

## First Annual ALSS Conference

### LOCATION:

Concordia  
Teachers College  
River Forest, IL

### DATE:

March 10-11, 1944

In 1944, the title of the minutes change from the meeting of the "Lutheran High School Principals' Conference" to the meeting of the "Association of Lutheran Secondary Schools," held March 10-11, 1944 at Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, IL. The minutes indicate that a constitution had been adopted although a copy was not included with the minutes. Thus, 1944 may be recorded as the year the ALSS had its official beginning. Carl S. Meyer of Luther Institute, Chicago, and W. O. Kraeft of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest were elected first president and secretary of the ALSS.

Attendees at this conference included representatives from the Luther Institute, Chicago, IL; Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, IL; Lutheran High School, Milwaukee, WI; Concordia College, Ft. Wayne, IN; Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, WI; Northwestern College, Watertown, WI; Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN; Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, MN; Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, MI; and Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN. All came together under the aegis of the old Synodical Conference which consisted of the Missouri, Wisconsin, Norwegian and Slovak Synods.

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The principals spent a half day in classroom visitation at Concordia, River Forest with Dr. Lindberg of Valparaiso noting that instruction at Concordia compared favorably with that at a public high school. However, he did say that teachers did not use their voices to the best advantage. Modulation was frequently inadequate with the result that instruction sometimes lacked enthusiasm. It was noted that a number of states require speech courses for teachers.

Dr. Louis Menking of Luther Institute, Chicago, led a discussion on student government in Lutheran high schools. The question was raised whether the fundamental idea of student government was not contrary to the Scripture and Lutheran practice. It was pointed out that students are merely participating in the government of the school in a democratic way and not usurping authority.