

THE LIBRARY SPEAKS February 22, 1939

Theme Song -

Studio Announcement -

M.L. Today we open our autograph album of Chippewa Valley Authors to page five. On its blank page today's guest will write "serious and entertaining sketches from the life of a Lutheran pastor."

The library staff is most happy to welcome him today - not only as the author of, "In The Master's Vineyard, but as a member of the library board.

The page is yours, Rev. A. F. Augustina.

Rev. A. Thank you.

M.L. - How did you happen to come to America?

Rev. A.

M.L. - In your book you tell about the trip from Germany, how long it took and where you went in America. Would you tell us about that please.

Rev. A. ("After a journey of 20 days, first by ship and then by train, I arrived at Mendota, Illinois, where the theological seminary of the Iowa Synod was then located.")

M.L. Your book says -"Man proposes, God disposes." That was the introduction to a chapter of your life which did not include the seminary. What occurred to take you away, where did you go?

Rev. A. (Choice between Iowa and Kansas. Chose West City, Kansas. Stopped at Winsor House. Discovered that congregation was 14 miles out in the country. Traveled out by wagon.)

M.L. Describe that first church and paesonage. (Women sat on one side, men on other.)

Rev. A.

M.L. We'd like to hear something about the west of that time. The missions you helped establish etc. Also how long you remained in Kansas.

Rev. A.

M.L. I enjoyed the story of the boy you whipped. (Silver dollar.)

Rev. A.

M.L. When you left Kansas where did you go?

Rev. A. In 1890 I received a call to become pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Eau Claire.

M.L. That was just 49 years ago. According to the census of that year Eau Claire had a population of 17,415 then. I'd like to hear about early Eau Claire and your impressions when you first came here.

Rev. A. Lumbering

72 saloons

Wooden sidewalks

Store fronts

Water street no longer important

Chippewa Falls charge, street cars.

City lights - gas or electric

M.L. More about your book - you told me that it came into existence by accident. Will you tell us that story?

Rev. A. Greetings from West etc.

M.L. Now that you have retired, what is your chief recreation? Do you like the radio? Do you object to transcribed music?

Rev. A.

M.L. Mr. Crawford has some very fine new hymns and he has promised that he would play one for us this morning.

Music -

M.L. You told me the other day that it would be fun to visit both fairs this year as you have a son living in California and a daughter in New York. It would be. After you read me that the other day I read the story in your book about the fair of 1893 in Chicago. That are two very good lessons in that chapter, do you mind if I tell them for you. (Wife wished him to buy new boots, lesson he learned, do not wear at the fair. Second day sat on bench and watched the fair around him, learned a lot that way.

M.L. Thank you for writing this chapter if the Autograph Album.

MUSIC * to fill if needed.

R.C.