



BETHANY METHODIST CHURCH
Ludington, Michigan

Journal and Year Book

Sixty-first Session
of the

Norwegian-Danish Annual Conference

of the

Methodist Church

September 5-8, 1940.

BISHOP RAYMOND J. WADE, President
E. MORRIS EGELAND, Secretary

Made by the Conference its official record.

At the request of his son, Dr. Albert C. Knudsen, the undersigned officiated at the funeral, which was held the following Monday at the Simpson Methodist Church, Minneapolis. Dr. M. Culver, the pastor of the church read the ritual and offered prayer. Rev. C. W. Schevenius spoke regarding the life of the deceased and the undersigned spoke regarding the characteristics of Rev. Knudsen in the work of a pastor.

Many pastors and lay people had come from far and near to show their respect and give their silent tribute to this veteran who now had left.

May God bless the bereaved and may his memory linger with us long—to light our way—until we shall meet again, in that better land.

ASBJORN SMEDSTAD

THORVOLD M. HAUGE

On the eighth day of January, 1856, there was born to Martin and Elizabeth Hauge a son, whom they baptized Thorvold M. Hauge. He was born in Ness parish which is in the southern part of Norway, not far from the capital city of Kristiania, now called Oslo.

As a young boy, he went to Fredrikstad and, while staying there with an aunt and uncle, he came into fellowship with the people of the Methodist church. As a boy of only fifteen years, he accepted Christ as his Savior, having been led to God by the pastor, Joachim Peterson. He joined the church of that city while still very young, and the church honored him by making him first an exhorter and later a local preacher.

This young Christian felt that God's hand was upon him and that he was called to full time service. He heeded the call and enrolled as a student in the Methodist Theological School at Oslo. While a student there, he gave good indication of his sincerity as a Christian, and of a willingness to do what he felt God wanted him to do. He served as pastor in two places, Holand and Eidsborg. This, during the winter months, made it necessary for the young minister to travel four Norwegian miles on skis to come and bring a message to his people. He not only served these two places, but while doing so, finished his work and graduated from the seminary.

In August, 1884, he was married to Ovidia Haugan of Trondheim. She was the daughter of a fine Methodist family, and her brother, Paul Haugan, served as a Methodist minister in Norway and for many years in our conference. To this union there came four children, William, Harry, John and Esther, three of whom preceded their father in death. John died as a little child while the family still lived in Norway. Esther died in Chicago in 1918, and William passed on in 1932. Harry, whose home is in Lexington, Ky., is the one surviving child.

Thorvold M. Hauge was a minister in the church and served Methodism when it was spreading home in Norway and America. In Norway he served the following churches: Sandnes, Flekkefjord, Kristiansund, Hamar, Moss, Halden and First Church, Bergen.

In 1893 he came to America and was received the same year into the Norwegian Danish Conference while it was in session at the Maplewood Ave. Church of Chicago. He served in this conference for thirty-nine years, and was pastor of the following churches: LaCrosse, Wis.; Forest City, Ia.; Ashland, Wis.; McVillie and Romness, N. D.; Kedzie, Austin, First & Immanuel churches of Chicago; Aurora Church, St. Paul, Bethany, Duluth and a full six years as district superintendent of the Red River Valley District. His last

charge was Bethlehem Church, Minneapolis, and took the retired relationship in 1932, after having served the Methodist Church faithfully for fifty-three years. He often said of his ministry. "Those were wonderful days in which to be a preacher in the Methodist Church. There were revivals everywhere, new places were being opened and new churches were being built. I am glad that I served the Church when I did."

The Rev. Thorvold M. Hauge died at Asbury Hospital, Minneapolis, early Friday morning, May 24, 1940, having reached the ripe, old age of 84 years and 5 months. Until recently, he was strong and vigorous. A few years ago, I asked him how he felt. He answered, "About the same as usual. I do not feel old yet." But the years pass and all men pass with them. He leaves to survive his passing, his wife, who was his constant companion for more than 55 years, one son, Harry, six grandchildren, and a sister, Oline Hauge of Norway. God's faithful servant has gone home to his reward after a lifetime of service in the Master's vineyard. Many whom he led to the Father have preceded him in death and they add their voices today to the chorus which welcomes him home.

Funeral services were held in Minneapolis as well as in Chicago. In Minneapolis the service was held May 27th at 4 p. m. at Enger's Funeral parlors. Rev. C. W. Schevenius presided; the Herseth Quartette from St. Paul sang beautifully; Rev. David Helikson read the ritual and led in prayer; words of tribute and comfort were spoken by Reverends Asbjorn Smedstad, H. K. Madsen, and C. W. Schevenius, and the obituary was read by Rev. Alvin R. Nygaard.

Another beautiful service was held in Chicago at the Asbury Church. All our preachers in Chicago, Evanston and Racine were present and participated. Miss Frances Davidson of Valley City, now studying in Chicago, sang several solos. The interment was at the Elmwood Cemetery. God bless the memory of this faithful servant and comfort the sorrowing.

ALVIN R. NYGAARD.

REV. MARTINUS HILLERUD

Rev. Martinus Hillerud, the next oldest of the retired veterans of the Cross among us, passed away suddenly from this world at his home in Claresholm, Alberta, Canada, Sunday morning, June 16 last.

Apparently he was feeling well, was dressed and ready to attend church, when Mrs. Hillerud, just preparing a roast, heard a smothered cry, and by the time she could turn, he had fallen to the floor and was dead. At his demise he was nearing his 86th birthday.

Martinus Hillerud was born in Kongsberg, Norway, November 4, 1854. He was the third son of Syvert and Bergit Hillerud. At the age of 16 he went to sea. Later he returned home and entered a rifle factory, where he worked until his early twenties. He then took up military training and rose to the rank of lieutenant. He was converted at the age of 18 while attending a Methodist revival service. His salvation was real and he almost immediately felt the call to the Christian ministry. He received a local preacher's license, and his success in the work caused his friends to urge him to prepare for the ministry. After having seen blessed results of his labor in the homeland, he came to Evanston, Ill., with his young wife, Julia, nee Carlberg. She left him a widower in 1894. It was a very sad loss. After 14 years in the active ranks he took retired relation in the fall of 1909. This regrettable step was taken as a result of a throat affliction of more than a year's standing.