

## LOUISE HOERMAN PLATZ

*(Fourth President)*

A PIONEER Deaconess of the Evangelical Church, came to North Dakota from Chicago, where she had eight years of varied training and experience. She was chosen by the Board to prepare for executive Hospital and Training School work. Her Schools of Nursing and supplementary courses were chosen for her and supervised by the Board. Consequently early in her training at the Mary Thompson Hospital, she was given "Charge Work," and "Special Responsibility." Due to illness in the second year, and the feeling of a lack of theoretical training and time for study, her course was changed to Lecture Courses and Clinical Work in different medical schools, which was a big step in advance of nursing schools at that time. After graduating from the Jefferson Park Polyclinic Hospital, she did social service work, and private nursing.

When the Evangelical Deaconess Hospital in Chicago opened its doors, to begin its hospital work and training of nurses in 1905, she was appointed Head Nurse and General Supervisor, which position she held for two and a half years.

Miss Hoerman came to North Dakota in December, 1908, when the temperature was 40 below zero, to take charge of The Bismarck Evangelical Hospital, which opened its doors to patients the following February, 1909. Here she labored uninterruptedly until the end of 1921, when she resigned to care for her aged mother. She returned to the Bismarck Hospital after seventeen months, and remained until October, 1925, when she was married to Rev. C. E. Platz.

Miss Hoerman was deeply interested in, and a student of hospital and nursing progress, in both state and national organizations. After her day's work was done her study time would begin. She loved bedside nursing, and guarded the care of the sick, and training of nurses, with a mother's care.

She was a member of the National League of Nursing Education. She served as President of the North Dakota State Nurses Association, substituting for Miss Bertha Erdmann in 1914 and in 1915. She served as Chairman of the State Red Cross Nursing Service during the World War, and was elected President of the North Dakota State Nurses Association in the Spring of 1919 and re-elected in 1920. Miss Hoerman was known as "a thinker," with a "keen sense of justice"; a woman of faith in God and prayer, and faith in the cause she served with an unselfish devotion for twenty-five years. She was a Pioneer. "Pioneers have no successors; they have followers, but no successors."