

Mennonite Observer

"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." 1 Cor. 2:2.

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YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

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Four Baptized In Saskatoon

Saskatoon, Sask. — The first indoor baptism in the Mennonite Brethren Church at Saskatoon, Sask., was held on Sunday, Dec. 4. Rev. P. R. Toews of Hepburn, Sask., delivered a message on the characteristics and purposes of the local church. Officiating in baptism was Rev. Art Martens, the pastor.

Those taking the step of baptism were Eileen Warkentin, Marlyss Wiebe, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Loewen.

In the evening Rev. Toews spoke on the church as a sanctuary, a spiritual home. The candidates were welcomed into the church at the communion service which followed.

Epp Visits Former Home District

Lena, Man. — Rev. H. M. Epp, pastor of the West Abbotsford Mennonite Church, stopped by in Lena, Man., on December 8 on his way home from the Council of Boards Meeting at Newton, Kans.

Rev. Epp and his family settled on a farm near Lena in the late 1920's. He became pastor of the Lena Mennonite Church and served the community until the fall of 1945, when the Epp family moved to Mt. Lehman, B.C. Since then Rev. Epp has been ordained as Bishop.

An evening worship service in the Lena Mennonite Church, at which Rev. Epp was the guest speaker, highlighted his short stop-over here. During his visit in Manitoba Rev. Epp has also visited his children, Annie and Menno, who are students at the Canadian Mennonite Bible College in Winnipeg.

Christian Businessmen Hold Banquet

"The Christian Business Men's Committee activities make a man a better church member, for if he gets to work here he will also work in his church," D. E. Redekop, the chairman of the Christian Business Men's Committee, asserted at the annual Christmas banquet



Here is the "Harbinger", an 18-foot boat powered by a 25 horsepower outboard motor, purchased some time ago by Rev. Jake Bergen (right) to assist in the mission work at Sunnyside, B. C. Bro. Jake Geddert, a teacher at Port Edward, which is the site of the mission chapel, is standing in the boat. (See below). They are off to Sunday school on a sunny Sunday afternoon. Nelson Canneries are in the background.

Purchase Boat For Mission Work

We have been enabled to purchase an 18-foot boat to help us reach the Sunnyside children with the Gospel. Previous to the purchase of the boat we walked along the railroad tracks, but this took up much time and made Sunday a strenuous day. Now we can reach Sunnyside from Port Edward, B.C., in a matter of minutes if the tide is right.

on Monday, Dec. 12, in the Bethesda Church.

A large number of Christian businessmen, their wives, and ministers from various churches heard reports from Miss Twining, director of Child Evangelism in Manitoba; from G. Schultz, who is in charge of the work the Christian Businessmen are doing at Union Gospel Mission; from the treasurer of the Committee, Harry Rempel; and from the chairman of the Committee, D. E. Redekop.

"Businessmen of various denominations are represented in C.M.B.C., thus creating a unity among Christian laymen," Mr. Redekop stated. Among other duties of the Committee, Mr. Redekop declared it must help Christian businessmen to realize the real

Sunnyside is a cannery village about five miles distant from Port Edward by water. About 15-20 children attend classes there on Sunday afternoons. There are no other provisions for the spiritual needs of this community.

Assisting in this work is Bro. Jake Geddert, who is teaching school in Port Edward.

Jake Bergen.

value of time and money. It also has a tremendous job in winning people for Christ, who would never go into a church.

The Christian Business Men's Committee gives half of its offerings to support Child Evangelism in Manitoba. The other missionary project is a weekly evening meeting at Union Gospel Mission.

"Christ and His Soldiers" Presented

The oratorio, "Christ and His Soldiers", was sung in the Christian Fellowship Chapel in Winnipeg on Sat., Dec. 10, by the Chapel choir, directed by Bro. Helmut Janzen, a graduate of the Men-

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nonite Brethren Bible College. Soloists were: Miss Rita Langeman, soprano; Miss Adeline Willems, contralto; Bro. John Pauls, tenor; and Bro. David Falk, bass. Organist was Miss Bertha Pauls.

The choir at the chapel was organized one year ago by Bro. Janzen, then studying at the M.B. Bible College. This spring they presented the cantata "Immortality", which had to be repeated by popular demand. Though small, the choir demonstrates what can be done through hard work and inspired leadership.

First Christmas Programme in Vineland

Vineland, Ont. — The first Christmas programme of the season here was presented in the Vineland M.B. church Sunday evening, Dec. 11, by the Willing Helpers Sewing Circle.

They entered the dimly lit church in pairs, each one carrying a tall lighted candle, and singing the carol "Oh come all ye faithful." To make their entry more impressive, all were dressed alike in white blouses and dark skirts.

Songs, readings, a short play and a message by Rev. H. P. Wiebe were the content of the evening.

Mrs. Ernie Reimer, as pianist and director of the girl's choir, had done an excellent job; we are indeed fortunate in having such good ladies' voices in our church. Or are these talents improved when they are used to honour and glorify God?

Martha Janzen.

Editorial

A People Prepared to Meet the Lord

Our spiritual forbears, the Anabaptists, were widely known for their sense of responsibility to their neighbour. Those in physical need were cared for, while those still without the Gospel were presented the good news of salvation by itinerant missionaries who ranged all over Europe.

There have been times during the history of our church where both the social and missionary consciousness were rather weak. They were strengthened simultaneously, however, toward the latter half of the 19th century in Russia.

During the last 30 years there has been an amazingly rapid expansion of our social welfare as well as our missionary programme. The MCC, with its world-wide relief programme, is now a million-dollar business. This is also true of home and foreign mission work.

There is, however, a tendency on the part of some to deprecate the value of one phase of our Christian responsibility at the expense of the other. Some give of their goods almost exclusively to relief, while others concentrate on missionary giving.

It would do us all good to make a more thorough study of the life of John the Baptist, Christ, and the early church. For example, when God, through an angel, predicted the birth of John the Baptist, He declared that the mission of the messenger of the Lord would be "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1:17). That is our mission too, but how did he accomplish this mission in His life?

In carrying out his mission John the Baptist told the people: "He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise" (Luke 3:11). To the soldiers he said: "Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages" (Luke 3:14). On the other hand, he also preached: "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matth. 3:2), and, pointing to Christ, he proclaimed: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

John the Baptist saw the social responsibility of the people and the spiritual mission of the church as two facets of one total programme, "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Even so we need to remind ourselves that the goal of all of our striving, be it relief, social work, or missions, should be "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." For, after all, a man's life here on earth is but a short span compared to the life hereafter, and "heaven is a place for prepared people."

This also should be the dominant note in all of our Christmas preparations and celebrations. Only as we prepare ourselves and others to meet God are we truly living to the glory of God.

A Christmas Thought

By Paul de Hevesy

The energy which lives in a grain of wheat is the same motive force as that which promotes any other action in life. When such a grain is buried in the soil, it refuses to remain entombed; it bursts at one end and begins immediately to breathe and to nourish itself, sending its roots downwards and its stem upwards, until in due course the plant emerges above the soil with its green leaves beautiful to the eye and delicate to the touch.

Then it erects its stalk, a marvel of architecture, hollow inside so that it may bend before the wind. At the head of this stalk are born the seeds which may, in turn, fall to the ground. The whole process could repeat itself in the same marvellous way again and again for ever and ever. But man comes, scythe in hand, and the little grain's ordeal begins. It

is beheaded, threshed, ground between heavy stones or in powerful machines, kneaded by rough hands, baked in the heat of the oven, cut with a sharp knife, and ground again between merciless teeth.

Yet, in spite of this apparently manifold death, the life inherent in the little grain still survives. It enters into the blood-stream of man, gives him health and strength, and, by sustaining his circulation, enables his brain to think over the problems of life and death, and even over the very problem of wheat itself.

If the life inherent in a small grain resists annihilation so successfully, can anyone still believe that the life of man, at his departure from this earth, comes to a sudden and inexorable end? Whether we read the Gospel or the book of Nature, we find that the great principle of resurrection is everywhere manifest.

Devotional

If Thine Eye Be Single

Victor Adrian*

Jesus understands man. His insight into human nature and life enables Him to analyze with clarity and to prescribe with authority. His great lessons are often incorporated into a single compact sentence, as: "If therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." For this reason Jesus was made flesh and came to dwell among us, that we might be filled with light. Instead of frustration, there should be noble achievements; instead of unhappiness, there should be joy; instead of confusion, there should be order; instead of darkness, there should be light. These blessings of achievement, effectiveness, and joy, for which man yearns, may be his—"if thine eye be single."

To have an eye that is single has been interpreted as a symbolic expression for *singleness of purpose*. An eye that is single sees a single image; it does not see "double" or "fourfold", and its image is not distorted. The confusion frequently apparent in the world, in churches, and in individual men is the consequence of not having a singleness of purpose in life. The unstableness, the inconstancy, the lack of vision, the wavering in darkness, the inefficiency, and the ineffectiveness in our lives are the results of being double-minded — of not having a "single" goal towards which we are striving.

It is considered impossible for a person to proceed in two directions at once. Only that man can go far and quickly who hastens in one direction. This is also a rule of life. John D. Rockefeller set his mind upon great wealth while still in his youth. With undeviating earnestness he applied himself to achieve his set goal and consequently became one of the richest men in the U.S.A. He who devotes himself to a single cause will find deliverance from inward conflict and division and will be able to walk steadily forward in the light—if his goal is the right goal.

What Christ really meant is that the great object upon which our life should be focused is to be Himself. Singleness of purpose is realized in living only for Him. The "single eye" is the untiring devotion to seeing God alone. Paul speaks of "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith." A similar idea is revealed in the words: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God" and "Seek those things that are above." As a powerful magnet re-aligns disorganized and haphazard arrangements of molecules, so Christ can bring to a central focus the discordant elements in man.

Jesus was consistent in applying this principle to His own life.

When only twelve years of age He was conscious of His purpose in life. To his chiding parents He replied, "Know ye not that I must be in the House of my Father?" All efforts to impede his progress were unsuccessful; without hesitation or bewilderment Jesus revealed a singleness of purpose throughout His life. His undeviating loyalty to His task is reflected in His unexampled confession; "I have glorified thee on earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."

God is calling men and women to discipleship. Through Christ He can impart to us the "single eye". His promise of "light" is only to those who have a singleness of purpose, not to those whose lives reveal duplicity; to those whose allegiance is undivided, not to those who serve both God and mammon; to those who serve Him wholly and unreservedly, not partly. Duplicity in the lives of men receives God's greatest condemnation. The sinner seeking God receives pardon—but the Pharisee seeking to please both God and man is the object of God's contempt. Hypocrisy and double-mindedness, professing God and seeking self-glory and honour — these elements in our lives are anathema to God.

Great God, teach us Thy Truth and Thy way of life. Let purity of motive, steadfastness in aim and loyalty to Thyself be reflected in us. — "If therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." (Matth. 6:22).

*Principal of the M.B. Collegiate Institute, Winnipeg.

Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

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The MENNONITE OBSERVER strives to have Christ at the helm, the salvation of man as its goal, and the essential unity of all true Mennonites as its guiding principle.

Dedicate New Church at Malakpet, India

All of the 33 M.B. missionaries in India, their children and 1000 Indian Christians were present on Sunday, November 27, when the Bethlehem M.B. Church was dedicated in Malakpet, Hyderabad, India. It was a historic occasion, for after a break of 41 years a house of worship again stood where the first M.B. mission was opened in India in 1903.

This new church is intended as a center for worship services for God's children and shall be used to the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. Erected in loving memory of the first 15 M.B. missionaries to India and the early Indian brethren it has been called the Bethlehem M.B. Church.

In preparation for the dedication service a programme was printed and, together with an invitation, it was sent to all of the M.B. mission stations and to many friends. During the last week the masons, carpenters, and coolies completed the final touches on the building, erected the brick compound wall, set up the entrance gate, and leveled the ground. Young men voluntarily painted suitable Bible verses on the front inside wall and over the entrance. Everyone prayed for a day of special blessings.

The dedicatory service was held in the morning when everyone gathered at the front entrance. After a prayer the door was opened, the congregation entering while singing "We Praise Thee, O God". The programme during the morning service included special songs by groups from Malakpet, Hughestown, and Shamshabad; a message by Bro. V. Abraham, pastor of the Ibrahimpatnam Church, who has been closely connected with the work here and who has been serving for 50 years already; and a dedication message by Bro. P. V. Balzer. Thereupon the congregation united in the dedicatory prayer, wherein Bro. Balzer and I led. I then gave a short report on how the Lord had undertaken and provided for this church. Br. J. J. Dick led in the prayer of thanksgiving for the offering. After the doxology and the benediction by Bro. J. J. Kasper the meeting closed.

A love feast of curry and rice was served at noon to all present, the expense of which was borne jointly by the native Christians and the missionaries. The preparation had entailed much work, with some brethren busy nearly the whole night previously.

A memorial service was held in the afternoon. Songs of prayer and praise again began the service. Mrs. J. Satyavedama, our oldest Bible-woman, who together with her late husband, Rev. J. Levi, had been present when the Malakpet Station was opened in 1903, related some of the experiences of the missionaries and Christians during those early years.

Of historical importance were the dissertations by Bro. J. A. Wiebe and by Bro. D. J. Franz. Bro. Wiebe spoke on "The Begin-

ning of the M. B. Mission in India", while Bro. Franz spoke on "The Beginning of the Telugu M. B. Church in India".

Representatives from neighbouring churches brought well-wishes from their churches. Thereupon an offering was received, which together with the morning offering totalled Rs 400. Bro. A. A. Unruh held the thanksgiving prayer for the offering. After the song, "The Church's One Foundation is Jesus Christ the Lord", Bro. T. F. Fast pronounced the benediction.

The offering, together with the contributions from Indian sources, will be used to supply furniture for the church and, it is hoped, to install electric lights. Contributions from the U.S.A. and Canada have gone for the construction of the building. Over half of the cost of purchasing the premises and building the church has been met. We are thankful to God for those who have contributed.

The missionaries lingered a little while after the service and we had an hour of blessed fellowship and a meal together at this historic place.

Let us thank God for our house of worship. Let us rededicate ourselves for further service in India. Let us be more in prayer than ever before, for it now remains for us and for our Indian brethren to build up the spiritual house of God at Malakpet.

Yours in service for Christ
in India,

J. H. and M. Lohrenz,
Hughestown, Hyderabad 1,
Deccan, India.

Mennonite Choirs Sing in Carol Festival

Abbotsford, B.C. — Five Mennonite choirs, the Valley String Orchestra, the Fraser Valley Community Band, and various other choirs participated in the Abbotsford Rotary Club's annual Festival of Christmas Carols on December 9, the proceeds of which went in aid of the Crippled Children's Hospital Fund.

Mennonite choirs participating were the North Clearbrook M.B. Church Choir, directed by J. Dirksen; the West Abbotsford Mennonite Church choir, directed by H. Wiebe; the McCallum Rd. M.B. Church choir, directed by Wm. Wiebe; the Bethel Choir, directed by Menno Neufeld; and the South Abbotsford M.B. Church choir, directed by Albert Dyck. The Valley String Orchestra is directed by Walter Neufeld, while

the Senior High Ladies' Glee Club was directed by J. Wittenberg and the Junior High School Choir by Henry Wiebe.

The climax of the evening's programme was the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus" by a massed choir conducted by Menno Neufeld, director of the Bethel Choir, and accompanied by the Valley String Orchestra.

Toews to Africa

Hillsboro, Kan. — J.B. Toews, deputation secretary of the Mennonite Brethren Board of Foreign Missions, left New York via plane December 13 for a several months administrative visit to the Belgian Congo.

He was scheduled to arrive in Leopoldville December 15. Purpose of the visit is to review and plan with missionaries on the field the ongoing work in the Congo which has grown rapidly in recent years.

On his return trip Bro. Toews plans to stop in eastern Africa and also visit Mennonite Brethren mission work in Austria and Germany.

In addition to his deputation secretary duties, Bro. Toews serves as Hillsboro office administrator of Mennonite Brethren foreign mission work in Africa and Europe.

Here and There — and Everywhere

To Sing Cantata at Warman

Warman, Sask. — The Christmas Cantata "Wonderful", by Haldor Lillenas, is being practiced by some of the Warman young people. It will be sung in the M.B. church on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, the Lord willing. Besides the cantata, the programme will also include a play by the senior and young people's Sunday school classes and several other Christmas songs. Visitors will be welcome indeed.

Recovering from Major Operation

Aldergrove, B.C. — We are happy to report that God has answered prayer and Henry Bergen is on the road to recovery after a serious operation in which most of his stomach was removed because of ulcers. Mrs. Bergen is most grateful and thankful for the way the Christians at Aldergrove have helped in this trying time.

Missionary Speaks

Aldergrove, B.C. — Miss Elsie Pauls, a missionary to Africa, spoke to a combined meeting of the Ladies' Aids in the M.B. church here on Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Octet Sings at Morris

A mixed octet from the M.B. Bible College traveled to Morris on Sunday, December 11, to present a

Holiday Tour Being Planned for 1956

Plans are being made by Rosthern Junior College, Rosthern, Sask., and Thiessen Transportation of Rosenfeld, Man., to sponsor another holiday tour next summer. Rev. Arnold Regier, instructor at the Rosthern Junior College, will again be the tour director.

The tour will begin approximately July 15 and end August 14 at the General Conference of Mennonites in Winnipeg, Man. Mennonite communities in Manitoba, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Mexico, California, Oregon, Washington, and Saskatchewan will be visited. Other points of interest will be the Carlsbad Caverns, Grand Canyon, Mexico City, and the Colombia River Drive.

A. J. Thiessen of Thiessens Transportation has hinted that a special bus of the scenic-cruiser type is being built for the tour. It will be equipped with an amplifying system, a built-in library and air-conditioning.

A folder soon to be published will give further details. For information write to A. J. Thiessen, Rosenfeld, Man., or John R. Dyck, Rosthern, Sask.

programme of Christmas music, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Bro. John Froese, a former college student and now ministering to the group meeting in the Morris United Mennonite Church, arranged for the programme. * * *

K. H. Neufeld to Rehearse "Messiah"

The Winkler Chamber of Commerce will sponsor both the rehearsals and the performance of Handel's "Messiah" by the Winkler Philharmonic Choir, directed by Dr. K. H. Neufeld. It is expected that rehearsals will begin shortly after the begin of the new year.

Singers from other towns in the vicinity are welcome to take part in the choir. * * *

Visit Parents in Yarrow

Warman, Sask. — Rev. and Mrs. Norman Fehr of Warman recently spent ten days with Mrs. Fehr's parents in Yarrow, B.C. At the time both of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Loewen, were ill. Mr. Loewen has passed on to be with the Lord since then. * * *

Week of Evangelistic Services

Abbotsford, B.C. — Rev. H. H. Epp of Blaine, Washington, held a week of evangelistic services in the Abbotsford M.B. church on McCallum Road during the week of November 27.

Mennonite Brethren Mission Notes

Hillsboro, Kans. — Prayer is invited for the "Every Believers' Bible Class" being held in the three Mennonite Brethren Churches in Japan. Brother Harry Friesen and Brother Kitano, a Japanese evangelist, teach one evening a week in each church. Brother Friesen teaches lessons on the Mennonite Brethren Church confession of faith and Brother Kitano, personal evangelism. Classes are to run for six months from the beginning of November to the end of April. Thirty-one persons attended the first week. This system of Bible study is to take the place of a Bible training school at the present time.

— Rubena Gunther, who has served in Japan under our Board of Foreign Missions since August, 1951, arrived in San Francisco December 3 for a furlough in the homeland. She is a member of the Reedley, California, Mennonite Brethren Church.

— A. J. Neufeld in Linz, Austria, is in charge of a "Bibelschulkursus" (Bible school course). This is an interdenominational effort to instruct the people in the Word of God. It also represents an attempt at cooperation among evangelical groups in the area. Brother Neufeld teaches a class in Biblical Introduction combined with a study of the Pentateuch and a class in personal work. Brother Neufeld writes: "I had looked for about 10 to 15 persons registering for the course, but the Lord put us to shame. Between 50 and 55 registered."

— Since arrival in the Belgian Congo last May, Arthur Wiebe has completed supervision of the building of a mission residence at Kajiji and is now completing another at Matende. A new chapel at Gungu is next on the list. Sister Wiebe has been assisting in dispensary and women's work.

— The ladies' missionary residence at Matende, Belgian Congo, has been made possible through a gift from the Paxton, Nebraska, Mennonite Brethren Church. A considerable amount of funds were contributed by the congregation when the need for this residence was called to the attention of the church by its missionary member Anna R. Goertzen.

— Brother and Sister J. Rolfe Graves and Erna Funk arrived in the Belgian Congo November 16. For the present the Graves are assigned to Lusemvu and Gungu stations and Sister Funk to Kafumba. Their assignments on the field will be finalized by the field council.

— Irvin Friesen, principal of the Kafumba Bible School in the Belgian Congo, is recovering from a serious illness. Dr. Ernest Schmidt reports he is well on the way to recovery, but is not to accept responsibility for a month.

— A camp for young men and

boys was to be held at Shadnagar, India, November 11 to 16. All Mennonite Brethren men missionaries were expected to attend.

— At the dedication of the Malakpet Memorial Church in India November 27 Rev. P. V. Balzer presented the dedication sermon and he and J. H. Lohrenz spoke dedicatory prayers. Theme of the afternoon memorial program was "The Beginning of the American Mennonite Brethren Mission and of the India Mennonite Brethren Church."

— "My Good Shepherd," a book for Christian youth, has been translated into Telegu by Mennonite Brethren missionaries in India and is now being printed by Evangelical Literature Overseas. ELO is an affiliate of the National Association of Evangelicals. Another book being translated into Telegu by the Mennonite Brethren missionaries and to be printed by ELO is "With Christ After the Lost" by Scarborough. The Mennonite Brethren Board of Foreign Missions has made small financial contributions to the publication of a Telegu Concordance by ELO.

— Seventeen children from five different mission societies are attending the missionary children's school at La Cumbre, Colombia. Teaching them is Martha Kroeker. Brother and Sister Wilmer Quiring are the houseparents. Pray for the pupils and teachers in their new environment and new responsibilities.

— Six young people from our mission at La Cumbre and the Choco in Columbia are attending a six-month session of a Bible institute in Armenia operated by the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Pray for these three young men and three young women as they prepare for greater service for Christ and the Church.

— Laying of the foundation stone for the new high school building by the Mennonite Brethren mission in Curitiba, Brazil, was done on November 12 rather than on Oct. 30 as previously planned and announced. A programme consisting of music, a message and dedicatory prayer was held.

— A new project by the Mennonite Brethren mission in Colombia has been started in San Miquel, a fair-sized village about an hour's distance by launch up the river from Noanama. A house for use as a chapel and plot of ground have been purchased. "There were efforts to stop us from buying the place but the Lord undertook," Daniel A. Wirsche writes.

— Approximately 60 children are enrolled in the national primary school operated by the Mennonite Brethren mission in La Cumbre, Colombia. Classes began Oct. 5. Four national teachers instruct. Five grades are offered. Wilmer Quiring is director of the school;

Lillian Schafer, principal; Kathryn Lentzner, matron of the girls' dormitory; and a national couple in charge of the boys' dormitory.

— A regional convention of Christian workers was held in La Cumbre, Colombia, October 16 to 18. J. A. Loewen served as Bible expositor and Oscar Jacobson of the Christian and Missionary Alliance as evangelist.

BETHANY CHORUS VISITS GLENBUSH

Glenbush, Sask. — The Chorus Choir of the Bethany Bible Institute at Hepburn, Sask., presented two programmes in the M.B. church at Glenbush on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 3 and 4. The choir was accompanied by their director, Bro. J. K. Schroeder, and two other teachers, Rev. Paul Wiebe and Bro. George Geddert.

The programme on Saturday evening included several songs by the choir, a feature for the children, and a panel discussion by the students on the importance of Bible school training for future church workers in the many phases of church work. Their motto was "The Church for the School and the School for the Church." Bro. G. Geddert delivered a timely message.

On Sunday morning the group served during the morning worship service.

In the afternoon the choir proceeded to Borden, Sask., to give a programme in the Borden M.B. church in the evening.

We are thankful for their visit and for the fellowship we were able to have with them. One visitor at the Saturday evening programme remarked, "My, what a blessing to listen to such great singing!"

May God continue to bless Bethany Bible Institute and make them a blessing as they study, sing and serve.

Henry Bartel.

On Way To Germany To Meet Husband

Deeply grateful to God, 56-year-old Mrs. Peter Reimer stopped off for four days in Winnipeg last

week on her way to Germany to meet her husband, presumed dead for nearly 10 years.

Six weeks ago a letter arrived at the Vancouver home where she was staying with her sister. It came from her husband, whom she has not seen for 12 years—and it asked her to return home.

Her husband, serving with the German army during the Second World War, was taken prisoner by the Russians. He was released this fall.

Mrs. Reimer sailed from Quebec City last Friday and will arrive at Bremerhaven, Germany, on December 19 to meet her husband.

Mrs. Reimer said she would like to return to Canada, but her architect husband wants to remain in Germany and "he's the boss."

Mrs. Reimer is a member of the Mennonite Brethren Church.

Fire Disrupts Services

A bad chimney fire had destroyed part of the floor and was taking hold in the walls at the Morris United Mennonite Church in Morris, Man., before it was brought under control by the local fire department. The fire was discovered by the caretaker, John Schroeder, shortly before Sunday school on Sunday, Dec. 4, and forced cancellation of services for that day.

Insurance was carried, but it does not cover the total loss, for a new furnace had to be installed. Services were held the next Sunday already, with a new floor replacing the damaged one.

DIES AFTER 18-FT. FALL

Johann Friesen of Steinbach, Man., who "lost his way and opened the wrong door," died Friday, Dec. 9, from cerebral haemorrhage, shock and exposure. He was an inmate of the Bethania Old Folk's Home near Middlechurch, Man.

Friesen apparently rose from his bed about 2 a.m., opened a door and fell 18 feet off a balcony into the snow. He was dressed in light nightclothes, police said, and was in the snow for about 20 minutes. The temperature went to 19 below that night. He died about 5 a.m.

The Mennonite Encyclopedia

Here is the first reference work in English that covers comprehensively more than 400 years of history, faith, life, and culture of Anabaptism in Europe and world Mennonitism.

The first volume of this four-volume edition is now on sale.

The other three volumes are to follow. When completed they will contain 3,200 pages in which appear 10,000 articles, 400 illustrations, and over 100 maps of Mennonite communities in Europe, North America, South America, and other parts of the world. Over 400 writers have contributed articles.

Volume I has 812 pages, each 6 1/4 x 10 inches, and sells for \$10.00. If the four volumes are purchased and prepaid now their total price is \$33.75, as against \$40 if the volumes are purchased singly as they will come from the publishers.

THE CHRISTIAN PRESS LIMITED,
159 Kelvin St. Winnipeg 5, Man.

They Won't Listen, But They Will Read

Don R. Falkenberg, D.D.

A retired missionary from India was speaking: "I gave an entire lifetime in India, yet I was not able to win even one Hindu to Christ. But you, with your modern method of evangelizing with attractive Gospel literature, have been used of God to win more than 1500 Hindus in one year. If I had my life to live over, I would sow down my mission area with sound Gospel literature, and God would honor the sowing with precious souls. But I can tithe my retirement to help supply the message for those who will not listen but who will secretly read."

The missionary was referring to the harvest of souls among the Hindus reaped in India in 1954. The writer, who is international president of the Bible Meditation League of Columbus, Ohio, was attending the World Conference on Evangelism in Tokyo, Japan, sponsored by Youth for Christ International, in August, 1953. He was requested to meet the India nationals for a conference, and there these leading Christians of India poured out such an appeal as he had never before heard. They told how some four million Hindus would pilgrimage from all parts of India, Burma, and Pakistan to Allahabad to bathe in and drink of the filthy waters of the River Ganges in January, 1954. They told how they had asked permission to conduct special Gospel meetings, and had been denied because of the danger of rioting, and then added, "But we do have a permit to have our workers stand along the roads and inoffensively offer free literature to the pilgrims. The Communists have received the same permission." Asked how much material would be needed, they were at a loss to make even an estimate, for this was strictly in the nature of a first-time experiment. Finally a suggestion of one hundred thousand copies was offered.

Through Joe Weatherly of Youth for Christ in India, arrangements were made for the Bible Meditation League to print the League's story of Jacob DeShazer. "I was a Prisoner of Japan", and the writer's "The Wounds of Christ", in Bombay.

Soon after the distribution began in January, the workers realized that they had greatly underestimated the eagerness of the Hindu pilgrims to receive the colorful Gospel literature that told them of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the one they have been taught in Hinduism to regard merely as a great prophet. In a matter of hours, every copy of the one hundred ten thousand printing was distributed, with hundreds of thousands of the pilgrims still to arrive.

With the printed messages were given written invitations to come to a certain central point if the reader desired more information about salvation. They came in unexpected numbers, with hundreds making full surrender to Christ, and were then enrolled in free Bible correspondence courses.

But this was but the beginning. When Joe Weatherly returned to his office in Bombay, more than seven hundred letters from pilgrims were on his desk. One lady wrote: "I want you to know that in reading your Gospel tract I received the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour." Then she told how she had shared the printed message with neighbors, and added, "Sir, I am listing below the names of friends of mine who have given their lives to Christ as the result of reading this same tract." She listed the names and addresses of forty-seven Hindus who had been saved, forty-seven Hindus who could not previously enter a place of Christian worship, but who had secretly read the message of Christ.

While this work has been and is now being carried on in India, the Bible Meditation League has been experiencing similar results in 87 other nations around the globe. More than a thousand dollars worth of free Gospel material is provided for evangelism in Korea every month. Five hundred dollars worth of material is printed for free distribution in Indochina monthly. More than one thousand dollars worth of Gospel material (Scriptures, study courses, and tracts) are provided for free distribution monthly to the chaplains of the armed forces. Africa, South America, and Europe are being "sowed down" with the many-language tracts and booklets, printed in beautiful colors to catch the eye and then the heart of the recipient.

But the India challenge is now the greatest "Macedonian Call" of the present hour. During the months of December, January, and February some 14 million Hindus will converge on Nasik, India, to worship the obscene male sex god. Permission has been asked and granted to make distribution of Gospel literature under the same regulations that applied in 1954. (Yes, the Communists have also received the same permission.)

With Hindus forbidden to enter any building where Christian services are held, God has given the Christian forces this greatest opportunity in history to give the message in printed form to this people. Every child of God should fall on his face before the throne of God to cry out in thanksgiving that He has given this privilege of ministering the Gospel of redeem-

ing grace, and to pledge that such prayer will rise daily for India's four hundred million people, two hundred fifty million of whom have yet to hear, for the first time, the message of salvation in Christ Jesus.

The Bible Meditation League has been asked to supply the literature on salvation for these fourteen million pilgrims, the largest number of pagans to be reached in so short a time in the history of the Christian faith. The League has accepted the challenge . . .

Youth for Christ International

is providing the largest tent in all India as a place for inquirers to come and where indoor services may be held every evening, this conforming with the government official edict of "no outdoor meetings lest rioting be incited."

Further information about the Crusade for India may be had by addressing the Bible Meditation League, Inc., Box 477, Columbus 16, Ohio.

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A Carol for the King

Rita Langeman*

Christmas, the old yet always new season of gaiety, is just around the corner. With it come the enchanting strains of familiar carols and songs springing from the hearts of thankful people everywhere. Yet have you ever wondered where the idea of singing carols originated and who was the first one to sing a carol?

Many books state that the angels at Bethlehem were the first to carol about the birth of Christ. This, however, does not seem to be the case, for nowhere in Scripture do we find any record of angels singing, rather, they are "praising God and saying". Thus we must go to the year 1200 A.D., for not until this time do we have a record of the first carol to be sung on earth, and this in a tiny Italian village called Grecia in Assisi. It was here that the great St. Francis built the first "creche" and the brethren of his community sang the first hymns to honour Christ's birth. What motivated St. Francis to establish this entirely radical ritual?

During the eleventh and twelfth centuries a heresy, called Manichaeism, flourished in the Christian church. It originated in the far east and was brought over from Asia Minor into Bulgaria by the Paulicans in the ninth century. It spread from there over the whole of southern Europe, sinking its poisonous claws into the already festering wounds of the church form. This heresy denied the virgin birth of Christ and therefore it was directly antagonistic to the church's doctrine of the "Incarnation". It held that all matter was evil and that only the things of the spirit were good; that the entrance of the spirit into relation with the human body brought about the fall of man; and that salvation could only be attained by emancipating the soul from the bonds of the flesh. The doctrine of the incarnation of Christ obviously could have no place in such a heresy. It was in order to combat this heresy that St. Francis conceived of a way in which the true knowledge and a greater understanding of the incarnation could

be instilled in the minds of the people.

In 1223, while St. Francis was journeying from Rome, he was compelled to stay in Grecia during the Christmas season. Upon his arrival he had a visible representation of the birth of Christ in Bethlehem reproduced and set up so that all could see it. That December night the world gave birth to its first Christmas carol in the form of praises unto God coming from the long suppressed and misinformed hearts and minds of people who longed for a Saviour.

This custom, instituted by St. Francis, continues to flourish and is becoming more popular as time goes on. The only break in the continuity of caroling and carol writing occurred during the time of the Reformation, for very few carols of merit have been written during that period. And, with very few exceptions, the art of carol writing also declined during the latter half of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th centuries. This in spite of the increased ability of the printing press to produce sheet publications, which were very popular with the people and helped to preserve many valuable versions of carols which otherwise would have been lost forever.

In recent years some of the best lyrical writers, such as Morris, Rossetti and Swineburn, have attempted to produce carols in the old style, with excellent results.

All these and many other unknown authors and composers are responsible for the enjoyment you and I may have in caroling at Christmas.

*What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol fit to sing
The birth of this our heavenly
King!*

*Student at M.B. Bible College.

If you do not like the MENNONITE OBSERVER, tell the editor. If you DO like the MENNONITE OBSERVER, tell Everybody.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Are you already getting all excited about the Christmas Concert that you are going to present? What part you having in it? Maybe you are only to do some of the decorating, so think of how nice you can make it for others. I would love to visit you and see all that you have done.

How about the Christmas exams? Some of you have probably written them already and others will soon. I hope you are not so excited that you cannot write them well. If you have worked hard all year you should have no difficulty, and if you have only played around don't think praying will help you. God expects you to work—and then prayer surely will help, for God will help you.

The other day I was downtown and saw all the lovely Christmas decorations. The bells, candles, Christmas trees, and everything else reminds us that Christmas is coming. These are all things that remind us of the outward celebration of Christmas and they are beautiful, are they not? But let's really celebrate Christmas in our hearts this year and think about what it means to us that Jesus really came to earth. He came to save us from our sins. Have you let Him save you from your sins?

Aunt Selma.

Children Write

Box 602, Coaldale, Alta.

Dear Christian Press,

I see Aunt Selma writes a lot for your page, but because uncles are so much fun, does she have one? My uncle lives in Carman, Man. He knows how to train dogs.

My grandfather is a missionary in South America. My father is a principal of a high school.

I am a boy nine years old. I take violin lessons. I have a dog. His name is Boots. I am in grade four.

Please have a column for pen pals. My mother has one in England.

My hobby is putting airplanes together.

My name for the page is *Explorers of God's Word*.

Richard Bargaen.

(Well, well, the letters are getting more interesting all the time. I wonder why boys like uncles better than aunts. Aunt Selma told me that she had five uncles, so I suppose she must have a lot of fun too. That is a good name you suggest.

I am glad you suggest a column for pen pals. You see, we thought you might like that, but we didn't know. If you want a pen pal in Germany, Richard, you might like to write to Thomas Neufeld, Binder-michl, Bergern 62, Linz 1D, Austria. He wrote to the Children's Page for November 11, 1955. Look up his letter and then write him.

Any more want pen pals?

—Uncle Les.)



WHY WE HAVE CHRISTMAS

By Debbie G. Nettles

The little Baby Jesus
Slept in His manger bed,
While at His feet knelt Joseph,
And Mary at His head.

Their donkey and the cattle
Appeared to understand
That little Baby Jesus
Had come to bless the land.

Some shepherds on a hillside
Heard angels softly sing
And hurried to the manger
To find the newborn King.

They knelt beside the Baby,
Sang, "Peace on earth, and joy";
And Mary knew the reason
They praised her little Boy.

A bright star in the heavens
Led Wise Men to the Child;
As they gave Him rich presents,
The Baby woke and smiled.

So that's why we have Christmas—
To celebrate, you see,
The birth of the dear Saviour
God gave to you and me.



TRIM THE TREE

Won't you come along with me
And help me trim my Christmas tree?
We must take care and do it right;
Be careful where you place each
I'll drape the tree with tinsel chains,
While you arrange the candy
A well-dressed tree always calls
For lots of glittery, colored
So I'll hang those while you adorn
Our tree with strings of white
Last of all, and prettiest by far,
We shall hang this lovely, silver

By Laura Arlon.

The Story of our Church

Mrs. H. T. Esau

(10th Installment)

GIVING HELP TO THE HUNGRY

God, who knows all things, sent our fathers ahead so that they would be ready to send help to Russia in a time of great need. During the Russian revolution, which came after the close of World War I, all the wealth of the Mennonites had been taken from them. Many were killed, their homes plundered, and much food was destroyed. If they had not begun to ration what was left many more would have died before help could come from America.

The different Mennonite conferences in America who had come from Russia, together with other groups of Mennonites who had come here from Switzerland and Germany during the last 300 years, organized in 1920 to help the starving brethren in Russia. The board was then called the Mennonite Central Relief Committee. Dr. P. C. Hiebert was the first chairman and only retired a few years ago.

When they saw the great need for food and clothing in Russia this committee sent out Orio O. Miller, Arthur Slagel and Clayton Kratz to Russia to see what could be done. On his first trip into Russia Clayton Kratz was taken a prisoner by the Communists and has not been heard from since. Orie Miller went in too at the time, but he had left to get help before Clayton Kratz was taken a prisoner. Orie Miller is now the executive secretary of the M.C.C.

In 1922 Dr. Hiebert with others went to the Mennonite settlements in South Russia and opened soup kitchens. They also brought the Gospel to cheer and comfort broken souls and bodies. Later the Mennonite Central Relief Committee also helped many of them out of the land of communism. Since

the United States did not allow them to enter they went to Canada by the thousands and others took refuge in Paraguay and Brazil in South America. Although they came empty-handed, they were thankful that the American Mennonites helped them come to a land of freedom. Because of the difficult climate and the isolation of the Mennonites in South America they have had to be helped by the Mennonite Central Relief Committee many times.

In South America everything is so different that it is hard to settle there. Land for the colony in Paraguay was bought by the committee and several times preachers, teachers, and doctors have been sent to Paraguay and Brazil to help with their problems in the church, schools, and farms, as well as in their health programme.

Many Mennonites fled from Russia in the Second World War and after the war had no place to go. Thousands have come to Canada, but the Mennonite Central Committee has also helped thousands to become established in Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina. These still need our help, for they do not have the same opportunities to earn money as we have in Canada.

But the Mennonite Central Relief Committee has not only helped refugees, nor only Mennonites. Millions of dollars have been spent in relief in Europe, India, Korea, Japan, Palestine and Jordan, and many other countries. Yet the Mennonite Central Committee can only continue to help "In the Name of Christ" as we give money and pray that our help will bring the Gospel to needy souls.

(To be continued)

Future Subscribers

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Klassen of Glenbush, Sask., on December 1, a girl.

They Brought Good News

By Mildred Bishop Jorgenson
By special permission of Moody Press.

(12th Installment)

Maria felt a definite call to go back to her own people as a missionary. To leave such a large salary and return with no visible means of support required much faith. The plantations had long since been lost. She could not hope to keep up the huge mansion, which had been the family home for several generations. Maria offered her services and her home to the Mission Board. At once it was decided to use the home for a Bible School and Mission headquarters. Maria became one of the Mission's most valued workers. She understood her own people and was able to transact business more satisfactorily than would have been possible for her American co-workers. She became Spanish teacher for the new missionaries, conducted a Bible correspondence course in Spanish and taught in the Bible School.

Ever since coming to Colombia the Nielsens had heard much about Maria's intelligence and executive ability. They were rather surprised to find that she was a small, soft-spoken woman of about thirty-five. Her soft brown eyes and an appealing smile won their hearts at once. With Maria came two missionary nurses. These girls were sisters—Ruth and Esther Strong. Their parents had been pioneer missionaries in Central America. They had come to care for the sick in Santa Juanita, so that the Nielsens might give more time to their floating clinic.

Maria and the two nurses arrived in time to see the damage done by the bomb. What a time of praise and thanksgiving they had, thanking God that He so marvelously preserved them; at the same time giving them another soul for their hire.

Alba's mother recovered rapidly from her illness. She knew that she must straighten her sin-tangled life. The man with whom Senora Rosa was living was not her husband. She had no idea where her husband had gone. But her God was already leading the way out of her difficulties. She remembered a sister of her husband, who lived in the town of El Centro, twenty miles distant, and whom she had not seen for years.

As soon as her strength permitted, Rosa started on foot to El Centro. Hard as the trip was, foot-sore and weary as she became, Rosa had never been so light of heart. She was just overflowing with love for the Jesus who had done so much for her. At every stop she left tracts and her personal testimony.

Finally her destination was reached and in a few minutes of

conversation, she learned that her husband had been dead for several years. Stopping only long enough to tell about her Saviour and leave a supply of tracts and a Spanish New Testament, Rosa was ready to return home.

Meanwhile, Alberto, who had been quite impressed by the change in Alba, was more mystified by the change in Rosa. From a sullen sloven, she had become a tidy housekeeper and an affectionate mother. There was always a song of praise on her lips. Alberto wished he might be as happy as mother and daughter had become—as happy as the "American Protestants."

During Rosa's absence Alberto went one day to see David. How gladly did David reveal from the Word the Source of joy and peace for which Alberto longed.

Even as Rosa, hastening toward home, was praying, "O Father, save Alberto. Then we can be married and the people will know that there is a change in our lives—" that prayer was being answered in the Mission home.

The Nielsens were now spending only an occasional week end in Santa Juanita. There was so much they could do along the river. What a joy it was to carry the Bread of Life to the hungry and to heal the sick in the name of their Lord.

Evangeline had composed what she called their "theme song":

*"When the ransomed of every
clime,
Shall gather on that great Day,
Souls will praise God for send-
ing us
To show them Salvation's Way—
Hasten, hasten, do not delay.
For sin-darkened souls
Turn night into day.
Hosts of Colombians
Have never heard,
The good tidings—God's pre-
cious Word."*

She had put the words to a well-known tune and never tired of leading her willing co-workers in the catchy refrain as they sped over the water. But one day as she held her imaginary baton aloft to lead her chorus, she sank to the floor in a faint.

In the days that followed, the gay voice was still. It seemed almost as though a heavy grey cloud had settled down upon them. Evangeline was so different from the girl who had been able, even in the extreme heat, to keep much of her sparkle and enthusiasm. Her sudden collapse caused David deep concern. He had guarded her so carefully against malaria, amoebas, and other tropical parasites. He

had thought that she was in excellent physical condition. Now he was anxious to get her back to the Mission Home and they made the return trip with all possible speed.

Evangeline rested better ashore and was given the best of care by Esther and Ruth, but she was no stronger at the end of a week. She finally urged David to continue on the river trips without her. Although he did not want to leave her, he could see that she was really troubled because the important work with souls had to be delayed on her account. So, with many instructions to the nurses, and committing her to the love of the heavenly Father who truly cares for His own, David, with Manuel, boarded the "Good News" again.

Everything imaginable happened to delay them on their return trip. There was engine trouble. The people in the Land of Manana cannot be hurried. They can see no reason for the mad rush to which the people of the United States are so accustomed. David could scarcely check his impatience, as day after day passed without being able to obtain the necessary repairs. He had tried sending a wire to Santa Juanita, but instead of a reply from the Strong sisters, his own telegram had been returned with the names exchanged. Finally they were on their way again.

Two days away from Santa Juanita, he was met at the dock of a small town by Luis, a believer from a village ten miles inland.

"O poor! O wretched! Lost! Lost!" he moaned, twisting an enormous hat of tattered straw in trembling hands. "My poor mother. She is dying. She knows not that the Saviour will take her to heaven if she trusts Him. She fears so greatly the horrible death. If only the 'so great' doctor could come and tell her about the Jesus way. I know not how to read to her the Words that God speaks."

David asked a few hurried questions about her condition and from Luis' replies, he decided the woman must have a cancer in an advanced stage. "She might linger for weeks—she might die in a few hours," he said to himself.

For the first time since coming to Colombia, David hesitated. He had not spared himself in his service to suffering humanity. Many times he had been exhausted in body, but exalted in spirit, as his patients had responded, not only to his medical skill, but to the soul-saving remedy of the Great Physician as well. But now he was thinking of the wife whom he had left so strangely white and silent, almost a month before. Not one word had he heard about how she was faring. Perhaps she was near death—perhaps already dead. His heart cried out that he must hurry to her. But the love of Christ constrained him to hasten to the bedside of the one who was facing the

darkness of eternal death with such despair.

"If God sees fit to take my darling Evie home—I know she is ready to go—while this woman—" David was not aware that he was speaking aloud. Luis, not understanding the English words, was watching his face. He saw the sudden look of resolve, and as David spoke briefly, "In ten minutes, I will go with you," Luis sobbed a grateful "Muchas gracias," and led up two bony horses. Over a narrow hilly trail, rutted by the recent, heavy rains, they started their ten-mile journey.

(To be continued)

For Friends Who Enjoy Fiction

THE HEIR OF REDCLYFFE
By Charlotte Yonge. 309 pp.

This is one of the classic novels of English literature. It is the story of unashamed devotion to a spiritual goal—of Christianity in action. Abraham Kuyper, Netherland's Prime Minister and theologian, was converted by it, Charles Kingsley wept over it, and British officers in Crimea read it eagerly\$3.00

CUP OF COLD WATER

By Paul Hutchens. 192 pp.

Ever since its appearance in 1941 this has been the consistent best-seller among Paul Hutchens' popular series of Christian novels. Jim and Tim Grabbill are identical twins, but one is a Spirit-filled college professor and the other a playboy, unscrupulous, rebellious against the Gospel. Involved in the tangled plot is a wealthy, mystical uncle, Beryl Lane, whom both men love, and her vivacious sister, Dora Jeanne. Skilfully interwoven throughout the many dramatic episodes is the beautiful doctrine of the indwelling Holy Spirit\$2.00

NEVER FORGOTTEN

By Bertha B. Moore. 168 pp.

Judith's eyes were turned away from Macon's sameness toward the glamour of the big city, toward a career, new friends, excitement. But there were perplexities that Judy found, problems and responsibilities in the large cities that she had never need face! Bit by bit she became disillusioned by the realities of life, by its hardness.

To read this story is to learn more deeply of the strength and comfort of Jesus' abiding love!

Price: \$2.00

LIGHTED HORIZON

By Edith Snyder Pedersen.

184 pp.

This is the powerful story of men and women, human men and women, who found that they couldn't live without Christ in their hearts. The book is integrated with a strong plot, and you'll lose yourself in the richness of the story! Especially the bits about Children's Corner, the twins, Terry and Jerry, and the love affair that Mrs. Raye almost had!\$2.00

Europe, as Seen by a Teacher

Miss Susan Toews

(7th Installment)

The Catacombs

Our tour took us outside the walls of Rome to the great Catacombs, the burial place of the early Christians. These also served as their secret meeting-places and hideouts. It was not too difficult for the heathen to catch the Christians, for they would wait at the entrances until lack of oxygen would bring the Christians to seek the light. The Franciscans are the custodians of these Catacombs, and one was ready to take us down when we arrived. They are an endless maze of twisting tunnels through volcanic rock.

In the twisting sides of the tunnels are niches where the bodies were laid to rest. Some niches are family size, whereas others are only large enough for a single body. On the ceilings and walls are numerous drawings and symbols of the early Christians. We saw the fish, anchor, Alpha and Omega symbols. On one wall was the picture of a dove, and in another large niche two men, believed to be the apostle Paul and Peter. How vividly the story of "Quo Vadis" came to life, and the sufferings and glorious witness of the early Christian church. I did not want to leave without a souvenir, so in passing I reached into one of the niches and took home a piece of volcanic rock—my favourite souvenir.

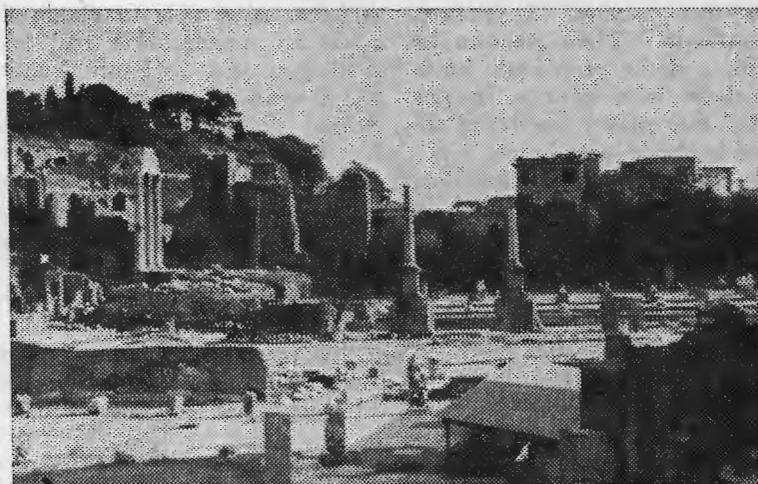
St. Peter's Cathedral

Our next destination was St. Peter's Cathedral, the greatest and most magnificent cathedral in the world and built from 1506—1626. Michelangelo was the architect. His idea was to have the cathedral in the shape of the Grecian cross with the great dome in the centre, so that anyone entering the cathedral would primarily see the great dome. He died before it was completed, however, and another architect changed the shape to the Latin cross. The magnificent dome is Michelangelo's though, and it is "a harmonious poem of immensity." It is 390 feet high, 137 feet in diameter, and the perimeter of each of the four pillars supporting it is 232 feet. The length of the interior of the Basilica is 691 feet, and the vault is 144 feet high.

Everything in St. Peter's Cathedral is magnificent, overwhelming and unforgettable. The rich mosaics, frescoes, pillars, statues, niches, altars, relics, and atmosphere produce a scene of Roman splendor. In the back of the church is a statue of the dead Christ on Mary's lap, called "Pieta", and done by Michelan-

gelo. It is very beautiful, soft and tender, though veiled in sadness. In our estimation they should have had the Pieta near the high altar instead of Peter. The high altar under the dome of Michelangelo rises over the tomb of St. Peter and ninety-five lamps burn day and night before it. There is a bronze statue of St. Peter with one foot worn away by the kisses of the many generations that passed here. The huge organ is on 24 wheels and is equipped with a motor for moving it. We spent a few hours in St. Peter's, yet when we emerged a number were wearing long faces. They were disappointed in this magnificent temple; it was cold in there with all the saints around—and no Christ.

We also visited the Sixtine Chapel in Vatican City. We could only stand and marvel at its greatness.



An inside view of the colosseum in Rome.

Onward to Pisa

Finally we left Rome, the Eternal City, the City of Cities, and are richer for having been there. We traveled through the Italian countryside towards Pisa. Every piece of land was irrigated, with grapevines beside the canals and corn in between. Pisa is a city with a population of 60,000, 13 miles from the sea and lying on the Arno River. It was heavily damaged during World War II and the marks of hand-to-hand fighting may still be seen on the stone buildings.

The prime interest in Pisa is its leaning tower, which is really the bell tower of the cathedral beside it. It is leaning over 13 feet, and 294 steps lead up to the top, 180 feet up. Another interesting building is the Baptistry standing on the other side of the cathedral. Its acoustics are such that when the guide gave the do, me, sol pitches, the echo returned from the curved walls and dome with a rich, resonant, vibrating ring, bell-like in tone, like that of a great organ. Marvelous!

To Milan Cathedral

From Pisa we went north to Rapallo, Genoa, and Milan. Milan is a great city with a population of one and a quarter million. During World War II 60% of the city, which is built on springs of water, was damaged. No subway has been dug so far, but they are beginning to work on a project. The traffic is very heavy. In Italy the policemen are dressed in white from foot to crown and look very dashing and impressive. An average of 7000 cars per hour pass the square where the beautiful Milan Cathedral stands, the greatest Gothic structure in the world.

It is built entirely of marble inside and out, with large stained glass windows 75 feet by 28 feet. The cathedral was begun in 1386 and took 500 years to complete. The windows look gray and dirty from the outside, but inside they produce light and shine beautifully. There are innumerable spires with the statue of a saint on each one.

We were always warned to be

horses. The painting was greatly neglected.

During World War II the building was hit by bombs and utterly demolished—except the end wall. It stood among the rubbish unprotected in rain and snow, in heat and cold for two years. The plaster wall was soaked, and the beautiful painting barely discernible. In 1947 the painting was restored by injecting glue into the plaster to arrest the mold and harden the plaster. Then it was cleaned with turpentine and a pocketknife. Inch by inch, the whole painting was cleaned. The first restoration of the picture was removed also, so that now we have the very colors da Vinci used. The sleeve of the disciple on the extreme left was thought to be green, but now a very beautiful shade of blue, for which da Vinci is famous, has come to light.

"What's the Fuss About?"

When you see the picture at first glance you feel the way Grade VII and VIII pupils feel when they are confronted with Shakespeare — "What are people making such a fuss about this for?" But, like all great paintings and sculptures, the longer you look at the subject the greater it becomes, until it seems to live, gain personality, depth, and power and wholly possess you. That is how I felt about "The Last Supper", and when it was time to leave I could hardly take my eyes off it.

Da Vinci is reputed to have been the first artist to bring atmosphere around and depth behind his subjects. As the critics say, "With da Vinci space is born." All the lines of the painting lead to Christ or from Him. Air envelopes the disciples, and there is a unity of people and nature.

Da Vinci breaks the outlines; he doesn't draw eyes or lips, but gives impression by shading. Each disciple symbolizes some human trait. John, in the serenity of a soft curved line, symbolizes the contemplation of humanity, while Thomas is earthy and filled with the spirit of criticism. Philip is beautiful, filled with adoration for his master. "The Last Supper" is filled with life, movement, breath, suspense, tension, excitement, fear, love and faith. Truly, a great masterpiece! (To be continued)

aware of "interested strangers" when we were on a sight-seeing tour. The tourist season is also harvest time for hundreds of pick-pockets who crowd around and seem all wrapped up in what the guide is saying. We were very fortunate, for none of our money or belongings disappeared.

Da Vinci's "Last Supper"

Milan can boast of having one of the most famous paintings in the world, Leonard da Vinci's "Last Supper". It is in the Church of Santa Maria della Grazie. Da Vinci painted it on the end wall of the monks' dining room in 1495. Since colors done in frescoes will not diffuse, da Vinci used oil paints and white of egg on plaster to get blending and melting of colors and beautiful shading. The painting did not keep well, but began to fade and nobody knew how to stop it. It was the moisture in the wall that proved disastrous. The painting was restored and "fixed up". Napoleon, when he came to Italy, used the room as a stable for his

BUT NOT FORSAKEN

By Helen Good Breneman.

212 pp.

This is a story of the courage and faith of a refugee mother. Fugitives from Russia during World War II, Hans and Maria Penner lived in constant dread of repatriation. When husband and wife were separated, Maria with her two small children started on the dangerous journey westward—to freedom and safety. Price: \$2.50.

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THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

Staff Now Includes Chinese

Rev. Theodore Choy, of Hong Kong, has been appointed to the staff of International Students, Inc., to work with the more than 3,000 Chinese students now in the United States. His goal is to win them to Christ while they are here, so that they will be missionaries to their own people when they return to Asia.

A graduate of Wheaton College and the Evangelical Free Church seminary in Chicago, Choy was for five years pastor of the 400-member Swatow Christian Church in Hong Kong.

Alliance Weekly.

* * *

Convict Now a Preacher

A ex-convict who posed as a state Senator and stole an automobile at Tallahassee, Fla., in 1953, preached to an overflow audience at First Baptist Church in that city.

Donald A. Brandeis, twenty-seven, who recently completed a term of nearly three years in the state prison at Raiford, now plans to devote his life to spreading the Gospel. After his conversion at the Raiford prison, Brandeis started a Sunday school there. His first class consisted of four inmates. When he left the prison there were 151 members.

In his audience in Tallahassee were the judge who sentenced him,

the man from whom he had stolen the automobile and several law enforcement and parole officials who had dealings with him.

Alliance Weekly.

* * *

Dead Sea 'Book of Lemach' Has Been Deciphered

Dr. Benjamin Mazar, President of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and well-known archaeologist, disclosed in New York that the Dead Sea Scroll known as the "Book of Lemach" has been deciphered by Dr. Nahman Avigad and Dr. Yigael Yadin of the University Faculty. The Scroll, the only known copy of an ancient apocryphal work, is a paraphrase and commentary on the "Book of Genesis," Dr. Mazar reported.

One of the seven Scrolls accidentally uncovered by Beduins in a cave near the Dead Sea in 1947, the "Book of Lemach," and three other scrolls were recently presented to the State of Israel by the Gottesman Foundation of New York. The other three scrolls had been acquired by the late Prof. Eliezer Sukenik of the Hebrew University in 1947.

Dr. Mazar is on a brief visit to the United States to participate in the observance of the 30th anniversary of the Hebrew University in New York and to confer with leading archaeologists and historians in this country. (ISI)

ported in Victoria last week. The plans call for a 780-foot high dam to generate 3,500,000 horsepower.

Fishery interests are likely to oppose any power developments on the Fraser, where the annual salmon catch runs into millions of dollars.

* * *

Practical Experience Wins Contest

A 13-year-old Toronto girl won an anti-liquor essay contest recently. The department of welfare says she won top honors in a school essay contest dealing with the effect on the family when alcohol is consumed in the home.

She should know, for her mother twice has been convicted of bootlegging and has been fined a total of \$600.

The World Today

Israeli Troops Attack Syrians

Attacking Israeli troops last Sunday night killed 55 Syrians and captured 29 others on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Four Israeli soldiers were reported killed and 12 wounded in the heavy hand-to-hand fighting around the Syrian outposts.

An Israeli spokesman said the attack was launched "in retaliation" for attacks on Israelis fishing in the sea.

* * *

Northern Europe Experiences Blizzard

During blizzards that struck northern Europe on Dec. 12 snow avalanches buried homes in Norway and huge drifts trapped nine glider pilots on the Shropshire slopes of England.

Although great parts of Europe had fine weather, the first really heavy snow of winter swept over Scandinavia. Temperatures fell to 29 below in northern Norway.

* * *

Pakistan Talks Back

Pakistan's Premier Chaudhri Mohammed Ali last Sunday night accused Russia's leaders of "making Kashmir a toy" in the international game.

His attack on Premier Bulganin and Communist party boss Khrushchev was made in a statement following Khrushchev's own blunt assault on Pakistan in a speech the day before in Kashmir.

* * *

Germans Emigrating in Large Numbers

During the last year 61,000 people emigrated from West Germany, 3,600 of whom were non-Germans, mostly displaced persons from eastern Europe. Indications are that this year's figure will be about the same.

Since 1951 about 60,000 have emigrated every year in spite of full employment and an increasing shortage of most kinds of labour.

CHANGE IN POTATO GRADES —

The Federal Department of Agriculture announces amendments to the Regulations under the Fruit, Vegetables and Honey Act to provide for changes to the size requirements for Canada No. 1 grade potatoes. At the same time it is announced that other amendments to the Regulations provide that potatoes entering Canada from the United States will have to meet the same size requirements that affect Canadian potatoes moving interprovincially and to export markets.

A Regulation issued November 8, 1955, by the United States Department of Agriculture established import regulations which require that potatoes imported into any United States market shall meet the grade and size requirements established by marketing orders of the States of Maine and Idaho governing the marketing of potatoes grown in those States and sold within the boundaries of the United States.

The amended Regulations pro-

vide that for Canadian grown Canada No. 1 Grade round white and red skinned varieties of potatoes the minimum diameter is increased from 2 inches to 2 1/4 inches and for the Canadian grown long shaped varieties the minimum diameter is increased from 1 3/4 inches to 2 inches. In either case the maximum size of 4 inches remains unchanged. The only exception to the foregoing sizes is for "new" potatoes available in the spring and early summer which will continue to be graded to the established 1 1/8 inches minimum diameter.

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Note: This offer does not apply to agents, dealers, and reporters.

CANADASCOPE

Canada Still on Spending Spree

Having engaged in a more or less frantic buying spree ever since the national economy took a definite upswing last spring, Canadians seem bent on closing out the year by chalking up an all-time record for year-end holiday spending.

Sales have been snow-balling ever since last May when labour income reached a new high peak of over \$1 billion.

* * *

Low Rental Housing for Winnipeg Proposed

Reports calling for a test low-rental housing project in Elmwood were approved by Greater Winnipeg Welfare Council's housing committee last week and moved on towards the legislative grist mill of municipal politics.

The reports suggest city council ask a group of private citizens to form a non-profit limited dividend corporation.

* * *

Dam on Fraser?

The Moran Power Development Company of New York is interested in building a \$500,000,000 dam on the Fraser River, it was re-

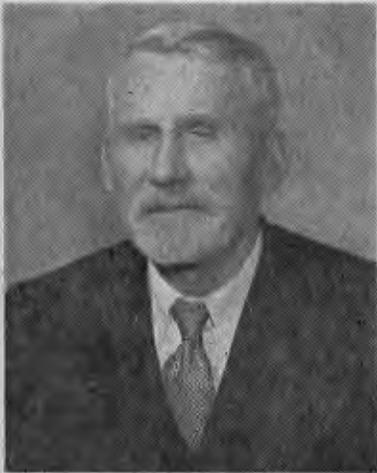
Deaths

PETER P. NICKEL

Peter P. Nickel of Abbotsford, B.C., passed on to his reward on November 26, 1955, in Abbotsford. He was 82 years old and had been afflicted with an ailment during the last four years. The funeral was held in the South Abbotsford M.B. church on November 29.

Born on January 23, 1873, in Friedrichstal, Russia, he was deprived of his mother as a child through her death. He accepted the Lord as his personal Saviour at the age of 19 and was baptized, joining the Mennonite Brethren Church. In 1893 he married Miss Elizabeth Wiens, but she passed away after three years. Of the two children born one died in infancy. He remarried in 1899, with Anna Martens his bride. Seven children were born to them, of which three sons died as children.

The family migrated to Canada in 1904, settling in the Main Centre, Sask., district, where they lived until 1941. The pioneer years



were difficult, but Bro. Nickel continued singing. He was also a Sunday school teacher. They moved to Abbotsford, B.C., in 1941. There Bro. Nickel first underwent an operation on his eyes four years ago and then had another operation one year later. He has never been totally well since.

Bro. Nickel is survived by his wife, two sons, three daughters, 27 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren.

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Above you receive a glimpse of the clothing distribution being carried on by the MCC in the Menno-heim in West Berlin, Germany. Notice the Scripture verse on the wall. Mennonites from East Berlin and East Germany come once a year to replenish their supply of clothes and food, which are too expensive in their sector.



MCC IN INDONESIA IN 1955

Since the beginning of MCC work in Indonesia, the clinic program in Java has been the major project. In addition to this, the MCC has been giving some assistance to the Javanese and Chinese churches in Java and to the small Mennonite church in Sumatra. This past year we also began relief work on the island of Celebes in East Indonesia.

The Medical Clinics

Until August of this year we operated three medical clinics in three different parts of the Muria Mountain area. During the busiest time these clinics examined and treated as many as 6,000 patients per month. Although these clinics

D. P. LOEWEN

Bro. D. P. Loewen of Dyke Rd., Yarrow, B.C., passed away peacefully in the Chilliwack General Hospital at 10 p.m. on December 5. He had suffered a stroke two months ago and has been in the hospital the whole time since then.

* * *

MRS. NIKOLAI REMPEL

Mrs. Nikolai Rempel of Chilliwack, B.C., went to be with the Lord shortly after 1 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8. She has been in the hospital off and on for about two years while suffering from cancer. The funeral was held Saturday, December 10, in the Chilliwack M.B. church.

Mrs. Rempel was the wife of Rev. Nikolai Rempel, for several years the leading minister at the East Chilliwack M.B. Church. Rev. Rempel himself has not been well for the last while.

ics are located in Christian villages, most of the patients are Moslem. Through the help of the local preachers and colportage work we also try to give a direct witness to Christ as our Saviour.

Ten Indonesian workers assist the MCC doctor and two nurses in these clinics.

In September the Javanese Church took over the one clinic at Margoredjo. With the two extra days per week this gives us, we plan to go from school to school examining and treating the children for eye ailments and diseases. This section of Java is a heavy trachoma area.

Relief Work in Celebes

In February MCC began investigating the situation in Celebes, the island east of Borneo. For about five years Celebes has been in a state of civil war. Bands of rebels have crippled the island, harmed the economy, burned the houses and ruined the crops of thousands of innocent people. The area of the heaviest rebel activity is around the port of Palopo in south Celebes. There is a large Christian church in this area. There are about 93,000 refugees, of which the majority are Christians.

In June an MCC shipment of 100 bales of clothing and 30 cases of soap arrived for these refugees. A shipment of 120 cases of beef and chicken is now being forwarded on to Palopo. In this program of relief MCC is working with Church World Service which is supplying milk and medicines and paying the administrative costs of the program. The distributions in Palopo are in charge of a Dutch doctor and an able Indonesian Christian.

Assistance to Native Churches

MCC is grateful for the fellowship with Javanese and Chinese Christians here. To help these churches, MCC has been giving some support to the Javanese

Theological School in Pati and their parochial schools. They also help to support several young people as they study now in preparation for future church work. Herman and Jo Tan, who spent several years studying in American Mennonite schools, have recently returned to Java. They will be working in the Chinese Church.

Future Plans

In the near future Leonard Kingsley and family of Berne, Ind., will join the unit in Indonesia. Bro. Kingsley will do agricultural work on the island of Timor in East Indonesia. In response to requests from the Timorese Church and other churches in East Indonesia, there is a proposal to send six Pax men to East Indonesia to join Kingsley as an agricultural team.

Weddings

BARTEL — WIENS

Irene Wiens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wiens of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., and Rudy Bartel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Franz Bartel of Leamington, Ont., were married at the Virgil M.B. church on November 26.



Rev. D. J. Klassen officiated at the wedding and Rev. David Neumann, principal of Eden Christian College, brought a message in English. Two choirs, one from the church at Virgil and one from Eden Christian College, where Rudy Bartel is teaching, supplied the special music.

Special visitors were Mrs. Betty Pauls of Winnipeg and her four-year-old son. Mrs. Pauls is a sister of the groom and had not seen her brother for three years.

If the faults you see in others were not so much like your own you would not recognize them so easily. —Sel.

Colleges

CANADIAN MENNONITE BIBLE COLLEGE

The Literary Society of C.M.-B.C. put on a program of special interest to the students on the evening of November 29. It was an "Original Story-Telling Contest." The four contestants were: Bernie Retzlaff, Cornelia Lehn, Bernice Regier and Otto Dirks. The judges for this contest were Rev. David Janzen, Kathy Klassen and Dietrich Gerbrandt. First and second prizes were given to Cornelia Lehn and Otto Dirks respectively. Special songs were sung between each story, which served to round off this very enjoyable evening.

Mr. Flumbaum, a missionary to the Jews here in Winnipeg, was the guest speaker at our Saturday evening prayer meeting. He discussed various aspects of his work and challenged us to greater concern for the spiritual needs of these people. A group of our students have been working with Mr. Flumbaum during this term by visiting various Jewish homes.

Rev. H. M. Epp of Abbotsford, B.C., and Rev. H. T. Klassen of Rosthern, Sask., stopped in for a visit at the College on December 5 while on their way home from the Council of Boards Meeting at Newton, Kansas. Our president, Rev. I. I. Friesen, who also attended this meeting, returned with them. Rev. Epp brought us a devotional message in Chapel that day. On December 6 Peter Letkeman, our representative at the Y.P.U. cabinet meeting at Newton last week, gave a very interesting report on the topics of discussion and the results of that meeting.

Margaret Voght.

M.B. BIBLE COLLEGE

One of the visiting speakers during Chapel Hour last week was Rev. Bennett of Vancouver Island, B.C. His message centred on Paul's charges to Timothy, as found in II Timothy 1:3-8. Rev. Bennett is leaving for Japan under the New Tribes Mission.

Rev. Peters of the International Christian Leprosy Mission placed before us the challenge of Matth. 9:38: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Bro. Peters emphasized the sin of prayerlessness.

In his interesting report Rev. Peters enumerated the four-point programme of the I.C.L.M.: evangelism, preventative medicine, indigenous leadership, and rehabilitation. Roadside clinics are today replacing hospitals for lepers. This has been made possible because of the new wonder drug pills (DDS), which are inexpensive and very effective.

Of the estimated 10 million lepers in the world today, not more than 5% have heard the Gospel! Pray for the men and the means to support this work.

On Friday night the Peace Promotion Committee was in charge of the programme. Special features were the reading of a story on reconciliation, written by Tim Kroeger, by Rev. H. H. Janzen, and a talk on non-resistance as expressed historically and today in the Mennonite Church, given by Bro. H. F. Klassen, editor of the *Mennonitische Rundschau*.

Helmut Klassen.

GRACE BIBLE INSTITUTE OMAHA, NEBRASKA

The Board of Directors and Advisory Council members, together with the auditorium building committee, are concentrating on the new auditorium which is to be erected on top of our present basement chapel and for which funds are being raised. A detailed blueprint is now in the process of being drawn. The Board of Directors at their regular fall business meeting also appointed a planning committee consisting of members representing the following administrative offices of our school—president, business manager, and registrar. This committee is delegated to study plans for a long-range building program on the campus of Grace Bible Institute.

High Schools

MENNONITE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE NORTH CLEARBROOK, B.C.

On September 19 another year of school began for 404 students at the M.E.I., 214 of which were attending the senior high school and 190 the junior high school. A staff of 14 teachers share the teaching duties, with Mr. I. J. Dyck the principal.

At the opening programme the significance of an alumni organization was revealed when a \$50 scholarship for general proficiency was given to Henry Wiebe by the M.E.I. Alumni. They also presented a cheque for \$225 to the principal toward the extension of the library.

There have been many visitors during our morning devotion periods. Among them were four graduates, two now studying at U.B.C., one in Europe, and one serving in Paraguay. Irvin Redekopp, a graduate, acquainted us with the Alumni Association's latest project. They are going to sponsor an elocution contest among M.E.I. students, with a trophy awarded to the winner and a large one placed in the school hall with the winner's name on it. Other trophies under consideration are for music, sports, etc.

The school basketball teams are

active in inter-school competition. The senior team has won two games and lost three, while the junior team has won two and lost one.

The Christmas exams were given on December 1, 2, 5, and 6. During the examination days everyone was studying so much that even the intramural basketball games at noon were cancelled. Many found out that it would have been better to study all along instead of leaving it for the last moment.

On Friday, Dec. 9, the 55-voice Concert Choir motored to Vancouver by special bus to sing on the CBC "Parade of Choirs." This series is heard every Friday night at 10:30 p.m. throughout British Columbia.

The M.E.I. Concert Choir, under the direction of Rev. C. D. Toews and accompanied by Louise Rempel, presented a variety programme of German and English songs. The mixed choir sang: Guter Mond; Dort hoch auf der Alpe; Wenn ich den Wand'rer frage; Hear My Prayer; an excerpt from Handel's "Joshua", Jubal's Harfe, with Lily Toews the soprano soloist; Christus ist geboren heut; and Beautiful Saviour, wherein Arthur Wiebe sang the tenor solo. The male choir sang the "Jaegerlied" and "The Lord is My Light", whilst the ladies' choir sang "Now the Day is Over". As the choir went off the air they

hummed "Now the Day is Over."

On December 21 the M.E.I. is presenting its annual Christmas programme. The following night the Student's Council, with Karl Janzen as president, will be in charge of the school's Christmas banquet.

The Alumni Homecoming Night will be December 29, with the M.E.I. Student's Council in charge.

Elmer Stobbe, XIII.

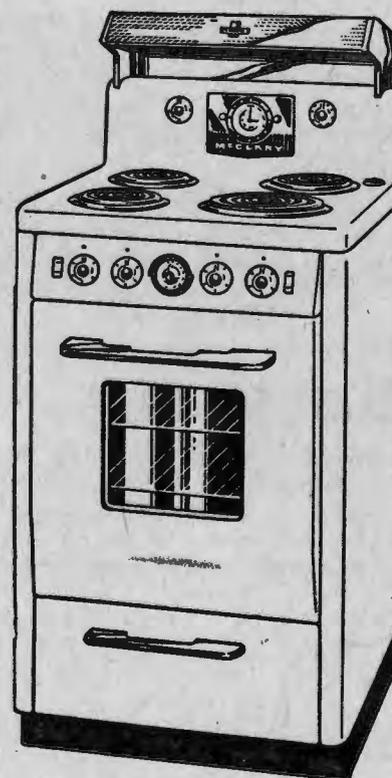
EDEN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE VIRGIL, ONTARIO

At the beginning of the school year elections were held for the various school offices in Eden Christian College, Virgil, Ont. Elected were: Walter Reimer, student council president; Woldie Fast, literary president; Wilfred Goertzen, sports director; and Dora Willms, Hildegard Klassen, Tena Loewen, and Jake Klassen (all of grade 12) for the prayer committee.

Under the efficient leadership of Mr. J. M. Thiessen four choirs have been formed—Junior Choir, grade 9; Intermediate Choir, grade 10; Senior Choir, grade 11 and 12; and a Ladies' Choir.

On October 4 our school held its annual fall social, where we sought to become better acquainted with one another. On November 14 the students of the school presented their first literary programme of the year. The students

(Continued on page 12-1)



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(Continued from page 11—4) showed talent in their musical and dramatical presentations. It was an evening everyone enjoyed.

On November 26 the Eden Senior Choir had the privilege of singing at the wedding of their teacher, Mr. Rudy Bartel, who married Miss Irene Wiens of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. We wish this couple God's richest blessings throughout their married life.

Every Wednesday afternoon at one o'clock the Christian students gather in the former Bible school auditorium for prayer. We thank God for these faithful prayer warriors, who are sincere in their desire to see the school grow spiritually as well as academically. Despite the school's ever-increasing population, we earnestly pray that Eden Christian College may retain its spiritual backbone and that it may produce young men and women who are qualified to meet the trials and temptations of life.

Joyce Redekop XI.

50 Enrolled in European Mennonite Bible School

Fifty students enrolled in the European Mennonite Bible School at Basel, Switzerland, when it opened Nov. 20.

The school has grown rapidly from its beginning with 27 students and a four-week term in 1950. Now in its sixth year, the term will be ten weeks and the enrollment has almost doubled.

The European Bible School is a cooperative venture of French, German, Swiss and North American Mennonites through MCC. It is an unprecedented development in Europe to see students and teachers from various Mennonite churches and different countries study and learn together. In its training of young people as workers in European churches, the school offers courses in Bible study, church history, Sunday school and youth work and the mission of the church.

Bro. Cornelius Wall, who with his wife recently visited many Mennonite churches in Canada and the United States, is again principal of the school.

Present Cantata

Vineland, Ont. — The Niagara Christian Fellowship Chapel of Niagara, Ont., presented the cantata 'Immanuel Forever' in the auditorium of the Lake Ave. public school on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 11. The choir, under the direction of Bro. Ernie Dyck, sang such selections as: His Name is Wonderful; Jesus the Dearest of All; and others, concluding with, Hail Immanuel Forever.

Bro. Ed Andres spoke for a few minutes on the topic: Why was Jesus born?

We were rather disappointed at the small audience, since we felt the cantata was worthy of a packed auditorium.

Neufeld Interprets For Churchmen

Dr. Herman Neufeld of Vancouver, former editor of the *Mennonitische Rundschau*, is the official interpreter for the United Church during the visit of the Russian Orthodox Church dignitaries to Canada. They have come at the invitation of the United Church of Canada. Dr. Neufeld was about to leave for Vancouver after a visit in Winnipeg when he was called to Ottawa to interpret.

On the Horizon

December 18. — The Oratorio Choir of the M.B. Bible College, directed by Henry Voth, will present the first part of the "Messiah" and the "Hallelujah Chorus" on Sunday, December 18, at 7 p.m. in the Elmwood M.B. church, Winnipeg.

December 18. — The Winkler Bible School is presenting its Christmas programme at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 18, in the M.B. church at Winkler, Man.

December 18. — Dedication of the new Bethel Mission Church in Winnipeg.

December 27 to 29. — The annual Bible Conference at the Elm-

wood M.B. Church will discuss John 14:31 — 17:26. Rev. H. H. Janzen and Dr. A. H. Unruh will speak. Rev. Abram G. Neufeld of Ninga, Man., will speak at the evangelistic meetings in the evening.

January 8. — The dedication of the new college building of the Canadian Mennonite Bible College will be held January 8.

Stories of Faith and Fame

FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Trail Maker, the Story of David Livingstone

By Robert O Latham. 95 pp.

Here in brief is the story of David Livingstone told simply and interestingly for boys and girls. The boy who learned Latin verbs while he worked in a spinning mill, studied to be a doctor during the winter months while still working at the mill, and who later forgot his sermon the first time he was to preach, became the man who opened up Africa. Large type 75¢

Bishop Jim, the Story of James Hannington

By Joyce Reason. 93 pages.

About to be ordained, James Hannington was not happy. It wasn't until he yielded to Christ and repented of his sins that he found peace. How he went to Africa as a missionary and had to return after one year, how he became bishop, and how he finally was killed by the Africans makes fascinating reading. Large type 75¢

White Queen, the Story of Mary Slessor

By Donald McFarlan. 95 pp.

Already as a child Mary Slessor dreamed of going to Africa. But she had to help support the family. Undaunted, she began a Sunday school in the slums of Dundee. The death of Livingstone challenged her and she went to Africa, to Calabar, where she worked for 40 years. Also in large type 75¢

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