

NEW NORWEGIAN CHURCH IS BORN

The Union of Three Lutheran Churches is Formally Announced.

The Norwegian Lutheran Church of America came into being last Saturday thru the formal merger of the three great synods of the church. The union was effected without ostentation or any elaborate ceremonies. The chief formality was the ratification of the new constitution and of the plans of administration of the numerous educational and charitable organizations, which were agreed upon some time ago by the representatives of the several synods.

The first split in the church took place 71 years ago, originating in dissensions in Norway. The Hauge Norwegian Lutheran synod was established in this country in 1846 and the Norwegian Lutheran synod in 1843. In 1890 the United Norwegian Lutheran church was founded.

Communicants numbering 500,000 were united under one church organization, thru the merger. A number of schools and colleges also came under the jurisdiction of the organization, including St. Olaf's at Northfield and Concordia at Moorhead. Extensive foreign and domestic missions will be joined so far as their management is concerned.

The Rt. Rev. J. J. Eske, president of the Hauge synod, Dr. H. G. Stub, head of the Norwegian Lutherans, and Rt. Rev. T. H. Dahl, president of the United synod, were active in bringing the three branches together and in drawing up plans for their union.
