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## Editorial Statement

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## Editorial Statement

Two of the three articles in this issue of *The Bridge* deal with Danish immigrants to the United States who chose careers in medicine while the third recounts the history of the Danish Interest Conference, an organization formed more than forty years ago to keep alive a Danish heritage.

Jim Iversen introduces readers to his aunt, Christine Iverson Bennett, and explains how this remarkable woman, a medical graduate of the University of Michigan, ended up dying far too young in the city of Basra in present day Iraq. Her diary for November 1914 offers a rare account by a westerner as the chaotic forces unleashed by World War I spread to the Middle East.

Part historian, part detective, Borge M. Christensen seeks to solve a family mystery: why was he never told about an great uncle who emigrated from Denmark to the United States in 1892 and what happened to him? His search for answers eventually uncovered the story of a family physician affectionately known to the residents of Clark, South Dakota, as "Doc Christy."

Thorvald Hansen traces the history of the Danish Interest Conference, formed in 1964 in response to the merger in which the American Evangelical Lutheran Church—prior to 1954 known as the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—joined with other Lutheran bodies to form the Lutheran Church in America.

Because Volume 27 of *The Bridge* was a combined issue devoted to publishing the proceedings of DAHS-sponsored international conference, "Danish-North American Relations Since World War 11," held in Omaha in October 2002, a backlog of book reviews has developed. With the able leadership of Assistant Editor John R. Christianson we are able to publish reviews of ten books in this issue. More will be forthcoming in the fall. If you know of a book that you believe should be reviewed in our journal or if you wish to write a review, please contact one of the editors.