the request of the Advisory Commission, Connecticut heads the list with contributions from seventeen (17) groups; West Texas and Los Angeles next with ten (10) and nine (9) contributing groups respectively.

Diocesan gifts have been received from:
Michigan Oklahoma Rhode Island
Milwaukee Maryland West Texas

I shall be glad to supply you with information in regard to your own diocese or district, if you request it.

Publicity for the Order and the proposed Central House:

I hope you read the excellent editorial in the LIVING CHURCH, issue of Nov. 11, 1951, written jointly by Miss McCracken and Mr. Morehouse.

Two diocesan publications also gave us needed publicity last fall: -The FLORIDA EDITION OF FORTH contained a very fine write-up, succinct and accurate.

-The CHURCH MILITANT (Massachusetts) devoted a full page reproducing the Advisory Commission's Appeal and including the contribution form (which was used by one donor).

If you have not already done so, can you be instrumental in securing space in your diocesan paper? Such issues do not come automatically to this office and I therefor have no way of knowing how much is being done locally.

The BUDGET AND PROMOTION FUND for 1951:

Gifts and paid pledges	\$800.00	(in round numbers)
Pence Can Offerings	<u>150.00</u>	
Total Receipts		950.00
Total Disbursements		<u>870.00</u>
Balance		80.00

The DISBURSEMENTS: Three large items formed the main outlays in 1951,-

1. Publicity and Promotion
 - producing and circulating the slides, "The Deaconess Story"
 - mailing literature packets on request
2. Central House Appeal
 - mailing appeal letters and literature to individuals and to W.A. groups, diocesan and parochial
 - (N.B. These mailings meant a nationwide publicity)
3. Travel expenses of those Advisory Commission members who otherwise could not have attended the Commission's June meeting in Chicago. The Executive Committee met the following day.

In 1952, the Budget and Promotion Fund will be needed for the same items as listed above. In addition there should be funds for publicity at the time of General Convention in Boston.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

July 5, 1952

MEMORANDUM TO the Deaconesses
FROM the Executive Secretary:

It is my great pleasure and high privilege to inform you of the reception of three Deaconess Candidates:

(Mrs.) Edna McNeill Dietz, M.A., by Bishop Jones (West Texas) on the
Feast of the Purification, 1952

Pauline E. Watts, B.A., by Bishop Donegan (New York) on
March 1st, 1952

Phyllis TenBroeck Spencer, M.A., by Bishop Donegan on May 5th, 1952

Mrs. Dietz continues her teaching while preparing for the canonical examinations under the direction of a Chaplain.
Address: 1901 West Travis St., San Antonio 7, Texas.

Miss Watts, also a teacher by profession, had worked with the late Deaconess A. Kathleen Thompson at St. Mark's Mission, Nenana, Alaska. When Miss Watts returned to the States last summer she knew that she must test her vocation to the Diaconate. She is studying under the guidance of a Bishop-appointed Chaplain while working on the staff of the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital.
Address: 1147 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington 5, D.C.

Miss Spencer has now completed, happily and commendably, the first year of Deaconess training at Gilmore House in London.
Address: Gilmore House, 113 North Side, Clapham Common, London, S.W.4, England.

Last December I spent a delightful week at Gilmore House. The Head Deaconess Elizabeth Souttar was most generous with warm hospitality. The students (20) received me so cordially that I soon felt quite at home in familiar training-school surroundings. I was deeply moved as I joined in their daily Chapel devotions - an experience I shall continue to cherish for a long time to come. Since at the moment we have no school distinctively dedicated to forwarding the Deaconess vocation, we have cause to be very grateful to Gilmore House for having opened its doors to our Phyllis Spencer.

In your name I have welcomed our three Candidates and I have assured them of our individual and collective prayers and good wishes.

I want to take this opportunity to tell you that we shall follow with interest and prayerful concern the activities of a young woman who came to this country from Japan this week. Miss Maria T. Nagasawa (Tokyo) will spend the summer with Deaconess Knepper and her sister (1820 Kearny St., San Diego, Calif.) preparatory to entering Daniel Baker College in September for the special two-year course of Deaconess training.

Bishop Viall writes: "We trust that the event (her coming to USA) will justify our faith that God is calling her to service as a Deaconess, the first native one in the Nippon Sei Ko Kai."

RUTH JOHNSON

THE DEACONESSES

May 1952

(last issue November 1951)

Executive Committee - National Conference of Deaconesses:

Chairman: Hilda Dieterly, Episcopal Home for the Aged, 206 E. Burd St.,

Secretary: Clara Searle, Box 273, Addyston Ohio (Shippensburg, Pa.)

Acting Treasurer: Evelyn E. Seymour, 714 No. 9th. St., Salina, Kansas

Executive Secretary: Ruth Johnson, Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Ave., N.Y. 25,
Frances Affleck, Lillian Crow, Olive Robinson, Edna Sargent, and Mary Truesdell

A REMINDER TO DEACONESSES N.B.

Please notify the Exec. Secy. immediately when you have had word of:

1. the death of a Deaconess
2. the serious illness of a Deaconess
3. the reception of a Deaconess Candidate.

Such information will be sent to all Deaconesses immediately so that our daily Intercessions may include the persons concerned. R.J.

(Because of illness this notice was not sent out as soon as received. Sorry)

Your prayers are asked for Amy G. Thompson who has suffered a stroke and is in St. John's Hospital, 480 Herkimer St., Brooklyn 13, N.Y. Dated April 21st.

Message from Hilda L. Dieterly, Chr.-
Quote from Lillian Crow, "This is indeed a crucial year for the deaconesses". I should like to ask you to make a very special effort to attend the meeting of the National Conference in Boston on Sept. 12th. We need the help of each and every one, your thoughts and ideas, and the inspiration of your presence. The ~~meeting in 1949 was well attended, also~~ the Annual Conferences since then. We hope to see many new faces, and many old friends in Boston. Please help with your prayers and your presence.

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSES

The Fund has had its best year financially. It has been possible to raise the allowances so that most of the beneficiaries receive fifty dollars a month. The gift of a substantial sum from the U.T.O. thru the National Woman's Auxiliary to be used for retired deaconesses is being used to supplement some allowances and to add one beneficiary. It enables the Directors to render much more comfort and security. Dss. Mary Tileston left a legacy of \$1,000., memorials have amounted to over \$700. and the general contributions have been about \$7,000. Effort is being made to have the Annual meeting in Boston this year instead of in New York, this giving more members of the Copp. a share in the management and the use of the Fund. More and more lay women are becoming interested and active in the Fund thru the efforts of the Laywoman's Comm. of which Mrs. Clifford P. Ladd is Chr. Interest in this Fund leads to interest in the Order, its Candidates, its Training Schools, and its Central House, and is bearing fruit as an educational campaign.

Mary C. West,

Secretary

Report of Olive M. Robinson: Chr. Hospitality Committee - Triennial Meeting

Entertainment for any deaconess who wishes it is being provided by the women of All Saints', Brookline. This Church is 15 minutes on the trolley from Park Street, center of Boston, the trolley going past the Church, where hostesses will meet us.

The parish will provide - free - room and breakfast for the duration of General Convention; also for our Conference on the 12th., breakfast and lunch at the parish house.

If you desire this hospitality, write to - The Rev. Junius J. Martin
All Saints' Church
1773 Beacon Street
Brookline, 46, Mass.

"Deaconess Hospitality" - put this notation in the lower left corner of the envelope.

State exact time of arrival and departure

THE EXHIBIT IN BOSTON

"Hope springs eternal", etc., because we anticipate receiving more negatives from more deaconesses when they sense the real urgency.

"With the Advisory Commission requesting U.T.O. funds to establish the Central House", we should plan our exhibit to provide not only information but inspiration and challenge.

The plan calls for enlarged prints. SEND more negatives or colored slides. We plan to use a projector. Colored slides may be sent directly to

Dss. Mary Truesdell
126 West 14th. Street., Davenport, Iowa
Negatives should be sent to
Dss. Ruth Johnson - in New York
All no later than June 1st.,

CHURCH TRAINING AND DEACONESS HOUSE, ST. MARY'S HOUSE, PHILADELPHIA DIVINITY SCHOOL

Beginning with the Fall Term, 1952, this House will unite with Windham House. Miss Cutler, now Head of the Philadelphia House will be Associate Director of Windham House, and teach classes in Religious Education at Union Theological Seminary. Conferences were held with the Dept. of Christian Education of the National Council, and with the Exec. Board of the W.A. with the result that it was not felt necessary to have two schools so near together on the east coast.

Pence Can Offering: Annunciation (1952)
Ingathering - total - \$120.00

* * * * *

.....
 DIVISION OF CHURCH WORK TRAINING IN
 DANIEL BAKER COLLEGE *Katharine Putnam:

Several students registered in the fall had to change their courses to meet graduation requirements. We now have three students, a Junior, a Freshman, and one registered for the special Two Year course, a deaconess candidate from Canada. There is a much better spirit evident this term - a more serious purpose - and the aims of the Division are now better understood in the College.

Two students and the Director attended a Retreat in Dallas, and were entertained by Deaconess Crow.

All members of the Department went to a nearby town when the Leadership Team from the Department of Christian Education of the National Church held sessions in our Diocese, and we had a special session on the work of the trained Church Worker.

For the summer Field Work, one will assist Deaconess Gladys Hall at Brownson Home. She is a graduate nurse and does not need the hospital training.

We have several registered for the Fall, but do send others.

I wish to express my thanks to all Deaconesses who have sent me books for our Library.

.....
 IN MEMORIAM

On Dec. 16, 1951, Deaconess Elwyn died at her home in Portsmouth, N.H. May her soul rest in peace, And let light perpetual shine upon her.

.....
 PLEASE NOTE: July 16th, Dss. A. Jpsephine Peterson Ø.

Please add to your anniversary Booklet Sorry this omission was made. E.B.S.

.....
 NEWS OF DEACONESSSES

As reported by Provincial Representatives
 1: Elizabeth H. Coe.

Dss. Lloyd, 51 Curve St., Wellesley, Mass. will send a copy of her poems to any one who writes to her.

2: Dorothea F. Betz.

On May 6, a bazaar was held in the undercroft of the Synod House on the close of the Cathedral. Proceeds to be used for the proposed Deaconess Central House.

3: Anne Newman:

Margaret Bechtol: In the Hospital there is always something going on or "out" - this time tonsils.. We are happy to have Pauline Watts, a deaconess candidate helping this year, and enjoyed having Dss. Gillespy in Washington this winter. Margaret Binns: Though retired, am at my old job of teaching Sunday School, and Bible classes in the Public Schools. Elizabeth Boorman: Tho' retired, I carry on the League of Intercessions for the W.A., mailing educational books, lists for prayers, and call on those living in town.

Dorothy Duffie: I live at our Diocesan Hospital, visiting the patients, and work at Trinity Church, Houndsville, W.Va. in the W.A., Church School, and Altar Guild. Madeline Dunlap: Dabney House and the Hospital are rejoicing in a Frigidaire for each, and for the House, a range and hot water heater, and a growing snowball which will soon buy a home freezer, new kitchen sink, and an addition to the hospital, a rolling stretcher, a delivery room, nursery, reception room.

Mary Sandys Hutton: Our "family" numbers nearly 1000.

Anne Newman: I've seen Edith Booth and Amelia Brereton and Margaret Binns. We have had a good winter. Each Friday night during Lent, we had a service in a different home. We will have some 1940 hymnals for Easter (evidently written some time ago - ye mineographer) One day Dss. Mayer went to Horton to bring a boy home from the Hospital; it snowed all day so boys club had a wonderful time. We were leaving for a teachers' meeting in Horton in the evening when word came that a neighbor had fallen on the ice and broken her hip. I drove to town to arrange for an ambulance (no telephone on our mountain). It seemed slippery but I was surprised next day to learn that a road dept. truck, at a curve I thought was rather bad, went off the edge and fell into the bushes below.

Elizabeth Newbold: I am now living in my 'own hired house' -- an apartment on the first floor to be exact -- and deeply grateful for the comfort. I still work with the W.A. in Philadelphia every Wed. Bertha Radford: My health is so improved I can get to Church on Sunday morning, but cannot walk across my yard.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, N.Y.

March 12, 1953

TO THE DEACONESSES:

It is my privilege and pleasure to present the name of another Deaconess Candidate: Ruth Colby (Mrs. James R.), accepted by Bishop Emrich on December 8, 1952.

Until formal instruction may be had at the Central House, Mrs. Colby, clergyman's widow, is studying under the direction of a chaplain. She is living with her married daughter at 264 North Main Street, Romeo, Michigan. Her two sons are away from home, one working in Detroit and the other studying for Holy Orders at Sewanee.

As a rector's wife, Mrs. Colby's activities in parochial organizations, summer camp, and Church School overflowed into community interests, - P.T.A., women's clubs, etc. The experience gained in her Church and community activities will provide a rich background for her future Deaconess work.

In your name I have welcomed Mrs. Colby assuring her of our prayerful good wishes that her "joy may be full."

CONCERNING THE THREE OTHER CANDIDATES:

Pauline E. Watts, 124 W. 91st St., New York 24, N.Y., has passed her canonicals. She will be Ordered late in April. (When the date is set, you will receive word.)

Edna McNeil Dietz, (Mrs.), 1901 W. Travis St., San Antonio 7, Texas, writes that she is recovering from a long-drawn-out bout with virus influenza. She expects to take the canonical examinations soon.

Phyllis Spencer, Gilmore House, 113 North Side, Clapham Common, London S.W. 4, England, will finish her two-years training in June. She expects to return to New York in August. After orientation in the fall she will be ready for the canonicals.

CONCERNING THE CENTRAL HOUSE:

Plans ARE materializing.

It is expected that by mid-April enough progress will have been made to permit official announcements.

RUTH JOHNSON
Executive Secretary

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

Diocesan House, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, N.Y.

To the Deaconesses:

August 9, 1952

Deaconess Robinson asks me to tell you that the only way to secure the proffered hospitality in Brookline is to write directly to the Rev. Junius J. Martin, All Saints' Church, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline 46, Mass. Your letter should state the time of arrival and departure and envelop should be marked "Deaconess Hospitality."

There seem to be conflicting reports as to the need of tickets for the Opening Service, UTO, etc. Deaconess Robinson has written to Boston about this. If tickets are needed and you wish to attend, please indicate this on the enclosed blank.

In Boston, Deaconesses are requested to register at their earliest convenience at our Deaconess Booth, #1 in Horticultural Hall. The National Conference is sharing this booth with the N.Y. School.

PROGRAM: All Saints' Church, Brookline, Sept. 12, 1952 Friday

7:30 - Holy Communion (Bishop Conkling, Celebrant - we hope)
Presentation of Triennial Offerings

- Breakfast

9:30 - 11:45 - Conference

Noon - Intercessions followed by Lunch

1:30 - Resume Conference

4:00 - Meeting of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses Corporation

Tentative: After a dinner somewhere in the neighborhood, return to the Parish House for an evening of sociability, a showing of THE DEACONESS STORY slides by Deaconess Truesdell, and an account of Deaconess Johnson's visit to the Deaconess House in England.

Ruth Johnson, Exec. Secy.

Cut off here (or copy on a postal card) and mail to:

Deaconess Dieterly, 206 East Burd Street, Shippensburg, Penna.

***** BY RETURN MAIL, PLEASE *****

I expect to attend the National Conference meeting in Brookline on Friday, Sept. 12th.

I wish to make reservations for breakfast: _____ yes _____ no
(Friday, Sept. 12th)

for lunch: _____ yes _____ no

There will be a charge for each meal.

Please put my name down for a ticket or tickets if they are needed: _____ yes _____ no

My address during General Convention will be: _____

Date:

Signature:

THE DEACONESS

RE Boston
1952

— ISSUED BY THE —

National Conference-Deaconesses of the Church

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman, MARGARET S. BECHTOL, 1147 15th Street, N.W., Wash. 5, D.C.

Secretary, EDITH BOOTH, St. Paul's Mission, Amherst, Virginia

Treasurer, EVELYN SEYMOUR, 714 No. 9th Street, Salina, Kansas

Executive Secretary, RUTH JOHNSON, 1047 Amsterdam Ave., New York 25, N.Y.

GILLESPIE, JANE ROBINSON, OLIVE M. SEYMOUR, EVELYN E.

RAMSAY, LYDIA A. SARGENT, EDNA M. TRUESDELL, MARY P.

Editor, JANE GILLESPIE, Field Place, RFD 1, Paradise Rd., Newport, R.I.

FEBRUARY, 1953

GREETING FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Dear Deaconesses:

January 28, 1953

It is a great privilege and a real responsibility to be chosen as your Chairman. Without your help, your prayers, I can do nothing but with your support and prayers, we can go forward together to unite our work for the Order.

There is much to do, the Central House, the recruitment of Candidates, the spread of the knowledge of the Order throughout the Church, the enrichment of our own spiritual lives through Intercession for each other and for the Church. May we truly pray "increase our faith, mellow our judgment, stir our zeal, deepen our affections."

Let us go forward, united, to do the work that lies ahead, that we may serve faithfully in God's Holy Church.

Faithfully yours,

MARGARET S. BECHTOL

NEWS FROM BOSTON, SEPTEMBER, 1952

All Saints' Church, Brookline, Massachusetts, was host to Deaconesses attending the General Convention of 1952. Facilities of Church and Parish House, including a delicious breakfast and luncheon, were given us for our National Conference, and delightful hospitality in private homes extended for our stay in Boston.

Conference Day, September 12, began with a Corporate Communion and prayers for members of the Order, living and departed. Bishop Conkling of Chicago, Chairman of the Advisory Commission on Deaconesses, was Celebrant, assisted by the Rev. Junius J. Martin, rector.

During breakfast, Bishop Conkling summarized briefly the work of the Advisory Commission during the past triennium. The main objective of the Commission is and has been to establish a center where the specialized type of training necessary for Deaconess Candidates could be given. An offer of cooperation from Daniel Baker

College, Brownwood, Texas, was accepted, and Deaconess Katharine Putnam, M.A. was placed in charge of a Department of Church Work Training, her salary being supplied from funds of the closed New York Training School. The approval of the House of Bishops was given to the plan to establish a Central House for Deaconesses at Evanston, Illinois, which would give a graduate training and would be a headquarters for the Order, and a place for devotional refreshment. Some funds have already been raised for this, and the National Church has voted the sum of \$7,500 per year for maintenance. It has been hoped that we might obtain a sizeable gift toward the purchase of a suitable house. (Later developments as to Daniel Baker College are recorded on page 9 of this issue.

The meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses was called to order at 9:30, Deaconess Hilda Dieterly, Chairman of the Executive Committee, presiding. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Chairman. Minutes of the last triennial meeting, 1949, having been published in The Deaconess and sent to all members, their reading was on motion of Deaconess Truesdell, omitted. Reports of officers and committees were read as called for, and are published in this issue. Final action was taken upon two amendments to By-Laws, proposed and favorably acted upon by the National Conference of 1949 at San Francisco.

The report of the Executive Secretary, the second item on the Agenda, furnished material for conference and discussion through much of the day, most time being given to questions 1 and 2 of this Report, but other topics being discussed later.

At 4 p.m. the National Conference recessed, to reassemble as the 25th Annual Meeting of the Corporation of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses. The holding of this meeting at this time and outside of New York City, had been carefully prepared for by legal procedure providing for a temporary amendment to the By-Laws, submitted to every deaconess for her vote by mail. The Report of the Secretary (elsewhere presented) read by Deaconess West and accepted with thanks, was followed by the election of Directors of the Retiring Fund. Mrs. Clinton P. Ladd, Chairman of the Laywomen's Committee of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses gave a stimulating account of her work of interesting lay-women in the promotion of the Retiring Fund. Appreciation and thankfulness were expressed for the two grants made by the United Thank-Offering - \$5000 in 1951, and from the United Thank-Offering of 1952, the gift of \$50,000 - the largest contribution ever received for the Capital Fund.

After the meeting of the Retiring Fund, the deaconesses again became the National Conference, and continued with various items of business through dinner served in the private dining-room of a near-by restaurant (arrangements made by the Deaconess Committee on Hospitality, Deaconess Robinson, Chairman) and also on our return to All Saints' Parish House.

Messages of thanks were voted to our host-parish, to Bishop Conkling, and to the many friends who had contributed time, money and service to our projects. A message was also sent to the deaconesses of the English Central House at Hindhead, on the 25th Anniversary of the House.

The final item of business was the report of elections to the Executive Committee: Votes cast, 67; declared elected, Margaret Bechtol, Edith Booth, Jane Gillespy, Lydia Ramsay. Vote of thanks to retiring officers; adjournment. During the evening Deaconess Johnson told of her visit to the English Deaconess House, and there was a showing by Deaconess Truesdell of the slides "The Deaconess Story."

Thirty Deaconesses from 23 Dioceses and Districts were present:

Robinson	- Western Michigan	Johnson, Ramsay	- New York
Hill	- South Dakota	C. Brown, McNulty, West	- New York
Reynolds	- Nevada	Byllesby (Pittsburgh)	- Florida
Swinburne	- Hawaii	Dieterly	- Harrisburg
Riebe (China)	- North Dakota	Dawson	- Philippines
Bradley, Parsons	- Chicago	Booth, Brereton	- S.W. Virginia
Phelps, Saunders	- California	Putnam	- Dallas
Seymour	- Salina	Searle	- Southern Ohio
Betz	- Long Island	Gillespy	- Rhode Island
Coe, Lovell	- W. Massachusetts	Truesdell	- Quincy
King	- South Dakota	M. Brown	- Arizona
G. Smith (New Mexico)	- S. Florida		

Deaconess Pennock of Massachusetts was registered, but was unable to be present for the meetings on September 12.

Mary P. Truesdell

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

The Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses has been very active during the past Triennium.

Seven meetings were held, four in 1950, which included two in Chicago, one in Salina, Kansas, and one in Racine, Wisconsin. In 1951 we held a meeting in Evanston, Illinois, and one in Washington, D.C. There was one meeting in Chicago in 1952. These meetings were all well attended, several deaconesses travelling long distances for each meeting.

At the meeting of the National Conference in San Francisco, it was suggested that we try out the idea of an Annual Conference, to be held in different parts of the country. We met in Racine, Wisconsin, in October, 1950 and in Washington, D.C. in September, 1951. No legislation is effected at these meetings.

We feel that they have been most successful and the attendance has been good. The Conference has been preceded by a Quiet Day or short Retreat and there was time for fellowship and a social time. Faces new to some of us appeared each time, and we were happy to become better acquainted.

At the Racine meeting it was proposed that we have a Pence can for the Deaconesses. This met with favorable response. Deaconess Taylor made the plans and put out the fliers and information. We are very grateful to her for her artistic work. We feel this has been very much worthwhile. At this meeting Deaconess Betz suggested that an opportunity be given all deaconesses to vote on important matters. Relatively few can attend the National Conferences and many consequently have no vote. She suggested that the Constitution be changed and the matter brought before National Conference in 1952. It was so voted.

Deaconess Truesdell arranged for the showing of the slides, "The Deaconess Story."

All deaconesses present were asked to make notes in detail and then to write personal letters to those who were absent, reporting to them and asking their cooperation in these matters. The list of deaconesses was read and all took a number of names. It is hoped that every deaconess received a letter. Seventeen deaconesses attended at least part of the Conference and we were much encouraged.

The second Annual Conference was held in Washington in September, 1951, with eighteen members present for part of the time. This was held at the College of Preachers and we felt honored to be guests in this beautiful place. The Conference was preceded by a Quiet Day and there was time for sociability afterward. Dr. Jesse Trotter and Mrs. H. C. Kelleran brought us up to date on the Religious Education Program of Dr. Heuss. The slides of "The Deaconess Story" were shown. One afternoon we enjoyed a wonderful tea at Episcopal Hospital, the guests of Deaconess Bechtol.

In 1950 we were very much encouraged by a proposal from Daniel Baker College in Brownwood, Texas. The Executive Secretary conferred with the authorities of the College. The Advisory Commission worked on the matter and the New York Training School for Deaconesses gave full cooperation. In the fall of 1951 the Department of Church Work Training for Deaconesses and Church Workers was opened. Now, one year has been completed. This fall there are four students, two of whom are prospective Deaconess Candidates. Deaconess Putnam is in charge of this Department.

Deaconess Hall sent us a most interesting report of a Deaconess Conference held at the time of the Synod meeting in San Antonio in 1951. In April of 1951 there was held in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, a Retreat and Conference for the deaconesses of the Third Province. Thirteen deaconesses enjoyed the hospitality of Trinity Church. This was a three day Conference. Deaconess Ranson works in this Parish.

The Executive Committee was instructed by the last National Conference

1. To determine ways and means of making permanent the office of Executive Secretary.

2. To look into the matter of training, the establishment of a Central House and the setting up of a permanent Deaconess Center.

As to the first instruction, we have been most fortunate in the services of Deaconess Ruth Johnson who has given unstintingly of her time and strength. She has done this without salary from the Order of Deaconesses. Words cannot express our thanks to her. The Committee on Budget and Promotion will require much further work on the subject of supporting the office of Executive Secretary.

The second instruction regards the setting up of a working Deaconess Center and Central House. This has been turned over to the Advisory Commission under the Chairmanship of Bishop Conkling. We hope to have a report on this subject. (p. 9)

There was a recommendation from the National Conference in 1949 that we develop a closer fellowship with one another through at-oneness with God. This resulted in the appointment of a Devotional Committee. This Committee worked for some time but was discharged in 1950, work to be discontinued for the present. A prayer was prepared and mailed to each deaconess.

Words cannot express my thanks and appreciation to all the members of the Executive Committee and to the Executive Secretary. They have given uncounted hours to the work of the Committee and travelled hundreds of miles to be present at meetings. It would have been impossible for the Chairman to have continued her duties without their loyal cooperation. And my sincere thanks to all the deaconesses who have answered our letters and appeals and assisted us by their prayers.

May God grant us continued years of service in His Name.

Respectfully submitted,
HILDA L. DIETERLY

FINANCES

I. Report of the Acting Treasurer, Deaconess Evelyn Seymour

1. October 15, 1949 to August 16, 1952. (Reported to Nat'l Conference, Sept. 12).

General Account

Balance on Hand, Oct. 15, 1949	\$ 170.25
Receipts, 1949 to Aug. 16, 1952:	

Dues	\$370.00	
Gifts	24.16	
Refunds	5.85	
Interest	1.42	
		<u>402.33</u>

Total Receipts	\$572.58
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Disbursements

Meetings	56.55	
The Deaconess printing	117.11	
Postage	50.77	
Miscellaneous	33.12	
Bank Chg., 1950	9.64	
		<u>267.19</u>
Cash and Bank Balance, Aug. 16, 1952		<u>305.39</u>

Emergency Fund

Balance on Hand, Sept. 23, 1949	329.00
Receipts, Jan., 1950	<u>50.00</u>
	379.00

Disbursements	314.00
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Balance, Aug., 16, 1952	<u>65.00</u>
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2. Supplementary Report, Jan., 1, 1953

Gen'l Account

Dues received, Aug. 16, 1952 to Jan. 1, 1953:	43.00
Reported as of Aug. 16, 1952	<u>305.39</u>
Total, Jan., 1, 1953	\$348.39

Emergency Fund

Previously reported	65.00
Triennial Offering (Boston & later)	<u>370.75</u>
	435.75

N.B.

Retiring Fund, Triennial Offering	313.27
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II. Reports from Executive Secretary, Deaconess Ruth Johnson

1. Budget and Promotion, 1949 to 1952	
1950 38 deaconesses contributed	807.00
1951 35 deaconesses contributed	784.00
1952 25 deaconesses contributed	676.00
	2267.00

N.B.

19 deaconesses contributed once	
15 deaconesses contributed twice	
17 deaconesses contributed all three years	
2. Balance reported to National Conference, Sept. 12, 1952	
Sept. 1, 1952 Gen'l Fund Bal. (i.e. funds contributed for maintenance of Training School, 1944-45)	\$2165.74
Deaconess Fund, Budget & Promotion	913.71
Dahlgren Fund (Savings Acct.)	2111.64
Savings Bond, redemptive value	20.87
	5211.96

III. Pence Cans Report, Deaconess Anna L. Ranson

July, 1951	100.00
October, 1951	120.52
Gift, Trinity Parish, Chambersburg	28.00
April, 1952	120.00
Sept., 1952	77.45
Total	445.77

N.B.

Next offering, Feast of the Annunciation, 1953

Notes

1. The By-Laws provide for a Secretary-Treasurer as one officer. For reasons of convenience and expediency the actual work of these offices was divided for the latter part of the last triennium, Deaconess Evelyn Seymour acting as *Treasurer*. This arrangement will be continued into the new triennium.
2. By-Laws paragraph 4 as amended by proposal at the Triennial Conferences of 1949 (San Francisco) and final vote at the Triennial Conference, 1952. *Dues shall be one dollar per year payable annually.*
3. *Notices of dues payable* shall be sent out in January; after each "triennial conference" a statement as to her account in regard to dues shall be sent to each deaconess. No receipt for payment of regular dues need be sent except by individual request.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR THE TRIENNium, 1949-1952

For the meeting of the National Conference at All Saints Church, Brookline, Massachusetts, on Friday, September 12, 1952.

This "report" will not follow the more or less set form usually written. For the Executive Committee the Chairman has reported on the doings of the past Triennium. I propose that you join me in looking forward. I propose that we get down to fundamentals as we "take counsel together concerning matters pertaining to the spiritual and practical welfare of the Order" which, according to the By-Laws, Art. 2, is the purpose of this National Conference.

From a number of listening-posts, I gather that the Order is being discussed pro and con in many circles. Our appeal for the Central House has raised a number of questions and our friends are troubled because they are at a loss how to answer them adequately. Deaconesses are too, I might add. I propose, therefore, to list some of these, not because you have not heard them, but because I am hopeful that the seriousness of the situation may be faced squarely and that a meeting of minds today may arrive at constructive conclusions.

1. The first is the oft repeated, "*Why be a Deaconess? There is nothing the Deaconess does that the trained worker cannot do.*" You and I know that what the Deaconess IS is of greater importance than what the Deaconess does. Having said that, one should be prepared to continue by explaining what is meant by "what a Deaconess IS."

Two Deaconesses, devoted in their service and in their loyalty to the Order, were recently confronted with that statement by two young women who had been urged by their Rectors to investigate the Deaconess Order. Each of these two Deaconesses

wrote me in consternation and dismay in effect, "I did not know what to say!" "I could not formulate a convincing statement!"

It is because this intangible is difficult to put into words that I feel we should devote some time to a discussion of it. New avenues of thought can be opened to us. The expression "Each Deaconess is a member of the Promotion Committee" can have no significant value unless each Deaconess has a positive and convincing answer to the recurring and insistent "There is nothing that the Deaconess does that the trained worker cannot do."

The work I have been privileged to do in the Order has made me acutely conscious of the problems involved in recruitment. I feel that it is imperative that we clear our individual thinking and that the consensus be put into printed form for distribution where it will do the most good. This "there is nothing that the Deaconess does that the trained worker cannot do" is at or very near the core of the recruiting problem. Facing it will take individual probing and may take courage. Facing it here and now can be a firm step forward. I have no intention of opening a discussion at this point but, for one silent moment, think what convincing answer You would give.

Facing this statement is frankly your responsibility. Turning it over to the Executive Committee for the Executive Committee to dispose of is, whether you like my saying so or not, evading the issue.

2. Another statement, more frequently heard in the form of a question, usually comes from the Clergy: "Why not go the 'whole way'?" Have you a satisfying reply?

3. I recommend next that you discuss or indicate in some way your reaction to the following. This is a matter that was brought up at the last meeting of the Executive Committee and referred to the Executive Committee to be newly organized after this meeting. It would facilitate the Executive Committee's disposition of it were the members to know your interest or lack of interest, your instructions, if any.

RESOLUTION formulated at the meeting of the Chapter of the Deaconesses of Province II on October 15, 1951:

There is need for terms to be defined and certain questions (below) to be answered for the Church by some well-known theologian (or theologians) and/or canonist. Therefore, be it resolved that the Executive Secretary present this need together with the notes on it to the Executive Committee with the request that they petition the Advisory Commission to have such a study made.

(N. B. Questions and notes are attached)

4. The next items I suggest for your consideration are more immediate and practical. The first concerns the office of Executive Secretary: *What responsibilities are to be placed in this office?* Details can properly be left to the Executive Committee. However I should remind you that the office is not part of our constitutional setup. It is filled by Executive Committee appointment. Since the Executive Committee is the body to act for and to carry out the instructions of the National Conference, it would not be amiss for you to discuss pro and con the continuation of the office.

In order that your thinking may be centered on the office rather than on the person to hold that office, let me preface my comments with the statement that my own incumbency ends with this meeting. So, with the office vacant, or about to be before the day is over, please consider the following: *Shall the office of Executive Secretary be continued?* If the consensus is "No", action should be taken on the disposition of the Deaconess Fund for Budget and Promotion set up to carry the expenses and business of that office. If the consensus is "Yes", I recommend a floor discussion, -

1) to review the purpose, activities, accomplishments and value of the office to date; and,

2) to try to determine how the Order can best use this office to promote its welfare and its future, - in short, *what shall be the duties of the Executive Secretary?*

5. If the office of Executive Secretary is to be continued, the National Conference should consider means of financing it, i.e. the *continued appeal for funds each year for the Deaconess Fund for Budget and Promotion.*

6. I want to question the *present form of the ballot* which has been in use for a long time. Voting by ballot is done in the interest of free expression under the cloak of anonymity. There are various schemes by which ballots received by mail are checked against an official list without divulging the secret ballot and yet preserving its anonymity.

Later today a Resolution will be presented in regard to an amendment to the By-

Laws which will involve voting by mail. I recommend therefore that you express opinions on this for the future guidance of the Executive Committee.

7. Your opinion on this: *Shall Deaconess Candidates be invited to attend our conferences, annual and triennial?*

8. I have been asked to include in this report the topic, *THE DEACONESS*, — our official news sheet or whatever it is supposed to be. Since a report by the Editor of *THE DEACONESS* will be presented later on, I shall do no more than to comply with the request to mention the topic.

I close as I began by referring to the By-Laws. I am hopeful that this National Conference will "... take counsel together concerning matters pertaining to the the spiritual and practical welfare of the Order" (Art. 2, PURPOSE) and that your deliberations may result in specific instructions to your Executive Committee whose duties "shall be ... to carry out its (National Conference) instructions and to act as a channel of communication." (Art. 7, DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE).

Respectfully submitted,
RUTH JOHNSON
Executive Secretary

Notes: Discussion, general and rather full, centered on question 1 and 2, with emphasis on "character" in the theological sense: not what the deaconess does but what the deaconess is; the offering of a life, and the acceptance of that life by the Church; "Grace in Orders." Implied at least is a question as to definition of "the whole way."

In connection with this discussion Deaconess Marian Brown, having asked for the floor, spoke with deep feeling of opportunities, often neglected, to emphasize Vocation to the deaconess — order among those with whom we come in contact, beginning with the very young. She contrasted our attitude with that of the Roman Church, in which even among children vocation is constantly suggested and looked for.

It was the feeling of the meeting (if not in the technical use the "sense of the meeting") that some answer to these questions should be *formulated* and that this reply be printed for wide distribution. Deaconess Johnson suggested the need for two pieces of information (1) The two-page folder containing general information and for general distribution among Church people; (2) A clear, concise statement especially for the use of deaconesses, formulating answers to questions 1 and 2.

Referred to the Executive Committee as a definite task to be undertaken on behalf of the National Conference.

Question 3. The above discussion was felt to lead toward action less formal and academic than that proposed by the Resolution of the Deaconesses of Province II, quoted in this Report; and there was no official action on that Resolution.

Questions 4 and 5, regarding the office of *Executive Secretary*. There was complete agreement that the office of Executive Secretary must be continued, even if changing conditions should change the character and details of her work in ways that cannot now be determined. There was also complete and enthusiastic agreement that the present Executive Secretary should continue in office.

Question 6. Form of Ballot: After discussion of the unusual requirement in our National Conference that ballots (for members of the Executive Committee) should be *signed*, and suggestions as to various methods followed by other organizations to insure "secret ballot" and at the same time check our voting-list, it was left to the next Nominating Committee to arrange a form or method which should meet these two requirements.

Note: The By-Law referred to as coming up for discussion (Subject: Voting by Mail) originally suggested to the Conference of September 13, 1951 in Washington, D. C. was not *definitely formulated* for this Triennial Conference, and was therefore not acted upon.

Question 7. Deaconess Candidates to be invited to meetings of National Conference.

Negative Vote. It was, however, felt that there might be special meetings of the Conference, or group-meetings of deaconesses to which candidates might be invited.

Question 8. "*The Deaconess*". Discussion of this topic, precipitated rather early in the Conference, had involved questions of expense in relation to frequency of publication, form, printing, editorship, etc. *Final decision:* At least one issue in triennium should be printed, following the National Conference meeting: to present and preserve the reports of the Conference, etc., in form adapted to permanent filing, and also to distribution to ecclesiastical authorities and organizations as well as

among the deaconesses. Decision as to other issues during the triennium rests with the Executive Committee, who shall also elect or appoint the editor.

Note: Notices of particular importance to the Order (deaths, serious illnesses, acceptance of new candidates, etc.) have since September, 1951, been sent by post-card to all deaconesses immediately upon receipt of such news.

Please send all such items promptly to Deaconess Booth, Secretary

During the past year Deaconess Seymour has given "emergency relief" by sending out these notices. She has also, as we all know, given much voluntary secretarial assistance, notably in preparing the revised Anniversary list. All of this is greatly appreciated.

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

Publicity; Deaconess Truesdell: The Publicity Committee prepared the text and colored slides entitled, "The Deaconess Story" and has promoted their loan use. A revised picture leaflet, a booklet on Vocation, and a larger booklet, "The Deaconess Office and Ministry" has been printed, the last being just off the press for General Convention.

Promotion; Deaconess Ramsay: The New York Training School for Deaconesses shared with the National Conference of Deaconesses the exhibit booth in Horticulture Hall, Deaconess Ramsay and Deaconess Johnson being responsible for the arrangement of exhibits. Largely through the capable work of Mr. Ted Gannaway of New York, we had an effective exhibit. Three large lighted transparencies showed Deaconesses; In Educational work, Among the Indians, In Town and Country. An automatic slide projector flashing a selection of slides, and three books of large photographs made an interesting visual appeal. A Visitors' register recorded old and new friends and much literature was given out, many questions answered. — Also near-by booths, not of the National Conference, showed Deaconesses at work for their own special fields — a valuable unofficial supplement to "Publicity and Promotion": Deaconesses Edith Booth and Amelia Brereton selling the handwork of Southwestern Virginia missions, and Deaconess Marian Brown in the Navajo Indian Booth.

"Promotion must go on simply and regularly as soon as we know the future plans."

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

The meeting of the Corporation of The Retiring Fund held in Brookline, Massachusetts, on September 12, 1952, was the Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting and the only one held outside of New York. Thirty deaconesses were present.

The review of the first twenty-five years given by the secretary brings out some interesting statistics. Twenty-seven deaconesses have been Directors, eight of whom became Presidents. There have been only three treasurers, Deaconess Edith C. Smith, General Edmund Beckwith, and Joseph P. Smyth, Jr., Esq. One secretary has served the entire time, Deaconess Mary C. West. There were two Field Secretaries, Deaconess Chappell and Deaconess Phelps. The Laywoman's Committee has had three chairmen, Mrs. Florentine Goodrich, Mrs. Goodrich Fenner, and Mrs. Clifford P. Ladd.

The number in the Corporation, which includes every deaconess, has dropped from 222 to 125. The Fund has had thirty beneficiaries, some of them getting only temporary assistance. Thirteen have died. Allowances which began at \$180 a year have been gradually increased and now range from \$300 per year to \$1200 per year. The total paid to beneficiaries in the past year was \$7,815.

Capital and income have steadily increased. Starting with \$.25, the Treasurer reports the capital on July 31, 1952, as \$202,000.00. This is made up of one piece of real estate and the rest in securities. There have been hundreds of contributions, large and small, and many bequests. Memorials are recorded in The Memorial Book. During the past year contributions amounted to \$9,152 and bequests to \$1,108, a total of \$10,260. A gift of \$5,000 given from the United Thank Offering has been followed in October, 1952, by a gift of \$50,000, also from the United Thank Offering.

The Directors elected in September, 1952, for the coming year are:

President	Deaconess Hilda Dieterly
Vice-President	Deaconess Gertrude Stewart
	Deaconess Amelia Brereton
	Deaconess Elizabeth G. Newbold
	Deaconess Ruth M. Parsons
	Deaconess Lydia A. Ramsay
	Deaconess Ruby H. Thomson
Secretary	Deaconess Mary C. West, ex officio
Treasurer	Mr. Joseph P. Smyth, Jr.
Chairman	Laywoman's Committee, Mrs. Clifford P. Ladd

Mary C. West
Secretary, ex officio.

N.B. The offering for the Retiring Fund, Triennial Conference, was \$313.27

THE ADVISORY COMMISSION (GENERAL CONVENTION) ON DEACONESSSES

Special Meeting, House of Bishops, January 9, 1951, Church of St. Clement,
El Paso, Texas.

Report of the Advisory Commission presented by Bishop Conkling of Chicago, included the plan to establish a House at Daniel Baker College, Brownwood, Texas, with a field worker provided by grant of the New York Training School for Deaconesses, and to secure candidates; and also a plan to establish a Central House for post-college training, with a plan to raise \$50,000.

Resolution adopted on motion of the Bishop of Chicago: The House receives the Report and gives approval and blessing to the plan presented. (pp. 56, 57, Journal etc. of General Convention, 1953.)

General Convention, Boston, Mass., 1952.

Report presented to House of Bishops on second day of Convention, September 9, 1952 by the Bishop of Chicago on whose motion the following resolution was adopted;

Resolved: The house records its approval and support of the plan of the Advisory Commission to establish a Central House for Deaconesses and commends its support. (p. 24, Journal)

The report of financial problems, property available for purchase, etc., (p. 335 Journal) asked that an item of \$10,000 a year for the maintenance of such a House be included in the Budget for the next triennium. The Committee on Budget and Program included, in the program adopted, the sum of \$7,500 per year for the three years of this triennium for the maintenance of the Central House.

CLOSING OF DANIEL BAKER COLLEGE

on February 1, 1953 (Living Church, January 25, 1953 - p. 6.)

"A release from the College says: 'Increasing difficulty in meeting the pay-rolls of the faculty convinced the Board that the college could no longer operate without injustice to creditors, faculty and students.' "

This closing is necessarily disturbing to plans and hopes for successful development of the Church Work Department and Deaconess Training that has been begun at Daniel Baker under Deaconess Katharine Putnam; but the change has not been made without warning; and some plan will be put into effect for the carrying on of such training.

NECROLOGY

Between the Triennial Conference of September, 1949 and that of September, 1952, twenty deaconesses have ended their life of service here; and since the Triennial Conference in Boston, another name has been added to this list. Deaconess Muriel Thayer, November 5, 1952. Of the complete list, twenty-one names, which follows, the first four, having died before the 1950 issue of *The Deaconess* have already been listed in that publication.

Since Triennial Conference of September, 1949,

Zulma Bispham
Kate Sibley Shaw
Theodora Beard
A. Grace Cox
Harriet C. Hyde
Helen P. Lane
Mary Tileston
Katrina L. Patterson
Margaret S. Peet
Mary T. Patterson
Julia E. Stephenson
Rachel O. Hemphill
Anne Kathleen Thompson
Julia A. Clark
Mary S. Johnson
Agnes A. Howell
Emily Morse Elwyn
Amy G. Thompson
Helen Withers
Margaret Peppers
Muriel A. Thayer

MISCELLANEOUS

Bequest of Deaconess Muriel Thayer

(condensed from "Episcopal Church News", January 4, 1953)

Deaconess Thayer died November 5, 1952 after a short illness. She left her eyes to Stanford University Hospital Eye Clinic. Within twenty-four hours a sixty-two year old man, totally blind for thirty years, brought by plane from Arizona, was on the operating table at Stanford. The sight of the operated eye was restored. The man has been a Counsellor to the Blind in Arizona. A 45 year old longshoreman, who had lost the sight of one eye, had that restored also. It was after helping a patient to undergo a corneal transplant operation that Deaconess Thayer — and her sister also — decided that upon their deaths their eyes should go to Stanford.

Muriel Thayer, Deaconess, Born in San Francisco in 1890; graduated from St. Margaret's House, Berkeley, in 1919; worked in Good Samaritan Mission, San Francisco for two years; at St. John's in the Wilderness, Allakaket, Alaska for three years; returned in 1924 for Mission work in California. She was buried from All Souls' Church, Berkeley, California, November 7. Deaconesses Saunders, Drake and Dawson attended the funeral.

UNITED NATIONS.

From Deaconess Charlotte Boyd.

"Could deaconesses become interested in the United Nations?"
Specific suggestion: Visit the Meditation Room in the U.N. Building for prayer for the United Nations.

- (1) New York deaconesses regularly once a month (or oftener)
- (2) Visiting deaconesses — when in New York.
- (3) Other deaconesses remember the U.N. regularly in their prayers.

A possible "fellowship of prayer" for this? If interested, write to Deaconess Charlotte Boyd, 122 East 82nd Street, New York.

"*The Quality of Mercy*" is the caption given by the Washington Post of February 1 to a more than half-page picture of Deaconess Hilda Dieterly smiling at a very young and temporarily unhappy baby at the House of Mercy, Washington, D.C. Deaconess Dieterly is to be installed on February 10 as head of this Home for unmarried mothers and their babies.

Excerpt from letter received from Deaconess Mayer in October, (1952)

"You have no idea how grateful I am for the many letters and cards I received from many of the deaconesses while I was in the hospital. I am certainly hoping to answer some of them personally, but am afraid that I will not be able to acknowledge

each one. Will you put a little note of appreciation in the next publication of the Deaconess? I know that the Grace of God, the prayers of my many friends and the excellent care I received from the doctors and at the hospital have brought me again on the road of health, and I am deeply thankful. I will not return to St. John's until the first of the year, then I trust I will be able to resume my regular duties. The infection I had, had results similar to polio, so have had to learn to walk again but there is daily improvement and now I can walk quite a distance."

Home Address, 1904 Delaware Avenue, Jasper, Alabama

Working Address, 216 Perry St., Montgomery 5, Alabama

COLLECT FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF A DEACONESS

(Written by the Rev. H. R. Bennett, D.D. with whom Deaconess Ward worked in Christ Church, Williamsport, Pa.)

O Lord, Whose Apostles of old chose holy women to minister in the office of Deaconess, We thank Thee for the service in Thy Church of all women, especially Deaconess_____, the anniversary of whose setting apart we now commemorate; and we pray Thee that Thou wilt continue Thy blessing upon her ministry, so that she may win with Thy servants everywhere the joy of work well done: Who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

A Letter from Mary Frances Ward, St. Luke's Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona.

Deaconess Ward Conducts the Arizona Church School by mail — 90 pupils, 50 families in isolated areas. She carries on a "business" of a "gift shop" nature, from her hospital bed, the proceeds going to the hospital, as payment or as gift.

Dear Deaconess:

Arizona is a great land of sunshine and there is warmth of friendships here too; and here I have found the loveliness of going apart and being with Christ. To you I say, I was utterly stripped of everything like home, family, financial security, strength to work and, yes, even to care for myself. This all had to be provided by others! It had to be this way or I would have clung to my sense of pride and self-sufficiency. God's way was best. Here in this once strange land I found sweet companionship with Christ and when I was tempted to despair there was His arm underneath supporting me. Always His strength remained for my need was great.

Last week the physical therapist was heard to say that never in her seventeen years of experience had she seen a person so completely weakened with arthritis, almost helpless; yet she feels truly that strength is returning, muscle-power is being built up, and — yes, she said it — with all her heart she feels I will walk again.

God grant, dear sister-Deaconesses, that this may be so.

Deaconess Ward writes of her closeness to us all in this past year with letters from deaconesses far and near, and visits also — not only from our own number (Deaconesses Ruth Johnson, Carter, Edith Adams, Marian Brown, Booz, Allen), also a deaconess from the United Lutheran Church, a Methodist Deaconess, recently one from the Congregational Church. — On All Saint's Day, her Anniversary, several hospital friends came to her room at 7:30 for a beautiful service of Holy Communion.

"Publicity." The Executive Committee asks that all deaconesses will habitually carry with them some leaflet or brief statement about the Deaconess Order which may be given to anyone who inquires about the Order, supplementing or reinforcing any oral answers to questions.

Deaconesses are also asked always to make some mention of the Order when they give reports of their own work, and to have literature on hand at any Church meeting they may address or attend. For such literature please write either to Deaconess Booth (Secy.) or Deaconess Seymour, well in advance of the meeting, giving the date of the gathering, and the number of copies desired.

Photographs of the Deaconess Conference in Brookline, Sept. 12, taken on Deaconess Parson's camera, and enlarged to 5" X 7", may be obtained from Deaconess Truesdell, 126 W. 14th Street, Davenport, Iowa. The camera of the commercial photographer was out of order. The photographs are offered free, with the understanding that a contribution will be made to the Budget and Promotion Fund instead of payment. The commercial charge would be about fifty cents per photograph.

"Composition Cuffs" have been asked for. Deaconess Truesdell supplies the firm name: Parsons and Parson, 413-415 Huron Road, Cleveland 15, Ohio. She also suggests that these cuffs are inflammable and should not be worn near a flame.

DEACONESSSES THERE AND HERE

Please, note that if a deaconess has changed her field of work, her address should be changed in our general directory.

Mabel Adams, The Leamy, Roumfort Avenue, Philadelphia 19, Pa.

"My 'doings' are practically *nil* but I am as much interested as ever in everything concerning our 'Order'. May God bless every effort made for the training of women in the Church."

Anna Rebecca Armstrong, St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N.Y., We are the only house given (by will) to the Order and used for a rest and Retreat house as well as a "home". Our House Chapel is a great comfort and help. There the Blessed Sacrament is reserved and there daily Offices are said.

Evelyn Ashcroft (Philippines) who substituted for the Sisters of St. Mary while they were absent on furlough has been assigned by Bishop Binsted to the Mission of St. Michael and All Angels in Tadian, Kayan, Mt. Province. Her full report of a Retreat for Women at Sagada, September 30 - October 3 makes our oneness in faith and in worship seem very true.

Margaret Booz, St. Anne's Mission, El Paso, Texas - wrote in August of being in the new Church (completely air-conditioned) and ready to begin work in early September, with week-day Religious Education, from Grade 1 through 6, kindergarten classes, clubs for boys and girls. The program may have had "to be revised somewhat, as the week-day instruction means much taxi work gathering children from five different schools and returning them to their homes." **Celia Brown** joined her at St. Anne's as a worker, on February 1.

Agnes Bradley, Evanston, Illinois, Director of Religious Education, St. Mark's. Recently served as Registrar for the School of Religion of the Council of Churches (Evanston).

Mary L. Dawson (Philippines) was due to return to her station in Upi, Mindanao, in January.

Heath Dudley, Mt. Sinai, L.I., N.Y. - As a tertiary of the Order of St. Francis it has been a joy to serve for the past year as acting Guest Mistress in the new Guest House of the Poor Clare's.

Dorothy Duffie, Glendale, W. Va., Her chief work is in the small parish at Moundsville, W. Va.; but she lives in the near-by hospital where she does some work among the patients and helps the Rector with the weekly services for the School Practical Nurses - "The only such school in W. Va."

Harriet English and Grace Smith, living in Winter Park, Florida, keep up their active interest in missionary work. They have had with them this winter an old friend, Mrs. Keeley, formerly on the Board of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Mary Sandys Hutton, Stanley, Va. "Well, happy, busy in the mission entrusted to me, and only wish I were twins". (This seems a modest wish when one reads the list of Christmas activities, including the distribution of 900 Christmas gifts.)

Dellema King, still doing a valiant work with the Indians in South Dakota - and happy in it - was in Boston for the General Convention, and in Brookline for our National Conference there.

Kate Mayer, for whose recovery from some mysterious crippling virus impression we prayed long, brought assurance and happiness to the friends to whom she sent her own Christmas Prayer, ending

"His changeless love burned with a flame undimmed,
In prayer and service,
Through the many friends who made the travelling light,
So at this Christmastide
I raise my heart to Him in thanks
For my dear friends."

She was expecting to go back, at the New Year, to her work in Montgomery, Ala.

Suzanne McNulty, 2914 Broadway, New York - is a very active and happy resident of St. Luke's Home. She has been assisting in the (Sunday) Church School at the Cathedral, as Secretary and Treasurer, and gave a short course on Altar Guild work for students at Windham House.

Anne Newman, St. Paul, Va., apparently gets a little time for letters when storms and bad roads interfere with projected work-trips, as for instance, 'planning to go in the station-wagon to a Religious Education meeting in Norton. But it was snowing and so icy that we couldn't stay on the road, so we kept on for a mile, then came back to Grace House.' - As correspondent for Province III she reports that "Deaconess Adwen wrote a nice letter last year when she was 92. Said she was not able to travel but enjoyed getting letters".

Ethel Percy - came to St. Clare's House in September 'while chrysanthemums were still blooming in the garden, and helped eat the Concord grapes, a real treat after southern California.' She keeps "contentedly busy with some housework, reading, writing and needlework," and goes to Red Hook with others of the household one afternoon a week when the Rector has the children in three groups on 'released time'. She does not mention a bad fall on the ice, and a broken shoulder as result; but she was away from the House for only a week and is reported as 'very gallant about it.'

Bertha Radford, Lynchburg, Va. "Insufficient strength, for years, to join in Church activities - for more than two months unable to attend a Church service; but "in heart, soul and mind with you devotedly. May all God's richest, most abundant blessings be upon the Deaconess Order and accomplishment."

Elsie Riebe, Listed Jamestown, N. D., but always of course essentially China, is heard of from different and distant parts of the country, making her missionary appeals, with contagious conviction.

Evelyn Seymour, Salina, Kansas - St. Faith's House. Christian Social Relations Chairman for the District W. A.; Church School by Mail in the District; Study Chairman for local Woman's Auxiliary, with four study groups, and a leadership training group; member of the Evening Group; member of choir, with help of junior girls, cares for the brasses in the Cathedral; was General Chairman (1952) of the Salina Christmas Service Bureau set up to channel Christmas giving; now on a committee of the Council of Social Agencies to investigate possibilities of a Social Service Exchange.

Clara H. Simpson, St. Clare's House, "Just to let you know I am enjoying good health and a house full of deaconesses. We talk and laugh and weep and pray and love each other."

Sarah Swinburne made a long journey to be present in Boston for the General Convention, and was at our National Conference day in Brookline. She has returned to her work in Honolulu.

Eleanor P. Smith, Elgin, Illinois. Devotional Secretary of the Diocese, travelling about to address groups of Churchwomen. Conducting a School of Prayer for women at the Bishop McLaren Foundation, meeting one day a month, September 1952 through April, 1953.

Ethel Spencer, Victoria, Texas, badly crippled by arthritis, is able to bear long drives to Church meetings, and gives Quiet Days and Meditations through that Convocation of the Diocese of West Texas. This is a great joy to her.

Helen Taylor. Assistant to the Rector, and Director of Christian Education, Church of our Saviour, Elmhurst, Ill. - her first parish work since her first assignment, in the Diocese of Chicago. Very happy, and "doing a fine piece of work".

Maria P. Williams sends her *change of address* to 518 Washington Street, Lynchburg, Va.

Retired?

("Being retired does not mean being lazy!" Deaconess Stewart)

Gertrude Stewart, The Leamy, Philadelphia, Various volunteer jobs; one day a week in Department for Incurables, Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia (tenth year); one

day a week in parish church - a service, then sewing for missions and hospitals, and at times study-classes; several volunteer duties at The Leamy also.

Margaret Binns, Nora, Va. "Technically retired". Bible classes in three schools, music lessons, Sunday School, Young People's work, arrangements for Church Services, etc. Sister Brooks of Church Army is working with Deaconess Binns.

Anna L. Ranson, Chambersburg, Pa., Christmas Tableaux, given beautifully by 38 children of the Church School; now busy with Baptisms and 9 Confirmation Candidates, as a substitute for the Rector, who has been ordered to take a rest. A Church School project is the setting up of Box Gardens to illustrate Bible lessons - many of the 'properties' ferreted out from "5 and 10 cent" stores.

Anne Gilliland, Salina, Kansas, Leader of the Intercessory Group of the parish Woman's Auxiliary and Devotional Chairman. Has little reading parties for children at the local library "almost every day in the week"; goes to homes of sick children; her latest project, reading to some spastic children.

Mary L. Saunders, has just retired after 32 years on the Staff of St. Mark's, Berkeley, Calif. (Note: If the list of Deaconesses of the 8th Province which she sent to the Editor is typical of the 32 years' work, St. Mark's has suffered tremendous loss in her retirement!)

GROUP GATHERINGS

The Chicago Chapter of Deaconesses includes five on the City Missions Staff - Edna Sargent, Clara Orwig, Ruth Parsons, Dorothy Weaver, Grace Wilson - besides the three in parish or Chicago Diocesan work, and also keeps as associate members Hilda Donsing and Dellema King, these last two, too distant to attend Chapter meetings. The Chicago deaconesses have an annual Retreat in October at Racine. In November Bishop Conkling was the guest at a luncheon - meeting at Deaconess Bradley's house, Evanston, and talked of matters of interest and importance to the Order, including an account of General Convention, hopes and plans for a Central House, etc.

"On Dec. 16th four deaconesses on the West Coast had a Devotional Day in San Francisco, Dss. Phelps of Carmel, Dss. Drake of San Francisco, Dss. Saunders of Berkeley and Dss. Dawson (on furlough from Philippines). The Rev. Peter Farmer celebrated the Holy Communion and gave a beautiful meditation. A friend provided us with lunch at the Fairmont Hotel. In the afternoon we had ourselves as leaders of discussion and devotions in the Diocesan House. It was both happy and helpful."

Mary E. S. Dawson, Deaconess

St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N.Y., now has five deaconesses on its list - A. Rebecca Armstrong, Alice Nutter, Ethel Percy, Clara Simpson, Anne Tucker.

The New York Chapter held a supper - meeting as a *farewell to Celia Brown*, leaving New York on February 1 to join Margaret Booz at St. Anne's Mission, El Paso, Texas. The gathering was smaller than planned, because of the incidence of 'flu', but just as the group were going out for supper they were joined by the deaconess-candidate, *Pauline Watts*, arriving from Washington.

At Grace House, St. Paul, Va., 9 mission workers met for a week last summer, for a Red Cross class led by an instructor from Alexandria. Five of these were deaconesses: Margaret Binns, Edith Booth, Amelia Brereton and Anne Newman and Alice Mayer, resident workers. In five days, Monday through Friday, they completed 30 hours of instruction and practice-teaching and all 9 have their certificates as instructors. Work, worship, fellowship combined.

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Province I, Deaconess Coe has asked to be relieved of this work and Deaconess Betz has consented to add it to

Province II, Deaconess Dorothea Betz, 93-41 - 222nd Street, Queen's Village, N.Y.

Province III, Deaconess Anne Newman, Grace House, St. Paul Rt. 1, Va.

Province IV, Deaconess Bedell has been listed for this Province.

Deaconesses English and Smith (Grace) though still, by request of Bishop Stoney, canonically connected with New Mexico and S. W. Texas, have sent a list of the deaconesses listed in Prov. IV (Most of them "retired").

Provinces V and VI, Deaconess Edna Sargent, 212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7

Province VII, Deaconess Gladys Hall, Brownson Home, Victoria, Texas

Province VIII, Deaconess Booz having removed from Prov. VIII, Deaconess Mary L. Saunders, 2952 Regent Street, Berkeley 5, Calif. asked to send lists and news items, responded promptly and most helpfully.

The Deaconess

issued by

NATIONAL CONFERENCE — DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Margaret S. Bechtol

Secretary: Edna McNeil Dietz

Treasurer: Evelyn E. Seymour

Executive Secretary: Ruth Johnson

Deaconess-in-charge of Central House (ex officio): Edith A. Booth

Jane B. Gillespy, Lydia A. Ramsay, Olive M. Robinson, Edna
M. Sargent, Mary P. Truesdell

DECEMBER, 1954

This edition of THE DEACONESS has been made possible only by the prompt and great help given by all who were asked to contribute. Because of expense and space much fine material had to be deleted, for which we ask your forgiveness. We hope the issue is worthy of the past files and that it will give to those who were not present a picture of what really happened and what was accomplished. To those who were present we hope that we have painted a true picture.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,
Edna McNeil Dietz, Deaconess
Editor

IN MEMORIAM

During this year three deaconesses have entered into eternal life:

Helen Hill, January 5

Katherine E. Wood, February 6

Amelia Propper, November 20

*Rest Eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
And let Light perpetual shine upon them.*

THE TEA, OCTOBER 26, 1954, 4 P.M.

Our visit to The Central House began at a tea provided by the Deaconess-in-charge, with Bishop and Mrs. Street and several clergy and friends as guests. It was a delightful occasion and gave us all an opportunity to renew old acquaintances as well as welcome the new deaconesses. For those of us, who were trained at St. Faith's House, it brought back many happy memories of our regular tea times there.

—Agnes Bradley

DEDICATION OF THE LIBRARY AND CHAPEL

On Tuesday, October 26, 5:30 P. M., in the warmth and joy of meeting one another again, nineteen deaconesses with friends and neighbors, and their warden, the Rev. R. K. Yerkes and other members of the clergy—the Rev. Geo. Heald, Rev. Frank Weichlein, Rev. C. A. Grier, Rev. Paul D. Emenheiser—gathered for the blessing of the Library and St. Phoebe's Chapel.

The Rt. Rev. Charles L. Street officiated. The service began with the singing of Hymn 370—"Spirit divine, attend our prayers." The Library was blessed first. The Bishop then consecrated the Chapel and blessed the furnishings and appointments. The altar was blessed and the stone anointed. During the singing of the TE DEUM, Deaconesses Booth and Trusdell vested the altar. Then the linens were blessed, the chalice and paten blessed and anointed, the other Communion vessels blessed, together with the silver vases, full of white chrysanthemums, and the silver altar cross.

—Ruth Colby

THE CHAPEL

While the McLaren Center has a beautiful St. Alban's Chapel which deaconesses may use, it was felt that The Central House for Deaconesses should have a small Chapel or Oratory in its own building, for the saying of family prayers, daily offices, intercessions, and meditation. The consensus of opinion preferred a chapel, in order that Holy Communion might be celebrated on special occasions and at times when St. Alban's Chapel was being used for other groups.

The Executive Committee meeting at Central House in 1953, voted to set up the chapel, appropriating money needed to accomplish this from a fund raised in former years in memory of Deaconess Romola Dahlgren. The altar and moveable appointments were to be the permanent property of the National Conference of Deaconesses. A committee was appointed consisting of Deaconesses Gillespy, Robinson, Sargent, with Deaconess Truesdall, chairman.

Correspondence, many meetings in Sycamore and Chicago, consultations with the Bishops, clergy, deaconesses and Deaconess-in-Charge, and with the Church Furniture Company, over a period of months, finally crystallized into definite plans. The result was the choosing of a room with an alcove, whose wall was covered with a dossal of deep Burgundy red velour. Against this is

set an altar of oak, with a low gradine, and finished in a warm gray. The altar is simple in design, with only a recessed I H S carved in the center of the base. The mensa contains in its center an altar stone of gray-white marble marked with five crosses. The mensa extends three inches over the altar base on front and sides, to give adequate working space without making the altar appear too bulky for the small room. The altar cross, candlesticks, vases and missal stand are of silver. The prayer desk and chair are of wood similar to the altar. The chapel chairs, given by Bishop Conkling, are being refinished to match. The walls of the Chapel are of a medium green-gray; the carpet is a neutral shade of dark beige. Three metal floor lamps provide excellent indirect lighting. The entrance doorway is marked on the hall side with a black cross, and the wooden door to the room has been replaced by a swinging red velour curtain. The Dahlgren Fund took care of all these expenses and also provided a chalice, paten, bread box, lavabo basin, cruets, and white burse and veil made by the Chicago Altar Guild.

The Altar Book, Bible, Prayer Books and Hymnals were given in memory of Deaconess Susan T. Knapp. The altar linen was given by Miss Mary Moore of Davenport, Iowa, in memory of her father, William R. Moore. A filet lace superfrontal of simple design was crocheted by Mrs. Charles Petskeyes of Davenport in memory of her husband. Mrs. Petskeyes also made matching lace for the ends of the fair linen and gave invaluable help in making up the linens.

Further plans call for a credence table, a kneeling bench for the front row of chairs, book racks for the backs of the chairs and a few other items to be given as memorials.

—Mary P. Truesdell

THE LIBRARY

As you enter the front door of The Central House, the room just to your right is one of the loveliest rooms in the House. It is the Library. Light birch bookcases line two walls of the room; the chairs and table are of black walnut; a brown leather armchair fits into a corner just right for reading, and deep maroon lamp shades against the soft green walls cast a warm glow over the room and the soft gray rug. It is a room in which to study, or just to sit and be quiet. This beautiful room has been furnished by a friend of deaconesses. Mrs. Robert White of West Cheshire, Connecticut, has known and loved the deaconesses who have worked in New Haven, Connecticut: Deaconess Ruby Thomson, and the late Deaconess Mary Johnson. When she wished to give something in memory of her father, Frederick Charles Zobel, she asked if she might place such a memorial in The Central House. It was her joy to furnish the Library. To Mrs. White, we are deeply indebted for a beautiful and useful room, which will mean much to the future life of the House and the Order.

—Edith A. Booth

NOTES ON THE RETREAT

Conductor: The Rev. R. K. Yerkes, STD, PhD, ThD, Chaplain of the Bishop McLaren Center, and Warden for The Central House for Deaconesses.

In music, it is the business of the orchestra to interpret a composer's composition to the audience; in science, it is the teacher who interprets the results of the scientist's labor to others. So, in religion, there must be those who interpret the ideal of the Christ life to others. It is the contemplatives of the religious orders, withdrawn from the world, who, through prayer, meditation, and contemplation come to understand the ideal of the Christ life, which needs to be interpreted to all kinds of busy people. The hope is that by interpreting it to people, some may be drawn to embrace it, and through a transformation of character, to lead the Christ life. The deaconess is one of the interpreters of the Christ life, using three ways: through adoration and worship, through the activities of the mind, and through personal example. These methods of interpretation are a peculiar activity which cannot be done by the Religious Orders, or the secular trained social worker. Even the priest is frequently hampered from doing it. It is the vocation of the woman who wants to give her life to receiving the ideal of the Christ life and interpreting it to all walks of life.

One of the great functions of the Christ life is to participate in the purposefulness of God. What does God want? We actually contribute to bring about what He wants, as, in the Lord's Prayer, "Hallowed by Thy Name." In our hands lies the frustration of this petition. We are to forward it. "Thy Kingdom come": It is everyman's privilege to go to Hell if he wants to. We have the power of choice, but He does not change. "Our daily bread". Help us to limit our present desires to actual necessities. "Lead us." We are pledging ourselves to follow His lead and guidance. We are sent to reveal our Lord to others, as He was sent to reveal God to us. It applies to our lives in the progressive overcoming of reaction and the progressive understanding and practice of God's purpose. Sometimes the will of God is somewhat cloudy, but most of the time we know what it is but we do not approve. We must compare our character with the character of God revealed in our Lord of whose Body we are members. The prayer for the first Sunday after Epiphany asks that we may have grace and power. The grace comes from above and the power from within. We have to exert a moral effort, so that the glory of God revealed in His Son may be revealed in the Body of His Son, the Church, and in each individual member.

We tend to grow more and more like that which interests us most. The Body of Christ of which each of us is a member is the spiritual thing through which the Christ life is extended and preserved among men. If part of the Body is injured, the Church suffers. It is the Church which has preserved the Christ glory, and by the three methods, and by these alone in varying proportions it is preserved and extended among men:

1. Adoration. The idea of security permeates the whole of modern society. The individual desires adoration and praise, and may be like those who pray and give alms for admiration, whom our Lord describes as play actors. Worship now means any kind of special noise made in a building set apart for it, but it really means adoration. Adoration is the recognition of that which is greater, and requires humility. This is a hard thing for Americans, since we are taught to be proud both in school and at home. When we worship as a group, it is the whole Body united in humility in worship of that which is greater. The Christian Church, in the course of centuries, has taken the service which our Lord sanctified, recognizing it as a continuation of our Lord's work, and have worshipped thus for nineteen centuries.

2. Activity of the mind. The symbols of worship have come down through nineteen hundred years. You cannot give life to that which you do not believe completely. Therefore, it is necessary to teach children to worship, and to worship not only to adore, but also in order to convert the world to the recognition of our Lord's supremacy. Anything we do ceremonially becomes empty if we do not stop to think about it. Formality is the doing of any ceremony without its being an expression of that spiritual something which you want to convey. This is the kind of thinking we do during retreats, meditation or writing letters to explain, and the kind of thing we do when we are explaining to children. The Creed is the explanation of our worship, and our life is the explication of our worship. Worship, Faith and Conduct go together.

3. Personal Example. Christian conduct for most is identified with unexploded respectability. The Pharisee, who reflected the highest moral character, lacked humility and spoiled it by his scorn of the Publican. While the Publican, who was morally rotten, was overwhelmed by the thought of his own rottenness, when he stood in the door. The Pharisee recognized no room for improvement. He thought he had arrived, but he scorned. Our righteousness must exceed his. It must be the same kind of righteousness, but more so. Our lives must commend the Christ life to others, or turn them from it. America is one of the worst representatives of the religion it professes. We can pray for the conversion of the world to Christ, but we must first exhibit the Christ life to the world.

—Phyllis T. Spencer

REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE

October 28, 1954

On May 1, 1954, I arrived to take charge of the work at The Central House. Before that time, Deaconess Johnson had done a magnificent job in setting up the House and forming the long range program of training. A brochure has been printed listing the training plan, a curriculum committee had been appointed as well as an admission committee.

The House, which was in a shambles a year before, had been completely renovated and redecorated. Everything was ready for the program to begin.

In early July, Deaconess Johnson returned to New York to carry on her own duties as Executive Secretary for the N.Y.T.S., which duties she had been carrying in addition to all her work at The Central House.

On July 15, 1954 Amelia Brereton joined me to assist in the work at The House. When it was necessary for me to return to Amherst, Virginia, to help Amelia Brereton to pack for the trip to Sycamore, Clara Searle came to stay in The Central House, to keep the program in operation, using her vacation time to do it. Visitors have been: Deaconesses Heath Dudley, Kate Mayer, Celia Brown, Edna M. Sargent, Clare E. Orwig, Katherine Putnam, Eleanor Smith, Dorothy Weaver, Grace Wilson, and Anne Gilliland and her Bishop Nichols' daughter. Other visitors have been: Avis Harvey from "281"; Mrs. Chamberlain, Miss Elizabeth McCracken, Angie Nicholas, Mrs. Miller, D.R.E. from Chicago. During the summer there have been two inquirers—one for an afternoon conference and the other for a visit of ten days.

Since May, 1954, I have received five inquiries, but as yet there are no definite commitments. Doris St. John is still a Candidate, but because of her mother's illness cannot come to Central House this year. I have filled three speaking engagements and two more are scheduled for January.

The location of the House in conjunction with the Bishop McLaren Conference Center is proving to be a very strategic spot during these early days in the life of the House. Hundreds of visitors come in to see us when they come to conferences at the Center. This would not be possible if we were located in a residential section of some city. The Women's Auxiliary meeting of over 300 had a visit to the House as one of the items on the program for their annual meeting. Many of Diocesan Clergy came over at the time of their Conference, as did many of the hundred laymen when they were at the Center for a week-end Conference. Parish Life Conferences are in session every week or so, and we always have a delegation or two then. Many of the visitors have never seen deaconesses, or even known of them before, and they leave deeply impressed at what has been going on without their knowledge, and go away supplied with literature and information. One group of men from the Laymen's Conference wants to come over and paint our third floor.

During the time of the Anglican Congress in Minneapolis we had a booth. Deaconesses Phyllis Spencer, Brereton, and I were on duty during the time of the Congress. The booth was small and simple, but we had many visitors and made many fine contacts.

One of these contacts has resulted in a gathering of the Heads of Training Schools to discuss ways and means of reaching women of the Church and presenting the opportunities for service in the Church. Our first meeting was held at Windham House on October 14 with The Rev. Francis Ayers, Capt. Jones (Church Army), Louise Gehan (College work from 281), Ellen Gammack, Helen Turnbull, and myself. We had a most helpful meeting though we reached no conclusions nor solve any problems. We were all of one mind, in our concern

for the spread of the Kingdom, the need for more women for this work, and ways in which we can tell them of this opportunity for service, and the needs of the Church.

We hope to have another meeting sometime in January, and if possible, at some place where we can meet for two days at least to dig into the situation; for, as Mr. Ayers pointed out to us, it is much more than just handing out better literature advertising the training schools. It is the revitalization, the re-education, of the whole life of a parish. It goes deeper than just getting in touch with young women.

In regard to reaching the women of the Church, I have written personal letters to all Diocesan Bishops. The 7th and 8th Provinces have not gone out yet, but will as soon as this Conference is over. Of the 96, sent ten days ago, 30 replies have already come in, with many showing real interest and a desire to help. All have referred the matter to the President of the Auxiliary, so that plans might be made to reach the women. Two dates have already been set for Annual Diocesan meetings in the Spring.

Looking into the future of the House, and the Training Program, Amelia Brereton has begun the field work in Christian Education, at Mooseheart, a Home for the children and widows of members of the Fraternal Order of Moose. For years no work has been done with the Episcopal children there. The Town and Country Council of the Diocese approached us to take over this work. Bishop Street, highly in favor of it, suggested we begin at once, even though we have no students right now, so that it will be well established as one of the field projects when students arrive.

Regarding the other purpose of the Central House, as a Center for the Order, anniversary cards have been sent to all deaconesses on the date of the anniversary of their Ordination. Many have written to tell how much this means to them. Amelia and I have tried to keep in touch with the retired, or shut-in, deaconesses. They do appreciate a word from the House.

In September we sent out our first Prayer Leaflet. We hope to send these out, at least, every two months and from time to time there will be a news sheet telling of the happenings of the House and news about any deaconess who writes in and tells us what she is doing. Think about the shut-in deaconesses, and find time to send us news so we can keep closely in touch with each other.

Regarding the material needs of the House—you have all seen how well we are taken care of. The living room rug was given by Edith Adams, Anne Gilliland knitted two dish cloths; Deaconess Binns' Auxiliary in Southwestern Virginia made us a quilt, The Auxiliary at Grace House where Anne Newman and Alice Mayer work have also quilted quilts, Elsie Riebe sent a Navajo rug for the upstairs hall, Eleanor Smith brought over two large Prayer Books, Miss Hallie Williams, sister of our beloved Maria Williams, has sent two lovely blankets, many deaconesses have sent books. The Supply Department of "281" sent a check for \$100.00 for blankets or rugs for the bedrooms. I do not think we shall ever want for material needs.

ASSOCIATES AND SPONSORS: So far I have not done anything further about this group of supporters. It is still not quite clear in my mind as to what the policy of this group should be. A new form to be sent out must be prepared, and I have not had time to work it out with the committee. The names of several people have been suggested as possible chairmen of the group, but I hope before too long to have this clarified in my mind and thereby in yours, so that we can build up a group of people who can be of real strength to the House. Those Associates and Sponsors already on our list are remembered regularly in our Chapel.

Letters received after the Prayer Leaflet went out and after the anniversary cards were sent made me feel that there is a need for some sort of rule to express our corporateness. Each one of us sets up her own rule; but to have a corporate rule so that we all would be doing the same thing would mean much. Of necessity the rule must be simple, and within the reach of all of us, active women working in the midst of a complicated busy world.

The English Deaconesses say this regarding such a rule, which I think might apply to us in this case. I quoted from their book:

"The ideal should be pitched high, but the positive regulations should be few, and much left to the spiritual aspiration of individuals, and to the uncovenanted claims of a consecrated life. Let no member say to herself 'Such and such a thing is not required of me by any regulation' and therefore rest content without seeking that which is more excellent. Let her rather count those things which are required of her as the least that she can do, or rather as the starting point from which she is to aspire and ascend to better things."

The more we are of "one heart and mind" the more powerful will we be in the Church—one spiritual body with all the members acting in harmony.

We are individual deaconesses, but we must not destroy the unity of the Body. We have come from different schools, and have had therefore different loyalties, but now we have one House. It is your House. Please use it. Come here for rest. Come for refresher courses. Come for spiritual refreshment.

Keep your eyes and ears open for other women to share this life that means so much to you—"Service for our Lord."

—Edith A. Booth

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

Oct. 25, 26, and 28, 1954

These meetings were held at The Central House for Deaconesses in Sycamore, Ill. At the Executive meetings there were present: Deaconess Sargent, presiding in the absence of Deaconess Bechtol, and Deaconesses Booth, Dietz, Gillespy, Ramsay, Truesdell. It was decided that the Deaconess Leaflet be re-edited by Deaconess Truesdell for publication and \$50 was allocated from the General Fund toward the publication cost. Deaconess Booth reported that there

was of this date a balance of \$626.48 in the Pence Can Fund as received at Central House. A letter from Deaconess Johnson told that she had talked with Bishop Burrill to request that the Advisory Commission on Deaconesses be reactivated. Also that the Trustees of the Central House would consider the relation of the National Conference to the Trustees. The National Conference has no financial connections with the Trustees. The Conference is to promote the Order and to secure candidates.

A letter of appreciation was sent to Deaconess Johnson for all her work at The Central House.

Upon Deaconess Bechtol's written suggestion, Deaconess Dietz was appointed as editor of THE DEACONESS, publication costs to be paid from the General Fund. It was suggested that the Trustees of the New York Training School for Deaconesses be asked to pay the expenses of a representative of the Order to the Triennial Meeting at Honolulu.

Deaconess Johnson was elected historian to collect historical and biographical material of the Deaconess Order. Motion was made, seconded and carried that the National Conference ask Deaconess Booth to contact the personnel chairman of the Woman's Auxiliary and the chairman for college work, asking for representation of the Deaconess Order by a deaconess at vocational conferences.

At the Annual Conference twenty-one deaconesses were present:

Deaconess Booth (Executive Committee, ex officio)	Chicago
Deaconess Brereton	Chicago
Deaconess Bradley	Chicago
Deaconess Colby	Michigan
Deaconess Crow	Dallas
Deaconess Dieterley	Washington
Deaconess Dietz (Executive Committee, Secretary)	West Texas
Deaconess Gillespy (Executive Committee)	Rhode Island
Deaconess Mayer	Southwestern Virginia
Deaconess Newman	Southwestern Virginia
Deaconess Orwig	Chicago
Deaconess Parsons	Chicago
Deaconess Putnam	Chicago
Deaconess Ramsay (Executive Committee)	New York
Deaconess Sargent (Executive Committee)	Chicago
Deaconess Searle	Southern Ohio
Deaconess Phyllis Spencer	Milwaukee
Deaconess Truesdell (Executive Committee)	Quincy
Deaconess Weaver	Chicago
Deaconess Williams	Southwestern Virginia
Deaconess Wilson	Chicago

It was recommended that through THE DEACONESS the deaconesses of the Church be asked to contribute to the expenses of sending Deaconess Booth to the Triennial meeting at Honolulu in September, 1955. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that notice be sent by the Executive Committee to all deaconesses to ask for contributions for expenses of a representative at the Triennial Meeting.

Deaconess Booth gave the report for The Central House which will be published in THE DEACONESS. She then introduced our two youngest deaconesses: Ruth Colby and Phyllis Spencer.

The offering at the Retreat amounted to \$49.75, which was given to Dr. Yerkes.

There was a discussion of a Common Rule for deaconesses. The various Chapters were asked to bring in a report at the next meeting. Deaconess Weaver and Deaconess Wilson offered to contact the alumni of the Philadelphia School to inform them of the memorials at The Central House.

The secretary was instructed to send a letter of appreciation to the Trustees of the New York Training School for deaconesses. With Deaconess Brereton's assistance such a letter was drafted and mailed.

—Edna McNeil Dietz, Deaconess
Secretary

“Remember, O Lord, what Thou hast wrought in us and not what we deserve; and thou hast called us to Thy service make us worthy of our calling.”

—used by the Archbishop of Canterbury at the Anglican Congress
and by Deaconess Booth in St. Phoebe's Chapel

“Keep yourself pliable in God's hands and let Him make you holy in His own way. It will almost certainly be in a way that you don't expect.”

—Fr. Considine

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

Annual Meeting — October, 1954

REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

Balance in <i>General Funds</i> , Sept. 15, 1953		\$476.86	
Receipts:			
Dues for 1953.....	\$ 4.00		
Dues for 1954.....	73.00		
Refund for postage (Truesdell).....	2.00		
Refund from Central House.....	<u>25.00</u>	104.00	
		<u>\$580.86</u>	
Disbursements:			
Mailings: For Secretary.....	\$10.00		
"The Dss."	8.78		
Dues notices	3.64		
Dss. Truesdell	3.14		
Postage-Treas. & Chr.	3.00		
Bundle postage-Dietz	5.00		
Mailing Treas. Books	2.14		
Mailing Secy. Books	3.35		
Mailing for Chairman	<u>5.50</u>	\$ 44.55	
Printing:			
Pamphlets	\$30.50		
To Central House for Pam.....	32.80		
Material for notices	<u>1.50</u>	64.80	
Telegrams sent (Bp. Conkling & Dss. Bechtol)		2.13	
Films, bulbs, etc, pictures (Opening C. H.)		6.67	
Anglican Congress booth rent.....	\$150.00		
Travel expenses—P. Spencer	<u>75.00</u>		
		<u>225.00</u>	
			\$343.15
Balance in <i>General Funds</i> , Oct. 15, 1954.....			<u>237.71</u>
			<u>\$580.86</u>
Balance in <i>Emergency Fund</i> , Sept. 15, 1953	\$322.75		
Receipts—Special designated purpose	<u>168.00</u>		
		\$490.75	
Disbursements: to 2 deaconesses.....	\$277.72		
Balance in account, Oct. 15, 1954.....	<u>213.03</u>		
		\$490.75	
<i>Special Account in Savings Account:</i>			
Original deposit	\$1,432.71		
Interest to Oct. 1, 1954.....	<u>21.58</u>		
Total in Savings Account.....	<u>\$1,454.29</u>		
PENCE CANS			
Spring ingathering \$101.00			
Forward to Central House;			
no balance in this account			

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn E. Seymour, Deaconess
Treasurer

WHAT THE CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES HAS COME TO MEAN TO DEACONESSSES

A year ago when our Annual Conference was first held at Sycamore, Ill., The Central House for Deaconesses was a beginning and a hope—now it IS. Amazingly in the eighteen months of its existence, it has grown to justify its name, as Central for Deaconesses. For central means not only equally distant from opposite corners or sides or points of circumference—a space-element which has dismayed some of us and some of our friends: it also means “equally near”; and this is a truth increasingly felt by New York, Florida, Texas, and Virginia. The House belongs to no one group or locality, not even, one might surmise to the deaconesses of Chicago. For it is the fifty miles between the metropolis and Sycamore that constitute the real “distance” for some of us who have travelled far to reach the goal. Once there, we are at Home, any and all of us; and this mean a Central House in a sense that our deaconesses of this country never have had before.

Some buildings seem to have a character, and individuality of their own, almost a personality. The Central House welcomes us quietly and confidently, as though we had belonged to it for a long time. But it is more than a center which takes us in, it is a center which radiates out—love and sympathy and interest, information and suggestion for each one of us, news about and to any one of us. Most vital surely to us all is our certainty that this House is a center of prayer for our Order, our consciousness that with all the activity and work that any such house involves, there is kept faithfully and seriously for us and with us, in our own little chapel the rhythm of regular, systematic prayer—recollection, adoration, intercession, thanksgiving—supplementing and buttressing our own. This work of our Central House is ours also to share.

—Jane Bliss Gillespy

THE TRIENNIAL MEETING

At the Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses at Sycamore, Illinois, where our beautiful Central House is located, it was voted to send Deaconess Booth as a Representative of the Deaconess Order to the Triennial Meeting to be held at the time of General Convention in Honolulu in September 1955.

The By-laws of the National Conference state that the Conference shall meet triennially at the time and place of the General Convention. Inasmuch as the next General Convention of 1955 will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, it will be impossible for enough of the membership to attend; so it was voted at this meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses on October 28, 1954 to hold a postponed Triennial meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses at The Central House, Sycamore, Illinois, the last week of October, 1955.

—Edna M. Sargent

PUBLICITY

Slides available are three sets: ready for loan

1. The Deaconess Story (general, but includes Vocation)
2. Whither goest thou? (emphasis on Vocation)
3. The Central House for Deaconesses (ready for loan about Jan. 1, 1955; Can be used separately or with the other sets)

WANTED

Good, clear black and white pictures and colored 35mm slides of deaconesses at work.

Send pictures, slides, and requests for loan to
Deaconess Mary P. Truesdell
126 W. 14th St.
Davenport, Iowa

HERE AND THERE AMONG SOME OF THE DEACONESSSES:

The Chicago Chapter of Deaconesses met on May 17 at the home of Agnes Bradley. There were eleven deaconesses present, including Ruth Johnson. New officers were elected: Chairman—Agnes Bradley, and Secretary-Treasurer—Katherine Putnam. The meeting was followed by a luncheon with Bishop and Mrs. Burrill as our guests.

The annual retreat for the Chapter was held at DeKoven Foundation on October 10-12, with Father Putnam as the Conductor. Seven deaconesses and one lay member of the City Missions staff attended.

On November 29, Bishop Burrill will conduct the Advent Meditations for the Chapter from two to four o'clock in the Lady Chapel of St. Mark's Church, Evanston.

—Agnes Bradley

The New York Deaconesses met with the Diocesan Woman's Auxiliary, on Nov. 2nd, served refreshments, and sold remaining articles sent last Spring. Cleared \$120.00, which will be sent to The Central House. Pauline Watts is working very hard as secretary of the R. F. D.

A chapter meeting was held on Nov. 3rd at which time a report on the Conference was given and the matter of a Rule of Life was discussed for action at the spring meeting.

—Lydia Ramsay

All the deaconesses in the Third Province are busy at their work, even though many of them are retired. Alice Mayer, Anne Newman, and Maria Williams brought printed greetings to the Conference from them all.

Frances Affleck spent the month of September in southern California and visited with two deaconesses there. Laura Knepper and her sister have a home in a part of the city which is truly a "melting pot", and they are good neighbors

to many. Charlotte Massey lives in a small cottage which is a part of the church property. She is a very busy "full time" deaconess and much loved by the parishioners. Very splendid way to retire.

Lillian Crow says of the deaconesses in the state of Texas: Margaret Booz and Celia Brown are very busy with their kindergarten in El Paso. Gladys Hall finds her time, heart, and hands full at the Bronson Home in Victoria, Lucile Bickford keeps up her church work and has a Bible class in her home. Ethel Spencer brings cheer and help to all who come into her room at the Rigby Convalescent Home in San Antonio.

Olive Robinson and Ruth Colby in the Diocese of Michigan are both busy at assigned work—general Church work, parish calling, Church School work, clubs for boys and girls, etc.

Phyllis Spencer—the only deaconess in the Diocese of Milwaukee—is working at St. Andrew's Church, where they have a part time rector. So we can all imagine her load—parish secretary, financial secretary, children's Confirmation classes, and all of the rest of the things you know must be done.

Harriet M. Bedell—A recent issue of the St. Petersburg TIMES Sunday Magazine had a two-page illustrated section telling about her forty-seven years of work in the remote places of the world. She has lived among the Seminoles in the Everglades of Florida for more than twenty-seven years. Although retired she continues on with her work.

Evelyn Ashcroft—At Marygarth in the Mountain Province of the Philippines—is continuing her work with the children and women. She has Bible Classes and Womans' Auxiliary for the women. This past summer she had a very successful vacation Church School.

The Daughters of the King of the Diocese of West Texas and friends sent a chalice and paten to her last spring to be used at a prewar mission station which had lost everything during the war. The whole parish of St. Paul's, San Antonio, Texas, has become interested in her work. The Women of St. Paul's gave toward the first chalice. Now this fall the Altar Guild is sending another chalice and paten. Last spring they gave a linen superfrontal. The Junior Daughters of the King and St. Mary's Guild have provided baby blankets. The children of the Church School have sent boxes of medical supplies and supplies for the Vacation Church School. Helping again in this field will be the Lenten work of the Church School for 1955.

HE HEALED THEM EVERYONE

'Tis evening, and a mist ascends,
Charging the air with life anew.
The spirits of the weary sick
Are caught up in expectancy,
As one by one, with steadfast faith
Friends fetch them to the Healing Christ,
That, as He passes by, His Hand
May touch each one to health again,
His Presence bring forgiveness free.

Dear Christ! had I been there that night
So that I saw Thee with mine eyes,
Unable yet the knee to bend,
With steadfast hope I stand and wait.
My heart is filled with joy new-born,
What matter that I cannot move
With rhythmic swiftness at my will?
Thy Presence in our midst has made
This suffering family one in Thee.
I see these others lying prone,
Too weak to move;—the deaf—the dumb;
Compassion nigh my heart doth break.
As in a dream most sweet I run
To meet Thee, offer help, to work
At Thy behest, to serve the sick.

At last each suffering child is healed;
They walk, they hear Thy voice, they sing
In praises joyous of Thy power.
So long O Christ! I kneel, I kneel—
So long, O Christ! since I could kneel—
And Thy dear Hand is laid on me
In tender love and cleansing grace,
And Thou dost take me by the hand,
And bid me walk with Thee alway—
My Lord! my Christ! Thine own alway.

Christians! arise without delay,
The Healing Christ doth pass this way.

Ethel E. Spencer, Deaconess

reprinted from August, 1938: THE DEACONESS

THE CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES
718 Sombauk Street,
Sycamore, Ill.

Aug. 12, 1953

Dear Deaconess,

As the time draws near for General Convention, we know that your thoughts and prayers will be for all the deliberations there. At this time we therefor ask your prayers :

--for all delegates to the General Convention, and to the Triennial meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary, that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit in all their planning for the growth and strengthening of the Church.

--that all petty differences of Churchmanship may be forgotten and that true Christian love and brotherhood may abound in all plans for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom.

--for all those in positions of leadership; those who will be in charge of the meetings both at the Convention and the Triennial meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary, especially

The Presiding Bishop

The President of the House of Deputies

The Presiding Officer of the Triennial, Mrs. Wedel

--for all those who will be traveling to General Convention by land, by sea or by air.

--that great things may be accomplished at this 58th General Convention.

--that all matters pertaining to the good of the Order of Deaconesses presented in both Houses may be received and promoted, and that real concern and understanding may be manifest among the Bishops and other delegates.

--that the Exhibit on Deaconesses may awaken deep interest and have real meaning for the many visitors.

--for the Deaconess-in-charge, that she may have wisdom and understanding in each situation which presents itself.

--To date we have learned that the following deaconesses will be in Honolulu. Pray for us that we may give a good witness for Our Lord, the Church and the Order:

Sarah Swinburne (Resident)

Margaret Booz

Mary Saunders

Mary Hettler

Hilda Dieterly

Amelia Brereton

Ruth Johnson

Charlotte Massey

Marian Brown

Edith Booth

Three of our deaconesses will be beginning new work in September. Let us remember them in our prayers, asking God's blessing on them and their new work:

Katharine Putnam will begin part time work at
The Church of our Saviour
116 E. Church Street, Elmhurst, Illinois

Phyllis Spencer will begin her new work at
The Church of the Holy Trinity
316 E. 88th Street,, New York 28, N.Y.

Dellema King will begin work at Pierre, S.D.
Post Office Box 652

Let us also pray for the meeting of the Trustees of the Central House which will be held the latter part of September or early October, to determine future plans in the light of action taken at General Convention.

In addition to our Intercessions, let us not fail to Thank God

--for every opportunity we have had to tell others of the joy of our Vocation, witnessing Loth for God and the Order.

--for Frances Affleck, and the way she responded to the need of the House of the Good Shepherd in Utica, N.Y.; for a job "well done" bringing commendation from both the Bishop of the Diocese and others.

--for Edna Dietz and her fine work at St. Paul's Church, San Antonio, Texas resulting in a "Deaconess Dietz Sunday" honoring her and her work.

--for the support of the New York Training School for Deaconesses, and especially for furnishing funds, making it possible for one of our deaconesses to attend General Convention

--for the wonderful response of all the deaconesses in giving so liberally to make it possible to have a representative and also an Exhibit in Honolulu.

--for the fine exposition on deaconesses given by the Rev. Powel Dawley in Volume 6, the latest book in the Church's Teaching Series entitled the Episcopal Church and its Work.

--for the fact that the Missionary Work of the Church in the Hawaiian Islands has matured to the extent that it is possible to have the meeting of General Convention there.

FOR THESE AND ALL HIS MERCIES MAY
GOD'S HOLY NAME BE PRAISED!

ANNIVERSARIES OF SETTING APART

September 6	Celia E.F. Brown	1946	September 30	Natalie Winsor	1907
				? Christobel Corbett	1919
8	Madeline Durlap	1939			
	Bertha Radford	1937	October ?	Edith Davis	1902
			1	Cecile Jacobeit	1915
14	Harriet Bedell	1922			
	Heleen Taylor	1943	4	Caroline Nosler	1903
				Olive Robinson	1936
15	Elmina L. Nehls	1937			
	Mary Redd	1937	6	Mabel Adams	1897
				Anna Armstrong	1909
20	Anne Gilliland	1916		Mary West	1909
29	Anna Ramson	1902	18	Mary Sandys Hutton	1930
	Edith Adams	1927	26	Dorothea Betz	1926
	Hildegard Donsing	1928			
	Elizabeth Newbold	1915	30	Josephine Latch	1942
				Elsie Riebe	1914

While you are praying for us in Honolulu, we too will be remembering you in our prayers, and wishing that you were with us. We will look forward to having you all at The Central House in October for the Annual Retreat and Conference when we will give you a full report of all that has happened and make further plans for our life and work.

May God bless you all,

Affectionately

Edith A. Baath

August 12, 1955

Dec. 1955

The Deaconess

issued by

NATIONAL CONFERENCE — DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ChairmanEdna M. Dietz
1901 W. Travis St., San Antonio 7, Texas
SecretaryMargaret Booz
600 S. Piedras St., El Paso, Texas
TreasurerEvelyn E. Seymour
281 4th Ave., New York 10, New York
Deaconess-in-Charge of Central House (ex-officio)Edith A. Booth
718 Somonauk St., Sycamore, Illinois
Lydia A. Ramsay Harriet H. English Ruth H. Colby
Alice W. Mayer Ruth H. Colby
1955 EditorKatharine Putnam
211 S. Kenilworth Ave., Elmhurst, Ill.

JOINT COMMISSION ON WORK OF DEACONESSSES

(Re-established by General Convention, 1955)

Membership as appointed by the

Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies:

Bishop Gray, Connecticut; Bishop Donegan, New York; Bishop Burrill, Chicago;
Rev. Earl S. Estabrook, Pennsylvania; Rev. Otis R. Rice, D.D., New York;
Rev. Killian A. Stimpson, Milwaukee; Walter S. Underwood, Chicago; Mrs.
Alfred M. Chapman, Pennsylvania; Deaconess Ruth Johnson, New York.

December, 1955

GREETINGS FROM THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Dear Deaconesses:

During the past three years there have been many pleasant contacts with you. I have enjoyed them but deeply regretted that I could not be with you more often.

Your interest and help has made it possible for much to be done at the Central House — spiritual and financial aid given to the Deaconesses established there. A deeper sense of unity and purpose and of our need to make the work of deaconesses better known has resulted, I believe, in greater interest on the part of the general Church.

With many thanks for your support and help in these past years, and prayers for your strength and progress in the years ahead,

Faithfully yours,
Margaret S. Bechtol.

(The By-laws of the National Conference of Deaconesses state that the Triennial meeting of the Conference shall be held at the time and place of the General Convention of the Church.)

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES MEETING IN HONOLULU

The Triennial meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held in St. Alban's Chapel, Ialani School, Hanolulu, an Sept. 8th, 1955. The meeting was called to arder at 12:00 noon by the Deaconess-in-charge of Central Hause, Edith A. Booth, who opened with prayer. Deaconess Hilda Dieterly was appointed Secretary pro-tem. The fallowing deaconesses were present: Booth, Brereton, Brown, Dieterly, Hettler, Massey, Saunders, Swinburne. Deacaness Ruth Jahnsan was an the campus but was acting as "reporter" for the deaconesses in the House of Bishops waiting for the resolution of the re-establishing af the Advisory Commission to be presented. Deaconess Booz was also on the campus but, due to a misunderstanding as to place of meeting, was nat present. There was informal discussion regarding publicity; and those who had not been in close touch with Central Hause were brought up to date as to what had been dane.

Motion was made and seconded that the meeting adjourn to recanvene in October at the Central House for Deacanesses, Sycamore, Ill.

Signed: Deacaness Hilda Dieterly,
Secretary pro-tem.

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF HONOLULU AND GENERAL CONVENTION

by Amelia Brereton

ALOHA!

My first impression af Honalulu was one of Beauty. As the good ship LURLINE came into sight of the Islands, passing between Molakai and Oahu in the early morning light af ane day in September, the beauty was indescribable. Sailing westward at that time of day, the sky and the sea were a colorless gray, hardly distinguishable one fram the other, and the Islands loomed ahead, great blobs of black. The sun rising "back east" bathed the scene gradually in light bringing ta the sky and sea rich shades of blue, while the Islands became bright green. The passengers, who had been advised to rise early ta see marning came ta the Islands, rushed fram ane side af the ship ta the other, then ran aft ta see the glory and brilliance of the sunrise at sea. Breakfast was served on deck so that nane should miss the extraordinary beauty of this scene. This impression af beauty was the first of many such impressians which left ane speechless, far after a while there was not even one "OH!" ar one "AH!" left.

The second impressian was ane of the Friendliness of the Islanders. Our welcome was genuine, happy and thrilling. Long before the LURLINE came into the harbor af Hanalulu she dropped anchor and swarms af welcoming friends came abaard ta greet all the passengers with a Lei and the Kiss of Aloha. The Episcopalians which represented half af the passenger list were greeted by the Church in Hawaii. Bishop Kennedy and all the Officials, as well as representatives of each congregation in the Islands gave us a royal welcome. Besides the Kisses and the Leis and the speeches, there were the Hula Dancers giving us aur first glimpse of the native dance. Like the Beauty, the Friendliness was more than a first impression. We found it ta be the daily pattern af the life an the Islands.

Another fact which impressed us was the vastness of the Church. Of course this is common ta every General Convention. It is thrilling ta see and ta meet hundreds and hundreds af members of aur great Church meeting together fram all over the world ta direct, reform, establish and provide for its business af winning the world for Christ. The pageantry af processions and warship; the great Missionary Mass Meetings and Jaint Sessions; the Presentation Service of the U.T.O. and the separate meetings af the twa Hauses and the W.A.; the greetings af ald friends and

new acquaintances as they pass to and from the meetings, the Exhibits and the eating places. All this is General Convention to the visitor, but it is much more too. It is a modern version of the Book of the Acts.

It was good to see so many deaconesses. There were ten of us present. Some were delegates and some were missionaries, and some of us were just visitors. At one time or another we saw them all at the Deaconess Exhibit Booth.

Since the General Convention was in her home town, Deaconess Swinburne was one of the busiest people in the world. We were glad to have had the opportunity to visit her Mission, St. Mary's. After Holy Communion there one morning, Deaconess Booth and I had breakfast in her home with her and her mother. Deaconess Saunders was also present, a guest of Deaconess Swinburne during General Convention.

Although St. Mary's Mission Church is hemmed in by Budhist and Shinto Shrines, it is bearing a strong witness to the Christian Faith. Besides the Sunday School there is a Kindergarten under the direction of Deaconess Swinburne.

The final impression of my visit to Honolulu was the speed with which twelve days passed. It hardly seemed any time at all after we got the Exhibit set up until we were dismantling it to ship it back to the mainland!

And now my impression is that it was all a dream. O! LET ME DREAM AGAIN!!

MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES at the Central House for Deaconesses, Sycamore, Ill. October 20, 1955

The adjourned Triennial Meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held in the parlor of the Central House for Deaconesses, Sycamore, Ill., October 20, 1955 with the following deaconesses present:

(Diocese)	(Diocese)
Edith Adams Arizona	Ruth Johnson New York
Miriam Allen Tennessee	Clara Orwig Chicago
Edith Booth Chicago	Ruth Parsons Chicago
Agnes Brodley Chicago	Katharine Phelps California
Amelio Brereton Chicago	Kothorine Putnam Chicago
Celia Brown .N. Mexico and S.W. Texas	Lydia Romsay New York
Ruth Colby Michigan	Edno Sargent Chicago
Lillian Crow Dallas	Clara Searle S. Ohio
Edno M. Dietz W. Texas	Eleanor Smith Chicago
Hildegorde Donsing Chicago	Gertrude Stewart Pennsylvania
Madeline Dunlop S. Virginia	Mary Truesdell Quincy
Glodys Fall W. Texas	

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 A.M. by Deaconess Truesdell, acting chairman in the absence of the Chairman, Deaconess Margaret Bechtol. Deaconess Truesdell opened the meeting with prayer, and called attention to the fact that this was the first Triennial meeting at Central House.

Deaconess Sargent was appointed to send greetings to Deaconess Bechtol in which all the deaconesses would join.

Deaconess Booth read the minutes of the Triennial meeting in Honolulu at which Deaconess Dieterly acted as secretary pro-tem. Deaconess Booth told of the re-establishment of the Joint Commission for the work of Deaconesses, the assignment of \$1,000 for the expenses of the Commission for the Triennium, and also of the grant from the National Council of \$7,500 for the support of Central House, to be reviewed each year of the triennium. Deaconesses Johnson, Booth and Brereton all told of the cordiality of the clergy to the deaconesses during the Convention. Deaconess Johnson reported on Bishop Burrill's talk in the House of Bishops, urging them to realize that the deaconesses belong to the whole Church, not to one diocese only.

On motion of Deaconess Dunlap, seconded by Deaconess Putnam, letters of thanks were to be written to Bishop Burrill, Bishop Donegan, and to Mr. C. G. Thompson. Carried.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Deaconess Truesdell and ordered filed.

Deaconess Booth reported that the name of FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE was to be used instead of ASSOCIATES and SPONSORS. This was done by the Board of Trustees of Central House.

Letters of thanks were also to be written to the Rev. Wm. P. Anna, Jr., for his work on the Credence Table for the Chapel, and to Mrs. Charles Petskeyes for the Credence Cover.

Deaconess Johnson reported on the work that she had done as historian. Deaconess Truesdell read Deaconess Johnson's resignation as historian. Accepted. Upon motion of Deaconess Lydia Ramsay, seconded by Deaconess Sargent, the Executive Committee was authorized to appoint a committee with Deaconess Johnson as a member, to continue the gathering of material looking forward to the history of the Order in the future. Carried.

Deaconess Johnson appealed for pictures of deaconesses in action for the promotion committee of the Board of Trustees of Central House. Motion was made by Deaconess Brereton, seconded by Deaconess Stewart that the Executive Committee appoint three deaconesses and three lay women for the purpose of promoting the Deaconess Order, with proper coordination with the promotion work of the Board of Trustees of Central House, of the National Conference of Deaconesses, and of the Retiring Fund. Carried.

The third suggestion of the Executive Committee was that the Pence Can Funds in this Triennium be sent to the Treasurer of the National Conference to be distributed approximately as follows: one-third for the discretionary fund of the Deacons-in-charge of Central House, and two-thirds for the work of publicity and promotion. Deaconess Brereton so moved, and Deaconess Putnam seconded. Carried.

Report of the Offering for the Retreat was made by Deaconess Booth. The amount was \$63 of which she gave Fr. Savage \$50. He would not accept it, but made the suggestion that a sign be made giving the name CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES where all passing the House could see it. Deaconess Sargent made a motion, seconded by Deaconess Colby, that the money returned by Fr. Savage be used to make this sign. Carried. Deaconess Sargent made a motion, seconded by Deaconess Crow, that a letter of thanks be sent to Fr. Savage for his gift and for graciousness and helpfulness of the meditations at the Retreat.

Deaconess Ramsay made a report of the Triennial offering, being \$384 for the Retiring Fund and \$337 for the Emergency Fund. Deaconess Booth reported that she had added \$2 to the \$13 remaining from the Retreat offering and had given the \$15 to Fr. Yerkes for St. Albans Chapel used by the Conference.

Motion was made by Deaconess Johnson, seconded by Deaconess Bradley, that the coming issue of the DEACONESS be paid for out of the Emergency Fund. Deaconess Putnam was appointed Editor, and she requested that November 1st be the dead-line for materials she had asked for from several deaconesses, and that the typed material be sent double-spaced!

Deaconess Sargent then made the report of the Nominating Committee. Eighty-six deaconesses had sent in their votes for the four members of the Executive Committee to be elected at this time. The following new members were declared elected: Margoret Booz, Clara Searle, Alice Mayer and Harriet English. The Executive Committee with the new members were asked to meet at the dining table during Lunch.

A vote of thanks was given to Deaconess Booth, Deaconess Brereton and Deaconess Donsing for the wonderful planning for this most pleasant Retreat and meeting.

Upon motion of Deaconess Dunlap the first Triennial meeting held at Central House for Deaconesses adjourned.

Edna M. Dietz, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES — 1954 - 1955

The secretary making this report was elected as a member of the Executive Committee by the Committee on March 27, 1954, to take the place to which Deaconess Booth had been elected to serve until 1958. Deaconess Booth had resigned because she had accepted the position of Deaconess-in-charge of Central House and thus was an ex-officio member of the Committee. The chairman, Deaconess Bechtol, asked the present secretary to fill out this position of Deaconess Booth's until Oct. 1955.

During the year and seven months, the present secretary has served in this capacity she has performed all the duties pertaining to the office to the best of her ability — has attended two annual Conferences, counting this one, has been present at three Executive Committee meetings.

The complete roster of the deaconesses has been circularized seven times, making 749 pieces of mail; members of the Executive Committee absent from meetings received reports twice — eight pieces of mail; more than fifty letters were written as your corresponding secretary, a total of 807 pieces of mail.

All records are here ready to be turned over to the person elected by your new Executive Committee to act as your secretary.

It has been a great privilege and joy to serve you in this capacity. Hoping and praying for a definite renewal of interest in our Order and pledging my support to our new Executive Committee to serve the Order where the Holy Spirit guides, I am

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,
Edna McNeil Dietz, Deaconess

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 20, 1955 at about 12:30 p.m.

Deaconess Truesdell presided. She read the resignation of Deaconess Bechtol from the Executive Committee. It was moved by Deaconess Ramsay and seconded by Deaconess Searle that the resignation be accepted with regrets, and that a letter of thanks be sent her. The resignation of Deaconess Gillespy was also read. It was moved by Deaconess Searle and seconded by Deaconess Ramsay that it be accepted with regrets and that a letter so stating and including thanks be sent to her. Motion Carried.

It was then moved by Deaconess Ramsay and seconded by Deaconess Booth that Deaconess Evelyn E. Seymour be appointed to fill out the term of Deaconess Gillespy. Motion carried.

Deaconess Ramsay moved and Deaconess Booth seconded the motion that Deaconess Ruth Colby be appointed to fill out the term of Deaconess Bechtol. The motion was carried.

Present at this Executive Committee meeting now were: Deaconesses Booth, Colby, Dietz, Ramsay and Searle.

Election of officers was made next as follows: Chairman, Deaconess Dietz, Secretary, Deaconess Booz, Treasurer, Deaconess Seymour.

The Chairman, with the advice of the Committee, appointed Deaconess Johnson and Deaconess Truesdell on a committee for gathering historical material for the Order, a Chairman to be appointed later. For promotion and publicity the following deaconesses were appointed: Ramsay, Truesdell and Johnson, the three lay women to be asked being Mrs. C. P. Ladd, Mrs. Marion Wiegman and Mrs. A. Atha.

The Chairman then reported to all deaconesses present the results of this Executive Committee meeting. After the Thanksgiving, the meeting adjourned.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Report of the Treasurer — October, 1955

GENERAL FUNDS

Balance on hand, August 16, 1953 (For Triennial Meeting)\$ 305.39

Receipts

Dues - balance of 1952; 1953, 4, 5 (to Oct. 1st.\$ 301.00

Gifts, refunds, for postage and meetings 56.25

Total Receipts 357.25

Grand Total\$ 662.64

Disbursements

Postage\$ 100.46

Printing 158.70

Office supplies 33.91

*For meetings 338.28

Total Disbursements\$ 631.35

Oct. 15, 1955 — Balance on hand 31.29

Grand Total\$ 662.64

* Anglican Congress, Aug. 1954, General Convention Sept., 1955.

GIFTS FOR CENTRAL HOUSE

No balance of funds on hand.

Receipts

Special gifts — New York Chapter of Deaconesses, 1955 ..\$ 182.36

From Individual 25.00

Total sent to Central House\$ 207.36

No balance in this account, Oct. 15, 1955.

EMERGENCY FUND

Balance on hand, August 16, 1952\$ 65.00

Receipts

Offerings made at Boston, 1952\$ 365.75

Gifts and refunds 57.00

For special designated purpose 693.00

Total Receipts\$1,115.75

Grand Total\$1,180.75

Disbursements

Gifts made to Deaconesses\$ 150.00

For special designated purpose 707.72

Total Disbursements\$ 857.72

Balance on Hand Oct. 15, 1955 323.01

Grand Total\$1,180.75

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES — SPECIAL FUND

Savings Account, The Bank for Savings, 280 Fourth Ave., N.Y.C.

Original Deposit, Feb. 25, 1954\$1,432.71

Interest on account, Oct. 1, 1955 61.95

Total in account, Oct. 1, 1955\$1,494.66

Signed,

Deaconess Evelyn Seymour, Treasurer.

REPORT OF PENCE CAN COLLECTIONS

Beginning with the autumn of 1954, I have been the collector of the Pence Can Fund, and the total contributed in three collections was \$572.92.

Spring collection, 1954, 25 deaconesses contributing ..\$101.00

Fall collection, 1954, 38 deaconesses contributing ... 129.96

Spring collection, 1955, 40 deaconesses contributing .. 341.96

Total\$572.92

Amounts contributed ranged from \$1 to \$50.

In the spring of 1955 the post card reminders stated that the money would be used at this time to send Deaconess Booth as our representative to General Convention in Honolulu, and many deaconesses enclosed notes with their contributions expressing their pleasure and satisfaction in helping this project along, and their happiness in having so able a representative of our Order present at the General Convention.

Signed, Laura M. Knepper.

(Later word from Deaconess Knepper states that the fall collections for 1955 to Oct. 13th amounted to \$103.52, with 25 deaconesses contributing.)

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE

OCTOBER 1954 — OCTOBER 1955

This report is to bring you up to date on all that has been accomplished at the Central House during the past year. It has been a year filled with much interest, and also with much disappointment. Disappointment in the fact that as yet no young woman has offered herself for training for this life which we all know is such a full and happy one.

The Purpose of the Central House is to PROVIDE TRAINING FOR WOMEN AS DEACONESSSES AND AS A CENTER FOR DEACONESSSES WORKING IN THE FIELD, AND AS HEADQUARTERS OF THE ORDER OF DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH.

The TRAINING PROGRAM is the greatest concern of all of us. During the past year 37 inquiries have been received. These may be divided into the following catagories:

High School and College students13

Business and Professional women

between the ages of 27 - 4023

Older women 1

In order to make the Vocation of Deaconess and the Training for same at the Central House, known throughout the Church, Deaconess Brereton and I filled many speaking engagements. Deaconess Brereton also attended the Convention of Young Churchmen at Carleton College in August.

PRINTED PUBLICITY: Deaconess Truesdell has re-edited the Picture Leaflet THE DEACONESSES OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Board of Trustees of the Central House has mapped out a fine program for Promotion and Publicity. They have changed the name "Associates and Sponsors" to that of "FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE." New Leaflets for the "FRIENDS" have been printed and you are asked to send for a supply of these to mail to your friends. We also suggest that you keep a supply of all the leaflets published on the Office of Deaconess on hand and see that the Tract Racks in your own church and in other churches in your Diocese are filled.

The Second part of the Purpose of the Central House: "AS A CENTER FOR DEACONESSES WORKING IN THE FIELD, AND AS HEADQUARTERS FOR THE ORDER OF DEACONESSES OF THE CHURCH": From letters received from deaconesses, and from visits made to the Central House, it seems as if this part of the Purpose is being fulfilled. There seems to be a stronger bond between us than existed before when we had the different schools. I hope that this bond will grow stronger, and that you all will come to feel that the Central House is your House to which you can come at any time. As we get more settled into the life of the House, this purpose will be revealed to us more deeply.

GENERAL CONVENTION: First, I want to thank the National Conference of Deaconesses for appointing me to represent them at Honolulu; to see that an Exhibit was set up and literature distributed. The Exhibit was in the form of Shadow boxes with dolls representing the work of deaconesses. It was warmly received.

The Board of Trustees of the Central House voted at their Annual meeting in September to reimburse the National Conference of Deaconesses for the amount spent on the Exhibit at General Convention. This leaves only the Travel Expenses of the Deaconess-in-charge to be paid by the National Conference. The Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Deaconesses also sent a gift of \$200.00 toward the expenses at Honolulu. For these gifts we are deeply grateful.

The two items of greatest interest to the deaconesses presented at General Convention were the appointment of an Advisory Commission on the work of Deaconesses, and the inclusion of the Grant for Maintenance for the Central House in the Budget of the General Church for the next Triennial. We are happy to report that both these items were passed by General Convention.

ITEMS OF INTEREST: Deaconess Bradley has given a Credence Table for our Chapel in memory of her father. This table has been made by a priest in Beltsville, Maryland who makes Church furniture as a hobby.

A beautiful set of chimes has been presented to the Central House by the Alumnae Association of the Church Training and Deaconess House of Philadelphia in memory of Deaconess Sanford and in honor of Deaconess Carter.

Deaconess Bechtol has given a Silver Tea Service for the House.

FUTURE: As I stated in the first part of my report, the Purpose of the Central House which is of the greatest interest to all is the TRAINING PROGRAM. While we know that, whether or not we have candidates for training depends to a great extent on the Bishops and the Clergy, we cannot stop there. We also must continue to do a great deal of work for the order ourselves. So often we become involved with our own work and we are apt to forget our responsibility to the order. For most of us, the door to this Life and Work was opened to us by some other person. Have we opened the door to anyone? Are we using the Grace of God as we should?

I am wondering if one day a week could be set aside as a Deaconess Day, when each one of us will lift up to God one young woman, whom we know has all the potentialities and possibilities for making a fine deaconess, praying that if it is God's Will that her heart and her ears may be opened to hear His voice.

We must keep ourselves alert. We must be right on our toes. We must be "as modern as tomorrow." We must stop worrying about the past and what has not been done, or what used to be, and look to what we must be and what we must do now. We must have a "new look." Things are changing and changing fast. We must keep up with this change. We are working with a new generation of young Bishops and Clergy who are not familiar with the life and work of a deaconess, and yet we have much to offer — life dedication, devotion and discipline, plus training to aid them in the work of the Church.

Let us not sacrifice the Order and all that it can be just to hold on to old traditions and cherished prejudices. Let us go along with all that is the finest and best so that we can be of the best possible use to Our Lord and His Church.

Edith A. Baath,
Deaconess-in-charge

REPORT OF THE PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN — 1952 - 1955

1. After Triennial Meeting in Boston in 1952, tried to get picture of Deaconess group to the Church papers, but only picture was poor, and results were unsuccessful.
2. After the opening and Blessing of The Central House, articles and pictures were sent to all of the Church papers. A good article was printed in The Living Church, and some mention in some of the other papers — results fair.
3. Printing of stickers to make same of our old literature up-to-date.
4. Printing of the Associates Prayer Card.
5. New slides made and duplicated, of Central House and of Deaconesses at work. Circulation of slides during this Triennium has been mostly through Deaconesses, which is perhaps the most effective way they can be used. We have now three sets: "The Deaconess Story" — revised, a set stressing vacation "whither guest thou?", and the set of slides on The Central House which can be used in conjunction with either set, or alone.
6. The editing and printing of a new picture leaflet in time for the 1955 exhibit booth at General Convention.
7. Copies of "The Deaconess Office and Ministry" with an envelope containing copies of the blue "Vacation of the Deaconess" and the latest picture leaflet, were sent by first class mail to the Libraries of all of the Seminaries of the Church.

Mary P. Truesdell, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE CHAPEL COMMITTEE

This Committee came into being at the Executive Committee meetings of 1953, and its major work in planning and choosing equipment (from the "Dahlgren Fund") for the Chapel was done during 1953 - 1954.

This report covers the year October 1954 — October 1955.

One of the articles needed was a Credence Table. Deaconess Agnes Bradley asked that this might be a memorial to her father. Then there came an offer from a priest of the Church, The Reverend William P. Anna, Jr. of Beltsville, Maryland to make this for us. Thus we have a Credence that is beautiful and gives us places to put articles, such as the Missal, and which fits nicely into our limited space, and is in harmony with the other furnishings, and is both the memorial to the father of a Deaconess and a labor of love from a Priest of the Church.

A Credence cover (with a dust cover with lace made to match the lace frontal and Fair Linen) was made by Mrs. Charles Petskeyes of Davenport, Iowa, who also gave a set of rolls for the linen.

There was discussion and planning of a rail for the front row of chairs in the Chapel. This was made by a Cabinet maker in Sycamore.

One of the needed articles was a set of chimes to call to prayers and meals. The Alumnae of the Church Training and Deaconess House of Philadelphia made this their gift. The chimes have an octave of notes, so many hymns can be played.

This makes the furnishing of the Chapel about complete, and there is no further need for this committee to be continued. Mary P. Truesdell, Chairman.

THE DEACONESS RETREAT

October 18th - 20th 1955

The Rev. Robert E. Savage, Conductor
Christ Church, Waukegan, Illinois

OPENING REMARKS:

We come here to accumulate data and listen to God in a special way. It is with us much as a pool of water. When the water is disturbed it reflects nothing but itself but when it is clear it reflects the blue sky above. The addresses in a retreat are to stimulate, evoke and perhaps to lead the meditation. A meditation is made by sitting, kneeling, and standing. It is a simple thing. We sit quietly, perhaps finding a familiar or even an unfamiliar passage of scripture, ponder until it reaches our inner soul, drop on our knees and talk to God about it. From this a simple resolution involves and we stand with the resolution in our hearts and go back to mingle with the world.

A retreat is an extended meditation. Quote. Ps. 99 "The Lord is King be the people never so impatient; He sitteth between the Cherubim, be the earth never so unquiet."

MEDITATION ADDRESS I. ST. LUKE 11:1.

"Lord teach us to pray." The disciples, though in daily and almost constant association with our Lord, realized their lack of knowledge of the techniques of prayer.

Everyone prays at one time or another. There are many reasons why we should pray but only one for why we do. God the Holy Ghost induces us to act. Prayer calls for development, endeavor, humility and wisdom on our part. Some reasons that we may feel that prayer is not effective: 1. God is not real to us. That is because we are not real to God. We say our prayers but we do not pray. We must learn to abandon fixed forms and talk to God in a natural and childlike way as a child to his natural parent.

2. We fear that answers to prayers we might make would or could change the nature of the way God should act in the natural world. When God answers prayers he does not violate the natural laws but makes personal adjustments. This is a quote by Dr. Bell. The Law of Personality is introduced into the Law of Nature. Even though this answer may often be miraculous no law of nature has been violated.

3. God does not answer our prayers. On certain occasions in the past God has answered the prayers of the people directly. He may do so still if we will listen for His answer. We must learn to talk to God but we must also learn to listen.

To overcome each of the above difficulties we must first learn to say "please" in our private devotions, then to say "thank you" and finally to say, "I'm sorry." One may not be inhibited in his requests to God if his request is honest and sincere. Our thank yous can be about very ordinary everyday things and we must be sorry for our genuine inadequacies and realize them as sins. If we reshape our prayer life to fulfill these things we will receive God's love as his children and the answer to our prayers.

MEDITATION II. THE ANSWER TO PRAYER.

What is prayer? It is an elevation of the soul to God or a means of communication with God. Our prayers alone are not sufficient communication with God.

The Jewish people understood this and looked for a direct answer to their prayers that would be a final answer to all their prayers. This was the expectation of a Messiah. God provided this in the form of the Second Person of the Blessed

Trinity. "Far Gad sa loved the world that He gave his only Begotten San." Our Lord offered in historical time and place Himself as an answer to all the prayers of the world. But as St. John said, "He came unto His own and His own received Him nat." So Jesus became the perfect prayer and the complete answer. He offered Himself completely without reservation as an answer to our prayers. He became the Perfect Answer when he arose from the dead and returned to be historically seen on earth.

During His earthly mission He instituted the Sacraments, which are external prayers and their answers. Two Sacraments are necessary for salvation, Holy Baptism and the Supper of our Lord. However all seven Sacraments are necessary to **Some** for salvation.

A child is presented for baptism with a specific prayer and this prayer is immediately answered by the outward administering of water and the words of the Blessed Trinity. Bread and wine are offered upon the altar with a prayer that they may become the body and blood of our risen Lord and the prayer is answered in the sense in which it was intended. The candidate for Confirmation prays for the seven fold gift of the Holy Spirit. He receives these gifts by the Laying on of Hands of the Bishop. A sinner commits a sin after baptism. The Church offers Holy Penance and the candidate receives Holy Absolution. All these Sacraments are administered within the Body of the Church. Thus the Church also becomes a Sacrament.

The Church itself is a Prayer offered to God. Each and everyone of us becomes an extension of the Incarnation. We are a prayer offered to God and an answer received from Him.

Not only when you are about special business for Him but every second of every day, walking or sleeping. Not you only but every member of God's family, the Church. What is Christ's body doing at any given time? We are the answers to the world's prayers. Each one of us is a sacramental expression of prayer and an answer to that prayer. Sacraments and the Church are the prayer offered to God and the prayer answered by God.

Reported by Deaconess Celia Brown

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES

by Gertrude Stewart

Since the opening of the Central House for Deaconesses in Sycamore, Illinois, two years ago, my hope has been that I could visit it sometime and share in its activities. Now that dream has come true, and the realization surpasses the anticipation of it. The setting of the House, in spacious grounds, with many trees, in autumn coloring and late flowers in bloom, gave a most pleasing appearance. The furnishings, simple, but in good taste and with real comfort, make the whole inside attractive. The chapel is particularly satisfying with its light colored furniture, and floor lamps with indirect lighting; and although small, is plenty large for ordinary uses. One felt the spirit of true devotion at each service there, and the truth that "in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength." Another asset is the nearness to the Diocesan Conference Center Buildings, including the large chapel, dining hall, several parlors, and many bed rooms all joined to the Central House by a covered, heated passageway. The three deaconesses in residence, each with varied talents, supplement each other in the household duties. Each has a turn in conducting the chapel services. The new set of chimes, (by which I was much pleased, since they were given by the Alumnae Association of the Church Training and Deaconess House of Philadelphia, as a memorial to the first two Head Deaconesses, Caroline H. Sanford and Clara M. Carter)—gave a clear call to worship, sometimes with a hymn being played on them, or for meals or Conference meetings. One great desire rose in all our hearts, I am sure, that soon every bedroom in the House would be used by a candidate for the Order of Deaconesses, while being trained there for her future ministry. May God grant our prayers for this important fulfillment of the purpose of the Central House.

RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE 62nd ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF THE MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

WHEREAS, Deaconess Mary Frances Word has courageously carried on an unselfish, devoted, and effective mission of love unfolding to isolated children throughout the state, the riches of religious education, and
WHEREAS, she has done this from her sickbed at St. Luke's Hospital, despite handicaps that to most people seemed insurmountable, and
WHEREAS, she feels that she now must relinquish this burden and leave to others the carrying on of this work so nobly accomplished,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Convocation of the Missionary District of Arizona extends to her our grateful appreciation of her years of devoted service, and we ask God's richest blessings on her continuing example of patience and kindly interest in and devotion to the work of the Kingdom.

In Memoriam

Deaconesses who have died during the Triennium

Anna Hoff	October 20, 1952
Muriel Alice Thayer	November 5, 1952
Mary Louise Steiger	June 13, 1953
Josephine Peterson	June 24, 1953
Alice Reynolds	July 28, 1953
Nettie Whitford	September 10, 1953
Julia E. Boyd	September 26, 1953
Adda Knox	October 9, 1953
Mary T. Gadsden	October 19, 1953
Helen Hill	January 5, 1954
Katherine E. Wood	February 6, 1954
Amelia Propper	November 20, 1954
Elizabeth Chappell	November 30, 1954
Eleanor Adven	March 27, 1955

We bless Thy holy name, O Lord, for these Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear; beseeching Thee to grant them continual growth in Thy love and service, and give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

It was with amazement that I found myself—so busily acting as secretary—elected as the chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses at the meeting at Central House, following the election of four new members of your Committee. I'm not the "baby" of the Order, but I'm only two years and four months old as a deaconess.

My "youth" and inexperience in the workings of our Order call for your patience and help—help by suggestions, help by giving backgrounds of problems in the Order, help best of all by your prayers. Pray that I may become, in all humility, empty of self and filled with the meekness of wisdom. Pray that our Order may go forward in its work, that we may re-awaken the Church to its responsibility to this 2000-year Vocation for Women.

Faithfully yours, in Our Lord,
Edno McNeil Dietz, Deaconess
Chairman, Executive Committee
National Conference of Deaconesses

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

At the conclusion of the meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses on October 20th at Central House, Sycamore, Illinois, the Corporation of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses convened for business as required by its By-Laws.

Deaconess Pauline Watts, who has been serving most devotedly as Secretary of the Board, had everything in readiness for the meeting although her transfer to the Good Shepherd Mission, Ft. Defiance, Arizona, made it impossible for her to attend this meeting. She has asked to be relieved of the office of secretary, although she will serve out her term on the Board. Her report to the Corporation in part is as follows:

"The number of Beneficiaries is now fifteen. One died during the year and two were withdrawn as there was no longer need. The average allowance is \$50 a month, although three are receiving \$100 a month because of greater need caused by illness.

"The Board of Directors held a meeting on May 12, 1955, and carried on some business also by correspondence. On April 1, 1955, the City Bank Farmers Trust Company (the Custodian of the Retiring Fund) took over the sending out of the checks to the beneficiaries instead of having them go through the secretary's hands.

"At the May meeting a Resolution was passed to 'give grateful and heartfelt thanks to Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Ladd for what they are doing and have done for the deaconesses and for the Retiring Fund'.

"The 1955 Leaflet, prepared by the Chicago Deaconesses, met with whole-hearted approval, and the response from contributions has been most encouraging, as the Treasurer's report will show.

"May God guide our Retiring Fund in all its activities, and may each of us do our part in strengthening the work of the Retiring Fund."

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION OF THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

October 20, 1955

The members of the Corporation of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses met at 1:45 P.M. on Thursday, October 20th, 1955, in the Central House for Deaconesses, Sycamore, Illinois, following the adjourned Triennial meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses. Twenty-three deaconesses were present.

Deaconess Gertrude Stewart, President of the Board of Directors, presided and opened the meeting with prayer. Deaconess Ramsay was asked to act as secretary pro-tem. The Report of the Secretary, Pauline Watts, was read and received with grateful thanks. The Treasurer's report was summarized by the President, showing a current capital of \$348,000.00, of which \$3,742.30 has been received during the past year. Several questions were asked as to how much has come in through advertising, through individual gifts and through the Laywoman's Committee.

Mrs. C. P. Ladd's report of the Laywoman's Committee was then read and received with thanks for her interest and work in encouraging gifts. She reported the appointment of several local chairmen in the various dioceses. Also, she referred to the new leaflet which she has sent out to some 4,000 interested friends. Not only does Mrs. Ladd talk about the Retiring Fund but she tells about the life and work of the deaconesses as well.

It was moved and seconded that Deaconess Helen Taylor be thanked for her contribution in lettering the new entries in the Memorial Book (now on exhibit in the glass case at Central House.)

Ballots were then distributed for the election of new Board members. . . . The three new Directors elected to serve until 1958 in Class III were Deaconesses Johnson, Dieterly and Ramsay. Thanks and appreciation were expressed to retiring Deaconesses Newbold and Stewart for their services on the Board during the past three years.

Letters from the Advisors were read, including an especially encouraging one from Bishop Conkling.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Lydia Ramsay, Secretary.

**Present Officers and Members of the Board of Directors,
Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.**

Deaconess Katharine Putnam	President
Deaconess Grace E. Smith	Vice-President
Deaconess Lydia Ramsay	Secretary
Deaconess Pauline Watts	Deaconess Ruth Johnson
Deaconess Phyllis Spencer	Deaconess Hilda Dieterly

National Conference of Deaconesses of the Church

By-Laws

As amended in 1949 and 1952

1. NAME. The name of this organization shall be the "National Conference of Deaconesses."
2. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Conference shall be to unite the Deaconesses of the Church in a closer fellowship, and to take counsel together concerning matters pertaining to the spiritual and practical welfare of the Order.
3. MEMBERSHIP. All Deaconesses in good standing shall be entitled to membership in this Conference.
4. DUES. The dues shall be \$1.00 per year, payable annually.
5. MEETINGS. (Annual and Triennial) The Conference shall meet annually. During the year of General Convention, the Conference shall meet at the time and place of General Convention, and is to be known as the "Triennial Meeting." The Executive Committee shall designate the time and place of other annual meetings. Legislation shall be effected only at the Triennial Meeting.
6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The Executive Committee shall consist of eight Deaconesses, four of whom shall be elected by ballot at each triennial meeting to serve for six years. No member may serve two consecutive terms.
7. DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to prepare for the Conference, to carry out its instructions and to act as a channel of communication. It may also appoint committees at its discretion. It shall have power to fill vacancies in its membership.
8. OFFICERS. The Executive Committee shall elect from its members a Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer to serve three years, these officers to act both for the committee and for the National Conference.
9. NOMINATION AND ELECTION. For the election of the Executive Committee, the chairman shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members in the January preceding the National Conference. Nominations may be sent to the Secretary of the Executive Committee to be forwarded by her to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee up to March 1st preceding the National Conference. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot containing at least seven names; on this they shall place any name nominated by twelve persons. From this ballot four shall be elected to serve on the Executive Committee for six years. This ballot shall be sent by mail to all Deaconesses by April 1st.
10. AMENDMENT. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present by any triennial meeting, provided that the amendment has been proposed at a previous meeting.

Dear Deaconess:

It was my pleasure to report to the National Conference in session at The Central House last month that the General Convention in Honolulu had approved the re-establishment of the Advisory Commission and also had approved the continuation of the grant toward the support of The Central House for this Triennium.

This favorable action gave impetus to the planning of the Board of Trustees of The Central House. We (the Trustees) have initiated efforts to do intensive publicity this winter beginning at the earliest possible date. I am chairman of one of the publicity committees - the one that is specifically charged with the preparation of articles for the Diocesan papers throughout the Church. These articles are to tell about challenging situations we Deaconesses are coping with or have experienced. Our aim is to present the vocation to the Deaconess life to the Clergy and to Churchwomen who may thereby be led to a recognition of their true vocation and to an ultimate response to its call.

There is no doubt that you can recall several such situations in your own experience - situations so challenging and vivid that they deserve to be told, and in the telling catch the imagination of those who may all unknowingly be waiting for the call to serve Our Lord as Deaconesses.

This is the plan: We are enlisting the aid of one or more professionally trained laymen to write articles from the layman's point of view using material sent me by Deaconesses. These articles are to be used in Diocesan papers during the coming winter.

You can readily see that an immediate start must be made in order

1. to get articles in shape for publication, and
2. to contact the diocesan editors for space in future issues.

WILL YOU HELP IN THIS PROJECT?

Please 1. Write fully so as to give the professional writer as complete a picture of the situation as possible. It may be that your article can be used "as is."

2. Change names and/or locale if you wish. If the latter, please let me know in confidence the true locale.

3. It may be advisable to send your article about your own situation to dioceses far from your own, omitting publication in your own diocese. I should welcome your comment on this.

4. If possible, glossy prints or negatives of action pictures.

I am glad of this opportunity to assure you that the Trustees are keenly aware of their responsibility to The Central House and for the fruitful use of the House, The Board voted to use this type of publicity after lengthy consideration of ways and means of presenting our vocation to Churchwomen and to their Clergy. Favorable response will enable our Central House to fulfill one purpose - "To provide training for women as Deaconesses."

WILL YOU HELP IN THIS PROJECT?

We, the Trustees, have done our best in planning for the future. We need your help in putting the plans in effect. May we count on your favorable response? And SOON?

RUTH JOHNSON, Chairman
Publicity Committee of the Board of Trustees
of The Central House

N E W S L E T T E R

November, 1956

National Conference of Deaconesses

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

It is a great privilege and responsibility to serve as the chairman of your Executive Committee. The eight members of the Committee - nine with Dss. Booth, ex officio - have established an excellent record. At the spring meeting only one was absent; at the Annual Conference two were absent. Only with their co-operation and with the prayers of the whole Order can work be accomplished.

We are grateful to General Convention for the membership assigned to the Joint Commission on Work of Deaconesses. These very busy men are giving of their time, thought, and prayers to further the work of our Order. The evidence points to the moving of the Holy Spirit. Besides our prayers for this great movement we must promptly and prayerfully read and study the material sent you by Dss. Truesdell at the suggestion of Bishop Burrill and his subcommittee of the Joint Commission. Then fill out and return the questionnaire. (We are asked to answer yes or no, no checks.)

Because of the expense, the Executive Committee ordered a NEWSLETTER giving notes of the Annual Meeting of '56 to be mimeographed and mailed out. The printed DEACONESS we plan for our Triennial meeting.

Begin now to make your plans for our next Annual Retreat and Conference - Oct. 7-11, 1957. You will find in it a great spiritual experience.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord

Edna McNeil Dietz, Deaconess
Chairman

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the
NATIONAL CONFERENCE of DEACONESSSES
The Central House for Deaconesses, Stcamore, Ill.
October 11, 1956**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Dss. Edna Dietz at 9:50 a.m., with the following Deaconesses present:

Frances Affleck, W.Texas	Clara Orwig, Chicago
Edith Booth, S.W.Va.	Ruth Parsons, Chicago
Agnes Bradley, Chicago	Katharine Putnam, Chicago
Amelia Brereton, S.W.Va.	
Marian Brown, Arizona	Lydia Ramsay, New York
Lillian Crow, Dallas	Edna Sargent, Chicago
Edna Dietz, W.Texas	Clara Searle, So. Ohio
Hildegarde Donsing, Chicago	Evelyn Seymour, W.Mass.
Harriet English, So.Fla.	Grace Smith, So.Florida
Alice Mayer, S.W.Va.	Mary Truesdell, Quincy
	Pauline Watts, Arizona

Dss. Ramsay had the opening prayers.

Dss. Booth introduced Betty Lank, the student at Central House, and announced that she will be Set-Apart in January 1958, D.V.

The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held in April, and just prior to this meeting, were read and discussed. It was generally agreed that a summer conference did not seem to meet our needs. It was felt, though, that a longer conference at the time of the Retreat in October would be profitable.

Resolutions to be sent to the following were presented and accepted: to Deaconess Booth and her helpers at Central House for arranging the Retreat and Conferences;

to Father Turkington, O.H.C., Conductor of the Retreat;

to Dr. Yerkes, Director of Studies at the

Central House.

The Report of the Treasurer was read, with the proposed budget and estimated income.

A letter was read from Dss. Knepper reporting on the fall ingathering of the Pence Can Offering. A word of appreciation was sent to her from the meeting.

Dss. Marian Brown commented that having the Central House has helped much in overcoming the feeling of isolation for those working alone in distant places. Dss. Booth announced that she is planning to get out a Central House News Letter.

Dss. Affleck has completed the first year's work of gathering information for the Historical Committee, and Dss. Putnam has been asked to sort out and arrange the material, so that writers may begin their work next year.

Greetings were read from several deaconesses not able to be present. Dss. Taylor sent word for Dss. Smith who is ill. Dss. Simpson and Dss. Armstrong and Dss. Hutton were remembered.

Dss. Booth presented her fine report of the Central House.

Dss. Truesdell was then asked to present her paper with the questionnaire which all deaconesses are to receive, and are urged to fill in and return. (These were sent out in a separate mailing.) Those present went over the papers carefully and there was much wholesome discussion. Dss. Booth and Dss. Truesdell were asked to formulate a statement to send to Bishop Burrill registering the feeling of those present at this meeting.

Dss. Searle had the closing prayers.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Evelyn E. Seymour
Secretary, Pro-tem.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

GENERAL FUNDS

Balance on Hand, Oct. 15, 1955	\$ 31.29	
Receipts during the year		
October 1955-1956		
from dues	\$110.00	
Gifts-unassigned	<u>153.35</u>	<u>263.35</u>
Grand Total		\$294.64
Disbursements during the year		
Postage, printing,		
stationery	\$ 52.39	
Auditor's Fee	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$152.39</u>
Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1956		<u>142.25</u>
Grand Total		294.64

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

2/3 of Pence Can offering this past year	211.49
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CENTRAL HOUSE

1/3 of Pence Can offering this past year	\$101.74
Special Gift	<u>6.00</u>
Total sent to the Central House by the Treasurer	107.74

EMERGENCY FUND

Disbursement for issue of THE DEACONESS	\$107.00	
Balance in Fund, Oct. 1, 1956	<u>637.03</u>	744.03
Balance on hand Oct. 15, 1955	\$323.01	
Receipts (Triennial meeting and following)	<u>421.02</u>	
		744.03

SPECIAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance Oct. 10, 1956	\$1,494.66
Interest to June 31, 1956	32.83
U.S. Savings Bond Balance	<u>23.62</u>
Total in Savings Account, October 1, 1956	\$1,551.11

Dss. Evelyn T. Seymour
Treasurer

Proposed Budget:

Annual Expenses:

Postage, general expenses, paper, telegrams, etc.	\$ 30.00
Transportation, Comm. members, Guest speakers, etc.	320.00
Discretionary Fund for Head of Central House **	100.00*
Publicity and Promotion Fund	<u>150.00*</u>
	\$600.00

* Now paid from the Pence Can Offering

** To include an Emergency Fund

The ANNUAL INCOME has been approximately as follows:

\$100.00 from dues
300.00 Pence Cans
<u>200.00 Special gifts</u>
\$600.00 each year

REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE

To: THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE, October 11, 1956

GREETINGS:

Interest this year has been centered on two main items:

1. The entrance of our first candidate for training. Miss Betty Lank has come to us from the Diocese of Harrisburg. She will complete her training in January, 1958.

2. The interest created in the Order of Deaconesses by the Posters which were sent to all clergy in the Church by the Publicity Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Central House. This poster was also used as an advertisement in the church papers. Over a hundred requests for information on the Vocation of Deaconess have been received and they continue to come in. It is interesting to note that it is the older woman who is seeking information, often a woman who has been in business or a widow, just as the older man seems to be going into the ministry after several years of business. The publicity will be continued during the coming year. Let us tell these women of the opportunities for service to our Lord and His Church by sharing with them our life, through pictures and articles. Only you can provide this information. Will you PLEASE send to the Deaconess-in-charge any items you have of interest concerning the work you are doing, and pictures with you as a deaconess in them, so that we might use them for publication in the church papers.

During the year we have received several gifts. The Alumnae Association of the Philadelphia School sent us the balance of the Fund raised for the Chimes in honor of Deaconess Carter and Deaconess Sanford, to be used for the purchase of books,

amounting to \$393.80. The Alumnae Association of the New York Training School sent a gift for \$250. Other money gifts have come through the Pence Can and from individual deaconesses. A small gas stove was given for an auxiliary unit for the kitchen; some of our Christmas money purchased a comfortable chair for the common room, and an electric coffee maker, also a clock for the hallway. Father Heald, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Central House gave us a sofa when he moved to Vermont, and the Trustees of the New York Training School have given us books, pictures, eucharistic vestments, etc., which had formerly belonged to the New York School.

Those of us who received medals from our schools when we were Set Apart have always treasured them, so you will be happy to know that Canon West of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, who is an authority on ecclesiastical art has designed for the Central House a very beautiful Deaconess Cross which will be presented to each deaconess when she is Set Apart. This will be a distinctive Deaconess Cross and be worn only by deaconesses of the American Church.

We all have been concerned with the future of the Order and have felt that it was in precarious balance, with the uncertainty there is in the Church today in regard to women's work. We know, however, that there is an excellent chance of bringing the Order to its rightful place in the life of the Church. We have a Joint Commission, and a Board of Trustees of the Central House who are deeply concerned with the future of the Order and keenly interested in every angle of the life and work of deaconesses. As we move into this new era in the life of the Order in the life of the Church there may be changes and opportunities for service we never dreamed of which we will have to face if we are to make the Order one of God's

instruments in this modern world. We cannot be complacent. We must be a dynamic Order, one which will challenge the women of this new generation and restore this vocation to the place of honor and prestige which it held in the early Church.

An editorial by Bishop Penick in one of the church papers this spring carried a thought which I feel applies to us as well as the situation which he was discussing: In talking about the various changes that are taking place in the world, which we as Christians must face if we are to grow, he said: "New revelations of Christian truth which God gives us from time to time must not be shrunk or diluted to fit outworn and obsolete containers but new forms must be provided to accommodate new discoveries of man as he continues to progress."

We, the Deaconesses of the Church, must be ready to move on with this progress. Let us keep ourselves alert, mentally and spiritually, so that we will be ready to take our place and face any new demands the Church places on us as Deaconesses in the Church of God.

Respectfully submitted,
Edith A. Booth
Deaconess-in-charge

BOOK OF RUTH

In the first book of the Old Testament we are impressed with blood and thunder of God - man's nothingness, war, death, and disaster.

Then comes the lovely book of Ruth - a love story of a simple people, of day by day activities.

It is a story of Ruth who leaves her country, her people, and her gods. She left all to live with the Hebrews and become one of them. Through her the history of the Jewish race is changed. God chose Ruth, and Ruth responded to His call. Ruth the outcast - the one who had worshipped idols - becomes the ancestor of our Blessed Lord Himself.

We can see the whole host of heaven as she says: "Intreat me not to leave Thee."

She places herself in God's hand to carry out His purpose for all people, for all mankind.

Let us think of our own vocation. Let us recollect - God chose us. The seed was put in our hearts by God Himself. God put a thought in our minds "I will." He has called us to serve Him - just as He called Ruth on the road to Bethlehem.

Recall the past year - the many times we have failed in that vocation: the sins that have come before us, the things we have left undone, our lukewarmness. Let us be honest with ourselves, with Him. Let us ask His forgiveness. Let us renew that promise we made in our vocation. Let us be guided by Him, sustained by His love. Let us think of St. Andrew and St. John as they see Him walking by "Where do you live?" "Come and see." Let us experience their joy as we say once more "Thy will be done."

Last evening we thought of God's call and our response. In His choice in each of us He has asked co-operation. We have offended Him. We have sins of omission and commission. We are to ask Him to renew in us a fervor in our vocation, that He will go with us this year. His thoughts in our minds, our hand in His hand, His love in our hearts. Ruth called by God to bring about His plan of Redemption. She surrendered her will to God.

Fifth Chapter of the Book of Esther:

The Jewish people still keep the feast of Esther. In the Book of Ruth the story concerned individuals. In Esther the story concerns the crowds. It is in a Far Eastern setting. The king is on his throne - there is much ceremony - all people were allowed to ask a request of the king - women were not allowed in the court without permission. Esther without the king's knowledge enters the court - the king's love saves Esther. Esther is the Jewish maiden who has won the king's heart. She touches the king's golden scepter - he accepts her request to dine with her and Haman. The king hears of a plot to kill Esther and her people. Esther risks her life and stands out in the history of religion as one who in the greatest of odds, at the risk of her life, asks for others.

The most important work in the life of one called to a vocation is the work of Prayer. Any well-trained man or woman can be a worker - but our dedication, our gift of life means being. As we have so little time for prayer we must turn out hearts to Him. In morning and evening quiet time, meditation, intercession, and time given to God as He gives us the opportunity. Prayer must be the very center of our life to receive strength and comfort to carry out the work He has called us to do.

Obedience is the very essence of the Christian

life - at Baptism we are asked to renounce the world, the flesh and the devil and to continue God's faithful soldier and servant unto our life's end.

To be good soldiers of our Lord we must first learn obedience. A servant is one who obeys his master. We must be other Christ's - those in whom others see Christ - others who will come and know and see Him. We must serve Him in our Prayer Life. The most important times of our lives are in the moments of Prayer.

God calls us as He called Ruth and Esther. We are to be intercessors. As we stand between God and the people, He would have us love Him - those who are in need, those who do not care. We not only bring them to know God, but we are all drawn together in His fellowship.

We must ask God to speak to us so we may come into His presence by our example and by intercession to win others to His love and grace. St. Paul calls himself "the servant of Christ." "The slave of Christ" - St. Paul's will was one in Christ.

Women in the Old Testament were called to do God's will - handmaids of God.

The Blessed Virgin Mary - Acts of the Apostles 1:14.

What does she mean to us as a member of the Anglican Communion? The Roman Catholic Church has lost the humanity of Jesus. They have elevated her to a position He alone can hold. We must pray that men may know that Jesus is God. The Protestants only think of St. Mary around Christmas time. This is also a lack of knowledge of Jesus our Saviour. They believe He is the best of a human character. He becomes a great example. God has

given to us the great truth of what He did for us men and for our salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We have continued to honor the Mother of our Lord in such a way. We give her honor in what she is and in her obedience permitting God to do His will through her. A young Jewish woman as seen in Holy Scripture, Mary of Nazareth, although she was poor, she was proud of being of the line of David. Her home was a home of prayer. She knew the history of her people. She sang the Psalms of her people in her daily life.

The Angel comes to her and tells her she is full of grace. God has chosen her to be the mother of our Lord. The whole creation waits as Mary says "Be it unto me according to thy word."

"Jesus was God's greatest gift to men. Man's greatest gift to God - mother of Christ." Through her obedience God was able to project Himself and become man for us and for our salvation. We see Mary - wise men, temple and marriage feast, His public ministry and danger - the Cross. The upper room with the disciples awaiting for the promise of the Holy Spirit to those He loved the most. Mary is there no longer just a mother - but a disciple - no longer giving obedience to the unknown, her son - her Lord and Saviour. She is here in continual humble obedience awaiting the will of God. Our loving obedience must be more and more like the Blessed Mother.

"Be it unto me according to thy word" - thy will be done on our lips and in our hearts. If we do the will of God - we must know the word of God through our prayers, our communions, and in serving Him. Whenever we pray God asks our obedience - and He asks us to do His will. We learn of God's purpose for us - we recall our vocation - recollect our vows in Baptism and Confirmation.

Fill our hearts with the love of God that we

- like His servant Mary of Nazareth - the love of
God shall also fill our hearts and minds.

written by Mrs. Marian Brown

N E W S L E T T E R

November, 1957

National Conference of Deaconesses

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

As you know, because of personal illness, I was unable to attend the National Conference. This was the first meeting I failed to attend since I was Set Apart. Deaconess Searle had been asked to preside, but she was called away because of illness in her family. So our efficient and beloved Deaconess Booth stepped in and conducted the meetings. The agenda had been made and from the excellent minutes I have received from Deaconess Booz all points were acted upon.

Those of you who attended received great inspiration from our two scheduled speakers and from Fr. Yerkes. I am deeply grateful to those who made the days at Central House so pleasant and profitable for you all.

Now, let us each one begin to make our plans to attend the important legislative meeting of our National Conference at General Convention on Oct. 4, 1958, at Miami Beach, Fla. There will be several important matters for our consideration.

Even now, I ask your continued prayers for your Executive Committee that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit in all the plans for the triennial meeting of your National Conference.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,

Edna McNeil Dietz, Deaconess
Chairman

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MINUTES....

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: October 7, 1957

Present: Deaconesses English, Booth, Colby, Booz, and Ramsay

Discussion of meeting to be held next year at Miami Beach, Florida.

All deaconesses are asked to write to Deaconess Booth as soon as possible as to whether they will need hospitality.

Decided that the Offering Envelopes for the Triennial Meeting be marked for THE RETIRING FUND, and the NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

All matters pertaining to publicity at General Convention to be handled by Central House.

Newsletter to be sent out after these meetings and retreat.

Deaconess Putnam asked to continue her work as Historian for another year.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE MEETING: October 7, 1957, 7:00 P.M.

Present: Deaconesses Affleck, Bradley, Booth, Brereton, Booz, Colby, Dawson, Dieterly, Bonsing, English, Ruth Johnson, Orwig, Parsons, Putnam, Ramsay, Sargent, Grace Smith, Truesdell, Watts.

Betty Lank, Senior, and Marie Scott, Junior, students, were introduced to the group. Dss. Eleanor Smith was presented on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

After prayers, led by Dss. Colby, Dss. Booth introduced Dr. Yerkes who spoke on the history of the Order.

Minutes of last year's meeting read, amended, and accepted. Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Pence Cans report read, including a request from Dss. Knepper to be relieved of these duties.

Dss. Putnam made the following report as a result of her work this past year on the historical material:

100 Deaconess living at the present time (10/1/57)

200 Deaconess deceased

39 Deaconess resigned, in Sisterhoods, or lost

359 Deaconess grand total of all Deaconesses in the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Dss. Booth presented her report on her work at the Central House.

Dss. Johnson reported that of the 95 questionnaires sent out last year by Dss. Truesdell to the deaconesses, 65 were returned. The majority considered that they had been ordained to the Order.

Suggestions concerning legislative matters to be considered at the Triennial meeting may be sent to members of the Executive Committee or to Dss. Booth at the Central House.

The setting up of a Hospitality Fund to be used for entertaining foreign deaconesses visiting in this country, was discussed and referred to the budget committee. It was suggested that when there was a visiting Deaconess in the country, all deaconesses be given an opportunity to contribute toward her hospitality.

The New Book of Devotions of English Deaconesses was mentioned - price 65¢ or 75¢ available from the Central House.

Resolutions: to Fr. Pederson, S.S.J.E.; Rev. Jules Moreau; Dss. Booth and those at the Central House; Dr. Yerkes; Trustees of the Central House; and Dss. Brereton. --written by E.E. Seymour, from full minutes taken by Dss. Booz, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER - October 1, 1957

GENERAL FUNDS

Balance on hand, Oct. 1, 1956	\$142.25	
Receipts during the year -		
from dues	\$75.50	
Gifts to the General Fund	38.00	
	<u>113.50</u>	
Total Receipts		\$255.75

Disbursements during the year		
Postage	\$11.32	
Mimeographing	8.38	
Multilithing	24.00	
Express charges,		
Historical material	6.71	
Telegrams sent Oct. '56	3.03	
	<u>53.44</u>	
Total Disbursements	\$ 53.44	
Balance on hand, Oct. 1, 1957	202.31	
	<u>255.75</u>	\$255.75

SPECIALS: Balances on hand as no
disbursements have been made

Receipts: For Scholarship Fund	\$ 5.00
Unassigned Funds	264.00

PENCE CAN OFFERINGS

Receipts: Oct. 1956	\$176.55	
Jan. 1957	3.00	
June 1957	<u>136.53</u>	
Total		\$316.08

1/3 of this sent to Central House
2/3 for Publicity and Promotion

PUBLICITY and PROMOTION

Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1956	\$211.49	
Receipts, as noted above	<u>208.72</u>	
Total		\$ 420.21

Disbursements:

Printing	\$200.00	
Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1957	<u>220.21</u>	
Total		\$ 420.21

EMERGENCY FUND: No receipts,
no disbursements 637.03

SPECIAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

Balance in account, Oct. 1, 1956	\$1,551.11	
Interest added (July 1, 1956 to Oct. 1, 1957	<u>59.93</u>	
Balance in account, Oct. 1, 1957		\$1,611.04

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn E. Seymour, Deaconess
Treasurer

LAST MINUTE NOTES:

Dss. Massey reported greatly improved.

Dorothy Dowling in Emergency Hospital
Washington D.C., "with a rather rugged case of
pneumonia" postal dated Nov. 4.

Although most deaconesses live scattered, far from one another, since the Central House has been established, none has been allowed to think, "I have watched, and am even as it were a sparrow, that sitteth alone on the housetop." For four and a half years I had not seen another deaconess, and yet it has seemed more and more as time went on, that a warm cordial hand has been stretching forth, and an affectionate arm reaching out to draw even the farthest into a special spiritual family circle. Intimate messages have reached us, items of news from individual deaconesses, and announcements of vital interest. Best of all, have been the devotional leaflets for intercessions, thanksgivings, and inspiration. The approach of Conference found each one prepared. We were not merely asked, not just invited but WANTED. That brought thrill No.1 and Conference went into furlough plans.

While in the queue at the ticket window of the railway station in Chicago, a cluster of figures appeared in the distance in unmistakable veils and cloaks. Forms and faces still unfamiliar, but smiling. They waved at me. I waved at them. And soon ten of us were on the train together. At deKalb the Central House Deaconesses met us. There was a seat in a car waiting for each one. At Central House itself there was a place ready for every deaconess, as comfortable and as cheery within doors as the sunshine was outside. A letter of welcome was in each room, "This is your Home and we want you to be completely happy here." Thrill No.2, Each INCLUDED.

Conference began with agenda carefully prepared, the meetings well presided over, yet all with ease and intimacy. No cold formalities here. This was OUR business, these OUR problems, OUR de-

cisions, OUR responsibilities. Every report was offered with willingness, enthusiasm, and joy, And each one showed a grand job well done by one or another self-sacrificing deaconess. The results belonged to us all.

In the middle of the conference came the retreat, OUR retreat. The message for US, for ME. Lift up your heart in praise.-- Come close to God. -- Hold a vision of Him. In deep and selfless worship. -- Then go forth, bear witness to Christ, even in a hostile world. Those meditations touched a need, OUR need, MY need. I BELONGED here. In this group. I must appropriate its depth, be stirred by its inspiration, and carry away the courage it will take, for "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit." I felt as never before I BELONG among those sent, "Go ye."

And again in R. Moreau's lecture, he spread out his magnificent erudition for us to use in disentangling the confusion brought about by both lower and higher criticism in our thoughts, and in clarifying the purpose and emphasizing the core of the Scripture. God revealed His activity in the Person of Christ, and through the Holy Spirit in His Church. I needed that discourse. I BELONGED right there.

And further, in prayer time, in the Holy Communion, in free intercourse with other deaconesses, in our group sharing, in hearing of absent ones, and in remembering those gone on, as well as in informal fellowship of meals there was again and again that sense of BELONGING.

Surely every one of us holds dear her call, her deepest decisions, her ordination, and her work, but besides these has now come as never before the impression of BELONGING to the ORDER of Deaconesses.

Friday evening came. Conference was over. We read Psalm 138:- "If I take the wings of the morning, and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there also shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

They asked me to write my impressions. The Psalmist sums it all up neatly: "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes."

Mary E. S. Dawson, Deaconess

**SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE
TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES**

October 7, 1957

It is with great joy I welcome you to the Central House, realizing that the House is becoming more and more the Center for our Order. This year we have twenty "repeaters" and two for whom this is their first visit. May they carry happy memories and rich inspiration home with them.

This past year many of our deaconesses have entered Paradise. Mabel Adams, Bertha Butts, Clara Carter, Elizabeth Boorman, Clara Simpson, Caroline Nosler, Ethel Spencer, and Maria Williams. All these women left deep impressions on the lives of those with whom they worked, and made rich contributions to the work of the Church. The friends of Deaconess Williams have created a Scholarship Fund in her memory to be used to train another young woman to serve the Church as a deaconess. To date this fund amounts to \$936.00.

Concerning the Training program, Betty Lank our "Senior" Candidate is filled with awe and excitement as the time for her canonicals draws near. These will be given in December and she will be Set Apart (D.V.) in the Cathedral in Harrisburg in

January. Marie Scott, our "Junior" comes from the Diocese of Massachusetts. She is a most valuable addition to the Household, is deeply spiritual and has a wonderful sense of humor!

The deaconess members of our household have been carrying on as usual. Deaconess Donsing is equally capable at preparing the meals, or leading or playing for a service. Deaconess Brereton, the instructor of Christian Education learned much from her refresher course at Hartford this summer. She also has charge of the Field Work for the students. She and Marie Scott teach at Mooseheart every Monday, and Betty Lank has charge of the Kindergarten on Sundays at the Parish Church. Betty Lank spent three very profitable weeks with the Chicago City Missions Deaconesses, visiting with them in the State and County institutions. She also spent a weekend observing at St. Mark's, Evanston, Ill., when Deaconess Bradley was the Director of Christian Education there.

Two women have visited the house to learn of the Vocation of Deaconess.

We could not speak of our training program without paying tribute to our Director of Studies, Dr. Yerkes. His wise counsel and spiritual help are what make it possible for us to go on with gallant and high-hearted happiness.

The effort to make the Order known is constantly before us. It seems as if tons of literature have gone out from the Central House this year. Hundreds of pamphlets were sent to all Spring Diocesan meetings of the Woman's Auxiliary and to sixty-five summer conferences. Six thousand, four hundred and seventy-nine (6,479) posters with an accompanying letter were stuffed, licked, and stamped and sent to the bishops and other clergy in September. Requests are now coming in

as a result of this poster for literature for tract racks and from women interested in knowing more about the life and work of a deaconess.

The Board of Trustees of the Central House is firmly and strongly behind us, bearing much of the expense of printing and mailing.

During the year we have spoken to Parish Auxiliaries in Milwaukee, Illinois, and Indiana, and at all the district meetings in the Dioceses of Iowa, Erie, and Vermont.

Throughout the four years our House has been open and in operation there has been a real sense of the strengthening of our roots. Much spade work had to be done, and still has to be done in the form of publicity and promotion, but there is a feeling of understanding and friendliness developing. It takes a long time, and we are often impatient. Dr. Yerkes keeps reminding us that it takes 75 years to make an Oak Tree! The important thing is that we develop strong roots at this time, roots that will carry us through many generations to come.

Now we are beginning our fifth year. How much has happened. In Boston in 1952 we had no place we could call "ours." We did not know what the next step would be. Now the House is firmly established; two fine young women are in training; more people are becoming more interested and aware of the contribution deaconesses have to make in the life of the Church.

One of the dreams in 1952 was that some day there would be a Central House Cross, a cross that was for the Deaconess Order alone. This, too, has finally become a reality. The cross, designed by Canon West of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, who is an expert in liturgical art, and nationally known for his beautiful work in

designing, is a beautiful piece of work. He spent much time and thought in its creation. It is a Greek Cross surmounting an orb, with the Chi Rho in the center and surrounded by an unbroken band around the outer edge. Diakonia in Greek letters is inscribed in each arm symbolizing the fact that all service emanates from Christ and continues without start or finish, surmounting and giving meaning to the world. This cross will be given to each candidate when she is set apart, and may be worn by any other deaconess who wishes to buy one for her own use. The cost of the cross is \$10.00.

On Tuesday, October 8, at the service of Evening Prayer, Dr. Yerkes will have the service of Blessing and Bestowal of the Cross to those deaconesses who wish to receive one at this time.

It has been a real privilege and joy to be at the Central House during these early days. There have been frightening days, disappointing days, and gloriously happy days as we have tried to do what God would have us to do. May we continue to advance and make our Order the rich, strong force it can be in the Church today.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith A. Booth
Deaconess-in-charge

THE INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS

Text: Hosea 2:14 "I will lure her and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably with her."

As we start the Retreat, we must ask ourselves what the Retreat means to us. There are those who make a Retreat unwillingly, those who merely make the Retreat, and those who make the Retreat because

they desire to do so for spiritual advancement. We must consider three things as we start: (1) what the Retreat is, (2) why make it, (3) how make it well.

The Retreat is a privilege. The Holy Ghost is saying, "I will lure her and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably with her." In the Retreat the treasury of heaven is thrown open to us. If we go away empty handed, it is our own fault. The Retreat is a personal invitation from our Lord to turn from sin, to advance on the way to perfection. "Be ye therefore perfect" is our Lord's injunction to us.

Why make a Retreat? It is an obligation imposed upon us. Having been set apart, we must be obedient to God's demands. The yearly Retreat is a matter between the deaconess and God, an obligation. We must recognize it as a personal, deep-down need. The Retreat is a spiritual renovation.

We must make it earnestly. Generosity of soul is needed to make a good Retreat. We are here to clean up the garden of our souls. There must be no hidden litter. A thorough, truthful, self-examination is necessary. The work of a Retreat is a thorough, critical study of our past life. Reform, improvement, advancement are absolutely necessary to a good Retreat.

The Three Meditations

General subject: The Praise of God

1. The text: St. Luke 19:40 "I tell you that if these shall hold their peace, the very stones shall cry out."

Father Pederson began with a reference to and a quotation from Brother Lawrence's *The Practice of the Presence of God*. Then he asked, Why can

A SCHOLAR ADDRESSES US

Ah! The assignment to review Professor Moreau's lecture...!

Twenty or more deaconesses sat in lecture-room formation, notebooks opened and pencils poised, falling easily into the lecturer-student relationship of decades ago. Pencils scratched jotting down the lecturer as being "The Rev. Jules L. Moreau, Assistant Professor of New Testament Literature and Languages at Seabury-Western." Pencils further scribbled the title of the lecture, "Modern Biblical Study beyond and around Biblical Criticism" (according to notes transcribed from rusty self-taught shorthand).

Presently the pencils stopped, moving only sporadically to jot down a note or two. Why? Because we were spellbound. Here was not only a scholar, but a scholar who had the phenomenal ability to hold us transfixed. The spell was broken only when the lecturer himself called for a break - the traditional mid-morning classroom breather. This reviewer joined the chorus of "Oh, oh, I haven't any notes!" "How review THIS lecture!" etc. With sympathetic understanding Professor Moreau graciously offered to loan his manuscript with the suggestion that the concluding paragraph be copied as a resume.

Professor Moreau reviewed the field of Biblical studies showing how research progressed from lower or textual criticism which asks "What do the documents say?" into higher or literary and source criticism requiring subjective judgment to show how the sources multiplied and the four Gospels emerged. Today, competent scholars are developing a third area of Biblical criticism - historical criticism. New Testament historical criticism, for example, is concerned with the viewpoint, the

find yourself." In our setting apart service we are designated to do just this. Our existence is to praise God and through Jesus Christ we accomplish the aim of our existence. "Grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name."

3. Text: St. John 15:8; 16:13; & 15:27 "Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit" and "Howbeit He shall guide you in all truth," and "Ye also shall bear witness."

Jesus said to the apostles, "Ye shall also bear witness." Peter found that in our own strength we cannot do it. The power to do it is the fruit of the spirit. Capacity to do it we cannot have by nature, but by baptism, by Holy Communion, by absolution, and by lifelong devotion to the Church. We of the Deaconess Order are, in a very particular way, called to witness. We, too, meet failure where there is no faith. His final witness for the glory of His Father was His suffering. What is true of Him is true of His Church. We must not be discouraged if there seems no open door. Where we find hostility all we can do is to witness in silent suffering. Our Lord's last day was followed by the glories of Easter and Whitsuntide. We must have our Jerusalem, our last week. We are called to witness, to show by our patience and conviction what we believe. Hostility is a way of testing the validity of our religion. Remember "Ye did not choose me, but I chose you, and ordained you that you should go and bring forth fruit," and again, "If the world hate you, you know that it hated me before it hated you. You shall bear witness because you have been with me." Giving of witness is the end of life. --(Pauline E. Watts, Deaconess)

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meaning of what was preached by the early Church. Its method follows that of archeology, - making decisions as to the past based on uncovered evidence of ancient cities.

The historical critic (Professor Moreau so describes himself) must somehow relive first century Christianity; how did the Good News hit the first century world? The historical critic tries to discover, to understand the real essence of the New Testament: that the Covenant of Israel with God was understood by the Fathers of the Church when they called the Church the "New Israel"; that this historical person, Jesus of Nazareth, became uniquely the person of Christ. Out of this was formulated the doctrine of the Trinity: the Father as Yahweh; the Father sent the Son to the New Israel; the Father sent the Holy Spirit effectively to fill the community of faith, - the Church.

The following is the concluding paragraph of Professor Moreau's manuscript, addressed to his seminarians:

By way of finale, it can be said that in the coming three years you will begin from an intimate knowledge of the actual contents of Holy Scripture, that is within the Bible itself; through the study of Biblical languages, historical background, and the disciplines of critical study, you will be led on to an apprehension of the meaning of the faith confessed by the living worshipping community that knows the God who is Jesus Christ came into the world revealing Himself and giving Himself 'for us men and for our salvation.' In the context of a worshipping community you will learn to fear no knowledge, being upheld by the conviction that in this community we call the Church we are dedicated to the furtherance of the purpose of God Himself to whom we have made the complete surrender of ourselves in order that all that we are and all

that we have may be employed to the greater glory of Him who is the source of it all. As we learn more of God we learn to know Him more, thereby becoming 'partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light,' 'chosen vessels' of God's illuminating grace, witnesses to and sharers in God's redemptive power and love.

Professor Moreau made some suggestions as to follow-up reading:

1. C. H. Dodd, *Apostolic Preaching*, Harper, \$1.50
 2. Paul S. Minear, *Eyes of Faith*, Westminster, \$3.50
 3. Subscription to *Studies in Biblical Theology* (Allenson) offering two or three issues annually such as:
 - G. Ernest Wright, *God Who Acts*, Allenson, paper \$1.50
 - G. Ernest Wright, *Old Testament Against Its Environment*, Allenson, paper \$1.50
 - Floyd V. Filson, *New Testament Against Its Environment*, Allenson, paper \$1.50
 4. Lionel S. Thornton, *Revelation and the Modern World: Form of the Servant* (in three volumes)
- P.S. Don't fail to avail yourself of any opportunity to hear Professor Moreau lecture!

Ruth Johnson

REPORT OF "HISTORIAN"

The task assigned by the Conference last year was to gather all records and materials concerning deaconesses and the deaconess order from various parts of the country and to sort and file them in Central House so that they might be readily available for reference. To do this, the help of several deaconesses was enlisted and thanks and

appreciation are hereby extended: to Deaconesses Ruth Johnson, Lydia Ramsay, and Mary West for the materials sent from New York, and to Deaconesses Affleck, Truesdell, and Knepper for the materials which they supplied, as well as to Deaconess Wilson for sending Deaconess Helen Fuller's files (and the much needed three drawer filing cabinet which now contains our records). Deaconess Booth has also helped during the many visits made to Central House for work during the year.

What has been done: A folder has been made for every deaconess, living or departed, on whom we have any information at all, if only an obituary notice or an old photograph. All known deaconesses have a RECORD CARD in a file begun many years ago in New York and kept up to date by Deaconess Johnson, and now at Central House. All clippings and newspaper items are filed in appropriate folders. Deaconesses unknown to us have been located in going over the file of the Philadelphia school NEWSLETTER kindly supplied by Miss Ethel Springer. The aid of all deaconesses is requested in giving any further information about other deaconesses. Our total of all past and present deaconesses of the American Church is 359, of which 230 are deceased, 39 list (resigned, married, or in sisterhoods) and 100 living, 60 of which are retired.

Much further work remains to be done in sorting the materials on Conference records, Commissions, Canons, Training Schools, etc. A study might also be made of the fields of work in which deaconesses are and have been engaged. One person should be able to keep up the files and do this sorting gradually, and much more information may come to light in process.

Respectfully submitted,
Katharine Putnam,
Deaconess

Following the adjournment of the meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses, there was a period of "Sharing." During this time each deaconess present was introduced and spoke briefly of the work she was doing.

Frances Affleck, retired, brought news of Deaconess Spencer's last mission, and of the progress of our Chairman, Edna Dietz, who is ill in the hospital. Agnes Bradley has resigned her position at St. Mark's, Evanston, Ill., in order to be nearer to her mother in New York.

The rest of the afternoon was devoted to Mary Dawson and the story of her work at the Mission of St. Francis of Assisi, Upi, Mindanao, P.I. First she brought us greetings from the deaconesses, whom she had visited during her furlough. Then she started her talk with the following text: "In His Hand are all the corners of the earth." Upi is indeed a far corner of the earth! She first visited there as a refugee in 1928, while a missionary in China, and has been stationed there since 1937. There are 87 languages in the Philippines. The village of Upi is composed of very poor and illiterate people. There is no electricity, gas, waterworks, telephone or telegraph. No newspapers or street lights and no place for entertainment except in the church or the school. The washing is done in the stream or at a well. Among the interesting customs of the tribes is the market, which is like a storybook and consists of a few bamboo booths with thatch of palm leaves. Another custom is the working bees in which they all share the work of harvesting, building a home, etc. The church was built with funds given in 1945-1946, and the staff consists of the priest and his wife, the deaconess, and the Sisters of the Order of St. Anne, who are in charge of the kindergarten.

Agnes Bradley

IN MEMORIAM

Since our last meeting we have to report the passing into Paradise of nine of our deaconesses:

MAUD TRUXTUN HENDERSON died in Eastern State Hospital in Williamsburg, Va., on April 30, 1956. Born Dec. 4, 1868, in Lexington, Va., she was in her 88th year. A graduate nurse, she was trained at the New York Training School and set apart by Bishop Satterlee on May 12, 1903, and went out to China to the Missionary District of Shanghai in 1904. Her work there was first in the mission and later in independent work with women and children in St. Faith's Settlement which she herself founded and ran. Interned by the Japanese during the war, she returned to the United States in 1946 and entered the Church Home in Richmond, Va., where she remained until failing health required her transfer to the State Hospital.

CLARA H. SIMPSON died Feb. 10, 1957, at the age of 90. Born in Montreal, Canada, June 24, 1866, she came to New York in 1887, and trained to become a deaconess under her aunt, Deaconess Formeret, and the Rector of St. George's. She was set apart as deaconess on Dec. 4, 1892, by Bishop Potter. Her work was almost entirely in New York, at St. George's, St. Martha's, and St. Margaret's. After retirement in 1940, Deaconess Simpson had charge of St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N.Y., from which she removed to St. Anne's Guest House, Kingston.

ETHEL E. SPENCER died Feb. 11, 1957, in San Antonio, Texas, at the age of 79. Born in Ontario, Canada, June 25, 1878, she was a special student at New York Training School and set apart Feb. 18, 1914, in St. John's Church, Hagerstown, Md. Having been a missionary to Japan under the Canadian Church before being made a deaconess, she worked later as

a missionary to the Japanese in Honolulu under the American Church, and in various other parishes in this country including City Missions, Los Angeles. Suffering from ill health much of the time, she still answered calls to lead prayer groups, retreats, and devotional meetings.

MABEL ADAMS died March 15, 1957, at the Leamy Home in Philadelphia, Pa. Born Oct. 11, 1866, at Battle Creek, Mich., she was 90 at the time of her death. A graduate of the Philadelphia Deaconess House, she was set apart on Oct. 6, 1897, by Bishop Whittaker, and worked at the Church of the Crucifixion in Philadelphia and then at St. Michael's in Brooklyn, after which she ministered to the colored missions in Morgantown, N.C., and at St. Paul's, Chester, Pa., until her retirement in 1929. She had been 60 years a deaconess.

MARIA PAGE WILLIAMS also died on March 15, 1957, in Lynchburg, Va., at the age of 81. She was trained at the New York Training School and was set apart May 11, 1911, by Bishop Greer. She opened the mission work at Danta, Va., and spent her entire ministry at that station among the mountain people until her retirement in 1937.

CLARA M. CARTER died May 26, 1957, in Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada, at 96 years of age, having been 60 years a deaconess. Born Nov. 15, 1861, she graduated as a nurse from Buffalo General Hospital in 1888, and from the Church Training and Deaconess House, Philadelphia in 1897. She was made deaconess on Apr. 25, 1897, by Bishop Lawrence and headed a deaconess training school in Boston 1897-1902, after which she went as missionary to Alaska and served as superintendent of hospital in Skagway and Fairbanks and then as deaconess-in-charge at Allakaket until 1913 when she was called to be head of the Philadelphia Deaconess House where she remained until her retirement in 1928. She lived in

the West with Deaconess Edith Adams until recently when she returned to her native Canada to spend her last years.

ELIZABETH D. BOORMAN died June 10, 1957, at Warrentown, Va., at 91 years. Born Aug. 30, 1865, at Scarborough, N.Y., she was made Deaconess in Grace Church, New York, on May 18, 1906. She served in mountain missions in Virginia for many years, at Episcopal Boys' Home in Augusta, Ga., and finally at St. John's Church, Hagarstown, Md., until her retirement in 1935.

MYRTLE CAROLINE NOSLER died on July 19, 1957, at the Church Home, St. Paul, Minn., at the age of 81. Born in Pueblo, Colo., June 28, 1876, she graduated from the New York School in 1903, and was set apart in All Saints' Cathedral, Spokane, Wash., Oct. 4, 1903, by Bishop Wells. She served for a time at Utica, N.Y., but most of her years of service was in Washington, in Spokane as City Missionary and at Christ Church, retiring to the Church Home in 1946.

BERTHA HARRIS BUTTS died Sept. 18, 1958, at St. Elizabeth's Home in Providence, R.I., after a long illness. Born May 8, 1875, in Allentown, Pa., she was 82. Married to the Rev. William H. Butts, she took training to become a deaconess after his death, was set apart on May 9, 1916, and served Emmanuel Church, Newport, R.I., for 25 years, and also at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., before her retirement. She lived with her sister, Ethel Harris, until the sister's death and then entered St. Elizabeth's Home in Providence.

"Grant them, O Lord, continual growth in Thy love and service, and give us grace so to follow their good examples that with them we may be partakers of Thy Heavenly Kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Deaconess

1958

issued by

NATIONAL CONFERENCE — DEACONESSES OF THE CHURCH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Edna McNeil Dietz
	1901 W. Travis St., San Antonio 7, Texas
Secretary	Edna M. Sargent
	212 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago 7, Illinois
Treasurer (appointed)	Evelyn E. Seymour
	281 Fourth Ave., New York 10, New York
Deaconess-in-Charge of Central House (ex-officio)	Edith A. Booth
	1906 Orrington Ave., Evanston, Ill.
Amelia Brereton	Marion Brown
Ruth H. Colby	Harriet H. English
Alice W. Mayer	Clara Searle

Editor for 1958	Pauline E. Watts
	66 Norman St., New Bedford, Mass.

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

Dear Deaconesses:

Since October, 1955 I have served as your chairman. At the 1958 Triennial meeting of the National Conference held at Miami Beach on October 3rd and 4th, I was elected a member of your Executive Committee. At the initial meeting of the Executive Committee, I was re-elected your chairman.

I am grateful to you and your Executive Committee for the honor you have paid me. With your prayers, your spiritual, and material help, the Executive Committee will, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, work to deepen more the feeling of unity within our Order.

The past three years have brought me many pleasant contacts which have filled my heart with joy and thanks.

With this copy of THE DEACONESS, under the able editorship of Deaconess Pauline E. Watts, you will learn what was done at our meetings. This year will see the first attempts to carry out the instructions given the Executive Committee.

Let each member of the Conference begin right now to make plans for our Retreat and meetings next fall when we hope to get a glimpse of our new home in Evanston, Illinois.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,

Edna McNeil Dietz

IMPRESSIONS 1958

First impressions: bright sun, blue sky, white clouds, waving palm trees, glistening water, seemingly endless rows of hotels becoming bigger, more modern, more breath-taking as you rode on up the avenue — stores filled with Florida products: fruits, preserves, coconut candies; enormous straw hats and baskets, alligator bags, shell and coral novelties, gay and expensive beach wear — every thing to tempt the tourist purses — restaurants serving man-sized meals — a frolic in the warm but rough surf (due to recent hurricanes off shore) — heat — a downpour — more humidity!

More impressions: renewing of acquaintances, meeting with new friends, warm smiles from every one, sharing of rides, jolly crowds, no loneliness in the big meetings, just a feeling of "belonging", of true sharing — differences of points of view, but no bitterness.

Deeper impressions: the great opening service before the majestic, flower banked altar beneath its soaring cross of gold — the U. T. O. service when 8,000 women had Holy Communion together after their Blue Box offerings for the Triennial had been received — the mass meeting when the luminous figures announced in a darkened hall the total U. T. O. offering to be nearly four million dollars — the deeply moving Meditations of Dean Coburn given on five afternoons at the meetings of the Woman's Division — our own corporate Communion at All Souls' Church.

Lasting impressions: that we have a mighty challenge now and for the future — that our church is not yet stretching itself as it should and could, that we are like a giant just beginning to stir — that all our strength is needed to meet the many calls from our brethren overseas, from our neighbors, from our children (the church of the future), from the aged, the sick, the needy — that we must give more of ourselves, our time, our money.

As for us Deaconesses, the assurance came that the church **does** want us, that it is concerned for us, that we too must meet the challenge of the future; that **the personal witness** of each of us must always be a large factor in recruitment for our Order, and in determining the attitude of the clergy toward us.

"O Lord, strengthen us by Thy might; and make us loving, humble, and obedient to Thy will!"

The Editor.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OCTOBER 3, 1958

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses was called to order by the Chairman at 2 p.m. in the Shelby Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida. The following Deaconesses were present: Edna Dietz, Lydia Ramsay, Evelyn Seymour, Ruth Colby, Alice Mayer, Edith Booth, and Harriet English. Opening Prayers were led by Deaconess Mayer.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Dss. English. Dss. Seymour gave the treasurer's report. Dss. Ramsay moved that the report be received with deep appreciation; seconded by Dss. Colby. It was so voted.

The following annual budget is proposed by the Executive Committee:

General Expenses.....	\$100.00
Central House.....	100.00
Publicity and Promotion.....	300.00
Triennial Travel Expenses.....	300.00
Emergency Fund.....	100.00
Contingency Fund.....	100.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,000.00

The Executive Committee would like to recommend that in the future an annual statement of dues be sent to all Deaconesses which will include a list of the budgetary items, thus making it possible for the Deaconess to make one annual gift to the National Conference. This plan will do away with the various appeals which have been made in the past. The Triennial offering will be continued.

Dss. Seymour moved that the action taken at the Annual Meeting held at Syracuse in October 1957 to rescind a motion made by the Executive Committee to use Emergency Funds for publicity purposes be approved and spread on the minutes of the Executive Committee; seconded by Dss. Ramsay; and carried.

A committee was appointed to recommend changes in the present By-laws with Dss. Alice Mayer, chairman.

The Executive Committee would like to have the feeling of the National Conference in regard to the time and place of the Annual Meetings: at the Central House, or in various parts of the country?

The following Deaconesses have been asked to take these assignments in preparation for the publication of "The Deaconess": Editor: Pauline Watts; Bishop Gray's Address: Anne Newman; Treasurer: Evelyn Seymour; Secretary of National Conference: Harriet English; New Chairman: Edna Dietz; Memorials to Deaconesses: Katharine Putnam; By-Laws: Alice Mayer.

Deaconess Marian Brown was appointed to fill the place of Deaconess Booz, deceased.

It was moved and voted that the meeting of the Executive Committee be adjourned.

Harriet H. English.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Balances on hand October 1, 1957:

General Funds	\$202.31	
Publicity and Promotion	220.21	
Scholarship Fund	5.00	
Unassigned Funds	264.00	
Emergency Fund	637.03	
		<hr/>
		\$1,328.55

Receipts Oct. 1, 1957 to Sept. 15, 1958

General Funds	\$122.00	
Pence Can Offerings	303.05	
Undesignated Gifts	247.00	
For General Convention	25.00	
		<hr/>
Total Receipts		\$697.05

Grand Total \$2,025.60

Disbursements (same period)

General Expenses	\$103.94	
Scholarship Fund	5.00	
Undesignated Funds	324.35	
To Central House	101.01	
Pubicity and Promotion	319.35	
Emergency Fund	166.64	
		<hr/>
Total Disbursements		\$1,020.29

Balances on hand, September 15, 1958:

General Funds	\$220.37	
Undesignated Gifts	186.65	
Pubicity and Promotion	127.90	
Emergency Fund	470.39	
		<hr/>
		\$1,005.31

Grand Total \$2,025.60

Special Savings Account:

Balance in account, Oct. 1, 1957	\$1,611.04	
Interest added — to July 1, 1958	39.57	
		<hr/>
Balance in account, Sept. 15, 1958		\$1,650.61

Respectfully submitted,

September 15, 1958

Evelyn E. Seymour,

! STOP THE PRESS !

Latest figures on 1958 Triennial Offering of 47 Deaconesses:

National Conference	\$441.75
Retiring Fund	363.75
Total Offering Received	\$805.50

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee!

TALK BY BISHOP GRAY CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

Given Friday evening, October 3, 1958 at Hotel Nautilus,
Miami Beach

The Rt. Rev. W. H. Gray, Bishop of Connecticut, and Chairman of the Joint Commission on the Work of Deaconesses, was introduced by Deaconess Booth. The following is an abstract of the Bishop's talk. Each Deaconess present was given a copy of the "Report of the Joint Commission on the work of Deaconesses", to which Bishop Gray referred.

"When you wish to know anything, ask your wife. I asked Mrs. Gray what she thought of the future of Deaconesses; and her answer was, 'Women are here to stay'. So I think the Church is here to stay, and Deaconesses are here to stay. A Washington, D. C. paper, in reporting the Lambeth Conference last summer, referring to the report on the commemoration of modern Saints, had this headline: 'Anglican Bishops say, Saints in over-supply.' We must face realities, however. There are **not** as many deaconesses in recent years. Why? This is a real concern. I tried first to find out what was the feeling among the Bishops concerning Deaconesses. A short questionnaire was sent out to the Bishops. I felt it was time for people to stand up and be counted. The members of the Joint Commission sent letters to every active Bishop of the Church: 126. Replies were received from a majority (67). We had said that if no reply were received, it would be indicative of certain beliefs. We wish to face facts with you. I encountered no hostility. You have a great many friends in the House of Bishops. I did encounter a great deal of ignorance. There is some opposition, due to clergy feeling that the Deaconess wishes to be the boss. I encountered a feeling that we should make more effective use of the Deaconesses. It has to be faced quite realistically that there is only one Rector in the parish. When dealing with clergy the Deaconess should not try to push the clergy. If you cannot play ball with the Rector, get out; don't stay to be a thorn in his flesh.

"There is another thing that Bishops do not like when dealing with deaconesses. Sometimes the deaconesses do not respect the Canon Law of the Church; that is, sometimes women are working in a diocese without consulting with the Bishop. If you wish to serve in the Church, you should obey the laws of the Church."

Bishop Gray then took up the various questions and answers; and the recommendations of the Joint Commission's report to be presented to General Convention.

- 1) **Educational standards:** If deaconesses are to be given a status comparable to that of the clergy, they should have comparable training.
- 2) **Garb:** The Joint Commission recommends that the Deaconesses consider modernizing their garb. We will always wish for the Deaconesses to wear a uniform. We do not wish for them to do away with the garb, but we do hope that they will modernize the garb in some ways. Such garb as a simple blue uniform dress; with white collar, a cross; but no veil or cape, would be definitely a Church uniform, but would not be archaic.
- 3) **Canonical requirement:** each Deaconess should report annually to the Bishop of her Diocese in the form prescribed by the Bishop.

- 4) **Pensions:** a very complex problem to which the Commission has given much attention. It recommends that the Retiring Fund; and the National Council (under which some deaconesses work), continue to provide as at present, and that parishes or institutions where deaconesses are employed be urged to assume responsibility in the matter of pensions.
- 5) **The Commission:** will request to be a definite body from now on, not just an occasionally appointed Commission. Out of this might come many things, and perhaps more stability.

Bishop Gray then asked for discussion and comments. The discussion chiefly concerned the question of modernizing the garb. Bishop Gray repeated, "A uniform is important. We recognize the need of it; but there is another thing: I think the deaconesses of present times have come to a crossroads. If the deaconesses would show an outward and visible sign that they are of the present age, not of 1880, it would please the clergy and Bishops. It would be a symbol of a new era."

Reported by Anne Newman.

Editor's Note: The Report of the Joint Commission on the Work of Deaconesses was accepted by both houses at General Convention. The recommendation in regard to raising the educational requirements was not adopted. A Resolution was passed, however, in regard to Canon 51, Section 11. It was amended by the addition of the following, which should become the second sentence of Section eleven, and immediately follow the words: "canonically attached"; that is, "Each Deaconess shall report annually to the Bishop of her diocese in the form prescribed by the Bishop." Deaconesses please note carefully, and act accordingly. Make yourself known to your Bishop and find out what he wants in way of a report from you. It should be noted too that the **only request** made to us as Deaconesses was to "give consideration to modernizing the garb."

If any Deaconesses would especially like to have a copy of the Report of the Joint Commission, it may be possible to obtain a copy. Please address your request to me, and I will see what I can do.

The Report of the Joint Commission was signed by

Walter H. Gray, Chairman
 Horace W. B. Donegan
 Gerald Francis Burrill
 Earl S. Estabrook
 Killian A. Stimpson, Vice Chairman
 Ruth Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer
 Sarah M. Chapman

MINUTES OF THE TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES MEETING AT MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

The Triennial meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held in All Souls' Church, Miami Beach, on October 4, 1958. The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by the Chairman, Deaconess Dietz, and prayer was offered by Deaconess Colby. The following Deaconesses were present: Bedell, Betz, Binns, Booth, Bradley, Brereton, C. Brown, M. Brown, Colby, Dieterly, Dietz, Dowding, Donsing, English, Hall, Hettler, Johnson, A. Mayer, Newman, Orwig, Parsons, Putnam, Ramsay, Sargent, Seymour, G. Smith, Watts.

Deaconess Seymour read the following resolution:

Whereas, we have a very full agenda of important items which we would like to attend to this morning, and

Whereas, Bishop Gray and the members of the Joint Commission on the work of Deaconesses have worked most earnestly and constructively for our welfare, for which we are most deeply appreciative, and

Whereas, they have asked our cooperation in the matter of dress, for reasons fully explained by Bishop Gray last night, and

Whereas, there is perhaps nothing quite so important to come before this meeting today, it is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolved: That the Chairman appoint a committee of at least three members capable of drawing up a suitable resolution, who will retire from this meeting at once, so that a properly worded and arranged resolution may be presented and acted upon before adjournment today. This said resolution to be spread upon the Minutes of this meeting, published in "The Deaconess", published in the Church papers, and presented to Bishop Gray, so that he may report to this General Convention that the Deaconesses stand ready and humbly willing to comply with the Joint Commission in promoting and furthering the work of Deaconesses in the Church.

Dss. Seymour moved the adoption of this resolution, and it was so voted.

The Chairman appointed Pauline Watts, Agnes Bradley, and Amelia Brereton who then withdrew to draw up the resolution.

It was moved and seconded that since the minutes had been published in the Newsletter (1957) that the reading of them be omitted. Motion carried.

A letter was read from Deaconess Affleck in which she reported that very few Deaconesses used the Pence Can and suggested that its use be discontinued. Several Deaconesses expressed approval of its discontinuance. Deaconess Seymour spoke on the advisability of one annual offering and recommended that it be included with the statement of the annual dues. It was so moved and carried. It was voted to send a letter of appreciation to Deaconess Affleck for her report on the Pence Can.

Deaconess Putnam reported that the Historical Material collected during the last two years was now in the hands of Central House, and advised that material from now on be sent to Central House where it will be filed. It was so moved, seconded, and voted. Deaconess Seymour moved a rising vote of thanks to Deaconess Putnam for the splendid work done in gathering and filing historical material.

There was then a discussion of the time and place of the Annual Conference: Sycamore, Evanston, or other Conference Centers. Deaconess Bedell moved that the Annual Conference be held in different parts of the country. The motion was lost. Deaconess Johnson moved that the next two Annual Conferences be under the direction of Central House. It was so voted.

Deaconess Mayer read the proposed By-laws with changes advised by the Executive Committee. Deaconess Colby spoke on the importance of keeping a good Treasurer. Copies of the proposed By-laws with changes will be sent to all Deaconesses before the next Triennial Meeting.

The Resolution drawn up by the appointed committee was then read by Deaconess Watts, who moved that the Resolution be adopted. The motion after discussion was carried. The Resolution as adopted is as follows:

Whereas, Bishop Gray, Chairman, and the other members of the Joint Commission on the Work of Deaconesses, have worked most earnestly and constructively in their consideration of problems facing the Work of Deaconesses, be it

Resolved: That the Deaconesses at the 1958 Triennial National Conference of Deaconesses go on record as being willing to give consideration to the modernization of our garb; be it further

Resolved: That we herewith extend to Bishop Gray and the members of the Joint Commission our grateful appreciation, and pledge our continued cooperation and support; and be it further

Resolved: That this Resolution be spread on the Minutes of this meeting, and copies be sent to Bishop Gray and the following publications:

The Deaconess, The Living Church, and The Division of Public relations of the National Council.

The Chairman then appointed Alice Mayer, Lydia Ramsay, Amelia Brereton, Elizabeth Lank, and Harriet Bedell to serve on a committee to give due consideration for modernizing the garb.

Deaconess Boath then gave her annual report on Central House.

It was moved, seconded, and voted to send letters of deep appreciation to: Dr. Yerkes, Bishop Street, Fr. Taylor (Rector of All Souls), and to Mr. Jacobsen (Manager of the Shelby Hotel).

Deaconess Seymaur moved that the \$107.00 taken from the Emergency Fund for the publication of "The Deaconess" in 1955 be refunded. It was so voted.

The meeting was recessed for lunch, after which it was reconvened for the report of the Nominating Committee. Deaconess Hall gave the following report:

The Nominating Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses presents the following names of Deaconesses elected to the Executive Committee of the National Conference by ballot: Deaconesses Edna M. Sargent, Amelia Brereton, Ruth Calby, and Edna Dietz.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Harriet H. English.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE REVISION OF THE BY-LAWS

The Committee on Revision of the By-Laws of the National Conference of Deaconesses met immediately following the meeting of the Executive Committee, and recommended the following changes in the By-Laws (See By-Laws printed at end of this report):

No changes to be made in Sections 1, 2 and 3.

SECTION 6 — Last sentence, verb, "serve," to be changed to, "be elected for." The sentence will then read, "no member may be elected for two consecutive terms." Add two sentences, as follows:

(1) "The Deaconess in charge of Central House shall be an ex-officio member with vote."

(2) The treasurer, if not a member of the Executive Committee, shall be an ex-officio member with vote.

SECTION 7 — The word "conference," in the first sentence, to be changed to "meetings." The word, "it's," to be changed to "the". After the word, "instructions," add, "of the National Conference."

The first sentence will then read as follows:

"The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to prepare for the meetings, to carry out the instructions of the National Conference, and to act as a channel of communication."

SECTION 8 — In the first sentence, the word "Treasurer," is to be deleted. The following sentence to be added:

"The Treasurer shall be elected by the Executive Committee to serve for three years, and need not be a member of the Executive Committee."

SECTION 9 — The following is recommended in place of the present Section 9. "For the election of the Executive Committee the chairman shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members, at the annual Meeting preceding the "Triennial Meeting." The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot containing at least seven names. This ballot shall be sent by mail to all Deaconesses, by April first, to be returned to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee by August first. From this ballot, the four receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to serve on the Executive Committee for six years.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Mayer, Chairman.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES OF THE CHURCH

BY - LAWS

As amended in 1949 and 1952

1. NAME. The name of this organization shall be the "National Conference of Deaconesses."
2. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Conference shall be to unite the Deaconesses of the Church in a closer fellowship, and to take counsel together concerning matters pertaining to the spiritual and practical welfare of the Order.
3. MEMBERSHIP. All Deaconesses in good standing shall be entitled to membership in this Conference.
4. DUES. The dues shall be \$1.00 per year, payable annually.
5. MEETINGS. (Annual and Triennial) The Conference shall meet annually. During the year of General Convention, the Conference shall meet at the time and place of General Convention, and is to be known as the "Triennial Meeting." The Executive Committee shall designate the time and place of other annual meetings. Legislation shall be effected only at the Triennial Meeting.
6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The Executive Committee shall consist of eight Deaconesses, four of whom shall be elected by ballot at each triennial meeting to serve for six years. No member may serve two consecutive terms.
7. DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to prepare for the Conference, to carry out its instructions and to act as a channel of communication. It may also appoint committees at its discretion. It shall have power to fill vacancies in its membership.
8. OFFICERS. The Executive Committee shall elect from its members a Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer to serve three years, these officers to act both for the committee and for the National Conference.
9. NOMINATION AND ELECTION. For the election of the Executive Committee, the chairman shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members in the January preceding the National Conference. Nominations may be sent to the Secretary of the Executive Committee to be forwarded by her to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee up to March 1st preceding the National Conference. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot containing at least seven names; on this they shall place any name nominated by twelve persons. From this ballot four shall be elected to serve on the Executive Committee for six years. This ballot shall be sent by mail to all Deaconesses by April 1st.
10. AMENDMENT. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present by any triennial meeting, provided that the amendment has been proposed at a previous meeting.

CONDENSED REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE

The Triennial 1955-1958 has been a history making Triennial for the Central House and for the Order of Deaconesses. During these years, one candidate has been Set Apart, one is studying privately in Boston, another in Chicago, one at St. Margaret's in Berkeley, California and one from the Diocese of Michigan will begin her work at the Central House in November.

The other history making event is the transfer of our Central House from the town of Sycamore, Illinois where it was established in 1953 to the City of Evanston, Illinois. The new location promises to provide all we need, with Seabury-Western Seminary just three blocks away, Northwestern University and Garret Bible Institute at our door; several large churches, each with equally fine Christian Education programs; and within "L" and bus transportation to Chicago where opportunities abound for field work in Social Service and City Missions. I will not go into detail about the new house, as much was told you in the recent news letter. There is one question I will answer now as it has come from so many deaconesses, "Where did the money come from?" Perhaps some of you know, perhaps some do not, but at the time Bishop Conkling was seeking to establish a Central House in 1952-53, there were several quite substantial gifts for that purpose. When the house was set up at the Bishop McLaren Conference Center this money was not needed, and the donors of these gifts were all asked if they wished to have their contributions returned. Each replied to hold it, as it might be needed later. The money was subsequently invested, and it is this money plus interest which has provided the purchase price of the house at 1906 Orrington Ave. — St. Phoebe's as it seems so natural to call it! With all this we begin the new Triennial.

During the past three years there has been a steady growth in interest and knowledge of the Office of Deaconess among our Church people. Much of this has been due to the extensive efforts of Publicity and Promotion. Hundreds of pieces of literature have been sent out and talks made at Conference and other meetings, plus much correspondence with young women, bishops and clergy.

So the future faces us, or we face the future. The foundation has been laid. We are ready now to grow, and grow we must through our own dedication, our work and our prayers.

In order to grow I feel it is necessary that we must first of all know ourselves. How well do we understand the Office to which we have been Set Apart? Can we speak freely and easily (without defending or apologizing) about our Vocation? Are we all in close contact with The Central House? Do we know what is going on, what the latest report is? Let us not take the Order of Deaconesses for granted, allowing others to do all the thinking and the planning for it. It is the responsibility, and the concern of each one who has been Set Apart to keep herself informed and aware of every possibility of growth. You are your own Promotion and Publicity committee.

In order to keep informed I feel there should be more opportunity for conference and fellowship. When Deaconess Johnson was Executive Secretary, she held several regional meetings, providing deaconesses in a given area with an opportunity to meet together for spiritual refreshment and discussion of subjects important both to the Order and to them as individuals. I hope some plans may come from this meeting for such area gatherings.

During the past year we have lost 6 deaconesses; during the Triennial, 21. The ranks must be filled. Speak for the Order whenever and wherever you can. Ask for permission to speak; don't wait to be asked! We know it is God who calls, but He may use you to open the door for some young woman. This you can, and will do, without hesitation or fear, if you have a burning conviction that to rightly do God's work, a woman needs the strength and the power which comes from the Gift of the Holy Spirit received through the Laying on of Hands at her Setting Apart! and — if you want others to share the joy you have found in your life of dedication. Think what we have. We must not let it slip from us because of busyness — or indifference. Let us remember too, that proving to the Church, by more women coming into the Order, that we are alive, and a concerned and

growing organization, will do more to warrant the support and interest of the Church than pleas or resolutions.

We need more FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE. Do you know anyone, or a group who will be willing to support our Central House regularly by both gifts and prayers? The Friends we have have been loyal and generous, but we must increase this circle.

This brings me back to the Central House. Remember it is **your** House. Use it for Intercessions and Thanksgivings. Share with us your needs and your joys and we will offer them up to God in the Chapel. Use the House for refresher courses. There will be ample opportunity for such in Evanston. Or, just come and rest.

I cannot close without again paying tribute to Dr. Yerkes. Our hearts are truly sad at the break that must come through our move to Evanston. He is responsible for much of the sure and strong foundation we have laid, and of our place in the thinking of the Church today. I hope too some word will go from this meeting to Bishop Street, who has worked far beyond the call of duty in our efforts to locate the house in Evanston and all that that has entailed.

I want too, to pay tribute to my two assistants, Amelia Brereton and Hildgarde Donsing. Amelia my "editor-in-chief" and my right hand in all that I do — my chauffeur; and Hilda, my right hand in the kitchen and other parts of the house, who keeps the household fed and the house in order.

For myself, thank you for your love and the encouraging letters you have written me, and for your patience with me. Continue to pray that I may have the grace and the power I need to fulfil the office to which you have called me as Deaconess-in-charge.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith A. Booth.

REPORT ON HISTORICAL RECORDS

There is very little to report this year beyond the routine work of filing and keeping up the records as further materials and information comes in. The record cards have been added to, as deaconesses change their work and addresses, and photographs and clippings have been filed in the deaconess folders.

A steel cabinet with four shelves was purchased to accommodate scrap books, file boxes, posters, and files of "The Deaconess" from the beginning, as well as reports of the former and present training schools. This cabinet and the three drawer file case now comprise the historical records and archives of the Order. The Head Deaconess of Central House is familiar with all the material and may refer to it when necessary.

Unless some writing project is desired, there would seem to be no further need for a custodian, or historian, at present. Someone might make visits from time to time to Central House to keep up with the filing, but there is little else to do, as your recorder sees it.

The supply of record cards, begun years ago and used one for each deaconess so far as known, is now exhausted and new ones must be printed. The Conference is asked to consider the present form and make suggestions as to what should appear on such cards for permanent records at Central House. It is suggested that this be put into the hands of the Deaconess-in-Charge of Central House for decision.

The task of putting in order the records of the Order has been an interesting one, and the study of the work of all these faithful deaconesses is a cause of great thankfulness that one is permitted to have a share in this devotion.

Respectfully submitted,

Katharine Putnam, Historian.

MINUTES OF THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES, OCTOBER 4, 1958, MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

The Executive Committee met at 4 p.m. in the card room of the Nautilus Hotel. Present were the following: Deaconesses Dietz, M. Brown, English, A. Mayer, Booth, Brereton, Colby, and Sargent.

Dss. Dietz was re-elected as Chairman for the next three years; Dss. Sargent was elected Secretary. Dss. Seymour, the treasurer, was made a member with voting powers. Dss. Brereton was asked to be Publicity Chairman and to choose her own committee.

Discussion as to the next Annual meeting — place, time, and Retreat Conductor — resulted in leaving the matter to Dss. Booth. She will gather information as to when we may have the meeting at Evanston; and if it is not possible there, she will ascertain whether Racine is possible. The time and the conductor of the Retreat will be announced later. A Bible Study class will be conducted at the Annual Conference by Dss. Brereton. Retreat will begin Tuesday night and continue all day Wednesday, ending after breakfast on Thursday. Dsses. Dietz, Colby, and Sargent were appointed to select the Conductor of the Retreat. The date will depend upon the facilities at Evanston, where the Central House is to be located. Notices will be sent to all the Deaconesses concerning the Annual Meeting and Retreat when details are complete.

Edna M. Sargent, Secretary.

IN MEMORIAM

Deaconesses who entered Life Eternal during this Triennium

Harriet Rearden	December 16, 1955
Maude T. Henderson	April 30, 1956
Lillian Kaighn	August 12, 1956
Edith E. Davies	November 1956
Clara H. Simpson	February 10, 1957
Ethel E. Spencer	February 11, 1957
Maria Williams	March 15, 1957
Mabel Adams	March 15, 1957
Clara M. Carter	May 26, 1957
Elizabeth Boorman	June 10, 1957
M. Caroline Nosler	July 19, 1957
Bertha Harris Butts	September 18, 1957
Margaret S. Lloyd	October 20, 1957
Mabel Hobart	December 11, 1957
Apauline A. Griebel	December 27, 1957
Octavia S. Drake	March 1, 1958
Effie Brainerd	April 2, 1958
Charlotte G. Massey	April 12, 1958
Margaret Booz	May 17, 1958
Alice H. Nutter	July 24, 1958
E. Suzanne McNulty	September 12, 1958
Laura Callaway	October 3, 1958

We bless Thy holy name, O Lord, for these Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear; beseeching Thee to grant them continual growth in Thy love and service, and give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

NOTES ON THE LIFE AND WORK OF DECEASED DEACONESSSES

1955 -- 1958

Deaconess Harriet Rearden of Philadelphia Training School, class of 1904, had been a deaconess for fifty years, mainly in Los Angeles parish work. She was 92 years of age when she died.

Deaconess Maud Henderson was a graduate nurse, trained as a deaconess at the New York Training School, and was set apart in 1903. She went out to China in 1904, where she founded St. Faith's Settlement in the Missionary District of Shanghai. Interned by the Japanese during the war, she returned to the U. S. in 1946 and entered the Church Home in Richmond, Va. She died in Eastern State Hospital in Williamsburg, Va., at the age of 88.

Deaconess Lillian Kaighn was in the class of 1913 at Philadelphia. She was made a deaconess in 1914. Associated with Deaconess Morris, she worked first in Boston, and later in Philadelphia in Church settlements until her retirement. She died in Philadelphia, age 81.

Deaconess Edith Davies was almost the last of the graduates of the Minnesota Training School, graduating in 1902, and was made a deaconess the same year. Her work was in Minneapolis in parish and public welfare activities, with a two year interlude of work at Rosebud, South Dakota. She retired in 1948, and although she passed away in November 1956, we were not informed of that fact until a 1957 Christmas letter was returned by the hospital. She was 79 years old.

Deaconess Clara H. Simpson came from Canada to New York in 1887, and trained to become a deaconess under her Aunt, Deaconess Formeret, and the Rector of St. George's. She became a deaconess in 1892. Her work was almost entirely in New York at St. George's, St. Martha's, and at St. Margaret's. After retirement in 1940, she had charge of St. Clare's House, Upper Red Hook, N. Y. She died at the age of 90.

Deaconess Ethel Spencer, born in Canada, was a special student at New York Training School, and was set apart in 1914. She was a missionary to Japanese in Honolulu. She also served later in various parishes in this country including City Missions, Los Angeles. Though suffering from ill health much of the time, she still answered calls to lead prayer groups, retreats, and devotional meetings. She died at 79 years of age.

Deaconess Maria Williams was trained at New York Training School and was set apart in 1911. She opened the mission work at Danta, Va., and spent her entire ministry at that station among the mountain people until her retirement in 1937. She died at the age of 81.

Deaconess Mabel Adams was a graduate of Philadelphia Deaconess House. She was set apart in 1897, and worked at the Church of the Crucifixion in Philadelphia; later at St. Michael's in Brooklyn; then she ministered to the colored missions in Morgantown, N. C. and St. Paul's, Chester, Pa. until retirement in 1929. She died at the age of 90. She had been 60 years a deaconess.

Deaconess Clara M. Carter was graduated from the Church Training and Deaconess House, Philadelphia, in 1897, and was made a deaconess that year. She was also a graduate nurse. She headed a deaconess training school in Boston 1897-1902, after which she went as a missionary to Alaska. She served as superintendent of the hospital in Skagway and Fairbanks, and then as Deaconess-in-charge at Allakaket until 1913 when she was called to be head of the Philadelphia Deaconess House where she remained until her retirement in 1928. She died in her native Canada at the age of 96. She had been 60 years a deaconess.

Deaconess Elizabeth Boorman was made a deaconess in Grace Church, New York in 1906. She served in mountain missions in Virginia for many years, at Episcopal Boys' Home in Augusta, Ga., and finally at St. John's Church, Hagarstown, Md. until her retirement in 1935. She died at the age of 91.

Deaconess M. Caroline Nosler was graduated from the New York School in 1903. She served for a time at Utica, N. Y., but most of her years of service was in Washington, in Spokane as City Missionary and at Christ Church. She retired in 1946. She died at the age of 81.

Deaconess Bertha H. Butts was set apart as a deaconess in 1916 after the death of her husband, the Rev. Wm. Butts. She served Emmanuel Church, Newport, R. I. for 25 years, and also at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., before her retirement. She died at the age of 82.

Deaconess Margaret Lloyd was made a deaconess in 1902 and worked at Christ Church, Cincinnati, and later at St. Paul's Cathedral, Boston until her retirement in 1940. She was the author of a number of beautiful poems. She was a graduate of the New York School.

Deaconess Mabel Hobart was a graduate of the New York School and was made a deaconess in 1907. Most of her ministry was in parish work in Brooklyn and at the G. F. S. Holiday House on Long Island. She retired in 1938. She died at the age of 80.

Deaconess Apauline Griebel was a graduate of the New York School and became a deaconess in 1910. She served in Connecticut in St. John's parish, Waterbury; and at the Girls Friendly Lodge in New Haven until her retirement in 1940. She died at the age of 80.

Deaconess Octavio Drake was a graduate of St. Margaret's House in 1913. Her work was Assistant Deaconess at St. Margaret's and later social service work in San Francisco. She died on her birthday at the age of 82.

Deaconess Effie Brainerd graduated from Philadelphia in 1907 and became a deaconess in 1908. She worked with City Missions in New York for several years, and then went to St. Louis, Mo., to work in City Missions there until her retirement in 1953. She carried on volunteer work with prayer groups until her death at the age of 73.

Deaconess Charlotte G. Massey, a graduate of the New York Training School, was made a deaconess in 1904. She worked in the Diocese of West Texas, and then took a course in nurse's training at St. Luke's, N. Y., graduating in 1916, in preparation for missionary work in the Philippines. She continued her work in remote places until interned by the Japanese. She retired in 1945 at the end of World War II. She died in San Diego, Calif., at the age of 80.

Deaconess Margaret Booz graduated from St. Margaret's House in 1921. She worked in parishes and missions in New York, New Jersey (her home state), and later in Nevada among the Indians. She also worked at St. Ann's Mexican Mission in El Paso, before retiring to California in 1956. She kept up with volunteer work until her death at the age of 64.

Deaconess Alice Nutter, a graduate of Philadelphia Training School, was set apart in 1904. She worked in parishes in New York, Pennsylvania, Chicago, St. Louis, and New Orleans, after which she returned to Philadelphia for work up to the time of her retirement in 1939. She died in her 89th year.

Deaconess E. Suzanne McNulty, a graduate of the New York Training School, was made a deaconess in 1917. She worked for some years in the Mission field of West Virginia, did parish work in New York City, and in Milford, Conn.; and then was in Rural Work in Rhode Island until ill health forced her retirement in 1950. She died in St. Luke's Home, New York City, at the age of 73.

Deaconess Laura Callaway was a graduate of Philadelphia and was set apart in 1902. She served in Kentucky; City Missions in Philadelphia; Los Angeles Neighborhood Settlement; St. Mark's Settlement in Seattle; and at Episcopal Deaconess House in Los Angeles, being Deaconess-in-Charge for 1930-1950. She died in Alhambra, California, at the age of 95.

THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

The Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the members of the Corporation of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses was held at 2:30 p.m. on October 8, 1957 in the Centrol House for Deaconesses, Sycamore, Illinois with an attendance of 21 Deaconesses. The two new Directors elected to serve until 1960 in Class II were Dss. Pouline Wotts and Edith Booth. The Board elected Dss. Kothorine Putnom, President; Dss. Pouline Wotts, Vice-President; Dss. Lydio Romsoy, Secretary; Mr. C. E. Clark, of the City Bank Formers Trust Co., Treasurer; Mr. Joseph Smyth, Counsel; and Dss. Mory C. West, Consultant.

One new member has been added: Betty Lonk.

The number in the Corporation is now 90.

The number of beneficiaries is now 14.

The 1958 Report Leaflet was prepared and mailed to all Deaconesses and to over 3000 contributors and interested friends by Dss. Stewart, Dss. West, Dss. Moyer, and Mrs. Lodd. It was a very fine tribute to Dss. Mory Frances Word.

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION OF THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

The members of the Corporation met at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 4, 1958 at the Hotel Nautilus, Miami Beach, Florida, with Deaconesses present: Bedell, Betz, Binns, Booth, Brodley, Brereton, C. Brown, M. Brown, Colby, Dieterly, Dietz, Donsing, Dowding, English, Holl, Hettler, Johnson, A. Moyer, Newmon, Orwig, Porsons, Putnom, Romsoy, Sargent, Seymour, G. Smith, Wotts.

Dss. Kothorine Putnom, the President, presided and opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes of the 30th Annual Meeting were not read as all had received them by mail. The Secretary's Annual Report to the Corporation was read and accepted. The Treasurer's report was presented by the President and received with thanks. The Annual Report of the Chairman of the Laywoman's Committee, Mrs. Lodd, was read and her resignation accepted with regret. She reported that the contributors' file would be in shape by the first of the year. Letters from advisors were read. Also the resignation of Mr. Lodd and of Bishop McKinstry were received with regret. Ballots with four nominations for the election of three Directors were distributed by the Committee, but Dss. Booth, the chairman, reported that one nominee had withdrawn, due to other duties. Therefore, as there were no nominations from the floor, the three remaining nominees were unanimously elected by the Corporation, and the Secretary instructed to cast one ballot. The three Directors elected in Class III to serve until 1961 were Deaconesses Brodley, Dunlop, and Johnson.

Another happy occasion at this time was the report of the offerings for the Retiring Fund received at the Annual Service held that morning in All Souls Church, Miami Beach: \$318.75. Shortly after the meeting the Secretary received an additional \$150, an anonymous gift to the R. F. D.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Faithfully submitted,

Lydio Romsoy, Secretary.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES

Income from investments	\$14,106.33	
from real estate	18,429.08	
Total gross income		\$32,535.41
Expenses of operating real estate, taxes, etc.	\$15,201.61	
Payments to Beneficiaries	11,895.00	
General Expenses	3,249.32	
Total Expenses		\$30,345.93
Excess of income over expenses		\$2,189.48
Contributions	\$4,296.00	
Legacy, Adelaide Vernon	3,000.00	
Legacy, Elizabeth Boorman	500.00	
Total		\$7,796.00
Estimated current value of Fund as of July 31st, 1958	\$374,939.29	

(Signed) C. E. Clark, Treasurer
City Bank Farmer's Trust Company
22 William Street
New York 15, N. Y.

Present Officers and Members of the Board of Directors Retiring Fund for Deaconesses

Deaconess Ruth Johnson	President
Deaconess Katharine Putnam	Vice-President
Deaconess Pauline E. Watts	Secretary
Deaconess Edith Booth	Deaconess Madeline Dunlap
Deaconess Agnes Bradley	Deaconess Kate Mayer

Publicity Committee for the next R. F. D. Leaflet

Deaconess Ruth Johnson	Chairman
Deaconess Evelyn Seymour	
Deaconess Kate Mayer	

! F L A S H !

The United Thank Offering Budget at this 1958 Triennial Meeting contained an item of interest to our R. F. D.: a gift of \$5,000 to the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses for "supplementary grants to retired Deaconesses."! We shall hear more about this when official notification has been received.

OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO U. T. O.!

A Final Word

Remember that your R. F. D. **wants to help you.** Don't hesitate to write to your officers.

1959

The Newsletter

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

November 1959

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses,

The plans for our annual meeting and Retreat were made by the Committee appointed at our Triennial meeting - Desses. Sargent, Colby and the Chairman. This is the first time since 1954 that our Deaconess-in-charge of Central House wasn't the planning leader. Deaconess Booth's wise counsel was greatly missed. This present committee worked diligently and feel that our efforts were rewarded.

Deaconesses Dieterly and Affleck and the Chairman will plan the 1960 meeting. The Conference itself chose the place - The DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisc. - and the dates - September 20-23, 1960.

Begin now to make your plans to attend our 1960 meeting. You will find it spiritually rewarding.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,

Edna McNeill Dietz, Deaconess
Chairman of Executive Committee
National Conference of
Deaconesses

IMPRESSIONS OF DEKOVEN

A quiet dignity is impressed upon one entering this Conference and Retreat Center. Sister Mary Valerie, greeting and registering us and signing us in for three days, sets the note of restrained appreciation and anticipation in accommodating some thirty deaconesses. And as we lived in this great institution we soon recognized the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, so permeated is the atmosphere with His Spirit.

St. Francis de Sales aptly describes the Holy Spirit by the mouths of all the saints and, our Saviour by His own, assures us that the devout life is a life above all others the most sweet, happy and amiable.

Again one is impressed: in discipline is freedom, in orderliness the devout soul can ascend to Him by more frequent, prompt and lofty flights; in love is tolerance and accommodation accomplished.

The DeKoven Foundation for Church Work as directed by the Community of St. Mary has chosen well to justify its destiny in affording retreats from the world-retreats to God where the Holy Spirit becomes the director.
Gladys Hall

VERY FIRST NOTICE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND RETREAT

Place - DeKoven Foundation for Church Work, Racine, Wisconsin

Dates - September 20 (afternoon) through breakfast on September 23, 1960

Rates - \$20.00, total cost, including gratuities (\$7. per day, by the day)

Registration fee - \$1.00 to be sent to Dss. Dietz not later than Sept. 10, 1960.
(Your \$1.00 registration fee will be sent for you to Racine by Dss. Dietz. It is better for the chairman to send in this registration for the group. On signing in at Racine, each one will pay \$19.00 as the \$1.00 registration fee is credited to each one attending. However, it is not refunded if you do not attend.)

Another notice will be sent to all Deaconesses in August 1960, giving the name of the Retreat Conductor, and other details, as well as a Registration Form to be returned to Dss. Dietz with your registration fee of \$1.00.

Blessing of the Central House
Evanston, Illinois
October 12, 1959

The Blessing of the new Central House for Deaconesses came as the first event on the program of the annual meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses for 1959.

Twenty-seven deaconesses, three candidates, and several guests gathered for the service of Holy Communion in the beautiful Chapel at the Central House. The Rt. Rev. Charles L. Street, Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago, was the celebrant, assisted by the Rev. Howard Hassinger of the Seabury Western Seminary. He is also the Director of Studies at the Central House.

The Chapel was blessed during the Service. At the conclusion of the Service the Bishop proceeded through the various rooms of the house, bedrooms, kitchen, dining room, living room, and the library, with appropriate prayers for each, ending with a dedication of the entire House for its purposes of training, and as a Center for the Order.

We who have watched the removal from Sycamore and the adjustments necessary to fitting in the furniture and living arrangements into this smaller house were thrilled to see the splendid results and give all honor to the Deaconess-in-charge and her assistants for their labors. We were especially gratified at the presence at the ceremony of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the House, Mr. Arthur Zellar, who has done so much to get the new House established. He, and Mrs. Zellar, who also attended, remained for a buffet breakfast which we all enjoyed together.
(written by Katharine Putnam)

Please note: Your Editor thought it would be easier to read this letter if done in two columns. It was better for the line-space to shorten, and sometimes lengthen a word. Any criticism in this respect is due the editor, and not the writers of these reports.

The tardiness of this NEWSLETTER is due to circumstances beyond our control.

RESOLUTIONS

The Resolutions Committee begs to submit the following report:
THAT the Deaconesses at their annual National Conference and Retreat express their thanks to the Rt. Rev. Charles L. Street for the joy and privilege of having him celebrate Holy Communion, and bless all the rooms at the Central House for Deaconesses in Evanston.

Thanks to the Rev. Howard Hassinger for assisting the Bishop at the Central House for Deaconesses.

Deep appreciation and thanks to Deaconesses Booth, Brereton and Donsing for their generous and kind hospitality at the Central House for Deaconesses.

Especially grateful thanks to Deaconesses Booth and Brereton for providing a bus to transport all of us from Evanston to Racine, door to door service.

Thanks to the Treasurer of the Central House, Mr. Arthur H. Zellar for the box of candy enjoyed by the Deaconesses en-route to Racine.

Thanks to the Sisters of The Community of St. Mary for their kind hospitality at the DeKoven Foundation for Church Work.

Thanks to the Rt. Rev. Wm. H. Brady for his excellent conducting of our helpful and inspiring Retreat, which we pray may deepen our faith and enrich our hearts and minds through the Holy Spirit that we may realize the real presence of God.

Clara Searle,
Chairman

- - - - -
Deaconesses present - 1959
Edith Adams, Agnes R. Bradley, Marian Brown, Dorothea F. Betz, Edith A. Booth, Amelia Brereton, Ruth H. Colby, Lillian Crow, Hilda Dieterly, Edna M. Dietz, Hildegard Donsing, Dorothy Duffie, Madeline Dunlap, Harriet English, Gladys Hall, Ruth Johnson, Betty Lank, Alice Mayer, Clara Orwig, Ruth M. Parsons, Katharine Putnam, Lydia A. Ramsay (at DeKoven only), Mary M. Redd, Olive Robinson (for the Blessing of the Central House only), Evelyn E. Seymour, Clara Searle, Eleanor P. Smith, Grace E. Smith, and Pauline Watts.
Plus three students- Frances Campbell, Stella Englebert, and Ann Sherman

Report of the Treasurer

October 1, 1959

Balance on hand: September 15, 1958 - as reported in THE DEACONESS, 1958, page 3

General Funds	\$220.37	
Undesignated Gifts	186.65	
Publicity and Promotion	127.90	
Emergency Fund	<u>470.39</u>	
Total Balance on hand		\$1,005.31

RECEIPTS: September 15, to December 31st., 1958

Interest on Savings Account	.02	
Publicity and Promotion	38.00	
Central House-Pence Can Offering	5.00	
Share of Triennial Offering	446.75	
Emergency Fund(Transferred)	107.00	
Retiring Fund for Deaconesses	<u>368.75</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>965.52</u>
Grand Total		\$1,970.83

DISBURSEMENTS: September 15, to December 31st. 1958

General Funds:		
Printing "The Deaconess"	\$148.95	
Postage	10.80	
Office supplies	<u>5.42</u>	
		\$165.17
Pence Can Offering to Central House	5.00	
Transferred to Emergency Fund	107.00	
Emergency Fund	100.00	
Retiring Fund for Deaconesses	<u>363.75</u>	
Total Disbursements		\$740.92
Balances on hand, January 1st, 1959		<u>1,229.91</u>
Grand Total		\$1,970.83

* SEE NOTE BELOW * * * * *

First Three Quarters of 1959 - January 1 to October 1, 1959

RECEIPTS - For items on the Budget

For General Expenses	\$194.46	(This includes \$40.46. interest)
For the Central House	109.00	
Publicity and Promotion	69.00	
Triennial Travel Expenses	57.00	
Emergency Fund	49.00	
Contingency Fund	<u>478.00</u>	
Total Receipts		\$956.46

DISBURSEMENTS

General Expenses	10.00	
Central House	103.00	
Publicity and Promotion	317.50	
Emergency Fund	200.00	
Retiring Fund for Deaconesses	<u>5.00</u>	
Total Disbursements		\$635.50

* Report of the FIRST three quarters of the 1959 BUDGET

A RECAPITULATION OF THIS PAGE FOLLOWS ON THE NEXT PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER

October 1, 1959 - Total amount in Savings Bank account \$1,550.87
Total amount in "Special Savings Account" \$1,718.72

Treasurer's Report

October 1st, 1959

Budget Item & amount	Balance 1-1-59	Received	Total	Disbursed	Balance 10-1-59
General Expenses \$100.00	80.22	154.00 40.46Int.	274.68	10.00	264.68
Central House \$100.00	00.00	109.00	109.00	103.00	6.00
Publicity and Promotion \$300.00	140.90	69.00 234.00*	443.90	317.50	126.40
Triennial Travel \$300.00	00.00	57.00 243.00*	300.00	00.	300.00
Emergency Fund \$100.00	477.39	49.00 51.00*	577.39	200.00	377.39
Contingency Fund \$100.00	526.40	478.00	1,004.40	528.00*	476.40
(Retiring Fund for Deaconesses)				5.00	
Totals	1,229.91	956.46		635.50	1,550.87

*Transferred in bookkeeping
Not included in totals

Evelyn E. Seymour
Treasurer

Summary of the minutes of the 1959 Annual Meeting

The National Conference of Deaconesses met in the Conference Room of the DeKoven Foundation for Church Work on the evening of October 12th, and the afternoon of Oct. 13th. Since no official action can be taken at this time, just a summary of what was discussed is given here. Since all Conferences and Retreats for the time being must be held in Retreat Centers, the total cost per person at such places will be given in the advance notices. The Deaconesses this year were so generous in their offerings that it was decided to establish a Hospitality Fund, to be used in the future for those who might need help to make it possible for them to attend a meeting.

More information is to be sought before discussing our part in the formation of an interdenominational council of Deaconesses as suggested in a letter written by Deaconess Barnwell of the Methodist Church.

(Continued in the next column)

Three topics discussed at this meeting, and to be discussed further next year, before voting on them in 1961, were -
1. Revisions in the By-Laws, *
2. Modernization of the garb, **
3. Consideration of the Central House Cross as the Cross for all Deaconesses in our Church.

It was decided to publish a NEWSLETTER. Dss. Seymour was asked to be the Editor.

Dss. Edna M. Sargent's health made it necessary for her to resign from the Secretaryship of the Conference (she is to remain a member of the Executive Committee) Dss. Marian Brown was appointed to fill this office.

(written by Edna McNeil Dietz)

* published in THE DEACONESS - 1958

** Mimeographed copies were given to all present at the meeting. Copies will be mailed to everyone else. If you do not receive a copy please write to Dss. Alice Mayer, Grace House, St. Paul, Va.

REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE of the CENTRAL HOUSE
TO
THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

October 12, 1959

The Staff of The Central House for Deaconesses has had many interesting experiences during the past year, the most important of which was the transfer of The Central House from Sycamore to Evanston on December 1, 1958, after weeks of impatient waiting for painters, plumbers and plasterers. One student from the Diocese of Michigan arrived with the last load of furniture. On February 1st., a candidate from the Diocese of Chicago came into residence. Both candidates spent two weeks observing and helping the Chicago City Mission deaconesses prior to coming to the Central House.

The 1959-60 term began on September 14th with three instructors; Dr. Howard Hassinger, Dr. Percy Norwood and Dr. Kendig Gully. Parochial ministration is being directed by Deaconess Brereton with the assistance of the Rev. Dargan Butt. The students are also taking a course in Social Case work at Loyola University in Chicago. The summer field work was done under the Town and Country Program, one student at Valle Crucis, N.C. and one under the Roanridge, Mo., program.

At the present time there are four candidates preparing for the diaconate for women. Two are in residence at the Central House, one is studying privately in the Diocese of Massachusetts, and one in the Diocese of Chicago. Three women visited the Central House during the past year and two inquirers will visit over the week-end of Oct. 16th. A new brochure is ready for the printer and should be released shortly.

During the past year 53 women have written for information, ranging in age from high school students looking forward to their life work, to women over 68 who have retired from a life-time job, and widows whose children are now grown and want something to do. 61 requests have come for literature for use in discussion groups and 86 packets of literature were sent to summer conferences. Seven talks have been made.

(continued in the next column)

ABOUT THE HOUSE: Our House though small is in a most strategic location. It is the start for which we have long prayed and at the present time, all that we can afford to support on our very limited budget. Several deaconesses have made generous gifts to The House. Deaconess Putnam provided a new gas stove, hot water heater, vacuum cleaner and dishwasher. Deaconess Edith Adams, who had given us an apartment size gas stove in Sycamore, which we still use, has given us a gas incinerator. Deaconess Clara Searle has given two lovely pieces of furniture, dishes and silver from her home, and Deaconess Brereton has given a new Wurlitzer Organ for the chapel, as well as seeds, bulbs, garden tools, etc. to beautify the outside of the House. The Discretionary Fund which is made up of gifts from friends and deaconesses is like the widow's cruse. There always seems to be a little bit more, and this fund has bought many things, relieving the Central House Funds for such items as mortgage payments, repairs, honorariums for instructors, etc. My Discretionary Fund has furnished the house with new window shades, a rug mat, cutting and fitting the rugs to the new floors, bought book-cases for the student's rooms, a coffee table, basement storage shelves, paint and other items. In addition it has paid for extra printing, and postage, and is now paying for the tuition of the two students at Loyola University, and their transportation by "L" three days a week.

From the Chapel Fund, we have bought new Office Lights and a purple Eucharistic set. Through Deaconess Truesdell, the Rev. Canon C.E. Savage and the Rev. William O. Lewis of Christ Church, Moline, Illinois, have given a green and a red Eucharistic set and Miss Mary Moore of Davenport, Iowa, on the anniversary of Deaconess Truesdell's Setting Apart presented the House with a lovely Pall. The Chapel is now well appointed. Daily Offices, Intercession and Compline are said and each Wednesday a member of the faculty of Seabury-Western Seminary celebrates the Holy Eucharist at

(continued on the next page)

(continued from previous page)
our Altar. On Tuesday and Thursday of each week the entire household attends services at The Seminary. In March, Bishop Street conducted a Quiet Day for the Chicago Chapter of Deaconesses at The Central House. At this time Frances Campbell, after serving her three months probationary period received the student cross and was formally admitted for training. On the Feast of St. Philip and St. James, the entire household went to Sycamore for a Quiet Day at which time Ann Sherman received her student cross and was formally admitted for training.

Life in the House is rich and full. With such a small student body it is naturally more of a family than an institution. Deaconess Donsing keeps us well with the good food she prepares. Deaconess Brereton keeps busy with teaching, gardening, running errands and assisting the Deaconess-in-charge with the many requests that come to her. The two students keep us constantly on our toes with their enthusiasm, imagination and joy in the life for which they are preparing.

During the past year we lost five deaconesses. Laura Callaway died while we were in Miami Beach. In November, Anne Gilliland, finally laid down her work after years of great activity. In Dec., Heath Dudley, who had gone back into active service to the chaplain in the hospital in Pueblo, Colorado, died as she was preparing a bite to eat before going on duty for her afternoon visits. On Mar. 31st, Elsie Riebe, never giving up hope that she would again go back to China, went on into closer union with her Lord and Master, and on April 26th, Ruth Bylesby, active for so many years, and faithful to her Vocation begun 63 years before, entered life eternal. May God grant these faithful women Light and Peace and continual growth in His Service in His heavenly Kingdom.

As far as I know, Miriam Allen is in the same condition she was last year. Mary Frances Werd is getting along well after a very devastating fall. Do carry these, and all our ill deaconesses in your prayers every day. Let us offer our
(continued in the next column)

strength to them to help them to bear their infirmities.

RECRUITING AND TALKS:

We know the importance of keeping the work of deaconesses constantly before the public. Let us never miss an opportunity to witness for the Order.

FUTURE OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE:

We are now well established in Evanston in a particularly strategic spot. We are well aware of our limitations, in not being able to provide rooms for visiting deaconesses. There are several reasons for this. The first and most important is that we have neither the money to buy nor to maintain a house the size we would need for this purpose at this time. As much as we yearn to do so we cannot maintain a house with rooms which would remain empty months on end awaiting deaconesses who might, or might not come. However, the Board of Trustees of The Central House is deeply concerned about this problem and is considering ways and means for overcoming it. In the meantime bear with us and keep in mind that during the summer it is possible for us to have three deaconesses visiting at the House at one time. During the month of July the City of Evanston has much to offer to make it a most enjoyable place. There are concerts, films, recitals and lectures through the University. There is always the Lake, just two blocks away for swimming or just sitting on the shore watching the boats and enjoying the breeze.

Those who are close to our life and work, feel we have done the right thing in moving to Evanston and that there is every indication of growth, both for The Central House and its usefulness to the Church, and for the Order of Deaconesses. Let us all work hard with the Holy Spirit to make it grow. Let us each one do our part in bringing one young woman into the Order. Let us ask our friends to help us to support our House. As it says in Proverbs 28:18, "Where there is no vision the people perish." We know what we have to offer, we know what we can be and do. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit and with our hard work we can make our Vision come true and become a mighty force for God in the spread of His Kingdom.
Respectfully submitted: Edith A. Booth

Preparation:

1. The Holy Spirit is the real Conductor. It is for Him to guide, instruct and tell us what to do. Give the Holy Spirit the opportunity to speak to us - to move our hearts and our wills.

2. Keeping of the silence - not only not speaking but giving of the heart and mind and will.

3. Thinking about God while doing other things, dressing, bathing, etc. - - - Praising God.

First Meditation

Subject- General idea of what we are - Text: - "Ye have not chosen me but I have chosen you and sent you, ..."

Behind His words is the fact of His Creation, that He made the world and all in it. All fashioned and designed by the perfect mind of God for a special purpose and function. Infinite value in every iota in it.

Each of us is created for a particular function for a peculiar work which is ours alone. This is what we call our vocation. Our vocation is for us the only life we could possibly live. The only thing natural for a person is that which God has given him, the only way in which he can be himself. Collect- "Every man in his vocation and ministry," In that vocation only can the true nature of the person be fulfilled and have peace - can look up into the Father's Face and say, "Father into Thy Hands I commend my Spirit."

To conclude these thoughts let us busy ourselves with the question - Lord, you have created me for a special reason - like a glorious painting and no one can take my place and if I am not in it the whole picture is spoiled. I am called to be a Deaconess in Thy Church. Help me, O Lord to understand, to have a clearer vision of what you have called me to do - never counting the cost - to give my life. Why a Deaconess ? not because I want to be but because that is what God has called me to do and that is the only natural way of life for me - To find out one must live it more intensely and if it God will show the way.

Second Meditation

St. Luke 1:26-40 The story of the Annunciation is the story of the beginning of Christianity and the Christian life. Two elements of the Christian life are so evident in this story:

1. Being

2. Doing

People often miss the proper order of these elements, and it is a trap for the professional worker to get them in the wrong order. Being always comes first. If a person is, a person does. If a person is not, a person does not.

It is not until the Blessed Virgin Mary becomes, that she does. Immediately, when Our Lord came into her, she went forth to minister to Elizabeth.

Being is the first truth of the Christian life. The Christian life is the life in which we set about being God's. "That He may dwell in us and we in Him." Certainly, if God is in me, He will be doing through me. Holy Baptism is the introduction into the Christian life. It is the platform of being. "That he may be made a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the Kingdom of heaven." The person baptized becomes a new being. We are not all children of God, but we are all creatures of God. There is only one child of God - Jesus Christ. In baptism we are incorporated into this body of Christ and His Church. God's love reaches out through the Church, "We receive this child into the congregation of Christ's flock,"

Being is translated into doing, but being always comes first. Neither you nor I, nor all of us put together, can ever do the work of God. We do not have His mind and His infinite love. Only God can do His work. All we can do is to give ourselves to God and let Him work through us. Only He knows it, only He is capable of doing it. Our big job is to be His and to live in Him. He is with us always. With our eyes He is seeing, with our hands He is doing, with our hearts He is loving, with our feet He is walking. The nearer we get to God the more practical we become, the more we are God's the more realistic, the greater our accomplishments. We be therefore we do. When the Lord God dwells within us, then the Lord God does His work.

(continued on the next page)

2nd. Meditation continued

Rule of Life. We should ask ourselves: Does it bring me closer to God? Should I say my prayers and offices more thoughtfully, more carefully? What can I add to them? How can I give my life more completely to God? How can I become more completely His? "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me." Unless we are, we can not do. If we are God's, God through us can do anything.

Modern society thinks such things are crazy. We are dishonest, unless we are honest. If a man does not do what he believes is right, he is a liar.

If one is, then one does. God calls us and enables us by His grace to be entirely His. "I, yet not I, but Christ dwelleth in me."

Third Meditation

Preliminary:- The need of a Rule of Life. Need a definite rule to live the Christian life - even though we have all the grace of the Sacraments - to tie us into the things we should do. The things of the world and the deceptions of the devil soon come and prevent us if we do not have a Rule. We speak of keeping it but later we learn our Rule keeps us. It should be extremely simple, be the minimum below which we must not go.

1. Communion - not sure if they should be daily, unless advised by competent advisor - but, should be made each Sunday and certain weekdays - have a definite plan.
 2. Recitation of Morning and Evening Prayer - helps strengthen Parish Priest and the people.
 3. Daily Meditation - Some time every day - at least 15 minutes daily to enrich your life. You become saturated with God, and as you go out you carry God with you.
 4. Intercessions and Petitions - Talk with God about the simple things of ours as well as the more important. The great things stand only if little things go well.
 5. Self-examination - Use of Beatitudes, Seven Deadly Sins, the Virtues, etc. Help us to see clearly as when we stand before the judgement seat - a review of the day - of what we did do that was good and thank God for that.
- Then fit the rest of our life into what is in our Rule.

Meditation - The Gospel for last Sunday.

(20th. after Trinity) - St. Matthew: 22
Extremely simple - but so often we do not understand. The marriage of His Son - Our Lord can express eternal truth because He dealt in terms of life lived. The Jews - the people chosen by God - God had guided, encouraged - they slipped forward and back, etc., etc. The great Temple Worship all looked forward to the Messiah. He came and the Eternal Gospel was offered and rejected. The tragedy of the Jews found when God who was their God through all the centuries came and they couldn't even recognize Him. They had so put out of their lives any real consecration of themselves to God.

The rest of the world came -
Then the great moment came (in the Gospel) Note the kindness of His address. "My friend, my buddy, how comest thou without a wedding garment?"

1. He didn't have to come but he accepted. So the responsibility was his.

2. The wedding garment was at the gate. He didn't care enough about it to make a change. He was speechless - cast out into utter darkness.

The Holy Eucharist - the marriage of God's Son to the Church. All of us invited and all accepted - the responsibility is ours. How carefully we should prepare. We say we trust God but think how He trusts us! He is there - The King who comes in. We can take Him and do with Him what we please. That is our responsibility in accepting Him. Therefore we should carefully examine our conscience and make as complete an act of contrition as we can. Come saturated with love, prepared to be His mansion. He comes to dwell in us.

In the last Gospel (in the Eucharist) you and I are being talked about. God has become incarnate. To them that do receive Him - become the sons of God. Again becoming incarnate in us. Some will not receive Him but as we keep going to Communion, He can reach them through us. We are co-redeemers with Him - He dwells in us. God has called us to do a certain job, to be holy in our particular vocation. We can't see results but just leave them to Him, and God will bring them about.

(First and Third reported by Dss. Edith L. Adams - the Second, by Dss. Agnes R. Bradley)

1960

THE NEWSLETTER
National Conference of
Deaconesses
September 21, 1960

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

meeting at

DE KOVEN FOUNDATION FOR CHURCH WORK, Racine, Wisconsin, September 21, 1960

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

The annual meeting and Retreat of the National Conference closed on Sept. 23rd. To those present it was a rewarding experience.

With the 1959 offering, to which many of you were most generous, the Conference invited thirteen deaconesses to be our guests. Finally four said they could come. And how we enjoyed having them! Three of them had not been to an annual meeting for years. You will find a little note from them further on.

With this year's offering, we gave a gift to Bishop McNairy, our Conductor, and to the Sisters, paid the printing expense, gave Central House \$200, and put \$70.20 in the Hospitality Fund. This Fund will have a very slow growth, since the Conference voted not to ask for an offering at the annual meetings from the whole group of deaconesses.

Plans for our Triennial meeting, Sept. 15 and 16, 1961, at Detroit, Michigan, are under way. As soon as they are ready, you will be sent full instructions. DO plan to be present.

I want to thank each of you for your cooperation, your offering and your prayers.

Faithfully yours in Our Lord,
Edna McNeil Dietz, Deaconess,
Chairman of Executive Committee
National Conference of
Deaconesses.

A LINE OF THANKS

We, four happy people, guests of the Order of Deaconesses at the recent Conference at De Koven Foundation and at the Central House for Deaconesses, wish to send a "bread and butter" letter of sincerest thanks for all the pleasures and benefits this kindness has brought. We shall not forget them.

Gratefully yours,
Mary Sandys Hutton
Kate S. Mayer
Harriet English
Mary E. S. Dawson

CONFERENCE IMPRESSIONS

First: Trees. Beautiful trees. Almost a forest of trees. "Stretching out loving arms". Protecting us from the dust, noise and hurry of the world's ways. "Only God can make a tree."

Second: NEW Deaconesses. Already at home among us. Already, too, with fresh contributions to the order.

Third: Mary Sandys Hutton. An inspiration and a blessing from the start.

Fourth: A radiant countenance. A flash of Episcopal purple. A rich deep voice. And a soul-stirring message.

Fifth: The Lord's Prayer. Familiar words with a new meaning, resounding from the deaconesses in unison.

Sixth: A little book, borrowed on the spot. Small enough to finish, though read slowly and ponderingly. Thoughts to remember.

Seventh: Silence. Quiet. Thirty women, all friends together. All interested in one-another's work and welfare, yet quiet, listening to the Friend of all.

Eighth: Parting. As indicated on our deaconess crosses, in all directions. For a new beginning.

Thanks be to God!

Mary E. S. Dawson

DEACONESSSES PRESENT, 1960

(28)
Edith M. Adams; Edith A. Booth; Agnes R. Bradley; Amelia Brereton; Celia Brown; Marian Brown; Frances Campbell; Ruth H. Colby; Lillian Crow; Mary E. S. Dawson; Hilda L. Dieterly; Edna M. Dietz; Hildegard Donsing; Dorothy Duffie; Stella P. Englebert; Harriet H. English; Mary S. Hutton; Ruth Johnson; Alice Mayer; Kate S. Mayer; Anne Newman; Ruth M. Parsons; Katharine Putnam; Lydia A. Ramsay; Clara Searle; Ann Sherman; Mary P. Truesdell; and Pauline Watts.

(Lt. Com. Marian Wheeler came as the guest of Dss. Bradley.)

Edna McNeil Dietz
Sept. 1960

SUMMARY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING, Sept. 20, 1960

Meeting opened with prayer by Dss. Searls. Present: Deaconesses Dietz, Booth, Brereton, Dieterly, Colby, English, Crow, Brown and Searls.

It was decided that there be no executive committee meeting held in 1961 unless such a meeting was found to be necessary.

Deaconess Sargent's resignation because of ill health was accepted with regret, and Deaconess Crow was asked to fill the vacancy on the Executive Committee.

Deaconess Colby extended the invitation of the Rev. W. B. Sperry, Rector of Christ Church, Detroit, for the Conference to meet there Sept. 15, 16, 1961, which was gratefully accepted.

Suggested Schedule for 1961: Executive Committee meeting (if necessary) at 2:30 Friday afternoon, Sept. 15, and banquet that evening, Bishop Mason of Dallas to be asked to speak, Corporate Communion Saturday morning with Mr. Sperry invited to celebrate, followed by breakfast and the Conference Triennial meeting. Deaconess Colby will find out about costs and notify us. There is a convenient hotel nearby and in walking distance of the Convention Hall.

Other topics for discussion were referred to the Conference tomorrow.

Closing prayers by Deaconess Brereton. Adjourned.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MEETING, Sept. 21, 1960

Meeting opened with prayer by Deaconess English.

Minutes of the meeting of Oct. 13, 1959, were approved. Also Minutes of Executive Committee of yesterday were read and noted.

The Ch. summarized
~~A summary of the Treasurer's report was read by the Chairman in the absence of Treasurer, Deaconess Seymour.~~

Report of Central House was read by Deaconess Booth and accepted with cheers.

The Interim Report of the Joint Commission on the work of Deaconesses was given, with comments, by Dss. Johnson. It was voted to send a letter of appreciation to Bishop Mason Chairman

of the Commission, to express the gratitude of the deaconesses on the good work of the Commission.

Plans for the Triennial meeting in Detroit next year were announced and accepted as outlined in the Executive Committee meeting. We are to make reservations with Deaconess Colby who will send us all necessary information.

An exhibit booth for deaconesses at the Convention was approved.

A Newsletter for this 1960 Conference was requested, and Deaconess Putnam was asked to see to the printing and mailing, all material to be sent her by Oct. 8th.

A letter from Miss Barnwell to Deaconess Seymour concerning our participation in the Interdenominational Council of Deaconesses was discussed and Dss. Seymour was asked to write Miss Barnwell, acknowledging receipt of the letter saying that no action could be taken at this time.

Deaconess Adams asked that a committee be appointed to undertake the revising of our "Devotions for Deaconesses" booklet, and report in 1961.

Other topics discussed:

By-law revision to be acted on in 1961.
Homes for Retired Deaconesses.
Spiritual healing.
Proprs for St. Phoebe's day.

Program for Annual Meetings of Conference was then discussed. It was decided to have no business meeting except at Triennial, the program for intervening years to consist of an informative lecture or study by a person competent in that field, and the Retreat.

Thank you! p. 5
Resolutions were read by Deaconess Campbell and accepted.

Closing prayers by Deaconess Colby. Adjourned.

Above reports submitted by
Marian Brown, Secretary.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Report of the Treasurer

September 16, 1960

Balance on hand January 1, 1960, as sent out Feb. 1st. 1960 to all Deaconesses

General Expenses	\$250.00	
Publicity and Promotion	75.05	
Triennial Travel Fund	300.00	
Emergency Fund	377.39	
Contingent Fund	476.40	
Special Hospitality Fund	191.50	
Total Balance		\$1,670.34

Receipts: January 1, to September 15, 1960

General Expenses	\$ 58.50	
Publicity and Promotion	100.00	
Central House	75.50	
Contingent Fund	501.61	
Triennial Travel Fund	45.50	
Emergency Fund	172.50	
1960 Annual Meeting Offering	5.00	
		\$ 958.61

Disbursements: January 1, to September 16, 1960

Printing	\$ 61.00	
Central House	75.50	
Emergency Fund	131.25	
Special Hospitality Fund	191.50	
1960 Annual Meeting Offering	5.00	
		\$ 464.25

Balance on hand, September 16, 1960

General Expenses	\$ 308.50	*Needed to be transferred from Con-
Central House	.00 ...	tingent Fund
Publicity and Promotion	114.05 ...	200.00
Triennial Travel Fund	345.50 ...	254.50
Emergency Fund	418.64 ...	47.50
Contingent Fund	978.01 *	

Total balance in Bank Account 9/16/60 \$2164.70
 Total \$526.50 which will leave \$451.51 in this account.

* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *
Budget Item	Balance	Receipts	Total	Disbursements	Balance
	1/1/60	1/1-9/15		1/1-9/15	9/15/60
Gen. Exp.	\$250.00	\$ 58.50	\$308.50	\$.00	\$308.50
Cent. House	.00	75.50	75.50	75.50	.00
Pub. & Prom.	75.05	100.00	175.05	61.00	114.05
Tr. Travel	300.00	45.50	345.50	.00	345.50
Emergency Fund	377.39	172.50	549.89	131.25	418.64
Contingent Fund	476.40	501.61	978.01	.00	978.01
Non budget items -					See note above
Hospitality Fund	191.50	.00	191.50	191.50	.00
1960 Offering	.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	.00
	\$1,670.34	\$958.61	\$2,628.95	\$ 464.25	\$2,164.70

In Special Savings Account
 \$1,766.26

Evelyn E. Seymour, Deaconess
 Treasurer

REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE OF CENTRAL HOUSE
TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES - September 20, 1960

The annual Retreat and Conference of 1959 brought many deaconesses together in Evanston, prior to the meeting at De Koven Foundation. All who gathered at 1906, Orrington ave., for the Eucharist and the Blessing of the House felt, I am sure, a deep sense of gratitude for the step forward in the life of the House which its establishment in Evanston would mean to the future life of the Order.

In 1958 when we took this step we knew that some day, as it is with all growth, we would have to take another one, for the house we were in was not large enough for our needs if we were to grow as we should. However, we were grateful for small blessings. Without any warning in the spring of 1960 we learned that the house at 1914 Orrington Ave., just two doors from where we were located, was to be sold. It was a large Victorian house with rooms sufficient for our needs for many years to come, and right in the location we desired. The possibility of securing this house was presented to the Board of Trustees who voted to try to acquire the property, expressing in this decision their faith in the future growth of the Order, and its place in the life of the Church. It was also voted to ask the National Council for a grant of \$15,000 toward the purchase price, and as you know, this was granted. An anonymous gift of \$3,000 was received immediately from one deeply concerned about the House and the Order to apply on the purchase price, and another gift was received in the form of an annuity from one of our deaconesses. On July 15 the contract was signed with a down payment of \$20,000. The balance is to be paid by January 15, 1961. The former Central House is to be sold and the price applied on the new house.

We are now in the new house. Some of you have slept under its roof. There are repairs to be made, but if we all work and pray about it and for it, we can very soon make it the lovely place we would like it to be and to which we will be proud and happy to come.

The biggest event in the life of the Order during the past year was the Setting Apart of our three new deaconesses in July. I do not need to give you the details of the beautiful services when

Frances Campbell, Stella Englebert and Ann Sherman offered themselves to God and were accepted by the Church for service therein. Deaconess Englebert continues on the staff of the Episcopal City Missions in Chicago. Deaconess Campbell and Deaconess Sherman both serve on the staff of St. Anne's Home for Handicapped Children near Charlottesville, Virginia. We rejoice that they are here with us at this Conference and hope that before very long they will be taking their places on committees and boards and helping to form the policies and plans of our Order.

At the present time we have three deaconess candidates. On Friday, Sept. 23rd, Mrs. Elizabeth Craige of the Diocese of Indianapolis will begin her training at the Central House. Mrs. Phyllis Edwards of the Diocese of Olympia has been accepted as a candidate by Bishop Lewis, but because of the needs of her high school daughter, she must study at home this year. Marjorie Zerbai of the Diocese of Massachusetts is the third candidate, studying privately under the direction of Bishop Stokes. She has been quite ill with hepatitis which has delayed her studies. Do keep these three women in mind. Pray also for Doris Hunting, Ilene Smith, and Billie McKinney who are seriously considering the Vocation of Deaconesses.

Deaconess Brereton and I have made many talks in the Diocese of Chicago during the past year. On October 1st I go to the Diocese of Dallas for a ten day speaking trip. Many hundreds of pieces of literature have been sent out and the ad in Forth continues to bring inquiries. More and more of the clergy are writing for information.

A small group of faithful Friends continues to support us. I sincerely wish this group might be enlarged. The gift of one was particularly touching. This Friend, not having much in the way of worldly goods, wanted to give a gift to the Central House to express her appreciation and thankfulness for the prayer leaflets sent to her which had helped her greatly. So, in order to make such a thankoffering, she sold a very greatly loved antique sugar and creamer and sent the check to us. Such

Report of Central House, (Continued)

gifts of sacrifice and love can only bring rich blessings to the Central House.

The Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Deaconesses has presented a very lovely Chalice and Paten to the Central House, given to the Oratory of the Good Shepherd by Beatrice Creighton Deaconess, in 1910, also a Bread Box in memory of Anna Mary Carroll. The gifts that have come from you as individuals and as a group through the treasurer are deeply appreciated and work wonders.

This year Deaconess Phyllis Spencer will be in residence at the Central House while doing graduate work at the National College of Education in Evanston.

We miss this year at the Central House the presence of Deaconess Donsing who retired in July. She will however, be on call for the many times when both Deaconess Brereton and I must be away.

We have lost six deaconesses since our last meeting. Let us stand in honor of these faithful servants of our Lord as we read their names: Died:

Grace Ethel Smith	Dec. 15, 1959
Agnes Clark	Jan. 3, 1960
Dorothy M. Dowding	Jan. 28, 1960
Elizabeth Coe	Mch. 8, 1960
Miriam Allen	Jun. 29, 1960
Anna Rebecca Armstrong	Aug. 29, 1960

Lord, all pitying Jesus blest,
Grant them Thine eternal rest.

In I Cor. 16:9, St. Paul says: "For a great door and effectual is open unto me and there are many adversaries." In Ephesus St. Paul found great opportunities, and also opposition, and for these two reasons he stayed in Ephesus. The same is true of our Order today. I feel "A great door and effectual is open unto us - and there are many adversaries - indifference, lack of concern among clergy and lay people, and the encroachment of worldly standards into the life of the Church, but we pray that we may have the same vision and zeal St. Paul had of winning the world for Christ. The Joint Commission on the work of Deaconesses ended their interim report which was sent to all Bishops of the

Church in this way:

"Finally we believe that with great tasks before the Church in this day we shall need all the professional and trained workers it is possible to secure. It is our belief that the Order of Deaconesses, supported by canonical provisions for the security of its members is one of the great sources of power to do our Lord's Will."

Yes, a great door and effectual is open to us. Let us not, through lack of vision or lack of effort lose this opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,
Edith A. Booth,
Deaconess-in-charge

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

To Bishop McNairy, thanks for taking the time from a busy schedule to conduct our Retreat, from which we will all leave deeply enriched.

To the Director of Studies of Central House, Dr. H. H. Hassinger, our appreciation for his Celebration of the Holy Communion on Tuesday for all the Deaconesses gathered at Central House.

To Deaconess Booth and Deaconess Brereton, a standing ovation for being such gracious hostesses to the many who stopped at Central House, both before and after the Conference and Retreat.

A thank-you to Deaconesses Searle, Englebert, Brereton, Newman and Mayer for sharing their cars on the way to and from De Koven.

To Bishop Mason a letter of appreciation for the Interim Report of the Joint Commission read by Deaconess Johnson.

To the Sisters of St. Mary our thanks for their hospitality and for the privilege of sharing their Holy Communion Service on St. Matthew's Day.

Frances Campbell

INTERIM REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMISSION ON THE WORK OF DEACONESSSES

Read by Deaconess Johnson, a member of the Commission.

The Joint Commission on the Work of Deaconesses has so far during this triennium met four times. As a result of these meetings and the study and work carried on between meetings, the Joint Commission offers at this time the following suggestions to the Church for her consideration and action.

Our first concern is with the physical well-being of Deaconesses who have retired. In particular we feel that the Church has a great responsibility which must be recognized whenever a deaconess does not have sufficient retirement income so that she may live in comfort. The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses, through the provisions of its charter is able to help in cases of need....The Women of the Church have so far nobly offered to carry a share of this responsibility. It is our sincere hope and prayer that they will increase the amount they can give until such time as the Church fully accepts her responsibility for the care of her retired or disabled deaconesses. Such help....could well be the difference for many deaconesses between dire need and a respectable comfort in old age.

Our second concern is for the retirement plan for Deaconesses now in service. The Church cannot continue to ignore her responsibility for an office which she canonically recognizes, namely, the Office of Deaconess. It is our intent to submit to next General Convention an addition to Canon 51, the Canon pertaining to the Work of Deaconesses, which would make it mandatory for any Church or agency or institution using the services of a Deaconess to have an adequate financial plan for her retirement. In our minds it is quite immoral to ignore this responsibility any longer....Once such canonical changes are made, and the practical working out of retirement is concluded, then any woman who wants to give her life to God and man as a Deaconess of the Church can feel that the Church is not irresponsible but cares for her servants. Recruitment ought therefore to increase, for much work needs to be done which deaconesses are trained to do.

Our third concern is with the actual stipend being currently offered to Deaconesses. No one becomes a Priest or Deaconess for the sake of money, but by the same token no one has a right to expect a Priest or Deaconess to serve the Church at a sub-standard economic level. The Joint Commission is of the opinion that in certain instances the Church is taking advantage of proffered services of Deaconesses by depriving them of adequate income. This can be stopped quickly if we have a mind to stop it.

Our fourth concern is to broaden the training program for Deaconesses at Central House. This program is already under way. The conviction behind this particular move is that there are hundreds of women of middle age who have been trained in their youth as social workers, nurses, teachers, etc. who are now for good reasons able to give the balance of their lives to the Church as Deaconesses. In many instances what is needed is a refresher course in those fields.....The Church is moving into a new era in institutional care which calls for devoted and trained leadership. Such a source of power can be an Order of Deaconesses so trained.

Our fifth concern is that the Church know of the work of Deaconesses. With less than 100 Deaconesses in active service the vast majority of Church members have no knowledge that the Office of Deaconess exists, and never in their life have met a deaconess.... It is our hope that the work of deaconesses can be presented in every dioceseand also urge seminaries to present to students once each year the work of deaconesses in the Church.

Finally we believe that with great tasks before the Church in this day we shall need all the professional and trained workers it is possible to secure. It is our belief that the Order of Deaconesses supported by canonical provisions for the security of its members is one of the great sources of power to do our Lord's will.

RETREAT - CONDUCTOR, The Rt. Rev. Philip F. McNairy, Suffragan Bishop of Minnesota, September 21 - 22, 1960. Racine, Wis.

SUBJECT: THE GRACE OF GOD. The Upward Reach, the Downward Reach, the Outward Reach.

First Meditation: The Upward Reach. Text: The Gospel for the 14th Sunday after Trinity, St. Luke 17:11-19. The healing of the ten lepers, man's upward reach to God in time of need. Miracles are not forced on man. Though God's power is known to all men, a miracle reveals Him in a pin-point of time. Leprosy is a living death, and was regarded as a broken moral law and punishment for sin. To this the Church spells an everlasting "NO". Christ comes to bring life more abundant, healing of body, soul and mind. One man received "life abundant", nine were healed in body because of their need and of their faith. But faith is not worthiness. Christ is not an austere God but He who wills health. That Christianity is a religion of Grace, not by merit, is the Good News. The grace of God is not forced upon us, but God waits for us to reach upward to Him that He may reach downward to us with His free gift, reaching down through the Cross.

Two forces war in man, conformity to the world, which pulls him down, and the restlessness in his soul which is the disturbing element set by God to draw him upward as the forces of good and evil battle for his soul.

Belonging to the Christian fellowship should lead to new life, winning of souls to Christ, bringing in outsiders to the Church. Many think that favor with God can be won by going to Church, but there is no merit in mere attendance with lifeless repetitions by people and priests, with many distractions, with sermons that do not reveal Christ. God is personalized in Christianity, and worship is to see Jesus only.

The Church offers a sacramental life where the family is the base, from Baptism which is enlistment, through Confirmation which is equipment for battle, necessary for the growing will. Then marriage which is like a triangle, the apex of God. When the triangle is broken God disappears. But the need then is for repentance through which the priest declares God's willingness to forgive.

The individual may say that he has no need of the Church, he is able to pray alone. But this is like shutting oneself in a closet, and his prayer becomes "Me and God". But Christianity is a fellowship, and prayer is the upward reach, faith the act of will, all of mind we can possibly use, not by positive thinking, not by manipulators, but by opening the door to faith. So God waits until His child "by adoption and grace" says "Father, forgive me."

Second Meditation: The Downward Reach.

The downward reach of God to the leper's plea, "Have mercy." We must be ready to receive the gift of love that waits to be wanted. The prodigal Son, the blind man, all are miracles of love, but the greater miracle is the often unappreciated gift of life, and the greatest of all, the Incarnation. Why did "God so love?" Because of his children's need, He comes to them.

The Church has often been afraid to proclaim her healing mission through the grace of God who wills health. In men, only sin and ignorance causes sickness, but in the quiet offering to Him of our weakness His healing power becomes effective. The Christian religion is not the power of healing, but it is God's achievement. The Samaritan leper was made whole in heart, soul and mind.

The Eucharist is man's upward reach in recollection, which is his intellect. But the greater reach is of man's whole self, body, soul and spirit. At-onement with God is always there when man, in response, reaches for Him.

Sacrifice is the gift of love in joyous outpouring. "Here we offer and present unto Thee ourselves", not a dead animal, but self. Our life is a sacrament within a Sacrament. A living proof of our dedication of stewardship is in giving of our time, which is His first gift to us, and of every ability which we possess, that it may be utilized in His Church in His service, for stewardship is the only valid form of discipleship in its outgoing search for people in need of Christ.

RETREAT - continued

People seek a church for many reasons:

1. Materialistic, or the effectiveness of the minister,
2. Christian education,
3. Fellowship,
4. Music,
5. Denominationalism,

and this tells us where people are and their needs. The Church needs an awakened realization of stewardship and the responsibility of the laity, reaching out in personal contact to those outside, not leaving this to paid people, clergy and deaconesses.

We are a Sacramental Church, but we fail if we do not use people. We are Altar-centered, but the laity can be used for various services. As we are a witnessing congregation we have no right to fail in our stewardship. We need to justify and vindicate our vocation. Christianity is not produced by coercion but by finding what people feel, though it may not be what they really need, and leading them to it. Servants are not to rule, but to serve - "Feed my sheep." The person devoted to the spiritual life must not be a reservoir, but a canal, and education is not filling buckets with facts, but lighting a candle in the darkness. As persons working for Christ, we must not strive for an impression of cleverness, but remember that Christ is mighty to save. Faith works through us, "Not by might nor by power" but through Him we are blessed in our serving.

Third Meditation - The Outward Reach.

Text: The Gospel for Tuesday in
Whitsun week: The Good
Shepherd.

Abundant life is the way of love. "God so loved that He gave -" No price too high. In eastern sheepfolds many flocks were enclosed at night in one sheepfold, protecting the flocks from danger. In the morning each shepherd stood astride at the gate, calling his own sheep by name and they passed through the door under his knees and he led them in safety. The safety of His flock was our Lord's passionate concern. We remember John's immortal words, "God is love" and wherever the apostles journeyed they were obedient to His

command to "love one another." Grace is love in action, and as our Lord's love touched the blind man, the lepers and the woman taken in adultery, so it must be ours too, and by the quality of our outreach shall all men know that we, too, belong to the Kingdom of Love.

Why do many Christians have no sense of mission? We are missionaries in a mission land. There is often a spiritual lack, forgetting "feed my sheep."

We fail to reach people because:

1. Religion is not put in terms that men can understand.
2. Materialism repels and obscures the Gospel of love.
3. Sociological, a creed of this life only, with no conviction of life hereafter.
4. Church terms meaningless to outsiders.

The power of Jesus is always to Evangelize:

By 1 - witnessing in our lives

2 - fellowship

3 - preaching by simple story
appeal to conscience, by
relevance, and by service.

Men did not understand until Christ came. Don't be afraid to fail. We are called to serve. God Himself never fails, and He will take the "chopsticks" of our bungling drumming and transform it into symphonic music. "Yet not I, but the Grace of God through the power of the Holy Spirit."

- - - - -

Bishop McNairy's presentation of the Grace of God in our lives was magnificent, not tranquilizing, but disturbing - if there were any complacency in us. His sincerity and earnestness will leave an indelible impression upon all who were privileged to hear his Meditations as he presented the dilemma of the Church and the world, and possibly our own lives, and our responsibility as deaconesses in the service of our Lord. But he left us with the assurance of the sustaining power of God's grace to all those who turn to Him in humility and love.

Kate S. Mayer.

THE DEACONESS

1961

issued by

NATIONAL CONFERENCE – DEACONESS OF THE CHURCH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Edna McNeil Dietz
1901 W. Travis St., San Antonio 7, Texas

Secretary Marian Brown
Good Shepherd Mission, Fort Defiance, Arizona

Treasurer (appointed) Evelyn E. Seymour
102 E. 22nd St., New York 10, N. Y.

Deaconess-in-charge of Central House (ex-officio) Edith A. Booth
1914 Orrington Ave., Evanston, Ill.

Amelia Brereton
Frances Campbell
Ruth H. Colby

Lillian W. Crow
Hilda Dieterly
Betty Lank

Editor for 1961 Mary E. S. Dawson
314 Ivy St., Fallbrook, California

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

Again we come to the end of one Triennium and the beginning of the next.

This past one 1958-1961 saw several matters accomplished by the National Conference of our Order. We considered the Modernization of the Garb; changed and passed additions to our By-Laws. Both of these are fully reported in this issue of THE DEACONESS.

Deaconess Ruth Johnson at the request of the 1960 annual meeting compiled a REPORT ON CHURCH HOMES FOR THE RETIRED and, in early 1961, each deaconess received a copy.

During the past Triennium our wise treasurer with the consent and knowledge of the conference established a budget, which has proved very useful and effective. Our Triennial offering was the largest in our history. (See the Treasurer's Report in this issue)

To Deaconess Ruth H. Colby go our thanks for a most effeciently planned and executed program— from the moment we registered at the hotel, through every detail of the program each of you received, all went just as she had planned it. She has our thanks and deepest gratitude.

The Committee on arrangements of the General Convention in Detroit invited the deaconesses to march in the Opening Procession of the Convention. It was a privilege to have marched.

So it has been a fine Triennium.

The Joint Commission on the Work of Deaconesses was abolished and the work of deaconesses placed under the Joint Commission on Status and Training of Professional Women Church Workers.

As you can learn from the Minutes the new members of the Executive Committee are Deaconesses Marian Brown, Frances Campbell, Hilda Dieterly, and Betty Lank.

After the fifteenth Triennial Meeting of the National Conference adjourned, the Executive Committee met and elected Deaconess Dietz, chairman; Deaconess Marian Brown, secretary; and appointed Deaconess Seymour, treasurer.

I am grateful to the Executive Committee for the honor they have paid me; and I shall, with the help of your prayers, do my best to carry out the instructions of the Executive Committee for my final term as your presiding officer.

A committee has been appointed: Dss. Frances Campbell, chairman, Deaconesses Brereton, Searle, and Putnam, members—to make a study of the work in the interest of all deaconesses now being done by Central House to see which things could be accomplished by the Executive Committee, in an effort to ease the work of the Deaconess-in-charge and her assistant. They expect to bring us a report at Racine, October 1962.

This copy of THE DEACONESS is under the able editorship of Deaconess Mary E. S. Dawson. Here you will find what was done in Detroit at our Triennial Meeting.

Oct
9-12
Let us begin right now to make plans for attending our meeting and Retreat in 1962.

Each day, please, include in your prayers the members of the Executive Committee you all elected to guide the work of the National Conference for the coming three years. We know not what we shall meet.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,

Edna McNeil Dietz

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Triennial Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses was called to order by Deaconess Edna McNeil Dietz at Christ Church, Detroit, Mich. on Sept. 14, 1961.

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Deaconess Crow. Deaconesses Booth, Brereton, Crow, Dieterly, Dietz, Seymour, Colby, Searle and Marian Brown were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The time of our next meeting was discussed. Two dates have been given us by the Sister Superior of the Sisters of St. Mary at Racine, Wis., October 1st-4th or Oct. 8th-12th, 1962.

The cost will be about \$20.00 per person for a four day period or \$25.00 for a five day period.

A subject for the next meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses in 1962 was discussed. The one suggested was Theology, "Rethinking our Life as Christians in the World Today". Two speakers were recommended—The Reverend F. Reid Isaac, Editor Jr. High School Curriculum of the Christian Education Department of the National Council, and the Reverend J. V. Langmead Casserly, D. Litt., Professor of Apologetics of Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill.

What?
Action was taken upon the report of the Committee on the Revision of the By-Laws. A suggestion was made to add to Section 6 of the By-Laws the following-
(3) "The President and the Vice-President of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses shall be members of the Executive Committee". *Sug. or Resol.?*

A motion was made by Deaconess Seymour that—Any deaconess chosen to represent the Order of Deaconesses in the National Church shall become a member of The Executive Committee of The National Conference of Deaconesses. It was recommended this proposal go into effect immediately. The motion was seconded by Deaconess Colby, and carried.

n.s. Deaconess
The invitation from Miss Bardwell, Methodist Deaconess, requesting that our deaconesses join with deaconesses of ~~other denominations~~ was brought up. It was suggested that it does not seem possible to take any action on the above matter at this time. *Method. only. P. 7*

In the By-Laws, Section 7, in reference to "The Duties of the Executive Committee" an addition was proposed to take effect immediately—, that "the Executive Committee be empowered to act for the National Conference of Deaconesses during the Triennium". *P. 7 - 5*

There was a report on Propers for St. Phoebe to be presented to the Conference.

?
The Treasurer's Report was accepted. A question was brought up to be discussed—, "Do we wish to continue the budget as in the past?"

Deaconess Seymour is to continue as Treasurer. *action P. 7 not plus Ex. Com motion*

Deaconess Colby showed us a medallion for use by deaconesses if any care to use the same.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Deaconess Searle.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Brown, Deaconess, Secretary.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

January to August 1961

Balance as reported January 1st, 1961

General Expenses	\$262.65	
Central House	24.50	
Publicity and Promotion	314.05	
Triennial Travel Fund	600.00	
Emergency Fund	418.64	
Contingency Fund	547.61	
Total in Budget Accounts	\$2,167.45	
Hospitality Fund	98.90	
Total Amount in the Savings Account	\$2,266.35	

(Continued from page 3) Total Amount in the Savings Account \$2,236.35

RECEIPTS - First two quarters of 1961, January 1st. to June 30, 1961

General Expenses	\$ 56.50
Central House	236.50
Publicity and Promotion	65.00
Triennial Travel Fund	105.00
Emergency Fund	33.50
Contingency Fund	369.50
Interest on the Account	47.56
Hospitality Fund	5.00
Total Receipts	\$ 918.56

DISBURSEMENTS - for the same period

General Expenses:

Printing and mailing "HOMES" paper	55.23
Rent for Booth at General Convention	150.00
Postage	5.00
	<u>\$210.23</u>
Central House	261.00
Emergency Fund Gift	50.00
Total Disbursement	<u>\$521.23</u>

Balances on Hand, August 4, 1961

General Expenses	\$108.92
Central House	00
Publicity and Promotion	614.05
Triennial Travel Funds	900.00
Emergency Fund	468.64
Contingency Fund	468.17
Total Balance in Budget Accounts	\$2,559.78
Hospitality Fund	103.90
Balance in Savings Account, August 4, 1961	\$2,663.68

Total Balance in Special Savings Account, July 1, 1961 \$1,833.11

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn E. Seymour,
Treasurer

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

REPORT of the TREASURER

Treasurer's Report

August 4, 1961

Accounts	Balances 1/1/61	Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Transfers	Balances 8/4/61
General Expenses	\$ 262.65	\$ 56.50	\$210.23		\$ 108.92
Central House	24.50	236.50	261.00		.00
Publicity and Promotion	314.05	65.00	.00	+ 235.00*	614.05
Triennial Travel Fund	600.00	105.00	.00	+ 195.00*	900.00
Emergency Fund	418.64	33.50	50.00	+ 66.50*	468.64
Contingency Fund	547.61	417.06		- 496.50**	468.17
Total Budget Accounts	\$2,167.45	\$913.56	\$521.23		\$2,559.78
Hospitality Fund	98.90	5.00	.00		103.90
Total In Bank Account	\$2,266.35	\$918.56	\$521.23		\$2,663.68

Account No. 1730032. The Bank for Savings,
280 Park Avenue South
New York 10, N. Y.

*Transferred from the Contingency Fund into this account.

**Transferred out of this Fund into the other accounts marked with a *

Special Savings Account No. 1,665,400—

The Bank for Savings,
Park Avenue South at 22nd St.,
New York 10, N. Y.

Balance on hand, January 1, 1961	\$1,799.37
Interest for the six months	33.74
Total in Account, July 1, 1961	\$1,833.11

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn E. Seymour
Treasurer

REPORT OF THE TRIENNIAL OFFERING

as of October 15, 1961

For National Conference	\$ 614.00
For Retiring Fund for Dss.	\$ 574.25
Total	\$1188.25

At least one more offering, not yet received, but in Uncle Sam's hands, will make the total a bit more.

Signed: Evelyn E. Seymour, Deaconess, Treasurer

Another Item for THE DEACONESS

Before the treasurer left Detroit, Miss Helene DeWitt in the name of Christ Church refunded the money, so that we were guests of Christ Church for the meals we ate there. We are most grateful to the members of Christ Church for their gracious hospitality. The money was added to our Triennial Offering.

BISHOP MASON SPEAKS AT OUR BANQUET

It was a memorable evening for us all on September 15th when the Rt. Rev. George Avery Mason spoke at the banquet of the National Conference of Deaconesses. Deaconess Crow introduced the Bishop by saying that he was a "Visionary" with an enthusiasm and vigor that could make his visions a reality.

In his opening remarks Bishop Mason stated that the Western World and the Christian Church were on the defensive. This is not good; not representative of our best or mature thinking to present a defense of the Faith. This is indeed contrary to the Gospel, and defensive attitude is not good recruitment technique. What is most needed is a definitive forward cry, "Christ is King! The Church will prevail — it is its nature to do so." The best answer to the world threat of communism is to "say your prayers, pay your quota, do the work of an evangelist, and recruit." Our concern is to do our Lord's work.

There is a host of mature women, "a pool of power waiting to be used . . . There is no greater challenge than to work as a Deaconess." To bring this potential to be a positive force, a recruitment program is needed. The Church needs women today, with their business or professional talents. While this recruiting program may not be a major breakthrough in utilizing this potential, it is at least a start. The Deaconess needs to use her influence at General Convention to gain support for the resolutions made by the Joint Committee in furthering the growth of the Order.

To summarize, the idea of a positive approach, the Bishop stated, "What is needed . . . (to promote good in the world) . . . is NOT a more microscopic study of evil, but to let the people know more about the Gospel."

Deaconess Booth gave our thanks to Bishop Mason, " . . . a Champion, and true Father in God," echoing our thoughts in expressing deep gratitude for the great love he has for us, and in manifesting that love by being with us.

Ann Sherman, Deaconess

MINUTES OF THE TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

The National Conference of Deaconesses was held at Christ Church, Detroit, Mich., on September 16th, 1961.

The meeting was called to order by Deaconess Edna McNeil Deitz.

Deaconess Englebert opened the meeting with prayer.

Twenty-seven Deaconesses were present.

Deaconess Booth made a motion to give a gift to Bishop Mason. The motion was seconded by Deaconess Colby and carried.

Action upon report of By-Laws Revision Committee:

No changes to be made with Articles 1-2-3-4-5-6.

It was moved to accept the report of the By-Laws Committee by Deaconess

Dieterly—seconded by Deaconess Putnam — motion carried.

Report of Committee on modernizing of our garb: - *P. 6*

Deaconess Robinson made a motion that the report be referred back to the committee — seconded by Deaconess Putman — carried. *we said - P. 6*

Hospitality Committee:

Motion made by Deaconess Crow to add the Hospitality Fund as an open account to other budgetary funds. Seconded by Deaconess Adams — motion carried. Deaconess Seymour made the motion that this Hospitality Fund be used annually, administered at the discretion of the Chairman — seconded by Deaconess Robinson — motion carried.

Deaconess Putman made a motion to thank our Treasurer, Deaconess Seymour for her good work. The balances to be kept as they are — seconded and carried.

Deaconess Booth's report on Central House for Deaconesses was read and accepted.

P. 3
We discussed By-Law Sec. 6 (3) That the President and Vice-President of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses shall be members of the Executive Committee.

- B. Collins*
1. Our basic organization is the Conference of Deaconesses.
 2. We do not wish to have an organization to run us — we must be democratic. *P. 3*
 3. We have Retiring Fund under the State of New York.
 4. We have Central House for Deaconesses under a Board of Trustees.
 5. The Conference of Deaconesses belongs to us.

A motion was made by Deaconess Affleck to get a part-time secretary to help Deaconess Booth in her work at the Central House for Deaconesses. It was seconded by Deaconess Robinson and carried.

A motion was made to have Deaconess Seymour use a fund of \$600.14 to help Deaconess Booth pay a secretary in her work at the Central House for Deaconesses — seconded by Deaconess Dawson — motion carried.

Date of next meeting at DeKoven Foundation for Church Work, care of the Sisters of St. Mary, Racine, Wisconsin, October 9th to 12th, 1962. *2*

Report on Committee on Church Homes for the Retired: Deaconess Johnson reported work accomplished. *Report circulated Spring '61*

Report of Committee on Book of Devotion: This work is to be continued by the Committee — Deaconesses Bechtol and Brereton. *H. Mayer?*

What? Action on request of Miss Bardwell regarding Methodist Deaconesses and ours. *P. 3*
Conference accepted the report as the Executive Committee suggested (see minutes).

Report on request for Propers for Feast of St. Phoebe. Committee still working on this report — Chairman Deaconess Dietz.

Treasurer's Report accepted — Report received.

Report of the Resolutions Committee — Deaconess Campbell — Report received. Closing prayers by Deaconess Frances B. Affleck.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Brown, Deaconess,

Secretary

Saturday, September 16th, 1961

Short meeting of Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses.

Officers elected were:

Chairman — Edna McNeil Dietz

Secretary — Marian Brown

Treasurer — Evelyn Seymour — *appointed*

Recommendation of Committee on Modernizing the Garb

Committee: Dss. Booth, Brereton, Lank, Ramsay, Dietz (ex-officio), and Alice Mayer, Chairman. Dss. Mayer resigned from Committee later and Dss. Dieterly was appointed to fill out the term.

This is the formal Garb of Deaconesses of The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America:

The Deaconess Cross is to be worn at all times;
The color of the garb is dark navy or midnight blue;
Veil and cape;
Dress — simple tailored shirtwaist dress, with long sleeves, preferably without visible buttons, with high round neck, skirt length 14 inches or less from floor, stiff, round white collar with studs, stiff white cuffs with studs;
Shoes — black with military or low heels.

There are times when it is not feasible to wear the garb; in such case it is recommended that the deaconess uniform be:

The Deaconess Cross;
Plain navy or midnight blue dress with short or long sleeves, soft turned-back collar with white cuffs if desired (where conditions require it, white, gray or light blue uniforms are recommended;)
Plain tailored hat or beret;
Shoes — black or white;
Plain tailored coat of navy or midnight blue.

With both the formal and informal the color of the stockings was left to the best judgment of the individual deaconess.

This report was prepared by Dss. A. Mayer and her committee in May, 1958 and given to the deaconesses in August 1959; Presented to Triennial Meeting at Detroit on Sept. 16, 1961 by Dss. Dieterly, and accepted by the Conference. Material and length of veil was referred back to the Committee, and will be presented in Oct. 1962, to be acted upon in 1964.

Proposed Propers for the Feast of

SAINT PHOEBE OF CENCHREA, DEACONESS

(September 3)

The Collect

Almighty God, who didst bestow such grace upon thy deaconess, Phoebe, that she became a wellspring of succour for many; Grant that those who have received the Holy Spirit for the office and work of deaconess in the Church of God may be richly blessed in the fulfillment of their vocations; through thy mercy, O Blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle Romans 15:30

Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; that I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints; that I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed. I commend unto you Phoebe, our sister, who is a deaconess of the church which is at Cenchrea; that ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you; for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also.

The Gospel

Mathew 9:35

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then he said unto his disciples, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE
of the
CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES — September 16, 1961
Detroit, Michigan

The Deaconess-in-charge of The Central House for Deaconesses is happy to report to deaconesses assembled in conference in Detroit, on the activities of The Central House during the past triennium.

In 1958 the National Conference met in Miami Beach, Florida. At that time, the Central House was located in Sycamore, Illinois where it had been established in 1953 at the Bishop McLaren Conference Center, by Bishop Wallace E. Conkling, Bishop of Chicago, and chairman of the Advisory Commission on the work of Deaconesses.

At the time of the meeting in Miami Beach, plans had been already made for the Central House to move to Evanston, Illinois, and on December 1st, 1958 this move was accomplished. The new address was 1908 Orrington Avenue, in the University area, and within three blocks of Seabury-Western Seminary. On November 15th of that year a candidate, Mrs. Frances Campbell entered for training. Due to the moving operations Mrs. Campbell spent two weeks with the City Missions Deaconesses in Chicago, taking up residence in Evanston on December 2nd, 1958. Classes began for her on December 11th with instructors from Seabury-Western Seminary.

In January, 1959 a young inquirer came to visit at the Central House in Evanston, and on February 1st, this inquirer, Ann Sherman came into residence as a candidate from the Diocese of Chicago. From then on the life at the Central House was one great adventure as these two women, filled with vitality, imagination and dedication learned and lived in preparation for their new lives as deaconesses in the Church of God.

In May 1958 Bishop Burrill accepted as a candidate Mrs. Stella Englebert, a graduate of the former Chicago Church Training School, and a member of the City Missions Staff in Chicago. Mrs. Englebert studied privately for several months, and in the spring of 1960 came regularly to the house for classes, living at the house for the last month of her preparation.

These three women were set apart in June 1960. Frances Campbell in her home diocese of Michigan, and Stella Englebert and Ann Sherman in the Diocese of Chicago. Deaconess Englebert has continued with her work on the City Missions staff, and Deaconess Campbell and Deaconess Sherman are serving at St. Anne's Home for Handicapped children in the Diocese of Virginia.

In the meantime, an opportunity presented itself for securing a larger house for the Central House, just two doors from the present one, and in August 1960 this move was made. The price of the house was much more than we ever dreamed we could afford, but the project was approached with faith and was accomplished. Through faith, prayer and work, the kindness and generosity of deaconesses, friends, and the National Council, all payments on the house were met and today we are entirely debt free. Some repairs still need to be made, painting and new linoleum tile on some of the floors, but, on the whole, the house is in good condition.

Other gifts have been received for Chapel appointments — one of these is in memory of Deaconess Tileston from the Church Training and Deaconess House of Philadelphia. One in memory of Deaconess Grace Smith, and a gift for a new alb, amice and girdle from Deaconess Mary Frances Ward from the proceeds of the sale of her little book "The Diary of an Arthritic". For these and all the gifts you have sent through the National Conference treasurer, the House is grateful. Truly the Central House is encircled by the love and devotion of the deaconesses.

During the academic year 1960-61, Deaconess Phyllis Spencer was a member of the household while studying at The National College of Education in Evanston. She completed her work there in August.

Each year the Chicago Chapter of Deaconesses has had the Advent and the

Lenten Quiet Day at the Central House and during Lent last year a group of women from Waukegan, Illinois, had a Quiet Evening at the House.

Three women have been accepted as candidates for the Office of Deaconess during the Triennium 1958-1961:

Doris HuntingDiocese of Massachusetts
Phyllis EdwardsDiocese of Olympia
Frances ZielinskiDiocese of Detroit

under grad Of these three candidates, Doris Hunting is now at The Central House. Mrs. Mae Symons of the Missionary District of North Dakota will come to The Central House this fall to test her vocation before being accepted as a candidate. Marjorie Zerbal, a candidate in Massachusetts is still studying privately. *graduate student*

This coming year, one (of the women) studying under the Master of Arts program in Christian Education at Seabury-Western Seminary will live at The Central House.

Several deaconesses have changed positions during the triennium: Betty Lank has gone from Christ Church, Roanoke to Eagle Butte, South Dakota, as missionary and Director of Christian Education. Phyllis Spencer has gone from Holy Trinity Church, New York to St. Mary's School for Indian Girls, Springfield, S.D. as a teacher. Madeline Duniap has gone from The Church of the Advocate in Philadelphia to be director of the House of Mercy in Washington, D.C. temporarily.

A news item in The Desert Churchman of the Missionary District of Nevada stated that Deaconess Hettler had resigned her work at Pioche, Nevada. At this date no record has been received of her new address. *Mrs. James Bradshaw, Pahrump, Nevada*

Deaconess Dellcma King has retired from her work at Pierre, S. Dakota but is still living in Pierre.

During the Triennium twelve deaconesses have joined the Paradise Chapter, as one of our deaconesses called it:

Laura Callaway	October 3, 1958
Anne Gilliland	November 8, 1958
Heath Dudley	November 20, 1958
Elsie Riebe	March 31, 1959
Ruth Byllesby	April 26, 1959
Grace Smith	December 15, 1959
Agnes Clark	January 3, 1960
Dorothy Dowding	January 28, 1960
Elizabeth Coe	March 8, 1960
Miriam Allen	June 29, 1960
Anna Armstrong	August 29, 1960
Mabel Pennock	January 29, 1961

That it may please thee to grant them a place of refreshment and everlasting blessedness, and give them joy and gladness in thy kingdom with thy saints in light;

We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.

During the past year literature has been sent to 74 inquirers, and much has gone to other groups for distribution.

In May, since a meeting of the Retiring Fund was taking me to New York, I endeavored to call together the deaconesses of the 3rd Province for an informal gathering. Thirteen deaconesses were present. Some of them had not been able to meet with a group a deaconesses for many years and they all felt the fellowship and the informal discussion of subjects dear to the heart of a deaconess were most worth while.

Through the Board of Trustees of the Central House, professional help has been secured in the production of our exhibit and literature for General Convention. These professional advertisers have given generously of their time and money in the production of this work and have refused to accept the cost of some hundreds

of dollars. They have asked us to honor them by accepting this gift. I would like letters of appreciation to be sent to:

Mr. Robert Hey,
Advertising Producers Associated, Inc.,
4654 Oakton Street,
Skokie, Illinois

Mr. A. Bernie Wood
Studio 501
192 North Clark Street
Chicago 1, Illinois

Mr. Martin Crowder
N. W. Ayer & Son, Inc.,
135 S. LaSalle Street,
Chicago, Illinois

I also ask that a letter expressing our appreciation and affection be sent to Bishop Charles L. Street, the Suffragan Bishop of Chicago who gives generously of his time and thought to the needs of the Central House.

And so the roots of The Central House grow deeper, and the branches reach out into an ever widening area of service.

To the Central House come ideas and thoughts from many deaconesses in various places, and one question which has come to me from different sources is that of the relationship between the Executive Committee of the National Conference and The Central House. As it has been put to me the question is "Do we need the Executive Committee now that we have the Central House?" I would like to present this subject to the Conference for discussion so that the function of each group may be clarified, and we may work effectively and efficiently without duplication of effort or neglect of duties or responsibilities. "We have our own work to do."

It would be impossible for me to make a complete report of the work of the Central House without bringing to the group the work that is done by my co-worker Amelia Brereton. Because I hold the official title of Deaconess-in-charge, she stays in the background receiving none of the recognition I receive, and which she rightly deserves. In all things we are equal. She it is who gets together our Prayer leaflet; she it is who does many of the routine jobs - running endless errands, doing the shopping, wrapping and mailing literature. She is always there to help work out knotty problems and to write letters, look up references, cook meals and to her we owe what is going to be a very beautiful garden at the Central House. There are truly two deaconesses-in-charge of the Central House and in the name of both of us I submit this report.

Respectfully submitted,
Edith A. Booth
Amelia Brereton

IN APPRECIATION

I hereby recommend that from this Fifteenth Triennial Meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses the following:—

Letters of commendation be sent to these deaconesses who have passed the half-century mark in the Order:—

Charlotte Boyd	60 years
Jane George	59 years
Anna Ranson	59 years
Leonora Hoffman	59 years
Margaret Routledge	57 years
Sophi Petterson	56 years
Katharine Phelps	56 years
Bertha Radford	54 years
Natalie Winsor	54 years
Frances Affleck	53 years

Anne Lovell	53 years
Gertrude Stewart	53 years
Mary West	52 years

and to Frances Affleck who is present with us at this meeting, a rising ovation;

To Deaconess Colby, a letter of thanks for her months of faithful work in behalf of the Order in managing and coordinating all the fine points of this our Triennial Meeting;

To the Reverend William B. Sperry, a letter of thanks in appreciation of his celebration of the Holy Eucharist before our meeting;

To the Board of Trustees of the Central House, and to the Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses, letters of appreciation for all the work "well done!" since the last Triennial;

To Mr. Milne and his helpers, a message of thanks for preparing and serving the delicious banquet for the deaconesses, and for the sumptuous Corporate Communion breakfast;

To the Reverend and Mrs. William B. Sperry, the ladies of Christ Church Parish, the Evening Guild, Helen De Witt, and to all the members of Christ Church, notes of gratitude for opening their doors so graciously to the Deaconess Order both preceding and throughout the 60th General Convention.

To Bishop Mason, a letter of deep gratitude for his excellent, earnest, and sympathetic leadership on behalf of the Deaconess Order.

Frances Campbell, Deaconess

THANKS TO CENTRAL HOUSE

"A joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful." Psalm 147:1.

Thanksgiving Day is now not far from us. We shall be expressing gratitude for God's good gifts, both large and small. The deaconesses who went to the Conference in Detroit will have on their lists of blessings the privileges and satisfactions of the special fellowship enjoyed within the Order. But the days of the Conference were soon over and each had to return home. But the bonds we felt with one another remain firm and warm.

However, not all of the deaconesses were able to be present. In fact, most of us live isolated from one another most of the time. But we all have yet one more faithful tie. It draws us together even when we are far apart. It comes in the little seasonal leaflets and news items unostentatiously sent out from Central House. Each message, however brief, shows it has been carefully chosen and painstakingly put into attractive mimeo form. Each line is sacred and bears the earmark of love. Let us give thanks for that love.

Ed.—

NOTES ON DECEASED DEACONESSSES

MIRIAM BROBTON ALLEN

B. May 4, 1888, Philadelphia, Pa.

D. June 29, 1960, Houston, Texas

Deaconess Allen was a graduate of the Philadelphia Deaconess Training School, 1918-1920. She was Set Apart in 1922 by the Rt. Rev. Charles P. Anderson in St. Mark's Church, Evanston, Illinois, and returned to the Philadelphia School for one year graduate work. She was in charge of the Young People's Work in Nevada for a number of years, and in 1936 she went to Arizona where she was put in charge of the Salome District. Later she went to the Mission of the Good Shepherd in Fort Defiance. From 1941 to 1943 Deaconess Allen was Superintendent of St. John's Orphanage in Knoxville, Tennessee. From 1944 to 1949 she lived in Phoenix, Ariz. where she was the Parish Worker for Trinity Cathedral; later, returning to Tennessee as Parish and Community Worker in Monteagle. Retiring in 1953, she continued to live in Monteagle until her illness in 1956, when she was taken to Houston, Texas to be near her sister. She died in 1960.

ANNA REBECCA ARMSTRONG B. January 31, 1873, Castleton, Vermont
D. August 29, 1960, Kingston, N. Y.

Deaconess Armstrong was graduated from the New York Training School, 1906-08. She was made a Deaconess at Grace Church, New York on St. Faith's Day, October 6, 1909, by the Rt. Rev. David H. Greer. All of her ministry was in the Diocese of New York, much of which was as Parish Worker of St. Clement's Church. At the time of her retirement, she and Deaconess Simpson had charge of St. Clare's House at Upper Red Hook, until they went to live in the guest house of St. Anne's Convent, Kingston.

RUTH ELLIS BYLLESBY B. March 9, 1865, Meadville, Pa.
D. April 26, 1959, Jacksonville, Fla.

After graduating from the Philadelphia Deaconess Training School, Deaconess Byllesby was Set Apart November 20, 1896 by the Rt. Rev. Cortlandt Whitehead in Trinity Church, Pittsburgh, Pa. She was "the Bishop's Deaconess", working in St. Mary's Chapel, and doing some work in Calvary Church. She was the Parish Deaconess at the Church of the Redeemer, Morristown, N. J., 1904-1907; and in Detroit, Michigan from 1913 to 1922. From 1927 to 1943 she was Head of Neighborhood House, and Parish Deaconess of Christ Church, Augusta, Georgia. From 1948 to 1950 she was Parish Worker at the Church of the Ascension, Pittsburg.

LAURA RALPH CALLAWAY B. May 18, 1863, Montgomery, Alabama
D. October 3, 1958, Alhambra, California

Deaconess Callaway was a graduate of the Philadelphia Deaconess Training School, 1900-1902, and was made a Deaconess in December 1902 in Corbin, Kentucky by the Rt. Rev. L. W. Burton.

Her first work was in the mountains of Kentucky teaching Bible, organizing Community Sunday Schools and weekly Mothers' Meetings. During a small-pox scare she vaccinated many people to avert an epidemic.

Later she did settlement work in Philadelphia, in City Missions, 1910-1912. From 1912-1914 she was at Neighborhood Settlement House in Los Angeles, and from 1914 to 1920 she worked in the St. Mark's Settlement House in Seattle. In 1923 became assistant to the Deaconess in Charge of the Los Angeles Deaconess House, and from 1930 to 1950 was the Head Deaconess.

AGNES ISABEL CLARK B. 1873 in London, England
D. January 3, 1960, Sacramento, California.

Born in England, Deaconess Clark came to the United States in 1890. In 1917 she was graduated from the Deaconess Training School of the Pacific (presently known as St. Margaret's), and was Set Apart in 1917 in the Chapel of the Neighborhood House in Los Angeles by the Rt. Rev. J. H. Johnson, where she had served for several years. In 1940 she and a friend founded St. Joan's Nursery School in Sacramento. On January 2, 1960 Deaconess Clark was honored on a nationwide T.V. program "It could be you" for her life of service, and particularly for her work at St. Joan's Nursery School, at which time she was presented with playground equipment for the school.

ELIZABETH HAMLTON COE B. July 9, 1882, Worcester, Mass.
D. March 8, 1960, Worcester, Mass.

After graduating from Smith College in 1905, Elizabeth Coe taught for a number of years in the Worcester Schools. In 1911 she entered the New York Training School and was graduated in 1913; all of her ministry was at All Saints Church, Worcester. She retired in 1943.

DOROTHY MARQUERITE DOWDING D. January 28, 1960

Deaconess Dowding was a graduate of the New York Training School, 1925-1927, and was Set Apart in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine by the Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Manning. She was on the staff of St. Faith's House from 1927 to 1931.

From 1931 to 1947 she was the Parish Deaconess at the Church of St. Matthew and St. James in charge of Christian Education and the Church School. In 1948 she served as Parish Deaconess at St. Thomas' Chapel, doing Christian Education, until 1951.

HEATH DUDLEY

B. March 5, 1895, Norfolk, Va.

D. November 20, 1958, Pueblo, Colorado

Deaconess Dudley was a graduate of the New York Training School, 1932-1934. She was Set Apart in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, May 1934, by the Rt. Rev. William T. Manning (for Bishop A. C. Thomson of Southern Virginia). She

was sent by Bishop Thomson to organize St. John's Mission, Grub Hill, Va. in 1934, and was there for seven years. From October 1941 until October 1945 she worked with Fr. Victor Ross at All Hallows Church, Davidsonville, Md. In 1946 she went to New Jersey & did volunteer work in a new mission, St. Jude's Chapel, Branchville. In 1951 she became Guest Mistress at St. Elizabeth's House of the Poor Clares, until 1953. Because of a heart condition she had to "slow down", but in Lent, 1955 she took on some duties under Fr. Minnick of Trinity Church, Portsmouth, Va. When Fr. Minnick responded to a call to serve as Chaplain at Parkview Hospital in Pueblo, Colorado, he took the Deaconess with him. There she served as Chaplain's Assistant until her death in 1958.

ANNE GILLILAND

B. 1886, Plattsburg, N. Y.

D. November 8, 1958, Salina, Kansas

After attending the New York Training School for Deaconesses she was Set Apart in Plattsburg at Trinity Church by the Rt. Rev. George Y. Bliss, September 1916. She was the Diocesan Deaconess, serving at St. Barnabas' Mission, Germantown; in 1917 at St. James' Church in Philadelphia, as Parish Deaconess. From 1920 to 1923 as Parish Deaconess at the Church of the Messiah, Rhinebeck, N. Y. In 1924 she served at Trinity Church, Atchison, Kansas, and in 1926 took charge of St. Faith's Community House in Salina until her retirement in 1949; although retired she continued with her activities in the Parish and Community in so far as her strength permitted her.

MABEL ADELIA PENNOCK

B. January 26, 1876, Cambridge, Mass.

D. January 29, 1961, Cambridge, Mass.

Deaconess Pennock was graduated from the New York Training School for Deaconesses in 1907, and was Set Apart that same year by the Rt. Rev. A. C. H. Hall, Bishop of Vermont, in Grace Church in New York City.

During her ministry she served as Parish Deaconess and Director of Religious Education in New York, Philadelphia and Massachusetts. She retired from active service in 1944.

ELSIE W. RIEBE

B. February 21, 1887, Pingree, N.D.

D. March 31, 1959, Jamestown, N.D.

After teaching for three years in the Public Schools of North Dakota, Deaconess Riebe attended the New York Training School for Deaconesses, graduating in 1912. She worked for two years in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts and at the Church of the Holy Communion in New York.

She was appointed to work in the Missionary District of Hankow, China and was Set Apart in October 1914 in the Chapel of Church Missions House by Bishop Lloyd, President of the Board of Missions. Deaconess Riebe arrived in China January 6, 1915 and served the Church at Ichang in Hupeh, until her retirement in 1952, with four years furlough in this country during World War II. She returned as soon as she could after the Japanese invasion, only to be opposed by the Communists a little later. She helped many refugees to escape; she helped many Church people to be released when they were arrested on trumped-up charges. Finally her buildings, her supplies and medicines were taken from her, forcing her to be returned to this country again. She lived in Jamestown until her death.

GRACE ETHEL SMITH

B. September 30, 1887, London, England

D. December 15, 1959, Winter Park, Fla.

Deaconess Smith was Set Apart by the Rt. Rev. Charles B. Colmore at All

Saints' Church, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands on January 21, 1934, where she served until 1945. From 1945 until her retirement in 1951 she served at St. Anne's Mission, El Paso, Texas.

On retirement, Deaconess Smith moved to Winter Park, Florida, where she was active in the work at All Saints Parish, and the newly organized St. Richard's Church, Winter Park.

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SOME DEACONESSSES

Deaconesses wishing copies of the group picture taken in front of Sibley House on Sept. 16, 1961, mail to Deaconess Ruth H. Colby, 960 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, 7, Michigan. \$1.50 for picture and 25c for packing and mailing.

The hat shown to the Conference by Deaconess Searle can be ordered from: Commercial Hat and Cap Company, 1401 Jackson Blvd., Chicago 7, Illinois. Ask for Salvation Army hat for women— no insignia, midnight blue. Sizes come large, medium, small. Head size in inches might be sent.

The dress shown to the Conference by Deaconess Booth can be ordered from: Nightingale Uniform Co. Georgiana, Alabama. Ask for catalog and samples of materials.

Be on the look out for a notice in our Church magazines about a biography of Deaconess Harriet Bedell.

The annual meeting next year will be held October 9-12, 1962 at the DeKoven Foundation for Church Work, Racine, Wisconsin.

The Deaconess

National Conference - Triennial Report

St. Louis, Missouri

October 8 --- 10, 1964



THE ORDER OF DEACONESSES
Protestant Episcopal Church in the U. S. A.

THE COVER

The cover on this issue of The Deaconess is the gift of the Editor. At the 1965 meeting of the National Conference, the deaconesses will consider the adoption of an official Seal of the Order. The design on the cover is a suggestion.

Editor Dss. Doris L. Hunting
135 Farragut Road, South Boston, Mass. 02127

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Agnes R. Bradley
668 Commonwealth Ave., Jackson, Mich.

Secretary Marian Brown
Good Shepherd Mission, Fort Defiance, Ariz.

Treasurer Hilda L. Dieterly
442 Adair Ave., Zanesville, Ohio

Deaconess-in-Charge of Central House
(ex-officio member) Edith A. Booth
1914 Orrington Ave., Evanston, Ill.

Other Members

Stella Englebert

Betty Lank

~~Phyllis Spencer~~

Frances Campbell

M. Truesdell

~~Pauline Watts~~

F. Zielinski

* * * * *

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

October 8

4:00 P.M. Meeting of the Executive Committee
7:00 - 8:00 Social Hour, Warwick Hotel

October 9

9:00 - 3:00 Triennial Meeting of National Conference
12:00 Noon Intercessions, Deaconess Booth

October 10

7:30 A.M. Corporate Communion at Cathedral
8:30 A.M. Breakfast at Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel
9:00 - 3:00 Meeting of Retiring Fund for Deaconesses

GREETINGS

from the retiring Chairman, Executive Committee

Dear Deaconesses:

The years—ten and a half—that I have served on the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses have been wonderful years for me. For the Order many things have come to pass. Those of us who have had no seemingly visible part in the events have carried our Deaconess Order daily into God's Presence by our prayers and have helped by our offerings.

Central House was moved from Sycamore to Evanston, Illinois and Deaconess Booth's reports show us how our Order has been helped by Central House. Officially, National Conference has no part in Central House, but individually, Central House under Deaconesses Booth and Brereton has grown to be a unifying and inspiring source of strength for all deaconesses.

Now for events. In 1955 at General Convention meeting in Honolulu: the re-establishment of the Joint Commission on the work of deaconesses. In 1958 at the Triennial Meeting at Miami Beach: the report of Bishop Gray of the Joint Commission stressed our garb. A committee, chaired by Dss. Alice Mayer, was appointed to report at Detroit in 1961. In 1961 Bishop Mason, in Detroit, brought us a report of what the Joint Commission planned for the pension system for deaconesses. This was later approved by General Convention. That Convention also dis-established the Joint Commission on the work of deaconesses. In 1962, under the guidance of Bishop Street, the Deaconess Order asked the Presiding Bishop, at the annual meeting of the House of Bishops, to appoint a special committee for deaconesses. Five bishops were duly appointed. At the meeting of the House of Bishops in November 1963 the Special Committee met and elected their officers: Bishop Chambers, president; Bishop Street, secretary; with Bishop Allin, Bishop Hargrave, and Bishop Rose as the other members. You have met them all. We are very happy to have their guidance.

Now, what have we, as deaconesses, done? At our annual meetings we have had certain deaconesses as our guests at our Retreats. In 1961 a candidate was our guest at our Triennial Meeting in Detroit. In 1955 a committee began to gather historical material under Deaconess Johnson. It was made ready for use later under Dss. Putnam. In 1958 under Dss. Alice Mayer a committee on the Revision of the By-Laws brought in their report. In 1961 the committee on Modernizing the Garb presented a report to be passed on in 1964. Early in 1961 Dss. Johnson compiled a list of Church Homes for the retired. Each deaconess received a copy.

My thanks go to each of you for the privilege of serving you and the National Conference in the capacity of Chairman of your Executive Committee. I shall miss the interesting contacts I have made with many of you.

My prayers for our Order, for the official members of the National Conference, and for each of you will rise daily to our Almighty and Merciful Father and to His Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,

Edna McNeil Dietz
Deaconess

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW CHAIRMAN
of the Executive Committee and National Conference

Dear Deaconesses:

Another Triennium has ended and a new one begun.

The outstanding highlight for the Order during the past Triennium of 1961 - 1964, was the appointment by the Presiding Bishop of a Special Committee on Deaconesses. The members are the Rt. Rev. Albert A. Chambers, Chairman; the Rt. Rev. Charles L. Street (retired) Secretary; the Rt. Rev. David S. Rose, the Rt. Rev. John M. Allin and the Rt. Rev. William S. Hargrave. We are indeed fortunate in having this fine committee of bishops who are vitally interested in the Order of Deaconesses. Bishop Street has been our guide and friend for many years. In 1961 at Detroit we had the privilege of having Bishop Rose present at our meeting. At St. Louis, in 1964, we were able to get to know the other members of the committee. It was wonderful to have four bishops with us for our banquet on Friday evening, and again at our Corporate Communion on Saturday morning. Each bishop took the time to visit at least one of our meetings. Truly, we are blessed in having these bishops who are praying for us and helping the Order in many ways.

The other highlight of this past Triennium was the Setting-Apart of six new deaconesses.

Our faithful treasurer, Dss. Evelyn Seymour, has resigned after accepting work in Oregon. Dss. Hilda Dieterly was appointed to succeed her. Our thanks to these loyal workers.

None of us can forget the devoted leadership of our Chairman for the past nine years, Dss. Edna McNeil Dietz. We owe her our deepest gratitude for all she has done for the Order, and especially for the planning and arrangements of every detail for our Triennial meeting.

Again we had the privilege of marching in the procession at the Opening Service of the General Convention, thanks to the committee on arrangements and to our faithful liaison, the Rev. Francis G. Washburn.

The newly elected members of the Executive Committee are Deaconesses Agnes Bradley, Stella Englebert, Phyllis Spencer and Pauline Watts.

After the Sixteenth Triennial Meeting of the National Conference adjourned, the Executive Committee met and elected Dss. Bradley, Chairman; Dss. Marian Brown, Secretary; and Dss. Dieterly, Treasurer.

I feel very unworthy of the honor the Executive Committee has given me, but I trust that with the help of your prayers I may be able to carry out the instructions of this committee.

Dss. Doris Hunting is in charge of this edition of "The Deaconess", and will bring you the news of our Triennial Meeting in St. Louis.

Bishop Chambers, the Chairman of the Presiding Bishop's Special Committee on Deaconesses, has consented to conduct our Retreat at Racine in 1965. Let us plan now to attend.

May we ask your daily prayers for the members of the Executive Committee, whom you have elected to guide the work of the National Conference for this Triennium. May we continue to serve and grow in Him, who has called us to His service.

Faithfully yours, in our Lord,

Agnes R. Bradley
Deaconess

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The National Executive Committee Meeting of Deaconesses was opened by Prayer by Deaconess Brereton on October 8th, 1964 at the Warwick Hotel.

The following Deaconesses were present—Deaconess Dietz, Booth, Brereton, Bradley, Campbell, Crow, Lank and Brown. All members were present.

We received a report on Group Insurance—information sent by Deaconess Putnam.

Also a report on Office for Women—This report sent by Deaconess Truesdell.

Received letters and offering by Deaconesses unable to attend.

We were all invited to a Social Hour at 7:00 P.M.

Have invited fourteen guests—Bishops and their wives—the Rev. and Mrs. Washburn and Mr. Smyth to attend the Deaconess Dinner Friday evening and breakfast Saturday morning following the Holy Communion Service.

We discussed Representative on Order of Deaconesses in the National Church—Deaconess Booth is to submit a report.

Book of Devotion for Deaconesses to be reported upon by Deaconess Brereton.

Length and material of our veil to be reported upon by Deaconess Booth.

Proposed propers for the Feast of Saint Phoebe of Cenchrea to be given by Deaconess Dietz.

It was suggested to ask Bishop Chambers whether we need to make a special request that the work of a Committee for Deaconesses to be continued.

The next dates for the National Conference and Retreat for Deaconesses are October 5th and 8th, 1965 with the Sisters of Saint Mary at Racine, Wisconsin.

The Election of a new Chairman is in order.

It was reported that prayers had been made at Saint John the Divine on a special day for the Order of Deaconesses.

A letter was received from the Professional Women of the Church to join them at their meals. A letter of regret was sent to them as the Deaconess Conference Meetings were at the same time.

It was suggested to give an honorarium to the Rev. Washburn of \$25.00 and also Christ Cathedral of \$25.00

A suggestion was made to give a gift to Missions where Deaconesses were working.

An increased gift to the Central House for Deaconesses was also suggested.

We received an invitation to attend a meeting of the National Conference of Methodist Deaconesses. Deaconess Dieterly was appointed to go.

Being no further business we adjourned.

The Closing Prayer was given by Deaconess Campbell.

Respectfully submitted

Marian Brown
Deaconess

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - OCTOBER 9, 1964

A short meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses was called by Deaconess Booth.

Fifty-six votes were cast for new members of the Executive Committee.

Deaconess Agnes Bradley was nominated as our new Chairman by Deaconess Englebert and seconded by Deaconess Campbell—motion carried.

The following are the present members of the Executive Committee: Deaconess Bradley, Englebert, Watts, Spencer, Dieterly (Treasurer), Booth, Lank, Campbell, Brown.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Brown

Deaconess

SOCIAL HOUR

The Triennial Meeting of our National Conference took place on October 9th, and on the evening of the 8th Dss. Dietz, our retiring Chairman, acted as hostess for a social hour at the Hotel Warwick. It was a very thoughtful gesture on her part, and the nicest possible way to start our program. We could relax and get re-acquainted with no thought of any business to transact. A long table was set up in one of the hotel dining rooms, laden with coffee, tea, fancy cookies, candy and nuts. There were twenty-six deaconesses present, and we had a delightful reunion.

Editor

TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

October 9, 1964

28 Deaconesses present:

Betz, Dorothea
Booth, Edith
Bradley, Agnes
Brereton, Amelia
Brown, Marian
Campbell, Frances
Crow, Lillian
Dieterly, Hilda
Dietz, Edna
Donsing, Hildegard
Englebert, Stella
Edwards, Phyllis
Hutton, Mary
Hunting, Doris

Johnson, Ruth
King, Dellema
Lank, Betty
Mayer, Alice
McGhee, Wenonah
Newman, Anne
Orwig, Clara
Parsons, Ruth
Putnam, Katharine
Ramsay, Lydia
Robinson, Olive
Searle, Clara
Sherman, Ann
Swinburne, Sarah

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CHAMBERS, Read into Minutes

(President — Bishops' Committee for Deaconesses)

The Special Committee of the House of Bishops for Deaconesses hopes to keep before the Bishops the excellent contribution which Deaconesses make in the life and work of the Church. The members of the Committee are deeply sensible of their dedicated vocation.

To this end, the Committee hopes to assist in developing promotional materials which will present this vocation to the women of the Church. In addition to this, we hope that the Division on Christian Ministries of the National Council will work with us and will include the Order of Deaconesses as a part of their concern and province.

The Committee feels that the primary reason that more women have not offered themselves for this special life is that it has not been given publicity in the Church. Indeed, there are many areas geographically in the Church that do not know that the Episcopal Church does have this Order as a part of the serving Ministry of the Church. Canon Law prescribes the duties and requirements of Deaconesses and gives them an official status in the Church.

The House of Bishops' Special Committee for Deaconesses will meet at the coming General Convention to formulate specific recommendations for future plans.

The Rt. Rev. Albert A. Chambers
Bishop of Springfield

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The National Conference of Deaconesses was called to order by our Chairman Deaconess Dietz on October 9th, 1964 at Christ Church Cathedral in Saint Louis, Missouri. The Meeting was opened by a Prayer.

Twenty-eight Deaconesses were present.

Minutes of the last Triennial Meeting were read and approved.

Deaconess Dieterly gave her Treasurers Report. It was accepted. She gave each Deaconess a copy of her report.

Report was made on Special Account by Deaconess Ramsey — a motion was made by Deaconess Ramsey and seconded by Deaconess Crow to find out where savings came from and report at next Triennial Meeting—motion was carried.

Suggestion of a gift for Mission work was not acted upon.

Deaconess Robinson made a motion and was seconded by Deaconess Ramsey that gifts received for National Conference of Deaconesses go to the Central House for Deaconesses—carried.

Also motion made by Deaconess Ramsey and seconded by Deaconess Robinson that \$100.00 from General Fund go to Central House for Deaconesses—carried.

Treasurers Report under discussion —

Deaconess Bradley made the motion and it was seconded by Deaconess King — to have:

1. General Budget
2. Central House

Any member has the right to designate their gift under various headings under 1. General Fund.

Deaconess Hunting was appointed to get out the Newsletter.

Deaconess Ramsey made a motion to increase the Budget for Central

House for Deaconesses to \$1500—\$500 annually for the next three years.
Seconded by Deaconess Hunting—carried.

Deaconess Booth gave her report for Central House.

Report of veil—waist length—soft material—Report in Minute book.

Propers for Saint Phoebe—not accepted by Prayer Book Commission.
In book of “Prayer Book Studies” Epistle and Gospel the same as our report submitted but not the collect.

Voted to give Mr. Washburn \$25.00 for his very great help in planning our Conference—also Executive Committee voted to give Christ Church Cathedral \$25.00 for use of building for meetings, etc.

Deaconess Brereton gave her report on Book of Devotions—She gave us outline of the Daughters of the King Book of Devotions. We are to use book prepared by Deaconess Brereton and her Committee for at least a year before it is printed after it is accepted.

Group Insurance—Deaconess Dietz read letter from Church Life—suggestion was made to refer to Executive Committee for further study.

Office for Women —

Paper written by Deaconess Truesdell — sent to Living Church for publication.

Resolutions was presented by Deaconess Ramsey. Deaconess Sherman made motion to accept Resolutions—seconded by Deaconess Putnam.

Deaconess Hunting presented a Deaconess Seal. She is to finish the Seal and to show it to us next year. Deaconess Brereton made the above motion—seconded by Deaconess King.

Report of the nomination Committee by Deaconess Orwig—the following nominated—Deaconesses Bradley, Englebut, Watts, Spencer.

Closing Prayer by Deaconess Dietz.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Brown
Deaconess

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

October 1963 to September 15, 1964

Receipts—February to September 15, 1964

General Funds	60.00
Promotion and Publicity	90.00
Central House	393.00
Contingency Fund	110.00
Triennial Travel Fund	179.00
Hospitality Fund	37.00
Interest credited to Hospitality Fund	172.67

\$1,041.67

Disbursements		
Newsletter	42.52	
Rental of Booth	200.00	
Central House	300.00	
Mimeographing	2.06	
Check Book	2.50	
Stamps	.50	
Total Disbursements		547.58
Balance on hand, September 15, 1964		
General Funds	197.59	
Promotion and Publicity	906.62	
Central House	123.00	
Contingency Fund	326.07	
Triennial Travel Fund	914.12	
Emergency Fund	376.14	
Hospitality Fund	335.57	
Total		\$3,179.11
Balance in accounts	\$3,179.11	
In special account	2,072.47	
Grand Total		\$5,251.58

Respectfully submitted,

Hilda L. Dieterly
Deaconess

REPORT OF DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE, CENTRAL HOUSE

Triennial Meeting—St. Louis—October 9, 1964

In the September 25th issue of "Christianity Today" in an article entitled, "The Call to the Ministry," is the following excerpt by Sidney A. Hatch of Portland, Oregon called "God's Sword Thrusts." It reads as follows:

While translating the Book of Jonah some years ago I came to that place which says that God "prepared" or "appointed" a great fish to swallow up the Prophet (Jonah 1:17). When I checked on the Hebrew word (manah) I found to my surprise that it also meant "to ordain." "An ordained whale," I facetiously thought. But my wonder increased when I came to the fourth chapter. There I found that God also "ordained" (manah) a plant, a worm, and a sultry east wind! "A whale, or a worm, or a gourd, or a wind," I thought; "if God ordains them, he can use them."

Over the years this rather strange and humbling little lesson has often come back to my heart to encourage me in the ministry.

"If God ordains them, he can use them." As this was true of the whale, the worm, the gourd and the wind, is it not also true of our Order? Has not our Order also been ordained by God for His use? This I firmly believe to be so, for it is evidenced by the growth of the Order just since the establishment of the Central House eleven years ago.

When Deaconess Brereton and I left our beloved mountains to take over the work of The Central House many remarks about our move came to us from both clergy and lay people, some encouraging, with faith in our new venture, and some discouraging, hurting, heartbreaking words such as, "The Order is dying, why not let it die?" "Why keep beating a dead horse?" "The day is over when people will work for the joy of it—now, they want rewards." "What can you offer them?" Perhaps the most heartbreaking and discouraging was one remark, "Well, if you are the best they can find, the Order must be in a pretty bad way." We knew we had little to offer but love and devotion, brawn and muscle for the hard physical work which we knew had to be done. We knew we did not have the academic background, but we did know that we had a love for our Order and faith that God had a purpose for it, and we believed that if we could just hold on, there was a great future for it. So we were willing in spite of these discouragements to put our hands in the hand of God and step out into the night, and we were willing to learn as we went along.

So we answered the Call and arrived in Sycamore to take over a work which had been established by Deaconess Ruth Johnson on a firm, well-planned foundation. I don't believe the Order, or the Church, realizes how much we owe to Ruth Johnson and to her keen thinking, her planning, her determination and hard work to get the Order before the Church, and especially before the Bishops of the Church. Her efforts have been tremendous, and we will ever be indebted to her for her contribution.

As we look back we see now the establishment of The Central House in Sycamore was definitely a part of God's plan, for there we were under the wise guidance of one of the greatest scholars of the Church, Dr. Royden Keith Yerkes. We had a complete college and seminary education under him, and we needed it for the great task which confronted us. Here, again, is one to whom we owe more than we realize. We would not be where we are today in the life of Central House if it had not been for his guidance and encouragement, and his promotion of the Order among his "boys," both Bishops and clergy. Once he had accepted the Office of Deaconess,—its place in the history of the Church, he promoted it continually. The greatest scholar the Church has had was right at our door, sitting at our table every morning after the Holy Eucharist, and, over a cup of coffee, discussing the future of our Order, the House, and many other items concerning the Church and our place in it. Just this week, Dr. Cellier, instructor of Liturgics at Seabury-Western Seminary, said Dr. Yerkes was the greatest scholar the Church has had, but he was way ahead of his time. Some day, he said, the Church will catch up with him and his thinking. That is the caliber of the man who launched us in the Central House program, and who for ten years counselled and advised us. All this, I firmly believe, was God's plan for the future of the Order of Deaconesses which God had ordained for His use.

The words "the Order is dying out," "stop beating a dead horse," were fallacies of the highest degree. These words have been proven false. The Order is not dying out, and we know why—the Holy Ghost is in the Order, and that which the Holy Ghost has entered, he will not desert. Our "dying horse" is very much alive and trotting along at great speed.

Since the House was dedicated in 1953, twelve women have been Set-Apart. Six during the past triennial, and four candidates studying and testing their vocation at the present time. Three women at Central House are in the M.A. program, and one is at St. Margaret's under the wise direction of Deaconess Phyllis Edwards. In July when the third member of our June Class was Set-Apart, we had only one candidate enrolled to enter in September, but by the time the term began we had four! Our second-year student has resigned as a deaconess candidate.

I know you have read about our candidates in the Newsletter, but I never tire of talking about them. Let me tell you about them again briefly.:

MARILYN SNODGRASS (32) is from Seattle, Washington. After graduation

from the University of Washington with a major in Interior Design, she was employed for six and a half years by the Boeing Airplane Company as a technical illustrator before considering her vocation in the Church.

VIENNA ANDERSON (28) whose home is in Richmond, Va. has a background in drama, art and music and has had a professional stage career. She studied for three years in the M.F.A. program at Yale Graduate School; at the Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-upon-Avon, England; at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts, London, on a Fulbright Scholarship; and holds a B.F.A. from Richmond Professional Institute.

MARGARET JACKSON (Mrs.) (58) was the wife of a school principal. She is from Phoenix, Arizona, and has had many years of experience in the field of journalism, editing small town daily and weekly newspapers, and most recently was Woman's Editor of the Arizona Farmer-Ranchman. She also served on the editorial staff of the Arizona Church Record for the past six years, and as its editor for a year and a half. She has received numerous national and state awards for professional excellence. Her education includes two years at Wellesley College.

ESTHER DAVIS (48) whose home parish is in Alhambra, California, is entering the two-year training program from the business field. Her studies at Berkeley will be augmented by preparation for the life and work of a deaconess under the guidance of Dss. Phyllis Edwards, who is working in San Francisco.

The Seminary is chartering a plane to bring the students to General Convention for one day, October 21st. Perhaps some of you will still be here and will meet the three candidates from Central House.

But we must move on from our training program—for the training of candidates is only one function of The Central House. In addition to counseling, teaching, guiding, etc. there are many invitations to speak for the Order. Most of these are in the Chicago Diocese, for due to our lack of funds for promotion we must wait for invitations. There have been, however, a few addresses in Indiana and Michigan. I hope each one of you is taking advantage of every opportunity to speak for the Order in your area of the country. This we must do to make the Order known, so that those whom God is calling to this vocation will know about it.

There are letters, many of them, to women and clergy interested in knowing more about the Order. There are people who come to visit the House and talk about Vocation, and there are House guests, and Quiet Days,—all bringing inspiration and information to our students. Bishops visiting the seminary stop in for a visit, and seminary students drop in for a chat and a cup of tea on their way down town. There is the warm, close friendship between The Central House and the Seminary—both faculty and students—which has been brought about by the attendance of our candidates in the M.A. program. All this helps to promote the Vocation of Deaconess.

On Wednesdays there is the joy of the Holy Eucharist in our own House Chapel, and the fellowship with Dr. de Catanzaro and his server at breakfast afterwards. We have literally traversed the whole world, as he has celebrated the Holy Eucharist according to the various rites in the Anglican Communion.

During the past year there was the joy of a trip to Washington for a long and most helpful visit with Dss. Gillespy. Her counsel was needed, and it is still valuable, and so wise and timely. In Washington, a tiny glimpse of Margaret Bechtol and then on to Charlottesville to visit Dss. Mary Sandys Hutton and our own two children at St. Anne's Home—Dss. Sherman and Dss. Campbell. The trip ended in Roanoke with a long week-end with Deaconesses Mayer and Newman. That was a real coming home to our old Diocese, and catching up on many friends.

We had hoped to drive west for the Setting-Apart services of our two

candidates on the West Coast, but found it impossible, as the dates were too far apart. However, Dss. Brereton did go out to represent us at Jeannene Wright's service at the Cathedral in Los Angeles, returning just in time for Elizabeth Main's service in Chicago. We could not get to San Francisco to see Phyllis Edward's beautiful service in the Church where she is serving.

The next item I would like to consider with you is the financial status of The Central House,—not my small, personal discretionary fund to which you contribute, but the finances of the House itself. As with all institutions, there is never enough money for our needs. This year our expenses were nearly \$3,000 above our income, which meant taking money from our small savings. If this happens too often, there will be nothing on which to depend in an emergency. Our budget covers just the actual operating expenses of the House. There is no allowance for advance work—promotion, repairs, or improvements. We are asking for an increase in our grant from National Council, which has been giving us \$7,000 per year, but most of our income must come from gifts. We have a few friends—not enough—and the gifts are not large. We need more supporters. I ask all of you to work for the support of YOUR HOUSE, through friends, either individuals, groups, parish or diocesan. Last year, gifts sent to my discretionary fund helped to replace a worn-out hot water heater, and install storm-screen doors, which we could not have done otherwise without taking from our investments, which are not large. Do keep this in mind and see what you can do to raise up friends to support us financially.

Bishop Street's suggestion that we request the House of Bishops to appoint a Committee of Bishops on the work of Deaconesses has been most helpful. We have a good committee made up of concerned bishops.

The Chapel Services in the House have been a joy to candidates and guests alike. It is the center of quiet in the midst of a busy world. Just this past week a priest from Chicago came to ask if he could use our chapel for a little time of quiet. There have been a few memorials. Deaconess Donsing gave a new hymnboard in memory of her sister. A gift was sent in memory of Dss. Tileston, which has bought Bible markers. Vienna Anderson, our new candidate, is an expert in ecclesiastical design and is now working designs on them.

During the Triennium seven deaconesses have died:

Cecile Jacobeit—August 14, 1962
Eleanor Pilcher Smith—October 28, 1962
Harriet Holt English—September 23, 1963
Caroline Churchill Pitcher—December 2, 1963
Bertha R. Radford—December 9, 1963
Mary Frances Ward—June 9, 1964
A. Gertrude Sterne—August 16, 1964

Let us pray for these dedicated women and offer thanks for their lives in His service: Almighty God, we commend to Thee the souls of thy servants departed. Clothe them with excellent glory in Thy Kingdom and join them to the just and righteous who fulfil Thy Will in the City that is above. Grant them eternal rest, thou Lord of mercy and love. Amen.

Josephine Latch was married in December, 1962.

As I said in my report in Detroit three years ago, the roots of The Central House grow deeper and the branches reach out in an ever widening area of service. This is becoming more evident every day, and while we still hear people say, "I never knew we had deaconesses in the Episcopal Church," many more do know about the Order.

God be praised, the Order is not dying out. We are not beating a dead horse. We have women with a wealth of background, education and experience to take up the reins when Dss. Brereton and I lay them down. Women

about whom it can never be said "they must be in a bad way if you are the best they can call!" It has been a wonderful tenure of service. Hard physical work—yes; disappointments and despair—yes; but, above it all, the dedication and devotion of the ten candidates we have had the privilege of leading into the Deaconess life, the life which has been our joy,—and the many bishops and lay people who have supported us during the past ten years.

Let us always remember Jonah. A whale, a worm, a gourd, or a wind,—if God ordains them He can use them. He has ordained us, the Order of Deaconesses, for His use. Let me close with the words from that glorious Hymn 279:

Praise to the Lord: over all things he gloriously reigneth.
Borne as on eagle-wings, safely his saints he sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen how all thou needest hath been
Granted in what he ordaineth.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith A. Booth
Deaconess-in-Charge

RESOLUTIONS

submitted by Deaconess Lydia A. Ramsay

1. Thanks to the Presiding Bishop's Committee on the work of Deaconesses for their interest and definite plans to be presented to General Convention.
2. To Bishop Lichtenberger, our regret of his forced resignation due to ill health, and our thanks to God for his life and influence.
3. Greetings and congratulations to the new Presiding Bishop.
4. Thanks to the faculty of Seabury-Western Seminary for all they do in nurturing the Order of Deaconesses.
5. Thanks to the Rev. Washburn for his help in planning for our National Conference.
6. Thanks to the Dean of the Cathedral for allowing the National Conference the use of Letmar Hall.
7. Thanks to Dss. Brereton and Dss. Booth for their life and work in our name at Central House.
8. Thanks to Dss. Booth and Brereton for the very helpful Prayer Leaflets.
9. Thanks to Dss. Brereton for her work on the new Deaconess Devotional Leaflet.
10. Thanks to Dss Dieterly, our efficient treasurer.
11. Deep gratitude to Dss. Dietz for her nine years as Chairman of the National Conference. Also our deep thanks to the other retiring officers. Also our congratulations to the new Chairman, Dss. Bradley, and to the newly elected members of the Executive Committee.

THE BANQUET

The official Triennial Dinner, with honored guests, was held at the Hotel Warwick on October 9th. Twenty-eight deaconesses were present, as were four of the five bishops who serve on the Special Committee for Deaconesses.

In attendance were Bishop Chambers, Bishop Street and his wife, Bishop Hargrave and his wife, and Bishop Allin. We were privileged also to have with us Mr. Smyth, our counsel on the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses, and the Rev. Francis G. Washburn, who worked as liaison man for the Convention's Committee on Arrangements. Bishop Chambers said the Grace, Bishop Street and Bishop Hargrave extended their greetings, and Mr. Smyth reminded us that every deaconess is a member of the Retiring Fund, a corporation which assists all needy retired deaconesses. Bishop Chambers, who is president of the Special Committee, encouraged us with the assurance that the members of the committee are all very much interested in our Order, and want to do everything they can for us. They expect to report on the Order to General Convention, and each year to the House of Bishops. Before this Convention is over, the committee will confer with Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Rodenmayer, who head the National Council's Division of Christian Ministries. The committee and the Rodenmayers both have copies of the article about our Order which Dss. Truesdell has submitted to The Living Church for publication. Bishop Chambers concluded by saying that the deaconesses should not hesitate to refer to the Special Committee.

BISHOP ALLIN'S ADDRESS

There are some in the Church unaware that our Order exists. There are some who think it need not exist. There are some who feel the need of a renewal of all the Orders to meet today's problems.

There is a real need for deaconesses. Bishop Street has long been concerned, but the Special Committee is only a year old.

It is wonderful how deaconesses keep on "doing many things" after retirement. They also give the support of their prayers to every phase of the work of the Church.

In doing the work we will find the means of extending the Order of Deaconesses. The work is the thing. The skeptic and doubter can be won over by concrete accomplishments. We must have the faith that will launch a project "on a shoestring." We must share the determination that, for the sake of the work, more candidates must be recruited. We must keep the standards for the Order high.

Many bishops don't know how to use deaconesses, and so they do not ask for their services. Bishops need to be informed about the varied work the deaconess can do. We need to project a new image of the deaconess. A key question is, What character is received by ordination? This character will revitalize the image.

There is a great opportunity for deaconesses to try what others have not dared to try. The Church will support them in their efforts. They need three basic things: faith, humility, and the type of good humor that is the product of a radiant hope. God is calling loud and clear. One of the many responses to His call is a revitalization of the Order of Deaconesses.

The Editor

CORPORATE COMMUNION AND BREAKFAST

On Saturday, October 10th, at 7:30 A.M. the deaconesses gathered at Christ Church Cathedral for their Corporate Communion. Bishop Hargrave was the celebrant. At this time we brought our special Triennial Offering to be blessed for God's work. After the service we had breakfast with our honored guests at the Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel.

Dss. Dieterly, Treasurer, reports the total Offering as \$885.50, with \$573.75 designated for The Central House, and \$311.75 for the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

The Editor

IMPRESSIONS OF A DEACONESS AT HER FIRST TRIENNIAL

I'm glad I went! I wasn't at all sure I would be. I didn't want to spend the money I knew it would take, and I thought, "Just *another* meeting. Why *should* I go? It isn't really going to matter much to me or to the Order whether I go or stay at home!"

Well, I surely found out I was wrong. It mattered very much to me that I was there, and I think it mattered very much to the Order that every deaconess who could do so should be present.

Some of the most important impressions I experienced were intangibles; a deeper conception of the dedicated vocation of a deaconess, the realization that there is a real vision of the future of the Order and a profound concern for it, in the minds and hearts of the Deaconesses, a faith and enthusiasm in the possibility of a greatly enlarged ministry. It was a real thrill to see the unanimous approval of the recommendations made by the Bishops, since I feel sure in doing this, many had to put aside their own personal feelings in deference to the opportunity for more vocations to the Deaconess Order.

Then there were the tangibles. Not the least of these was the getting to meet and to know many deaconesses whom I had known only by name or by correspondence, even though they had been a part of my prayer life and I know I had of theirs. It was a satisfaction to get to know them as persons. The fellowship is indeed important.

The thrilling address by Bishop Allin at our banquet. What a joy to have the vocation of a deaconess presented so clearly and forcefully by one of the Leaders of our Church!

The wonderful comfort of knowing we are under the wise and able Leadership of the Committee of Bishops who have already demonstrated their deep concern and interest in the Deaconess Order, and the sure conviction that the knowledge brings with it that we are about to enter into a greatly expanded future for service to the Church. Surely the Holy Ghost, the Strengtheners, is at work in our midst!

I think this Triennial is going to prove a real milestone in the history of our Order, and I am indeed glad I was there!

Wenonah B. McGhee
Deaconess

NECROLOGY

We bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service.

August 14, 1962

Dss. CECILE JACOBET, died in Boston, Mass. She received her training in London, and was Set-Apart in 1915 in Colorado, where she served at St. Stephen's Church, Colorado Springs, until retirement in 1930 because of failing eyesight.

October 28, 1962

Dss. ELEANOR PILCHER SMITH, age 78, at Elgin, Ill. She prepared for her ministry at the New York Training School, and was Set-Apart in 1926. She served as director of Christian education at various churches, and was head deaconess of the New York Training School from 1939 to 1942. From 1942 to 1951 Dss. Smith was director of Christian education for the Town and Country Commission for the diocese of Chicago, and then devotional secretary for that diocese until her retirement in 1954.

September 23, 1963

Dss. HARRIET HOLT ENGLISH. Graduate of Vassar, 1912, and of the New York Training School, 1930. Dss. English was Set-Apart in 1930, and was director of Christian education at All Saints' Church, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, from 1931 to 1944. From 1945 until her retirement in 1951 she was a missionary worker at St. Anne's Mission, El Paso, Texas.

December 2, 1963

Dss. CAROLINE CHURCHILL PITCHER, at 83 years of age. Studied at the New York Training School, and was Set-Apart in 1922. She was a missionary in China from 1922 to 1926. After serving for some time on the staff of St. Mark's Church, San Antonio, Texas, Dss. Pitcher returned to missionary work in Honolulu until her retirement in 1931.

December 9, 1963

Dss. BERTHA RADFORD. Graduate of the New York Training School and Set-Apart in 1907. She served as a missionary in Japan and as a parish worker in North Carolina.

June 9, 1964

Dss. MARY FRANCES WARD, age 65. Set-Apart in 1935. Dss. Ward served in Pennsylvania, Wyoming and Arizona. For the last twenty years she resided at St. Luke's Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona, and ministered to the patients there, despite crippling arthritis and asthma. Local newspapers called her "the angel of St. Luke's."

August 16, 1964

Dss. GERTRUDE STERNE, age 90, at Quincy, Ill. Set-Apart in 1917. Dss. Sterne served at Anvik and Tanana, Alaska until her retirement in 1935. Until shortly before her death she resided in Los Angeles.

* * * * *

A NOTE OF THANKS

We all appreciate the work of Deaconesses Booth and Brereton in setting up and supervising our booth at the Exposition Hall of Kiel Auditorium. Our grateful thanks to them, too, for making the two very useful booklets which they distributed,—one giving the names and addresses of all deaconesses, and the other showing, month by month, the birthdays and anniversaries.

Our thanks to our retiring Chairman, Deaconess Dietz, for all the work that went into the arrangements for our Triennial Meeting.

The Editor

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11th

The program of our National Conference was concluded on Saturday, October 10th, but most of the deaconesses attended a tea on Sunday afternoon at the Cathedral Parish House. We were guests of the Alumnae of the New York Training School. We appreciated this invitation, and enjoyed our visit with the Alumnae and with each other. In the evening the deaconesses marched in the procession as General Convention opened in Kiel Auditorium with a service of Evening Prayer. It was, as always, a beautiful service, and we heard the sermon written by our retiring Presiding Bishop, and read by the Rt. Rev. Ned Cole, Jr. We regret, as does everyone else in the Church, that Bishop Lichtenberger was forced to resign because of ill health. We will always remember that it was during his tenure of office that the special Bishops' Committee for Deaconesses was set up. This committee will serve not only as a source of guidance and strength, but as a spear-head of our efforts to revive the Order.

Editor

Deaconess Wenonah B. McGhee has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Central House for Deaconesses.

Editor

ANNUAL MEETING—1965—Oct. 5-8 at the DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wis.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES
MEETING AND RETREAT
DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin.

C. Conn. ; A. Bradley, Ch.; M. Brown, Sec.; H. Diekerly,
S. Englebert *P. Watts* *'65* *M. Treadwell Treas.*
B. Lank *P. Spence* *F. Gielinski*
F. Campbell October 5-8, 1965

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

Our Annual Meeting and Retreat, were indeed a joy and help to all of us.

The Social Hour, Tuesday evening, gave us an opportunity to hear about the work each Deaconess is doing, and to share with one another the joy of His service, whether we are active or retired.

On Wednesday morning, Evelyn Ashcroft arrived and gave us a most interesting illustrated talk about her work. We invited the Sisters to come in and listen. Evelyn is working at Tadian, Mountain Province of the Philippines. It is an area populated by poverty-stricken tribes, full of superstition and of head-hunting tradition. In St. Hilda's Training School, she trains Filipino women in religion and the practical arts, such as sewing and cooking. They can then go out and teach their own people, thus extending the out-reach of the Mission. We were grateful to the Speaker's Bureau of the Executive Council for making it possible for Evelyn to be with us.

Our good friends, Bishop and Mrs. Street joined us for lunch, and later the Bishop gave us a helpful report of the recent meeting of the House of Bishops.

Our Conference continued during the afternoon. After Evening Prayer our Retreat began, closing Friday morning with a Requiem for our departed members. It was a beautiful and comforting Service.

One of the greatest joys of serving as your Chairman is the sharing with our retired members in the fellowship of prayer. The many notes received from them are real treasures.

You will find in this issue the first notice of our 1966 meeting. Start now to plan to be with us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of our Order for their wonderful support and above all for their prayers.

Faithfully yours in Our Lord,

Agnes R. Bradley, Deaconess

FIRST NOTICE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES - - - - MEETING AND RETREAT

OCTOBER 11 - 14, 1966

PLACE: The DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin.

COST: \$20.00

PAGE 2.

SUMMARY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Committee was called by Chairman, Deaconess Bradley to fill two vacancies - those of Pauline Watts Elliot and Phyllis Spencer, neither of whom could attend meetings. Mary Truesdell and Frances Zielinski were elected by the committee to fill their places.

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Executive Committee, prior to the Conference, was opened with prayer on the morning of October 6th, 1965 at the DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin. Eight members were present with Deaconess Booth an Ex-Officio member. Deaconess Lank was absent.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, the Treasurer's report was accepted. It was decided that a notice of the annual \$1.00 dues be sent out, together with a more complete form (to be prepared) explaining the budget and its needs.

Appreciation was expressed for the helpful Book of Devotions submitted by Deaconess Brereton for trial use.

Deaconess Searle and Deaconess Booth reported on the meeting of the Retirement Fund. The capital fund has now reached the amount of a half-million dollars. ..

Dates for the 1966 Conference were discussed.

The meeting was closed with Prayer by Deaconess Dieterly.

Marian Brown, Deaconess
Secretary

NATIONAL CONFERENCE MEETING

The NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES was called to order by the Chairman, Deaconess Bradley, at 2:00 P.M., on October 6, 1965. Bishop Street had prayers for the Order.

BISHOP STREET'S TALK

Bishop Street gave the highlights of the discussions and resolutions of the recent meeting of the House of Bishops.

While deploring the recent sensational and incorrect publicity in the secular press, he felt that Bishop Pike had really done the Order some good, in that he provided each Bishop with a copy of historical material regarding the Order. Many difficulties in the past and present have sprung from ignorance of the history and nature of the Office of Deaconess. The Resolutions adopted by the Bishops, now bring the American Church into alignment with Lambeth as to position and function of the Office. The Office of Deaconess is declared an Office of Ministry. Neither the American or Lambeth Resolutions classify the Office as belonging to the Third Order of Ministry, nor do they call it a Fourth Order. At present, it is simply called an Office of Ministry; it stands alone, an office "sui generis". In changing the word "appointed" to "ordered" in the Canon, the General Convention of 1964, merely clarified a status of Office belonging to the Deaconess by the intention of the Church.

PAGE 3.

The Church has much to learn about the Order of Deaconesses, and how to use it more effectively. There is still prejudice. The Order will do well if it is not "too pushy". It must pursue its humble, faithful, loving, loyal service to the Lord, and put every thing into His Hands!

* * * * *

After Bishop Street's talk, the meeting resumed. The minutes of the Triennial Meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Dates for the 1966 Conference were discussed and October 11 - 14th were accepted. Conductors for the Retreat were suggested: Bishop Lickfield, Bishop Bennison, and Bishop Craine. We decided to have a Speaker at the Conference and Bishop Selway was suggested.

There was discussion concerning some kind of central control in the Order, and the difference between The Central House, the center for the Order, and the National Executive Committee. It was agreed that authority for the Order of Deaconesses lies within its elected National Executive Committee.

REPORT OF THE DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE

Much has happened since that day in October 1964 when we said Good-By to each other in St. Louis. For many of us, we felt, as far as the deaconesses were concerned, that it had been a good National Conference and a good General Convention. Four of the five bishops on the Special Committee on Deaconesses had been present at our banquet, and Bishop Allin had given us a forceful and encouraging address. Other Bishops had met with us during our Conference and the meeting of the Retiring Fund, and above all, through the efforts of our Committee of Bishops, we received recognition by the Convention, in the action in making changes in the Canon which were necessary to bring the Order of Deaconesses in the Episcopal Church in the United States in line with the recommendations of Lambeth and with the Order of Deaconesses in other parts of the Anglican Church. These changes were not happily received by some of the deaconesses, while others accepted the changes with rejoicing - so there was much heartache at The Central House as we endeavored to explain the "whys" and the "wherefores", and endeavored to keep unity within the Order.

For some time Deaconess Brereton and I had felt the time had come for us to begin the process of "breaking in" a new Deaconess-in-charge of The Central House, so that when we retired a few years hence, the program would be in the hands of one well acquainted with the history, policies and plans of The Central House, and the change-over would be an easy flow into a new regime. With this plan in mind, I made this recommendation to the Board of Trustees at the October meeting with the suggestion that Deaconess Brereton was willing to begin her retirement in November 1965 in order to release the salary for the new staff member. This plan as you know had to be cancelled.

The Committee of Bishops on Deaconesses had at the time of the meeting at General Convention wanted to have a meeting at The Central House with as many Deaconesses present as possible to discuss and form future plans and policies for the Order, but heavy pressures on the Bishops made this impossible, until April 1965

PAGE 4.

when a date was finally set and four of the five Bishops of the Committee with 19 deaconesses met at the Central House for two days. It was a most satisfactory meeting, and as far as I know, the only time Bishops, or any Committee concerned with the life and work of Deaconesses, have met with Deaconesses to discuss matters pertaining to the Order. The meeting helped to clarify many misunderstandings pertaining to the canonical change by General Convention, and left all the deaconesses enthusiastic and confident, as Deaconess Truesdell so aptly put it in her report of the meeting, "that we are no longer struggling alone, but that the Order and its problems are in capable hands; that the Holy Spirit still has use in the Church for this Office, and will guide us as we go." This has proved to be true in the excellent resolutions presented to the House of Bishops in their September 1965 meeting, and accepted by them.

While Bishop Pike's action in endeavoring to ordain one of our deaconesses to the Office of Deacon was painful to us, we are grateful that his action brought the whole matter of Deaconesses to the attention of the House of Bishops for study and action, which resulted in a clarification of the whole matter, and a deeper understanding of the Order and its place in the tradition and structure of the Church.

There has been much in the public press which has not been good and has hurt and disturbed us, for this is the only means the public has of knowing what is happening, and if it is wrongly reported there is no way of correcting it. It lies therefore, within the power of each one of us to show to the Church and the world what the Vocation of Deaconess really is by our dedicated lives and service. We pray that the wounds will heal, and that we will hold each other in love, understanding and forgiveness, one often acts with the good intentions and the conviction of her own heart, that what she is doing will be good for the whole Order. We must constantly pray for grace and understanding.

We, ourselves, owe a deep debt of gratitude to our Bishops Committee, and with sure trust and confidence be ready under their guidance to follow their direction in the days that are to come. I cannot close this part of my report without asking you to offer with me a prayer of thanksgiving to Almighty God for our Bishops Committee. The preparation these resolutions, with all the reference material each Bishop had before him for study, must have taken endless hours of work and kept the Bishops away from their Diocesan affairs for many days. We are grateful beyond measure.

Let us stand as we offer a prayer of Thanksgiving: (The General Thanksgiving.)

To go now to other items concerning the Central House. As you know this fall we are beginning the 13th year of the establishment of the Central House. The Central House in Sycamore was dedicated October 29, 1953. Let us on this date remember the House, offering thanks and remembering its needs. I am glad to see eight of the twelve ordained from Central House are at this meeting.

The fall term began last Monday. We are sad to report that Vienna Anderson has withdrawn as a Deaconess Candidate. We regret this for we love her greatly, and she has many wonderful gifts to bring into the Church and the Order. We rejoice that Mrs. Margaret Jackson and Marilyn Snodgrass have returned for their second year in the M. A. program at Seabury-Western Seminary. Esther Davis is taking her second year of study at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. One new Candidate, (Mrs. Helen Chadwick,) has been sent by Bishop Emrich for six months training and testing.

PAGE 5.

We are grateful for the appointment of the Rev. Joseph Howell of St. Augustine's Church, Wilmette, Illinois as advisor and Director of Studies. He has already proven himself a strong tower of strength to us.

Two Deaconesses are testing their Vocation to conventual life. Phyllis Spencer left for England in July, where she is now in the Community of St. Andrew, a Community of Deaconesses. Jeannene Wright is at the Community of The Transfiguration at Glendale, Ohio.

Several Deaconesses have gone on to their "next assignment", as one of the older Deaconesses expressed it:

Charlotte Boyd, died	- January 17, 1965
Gertrude Steward	- March 11, 1965
Anne Waite Lovell	- March 16, 1965
Elizabeth Newbold	- March 30, 1965
Elizabeth Trask	- April 1, 1965
Lucille Bickford	- April 2, 1965

God grant them joy and peace in His nearer Presence. We pray that they may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in His Heavenly Kingdom.

Bequests have been received by The Central House from the estates of Elizabeth Trask and Mary Frances Ward.

One can not help but feel that new days are dawning for the Order. New opportunities are before us, and there are many unexplored avenues where the Church could use Deaconesses. Somewhere are the women whom God would call to this service. Let us pray diligently that they may hear and obey the Call. Let us witness daily for the Order, and never miss an opportunity to make known to potential Candidates the joy of life and service in the Deaconess Office. Keep after your Diocesan women's groups, and your Diocesan clergy.

May I conclude my Report with a quote from the Methodist Deaconess Newsletter, as their Executive Secretary says to her sister Deaconesses: "As the Church re-examines its mission and task, we as Deaconesses are called upon to re-examine our own commitment, our preparation and readiness to meet the new demands and opportunities confronting us. If we are to 'pursue' our task as Deaconesses, we, too, must earn anew each day the privilege of being a Deaconess."

Let us take this directive. Let us not get into a rut, but keep ourselves professionally alert, keeping up on what is going on in the Church, refreshing our minds and our techniques in our particular fields of Service. Let us be socially sensitive to changes and opportunities. And above all, may the riches of the Holy Spirit ever grown within us, that we may serve in the Office of Deaconess effectively and creatively. May the Lord grant us His Grace to do this!

Edith A. Booth, Deaconess

PAGE 6.

Deaconess Dieterly reported that she had attended a Conference of Methodist Deaconesses, which she found very interesting. While those present did not wear religious garb, there was discussion of returning to a garb.

Deaconess Truesdell was appointed to edit the notes on the Conference and Retreat.

The Conference was closed with prayer by Deaconess Bradley.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Brown, Deaconess
Secretary

POSTSCRIPT:

The Retreat ended with Breakfast, after which we gathered in the Library to hear the announcement of the amount of the offering and to say our Good Byes ("God-be-wi-ye"). Because of recent events, we had come to our Conference rather heavy of heart. There was an undercurrent of depression that one could feel rather than hear. But as we gathered in sisterly Conference, and listened to Bishop Street's fine talk and Deaconess Booth's challenging report, it was wonderful how these ill feelings we had, melted away. Then came the beautiful Retreat addresses which lifted us completely to a higher level. As we sang the Doxology before parting, we truly felt that the Holy Spirit had been with us.

Mary P. Truesdell, Deaconess
Editor.

DEACONESSES PRESENT AT THE 1965 CONFERENCE AND RETREAT.

Evelyn Ashcroft, Edith A. Booth, Agnes R. Bradley, Amelia Brereton, Marian Brown, Frances Campbell, Lillian Crow, Hilda Dieterly, Edna McNeil Dietz, Hildegard Donsing, Phyllis Edwards, Stella Englebert, Gladys Hall, Doris Hunting, Elizabeth Main, Wenonah McGhee, Clara Orwig, Ruth Parsons, Lydia Ramsay, Clara Searle, Ann Sherman, Mary Truesdell and Frances Zielinski.

Also present for the Retreat were the Candidates: Helen Chadwick, Margaret Jackson and Marilyn Snodgrass. Visitors who shared with us were Elizabeth Rowden and Marian Wheeler.

PAGE 7.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSES

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

October 3, 1964 to November 4, 1965

Receipts -	For the Budget	\$ 550.00
	Retreat Offering	467.00
	Dues	2.00
	Interest on bank deposits	<u>135.55</u>
	Total	\$ 1,154.55
Disbursements -	Central House	\$ 806.00
	Promotion and Publicity	695.44
	THE DEACONESS	145.80
	Printing	1.85
	Supplies	7.85
	Postage	10.00
	Gifts - Phillipines	100.00
	South Dakota	100.00
	Retreat Conductor	75.00
	Sisters of St. Mary	25.00
	Emergency surgery - 1 Deaconess	150.00
	Hospitality - DeKoven	<u>68.50</u>
	Total	\$ 2,185.44
Balance on hand November 4, 1965		
	Checking account	\$ 317.60
	Savings Account	1,682.48
	Special savings account	<u>2,164.80</u>
	Total	\$ 4,164.88

Hilda L. Dieterly, Deaconess

THE RETREAT ADDRESSES, The Rt. Rev. Albert A. Chambers, Conductor.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of a Retreat is to realize God's Presence, and to listen to His Voice.

We are so neglectful of the resources of Grace. It is so easy to be careless in our disciplines, to put off, and then to forget. It all makes for a "lukewarm" spiritual life. We do not do enough listening.

In Retreat, there is opportunity to put ourselves in order. We are to "tune in" to God's Voice. This is not so easy. Just as a poor instrument with worn tubes, or dirt, or a short circuit interferes with good TV reception, so many things interfere in our tuning in to God. We must clear these things away. Then we must be still, mentally and spiritually, and listen. The Holy Spirit will help us to do this. God wants our attention. He has something to say.

I. "TO THE ALTAR OF GOD!"

The Altar of God is the central place of meeting with God. It is the place of offering. We come, not primarily to get, but to give. We come to the Altar of God with love. Love is giving rather than receiving. "God so loved, He gave His Son" Christ so loved He accepted all the constituents of frail humanity. He humbled Himself even to the death on the Cross, because He loved us. We must come to the Altar of God with love, and worship and surrender. And we must come again, and again, and again. And our coming, to give our love, brings happiness to the heart of God.

II. "AT THE ALTAR OF GOD!"

Jesus is there! He said so! He meant what He said! The Greek word inadequately translated into English as "remembrance" means much more in its original. It does not mean a past memorial but an every present memorial. It means "Presence!" We might translate it this way, "Do this, when ye want Me here!" The Holy Sacrifice of the Altar is a Re-Presentation of Our Lord's Offering. There is so much richness of thought here, we can not take it in all at once, nor fully understand the depth of the Sacramental Mysteries.

Man lives in two worlds. We are souls. We have bodies. Our bodies are our instruments in this material, physical world. We accept the everyday fact that the food we eat is turned into energy and life. We constantly use the outward and visible things to express our thoughts and inward feelings. Communication in this world is through externals. So, God uses Sacraments. In every Sacrament, God meets man. But He comes in His fullness at the Altar.

We come to the Altar of God to offer our love. At the Altar of God as we lose our lives in Him, we find life.

"Thanks be to God for His unspeakable Gift!"

III. "FROM THE ALTAR OF GOD"

The most important part of Christian living does not end at the Altar, it begins!

On the Cross, Jesus stretched out His loving Arms, not just to encompass us, but the whole world. At the Altar, we have met Him. We have come in contact with the Greatest God. We have felt the powerful radiance of His Presence. We should be so charged with His Life, that others should be able to see that we "have been with Jesus." Our understanding, kindness, gentleness, patience, firmness of faith, hope, and joy, should ~~show~~ that we have been to the Altar of God. "By their fruits ye shall know them," Jesus said. "What you are, speaks so loudly, that I can not hear what you say." (Emerson)

When we have been with Jesus, we have a responsibility. There are others who would see Jesus too. Some times we think too much of what we are receiving, and forget our commission to get across the message of the Cross. We go from the Altar of God to witness for Him.

IV. "YE ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH."

Salt has always been a precious commodity. It has been a symbol of hospitality and friendship. It is an antiseptic. It is a preservative. It gives flavor, yet in doing so, loses its own identity.

Our Vocation is to be salt:

1. To reveal God's hospitality - the good news of God's love.
2. To bring the antiseptic, cleansing power of Our Lord to this sinful, evil world.
3. To preserve the Good News of Salvation. To guard the Faith, and by our witness show the regenerative power of the Sacramental life.
4. To show the divine flavor of God - His joy. "My joy shall be in you." We often fail here. God wants us to be full of joy, radiant joy, that is contagious.
5. To lose our identity in Him. Salt is only of value as it loses its identity in use. We are not good by ourselves. We are nothing without Him. We have been grafted into the Body of Christ. We are members of His glorious Body, with its millions of cells, all with a function to fulfill.

God grant us to fulfill our Vocation!

P.S. - Please note change of address effective February 10, 1966.

Deaconess Agnes R. Bradley
311 Second St.,
Jackson, Michigan 49201

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES
MEETING AND RETREAT
DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin

October 11-14 - 1966

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

It is always a joy to share in the beauty and the peace of DeKoven Foundation during our Annual Meeting and Retreat. This year we missed being greeted by our good friend, Sister Valerie, who was ill in the hospital with a fractured hip, but well on the way to recovery for which we are thankful.

On Tuesday evening we enjoyed hearing about the various ways in which we are serving our Lord. Dean Parsons continued this theme in the meditations for our retreat, and they were most helpful. Our closing Eucharist on Friday morning was one of thanksgiving for the blessings received, and also in remembrance of our deaconesses, who had departed this life during the past year. It sent us forth with the prayer that we might continue in His joyful service.

During the year I have received many notes from you and they are always an inspiration! May I share a few excerpts with you:

"Just now I am transcribing Dr. Casserly's 'The Church Today and Tomorrow' into Braille for the Lending Library at St. Luke's, Evanston."

"There is no retirement in the Master's service.
We serve right where we are."

My heartfelt thanks for your cooperation and prayers, and I am sorry that this is late.

May God bless us and guide us as we plan for our Triennial Meeting in Seattle, Washington in September 1967.

Faithfully yours in our Lord,

Agnes R. Bradley, Deaconess

FIRST NOTICE

Triennial Meeting - September 14, 15, 16, 1967, Seattle, Washington

Headquarters - St. Paul's Church.

Further details will be mailed to each one as soon as completed.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES.

October 12, 1966

The meeting of the Committee was opened by Deaconess Bradley with prayer at 9:30 A.M., on Wednesday, October 12, at the DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin.

Present were: Deaconesses Bradley, Dieterly, Englebert, Zielonski, Campbell, Truesdell, and Booth, ex officio.

Deaconess Truesdell was appointed Secretary Pro Tem., in the absence of Deaconess Marian Brown. The report of the last Executive Meeting and the Conference of 1965 were read, approved and ordered filed.

Deaconess Dieterly read the Treasurer's Report which was accepted. Deaconess Dieterly submitted her resignation as Treasurer which was accepted with our thanks to her for her good work. Frances Zielonski was elected to fill the post of Treasurer.

The Committee voted to submit to the Conference the following recommendations:

1. Necessity for better explanation about our Funds, when sending reminders about dues. Explain about "Special Savings Account" for benefit of younger Deaconesses. Ask Conference for action on recommendation that gifts from Emergency Fund should be limited to \$50.00 for one Deaconess, but that any further request be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration. To remind the Deaconesses when sending Dues reminder that this is a Convention year and ask for contributions to "Hospitality Fund".

2. There was discussion regarding the advisability of a small committee of Deaconesses to consider, and study the problems of the Order and submit any suggestions necessary to the Special Committee of the House of Bishops ON DEACONESSSES. It was decided this might be advisable, but that no new committee was needed. The Executive Committee is elected from the Order, and is as representative of age, training schools, and location for ease of get-together, as could be desired. Deaconess Zielinski was appointed Chairman of a Committee-of-the-Whole (Executive Committee) on "Survey".

3. The matter of a Seal for the Order should be brought up.

4. The Executive Committee recommended that we should keep the door open for fellowship with the Professional Church Women.

Plans for our Triennial Meeting in Seattle at the time of General Convention next year were discussed. A letter from the Rector of St. Paul's Church, two blocks from the Convention meetings, was read, and we will be glad to accept the offered facilities of this parish. A tentative schedule would be:

September 14, 1967 - Executive Meeting - late afternoon.

September 15 - Triennial Meeting with the Dinner in the Evening.

September 16 - Corporate Communion of our Order with the Corporate Communion of the Daughters of the King.

A.M. - Annual Meeting Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

Daily at 7:30 A.M. there will be a Holy Communion Service at St. Paul's followed by a Continental Breakfast and a Meditation. There will not be an opportunity for a Quiet Day or Hour, but the daily Meditation will have to take the place of a Retreat or Quiet Hour we usually have at our Triennial Meeting time.

Page 3.

The booth for the National Conference has been spoken for. There was a discussion as to what we would like to have on display, and what we would have to give out. Shopping bags, coloring and cut-out Deaconess Dolls, and pencils were some of the suggestions. A new brochure is needed, and an appeal for pictures must be made to the whole Order. Deaconess Booth, Deaconess Campbell and Deaconess Truesdell were appointed on a Publicity Committee to prepare a new booklet. Suggestions would be gratefully received as to what kind of a background to use for the booth. Would a flasher showing slides be a good idea?

At the Triennial Meeting four members are elected to serve on the Executive Committee. The retiring members are: Deaconesses Brown, Campbell, Dieterly and Lank. As a Nominating Committee Deaconesses Campbell, Newman and Hutton will serve.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be called for the Wednesday after Easter, March 29, 1967. This is planned to follow the meeting of the Trustees of The Central House held on Easter Tuesday, and which will be attended by several members of the Executive Committee. The meeting will be in Evanston.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary P. Truesdell,
Secretary Pro Tempore.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES 1966.

The Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses was held October 12, 1966 at 1:30 P.M., at the DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Deaconess Helen Chadwick.

The Secretary, Deaconess Marion Brown, being unable to be present, Deaconess Mary Truesdell was appointed Secretary Pro Tempore. The Minutes of the 1965 Meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Deaconess Hilda Dieterly, and accepted. Deaconess Dieterly has found it necessary to resign as Treasurer, and Deaconess Frances Zielenksi was elected to fill the post.

The Report of the Meeting of the Executive Committee was read by Deaconess Truesdell and several points contained therein were brought before the Conference to consider:

1. There is need for better explanation of the various funds belonging to the Conference, when the annual reminder of dues and appeal for gifts is sent out. The Conference approved the suggestion of the Executive Committee that the form previously used be revised for use. It stated specifically:

"We need for. (name of fund),
I give for (name of fund).

Special asking is to be included this year for "Hospitality Fund" to assist some of our Order to attend the Triennial and General Convention.

Page 4.

(a) The "Special Savings Account" which looks large to some, on the Treasurer's Report is a fund started many years ago to assist in the operation of the New York School when it looked that our last training School would be closed. After the several experiences of having schools for training closed because they could no longer be supported locally, the Conference decided to keep this Special Fund in reserve for emergency, and its funds may not be dipped into for current expenses. (Likewise the furnishing of the Chapel at The Central House belongs to the Conference, and not to the Central House Corporation.)

(b) The Conference accepted the recommendation of the Executive Committee and voted to limit gifts from the Emergency Fund to \$50.00 for any one Deaconess, with proviso that cases of special need beyond this amount be referred to the Executive Committee for further consideration. Suggestion was made that in such a case the Executive Committee make known to the Conference that such a need has arisen, but no name or names to be mentioned.

2. The Conference approved the appointment of Deaconess Frances Zielenksi as Chairman of a Committee-of-the-Whole (Executive Committee) on "Survey" to make or summarize any suggestions for the betterment of the Order to be sent to the Special Committee of the House of Bishops ON DEACONESSSES.

3. The question of a Seal for the Deaconess Order - which was left over business from 1964 - was brought up, and by vote decided that a seal was not needed - at least at this time - as we are a Conference and not a corporation. Our cross is our common insignia.

4. The Conference agreed with the Executive Committee to leave the door open for fellowship with the Professional Church Women.

5. The Conference voted that Bishop Selway be asked to be the speaker at the dinner at the Triennial Meeting.

6. An urgent appeal for pictures, and slides for use in new publications for General Convention distribution. Please do not be so modest about the work you are doing! Tell us! Deaconess Crow was honored as being "The Woman of the Year" in Oakfield, a suburb of Dallas, where she lives and works.

7. A report was given on the recent Annual Meeting of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses. Our principle fund, which has been so well administered, amounts to about a half million dollars. This makes it possible to raise the amounts given as pensions by \$5.00 per month, which will make the pensions equal to those paid National Church Workers, the total amount received being \$210.00 (which includes the amount received from Social Security). One must be retired to receive R.F.D. funds. After October 1966 retired workers who did not qualify under the Social Security plan will receive \$35.00 per month from Social Security Funds. The Deaconesses elected to serve as Trustees were Putnam, Brereton and Searle.

Deaconesses were reminded that in leaving bequests for the Order that we should keep in mind the needs of the National Conference for PROMOTION! In the past we have put our emphasis on building up our needed retirement funds. But it is now felt the emphasis should be on the very present and urgent need for PROMOTION.

Deaconess Booth gave her Report on The Central House - printed elsewhere - and followed with an ex tempore talk on adapting to changing conditions in the training of Candidates.

Page 5.

Greetings were read from our Deaconess in the Philippines, Evelyn Ashcroft, who was with us last year, and at this time will be in Retreat with her ten students. Other greetings were read. Cards were ordered sent to Bishop Mason, and Sister Mary Valerie, C.S.M. and to Deaconesses who are ill. To all our other Deaconess sisters who could not be with us, we send our love, our prayers, and hereby, - our greetings. We wish it had been possible for them to be here in physical presence.

Those who were able to attend the 1966 Conference were Deaconesses Bradloy, Booth, Adams, Crow, Campbell, Chadwick, Brereton, Donsing, Englebert, Dieterly, King, Dietz, Orwig, Parsons, Main, Mayer, McGhee, Newman, Searle, Sherman, Truesdell and Zielenski. In addition, our two Evanston Candidates, Alice Ballard and Noel Knelage, and our friend Marian Wheeler attended the Retreat.

Respectfully submitted.

Mary P. Truesdell,
Secretary Pro Tempore.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

November 4, 1965 to November 9, 1966

Receipts	- For the Budget -		
	General Funds	\$ 267.00	
	Undesignated	527.00	
	Central House	<u>125.00</u>	
		\$ 919.00	\$ 919.00
	Retreat Offering		280.75
	Interest on Savings Accounts		<u>159.89</u>
			\$ 1,359.64
Disbursements	- Central House		\$ 500.00
	Booth for Triennial Convention		300.00
	Postage		13.50
	Check Book		2.50
	Mimeographing		2.17
	Hospitality - DeKoven		43.50
	Gifts - Emergency - ill Deaconess		75.00
	Retreat Conductor		60.00
	Sisters of St. Mary		<u>25.00</u>
			\$ 1,021.67
Balance on hand November 9, 1966			
	Savings Account		\$ 2,038.53
	Checking Account		162.60
	Cash on hand		<u>17.75</u>
			\$ 2,218.88
	Special Savings Account		\$ 2,263.64

Hilda L. Dieterly,
Deaconess.

RETREAT ADDRESSES 1966

By the Very Reverend Donald L. Parsons, Th.D.

I.

We are all servants of Our Lord Jesus Christ. You are deaconesses. I am a deacon, for one ceases not to be a deacon when priest's orders are added. We have this in common with one another, and also with Him, who came from the Eternal World to be a servant!

Forever, HE dignified service with the character of nobility. The world is so full of pretense; there is so much pushing, shoving, putting on of false fronts - even in religion, that we can so easily fall into this trap of pretense, unless we remember the dignity, the nobility of service.

It is the command of the Lord Jesus that we be servants! HE said, "Whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister. And whosoever of you will be the chiefest shall be servant of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but minister," and to give HIS life..." HE gave us the example. HE never asks us to do anything HE has not already done HIMSELF. Though HE was rich, HE left Heaven to come here, to become poor for us, to go down into the slums of Jerusalem, to endure Peter's smelly fishing village, and the heat and dust of the roads of Palestine. And there were other things HE endured that were worse - to be scorned, to be ignored. "O Jerusalem, How I would have gathered thee as a hen gathereth her chickens, and ye would not!" Not only has the LORD JESUS given us a command to serve, HE gave us an example, which is a Way of Life!

A superficial view of the Christian life makes everything colorful and beautiful, like looking through a stained glass window. The reward of this superficial way of life is equally superficial. Those who choose this shallow life get a shallow reward. What they want, they get. But the true way of the servant of GOD is not easy. It is hard. But it is the only worthwhile Way. It is GOD'S Way! He who follows GOD'S Way has the promise, "My FATHER and I will come unto him and abide!"

II.

Whom shall we serve?

Many people would like to be a servant, if they would be a servant to an important person - like being the chief butler to the King of England! But suppose the King is away. One could still serve the Royal Family. Our Heavenly KING is away; it is impossible to serve HIM directly. But HE says we can serve HIM by serving HIS family, as HE is in them.

HE sends us the most extraordinary and often impossible people! But they are HIS family. When HE became Incarnate, HE took the whole of humanity - all of it. If HE had excluded some part of it, it might have been me. The LORD JESUS ran into these "impossible" people too. There are a variety of types:

1. People who doubt our willingness to help. They use an irksome approach: "I'm too small for you to bother with." "No one as busy as you could help." These people think they don't count. They are used to being turned down. As the man said to the LORD, "If THOU wilt, THOU canst make me whole." And JESUS, moved with compassion said, "I will! Be thou clean!"

Page 7.

2. People who doubt our ability to help. They are aware of their need, but they say, "It's not something you can help with." The father said to JESUS, "If YOU can do anything ..." But when told he must have faith, he changed his plea to "LORD, help THOU mine unbelief!"

3. The ungrateful people. You have done your best. They feel or act as if they do not need you anymore. Are you hurt? If so, ask yourself, "Whom was I serving? Did I do this act to get praise of men?" We tend to be hurt by ingratitude. If I hurt, why? I am the servant of GOD. The LORD JESUS ran into ingratitude. Only one of the ten lepers returned to say "Thank you". What happened to the nine ungrateful lepers? Did they get their leprosy back? There is no mention that they did. In the stories of miracles related in pagan literature, the ungrateful were punished. Not so in the miracles of JESUS!

4. The "nasty" people; there are various and sundry varieties under this classification.

GOD is consistent in HIS love for all HIS children. HE makes HIS sun to rise on the just and the unjust. GOD first loved us. While we were yet sinners, HE made us HIS children by adoption. If we are sons of GOD, we must act like sons. We must have the same character and consistency that HE has. In the LORD'S Incarnation HE identified HIMSELF with the grumpy, uncouth, suspicious, greedy, maligning humanity. HE is in this humanity, in each and every person. We wonderingly ask, "When did we see THEE in prison, or hungry or naked?!" And the LORD makes answer, "As ye have done it unto one of the least of these, MY brothers, ye have done it unto ME!"

III.

How shall we serve? The spirit in which we serve is most important. This should be the same spirit as in JESUS - with humility before men and humility before GOD.

1. Humility before men: Though HE was King of Kings yet HE walked the earth in genuine humility. HE was obedient to parents, to the government, to GOD. There was no dramatizing, no advertizing, no parading, no drawing attention to HIMSELF. It is so easy for us to fall into the wrong kind of service, drawing attention to ourselves. It sours our service. (We are like the Master of Ceremonies at a Solemn Mass who focussed all attention on himself, making the pontificating Bishop quite insignificant.) JESUS never sought to attract attention; attention was given to HIM. He said, "Whosoever is humble as a little child is great in the Kingdom of GOD". What did HE mean by this? Children are not humble. In 1st Century Palestine, children held a very inferior position - children were "seen, not heard". In the story of the Prodigal Son, JESUS put in the startling idea of the father going to meet his son. This was not according to custom. But it was put into the story to emphasize the great longing love of the Heavenly FATHER for HIS errant child. "Humble as a child" means "as insignificant as a child," that is, our service before men should be of the kind that does not demand attention, service taken for granted, that lets some one else get the credit.

2. Our service must be humble before GOD.

(a) We can not earn GOD'S approval. We can not give GOD anything extra because all that we have belongs to GOD. We can never put GOD in our debt. The Pharisees were meticulously good religious people, but they harmed themselves by thinking they were giving GOD something extra. We can not win GOD'S favor by works.

(b) GOD works in and through us. "I am the VINE, ye are the branches." "Without ME, ye can do nothing". The will to do and accomplish loving acts, we must realize is GOD working in and through us. We can only do things through HIS grace.

We do not have to do things on our own.

It is so easy to fall into the trap of making our religion a "rat race" of doing things. We do not need to strain and struggle, Humility before GOD is peaceful. GOD loves us, and HE loves all HIS family. We serve HIM because we love HIM and wish to be channels of HIS love and grace.

IV.

When shall we serve? The need to serve is when GOD chooses. The when is important. St. John emphasizes that JESUS obeyed GOD, and did things when GOD told him to. Once he quotes JESUS as saying, "Mine hour is not yet come" and again, "The hour is come." We, too must be ready to do things when GOD chooses.

1. GOD chooses the time. Sometimes HE says, "This is too soon. Wait a while."

2. GOD sometimes says, "Now!" We are sometimes so busy with plans for tomorrow, that we want to put off the task of today until later. Sometimes when we are so very rushed and tired, and we have "just about had it" for the day, GOD sends us "that person" who needs help. It is well to recall how tired JESUS was when HE sat by Jacob's well and along came "that woman!" When GOD says "Now! This is the time!" we must act, and try to do our best. Weary St. Peter said, "We have toiled all night." JESUS said, "Let down the net again!" If GOD gives us a task, HE will also give HIS grace, and strength and wisdom to do it. HIS time-table is better than ours.

3. We know not the hour of HIS coming, when we must give account of our stewardship. We must ever watch. Blessed is that servant, whom his LORD, when HE cometh, shall find faithful to HIS given tasks. For it is not just our task, but HIS. We serve in HIS spirit, whom HE asks us to serve, and when HE asks us to serve. "Therefore, be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not, the SON of Man cometh!"

REPORT FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING DEKOVEN FOUNDATION 1966

At the time of our conference last year we had just begun our academic year with two candidates in training at Seabury-Western Seminary, one at C.D. S.P. in Berkeley, California and one candidate in residence at The Central House for final preparation. Let us follow these candidates through this past year.

Helen Chadwick who came for six months of final preparation was Ordered deaconess on April 27th, and began work as Director of Christian Education at Christ Church, Austin, Minnesota on the first of May.

Margaret Jackson and Marilyn Snodgrass were graduated from Seabury-Western Seminary in May of this year. Margaret Jackson was ordered deaconess on October 1st in St. Ansgarius Chapel at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. She is working in the Ecumenical Office at the Episcopal Church Center and is well qualified for her work having been a newspaper reporter and editor before becoming a deaconess candidate.

Marilyn Snodgrass wished to have some experience in Social work and she is at present working in the Welfare Department in the City of Chicago with mental patients recently discharged from hospitals - helping them to adjust to living in a complicated world.

PAGE 9.

Esther Davis had a successful summer training period at the Church Home for the aged in Alhambra, California and has begun her third year of study at C.D.S.P.

Two new candidates came to us this fall. They are both young, and with excellent backgrounds. Alice Ballard is from Dallas, Texas and was a pharmacist at the Methodist Hospital in Dallas. Noel Knolange comes from San Diego and was graduated from college in June of this year. Both will be with us for the Retreat.

So 1966 gave us two new deaconesses and four candidates - - - but does this satisfy us? Is this enough for the work that must be done for Our Lord and His Church? Each one of us should ask - What have I done to commend this Vocation - which holds so much joy - and possibility for service for our Lord - to a young woman? Recruiting is the responsibility of each one of us, and it begins where we all can begin whether we are retired - house bound or very active and busy deaconesses - on our knees. It is true that if we start there we may be driven from our knees to do something about it, because as Dr. Yorkes said "after all Prayer is a Promise - a promise that we will do our part to make effectual that for which we are praying. None of us should be too busy - or too tired - or too concerned with our particular work - to offer at least one special intention each week - or one day of special prayer for the making known of this Vocation to some young woman, perhaps unknown to us, but whom God is waiting to have answer His Call.

This year we are changing our plan of instruction and permitting the candidates to live at the Seminary, thus eliminating dual responsibilities and conflicting loyalties. They have had a week of deaconess orientation before beginning their studies at the seminary. They will have special times at The Central House during the two years and will have a period of final preparation after graduation.

We all know we are living in a new era, differing radically even from the time when the Central House was opened in 1953. The whole concept of training for women Church workers has changed. Windham House and St. Margaret's have closed their training centers since Seminaries are now open to women, and we too, are caught up in this changing pattern. It is inevitable. We pray that we can hold fast to that which is good in our plan of training, but be ready to accept the changes that must come in a new age, which has advanced with such speed. Conditions and methods change overnight. Words and thoughts have new meaning and these new thoughts are constantly being thrust at us. Our deaconess candidates must be, and are being prepared to meet this new world into which they will go - and they are being trained with the men who will be the future leaders of the Church, understanding and knowing each other and the problems they will face so that they will be able to work together for God, His Church and His people.

Among the deaconesses there have been changes during the past year. Since our meeting last October, four deaconesses have entered Life Eternal.

Jane George	died on December 29, 1965
Ethel Percy	January 25, 1966
Jeanette Marling	May 7, 1966
Anna Macdonald	July 16, 1966

May their rest be this day in peace,
And their dwelling place in the Paradise of God.

Two deaconesses have changed positions:

Phyllis Edwards is now headmistress of the San Francisco
Episcopal Day School
Celia Brown is teaching at Grace Chapel School,
Jacksonville, Florida

Page 10.

Pauline Watts Elliott, who married soon after her retirement has written she has become a member of the Congregational Church to which her husband belongs. While she will no longer be a member of the Order of Deaconesses, she will always be held in our thoughts with affection.

Deaconesses are not people who talk about themselves. We must learn of what they have done through other people. A great honor has been bestowed upon one of our deaconesses and she is one who greatly deserves it. We would never have heard of it from her lips, but we have learned that Deaconess Lillian Crow, has just been voted "THE OAK CLIFF WOMAN OF THE MONTH" for October. Since Oak Cliff is a Dallas suburb of 300,000 people, it is quite an outstanding honor and we are proud of the life and work of Lillian Crow which has led the people of that community to so honor her. We honor her too, and are grateful to the source who made this known to us. Incidentally one of our new candidates, Alice Ballard is from Christ Church, Dallas, and Alice has said that she knows sub-consciously she has been inspired to become a deaconess because of the life of Lillian Crow.

The Board of Trustees of The Central House will be holding its annual meeting on November 11th. Keep this date in mind, and in your prayers as we plan for the future of the House.

In speaking of the House, let me urge you to use it as much as possible. One of the purposes for which it was established was that it should be a place for rest for the deaconesses in the field. We want to keep this purpose alive and ever before you. It is always a joy to have the deaconesses at the house for a visit. Please know you are always welcome. It is your Home - Come home sometime!

My final request is for your continued prayers. We don't have much wealth - we are not a large Order or organization, but we do have great wealth in faith and prayer. There are decisions that must be made. Pray that we may be guided to do what is right according to God's Will for the Order and for The Central House, and let us remember that our own lives, our attitudes - and work speak stronger for the future of the Order and commend it to the Church and to young women seeking their Vocation, than any speech we can make or article we can write.

Let us continue to pray:

Remember, O Lord, what thou hast wrought in us, and not what we deserve and as thou hast called us to thy service, make us worthy of our calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

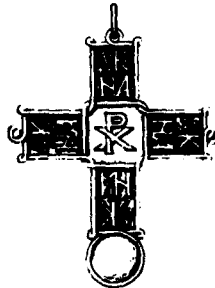
Edith A. Booth
Deaconess-in-charge

Triennial Report

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES
Seattle, Washington, September 14-16, 1967

T H E

D E A C O N E S S



The Deaconess Cross

THE ORDER OF DEACONESSSES
Protestant Episcopal Church in the U. S. A.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Agnes R. Bradley, 311 Second Street, Jackson, Michigan 49201

Secretary:

Ann Sherman, "Bloomfield," P. O. Box 98-99, Ivy, Virginia 22945

Treasurer (ex-Officio Member):

Evelyn Seymour, 1530 Cynthia Street, Wichita Falls, Texas 76302

Deaconess-in-Charge of Central House:

Edith A. Booth, 1914 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60201

Other Members:

Edna Dietz

Mary Truesdell

Phyllis Edwards

Frances Zielinski

Stella Englebert

Representative on Central House Board:

Esther Davis

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

September 14:

11:00 A. M. - Meeting of the Executive Committee

3:00 P. M. and 7:30 P. M. - Special Meeting of National Conference of
Deaconess (Report on Survey)

September 15:

9:30 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. - Triennial Meeting, National Conference of
Deaconesses

6:30 P. M. - Triennial Dinner, St. Peter's Church; speaker, the Rt. Rev.
George R. Selway, Bishop of Northern Michigan

September 16:

8:45 A. M. - Corporate Communion and Breakfast, St. Peter's Church

9:30 A. M. - Meditation, conducted by Fr. Nakayama, St. Peter's Church

The next meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses will be held at DeKoven
Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin, October 22-25, 1968

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

The joys and memories of our 1967 Triennial Meeting will remain with us for a long time. It was wonderful having twenty-four of our members gather in Seattle from the various parts of the States. The blessings of renewed friendships and the opportunity to meet some of our newer Deaconesses were a vital part of our full schedule.

Reports of the meetings and special events appear elsewhere, and we are grateful to Deaconess Margaret Jackson for serving as our capable Editor.

Our special thanks to St. Peter's Church and to the Young Women's Christian Association for all that they did to make our stay enjoyable.

We are indeed grateful to Bishop Selway and to Mrs. Rodenmayer for taking time to be with us, and for helping us to adjust to these times of change. Perhaps we might find this prayer useful:

"O God, Who has set us in a changing and perplexing age, grant us the courage to re-examine the ministry of the Church, that all of us may share more fully in responsibility and service. May we, strengthened by Thy Holy Spirit, continue to minister to a needy world around us."

My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your prayers and your wonderful cooperation, but especially to Deaconesses Edith Booth and Amelia Brereton. They have done much for all of us during their time at The Central House. May God bless them in their well-earned retirement, and may He guide Deaconesses Frances Zielinski and Wenonah McGhee as they assume their new work.

Let us begin to plan now to attend our meeting and Retreat at DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin, October 22-25, 1968.

Faithfully yours in Our Lord,

Agnes R. Bradley, Deaconess

ACTION OF GENERAL CONVENTION

The memorial adopted by the National Conference of Deaconesses (reproduced elsewhere in this report) requesting a Joint Commission on Deaconesses and a survey by the Division of Christian Ministries, was not adopted by the General Convention. Instead, the memorial was referred to the newly created Board for Theological Education. The \$100 contribution from each active deaconess, requested at the Triennial Meeting, will not be needed for this purpose.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 14, 1967

The meeting was called to order by Deaconess Agnes Bradley, with prayer by Deaconess Booth.

Eight deaconesses were present: Bradley, Truesdell, Booth, Englebert, Campbell, Zielinski, Dieterly and Brown.

I. We are to have a better explanation of the Fund of \$2,320.57. A report is to be made at the Conference for Deaconesses by Deaconess Seymour. Deaconess Booth has a letter of explanation from Deaconess Johnson.

II. A Special Committee of the "Survey" was appointed. Deaconess Zielinski is chairman. She made a short report and will discuss the above "Survey" at the special meeting. Mrs. Robert Rodenmayer will discuss this more fully this evening to all the deaconesses.

III. As discussed at Annual Meeting October 12, 1966, final vote on the Seal is to be September 15, 1967.

Rental for room, \$31.35. It was moved and seconded to pay this expense.

We voted to give \$25.00 each to Bishop Selway, our dinner speaker, and to Father Nakayama, as our Chaplain.

We will write a "thank you" note to the Women of St. Peter's Mission for their hospitality to us. Also see if they have a need.

The date for our meeting at the DeKoven Foundation for next year, October 22-25, 1968, has been decided by the Executive Committee.

Closing prayer by Deaconess Truesdell.

Respectfully submitted,
Deaconess Marian Brown, Secretary

A NOTE OF THANKS

To Deaconess Edith Booth and Deaconess Amelia Brereton, whose life and work for the Order have helped to bring many women to the vocation of a deaconess, and shape their years of training to aptness for His service; whose labors have extended beyond the bounds of The Central House to go out and speak for the Order, and communicate with many people; whose aims were to show by example how the busy deaconess can reflect the unhurried repose and calm of the Master; are given the appreciation of a grateful Order, and deep affection.

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES
SEPTEMBER 15, 1967

Deaconesses Present

Booth, Edith A.	Hunting, Doris
Bradley, Agnes R.	Jackson, Margaret
Brereton, Amelia	McGhee, Wenonah B.
Brown, Marian	Orwig, Clara
Campbell, Frances H.	Parsons, Ruth M.
Crow, Lillian W.	Putnam, Katharine
Dawson, Mary E. S.	Robinson, Olive M.
Dietz, Edna McN.	Seymour, Evelyn
Dieterly, Hilda	Sherman, Ann
Edwards, Phyllis	Swinburne, Sarah F.
Englebert, Stella	Truesdell, Mary P.
Hall, Gladys	Zielinski, Frances G.

Secretary's Report

The Triennial Meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses was called to order by Deaconess Bradley on September 15, 1967. Opening prayer by Deaconess Campbell. Twenty-four deaconesses were present.

The minutes of the last Triennial Meeting were accepted as read, with no corrections or objections. The treasurer's report, presented by Deaconess Zielinski, was accepted.

Deaconess Booth presented a book, The Deaconess, and gave her report as Deaconess-in-Charge, Central House.

A report was given by Deaconess Brereton on the Deaconess Book of Devotions, a revised book of devotions. It is a small, looseleaf book containing prayers old and new, with blank pages for personal additions, and is designed for personal use for private devotions as well as public devotionals. Copies are available, price to be announced.

Deaconess Hunting presented a proposed Deaconess seal, such as is used on papers of a corporation. The question of adopting this seal was discussed and tabled. A committee is to be appointed to bring us more information on a seal.

Deaconess Seymour gave an explanation of the Special Account of \$2,320.57. This sum was received by St. Faith's School, which was reopened for a short time. This sum belongs to the National Conference of Deaconesses to be used for something special.

Deaconess Margaret Jackson was asked to serve as editor of the Triennial Report of the National Conference of Deaconesses. Material is to be in by October 15, 1967.

Deaconesses Bradley, Searle and Jackson have attended meetings of representatives of deaconesses of various denominations, in preparation for an Ecumenical North American Deaconess Conference, to be held August 19-22, 1968, at DeKoven Foundation, as reported by Deaconess Jackson. We voted to send three delegates to this conference--Deaconesses Zielinski, Bradley and Jackson. Deaconess Jackson was asked to obtain and report information concerning the possibility of our membership in "Diakonia," the international group of deaconesses of all denominations.

Deaconess Zielinski presented a report on a proposed memorial to be sent to the General Convention from the National Conference of Deaconesses. The memorial asked for appointment of a Joint Commission, with a staff member of the Division of Christian Ministries assigned to it, to study and advise us as to the role of the deaconess in her ministry of service in the Church today, and provided for a contribution of \$5,000 from the deaconesses toward the necessary expenses of such Joint Commission. A motion to send this memorial was moved, seconded and carried. Deaconess Edwards moved that the \$5,000 be made up by free gifts, plus monies in the New York Special Fund, proposing that each active deaconess give \$100 by the end of the year, and each retired deaconess \$50, or whatever she can give. This motion was seconded and carried.

Deaconess Campbell presented the report of the Nominating Committee. Deaconesses Booth, Dietz, Edwards and Sherman were elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

It was suggested that there be more deaconesses on the Board of Trustees of Central House, with one to be added each year. This was moved, seconded and carried. Deaconess Esther Davis was elected to the Board.

Deaconess McGhee presented the report of the Bylaws Committee. After discussion and amendment, several changes were adopted.

We are to give a gift of \$25.00 to Bishop Selway and Father Nakayama, and also to write a note to the women of St. Peter's Mission and find out what is needed.

The dates for the next Conference and Retreat at DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin, were set for October 22-25, 1968.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Deaconess Brown.

Respectfully submitted,
Marian Brown, Deaconess
Secretary

REPORT OF THE TREASURER
November 10, 1966 - August 23, 1967

Balance on Hand 11/10/66 \$ 4,482.52

Receipts:

Gifts

Travel Fund	\$150.00
General Expense Fund	30.00
Publicity & Promotion Fund	30.00
Central House Fund	45.00
Emergency Fund	10.00
Hospitality Fund	95.00
Contingency Fund	75.00
Total Funds	<u>\$435.00</u>
Unallocated	<u>675.00</u>

Total Gifts 11/10/66-8/23/67 \$1,110.00

Triennial Offerings:

Allocated:

National Conference	\$15.00
Retiring Fund	5.00 20.00
Unallocated	<u>127.50</u>

Total Triennial Offerings 147.50

11/10/66-8/23/67

Dues 2.00

Interest on Savings Accounts:

The Bank of Savings	56.93
Zanesville Bank	39.01
Michigan Bank	<u>50.72</u>

Total Interest Income 11/10/66-

8/23/67

146.66

Unallocated Cash - Prior to 11/10/66 113.00

Total Receipts 11/10/66-8/23/67

1,519.16

\$ 6,001.68

Disbursements:

N. Y. trip - Deaconess Zielinski	<u>63.00</u>
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Total Disbursements 11/10/66-8/23/67

63.00

Balance on Hand 8/23/67

\$ 5,938.68

Recap:

The Bank of Savings	\$ 2,320.57
Michigan Bank	116.05
Funds in Transit - Bank Money Order #M 242541	3,492.06
Cash on Hand	<u>10.00</u>

\$ 5,938.68

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Zielinski, Deaconess
Treasurer

REPORT OF DEACONESS-IN-CHARGE, CENTRAL HOUSE

The years of this Triennial have been years of unrest and change both in the world and in the Church. We, as deaconesses, have been caught up in it and forced to examine our own principles and beliefs and consider where we fit into this social struggle and structure. It has made us take a long, hard look at the Office to which we have been ordained, and try to learn God's Will for us in this present society and how our Office can function more effectively for Him, His Church and His people. These things we must face or we will find ourselves hampered by horse and buggy policies and methods in a jet age.

From the day of its founding, with the appointment of the first deaconess, the Order of Deaconesses has never failed to be ready and able to move into each century with all its needs and problems, and we will do so again in this age because our purpose is ever the same DIAKONIA!

In 1953 after much prayer and hard work on the part of the National Conference and the Advisory Commission on Deaconesses, The Central House was established in Sycamore, Illinois, for the purpose of training women for the Office of Deaconess; to serve as Headquarters for the Order, for the promotion of its work, and for a place to which deaconesses might come for rest and refreshment. This three-fold purpose is ever at the heart of all the planning and work of The Board of Trustees and of the Deaconesses-in-charge. Evidence that this purpose has been carried out is shown by the far-reaching influence of The Central House now that it is an established institution and known throughout the Church. This realization comes to us in many ways--one, that of the sixteen women ordered deaconess during the past fourteen years, only two or three knew deaconesses personally before coming to The Central House. For many it was their rectors who suggested this Vocation to them, or who wrote first for information. A Bishop telephoned long distance from a western Diocese to ask advice about accepting a candidate, and many Bishops have written for directions and suggestions as it was the first candidate they had had. A few weeks ago a letter was received from a priest in Kansas who while visiting in Mexico talked with a young Mexican woman, Director of Christian Education, who said she would like to be a deaconess and he wrote to The Central House so we could have contact with her and advise her. These examples show that while there is much more that we hope to do, the seed that was sown in 1953 when The Central House was established is now bearing fruit.

As I have just reported, during the past fourteen years, sixteen deaconesses have been ordained to this Office. There has been some criticism that this isn't much of a record, and there has been the inclination to place the blame for this small number on lack of support by the National Church and lack of publicity by the Church. But before we place the blame on others, we should take a very close look at ourselves. We are the only ones who really know the joy of this ministry, for it is our life, our

very being. We should ask ourselves, "What have I done to promote this Vocation by the example of my life of dedication, and the deep conviction that this is a glorious and wonderful Vocation filled with joy and adventure for our Lord?" We should ask ourselves, "How many of the sixteen who were ordained did I bring into the Order?" We, by our lives and our works, are the most powerful promotion we have but not until we, each one of us, is convinced of the rightness, the power, and the importance of our Order, not with any sense of status, position or authority, but just with the sense of service for our Lord, will we be able to enthuse other women with the desire to serve in this way.

Since our last Triennial meeting four women have been ordered Deaconess: Helen Chadwick, Margaret Jackson, Esther Davis and Marilyn Snodgrass. Helen Chadwick is Director of Christian Education at Christ Episcopal Church, Austin, Minn. Margaret Jackson is in the Ecumenical Office at the Church Headquarters. Esther Davis is Assistant to the Rector of All Souls' Episcopal Church in Berkeley, California, and Marilyn Snodgrass, our newest deaconess, has been called by Bishop Gordon of Alaska to have charge of the mission at Venetie, Alaska. In addition to her work in the village of 125 souls she will be consultant in Christian Education in seven parishes and missions in that part of the Yukon. She went to her new work filled with joyous excitement.

On St. Thomas' Day, 1967, Madeleine Brault of Tucson, Arizona, will be ordered Deaconess by Bishop Harte. Madeleine was trained in the Church of England Training School for Deaconesses in Toronto, Canada. She is Director of Christian Education at Grace Church, Tucson, and will continue in that position.

This fall three deaconess candidates will be studying at Seabury-Western Seminary. Alice Ballard of the Diocese of Dallas and Noel Knelange, Diocese of Los Angeles, will be in their second year of study in the M. A. program, and Mrs. Catharine Welton of the Diocese of Montana will begin her first year of study in the same program. Two women in the Diocese of South Florida are in the process of becoming candidates.

We have made many talks in the Chicago area during the past three years, and Deaconess Brereton met with the Methodist Deaconesses during their conference at Scarritt College in Nashville.

Much literature has been sent out, both to individuals and to groups who were studying about Vocations in the Church. Many letters are written to Inquirers, many of them still in High School, who are seeking to learn God's Will for them. Perhaps some day, after college, they will find their Vocation in the Office of Deaconess.

In July we were able to experience to the full one of the purposes of the Central House in the three-week Deaconess Preparation Conference for one of our new deaconesses, Esther Davis, and our candidate, Madeleine Brault. The personalities of these two women made it an especially delightful and exciting time. We were able

to bring into the House for conference and fellowship deaconesses from the Chicago area, and also Deaconess Bradley was able to visit for a short time with us. We also had two deaconesses from Hong Kong, one a Chinese deaconess who is the Vicar of a church in Hong Kong, and an English deaconess. There was also an opportunity to meet with a Methodist and a Lutheran deaconess, and from all we learned much, both about their work and their problems, and we found that we have the same problems, the same hopes and the same ideals. There also was an opportunity for our "trainees" to visit the Urban Center in Chicago and visit some of the various institutions which are doing outstanding work in this area. They also had an opportunity to learn about our own great tradition and history, and something about the great deaconess personalities, both past and present. The conference ended with a Retreat conducted by Deaconess Truesdell.

We were disappointed that the response to the Post Ordination Conference did not permit us to follow this through this year, but hope it can be resumed at a later date. It was heartening to learn that some of the deaconesses would really welcome such an opportunity, and we too feel it is one way to keep ourselves alert to the present trends in the Church and in our own personal service.

During the Triennial twelve deaconesses have died. All served for many years.

Charlotte Boyd	died January 17, 1965	ordained May 6, 1901
Anne Waite Lovell	" March 16, 1965	" May 28, 1908
Gertrude Stewart	" March 11, 1965	" March 25, 1908
Elizabeth Newbold	" March 30, 1965	" Sept. 29, 1915
Elizabeth Reed Trask	" April 1, 1965	" May 16, 1929
Lucile M. Bickford	" April 2, 1965	" May 19, 1916
Jane F. George	" December 29, 1965	" Nov. 27, 1902
Ethel Percy	" January 25, 1966	" Nov. 8, 1914
Jeannette E. Marling	" May 7, 1966	" June 3, 1915
Anna M. MacDonald	" July 16, 1966	" June 4, 1917
Margaret Routledge	" February 8, 1967	" Nov. 24, 1904
Sophi Petterson	" June 6, 1967	" Dec. 31, 1905

Also, two very faithful friends of The Central House since its establishment in 1953. Mrs. R. S. Brookings of Washington died on April 7, 1965, and Miss Julia Capen of Pleasantville, N. Y. died on July 29, 1967.

The words sent to me by a friend of Miss Capen when she wrote me of her death apply so well to these deaconesses. She wrote, "Death was but the wider opening of the door that had been opening more and more through all her life."

God grant them joy and peace in His nearer presence, and may they go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in His Heavenly Kingdom. How I wish we had time to go into the lives of these great women who served so faithfully and so long for Our Lord and His Church.

As you know, Deaconess Brereton and I have planned for our retirement this year. Physical limitations do not permit me to continue and do justice to the work of The Central House with all its responsibilities, expanding programs and untold opportunities. We felt the time had come for us to pass this responsibility on to others. Deaconess Frances Zielinski, formerly of St. Martha's, Detroit, has accepted the call to this Office and will become the Deaconess-in-charge in December when I leave. Deaconess Wenonah McGhee, also of Detroit, will become her Associate on January 1st.

Deaconess Zielinski arrived at The Central House on August 21st and while her duties did not begin until September 1st, she soon became involved in the activities of the House, indicating that under her leadership the program of the House will move forward with alacrity and enthusiasm. Deaconess Zielinski and Deaconess McGhee are a well-balanced team and I know you will give them your support in the responsibilities they are willing to undertake for us and our beloved Order. Deaconess Zielinski's mother is also living at The Central House with her. You will enjoy knowing her. She is a warm, friendly person.

This will be my last report to you as The Deaconess-in-charge. It seems a long time since I made my first Triennial report at an adjourned meeting in Sycamore because the Convention that year had been held in Honolulu. Deaconess Brereton and I rejoice that we were given the opportunity of helping to establish the Central House. There have been disappointments and discouragements, but to balance these there have been great and everlasting joys in the lives of those who have come under our care during the days of training. We have had struggles with many of you, but we love you all dearly and we will always hold you, and all the deaconesses, in our love and prayers.

I cannot close this report without expressing to The Board of Trustees of The Central House our deepest appreciation for their encouragement and support, and especially to Bishop Street, who has been a source of strength to us, and to all of you for your encouragement and support.

Deaconess Brereton joins me, as my co-worker in all these things. She is already in residence at our little retirement house with the three animals, and where in the little Oratory each day we will remember you and all you are doing in our prayers.

To our successors, we pray for God's Blessing on all you undertake in His name for us and The Order of Deaconesses, and may your lives there be as happy as ours have been.

Respectfully submitted,
Edith A. Booth
Deaconess-in-charge

MEMORIAL FROM THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES
TO GENERAL CONVENTION

WHEREAS, the office of deaconess is an ancient and honourable tradition in the Christian Church, dating from St. Paul's reference to the deaconess Phoebe in Romans 16:1-2, and

WHEREAS, the modern deaconesses of the Episcopal Church, whose office was established by canon law in 1889, have for seventy-eight years fulfilled an active and vital ministry in the Church, and are deeply desirous, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, to continue this ministry, and

WHEREAS, the National Conference of Deaconesses recognizes that a critical situation for the future of deaconesses now exists, in that in 1958 there were 96 deaconesses and at the present time there are 67, 34 of whom are active, despite the fact that since 1960, 14 new deaconesses have been added to date, and

WHEREAS, in view of this situation, a committee of nine deaconesses was appointed on October 12, 1966, by the Chairman of the National Conference of Deaconesses, to survey the deaconesses and submit any suggestions necessary to the Special Committee of the House of Bishops on Deaconesses, and

WHEREAS, this committee has conducted a survey of deaconesses, and has incorporated the replies and recommendations in its report, copies of which are available, and

WHEREAS, the findings of this survey indicate a need for clarification of the role of the deaconess in the Episcopal Church today,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the House of Deputies concurring, that a Joint Commission of three Bishops, three Presbyters, three Deaconesses and three Lay Persons be appointed, with a staff member of the Division of Christian Ministries assigned to it, to be charged with the task of studying and advising us as to the role of the deaconess in her ministry of service in the Church today, and be it further

RESOLVED, the House of Deputies concurring, that this Joint Commission report to the Presiding Bishop not later than December 31, 1969, to the National Conference of Deaconesses, and to the next succeeding meeting of the General Convention, its findings and recommendations, and be it further

RESOLVED, the House of Deputies concurring, that the necessary expenses of such Joint Commission in excess of \$5,000.00, which amount will be contributed by the deaconesses, be charged to the budget of the General Convention, and that the sum of \$5,000.00 be included in the budget of the General Convention for such purpose.

REPORT OF THE SURVEY COMMITTEE

At our annual conference last fall, a committee was appointed to consider and study the problems of the deaconesses. To begin the study, an initial survey was made of concerned individuals, asking for their comments and questions. What did they envision for our future?

A questionnaire was summarized by members of the committee from our initial survey and sent to all the deaconesses. Twenty-seven were answered and returned.

The replies are thoughtful and represent hours of prayerful labor and consideration. This effort will help us all to grow into a more valuable ministry in the Church. The answers will aid us in our promotion, in our seeking new expressions of vocation, and help us to develop into a more efficient whole. These are just a few of the gains to be reaped from the answers.

The following contains a summary of the answers to the questionnaire--base to begin working from--not an end in itself.

Vocation:

Q1. How would you define the Vocation of Deaconess?

"A desire to offer one's life in service to the Master through an official ministry of the Church."

"The Vocation of Deaconess is the Call to spend one's life in constant service to--and for God--to truly be His servant--on call by Him at all times."

"The ideal could be expressed as 'the practice of prayer translated into prayer in practice...'"

"I don't think there is such a thing. A woman feels called to devote herself full-time to the 'Lord's work'--that is, to use her energy and ability in the field of religion. In PECUSA she has three choices--DRE, Dss., or nun. Her choice depends on her idea of where she can best serve. The Vocation or 'Calling' is to serve rather than to a specific position. (P.S. I forgot the Church Army.)"

"A deaconess is an ordained woman, ordained to the one (and only) office for women in the Church (not eligible to the office of deacon or priest.) Her work is to assist the clergy."

"One of the several fields open for women in Church work--one big difference being the ordination service when we are made deaconesses."

"As a definite 'Call'--it is not something one can be 'talked into.' I believe the vocation must be suggested to young people--they should be asked to prayerfully consider whether or not they believe God IS calling them."

"A Deaconess is one who is totally involved in the work of God, to work in the finite world with an in-finite value system, doing and being what God wants her to do and be, to her best judgment."

Proposed Suggestions for the Future:

1. Quotes for use in promotion material.
2. Fresh concepts for our talks.
3. Discussion and educational material.
4. Data for the future studies of the Deaconess.

Q2. What difference do you think being a deaconess makes in the effectiveness of your ministry?

"In all my contact with people--visiting or ministering in any need, they have felt strongly the strength of the Church coming to them. Not a personal visit by me--but the Church came in their time of need. The Church cared. . . Being a deaconess united me with the whole Church as I was never alone, no matter how isolated I was in my situation. If I had not been ordained Deaconess I would not have received the gift of the Holy Spirit--and this was necessary and important for the work I would do. It is just as important for the woman as for the Bishop or Priest in doing the same tasks."

"I think being a deaconess helps me to remember the One for Whom I act in any capacity. I think being a deaconess gives one a sense of security in the authority one has; not in the intent of 'throwing one's weight around,' but rather in knowing that you represent something or Some One greater than yourself in all truth and honesty so far as one can, humanly speaking."

"I believe that by the 'special grace' invested in me that I have that additional something that is required to take me through those special situations that God calls on me to undertake by reason that I am invested with this special grace."

"A Deaconess in her garb stands for our Lord and His Church. People from all walks of life appeal to her when in need--spiritual or physical."

"In my particular work... I think that my title and garb are assets, but I would never think of them as contributing to the effectiveness of my ministry. My training to become a deaconess made an invaluable contribution."

"It seems to me that it is a matter of approach and attitude on my own part. I try to perform my work and to live my life in accordance with my vocation, as defined above. I believe that, to the extent I succeed, with the help of the Holy Spirit, in doing so, my work is blessed with more effective results than it would have without this vocational emphasis. I also am aware that there are many dedicated women who are performing the work of the Church outside the Order of Deaconesses. I do not think it is for me to say that any one of these women is less effective than I am. I can only say that this vocation seems to be of help to me personally in my own efforts to serve the Church as best I can."

"Ideally, it would make the difference between being given an official place in the Church or not. It should give a deaconess confidence through the sense of belonging and representing the Church, a source of strength; also, it means working under obedience to the clergy over us, making our work related rightly to the work of the Church; also an ordination would make for permanence, for it cannot be lightly laid aside."

"The character of ordination can give one such a value system and purpose that lifts up any 'work' to the Glory of God, to work with persons as a person. Having this gift, we are expected to live up to it; not as a 'Linus blanket' gift but as a response to Godly or spiritual power potential."

"The Deaconess is given a special gift of the Holy Spirit in her ordering service, the outward and visible sign being the Laying On of Hands by the Bishop, and the commissioning to a definite Office of Ministry. THE GIFT is real! It can be felt throughout one's ministry. It is often manifested in the quality of accomplished work. However, the Gift is not given in full bloom. It must be daily nurtured by prayer and Sacrament to bear the fruit the Giver designs!"

"How would I know? That would be for co-workers who have had the work done by a deaconess and by a lay woman at intervals to judge which is more effective. And that probably would be blessed by the personality of the individual."

Proposed Suggestions for the Future:

1. Because of the great difference in thought, group discussion at our annual meetings might prove fruitful.
2. Quotes for promotion and talks.
3. Data for future studies of the Deaconesses.

Q3. Do you encourage others to consider the vocation of Deaconess?

Yes	17
Rarely	3
No	3
No	
opportunity	4
	27

"I have few memories of trying to bring other women to the Order. My own life had to be my best argument for the person seeking a call. I loved the Order so much that I probably failed to present it to others."

"Yes, I would encourage others to consider this Vocation if they feel God's call and that it is His will for her. God doesn't call everyone indiscriminately, but if one feels the call they should respond."

"No, at present I don't know what the Church would do with a lot of deaconesses, but there does not seem to be funds for many jobs. I, also, do not see that any work in the Church takes an ordained deaconess to do, specifically. I would not discourage anyone. I would try to help them face the reality of the situation of finding a job, if their Bishop hadn't promised one to them."

"Probably not enough. When talking to groups, I stress the deep joy and peace of serving the Master in a special way; also, the security of a retiring fund. I hesitate to urge persons because the Lord has mysterious ways of calling people to a special work."

"I am highly enthusiastic for the vocation of the deaconess. I speak advisedly of it, being thoughtful of whom I'll encourage to enter the Order. If they don't sense only joy, new freedom, then the Order is not for them: as I translate it."

"Not any longer. The Clergy show no signs of knowing what a deaconess is trained to do, nor of wanting her assistance in their work. Until the Clergy supports the Order, our position is precarious, ambivalent and often frustrating."

"Most certainly I would encourage such consideration, to the extent of making information about the Order available to any interested person. I would also be happy to talk with any prospective candidate, but I would urge her to discuss it fully with her priest, and if possible with her Bishop, before reaching a decision to become a candidate. I think that when we get into the area of 'encouraging' any other human being to do anything, our role is to listen to the other person, and to provide specific information if we can. When we do this, we may be able to help the other person to see the choices more clearly and thus to reach her own decision, one way or the other. In other words, I would be glad to use these means to encourage another woman to consider the possibility of becoming a deaconess, but I would try to avoid influencing her decision directly."

"Yes--but would be more effective when the next 'Lambeth' finally defines the place of our ministry in the Church. Are we order of clergy or order of laity? Perhaps even our Convention should state this, now."

Proposed Suggestions for the Future:

1. A basis for planned strategy for all deaconesses in encouraging Vocation.
2. Data for future studies.

Employment:

Q1. What areas of service have you been involved in in your ministry? (Be explicit as possible).

Parish: Work among women
Conducting services (Burials, etc.)
Christian Education
Calling
Altar Guild
V. B. S.
Counseling
Administrative

Institutional:

Developing new homes for unmarried mothers, teen-agers, and children
Settlement House direction
House mother
Teacher

Missionary:

Southwestern Virginia
Texas
Wyoming
Arizona
Nevada
Overseas

"Involved in just about all human problems that it is possible to get into"--
sums it up rather well!

Proposed Suggestions for the Future:

1. Educational to the Church as a whole to show where and how it is possible to "use" the deaconess.
2. Areas of appeal to young women already employed in these areas.

Q2. What new opportunities is the Church developing in which deaconesses can serve?

"Opportunities for service are as vast and wide as human need; and as far as the work of the Church takes us for the Master. And really, the only 'newness' about these opportunities are the names attached. . . With the glaring exception of the words LOVE OF GOD. No matter what our skills, our abilities, our response to the 'needs of mankind,' the deaconess must never forget Whom she serves first. Our service of ministry to mankind is really a sacrament as it is merely the outward and visible sign of deeper service."

"I cannot answer this question for I know little or nothing of the Church developing opportunities for Church Women--but I do believe a deaconess can serve anywhere in the Church if she has education and training and a true vocation."

"Parochial Schools. Retirement Homes."

"As the Church develops missions, certainly new opportunities are being developed wherein a deaconess, with her vocation, should be invaluable. But, the bishops and the seminaries, the priests and parishes are totally ignorant of this."

"None that I know of. The Church may be developing many new areas of activity but I don't think it gives our Order a thought. It might have been wise for us to have specialized in some particular work. I hear that the Lutheran Deaconesses are going strong--they have specialized in nursing."

"I would suggest a thorough study of the May, 1966 report of the Division of Christian Ministries of the Executive Council, entitled 'Study on Training and Employment of Women in the Episcopal Church.' It is my feeling that this study reveals a wide variety of opportunities for deaconesses to serve the Church in ways in which a need obviously exists. This study indicates present employment of women in church or church-related positions as follows:

"In the field of women in professional positions in church-related institutions, 277 such institutions were queried; 130 replied; these 130 institutions reported that they employed 3,311 women in professional capacities, of whom 374 were Episcopalians. They indicated that they would give preference to highly qualified Episcopalians in filling vacancies. By far the majority of women employed in these institutions professionally are trained or practical nurses. Next numerically are technicians, followed by social workers. Other areas are in administration, dietetics, therapy, field workers, teaching, child care, librarians, and house mothers. Only a small number of women are serving as doctors, dentists, pharmacists, psychologists and counselors. These institutions include categories of youth, old age, counseling services, hospitals, convalescent homes, settlements and community centers, maternity care, and miscellaneous.

"In the field of Christian Education, some 525 women are now employed as parish directors, diocesan staff members, field workers, college workers, officers of Executive Council and of interdenominational agencies, school administrators and faculty, assistants to institutional chaplains, and religious editors.

"The field of parish worker does not appear to be a promising one at the present time. The study sent questionnaires to 1,400 parishes with membership of 400 or more, and 909 questionnaires were returned. Only 105 of these parishes employed women in professional positions, full or part time. Chief reasons for not employing women were given as lack of funds, lack of an appropriate program, and preference

for a staff of clergy or laymen. Those parishes which indicated that they were seeking professional women workers wanted them primarily as Directors of Christian Education. A very few openings were shown for college workers, community workers, and parochial school teachers."

"The Church is moving rapidly into sociological areas which should provide work where a properly trained deaconess can serve; counseling and educational work with (a) families, (b) retirees, (c) emotionally disturbed, (d) delinquent youth. I would stress the point that those going into this area must have adequate training, but I also feel there are young women already trained and working in this area who might be attracted to the deeper dedication to service. Also work on college campuses and in the rapidly developing area of ecumenical relations."

"Opportunities for deaconesses vary, of course. Foreign--mountain--rural--city--parish--teaching--heads of institutions. Maybe we shall be called to go to the moon--at least there will be new fields of service, as the world changes."

"I would like to know!"

1. Therapists: Centers of work involving speech, O. T., P. T., all rehabilitation team members.
2. Psychologists and psychometrists, in education, industry, and mental health center specialists.
3. Psychiatric aides.
4. Teachers specializing in cultural deprivation education, reading specialists, all special ed situations (EM Rote T. M. R., emot. disturbed, brain-injured, crippling conditions, deprived, multiple handicaps).
5. Qualified social workers.
6. All medical personnel: X-ray technicians, etc., etc.
7. All former Peace Corps members, for missionary work.
8. School administrators (qualified with proper credentials)."

"What new opportunities is the Church offering? With Windham House and Church Army centers phasing out, maybe it is up to the Order of Deaconesses to pick up the ball? ? ?"

Proposed Suggestions for the Future:

1. Educational for our talks to show new possible areas of vocation.
2. New areas for young people in our literature.
3. Data for future studying.

National Conference of Deaconesses:

"The purpose of the National Conference shall be to unite the Deaconesses of the Church in a closer fellowship, and to take counsel together concerning matters pertaining to the spiritual and practical welfare of the Order."

- Q1. How does this stated purpose meet the needs of the Deaconess today
in the areas of (a) Fellowship?
(b) Study?
(c) Spiritual renewal?
(d) Annual meeting?

"(a) Not too well, with the possible exception of older deaconesses who have known each other for a long time.

(b) Not at all.

(c) To a limited degree.

(d) As a means of contact and communication for those able to attend."

"(c) At retreat. Comment: Better use of the time at Racine for those not in meeting of Executive Board--such as those in same fields (DCE's, etc.) to exchange ideas--reports of new developments to be made to the conference as a whole."

"(a) Very good even for those who can't come.

(b) Could be helpful--ideas given.

(c) Having our Retreat at the same time.

(d) A great asset and help."

"Good"

"(a) Very hard in USA because of distances.

(b) Too little time.

(c) Yes!

(d) The same.

This important to see other Deaconesses in this big country."

"(a) A very ambiguous thing: is 'fellowship' sitting in artificial battle formation to hear over each year one's neighbor's name, occupation, and address?

(b) Study?

(c) A retreat is an absolute must, and the highlight of the annual meeting. No other feature touches it.

(d) More power needs to be given to the Conference annually to make necessary changes or deletions and additions."

"(a) Very well.

(c) By retreats and prayer leaflets.

(d) Only chance to discuss corporate problems and take corporate action. It is the only instrument we have to bind our widely scattered members

together in sisterly fellowship. The prayer leaflets from The Central House are fine help. I can not think of any other instrument that could serve the Order better than the National Conference."

"I've never understood why the 'National Conference' existed. Maybe I'm a 'loner' and do not respond to group dynamics? If we are seeking ordained status (only I think we have it) in the eyes of the Church--the men are not organized, why should we be? As for fellowship, I've never picked it up. I am quite close to several deaconesses and some no longer in good standing, but I don't see that it is the diaconate that provides the glue."

"This purpose still meets the needs today, as far as I can see. We do need time for study. We so easily get into a rut. We need stimulation--opening our minds to new thought, etc. We always need renewal through the Retreat. Annual meeting--debatable whether we should have legislation each year. Often apt to act hastily. Important changes--bylaws, etc.--should take three years but perhaps small legislative action could be taken at annual meetings. However, if we are going to combine all this: Fellowship (and we need just to be with each other, not planned, just as family), Study, Spiritual Renewal, and a meeting--it is going to take more than three days. We might have to have a whole week for such a meeting."

"(a) I feel very much the need of fellowship but find the atmosphere and schedule at DeKoven doesn't stimulate it very much.

(b) A program of Post-Ordination Conferences for study, as proposed by Dss. Booth last year, would be of great value.

(c) I don't think we have to get together as 'Deaconesses' for spiritual renewal, but worship together is a heart-warming experience.

(d) An annual meeting is an excellent opportunity for fellowship, but our bylaws hamstringing any business we may want to transact."

Proposed Suggestions for the Future:

1. A committee to study the above and suggest changes needed, if any.
2. Suggestions from all deaconesses for possible study programs.

Promotion:

Q1. How can we promote the Vocation of Deaconess? (Be specific)

"The clergy must be 'sold' on the idea of using deaconesses effectively and not treating us like second-class church workers. I think it's the job of our special Bishops' Committee to do this--and they promised! I've heard no reports of any efforts on the part of any member of that Committee either to promote the Order or give it publicity."

"Hammer at the Seminaries--contact bishops, priests, deacons--"

"Would a movie film adjusted to children and women's groups help? It pays to advertise. It is effective in business. 'The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.' (Luke 16:8). BUT, it costs a lot! It could be fiction based on fact. A deaconess' life can be thrilling. Whatever happened to the book, A Woman Set Apart? Copies in circulation in church libraries would have been a great help."

"Each one teach one' is a good motto for us to follow. The deaconess can do her best promotion by her life. Perhaps each deaconess can be responsible for keeping the Order before the people of her own Diocese. Might be interesting to find out how many have 'spoken' for the Order during the past year. Ask to be put on the program for Women of the Diocese, for Church School groups, etc., Young People's Conferences."

"There are still many church people who do not know that the Church even has deaconesses. I feel we ought to run an ad with a picture or black-and-white illustration, large enough to be eye-catching, and run it continuously in the Episcopalian, The Living Church, and possibly The American Church News. But--who will pay the cost?"

"Have some prolific, and thorough, publicity at whatever the expense; don't tie up deaconesses' writings at one source and encourage individual deaconesses to write, express, and get out of one's shell, to be dynamically involved in the mainstream."

"We must be accepted by the Anglican Communion as the Ministry for Women and clearly defined. The Church does not brush aside Holy Orders for men. But there are too many different opinions in regard to deaconesses. Status should be clear and specific and accepted."

"By presenting the unique feature of the vocation rather than the common areas of work which the deaconess shares with other religious workers. By spending much more effort and money on promotion. By an educational campaign slanted towards bishops and clergy. By seeking contact with youth groups, particularly in colleges. By holding Vocation Seminars at Central House."

Suggestions for the Future:

1. A committee to consider the above and how to go "about it."
 - a. Planning a campaign.
2. Application of the above by all deaconesses wherever possible.

Retirement:

Q1. Do you think there should be a retirement age for deaconesses? At what age?

No	9
Yes - no age	6
Yes - age 65	7
age 68	3
age 72	2

"Yes, 65. After that official retirement the deaconess is as free as any lay person to work part-time where and when she is able."

"No. She should be allowed to work as long as she and her rector feel she is by example and service working in God's Kingdom and for our Lord!"

"It should be elastic according to health and circumstances of the woman involved. The type of work expected of the deaconess should have much consideration."

"No--that is the Lord's business--"

"Feel strongly that there should be a retirement age. This is required of women workers under the National Church appointment--and for priests--and even bishops. It is the standard of our whole society today. Suggest 65, with the option of remaining until 68 or perhaps 70. This protects the Order and the rectors and the bishops and affords a dignified and graceful way of ending a fruitful ministry in one particular place. With Social Security and The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses there is no need for a deaconess to have to feel the need for having to 'support herself financially' and there is much to be done by every deaconess even after retirement. All we have to do is to look into the lives of those who have lived glorious vocations during their retirement years."

"A matter between the Deaconess and her Bishop."

"Yes; when her physical, mental, and/or emotional resources fail her for the job she feels called to do."

Suggestions for the Future:

1. Because the majority feel the need for a retirement age, vote on whether or not to petition the Bishops to change the Canon. Let them decide the age.

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Zielinski, Deaconess
Chairman

REPORT CONCERNING PROPOSED
ECUMENICAL NORTH AMERICAN DEACONESS CONFERENCE

In January, 1967, a central committee, composed of representatives of deaconesses of various denominations in the United States and Canada, was formed for the purpose of making plans for an Ecumenical North American Deaconess Conference. Deaconesses Bradley and Searle represented the Episcopal deaconesses when this committee met on January 25, 1967, at Gladwyn, Pennsylvania.

The idea for such a conference arose in response to a request from the international group Diakonia for an invitation to meet in America. Americans who had attended the 1966 Diakonia meeting felt it would first be necessary for all American deaconess groups to begin to relate to each other and work together.

As a first step, a statistical report on deaconesses in the United States and Canada, as of June 1, 1966, was prepared. This report revealed the existence of 1,713 deaconesses and 280 candidates in ten denominations, including Anglican Church in Canada, United Church of Canada, Presbyterian Church of Canada, Mennonite Church, United Church of Christ, Episcopal Church, Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, American Lutheran Church, and Lutheran Church in America. There were 940 active deaconesses on that date.

At the initial meeting, the following decisions were reached:

(1) Each deaconess group will be entitled to representation at this proposed conference on the basis of 10% of active membership. That is, the Episcopal group will be entitled to three representatives, based on 34 active deaconesses. Additional resource persons may be chosen by an appointed committee, and any group may make part of its delegation resource persons.

(2) A program committee, to be responsible for setting up a program and budget, was appointed. This committee includes Pastor Arne Kristo and Sister Patricia Martin (Lutheran--Missouri Synod); Miss Betsy Ewing (Methodist); Sister Anna Ebert (Lutheran Church in America); and Deaconess Margaret Jackson (Episcopal).

The program committee has met twice, and will meet again in October.

DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin, has been chosen as the place for the conference, and dates will be August 19-22, 1968.

Costs are estimated at \$24.00 per person for room, board, and use of facilities, plus a registration fee of \$15.00 per person, or \$39.00 per person, plus travel expenses. Each participant is to take care of her own travel, room, board and

registration fee (which can of course be paid by the group the participant is representing).

Pastor Arne Kristo will serve as Chaplain for the conference.

The program will center around four position papers, covering the historical view of the deaconess, including biblical and theological aspects; the status of women in the church today; discipline, obedience and community aspects of deaconess groups; where do we go from here as a serving group?

Each participating group is asked to send a list of delegates to Sister Anna Ebert on or before March 1, 1968.

It is respectfully requested that the National Conference of Deaconesses consider and act upon the question of sending three representatives to the Ecumenical North American Deaconess Conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Deaconess Margaret Jackson

BUDGET 1968 - 1970

Income. \$2,700.00

Expenses:

Travel.	\$ 800.00
Promotion and publicity.	1,000.00
Retreat.	400.00
Emergency.	300.00
Central House.	400.00
Miscellaneous.	<u>100.00</u>

Total Expenses. 3,000.00

Deficit. \$ (300.00)

BY-LAWS OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

As amended September 15, 1967, Seattle, Washington

(After recommendations were presented by the By-Laws Committee, Deaconess Wenonah McGhee, chairman, and following discussion, the existing By-Laws were amended with respect to Sections 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10. The amended By-Laws, as adopted, are presented below.)

1. NAME. The name of this organization shall be the National Conference of Deaconesses.
2. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Conference shall be to unite the Deaconesses of the Church in a closer fellowship, and to take counsel together concerning matters pertaining to the spiritual and practical welfare of the Order.
3. MEMBERSHIP. All Deaconesses in good standing shall be entitled to membership in this Conference.
4. DUES. Dues shall be an annual contribution made by the individual Deaconess to the budget. A copy of the budget shall be sent out in January of each year, and include an accounting of the previous year's contribution by that Deaconess.
5. MEETINGS. The Conference shall meet annually. During the year of General Convention, the Conference shall meet at the time and place of General Convention. The Executive Committee shall designate the time and place of other annual meetings. Legislation shall be effected only by a quorum of 25% of the total membership.
6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The Executive Committee shall consist of eight Deaconesses, two of whom shall be elected by ballot at each Annual Meeting to serve for four years. No member may be elected for two consecutive terms.
 - (1) The Deaconess-in-charge of Central House shall be an ex-officio member with vote.
 - (2) The treasurer, if not a member of the Executive Committee, shall be an ex-officio member with vote.
7. DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to prepare for the meetings, to carry out the instructions of the National Conference, and to act as a channel of communication. It may also appoint committees at its discretion. It shall have power to fill vacancies in its membership.
8. OFFICERS. The Executive Committee shall elect from its members a Chairman and a Secretary to serve two years, the officers to act both for the Committee

and for the National Conference. The Treasurer shall be elected by the Executive Committee to serve for two years, and need not be a member of the Executive Committee.

9. NOMINATION AND ELECTION. For the election of the Executive Committee the chairman shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members, at each Annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot containing at least five names. This ballot shall be sent by mail to all Deaconesses, not less than thirty days before the meeting. From this ballot, the two receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to serve on the Executive Committee for four years.
10. AMENDMENT. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present at any Annual Meeting, provided that previous notice has been given to all Deaconesses in writing.

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of The Retiring Fund at their meeting on September 16, 1967:

"WHEREAS, Deaconess Ruth Johnson, whose term of office as Director and Vice-President expires today, has been a Director since 1940, except for three years from 1952, when, at her request, her name was withdrawn from nomination to permit her to take charge of other work for the Order of Deaconesses, was Vice-President in 1942, and was re-elected a number of times thereafter, and was elected President in 1958, and for three consecutive one-year terms thereafter, and

"WHEREAS, Deaconess Ruth Johnson declines to be a candidate for election as a Director or an Officer, and this Board desires to spread the following resolution upon the minutes:

"RESOLVED, that we recognize that the capability of this Corporation to perform its function of assisting retired deaconesses has been achieved in large measure by Deaconess Ruth Johnson's joyful and untiring devotion to its work, calm appraisal of its problems, friendly responsiveness and wisdom; and be it further

"RESOLVED, that this Board of Directors express thanks for her many years of service; and be it further

"RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution, signed by all the Directors attending the meeting, be delivered to Deaconess Johnson."

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOKLET
"DEVOTIONS FOR DEACONESSSES"

Six years ago a committee was appointed to produce a "Book of Devotions for Deaconesses." Three years ago a "trial balloon" was sent up to determine what type of book we wanted, and to get from you all your ideas, opinions and suggestions. Our temporary booklet was well received and the response to the "follow-up" questionnaire very good. There were many excellent and diverse suggestions, and since your committee could not use them all because the length and size of the book had to be considered, selection was made from the number of suggestions which bore some relationship to each other.

Three suggestions were made which seemed to be the true consensus:

1. That the booklet be small enough to carry in one's handbag.
2. That it be a loose-leaf book so that one's own prayers and intercessions might be inserted.
3. That the booklet be for personal and private devotions, yet contain some prayers for general and public use.

The prayers are both traditional and contemporary. The intercessions and the offices at the end of the book can be used for personal prayers, as are the collects and prayers in our Book of Common Prayer; but also can be useful when one is called upon suddenly to have intercessions or to read Compline or other prayers at night-time, at a meeting or conference.

As individuals we are widely scattered, yet in our prayers with and for each other and for the Order, as well as for our common concerns as citizens of two kingdoms... Heavenly and not so Heavenly... we find fellowship with one another.

Your committee hopes that you will accept this little booklet, "DEVOTIONS FOR DEACONESSSES," and find joy and strength in its continual use.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Brereton, Deaconess
Chairman

Additional copies of "DEVOTIONS FOR DEACONESSSES" are available from The Central House for Deaconesses, 1914 Urrington Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60201. Cost is \$2.75. Please make check payable to THE CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES.

BISHOP SELWAY'S TALK

"Speak your piece more firmly. Insist on the dignity of your office. Your attitude toward yourselves can have a tremendous effect on the whole attitude of the Church toward women. Maybe the Holy Spirit is speaking to you and saying that you must assert yourselves."

This imperative was emphasized again and again by the Rt. Rev. George R. Selway, Bishop of Northern Michigan, when he addressed the Friday night banquet of the National Conference of Deaconesses.

He termed the Church's present attitude toward women "completely unrealistic," still tinged with Aquinas' outdated concept of a woman as a "defective, misbegotten male." This attitude, he commented, has been felt by deaconesses in their work--the deaconesses have borne the brunt of the attack, have been made to feel that they are second-class ministers. Then he issued a challenge.

"Much of the fault for this attitude is yours," he declared. "You have accepted with meek compliance the paternalism that has been offered to you. And if you continue to do so, the number of deaconesses will continue to decline.

"You are concerned with a radical change, with a training program which will recognize that not all deaconesses are to be parish workers or D.R.E.s, but that there is a place for every adult woman. You are reaching out to several valuable sources in the Church for advice and counsel. And this is good.

"But I can't see the deaconesses waiting patiently for somebody else to tell them what they are and what they should do. I can't see the continuation of the paternalism that has existed in the past. The changes must be made by the deaconesses themselves. You must determine who you are and what you are. People of all sorts are rising up today and asking that they be recognized for what they really are. Doesn't the deaconess have the right to say what she is and what she can do to the glory of God and His Church?"

This, he pointed out, means increased emphasis on publicity, on promotion, on placement.

Bishop Selway concluded:

"Yours is a double responsibility. You are individual workers, but you are also workers for the order. Professional women workers may be needed, but you form more than an organization. If you are anything at all, you are an order, and by that I do not mean a secular order, I mean ordination. You are ministers who have been set apart. You are not just women doing a job for the Church. Something has been added to you. You have accepted a way of discipline. You must believe that the will of God ordains what you are. You have not chosen Him--He has chosen you.

"The time will show more and more the demand that says what you are. We don't know what will happen in ten, fifteen or twenty years from now in the ministry of women in the Church. I think the day will come when it will break wide open. And when it does--who will be the ones to move into this new area? There is no one but the deaconesses.

"It is a matter of the compulsion of the Holy Spirit, the realization from a firm conviction of what you are--God's chosen ministers. It is in this that you will find the help that will sustain you in what you must do."

What a great pleasure it was to have been the guests of our friends of St. Peter's, Seattle, Washington, for our Triennial Dinner, our Communion and Breakfast! We were also invited to attend the Holy Communion Service on Sunday, and those of us who went to this Service enjoyed meeting the Missionaries and others who were there--as well as a covered dish luncheon.

Our friends of St. Peter's not only entertained us but were good enough to transport us in their cars to and from the Chapel.

We are grateful to them for their hospitality and we do thank them.

It is of interest to us deaconesses that Deaconess Margaret Peppers had great influence in and through Our Lord in the early days of this Mission, and in and through her efforts many of the adult members are feeling His influence in their lives today.

Marian Brown, Deaconess

EXPLANATION OF SPECIAL ACCOUNT

The Special Account of the National Conference of Deaconesses, which now amounts (with accrued interest) to \$2,320.57, represents a sum of money which was turned over to the National Conference of Deaconesses when St. Faith's House was closed in 1948. This fund was built up by gifts and contributions from deaconesses and their friends which were collected by the deaconesses for the support of St. Faith's. When St. Faith's was closed, the Trustees voted that such monies belonged to the deaconesses.

The fund has been held in the treasury of the National Conference of Deaconesses, at interest, to be used for something special.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Seymour, Deaconess

TALK BY MRS. BETSY RODENMAYER

(Editor's Note: The memorial adopted by the National Conference of Deaconesses asked the General Convention to appoint a Joint Commission "with a staff member of the Division of Christian Ministries assigned to it" to study and advise us as to the role of the deaconess in her ministry of service in the Church today. Although the proposed Joint Commission was not established, it still appears probable that the Board for Theological Education, to which our memorial was referred, will request the Division of Christian Ministries to undertake the study which we requested.)

What kind of study of the deaconess program by the Division of Christian Ministries is proposed in our memorial? What information will it give us for future guidance? What questions will be asked--what areas will it cover?

Mrs. Robert (Betsy) Rodenmayer, associate secretary of the Division of Christian Ministries of the Home Department of the Executive Council, discussed these points at a special session of the National Conference of Deaconesses Thursday evening.

She explained that in such a study (which she undoubtedly would conduct personally), four major questions would be asked:

1. What is the Church's mission--what is it all about?
2. What and who do we need to get the job done?
3. How do we recruit these people?
4. Having recruited them, how do we best equip them to do the job?

"This is not a self-study," she emphasized. "Its purpose will be to gather data as objectively as possible. We are not concerned with your commitment--that is your problem. We are concerned with how best this ministry can be exercised to further the ministry of the Church. How are you prepared to deal with this ministry? Whom are you recruiting? What preparation and tools are you giving them? In order to plan, to anticipate, you must know how people are moving, what the pressures are, so that you may minister to them in a healing way.

"You must be serious about recruiting the very best people you can find--and you must make it possible for them to have the very best basic training and continuing education you can offer them."

For the first time, she observed, the Church is taking seriously the education of women for service. Eight women are now studying in doctoral programs in our seminaries. Higher standards are being demanded of persons going into the mission field. There is an attempt to recruit among outstanding women college students. But--"we're not sure what we are recruiting them for."

Mrs. Rodenmayer commented that the current struggle of the deaconesses with the question of a valid ministry is one that is shared by every group in the Church. Who are we? Where do we stand in publicly declaring this way of life? Those who do declare themselves as adhering to the Christian way of life need the highest quality of training, skills, and insight in order to do the job to the glory of God.

IMPRESSIONS OF A DEACONESS AT HER FIRST TRIENNIAL

From New York to Seattle? For a deaconess in her first year in the field, after two years at Central House without a visible income? At first thought it didn't seem to be a possibility. Yet the way did open up, and with careful planning and a bit of maneuvering, I did actually get there.

How can I put into words all that it meant to me?

I found a welcome opportunity to learn many details of the structure of the deaconess program. I found a place for myself within the group. I gained a greater understanding of the function and place of the Canon on Deaconesses, the National Conference of Deaconesses, Central House, and the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses. I'm aware that I have much still to learn, but through these sessions the pattern emerged.

I had the opportunity, and the privilege, of sharing in planning for the future of the deaconess program.

I had the great privilege of sharing with the other deaconesses in a quiet morning of Holy Eucharist and meditation, with the deepening sense of fellowship that grows out of such shared hours of devotion.

Bishop Selway's talk on Friday night was a real highlight of our meeting--an inspiration to all of us, a challenge, and a call to action.

Through it all, this was a time of getting to know my fellow deaconesses more intimately, by means of casual contacts, social activities, and quiet conversations.

I left with a new sense of the bond of sisterhood that unites our little group, working in so many fields of the Church's program and in such widely separated places geographically--but one in Christ.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is very active indeed in the midst of such gatherings as this, and I know that I have returned to my particular post with renewed strength for the tasks ahead.

Thank you, all of you, for sharing those hours with me.

Margaret M. Jackson, Deaconess

An excellent group picture was taken at the meeting of the National Conference for Deaconesses, on the ramp in front of St. Peter's Church. We regret that the type of processing used for this Triennial Report does not permit us to reproduce it. However, we are informed that full-size glossies, at \$1.50 each, may be ordered through the Rev. Walter Boyd, Department of Communication, Episcopal Church Center, 815 Second Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10017.

MEDITATION BY FR. NAKAYAMA

The period of Meditation in St. Peter's Church, following breakfast Saturday morning, began with the saying of Matins. Fr. Nakayama announced that pauses would be made at different points for devotional consideration.

Beginning with Hymn 450, after Psalms 143 and 149, Fr. Nakayama said:

"In the first of these Psalms the keynote is penitence; in the second, it is Hallelujah. People of all ages and times have asked, 'Why do the righteous suffer?' There is a conviction, underlying the question, that sin is somehow related to trouble. This is true many times, but does not wholly answer the problem. Freedom from trouble is not a reward handed out to the righteous. We only know in part, why evil and trouble are in the world. This we do know: God uses everything, as instruments for our correction, our development, our good. Even trouble and evil can be turned, by God and ourselves, into good. It is right that we should pray for removal and deliverance from evil. Think of the bitterness and hate engendered by war. Our prayers are certainly needed, that out of the spirit of evil, good may come."

"Psalm 149 is a song of victory. 'O sing unto the Lord a new song.' In time of victory we must not forget: God uses all things, trouble and victory, for His purpose."

First Lesson: I Kings 12:1-19.

"Consider: In Matins the reading of the Psalms engenders FAITH; the Old Testament lesson foretells and therefore stimulates HOPE; the New Testament lesson shows us the fulfillment, which is LOVE. This particular Old Testament lesson shows us that evil defeats itself. Pursuit of power ends in loss of power. We must be careful that our motives are not from self-interest, pride, and desire for power."

Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-5.

"Our responsibility is not to try to determine times and seasons, but to be prepared, to watch, to be ready to receive the instruments of God's manifestations. A prospective mother does not know when her child will be born, but she is filled with expectant hope. Just so, we Christians should equip ourselves with the armor of Faith and Hope and Love. There should be a sort of esprit de corps among Christians of expectant readiness, encouraging and building up one another in faith. Many people do not feel they need God, but these very people need the strength and comfort that He brings. It is our mission to make Him known."

October 22-25, 1968

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Deaconesses:

Greetings from California! Marian Wheeler and I are enjoying our life and work at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Salinas, and the "welcome mat" is always out at the "Hermitage." Marian held the fort while I flew to the conference with Phyllis Edwards and Esther Davis. It was my first flight and I really enjoyed it!

How I wish that all of you could have been with us at DeKoven to share the joys and blessings of our Conference and Retreat! We especially missed those who were prevented by illness, but we surely felt that we were being sustained by the prayers of all our absent sisters. The wonderful cooperative spirit of those present enabled us to complete our heavy agenda and to still have time to enjoy our guests as well as each other.

Once again I would like to thank each and every one of you for your prayers, especially during my illness last year, and for the many notes and letters received. May I share a few quotes from some of them?

"We send loving greetings to all. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. We are planning now, God willing, to attend the Retreat and Conference next year."

"Much love to you all. May the Holy Spirit be with you during the Conference, guiding you in all your deliberations and decisions--and empowering you through the quiet of the Retreat for His Service."

"Do have a wonderful Conference and Retreat. I need to be with you--but can't this year. With love to all."

"We have our veil and cross left! No matter what the garb, the ancient commitment shines in their lives today."

"I surely enjoyed, and got a lift from the National Conference. We have a wonderful bunch of women in the deaconess group, and at each meeting I feel that I get to know all of them a little better. I do hope that more of our newer deaconesses can be with us next year."

May we pray that God will guide our Bishops in their deliberations and contacts with all deaconesses and candidates, and that he will bless each one of us as we continue in our "joyful service" for him.

Faithfully Yours in Our Lord,

Agnes R. Bradley, Deaconess, Chairman

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the National Conference of Deaconesses met at Dekoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin, on October 22, 1968. The meeting, which began at 3 P.M., was opened by Dss. Bradley, with prayer. The reading of the minutes was waived. Present were Dsses. Bradley, Dietz, Edwards, Englebert, Main, Sherman, Truesdell, and Zielinski.

The treasurer's report submitted by Dss. Seymour was read in her absence by Deaconess Bradley. Total balance as of Oct. 15 was reported to be \$4,627.35. A total of \$1,000.00 was reported to be a disbursement for the survey. Dss. Truesdell moved for the acceptance of the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

It was recalled that the survey might not be able to be made for a few years. The issue was raised: should the money to be disbursed for the survey be spent instead on the Central House? The money apparently had not been spent "quite yet." Mrs. Rodenmayer had changed positions in the Church and could not do much of anything directly at present about beginning the survey. Discussion followed.

The possibility of the National Conference of Deaconesses joining the world-wide fellowship Diakonia was discussed. Dss. Booth had sent in a letter revealing that the Church of England Deaconesses now belong to it. No definitive terms for "ordination" need obstruct a group's considerations for belonging to the fellowship, for membership does not require a sole adherence to the theological definition of the term. The question of dues was discussed, and the prevailing opinion was that the dues were thought to be quite reasonable. The next meeting of the Diakonia will be in Helsinki, Finland. Possibilities for some of our deaconesses to attend were also discussed. Motion was made, and carried, to bring up the topic at the Conference.

The Lambeth Conference statements on the Order of Deaconesses were read and discussed. Motion was made by Dss. Zielinski to bring the matter up at the Conference, possibly to move to ask Bishop Chambers' advice as to what action to take on it. Dss. Edwards added in her motion, "how to implement the statements presented by Lambeth." Dss. Main seconded, and the motion was carried.

Names for a deaconess to take a place on the Central House Board were discussed, with emphasis on the need for a wide national selection of names to de-emphasize the diocesan nature that it was felt the Central House has in the Chicago area.

Names of speakers for next year's retreat were elicited, and retreat ideas exchanged. No motion or action was taken at that time.

Deaconess Dietz closed the meeting with prayer.

"Will you express our appreciation to the National Conference of Deaconesses for their generous offering to our work? It will be a great help. It was good to have you all with us again. We have so much in common." - Excerpt from letter from Sister Mary Bianca, C.S.M., to Dss. Bradley following the National Conference meeting.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

The meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses on October 22, 1966, at 7:45 P.M. was called to order by Deaconess Bradley with prayer. The reading of the minutes was waived, and put on file. The treasurer's report was read. Deaconess Jackson moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. Motion carried.

Some of the deaconesses unable to attend the meeting wrote in letters, parts of which were read. A list was made of those ill or unable to be at the meeting. Deaconess Edwards moved that the attending deaconesses write to one or two of those missing to bring contact and fellowship to each one. Motion carried.

It was stated that the Memorial sent by the Conference to General Convention last year was finally referred to the Board for Theological Education, Bishop Warnecke, Chairman. The survey was then discussed. Mrs. Rodenmayer, who was acting on behalf of the Conference to act as liaison in initiating a survey of the Deaconess Order, changed positions and is not able at this time because of her new work to take as definitive a part in implementing the idea of the survey.

The Lambeth Conference resolutions on the status of deaconesses within the Anglican Communion were read and discussed. Deaconess Zielinski moved (Deaconess Brown seconding) to obtain Bishop Chambers' advice on Lambeth Conference, and our action on it. Motion carried.

The possibility of the National Conference of Deaconesses joining the world-wide fellowship of Diakonia was discussed. Diakonia members are composed of women performing "diakonial" services. Any action was tabled momentarily until the next part of the meeting next day.

The Central House has expanded its Board of Trustees to include one more deaconess. Nomination of Deaconess Jackson was given. By a vote of a show of hands Deaconess Margaret Jackson was the name suggested by the Conference as the nominee to the Board of Central House.

The date was set for next year's Retreat and Conference. Deaconess Zielinski moved (Deaconess Main seconding) that October 21-24 would be the better dates. Motion carried. Ideas for speakers and conductors were exchanged, with the recommendation to look into the idea of obtaining a speaker to illuminate the Conference as to some aspect of the Church's life, before the Retreat. No definite plans for a Retreat conductor were noted.

Deaconess Zielinski gave the report of the Central house (appended).

Deaconess Zielinski moved to send Mrs. Charles Larrabee Street a note from the Conference, of greeting and thanks for the life and example of Bishop Street. Motion carried.

The Conference was advised of the Deaconess Ward Memorial Fund for a chapel in the hospital where Deaconess Ward worked and lived. Deaconess Ramsay moved that the Conference solicit an offering from its members from which to send a memorial contribution to Arizona. Motion carried. A memorial for Bishop Street was also discussed, and an opportunity

created in which to offer contributions. The first part of the meeting was adjourned.

The second section of the National Conference of Deaconesses was opened the morning of October 23, by Deaconess Bradley, with prayer. Three guests were present: Deaconesses Sally Brandt and L. Noess, both from Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Illinois (Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod); and Sister Arnetta Beyer, Lutheran Deaconess House, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Lutheran Church in America).

A resume of the meeting of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses, held September 27, 1968, at 815 Second Avenue, New York City, was given (appended).

The guests all gave some brief comments about their Deaconess Orders. Sister Beyer, a Deaconess in the Lutheran Church in America, discussed her order, and its Mother House in Milwaukee. Most of the deaconesses in that order seem to be in fields related to health services. Deaconess Noyes and Deaconess Brant are on the staff of Concordia Teachers' College, River Forest, Illinois. Deaconess Brant stated that there are in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod 70 active deaconesses, and 20 interns. A two-year training program prepares a candidate to become a deaconess, although at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana (related to the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod), there exists a pre-deaconess course in the undergraduate program.

A report on the North American Conference of Deaconesses was given (appended). It was decided to name a delegate to the inter-national conference of Diakonia to be held in Finland in 1969, and to decide whether or not to apply for membership in Diakonia. Membership in this worldwide fellowship of deaconesses, it was explained, does not require the groups to adhere to any one definitive statement as to the nature of ordination. The Church of England Deaconesses have already joined, it was also reported. Dss. Zielinski moved that the National Conference of Deaconesses join. Dss. Edwards seconded. Motion carried. Dues were reported to be apparently reasonable. Dss. Searle was nominated to serve on the planning committee for the second North American Deaconess Conference, this committee to meet in New York City at a later date. Dss. Edwards moved that Dss. Bradley appoint a representative to send to Diakonia in Helsinki, Finland, next July.

A report on the meeting of the Australian Deaconesses was read.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Sherman, Deaconess, Secretary

"Canon Shaw tells me that you sent a gift to Episcopal Charities from the National Conference of Deaconesses in memory of Bishop Street. I am deeply grateful to the Deaconesses - each and every one - for this tribute to the Bishop, and this token of their loving sympathy. You all know how close to his heart was the work of the Order of Deaconesses."

--Excerpt from a letter from Mrs. Charles L. Street to Dss. Bradley following the National Conference meeting.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL HOUSE FOR DEACONESSSES - OCTOBER, 1966

In her report to the Triennial last year, Deaconess Booth stated:

"The Central House was established for the purpose of training women for the Office of Deaconess, for the promotion of its work, and for a place to which deaconesses might come for rest and refreshment."

Our efforts this past year have been centered around this three-fold purpose of education, promotion, and service.

Our primary concern is our candidates and their future. Because we are in an age of change, it has been decided that a standardized program is not the best possible way of equipping our candidates to serve in today's Church. The training program must be individualized to fit the needs of each candidate and the position she wants to fill as a deaconess. To begin to accomplish this goal, we have been consulting with Father Davies of Seabury-Western. Mrs. Welton, of the Diocese of Montana, is our first candidate in this new program. Instead of spending full time at the Seminary this fall, she is working in an inner city parish under supervision.

In the field of promotion, we are seeking out ways of bringing an awareness of the deaconess and her ministry to the Church on the corner. To help us accomplish this purpose, Mrs. Buzzard, of the Advance staff, wrote a fine article titled "It Couldn't have Happened 10 Years Ago." Reprints of it have been distributed by the Executive Council of our Church to all parts of the country. A similar article by Mrs. Buzzard has appeared in many local diocesan papers.

In an effort to bring the deaconess vocation to the attention of our young women about to make 'the decision', we will be mailing a new poster and leaflet to all parishes, Canterbury Houses, and the like.

"For a place to which deaconesses might come for rest and refreshment" has many different meanings for us. For us, it means our prayers and intercessions on behalf of our deaconesses, as well as our seasonal leaflets. In connection with Seabury-Western and the Peabody libraries, we are preparing to start a lending library for our deaconesses. During her sabbatical, Deaconess Lank stayed at the House and audited classes at the Seminary. We would hope more would consider coming to Central House for study and rest.

As you know, our grant from the general Church budget has been terminated. The New York Training School and the Church, through the local parish, has come to our rescue. Much of our time has been spent in sending out 6,500 letters to individual parishes. This has turned into a blessing for us because now the average parish knows of our existence, and many are assisting us.

At present, we have nine candidates and may soon have two more. Our two newest candidates are Miss Pat Wegner of Normal, Illinois, and Miss Alla Bozarth of Gresham, Oregon. This fall three candidates are studying at Seabury-Western Seminary. Mrs. Catherine Welton is beginning her second

year in the M.A. program as Mrs. Kate Knapp, of South Florida, and Miss Margaret Heas, of Michigan, begin their first year of study. We have two candidates from the Diocese of Chicago. They are Miss Janet MacIntosh and Mrs. Iris Meyer. Miss MacIntosh has just finished six months at the Urban Training Center and is completing her studies at the House. With the acceptance of Mrs. Meyer, we are beginning a new concept in the ministry of deaconesses. She is married and has a child. When she is finished with her preparation, she will become our first full time non-stipendiary deaconess with a family.

Miss Madeline Brault has completed her studies, but is prevented by illness in her family from being ordained.

On November 10th at 10:00 A.M., Miss Noel Anelange will be ordained Deaconess by Bishop Rusack at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, La Mesa, California. Noel is a graduate of Seabury-Western and is in charge of the day school connected to St. Andrew's. She will continue in this position.

Our newest deaconess is Alice Ballard. She was ordained in June by Bishop Mason in Dallas, Texas. Recently he wrote, "Alice Ballard is doing wonderful work and I hear good reports on her from everyone." She is working as an assistant at St. James', Texarkana, Texas.

During the past year, three deaconesses have died:

Dorothea F. Betz	February 2, 1968
Margaret Dudley Binns	April 27, 1966
Mary Clelland West	August 29, 1968

Also, the Central House has lost two devoted friends:

The Rt. Rev. Charles Larrabee Street,	August 12, 1968
Mr. Arthur H. Zeller	September 10, 1966

Bishop Street has been our guide and support from the very beginning, and Mr. Zeller served as Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of Central House for many years. Both were members of the Board of Trustees at the time of their deaths. We give thanks to God for the joy of their lives.

"God grant them joy and peace in his nearer presence. May they go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in his heavenly kingdom."

We would like to close this, our first report, by thanking you for your prayers and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Zielinski, Deaconess, Director

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Report of the Treasurer - October 1968

Summary of Report sent out with notices, March 1968

\$ 2,496.06	Total Receipts, Sept. 1967 to March 1968
<u>2,255.87</u>	Total Disbursements, same period

\$ 180.19	Balance in Checking account, March 10, 1968
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Receipts, March to Oct. 15th, 1968

\$ 865.00	Unallocated Account	
222.01	Central House	
20.00	Emergency Fund	\$ 180.19
10.00	Publicity & Promotion	<u>1,191.01</u>
14.00	Retreats	
10.00	Triennial Travel Fund	\$ 1,371.20
<u>50.00</u>	For the Survey	Total

\$ 1,191.01	Total Receipts
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Disbursements, same period

\$ 96.00	Room & Board, 3 Deas, and Mrs. Rodenmayer, No. Amer. Conf.
15.00	Registration, Mrs. Rodenmayer of Deaconesses
<u>112.01</u>	Central House, from New York Chapter of Deas.

\$ 223.01	Total Disbursements
<u>1,148.19</u>	Balance in Checking Account, Oct. 15, 1968 (1 below)

\$ 1,371.20	Grand Total
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Savings Account, First Wichita National Bank of Wichita Falls

\$2,020.00	Balance in account, July 1, 1968
<u>20.40</u>	Interest added, July 1, 1968
\$2,040.40	
<u>1,000.00</u>	Sent to New York, for the survey
\$1,040.40	Balance in account, Oct 1st., 1968 (2 below)

Savings Account in The Bank for Savings, N.Y.C.

\$2,438.76	without the interest already earned in 1968 (3 below)
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N.B. The money for the survey was taken from the Savings Account held here in Wichita Falls as it is a newer account, and does not draw as much interest as the older account in New York City.

Respectfully submitted,

Balance in Michigan Bank given to
Central house
\$130.00 May 1966
\$116.05 Plus interest

Lvelyn L. Seymour, Deaconess, Treasurer

Money On Hand

1. Checking account	\$1,148.19
2. Wichita Bank savings	1,040.40
3. NYC savings acct.	<u>2,438.76</u>
	\$4,627.35

DEACONESSES PRESENT

Agnes Bradley	Edna Dietz	Ruth Parsons
Amelia Brereton	Madeline Dunlap	Lydia Ramsay
Marian Brown	Phyllis Edwards	Clara Searle
Frances Campbell	Stelle Englebert	Ann Sherman
Lillian Crow	Margaret Jackson	Helen Taylor
Esther Davis	Elizabeth Main	Mary Truesdell
Hilda Dieterly	Wenona McGhee	Frances Zielinski

DEACONESS CANDIDATES PRESENT

Dorothy Dobson	Janet McIntosh	Pat Wegner
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SUMMARY OF TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Checking 10/67 - 3/68	\$ 2,436.06	\$ 2,255.87	\$ 180.19
3/68 -10/68	<u>1,191.01</u>	<u>223.01</u>	<u>968.00</u>
Total	\$ 3,627.07	\$ 2,478.88	\$ 1,148.19
Savings Account (int.)	20.40		
(Bal. 1/1/68)	<u>2,020.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	
	\$ 2,040.40	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,040.00
Special Savings Account (N.Y.)			<u>2,438.76</u>
	10/15/68	Total	\$ 4,627.35

Retreat Offering - October 25, 1968

\$ 652.50	\$ 166.00	\$ <u>466.50</u>
10/25/68	Total	\$ 5,093.85

Note: Retreat expenses -

Father Hallett gift	\$ 75.00
Sisters' gift	25.00
Central House gift	25.00
Hospitality	45.50
Postage	<u>12.50</u>
Total	\$186.00

FROM " THE LAMBETH CONFERENCE 1968 RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS"

THE DIACONATE

32. The Conference recommends:

- (a) That the diaconate, combining service ~~of~~ others with liturgical functions, be open to
 - (i) men and women remaining in secular occupations
 - (ii) full-time church workers
 - (iii) those selected for the priesthood.
- (b) That Ordinals should, where necessary, be revised:
 - (i) to take account of the new role envisaged for the diaconate;
 - (ii) by the removal of reference to the diaconate as "an inferior office";
 - (iii) by emphasis upon the continuing element of diakonia in the ministry of bishops and priests.
- (c) That those made deaconesses by laying on of hands with appropriate prayers be declared to be within the diaconate. (For, 221. Against, 183).
- (d) That appropriate canonical legislation be enacted by provinces and regional Churches to provide for those already ordained deaconesses.

pp. 38-39

DEACONESSSES

We have been asked to clarify the ambiguity in the statements of previous Lambeth Conferences about the status of deaconesses. Believing that we are justified by Scripture and tradition, we reaffirm the statement of the Committee on the Position of Women in the Councils and Ministrations of the Church (Lambeth Conference 1920) which reads as follows:

In our judgement the ordination of a Deaconess confers on her Holy Orders. In ordination she receives the "character" of a Deaconess in the Church of God; and, therefore, the status of a woman ordained to the diaconate has the permanence which belongs to Holy Orders. She dedicates herself to a lifelong service.

We conclude that those who are made deaconesses by the laying on of hands with the appropriate prayer should be regarded as within the order of deacons.

We appreciate that, in view of this reaffirmation, canonical regulations will have to be made by each province or regional Church to regularize the status of deaconesses ordained in the past.

pp. 105-106

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RETIRING FUND FOR DEACONESSSES
September 28, 1968

All proposed changes in the bylaws, as contained in the notice sent to all deaconesses before the meeting, were passed unanimously.

Deaconess Frances Zielinski was re-elected to serve on the Board of Directors. New directors are Deaconess Helen Chadwick and Joseph P. Smyth, Esq.

The new officers are Joseph P. Smyth, Esq., president; Deaconess Katherine Putnam, vice president; Mr. Edward Curtis, treasurer; Deaconess Margaret Jackson, secretary; and Mrs. Elizabeth Gardner, assistant secretary.

It was reported that twenty-six deaconesses are at present receiving financial assistance from The Retiring Fund for Deaconesses.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Jackson, Deaconess
Secretary of The Retiring Fund for
Deaconesses

"The Lambeth Conference statement was to clarify the previous somewhat conflicting statements in regard to the Order of Deaconesses and I think the resolution adopted was good - 'that those made Deaconesses by Laying-on-of-Hands with appropriate prayers be declared to be within the Diaconate.' This resolution was passed by 221 aye votes and 183 negative votes were cast, and there were 19 who abstained from voting. The full resolution 'that appropriate legislation be enacted by provinces and regional churches to provide for those already ordained deaconesses' was passed by a majority voice vote with very little dissent. In the case of the USA Church, the canonical regulation is already there, so there is no problem."

--Excerpt from letter from
The Rt. Rev. Albert A. Chambers, S.T.D.
D.D., to Dss. Bradley following the
National Conference meeting

"So many thanks to the Deaconesses for their generous check in loving memory of Mary Frances Ward, to be used for some special item in the new St. Luke's Memorial Chapel. It was a joy to read your loving words about Dss. Ward. She was among our early friends in Arizona, some twenty years ago; and after she was so badly crippled, what an inspiration she was!! I'm sure that my life is richer for having known that fine Christian soldier!

--Excerpt from letter from Mrs. William
Ward Clore, Phoenix, Arizona, to
Dss. Bradley following Natl. Conference
meeting

REPORT ON THE NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

The first North American Conference of Deaconesses, held at Dehaven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin, August 19-22, 1968, provided an opportunity for deaconesses of various denominations to get acquainted with one another, and to learn of the programs and activities of other deaconess groups. I felt that the important aspects were the fellowship that was generated, and the friendships that were formed, during the four days of the conference.

The main action taken by the conference was to request that a central committee be convened to plan for further North American Deaconess Conferences. Sister Anna Lbert, executive secretary for the Deaconess Community of the Lutheran Church in America, was asked to convene such a committee, to be composed of one representative from each of the participating nine deaconess organizations. The committee will elect its own chairman and secretary. Sister Anna Lbert served as chairman for this conference.

Ninety-four deaconesses from Canada, Mexico, and the United States were present. They represented 1,700 deaconesses in nine denominations, including the Anglican Church of Canada; the United Church of Canada; the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod; the United Church of Christ; the Episcopal Church; the Lutheran Church in America; the United Methodist Church; the American Lutheran Church; and the Methodist Deaconess Conference of Mexico. There were two observers from Hong Kong, one from Kingston, Jamaica, and two from the Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

Two special guests, the Reverend Margaret Jerman (Baptist), London, England, secretary of the World Federation of Deaconess Associations, and Sister Ursula von Dewitz (German Evangelical Lutheran Church), Berlin, Germany, presented information about and discussed the World Federation, known as Diakonia. The North American deaconesses were invited to apply for membership, either as an association or as individual deaconess groups. The consensus of the conference was not to form a formal organization, but to leave it up to each deaconess group to enter Diakonia if it wishes to do so.

The next meeting of Diakonia will be held in Finland in July, 1969. The Methodist Deaconesses in the United States are hoping to organize a charter tour to attend the conference, and if any of our deaconesses are interested in attending, they can contact Miss Betsy Lwing, 475 Riverside Drive, New York City 10027, for further information about the charter tour.

Speakers at the North American conference included the Rev. Frederick Weiser, the Lutheran Church in America; Mrs. Nancy Grissom Self, the United Methodist Church; Dr. Donald G. Bloesch, the United Church of Christ; and our own Mrs. Betsy Rodenmeyer. The Rev. Arne Kristo, the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, served as chaplain.

Deaconesses Frances Zielinski, Edith Booth and myself served as delegates from the National Conference of deaconesses of the Episcopal Church. I also served on the planning committee, which gave me a special opportunity to get to know my fellow committee members. I am most grateful for the privilege of representing you on the committee and at the conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Jackson, Deaconess

THE DEACONESS ALTHEA - 1966

Conductor: The Rev. R. W. Hallett, St. Christopher's Church, Rantoul, Ill.

(Notes on Meditations taken by Deaconess Mary P. Truesdell)

1.

Children, playing in an attic, found an old wardrobe, the back of which opened up, disclosing a doorway into a little room filled with interesting things. They stepped through into a new world of fancy and delight. Their parents could have said, "Why do they play in an attic, when they could play outdoors?" Worldly people could say similarly about a Retreat. Some "noisy" Church people are more interested in demonstrations and conferences than Retreats. The desire for quiet pious devotion is not understood. Some Church members feel support of the Church and regular attendance at services fulfills their obligation to God. Such piety is not bad, but it is only the beginning. The world is ever pressing in on us. People in earnest about the Christian life need to go aside and to recollect spiritual things. This is why we go to a Retreat. We enter into a new world of devotional treasure. Jesus often said "Go!" but more often said "Come!" We accept the Lord's invitation, "Come ye apart." In Retreat we are not running away from God, but running to Him.

Our first exercise is recollection. We do not start off by just trying to imagine He is here. Rather do we awake to the realization that He is here, and has been. We are like children waking up to find their parent has been standing by their bed praying for them. The spiritual exercise of recollecting must be done over and over again. It takes practice, just as in learning any art. When we don't succeed, we have to try again, just as a child learning to walk or climb tries until he succeeds.

A Retreat is a time to gain true perspective. To view a work of art, we step back to gain a vision of the whole. To gaze at the beautiful scene from a window, we do not focus our attention on the fly buzzing on the window sill, but step back for a full view of the far scene beyond. What do I want to see in perspective? The world--it seems so topsy-turvy; and my life and work. Am I really doing the right things? There is stewardship of time, just as there is of money. Am I spending too much time on trivial things? Do I get tied up in doing little fiddly things? I must get better, truer perspective. A vacation is not a cessation of activity, but a change of activity. A Retreat is a vacation with God--not rest, but refreshment.

A Retreat is an offering to God. I will try to dedicate this time to Him. I get discouraged so easily, but I will make the best offering I can. There was a professional beggar who went to the highway on which the king would ride. He wanted to ask alms. When the king came, the beggar held out his begging-bowl. But the king held out his hands to ask a gift from the beggar. He loved his king, so he gave his bowl. It was his livelihood, his all. The king took the gift, but later returned it, filled with gold. What can we beggars give to God?

1. Another crack at meditating.
2. More time on our knees.
3. Some time in this Retreat analyzing our present prayer life, maybe starting afresh.

We are often too polite to God. Our prayer books tell us to thank God at the end of the day for His blessings, when perhaps we should say what we feel: "Father, it's been a hell of a day!" We need to put out our feelings to some one. We do this to a friend perhaps and it may hurt or humiliate him. But it can't hurt God or insult Him. He will say, "Yes, I know!", and help you to see it as He sees it. Perhaps you will have to say, "God,

be merciful to me, a sinner." We should come to God saying, "Dear Lord, I must tell you about my day. Help me to see the values I have missed."

Silence in Retreat is an important discipline. It helps us to be in a receptive mood, open to the suggestions of the Holy Spirit. When we say, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" - we are taking a risk! God is not in Heaven to do our will; we are on earth to do His will.

God is not dead! If He ever seems to be, it is because we have failed to listen, to tune in to His Presence and His Voice.

II.

In those days, came John the Baptist...saying, "Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" - St. Matt. 3:1,2.

John had fine parents: his father was a priest of the Temple; his mother was a pious woman. They named their son "John" - "gift of God." They recognized, as parents, that they were stewards, and they helped him to discover and fulfill his vocation. Neighbors may have said, "Why doesn't that young man work at a job, and date young women?" But Zacharias and Elisabeth understood. John sought the solitude of the desert to listen to God. When man listens, God speaks! John pondered the tragedy of mankind, the corruption, the abilities unused, God's creation gone to weeds. John had no illusions about his vocation. He was to be a sign-board, pointing the way. John was an ascetic - food and clothes were of little account, only things to assist him to the end for which he was created. His burning spirit within was a passion which could only be satisfied by the love of God.

We, too, have "Madison Avenue" pressing on us. We work madly for a currency that cannot be exchanged on leaving the country. "You can't take it with you." "My kingdom is not of this world," said Jesus. We are foreigners, just passing through this world. By Baptism we became citizens of the kingdom. We are exiles in a world whose natives have lower standards. God sees them through by hook or crook, but He expects more from us. A Salvation Army lass asked a fine-looking gentleman, "Are you saved?" He said, "I am a Bishop!" She then said, "Don't let that stand in your way!" We cannot stand on our laurels.

We would like to know what our grades are in God's sight. But His way of grading might pass one person with a grade of "25" who had made the most of his opportunities, and flunk another with a grade of "75" but capable of winning a "95."

John used the figures of a winnowing fan which separates chaff from good grain, and that of a farmer, axe in hand, looking at trees which could but didn't bear fruit. The Judgment is the uncomfortable part of the Gospel. Some of us do not take all of the Gospel, for there are parts that make us squirm.

Fr. Hallett read a poem by Studdert-Kennedy, a priest of the Church and Chaplain in World War I, entitled "Well?" - summarized here:

A soldier tells his dream (in cockney English). He had always thought of the Judgment as a court of law with record books with every item noted. But in his dream he sees himself on the shore of a great sea, stretching endlessly. Then there is the dawning of a Presence. "There before me, Some One stood, just looking down on me! My life came back to me, scene by scene. My wife, my friends, even the London whore, they looked at me. And a Voice said, 'Ye did it all to Me! For their souls were Mine!' As he looked, he saw in each the Eyes of Christ! And he heard the Voice say, "Well?" he asked the Presence, "Please, can I go to hell?" And then he stood there and looked at him, and He answered, "NO! You can't! That hell is for the blind, and not for those who see. You know that you have earned it, lad, so you must follow Me! Follow Me on the paths of pain, seeing what you have seen, until at last

you build the 'Is' with the bricks of the 'Might-have-been!'" The soldier finds the Judgment is not a great white throne and court of law. "There ain't no throne, and there ain't no books. It's HIM that you've got to see!"

John the Baptist saw the world clearly and it took humility to acknowledge he was only a sign-post. We too need humility, to be utterly self-forgetful. We don't practice modesty and humility. Only by becoming totally involved in our vocation, can we become unaware of the scratches incurred along the rough path. When we can reach a point where we can think, "I am really a very ordinary person, but God gave me a wonderful vocation - to be His deaconess, His servant, His witness!" How many souls are restlessly seeking God! Where are they going to find him, unless they see some of the likeness of Christ in us? "He must increase. I must decrease." God must be seen more and more, and we ordinary people less and less. Let us listen to God. He will give us a message. Repent!

III.

Perhaps in this Retreat there is nothing new, but there is value in stepping out of ordinary life to be reminded of the important fundamentals. Repentance is such.

Two people lived in a beautiful garden. In the midst there was a lovely tree. As the woman walked one day she heard the serpent say, "Good afternoon!" to which she responded. "What a beautiful tree," he said. "What wonderful fruit! You haven't tasted it! Really, you should. Eat! Try it!" It did look good. It tasted good, too. When the man came, she said, "This tastes good. Try it!" Suddenly they realized what they had done. They looked at each other. But nothing happened. Maybe disobedience did not matter after all. But in the cold dreary night, they knew they had spoiled their relation to God. Today men say, "God is dead. There is no such thing as sin." But saying so does not change reality. Sin is deliberate disobedience to God.

There are two kinds of sin: commission and omission. There are many parables about sins of omission, what was not done: the talents, the Foolish Virgins, the Levite and the Priest in the Good Samaritan parable, and others. For sins of omission are as disastrous as the bad things we do. All sin builds barriers between the soul and God.

Before we can receive God's forgiveness we must repent. There are three parts to repentance: (1) Contrition: this means we must first recognize the sin, which means examining ourselves; we must be sorry, not pitying ourselves, but because it has hurt God, and we must firmly desire not to do it again. (2) Confession: we can't be forgiven unless we are willing to admit we have done wrong; we must "own up". (3) Amendment: we can't be forgiven if we do not intend to try not to commit the sin again.

The fact that God loves us is God's weak point. The people we love can hurt us the most. If God did not love us so much, our sins could not hurt Him so much. That is why the Cross is in the heart of God. There is a popular idea that "sin does not really matter much, especially if no one knows about it." This is a very low standard. Hold it up against the Christian standard and it just can't stand. It is like the shirt that just can't stand up against the one truly bright, in the TV ad. Our conscience as Christians must be set at a high standard. God knows our weaknesses. Bible talk about sin enslaving us is not just talk. Sin is a sickness. We must come clean with God. We are not informing God of something He does not already know. A child observed by his father to steal must admit his guilt for his father to forgive him. Even restitution is not forgiveness. Nor does forgiveness mean the letting off of punishment. Story: A priest found a boy in Church sobbing. He told the priest he had stolen money from his father's shop. "Have you returned the money?" "Yes, double." "Have you told your father? You must do this." The next day the boy returned, all smiles. "I told my

father!" "What did he do?" "Nothing! He knew about the money, and he took me up in his arms!"

We must repent. We must confess. We must firmly purpose to do better. Forgiveness is not dependent on our never sinning again. But we say to God, "I am almost enslaved by my sin, but I am going to try to amend my life, and I need Your help very much." The Holy Communion, our central act of worship, gives us the greatest help. "Draw near, and ~~take~~ this Sacrament to your comfort (comfortis-strength)." We must always remember our sinfulness when we come to Holy Communion, but it is not enough to acknowledge sin in general terms. The General Confession pre-supposes a specific confession has been previously made. To really grow in grace, it is necessary that every person know how to examine herself - to really search out her own sins, and how many times. We must "get down to brass tacks." We must be serious with ourselves. Only thus can the barrier between ourselves and God be removed, and our relation to God restored. When we sin, we slip backward on the heavenly road; God's forgiveness turns us around and starts us again in the right direction.

"Dear God, whose sacred brow
With thorn was pierced for me
O pour Thy blessing on my head
That I may ~~think~~ for Thee.

"Dear Lord, whose sacred Hands
With nails was pierced for me
O pour Thy blessing on my hands
That I may work for Thee.

"Dear God, whose sacred Feet
With nails were pierced for me
O pour Thy blessing on my feet
That I may follow Thee."

IV.

"Remember, Christian soul
That thou hast this day, and
Every day of thy life:
God to glorify,
Jesus to imitate,
The Angels and Saints
to invoke,
A soul to save,
A body to mortify,
Sins to repent of,
Virtues to acquire,
Hell to avoid,
Heaven to gain,
Eternity to prepare for,
Time to profit by,
Neighbors to edify,
The world to despise,
Devils to combat,
Passions to subdue,
Death perhaps to suffer,
And judgment to undergo."

Some find such an outlook frightening - newcomers to Christianity, and also Church people of long standing, who have never really become Christians. "I go to Church every Sunday; I send my children to Sunday School; I pledge. What more do you want?" They have sat through services and heard nothing. When they meet down-to-earth religion, they are either scared by it or untouched.

"Remember (we need to be reminded)
Christian Soul..."

The soul is the real person. A priest seized a demonstrator's sign which said, "Man has no soul!" He held it aloft in the pulpit. "This is correct. Man has no soul, but the soul has a body!" Remember you are a Christian soul, marked with the Cross, the "trade-mark" of Christ. Many sins are committed because we each forget we have souls.

"Thou hast...God to glorify." Praise belongs to God. We want praise for ourselves, and this is "sinful pride" - the

most damaging and cancerous of sins...It blinds us to truth, and to values in other people, and destroys as spiritual sins can do.

"Jesus to imitate." We imitate Him, not by being steeped in the Gospel text, but by coming close to Him. If we expose ourselves to Him, we begin to see with His eyes. (Husbands and wives often get to look alike.)

"Angels and saints to invoke." It is valuable for us to remember the "Outer Dimension," not only on the horizontal plane, but on the vertical one, too. They who have gone before have lived, struggled, and died, and we should ask these "older brethren" for their prayers.

"A soul to save and a body to mortify." The soul which lasts forever indwells in a human body for a limited time. It is like the relationship of horse and rider. The soul rides and guides the horse, and disciplines it. "Discipline" means learning; a disciple is a learner. Self-discipline is keeping ourselves in order, not a gloomy and depressing idea, but training the body to obey. People that think that Christianity is just a jolly thing to do on Sunday morning have not gone very far. It is not easy to be a Christian. If you find it easy, something is wrong. Christianity invades all of life. Often we break our resolutions because they are too vague and for an indefinite period. Make them for a day; then renew. "Lord, just for today, I will..." We recognize the importance of letting children struggle to do things for themselves, when we could do for them. God allows us to do things for ourselves. If we do not try, it will not be done.

"Every day." How long? We don't know. We don't care. Death is a special gift to be used. "God to glorify" - this is what the Christian life is all about. "Let your light so shine..." - not to put yourself on the back, but to "glorify your Father in heaven."

"Sins to repent of, Virtues to acquire." Christians are to continue Christ's work on earth, His rescue work. Jesus the Saviour came to rescue us. The Church is not the representative of an absentee Christ. It is the Body of Christ, through which He is striving to work in the world. The reason for our self-dedication and sanctification is that through us, He may be seen and heard and felt. The Church is not a pleasure boat for cruising. It is a Life Boat on a rescue mission - a means to an end.

"Hell to avoid; Heaven to gain." God never sent anyone to Hell. He does everything He can to keep us out of it. But He will not over-rule our wills.

"Eternity to prepare for; Time to profit by." Eternity - a timeless world, outside of time. While we are in time, it is a trust to use wisely.

"Neighbors to edify." Witnessing for Christ.

"World to despise." It screams at us through news media to sell us on the pomps and vanities of the world.

"Devils to combat." They are cunning and clever, subtle and aggressive.

"Passions to subdue."

"Death perhaps to suffer."

"Judgment to undergo."

"REMEMBER, CHRISTIAN SOUL!"

IMPRESSIONS OF A NEW DEACONESS ATTENDING HER
FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEACONESSSES

Dear Fellow Deaconesses:

It is hard to give a clear impression of my first National Conference, because my emotions are so varied. The strongest and most continuing feeling was one of joy and gratitude -- for being a part of the Order, for being able to be with you all, for meeting many of you for the first time and coming to know you just a little. So many of you had written me such loving messages on the occasions of my ordination, birthday and anniversary, and finally I could picture you and change names into persons.

I was impressed by the surroundings, by Dekoven, such a perfect setting for a Conference and Retreat, and was especially delighted by the contact with the Sisters, who were such charming and gracious hostesses. It was somewhat of a surprise and a definite blessing to share as fully as we did in their social hours and times of worship, and to have some of them join us at our Retreat.

I was very much interested in meeting deaconesses from other communions and learning something of their organization and work. Voting to join Diakonia is a long step forward in joining forces and working together to further our common vocation and calling.

All I can say in closing is that it was a wonderful experience, and one which I look forward to having repeated many happy times in the future.

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