

7. The following resolution was thereupon unanimously adopted: Resolved, That, together with a statement of our authority, this commission issue to all other general bodies of Lutherans in the United States of America an urgent appeal requesting that they cooperate with us by sending commissioners to participate in this work.

„The Lutheran Brotherhood of America“

The Lutheran Brotherhood of America is not a very old organization, but its growth and influence, and its accomplishments have been rapid. It was organized in the city of Des Moines, Iowa, by a number of Lutheran men of far-seeing vision. Rev. A. Norrbom, Augustana Synod, and Rev. N. G. Peterson, Norwegian Lutheran Church, are the organizers of the movement.

September 13, 1917, a number of men from various Lutheran bodies represented in Des Moines, came together.

On that day, the idea of a Lutheran Brotherhood came into being. The organization was gradually perfected, but the Articles of Incorporation, though ready for some time, were not filed until November 8th.

The committee on constitution consisted of Rev. N. G. Peterson and the Hon. Ole O. Roe, who also prepared the Articles for Incorporation.

1. The Lutheran Brotherhood —What it is and what it proposes to do:

(a) To encourage men to be faithful to their home congregations.

(b) To instill into the minds of young and old the highest type of patriotism.

(c) In time of war, to give the various Lutheran church bodies an opportunity to further the religious, moral and social welfare of American soldiers in the cantonments and on the battle field.

2. The Lutheran Brotherhood of America has erected a building within the government reserve at Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa.

3. The Brotherhood will permit the various Lutheran synods to use this building as a headquarters for the spiritual work they are doing for their men with the colors in this camp, under conditions, as follow later.

4. The Brotherhood fully appreciates the efficient work of the Army Y. M. C. A. The splendid work that this organization does for the welfare of our boys, deserves our hearty commendation and support. We also gratefully acknowledge that the Y. M. C. A. has tendered the Lutherans, and others, numerous privileges not heretofore enjoyed. But we recognize the difficulties which arise because there are not enough Y. M. C. A. buildings within the camps, and also because of the large number of denominations desiring to reach their own boys with their spiritual ministrations.

5. (a) The Brotherhood will endeavor, as far as possible, to erect buildings within such camps as may be recommended by „The National Lutheran Commission 'For Soldiers' and Sailors' Welfare“.

(b) Such recommendation may be arrived at by the field secretaries of the commission, or the various synods acting in conjunction upon the authority of the commission.

6. (a) It is the aim of the Brotherhood, in its army work, to offer a larger opportunity to the various synods or organizations of assisting the men with the colors and thus provide something of value to the government during the present war.

(b) The Brotherhood also undertakes to provide the business organization necessary to make possible the most efficient, far-reaching and economical service for our church.

(c) A larger number of participants will naturally insure

more effective and also a proportionately less expensive work.

7. The Brotherhood agrees to furnish and equip the buildings it may erect, as follows:

It will sign all contracts, make all payments for building material, contractors' and architects' fees; it will provide for fuel, light, water and janitor service. It will purchase furniture and supplies; it will endeavor to furnish our men called to the arms, stationery and other conveniences free of charge. It will permit the various synods to place their English-language papers on the reading tables, and will make provision for other reading matter, including books. In fact, it will try to provide everything necessary for the proper sue and upkeep of th buildings, also insure same.

8. The Brotherhood reserves to itself the right to appoint local committees where such buildings may be erected.

9. (a) It shall be the duty of these committees to undertake such work and make those arrangements which are delegated to them by the executive committee, or by action of the brotherhood.

(b) All contracts shall be signed and payments made, only upon the written authorization of the president, or one of the vice-presidents, secretary and treasurer.

(c) The executive committee has authority to allow such local committees a sum not to exceed \$500.00, for emergency expenses, which may be disbursed without above-mentioned authorization.

(d) These local committees will be held strictly accountable and their itemized accounts shall be properly audited.

10. (a) The Brotherhood will look to participating organizations for all expenses it incurs in its work for the welfare of the soldiers and sailors.

(b) The same rule will hold, also, in regard to administrative expenses.

11. (a) The various synods who participate in the work of the Brotherhood, will be asked for a contribution proportionate to the confirmed members within said synod. For instance: A synod of one million members will be expected to pay once again as much as one of five hundred thousand.

(b) The Brotherhood cannot promise the same opportunity and conveniences to such synods as do not participate or share in the expense; but will, nevertheless, do all in its power to meet the wants and needs of enlisted men and officers within the camps.

(c) The Brotherhood expects an agreement in writing from proper authorities within each synod, whose societies will participate in the expenses that are borne by the Brotherhood.

12. The books of the Brotherhood shall be open for inspection by the proper officials of participating organizations, and will be audited by a certified public accountant.

13. (a) Alle contributions to the Brotherhood for its army work shall be sent to its treasurer, through the proper officers of the contributing synods, and a record of the contributions from each synod shall be kept.

(b) In addition to furnishing report to its own members, a copy of the treasurer's report on receipts and disbursements shall be furnished to the proper authorities of each contributing synod.

(c) The treasurer shall give bonds in such amount as shall be determined by the governing board.

14. The Brotherhood will appoint no chaplains; this will be done by the churches. But the Brotherhood will permit these men to use its buildings. It will, however, not be liable for any expenses incurred by these chaplains, either for their personal upkeep, uniforms or supplies.

The synods who appoint them, will naturally be responsible for all expenses incident to their work.

15. (a) As the Brotherhood is responsible to the government for the use made of its buildings, it will reserve to itself the right to adopt such rules and regulations as may be found necessary from time to time. Due consideration will, however, be paid to the various contributing organizations.

(b) Complaints against the management of the Brotherhood buildings, or of any other nature pertaining to its work, should be presented in writing to the executive committee, and if a satisfactory adjustment cannot be made an appeal may be taken to the Brotherhood itself.

Articles of Incorporation of the Lutheran Brotherhood of America.

We, whose names are hereto subscribed, together with such other persons as may hereafter become associated with us, do hereby organize ourselves into a body corporate under the provisions of Chapter 2, Title IX of the Code of Iowa and acts amendatory thereof relating to corporations not for pecuniary profit, and we hereby expressly take unto ourselves all of the powers and prerogatives granted in said chapter.

ARTICLE II.
This corporation is organized for religious, benevolent, and patriotic purposes and not for profit. Its objects and purposes are:

(a) To encourage men to be faithful to their home congregations.

(b) To instill into the minds of young and old the highest type of patriotism.

(c) To, in time of war, further the religious, moral, and social well-being of the soldiers of the United States at the different camps or cantonments as well as upon the battlefields.

To enable the corporation to carry out these objects, it shall have power to acquire and hold by purchase, lease or otherwise real and personal property; to receive and hold gifts, bequests and donations, and otherwise possess and exercise all of such powers relating to the acquirement, holding or disposal of property as are granted by the laws of this state and the chapter under which it is incorporated.

ARTICLE III.
This corporation shall have no capital stock and may therefore incur no liability or other indebtedness, but its revenues are to be derived wholly from such contributions as may be voted to it by the various religious or synodical organizations with which its members are affiliated, or such as may be donated to it by individuals, societies, or corporations.

ARTICLE IV.
The members of this corporation shall consist of all men's societies, clubs, or brotherhoods who are members in good standing in the Lutheran Church in the United States of America regardless of language or synodical connections.

ARTICLE V.
The governing body of this corporation shall consist of a president, five vice-presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer, who shall be elected by the duly accredited representatives at the biennial meeting of the corporation. Until the first biennial meeting of the corporation, the following named persons shall be the officers:

- President, Rev. A. Norrbom, Des Moines, Iowa.
- First Vice-President, Rev. J. A. O. Stub, Stoughton, Wis.

Second Vice-President, N. S. Nielsen, Des Moines, Iowa.

Third Vice-President, Ole O. Roe, Des Moines, Iowa.

Secretary, A. T. Nelson, Des Moines, Iowa.

Treasurer, A. O. Hauge, Des Moines, Iowa.

ARTICLE VI.
The regular meeting of the corporation for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before it shall be held biennially on the first Tuesday of Nov. 6, 1917. Special meetings may be called by the president and secretary by giving thirty (30) days' notice to persons interested.

ARTICLE VII.
This corporation shall continue in existence for a period of fifty (50) years unless sooner dissolved by a vote of three-fourths of the members thereof at any regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

In the event that it shall be deemed expedient to dispose of any or all of the property acquired by this corporation prior to the expiration of its corporate existence, then and in that event the proceeds of such property shall be divided among the organizations contributing thereto in proportion to the amount so contributed.

ARTICLE VIII.
The officers designated to govern this corporation shall have the power to adopt by-laws, which by-laws shall be in force and effect until the next biennial meeting of the corporation, when they may be changed or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

ARTICLE IX.
These articles of incorporation may be amended at any regular biennial meeting of the members of the corporation or at a special meeting duly called for that purpose, provided two-thirds of those present vote in favor of such amendment.

ARTICLE X.
The private property of these incorporators and of the members who may hereafter become associated with us shall be exempt from corporate debts or liability.

The brotherhood made every effort to carry out the ideas that brought about its organization. Men's societies and clubs were encouraged to affiliate with the parent organization, and new societies were also organized.

The present world war also gave the society an opportunity to carry out paragraph „C“ of Article II of the Articles of Incorporation; therefore, in the name of the brotherhood the following petition was presented to the proper authorities.

„Den forenede danske ev. luth. Kirke's Stilling til disse Organisationsformer er bleven afgjort paa lignende Maade som for de andre Kirkefællesskabs Vedkommende igennem Kirkeadnet, som paa sit Møde i Des Moines, Ia., 17.—18. Dec. f. M. vedtog følgende:

1. „Den forenede danske ev. luth. Kirke i Amerika“ slutter sig til „Lutheran Brotherhood of America.“

2. „Den forenede danske ev. luth. Kirke i Amerika“ vælger en Præsident og en Ledmand til at repræsentere sig i „Lutheran Brotherhood of America“. Præs. J. Gertsen, Council Bluffs, og Mr. N. S. Nielsen, Des Moines, valgtes.

3. Den forenede Kirke slutter Lutheran Brotherhood i Tilgængelighed med de andre Kirkefællesskabs i Organisationen ifølge Henstilling fra „National Lutheran Commission for Soldiers' and Sailors' Welfare“ med ca. \$100 for hver konfirmeret Medlem.

Bidrag modtages ogsaa fra faadanne, som ikke formelt hører til Samfundet.

4. Den forenede Kirke vil, gennem „Lutheran Brotherhood“, staa i harmonisk Forbindelse med „National Lutheran Commission for Soldiers' and Sailors' Welfare.“

(Fortættelses paa Side 6.)

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