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Editorial Statement

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Editorial Statement

Deepest Roots - Finest Fruits, the lead article in this, the sixth, issue of *The Bridge* was a stimulating and thoughtful address by Johannes Knudsen to the second Pacific Northwest Danish Cultural Conference in Menucha, Oregon, July 5, 1980. It deserves to be shared with a larger audience.

Marianne T. Stecher has written about Danish settlements in Fresno County, California. It is the first of its kind to be published in *The Bridge*, and it is based on careful research. It is hoped that it will stimulate similar studies of Danish settlements in the U.S.A. and Canada. Harald R. Jensen has translated a true short story told by Holger O. Nilesen (in Danish). The story is about an incident that took place in a Danish immigrant colony on Nebraska's prairie, and it is one with which we can relate.

We are much concerned about archives. To encourage and enliven interest in the preservation of historical documents and materials we present two articles: One is about the Archives at Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa, by Thorvald Hansen, which also describes the Danish Immigrant Archival Listing (DIAL) project. The other is by J.R. Christianson and discusses the efforts that have been made and the measures that still need to be taken to insure preservation of Scandinavian American archival materials. Otto Sorensen's presentation of his translations of Nis Petersen's poetry was so well received at the 1980 Menucha Conference that we thought our readers might enjoy still another aspect of the work of this poet.

Frederick Hale, in an extensively documented article, **The Danish Colonization Society of 1879**, elaborated on an interesting and largely unsuccessful effort to encourage emigration from Denmark a century ago. In **Reminiscences From A Long Life** Ane Helene Paulsen describes her childhood and youth in Denmark, her transplant to America and the struggles and rewards of immigrant family life in the new land. (A little long, perhaps, but what should be deleted?). We are most grateful to Inga Wiehl for her translation of Martin A. Hansen's story. Dr. Wiehl's introduction says all that needs to be said. We end with a review of Dr. Johannes Knudsen's book, **The Formation of The Lutheran Church In America**, by Rev. Einar Farstrup. As Rev. Farstrup infers, the immigrant had special concerns and when mergers were contemplated or took place these had to be taken into account.

The Danish American Heritage Society has been in existence for almost four years. At its inception we set forth a few brief statements of purpose and some goals and objectives (see inside and back covers of *The Bridge*). We did not define, in detail, or attempt to be specific about what we had in mind. Rather, we thought that through the publication of a journal, *The Bridge*, and some exploring and reporting in a *Newsletter*, a consensus as to the direction the Society should take would emerge. We resolved to be sensitive to suggestions and viewpoints by those who supported our efforts. To date we have been encouraged, pleased and rewarded by the support received, the insights expressed and the suggestions made as to the direction to be taken.

We continue to seek material for publication. An overall guideline as to the kind of material is indicated by what has been published in *The Bridge* to date. However, we hasten to add that the possibilities are by no means exhausted. Following are some minimal guidelines:

Material submitted should be in harmony with the goals and objectives of the Danish American Heritage Society, with special emphasis on material contributing to the exploration and understanding of the Danish immigrant experience.

Articles should be 3000-6000 words in length, however, shorter or longer articles will not be excluded per se. All material should be typed and double-spaced.

Both scholarly and popular articles, as well as memoirs and reminiscences, are encouraged.

Reviews of articles and books should contain pertinent bibliographic information which would enable readers to find the material reviewed.

Contributors should submit a biographical statement of 100-200 words from which a brief identifying paragraph can be written.

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