

Mennonite Observer

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

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YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

February 3, 1956

The Christian Press, Ltd., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Vol. II, No 5

Receive Visa for India

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Krahn of Abbotsford, B.C., passed through Winnipeg last week-end on their way to Hillsboro, Kansas, the headquarters of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions. The Krahns recently were advised that their visa had been granted by India, a definite answer to prayer since visas have been hard to get after India imposed new regulations.

Passage for India has been booked on a boat due to leave New York in the middle of February. Upon their arrival in India they will have to spend a year in language study before they can begin their service as missionaries.

Rev. Krahn at the present time was working on his masters degree at the graduate school of the University of Washington, but the arrival of the visa has interrupted his work on his thesis. He is a graduate of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg and of Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kans., where he gained his AB degree. He then went to summer school at Emporia State Teacher's College and taught at the school on the M.B. mission station at Indianola, Oklahoma, the following winter. His wife, a registered nurse, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Bauman of Abbotsford. They have one daughter, Valerie.

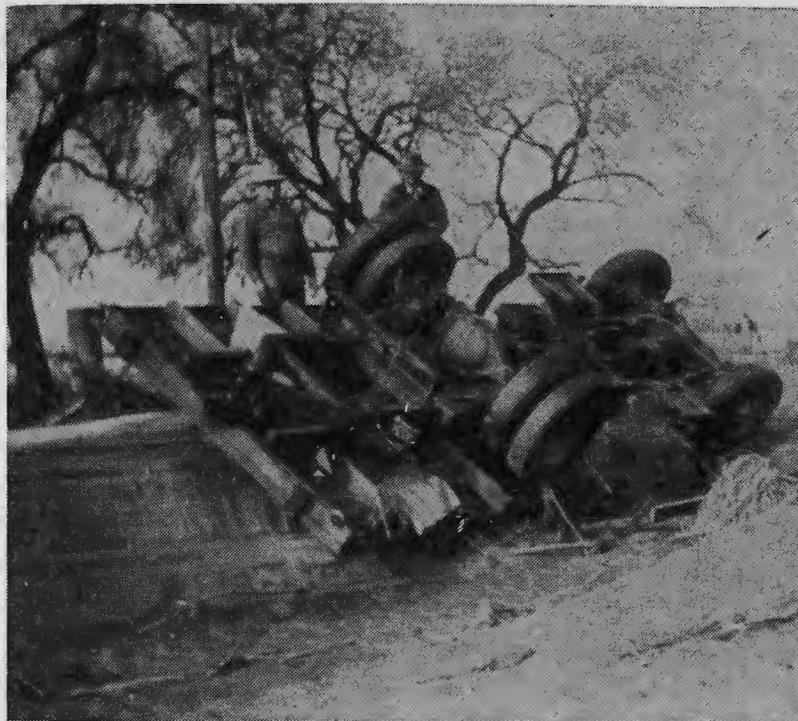
WINKLER MAN WINS MEDAL FOR ESSAY IN HISTORY

Frank Brown of Winkler, Man., will be one of the six 1955 history essay winners to receive medals at a special meeting of the Manitoba Historical Society at the legislative buildings in Winnipeg on February 15. The medals are presented annually for the best historical essays or other historical works on local history in Manitoba.

The title of Mr. Brown's essay is: "A Short History of the Town of Winkler".

Special speaker at the presentation meeting will be M. S. Donnelly, associate professor of political science at the University of Manitoba.

The Margaret McWilliams medal will be presented to each of the winners by Hon. R. F. McWilliams at the presentation meeting.



The extent of the havoc wrought by the flood waters in California is seen in this picture, where a tractor is almost buried near this overturned truck.

Mennonites Help in Flood Relief

By Otto B. Reimer

Reedley, Calif. — For most of California and the West Coast Dec. 19 and 20 were the warmest December days on record. Here at Reedley the thermometer registered 72 degrees.

In the mountains from 5,000 feet up considerable amounts of snow were piled. Then Wednesday, the 21st, a very warm rain-storm swept into the area—not from the west or northwest as is common—but from the South Pacific areas. Thus the stage was set for real trouble; many weather-wise people feared the worst. Then it happened.

Between Wednesday morning and Saturday almost unheard-of warm rains fell over the area north of Bakersfield to Canada. The warm rains melted nearly all the snow up to the 10,000-foot level. No streams could contain the runoff and all waterways not controlled by dams overflowed.

Many cities and hundreds of square miles of farmland were inundated up to 20 feet or more. The property losses were enormous. Many human lives were lost. Tremendous herds of cattle were wiped out. Calls for help came from

IN THIS ISSUE

- ★ Will a Starving Man Receive the Gospel?P. 2
- ★ "In Thy Presence is Fullness of Joy"P. 2
- ★ Wide Variety of Services Provided by MCCP. 3
- ★ Here and There — and EverywhereP. 4
- ★ Mennonites in Mission to German SettlementsP. 4
- ★ Increased Outreach in BrandonP. 5
- ★ Mennonite Missions Growing in CalgaryP. 5
- ★ Many Starve in the VillagesP. 5
- ★ Children's PageP. 6
- ★ They Brought Good News P. 7
- ★ Teaching the Mentally RetardedP. 8
- ★ News from NeulandP. 9
- ★ MCC NewsP. 10
- ★ Translation WorkP. 10
- ★ Plan WorkshopP. 11
- ★ Bartsch to Europe for EvangelismP. 12

many areas. Perhaps one of the hardest hit is Yuba City, with a population of 12,000 people, and surrounding Sutter County, California. There the huge levees along the mighty Feather River broke and spread over the low-lying neighbouring cities and country from Friday night to Saturday, Christmas Eve.

When the extent of the disaster became known, about 40 persons representing the Mennonites of California were called together at Reedley to discuss what we could do to help. The net results were the organization of the Mennonite Disaster Service of California. The executives made quick trips of inspection to make the necessary arrangements for action.

The Yuba City area was chosen as the most needy. The Reedley Mennonite Brethren Church agreed to release their assistant pastor,

(Continued on page 3-3)

Immediate Relief Needed in the Belgian Congo

Reports from Kajiji, Belgian Congo, state that a widespread famine has broken out there. Rev. J. B. Toews, field secretary of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions, is touring the M.B. mission fields in the Belgian Congo and in a letter makes a heart-stirring plea for aid to help feed the starving multitudes. He writes:

I have just returned from a

visit to Kajiji, one of our most southern mission fields in the Belgian Congo. What I have seen and heard there demands immediate attention and relief on a large scale.

During the summer of 1955 our missionaries reported an increasing physical need on the field. Since poverty is prevalent on all mission fields we did not realize the

full extent of the need. Today the situation is desperate, for on our field, with a population of about 120,000, a widespread famine is raging.

Dr. Ernie Schmidt, who is supervising the medical work on the field, appealed to the government in the Belgian Congo for relief. The provincial governor answered:

(Continued on page 4-4)

EDITORIAL

Devotional

"In Thy Presence is Fullness of Joy"

By John Wall *

Will a Starving Man Receive the Gospel?

Elsewhere in this issue there is a report on the critical food shortage in one section of the Belgian Congo. After describing the physical effects of starvation the writer asks, "But will a starving man receive the Gospel when you do not give him food?" The answer is given in the same article when the writer reports on the increasing difficulty in awakening a response to the Gospel during this period when the natives are starving.

The incident brings to mind the experience of a minister sent to South America to do evangelistic work in the Mennonite settlements there. Again and again he entered homes where the need was evident everywhere—where at times the mother did not know how to find food for the next meal. Since he had not been given any funds he could not help. Upon his return he asked, "How can I present the claims of the Gospel to a mother who does not know where to find food for supper?"

It is true that man does not live by bread alone—but he must have bread to live. Missionaries and relief workers often find people in whom the cry of the heart is drowned out by the cry of the stomach. Man's basic physical need must be met before he will notice that he has spiritual needs. It is useless to try to persuade a man that he will lose eternal life if he is preoccupied with finding food to sustain this life. The physical part of man cannot be divorced from the spiritual part.

In Japan, relief "In the Name of Christ" has opened the doors for mission work—the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions found ready entrance after MCC had paved the way. In Formosa, relief "In the Name of Christ" made hearts receptive to the Gospel—and the Board of Missions of the Mennonite General Conference is preparing to take over where MCC leaves off. These are only two of the many illustrations where a helping hand in time of physical need has made it possible to show the people their spiritual need.

When Jesus met the blind man (described in John 9) he first put clay on the man's eyes and sent him to the pool of Siloam. Only after the man had received his sight did Jesus ask him, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?" In our haste we often turn things about and thus prove that we do not really understand man and have not fully learned the lesson Christ wanted to teach us.

The Mennonite Central Committee is serving around the world in needy countries. Let us never forget to give them our whole-hearted support.

The dire need in the Belgian Congo also demands action on our part. We may have to sacrifice—but we cannot let those starve to whom we have sent missionaries with the Bread of Life. Not only would many die without Christ but the mission field will be seriously depopulated unless we do something about it.

"Will a starving man receive the Gospel when we do not give him food?"

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

J. B. Cridland, Agassiz, B.C.

Almighty, everlasting God, we turn our hearts to Thee,
And pray Thy blessing on our friends who serve across the sea.
Be Thou their comfort and their stay when they are far from home.

In lands of heathen darkness deep, where Satan rampant roams
Guide Thou their ways as on they go to spread Thy gospel free,
That souls in darkest Africa the Lamp of Life might see.

Lord, stir the hearts of us at home that we may do our part,
To prove to those who know Thee not, how wonderful Thou art;
And as these days of grace run out, oh do not let us wait,
Until the trumpet call has blown, for then 'twill be too late.
Now is the hour! Come, let us give and send and go and preach
That Jesus' blest salvation all around the world might reach.

A new and living way into the presence of the Lord has been opened to us through the blood of Jesus Christ. Through this new way it has become our glorious privilege to live not only a part of our life, but our whole life in His presence. The full significance of this is frequently not apprehended.

We may come before the Lord with our sins and our failures. There in His presence it becomes a most profitable experience to allow the clear and searching light of His truth to penetrate every nook and corner of our lives. As it causes us to humble ourselves and take refuge once again beneath the cross it produces a peculiarly healing effect. There are physical ailments which respond most readily to light treatments. A more effective means for combating the sinful desires and sinful habits within our lives cannot be found than to expose them regularly to the light of the Lord's presence.

We may also enter into the pre-

Transformed by the Book

A Bible colporteur was held up at the point of a revolver in a Sicilian forest in the dead of night. He was ordered to light a fire and burn his books. Having lit the fire, he asked if he might read a brief extract from each book before surrendering it to the flames. From one he read Psalm 23; from another, the Parable of the Good Samaritan; from another, the Sermon on the Mount; from another, Paul's hymn to love, etc.

After the reading of each extract the brigand exclaimed, "That's a good book! We won't burn that one. Give it to me." In the end not a book was burned. They passed one by one into the brigand's hands, who went off, books and all, into the darkness.

Some years later he turned up again, but this time as an ordained Christian minister. Telling his story to the colporteur, he said, "It was the reading of your books that did it."

The harvest of the Bible is the harvest of changed lives all over the world and a harvest of churches planted by the redemption of whole communities. *The Reaper*

Let all my powers, without reserve, be dedicated to God's service. Let my memory be stored with His thoughts and His Word. Let reason, judgment, conscience, imagination, emotions, and feelings all be consecrated to Him who died for me. This is my reasonable service, and to withhold it is to rob God.

sence of the Lord with all of our plans and purposes. People at times are hesitant to ask counsel of God. They frequently feel that it involves too great a risk to permit Him to have His way. So they take the helm into their own hands only to run their ship aground sooner or later. What good fortune to have learned to trust the Lord and by His abiding presence be kept from charting or navigating a wrong course! Allowing Him to take the helm imparts to lives an inner calm and serenity that dispels fear and anxiety.

The privilege of living our whole commonplace daily life in His presence is the glorious privilege of His children. For many of us our daily life consists of a routine of activities which, because they are quite ordinary and constantly repeated, tend to become monotonous. We live through joys and sorrows, great and small, encouragements and discouragements, periods of work and periods of rest, and periods of loss and times of gain. It is only when we experience the continued presence of God in all of these things, the great as well as the small, that even the simplest life becomes rich and interesting and full of meaning.

Then truly the words of the Psalmist will become the testimony of each of us, when he states, "In thy presence is fullness of joy" (Ps. 16: 11).

* Continuing his studies after teaching two years at the East Chilliwack Bible School.

Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

LESLIE STOBBE — Editor

The MENNONITE OBSERVER is being published every Wednesday by

The Christian Press, Ltd.,
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5,
Manitoba, Canada.

Address all correspondence to the above address.

Managing Director — H. F. Klassen
Production Manager — J. K. Neufeld

Subscription rate: \$1.75 a year;
in combination with the
Mennonitische Rundschau — \$4.50 a year
payable in advance.

Authorized as Second Class Mail,
Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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.

Wide Variety of Services Provided by MCC

Waterloo, Ont. — The Mennonite Central Committee held its annual meeting in Chicago on December 29 to 30, 1955. Excerpts from the reports given at the meeting follow:

Total income from all activities, including the value of material aid contributions during 1955, amounted to \$2,757,025. This represents an increase of \$135,391 over 1954.

Korea: During the year MCC assisted 63,000 people. In the institutional distribution program 85 charitable institutions (7,700 people) were given food and clothing. In Taegu City MCC regularly provides milk for 15 milk kitchens serving 2,500 persons daily. In addition, some 60 Bible clubs are provided with milk, serving another 6,000 children.

Formosa: During the 20 clinic days in October a total of 1,508 patients were treated. The total number of diagnoses for the month was 2,056.

Vietnam: Four workers in Vietnam have thus far distributed 20,000 Poinsetta packages, 40,000 pounds of cheese, 1,590 cases of canned meat, 369 cartons of soap, 200 bales of clothing — with a total value of \$126,192.

Java: The medical clinic continues with an average of approximately 250 patients per day. Help is given to the Javanese Theological School at Pati, material aid is distributed, and agricultural work is carried on in East Indonesia.

India: Workers have been engaged in distributing food and clothing to the needy Anglo-Indians in Calcutta. They also help find work, secure medical assistance and improve the living conditions of these people. In addition a daily distribution is given to some 200 refugees in Habra.

Jordan: Here our workers carry on large-scale distributions in refugee camps and conduct shoe-making and woodworking classes for boys and sewing classes for women. An orphan's home is operated in Hebron for 24 boys.

Germany: Activity centers around the Bad Duerkheim children's home, youth work in north Germany, the PAX building service, Berlin Menno Heim and refugee assistance.

Austria: Much material need continues. MCC operates two joint programs with the Church of the Brethren. Thirteen kindergartens in refugee camps receive a snack each morning and a TB project receives monthly packages to supplement the diets of needy children.

France: More than 46 charitable institutions have been given food. In addition food and clothing are given to some 50 North African social outcasts who have found shelter in France.

Other totals of interest are: 234 tons of clothing were received last year, an increase of 18 tons over last year; 31,696 Christmas bundles were received and distributed in 12 countries; 400 tons of food were contributed during the year, with shipments approximately 265 tons, valued at \$222,279.

In conjunction with the MCC work a missing persons file is maintained. Already 3,500 missing people are listed, and an appeal has been sent out to send in the names of those missing to make the file more complete.

PAX boys are serving in seven Eurasian and two South American countries. A total of 95 men are now active in this service.

The Canadian MCC office in Waterloo has provided assistance for 119 families enroute from Paraguay to western provinces. It has also processed clothes valued at \$74,001. Three shipments were made to Austria and Korea and further shipments to Austria and Paraguay are under way.

During the past year 23 persons took part in the year-round voluntary service program, while 85 young people participated in the Summer Service program.

A milestone in 1955 was the opening of the Ailsa Craig Boys' Farm, where Abraham Schmitt heads the staff. Ten boys have been admitted and more are on the waiting list for admission as soon as more accommodations are available. Sound techniques for working with the boys have been developed. Support from the constituent churches is still a vital factor in the further progress of the institution.

ENTER SCHOOLS WITH HAPPY HOUR BIBLE CLUBS

J. A. Froese

Calgary, Alta. — The school board of the city of Calgary has been opening the doors of the schools to Bible clubs sponsored by "The Child for Christ Crusade". Already five Bible clubs in different schools are being conducted by young people of the Mennonite Brethren Churches, supervised by the local M.B. city mission, called the "Calgary Gospel Light Mission".

The attendance at these Bible clubs is not compulsory and therefore the clubs vary in size, with the average attendance ranging from 12 to a little over 20. Most of these children attend some Sunday school on Sunday mornings, but only a few hear the true gospel of salvation through faith in Christ outside of these Bible clubs.

Experience so far reveals that the regular staff at these schools co-operates fairly well with the

teachers of the Bible clubs, who are either university students or work in the city. In some cases the members of the school staff go out of their way to assist the Bible club teachers. It is a real joy for the Bible club teachers to be able to point boys and girls to the Lord Jesus as Saviour and lead them on in the study of God's Word.

CALIFORNIA MENNONITES HELP IN FLOOD RELIEF

(Continued from page 1-4)

Bro. H. R. Wiens, for several weeks to serve as unit director. Brother Wiens went to Yuba City Monday, Jan. 2. On Wednesday, Jan 4, the first group of 35 workers from the various churches moved in with boots, raincoats, shovels, hoses, buckets, brushes and mops and began the work of cleaning the homes and performing whatever help we could. When asked by residents of the area how it was that we came to help from areas several hundred miles away, Brother Wiens replied that as Mennonites we believe in putting some shoe leather into our religion.

What made the Yuba City situation particularly serious was the fact that the disaster overtook the city so suddenly and unexpectedly. The people had been repeatedly assured by radio reports that there was no danger, and many men were on the 30-foot-high levees sandbagging where necessary. Some more timid people, however, began leaving for higher ground by three o'clock Friday afternoon, Dec. 23.

Then at one o'clock Saturday morning, with a huge whoosh, the levee about two miles south of town gave way. The water did not start spilling over the top, slowly cutting the levee and giving the people at least a little time to realize what was happening and permitting warnings to be broadcast. Instead, it broke through at the bottom of the 30-foot-high levee, which collapsed in a moment. Quickly the huge wall of water widened the gap, until the break was nearly half a mile wide. Now the people were directed by radio what routes to take out of town. But at that hour of night many did not have the radio on and so were overtaken by the waters. Neighbor warned neighbor when possible.

Many acts of heroism and other incidents are related. There is the story of the deputy sheriff who, together with his son, raced in his car along the highway running parallel with the breaking levee, warning the people living along the route of the coming waters. But it was too late. They only got a short distance and when directly opposite the huge break their car was caught. After the waters receded days later, their car was found completely buried under sand and dirt except for an inch or two. Searchers cut out the top, expecting

to find the bodies in the car but they were not there. The bodies were later found far away.

In another instance 30 people had crowded into the upstairs rooms of a two-storey house. Occasionally during the night, when the water in many instances came higher than the ceiling, these people heard agonizing screams for help for a little while and then everything was quiet. No help had been possible. In Yuba City 32 people lost their lives.

In Sutter County, in which Yuba City is situated, the Red Cross estimates 280 homes were destroyed, 5,500 others damaged, 6,300 families and 50 businesses affected in some way. In the farming areas the destruction is perhaps even greater than in the city. This is a fruit-growing area with land values up to several thousand dollars an acre. Here the trees were washed out or pushed over. Even those that escaped the onrush of the water often were under water for so long (many thousands of acres are still under feet of water — written January 13) that they will die and have to be removed. In nearly all cases these orchards were cut up by the swift water to such an extent that they will have to be leveled. One man was overheard saying to another in the Red Cross feeding station: "I and my wife are back to where we were 30 years ago."

Our Mennonite men who went to the stricken area have helped the people in whatever way they could to alleviate their plight, removing filth and dead stock, moving furniture, cleaning houses, straightening up young orchards before the mud around them became set and helping the Red Cross in their huge feeding program. We have worked in very close cooperation with the Red Cross but as a distinct unit. That organization with its trained men and varied experience has given us invaluable assistance at every point. We have high praise for the Red Cross. There is much that we can learn from them. One is their ever-readiness for any emergency. And we should now perfect our organizations further for any eventuality. The Red Cross supplied our men with meals and a place to sleep as well as blankets and cots.

Perhaps the greatest service we have been able to render is the spiritual lift our efforts have given those we helped. After a few hours of our work their hopelessness in the face of their task seems to fade. They soon take courage and also go to work to restore their homes. When we speak a few words of cheer and encouragement they brighten up visibly and accept our testimony with a sincere gratitude that is so rewarding that most of us wish we could have more of our time to give to this cause "in the name of Christ".



The orchards in Sutter County, California, have been hard hit. At places trees are uprooted and sand dunes washed in to a four-foot depth. Not only will the trees have to be bulldozed and replanted in some orchards, but the ground will also have to be leveled and the sand hauled away to make the orchards as productive as before.

HERE AND THERE AND EVERYWHERE

Sing at Neighboring Church

Abbotsford, B.C. — The 45-voice choir of the South Abbotsford M.B. Church, directed by Mr. A. Dyck, sang at the Clearbrook M.B. Church on Sunday evening, January 29.

In his opening remarks Mr. H. Unger of North Clearbrook stated that the theme for the evening was: "God's Greatness in Nature". The choir's songs were in accordance with this theme. Rev. C. D. Toews spoke on Psalm 104, stressing that now and then we should withdraw, meditating upon God's greatness as revealed in nature and humbly worshipping Him.

Other items on the program included a Bible reading, solo, recitation, a nature study for the children and a song by a mixed quartet.

Home from Hospital

Aldergrove, B.C. — Mrs. Peter H. Wiens, who had an operation at the hospital, is now at home recovering. Little Stanley Wiens, 4, is also at home. He was taken to the hospital at Langley quite suddenly last week for a rupture operation. He is recovering satisfactorily.

British Columbia Vacations

Holmfild, Man. — Mr. and Mrs. John Duerksen returned home on January 19 after spending the Christmas season with friends and relatives in B.C. On January 23 Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Rempel left by train for a short vacation in British Columbia.

An Example of a Helping Hand

When the barn on John B. Martin's farm, located one mile south of Elmira, Ont., burned, only the livestock was saved. That was on December 22, 1955. Three weeks later, January 12, about 100 men gathered for a "raising day". Two

days later the roof was on and the structure boarded in, leaving only the interior to be completed before Mr. Martin could gather his livestock from neighbors, where it was boarded temporarily.

Not only did his neighbors give him free labour, but they also provided a great deal of financial aid. Six Mennonite churches participated in a drive for financial aid. This is typical of the Mennonite churches there, who spare no effort in helping those in their community who are struck by natural disaster.

Wins Grain Award

Waldheim, Sask. — Miss Irene Janzen, a member of the 4-H club here, won first prize in the White Oats Class at the Saskatoon Grain Fair, on January 10-14. Miss Janzen won the Line Elevator trophy for her entry.

In Hospital With Brain Tumor

Leamington, Ont. — Mr. J. C. Heinrichs was taken to the Windsor hospital last week, where he was scheduled to undergo an operation for the removal of a brain tumor on January 30. This is a difficult period for the family, for Mrs. Heinrichs passed away during the summer leaving several children ranging from 4 to 13 years old.

Prayer is requested for this young father and also for the children.

To Open Mission Field in Viet Nam

At the January meeting of the Eastern Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities it was decided to open a new mission field in Viet Nam, Indochina, this year if possible, the *Mennonite Weekly Review* reports.

Orie O. Miller, secretary of the Board, reported on the open door for missionary activity in Viet Nam and the great needs there. Ear-

lier the Board had approved sending workers to Sumatra, but it was now decided to enter Viet Nam first if conditions continue to be favorable. It is hoped that two couples can be sent to the field in 1956.

Brother Miller will make further investigation of conditions in Viet Nam during his present tour of relief and mission fields in Europe, the Middle East and the Far East.

Mennonites in Mission to German Settlements

Asuncion, Paraguay. — Three Mennonite teachers have been able to make a second mission contact with German settlements in the Alto Parana zone some 200 miles south of the Paraguay capital.

The first contact was made around Christmas, 1954, when two three-week Bible schools for children were conducted in the German colonies of Alto Parana by Heinrich Ratzlaff, Asuncion. At that time the mission effort was climaxed by a Christmas program attended by more than 100 adults. The majority of visitors had indicated that they had never observed Christmas in such a manner before.

Ratzlaff, who is a teacher in Asuncion, together with his wife and Mr. Thiessen, teacher in Neuland colony, were able to return this last December to carry on the Bible school program for children more intensively. Summer Bible schools were conducted at two places with a total attendance of 54. German instruction and preparations for a Christmas program were combined with the Bible instruction.

Approximately 150 adults attended the Christmas program at both places. A great deal of attention had been devoted to the details of the program, since Christmas Eve presented a rare opportunity to present the Gospel to the people.

One of the teachers continued at the settlements in January. Heinrich Ratzlaff, writing in a report of the work, says, "Alto Parana needs teachers, nurses, men and women in every vocation who are prepared to give and serve in the name of Jesus."

Arrangements for this ministry in Alto Parana were originally made by Henry H. Epp, pastor and mission worker in Asuncion, who made a personal visit to the German colonies in 1954. Rev. Epp is serving under the General Conference Mennonite Board of Missions.

If ministers preached as poorly as they announce the offerings, the congregation would starve.

—Mahlon Blosser.

IMMEDIATE RELIEF NEEDED IN CONGO

(Continued from page 1-4)

"The need is so great that the government finds it impossible to help the starving masses. There are so many transport difficulties that not enough foodstuffs can be brought in to help the needy people. You have come as missionaries and we see this as your opportunity to help those to whom you have come." The government obviously expects us to help these people physically also, while they attend to the needs in other districts.

The famine was caused when a disease attacked the manioc fields. Since two years are needed to bring manioc into production there is not much hope that these people will soon be able to help themselves.

On December 28, 1955, Dr. Schmidt, Miss Katy Penner, R.N., and I visited the medical center at Kajiji. (Here Rev. Toews describes the people. See article by Katy Penner on page 5, "Many Starve in the Villages" —Ed.)

We have sent a doctor and a nurse to help these people physically and spiritually, but our missionaries are unable to stop the march of death if hunger fells them. The doctor and the nurses are heavy-hearted—they must see the need daily and know their help is limited.

"Shall we send the patients home to die?" one of the nurses asked me. "Shall we send those home to die to whom we came to bring the Gospel—while at home we are living in luxury and superfluity?" This question I am now posing to you, the churches at home.

Relief, immediately and in large quantities, must be sent. Death is reaping its harvest constantly and aid must come immediately. Please give—sacrifice—for relief. Undying souls are in the balance—souls for whom Christ died.

Thus far the letter. To help alleviate the need on the Kajiji mission field of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions, \$1,000 has been contributed by the General Board of Welfare of the M.B. Church and \$1,000 has been transferred from the funds received for "Dienst am Evangelium" by the M.B. Conference of Canada.

More will be allotted to relief at Kajiji, but individuals and churches will have to replenish the treasuries to make this possible. Large sums of money are needed to help the famine-stricken natives in Africa. Canadians may send their contributions to the M.B. Conference treasurer, C. A. DeFehr, 78 Princess St., Winnipeg 2, Manitoba. The money should be clearly designated "For relief in Africa."

Increased Outreach in Brandon

By Henry Loewen

Brandon, Man. — A little over a year ago Rev. A. J. Froese of Boissevain, Man., was sent to Brandon by the M.B. Mission of Manitoba committee to begin the Gospel Light Mission there. Assisted by Mennonite young people working in the city, the mission has increased its outreach steadily.

The mission in Brandon has meant much to those who work in and around the city and seek some place to have Christian fellowship. All those who are interested are given an opportunity to participate in whatever field their interests lie. Activities include the regular church services, Sunday school, visits to Old Folks' Homes and hospitals, and the presentation of programs in churches close to Brandon.

Activities during the past included a Daily Vacation Bible School at the mission attended by the regular Sunday school students and their friends. These were taught Bible stories and choruses by Miss A. Paetkau and Miss N. DeJager. At the end of the two-week school a program was presented, which was attended by parents and friends.

Several times during the past summer we had the privilege of having Brother John Boldt from Winkler at our services. He taught us new songs and choruses and encouraged us in the D. V. B. S. program. We also had many other visitors, and it seemed as if at almost every meeting there would be someone in the congregation who had not been there before. We certainly appreciate the visits of the many friends who showed an interest in the mission and took time out to attend the services.

Several weeks before Christmas a group of young people accompanied Rev. Froese on a trip to the M. B. church at Boissevain, where they presented a program. The fellowship was enjoyed by all and plans were made to visit several other churches, but an early winter forced cancellation of these plans until spring.

At Christmas-time the Sunday school children presented a program consisting of recitations, dialogues and duets. It was interesting to note that many who had not attended church very often were quite brave and calm when their turn came to recite. A double mixed quartet brought the service to a close by singing several carols, while Rev. Froese explained how they originated.

Wednesday night is prayer-meeting night and during the first two weeks of this new year we discussed the themes used during the week of prayer. At present the book of Ephesians is being studied. The attendance and interest is very good

during the winter, with many interesting discussions arising.

Attendance at the Sunday school averages about 20 children, with one or two new ones every Sunday. Rev. Froese is assisted by two teachers at the Sunday school, which is held Sunday afternoon.

Through the children attending Sunday school we have an opportunity to invite their parents and



Rev. A. J. Froese.

friends to the evening services. Our Sunday evening services consist of singing by a quartet or other singing group, a story for the children and a message from God's Word by Rev. Froese.

We enjoy our work at the Gospel Light Mission and trust you have gained a small insight into it through this brief outline of the work.

Mennonite Missions Growing in Calgary

J. A. Froese

Calgary, Alta. — Calgary, in common with the other cities in Western Canada, is growing very rapidly. Thus it is only natural that the Mennonite population should also increase, a fact that the Mennonite conferences in Alberta have recognized and taken into consideration.

The only established Mennonite church in Calgary is the Scarborough Mennonite Church of the Mennonite General Conference. Recently the General Conference Church sent Rev. P. A. Unger of Coaldale to establish a mission church in the city also.

Three years ago the Mennonite Brethren Conference of Alberta established the "Calgary Gospel Light Mission" to meet the needs of the growing Mennonite Brethren population in the city. Later it purchased a house as a residence

for the missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Froese, where the basement is used for mid-week services. To accommodate those attending the Sunday morning and evening services a Legion Hall in the downtown area, 624—8th Ave., is being rented.

Most of those attending the fellowship meetings of the Gospel Light Mission are young married couples and young people who have come to the city to find employment or to attend the local branch of the University of Alberta. Because of this most of them go home for occasions like Christmas, at which time attendance drops very

much. Since Christmas, however, attendance at the Sunday morning services has been over 70 adults on several occasions.

The married ladies of the Gospel Light Mission fellowship are quite active in their Harvana Missionary Society. Last year at their monthly fellowship meetings they raised money to pay for a church roof in India. This year the monthly offerings are to go for the support of two Bible school students in the foreign mission field. They are also very active in the many other activities of the mission. May the light of the Gospel shine brightly in this city.

Many Starve in the Villages

By Katy Penner, R.N.

Kajiji, Belgian Congo. — If you had been here this morning, or almost any other morning during the past month, you would have seen a similar sight. There stands a table with two pails of milk, several tins of meat—and a crowd of youngsters waiting eagerly with a cup or a tin can (that serves a similar purpose), and some kind of a plate, anything from a pot to a lid off a tin can. Some are skinny and puny, others are swollen, the edema covering their undernourished bodies. Almost all of them have hair of various shades of red, skin depigmented and red, some have sores and others very dry skin. Together they form a very pathetic picture.

What has happened, you ask, that even their hair turns red? A disease has hit their fields of manioc, the staple food, and starvation has set in. Many are starving in the villages, while since December 1 we have admitted 43 children who were starving either into the hospital or on daily dispensary treatment. Some come when it is just too late and we cannot do anything for them. They die a few days after admission.

As a mission we are seeking to give them the Gospel, but will a starving man receive the Gospel when you do not give him food? Hardly! We feel we must meet this tremendous physical need first in order to meet the spiritual need.

It has been our policy to have the patients supply their own food at the hospital, but with the food situation as desperate as it is now we must supply it for them. This means that there is more work for us to do in hauling the food in from 100 miles away and distributing it. It is also an added strain on the budget.

The natives have planted large new fields—will they also be hit by the disease? Will there be food next year? We do not know, but ask your prayers on behalf of the critical situation here.

The starvation in the villages

seems to have its bearing upon the response of the people to the Gospel. There seems to be a general hardening of hearts, a lack of interest and response. We are looking to the Lord for reviving showers of blessing. Christians need to be revived, the unsaved brought to the Lord, the men in the darkness of heathendom and witchcraft need to be brought to the light of the Gospel. There is much work and the labourers are few.

In view of the above we feel weak and insufficient, yet the Lord gives us the comforting words, "My grace is sufficient for thee, my strength is made perfect in weakness."

An Enjoyable Excursion

Gem, Alberta. — In spite of the below zero weather the choir of the M. B. Church here traveled to Vauxhall on January 15 to serve at the M. B. Church and fellowship with the friends there.

Rev. John Pankratz, one of our ministers, and Mr. J. P. Doerksen, the chairman of the local young people's committee, both spoke at the morning service. The choir sang several songs, while someone also told a story to the children.

The afternoon program consisted of songs by the choir, ladies' trio, a solo, a message from the Word of God, a personal testimony, and a story. Through the singing of several Christmas selections and the presentation of a dialogue we were vividly reminded of God's goodness to us. We experienced His nearness in a special way that day.

We, the members of the choir, and our conductor, Mr. Nick Dueck, wish to express our sincere thanks to the friends at Vauxhall for their fine hospitality and eager cooperation and extend a cordial invitation to them to come and fellowship with us at Gem.

A Choir Member

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Sometimes it surprises us to notice how fast news travels. We don't mind if the news is true, but if it is not true it can do much harm. Here is a little story which illustrates how news may spread.

Mary was reading to her little sister when her older sister Alice came in and sat by them.

"There goes Marjorie Allen on her bicycle," she said. "It's too bad she doesn't spend more time studying her lessons. They say her marks in school are very poor."

"Who says that?" Mary asked.

"I don't remember who it was," Alice answered, "but they say she could do a lot better."

"I think you must be mistaken," Mary said. "Marjorie Allen is in my class and she always has excellent grades. Did you know that she won the bicycle as a prize in the State Essay Contest?"

"No, I didn't. It sure is a beauty."

"Yes," Mary agreed. "And she lets us all take turns riding it at recess time. I think you must mean some other Marjorie."

"I suppose you are right," Alice said thoughtfully. "This makes me think. I guess it is not safe to repeat anything you hear that 'they say'."

Jesus is also pleased when we talk about the good things of others and do not repeat what "they say".

Aunt Selma

Cross-Bearers For Christ

By J. H. Janzen

(6th Installment)

OLD MOUTTET AND HIS KIN

Once I asked my father to explain how non-resistance first occurred to such warlike people as the Waldensians. He told me a story which I shall now tell you.

About 1495 a man and his family lived in one of the valleys of the Savoy mountains of France. Their name was Mouttet and they were farmers. Their farm was surrounded by very steep mountains. You could only get into the valley by a narrow gorge which led into the valley from the east. That approach could easily be covered by snipers if an enemy should venture to attack the farm.

Mouttet and his people were members of the Fellowship of the Cross, but were not non-resistant at that time. They, together with some other people that lived with them, about 50 armed men altogether, were good fighters and well able to defend their farm stronghold for a long time against a much larger army. Occasional raids by the Catholics had failed miserably. Nobody had been able to disturb the meetings of the Faithful in the valley. The persecutors, who could not stand having the Fellowship in France, realized that Mouttet's farm could be captured only by starving those who lived there. This would take a long siege, but since there was

only one way out of the valley they could easily close it. Thus it was decided to stop all intercourse between the people in the valley and those outside, above all they wanted to cut off all the flow of arms and ammunition to the stronghold, for then the Faithful would have to surrender.

The enemy also placed their snipers on the mountain crags which surrounded the valley. That way they could shoot at anyone who would try to work in the fields in the valley.

The siege lasted all winter and by early spring the supplies were running low. Some of Mouttet's daring mountain climbers knew of a hidden path westward from the farm and tried to sneak out of the valley for supplies from time to time, but too little could be brought in by that way. The Faithful in the valley thought they would have to give up.

Surrender to the enemy would mean certain death, but escape over the western passage would be very dangerous, for the spring avalanches would start to rumble down the mountainside at any time. Since this path was the only route over which they could get away unnoticed they decided to take the risk, however, and try to escape over this hazardous route. After a short devotional service and prayer they went out of their shelters into the pitch dark night.

The spring winds howled among

ESKIMOS

All of you know that Eskimos live in the far north and that they build igloos in winter to live in. But I am sure that not all of you know that instead of kissing, the Eskimos rub noses.

In this picture you see an Eskimo mother with her little child, rubbing noses with it to show that she loves it.



the clefts of the rocks as these courageous people entered the danger zone. They knew that at any time an avalanche could come down and bury them, but none did, and the men, women and children went forward. They could not understand the ways of the Lord who had saved them from the bondage of sin and had sustained them in a marvelous way—and now He had allowed them to be overcome by their enemies, who they knew were the enemies of God also.

The journey of this little band was hard and sorrowful, but God was with them and led them safely over the perilous trail into Switzerland, where they could expect to be safe again and to live according to their faith, for the time being at least.

(To be continued)

Name the Page Contest

Four names for the page have already been sent in. Those who sent them in had such good letters that it is going to be hard to judge the best one.

The contest is not over yet, however, and you can still send in a letter suggesting a name for this page. That means you will just have to sit down and try to think what the page should be called. Remember, whoever sends us the best name and letter for the page before March will receive the book, "Henry's Red Sea", or a substitute if you already have this book. There are only four more weeks to go—so you better hurry. Here are the contest rules again.

1. All children 15 and under are eligible.
2. Everyone submitting a name for this page is to write a letter to us which we may publish on this page. In it you should give your age, name and address, and tell us a few things about yourself, your hobbies, anything special you are doing in Sunday school, in church, at home, or at school.
3. You may submit more than one name, but each name is to be accompanied by a letter.
4. All letters must reach us before March 2, 1956.
5. The address is: The Christian Press Ltd., 159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.

BIBLE TWO'S

These answers come by two's. Can you name them?

1. Two brothers responsible for the Hebrew's flight from Egypt.
2. Two babies whose lives were spared after an edict had been made that all boy babies should be killed.
3. Two sisters whom Jesus visited at Bethany.
4. Two who at the time of their death sought God's forgiveness for their murderers.
5. Two men who never died, but were translated to glory.
6. Two Hebrews who as captives of a foreign country interpreted dreams for the kings.
7. Two places in the Bible where the Ten Commandments can be found.
8. Two disciples called the Sons of Thunder.
9. Two women who set a worthy example for Timothy.
10. Isaac's twin sons.

By Margaret Anderson
Christian Witness

(Answers will be printed in the next issue.)

Answers to: "CHECK THE CORRECT ONE" (Last week)

1. David (Ps. 51: 10)
2. Michael (I Sam. 18: 20, 27)
3. 119th.
4. Father of the demoniac boy (Mark 9: 24)
5. Paul (I Timothy 4: 8)
6. Thirty (Luk. 3: 23)
7. John 11: 35
8. "Tabitha, arise" (Acts 9: 40)
9. Leviticus 25: 10
10. Zebedee (Mark 1: 19)

Henry's Red Sea

By Barbara Smucker. 108 pp.

An ideal gift for your child

Here in language simple enough for even the nine-year-old is the dramatic and thrilling story of the escape of 1000 Mennonite refugees from Berlin in 1947. Henry Bergen, 11, tired, hungry, fatherless and homeless, is the central figure. His exploits will inspire your children.

Postage Prepaid \$1.65

The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.

They Brought Good News

By Mildred Bishop Jorgenson

By special permission of Moody Press.

(Conclusion)

"You are the devil's child for he is the father of lies and the father of liars. And you are a liar and a thief and a deceiver. In my country I have seen this picture many times. It is used to advertise tobacco. It is called the 'cigarette girl'. You have sold this worthless picture to Luis for many centavos and have told him it was a saint who could keep him out of purgatory. You lied. I am sure the officials would be angry if they knew you were cheating the people. And God has said, 'All liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone.' As she brandished the flimsy cardboard the priest backed away and reaching the door he fled without a backward glance. Luis watched in open-mouthed amazement as Evangeline turned to him.

"There! You see? He did not deny it. He has cheated you and lied to you. He always lies to you! Have we ever harmed Mirada at the hospital? Do we not give her food to bring home? Did not the doctor save your little Mario's life? Is he not at the farm growing strong and learning to read and write? Luis, if you want to learn about Jesus, come to the Bible Church."

For a moment Luis did not reply. He took the picture from her hand, tore it several times and trampled it under foot. Then he looked up. "Si, Senora, I will come."

As Evangeline hurried home her aching shoulder was a vivid reminder of the ordeal through which she had just passed. She knew that she might easily have received more serious injury. She remembered that several missionaries had lost their lives through the fanatical hatred aroused by religious leaders.

Meanwhile, God was blessing the work of the new hospital. David knew from his experiences in Santa Juanita that the people would be turned against them, if there were deaths in the hospital. But for months there were none and cases that seemed hopeless, miraculously recovered. The best surgeons of the town, even though they were not believers, preferred bringing their surgery cases to the Mission hospital because of its cleanliness and the efficiency of its staff. The city hospital was run in a haphazard fashion. It was always overflowing and many patients had to lie on straw mats in the corridors. Relatives were expected to furnish food and bed clothes and, if the patients were not too ill, were also expected to wait on them. There was little supervision and the care

they received was indifferent to say the least.

The wealthy people were glad to pay well for the attention and treatment they received from David and his fine group of Christian nurses. Many came by plane from surrounding regions inaccessible by other modes of transportation. The fees they received from the well-to-do kept the hospital self-supporting and enabled them to treat many poor people.

Once every day verses from the Bible were read and explained and there was a short prayer by a nurse or doctor in each room. Many, showing interest, began to ask questions. Rich and poor alike learned that "whosoever calleth on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

Alba had finished the Bible course and at her own request had been put in charge of the telephone exchange and reception room in the hospital. This was no easy job. Distracted parents and relatives overwrought with superstitious fear of death, peons still influenced by the witchdoctors, surged in and out all day long. They must be soothed and cajoled, reassured and treated firmly. There was something about the flash of Alba's dark eyes that seemed to command their respect, in spite of her small stature.

The Christmas season was again upon them. They were making plans for a program in the auditorium. Alba had asked that her class of boys and girls be allowed to give an exercise which she had written. Only Evangeline was to be allowed to read it beforehand and it would not be given unless it met with her approval.

There were two trees on the platform on Christmas Eve. One had the conventional trimming of tinsel ornaments and colored lights topped by a glowing star. The other was decorated only with silver and gold stars.

"Los Mensajeros del Rey (the messengers of the King) will give the next number on the program," announced Mr. Longley.

The children took their places on a semi-circle of chairs. Juan came forward, his white teeth gleaming in his dark face as he included all in his welcoming smile. Indicating the trees he began—

"Beneath this tree are the gifts we are giving to each other, as a token of our affection and to celebrate the Birthday of God's Son who came to be our Saviour. Beneath this other tree are the gifts God gives to us. Here is a package for you, Rita. What is God's first gift?"

Rita held up the silver-wrapped square.

"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." Then Juan reverently told the story of the Saviour's birth, and because he knew what it meant Juan could say from his whole heart, "Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift." The whole group sang, "God So Loved the World."

"Here, Pedro, is another gift from our Lord." From his golden circle little Pedro read, "My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"Yes," said Juan, "This is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

Juanita sang in her clear, sweet voice "There is Life in a Look at the Crucified One."

"And what has God given you, Estrellita?"

From a shining blue cellophane triangle came Estrellita's answer. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you."

And softly came the refrain, "Sweet Peace, the gift of God's Love." Luis with the whisk broom pompadour came forward to receive the next gift—a golden shield. In a booming voice he read, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Juan again, standing straight and serious before them— "All these gifts are from our King. What have I in turn to bring? My wealth, thoughts, talents or my time. These things already, Lord, are Thine. Now I give myself, not in part, but the whole; use all to Thy glory—mind, body, and soul."

Then from childish, love-filled hearts came the final burst of praise, "After All He's Done for Me." So simple and effectively had these truths been presented that few in the audience remained unmoved.

Evangeline looked at David, "Dear Alba—she is so happy tonight. To think she would have been denied all this if we had not met in the market that day. She has worked so hard on her part of the program."

Alba liked it when she was busiest but her strenuous duties did not keep her from becoming self-appointed guardian to Janelle, who, with her golden curls and tempestuous disposition, was both the pride and despair of her parents and the rest of the Mission. On their daily walks the fair Janelle would sometimes be taunted or teased by the dark street urchins. Then, Alba, hands on hips and eyes snapping, would shower them

with a volley of Spanish. The words were more becoming a Christian lady now, but the effect was the same as on that day when as a hungry waif, she had rescued Evangeline from the politely hostile shopkeepers. Janelle would look on with relish, placing her own small figure in an attitude of defiance in exact imitation of Alba.

Evangeline and Margaret, coming from a visit to the sick one balmy evening, were both amused and amazed to come upon Janelle near the School. Hands on hips, violet eyes flashing, her fluent Spanish was pouring in a torrent on the wide-eyed youngsters there.

"God did give you your wagon. God gives us everything. We couldn't breathe if God didn't let us. He gives us bananas and roses and cars and silk dresses and chicken and milk and—" She was out of breath and a dark-skinned boy about her own size took advantage of the pause.

"My father made my wagon," he sobbed.

"God gave it to you. He did!" screamed Janelle. Then catching sight of her mother she ran to her, threw her arms about her waist, sobbing out her emotional exhaustion in loving arms.

After Janelle was in bed that night, Evangeline read to her about the little children coming to Jesus.

"You see," she explained gently, "we can't force people to listen to us, when we tell them the good news of our heavenly Father and our Saviour. If we do they will just become angry and turn away. We must win them by kindness and love them, then they will listen to you when you tell them about the love of Jesus."

Janelle was silent, her blue eyes had a faraway look. Evangeline watched her anxiously. Would she understand?

Suddenly she said, "Let's sing 'Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.'"

The next day there was a sound of music in the air. Investigating, Margaret found a motley throng of children gathered in the garden. Janelle, yellow curls flying, waved a branch aloft as she led through one chorus after another.

"Jesus loves me, this I know—"

"Jesus loves the little children."

Then quite abruptly—
"Now we'll have grandmother Margaret give us some cookies and milk. And I'll tell you a story about Jonah."

Margaret Whitmore was happiest when she was serving others.

For David and Evangeline, busy in their service for the Lord in Colombia, the years sped swiftly by. God had been good to them—His blessing upon their efforts was manifest by an ever-increasing number of believers. In the city the influence of the hospital was far-reaching, and in the country,

(Concluded on page 8-3)



Teaching the Mentally Retarded

By Pat Enns

One of the most valuable, and certainly most colourful, experiences of my teaching career began when I joined the teaching staff of the Manitoba School for Mentally Defective Persons, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. Here I have been introduced to a very different, but all the more fascinating, phase of our educational program—that of dealing with extraordinary children. We seek to equip the educable with sufficient practical knowledge to assist them toward independence and prepare trainable minds for usefulness on wards and on the grounds of the institution.

Besides being a home for the retarded, the Manitoba School is a training center which, on top of education in the academic line, offers instruction in the occupational departments such as carpentry and tailoring for the men, sewing, cooking and hairdressing for the girls. Many boys and girls have "graduated" from the classroom to take instruction in one or more of these skills.

In the school there are the following classes: nursery class, where children are taught to play and are encouraged to become social beings; sense-training and kindergarten; and the elementary and intermediate academic classes. I happen to be teaching an elementary class. One instructor specializes in speech correction, a very important aspect since many of the younger children have very poor speech, or none at all.

Classes are small—they must be, for nearly all instruction is individual. However, even a small class shows a lot of variety. In my group of eight girls, for instance, there is a wide spread in age—all the way from 12 to 26. In mental age the span is not nearly so great, of course, being roughly from six to eleven years. There are those who have physical as well as mental disabilities, but you could pass by the majority of them on the street without noticing any peculiarity.

The small classes, the work with individual pupils, as well as the fact that these boys and girls are the responsibility of the school seven days a week, leads to more intimate pupil-teacher relationships. No doubt this can also be attributed to their great need for affection—many know no other home. Whatever the reason, the

effect is a less formal atmosphere than is found in the normal classroom situation.

One principle that was emphasized in our normal school training is: You are not teaching subjects but children. Nowhere is that statement as true as here, where the subject, occasion and method of teaching is determined by the children; their shifting attention and limited powers of concentration.

After the first few months, in which I sought to impart some fundamental skills, I felt defeated as I tried to find the results of my labours and saw so little. Had my pupils then gained nothing? And what, if anything, did I hope to accomplish? The next few days as I brought the little boys from the day-hall to the school I saw how gladly they came to school—and since that time I have learned not to expect immediate results, but when some skill is finally mastered



the satisfaction is relative to the effort.

Despite all the repetition and slow rate of progress, there is little danger of "getting into a rut". (Sometimes I feel I would welcome just that.) There is no lack of entertainment in the classroom either. I have learned to expect the extraordinary from D., a lovely child, but one of whose peculiarities is conversing by the use of questions to which one answers either yes or no. Should I say "yes" when the desired reply is in the negative, the question is repeated until I have corrected the error. D. has, besides a talent for asking unusual questions, a vivid imagination, as evident by the following questions: "God puts mittens and scarves on the angels to keep them warm? At night God takes off the angels' wings and puts them to bed?"

J., whose abilities very obviously are not in the mathematical field, requested help in finding a solution to the problem "five subtract five". We acquired five pennies, promptly spent them and tabulated the result. Later I saw he had failed to record the answer. Remarkably on it I received the indignant reply, "Well, you said, five take away five is NOTHING!" I stood corrected!

Although my work is restricted mainly to the school, we cannot

separate one part from the whole and so we become acquainted with other departments and other patients. I will never forget my amazement at hearing a non-school boy recite the whole line of kings and queens of England, complete with the dates of their birth and death—and other details.

A visit to the wards is always a rich experience, for it affords an opportunity to show interest and affection where it is much needed. On one such visit an old lady proudly displayed a Hallowe'en costume she had designed—a garish creation which gave evidence of great imagination and an eye for colour (if not beauty). I questioned another lady on her activity (cutting out pictures for a scrapbook) and she explained, "... and of course I've got the work in my coloring books too; and then there's my hymns—I have to write them out, you know." Simple souls, but so charming and sincere! One cannot make a visit of this kind without renewed gratitude for the mentality which God has given us and gratitude for the ability to love these children—not all of whom are lovely or attractive.

On the wards we see how their physical needs are being met; in school we strive to help the boys and girls intellectually; but what of the soul? Here, as in many similar institutions, there is a great need for a powerful witness and for the warmth of Christian love. One is grateful for opportunities which arise, as through the questioning of D., who seems to have a fear of death. Indicating a distance of about two inches in front of her face, she asked, "When you're dead the coffin lid comes so close to your eyes?"

Here is a great field for service for consecrated, Christ-centered lives in whose daily walk and conversation Christ may be seen; workers with an abundance of tact and God-given wisdom; Spirit-filled vessels to pour out blessing and Christian love upon needy souls.

THEY BROUGHT GOOD NEWS

(Continued from page 7-4)

surrounding the Children's Home it was no less evident.

Doctors and governmental officials, rich and poor—from every walk of life came those who testified to the power of the gospel unto salvation. Many were the homes into which the Light had shone, transforming lives and making them new creatures in Christ Jesus. The Bible School flourished as a result, and year after year the circle widened as its graduates went into the out-of-the-way places of the whitened harvest fields of South America, soldiers of the Cross and carrying ever the good news of God's redeeming love.

(The End)

Meet in Vancouver for Two-Day Conference

Vancouver, B.C. — The Conference of United Mennonite Churches in B.C. convened in the First Mennonite church here on January 21 and 22 for their annual business meeting. Theme of the conference was: "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. 4: 3).

Rev. P. Froese of Mission City, chairman of the conference, delivered the conference message. Reports were given by representatives of various committees and institutions; followed by discussion and elections.

Sunday, January 22, was mission Sunday, with key addresses delivered by Rev. A. I. Loewen, Elmer Dick, Rev. P. Tschetter and H. Goertz. At the conclusion of the afternoon service the new Girls' Home at Fraser and 49th was dedicated.

BOOKS For More Fruitful Service

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By John D. Davis. 840 pp.

A dictionary of the Bible is one of the most important reference books for the Christian home and the Bible student's library. This book is truly a dictionary of the Bible. It is written by a man who had the deepest reverence for the Bible as the Word of God.

John R. Mumaw, Eastern Mennonite College, testifies: "The DAVIS DICTIONARY is the most satisfactory Bible dictionary for evangelical students and Christian workers." \$5.95

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This book contains more thought-provoking material than is usually found in a book of sermon outlines. \$6.95

Cruden's Concordance
Edited by John Eadie. 342 pp.

Anyone who has ever studied the Bible intensively knows how much a concordance can help. The CRUDEN'S CONCORDANCE is one of the most popular because it is remarkably complete for its price. This is really a bargain for a Bible student \$2.95

THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

Firm Holds Services During Coffee Break

Religious services during regular employee coffee breaks have been instituted at the Waverly (Fla.) Growers Cooperative Packing House. The devotional services are conducted by Rev. William Wilson, pastor of the Waverly Baptist Church. Officials of the citrus packing firm have lengthened the ten-minute coffee break to twenty minutes and permitted use of a public address system during the worship.

Christianity to Be Taught in Syrian Schools

A course in Christianity will be taught to Christian students in government and private schools of Syria under an order issued by the Ministry of Education. The Ministry asked that the course be drawn up by a commission representing the heads of the various Christian commissions in Syria. Courses in Islam were made compulsory for Moslem students in government schools two years ago.

Five Missionaries Slain

Philadelphia, Pa. (ERA) — Latest news from Quito, Ecuador, is not good. Dr. Clarence Jones reported that a U.S. Navy helicopter had landed on the river bank where five missionaries had dropped out of sight Sunday, January 8. Later a ground rescue team confirmed that all five had been killed.

The ill-fated attempt to evangelize the headhunters in Ecuador's "Green Hell" began more than three months ago and was consummated only four days before the bodies were found. Nate Saint had, before the last two landings in the territory near the river Curaray, made more than a dozen weekly flights over the site. At first, using his own "bucket drop" device, Saint lowered jungle knives, bright colored ribbons and other items which were removed by the savages. After several trips—about November 12—the Indians began putting their own gifts into Saint's bucket.

Then the five missionaries began elaborate plans for their invasion. For many days Saint dropped supplies and equipment, including a prefabricated tree house, at the site selected. On Thursday, January 5, McCully and Youderain were taken to the location by Saint who returned to his base at Shell Mera. Two days later they made their first contact with the Aucas.

They reported this contact thus: They were singing aloud and shouting praises to God in an effort to attract attention to themselves. Suddenly, across the river three

natives appeared—a man, a woman and a young woman about 35 years of age. They finally crossed the river and were amazed at each piece of the missionaries' equipment as they inspected it. Later that same day the man who had admired the plane, asked to be taken on a flight in it. Saint obliged and noted in his diary that the old man enjoyed every moment of the short trip.

The next report available at this time picks up the story at 4 o'clock, Sunday, January 8, when Saint, talking to his wife at Shell Mera, reported the appearance of a third party of natives. The radio went dead and no further contact was established.

Rescue team efforts were hampered by the secluded location of the disaster site and severe jungle rain storms in the area.

The missionaries were able to carry on limited conversation, having compiled a vocabulary of Aucas words from four girls who had fled the tribe last year and found refuge with nearby missionaries.

CANADASCOPE

Small Fruit Growers Not to Receive Aid from B.C.

If Fraser Valley small fruit growers, who were hit hard by the killing frost in November, are to obtain financial help they will not receive it from the British Columbia government, the Minister of Agriculture, W. K. Kiernen, stated in the provincial legislature in Victoria. He asserted that help would have to come from Ottawa if anywhere, for the provincial government had neither the machinery nor the authority to extend credit to growers.

Record Peace-time Budget Indicated

Parliament was told on January 26 that the initial and basic spending program of the federal government calls for budget appropriations of \$4,528,100,000. Supplementary estimates in the post-war years customarily have run above the \$100,000,000 mark, which will make this year's budget the highest since the war. The defence bill totals 39.8 per cent.

Health Plan Offered to Provinces

The federal government has offered the provinces a national health insurance plan which will mean a federal contribution, at the outset, of close to \$182,000,000 annually. This represents 50% of the estimated net annual cost of \$365,100,000. It is up to the provinces now whether they will accept this proposal.

The health insurance plan would provide hospital care without time limits, diagnostic services for both in-hospital and out-of-hospital patients, but would rule out care for mental or tuberculosis and chronic patients receiving symptomatic treatment.

The World Today

Eisenhower and Eden Meet

Prime Minister Anthony Eden of Britain and President Eisenhower of the U.S. began their three-day series of talks on Monday, Jan. 30. The first day was occupied with bringing British and American policy closer together in the Middle East, where even slight differences are magnified by Russia's new diplomatic offensive.

Chou En-lai Belligerent

Premier Chou En-lai of Communist China on January 30 renewed his country's claims to the Nationalist island of Formosa, appealing to its defenders to come over to the Communist side if they wished to avoid war.

China wants peace, he said, but is "not afraid of war".

Israel and Egypt Accept UN Peace Plan

Israel and Egypt last week accepted a three-point United Nations peace plan for the disputed El Auja demilitarized zone. The plan was originally proposed by Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld on Nov. 3, and states that Egypt is to let the truce group put demarcation lines wherever they think necessary, that Egypt is to withdraw any "minor encroachments which might still remain in the zone" and that Israel is to remove all her military forces, obstacles and mines from the 20-mile wide zone.

Egypt Has Red Subs: Israel

Cecil Hyman, Israeli consul-general to the United States, told the central region, Canadian Jewish Congress, that Egypt is being supplied with Russian submarines. He also asserted that Arab state forces are being trained by Communists and former Nazis.

Farewell Service for Krahn

Abbotsford, B.C. — The South Abbotsford M.B. church was filled to capacity on Sunday night, Jan. 22, for the farewell service for Rev. and Mrs. Henry Krahn. The Krahn and baby daughter, Valerie, left Vancouver by train on Friday, January 27, to begin their journey to the mission field in India.

Following the introductory remarks by the local pastor, Rev. J.

J. Stobbe, Rev. H. Lenzmann delivered a message based on Psalm 126:5-6. In his testimony Rev. Krahn quoted Romans 4:20 as his parting verse. He thanked the local church and the pastor for what they had meant to him through the years. Mrs. Krahn thanked the women for the friendly way they had done the sewing for them. She read Deuteronomy 10:12 as a farewell message.

After the reading of Psalm 121, Rev. C. D. Toews and Rev. J. J. Stobbe led in farewell prayer for the couple.

Following the service a lunch was served in the church basement. Many wished the Krahn's God's blessing, His protection and His nearness in their missionary work.

The Krahn's are the first couple to go to India as missionaries from the So. Abbotsford M.B. Church.

News from Neuland

By William Schroeder *

— On Nov. 27 the Fernheim colony male choir presented a song service in Gnadental, Neuland. After serving at home in Filadelfia in the morning, the choir drove the 20 miles to Gnadental for the evening. A dusty road and 110-degree temperature did not seem to affect their voices or enthusiasm. Gerhard Wall, graduate of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg, is director of the choir.

— In November Gerhard Wall and William Schroeder together with two singers from Fernheim toured several Neuland villages, holding evening services with special consideration for the young people. In December these brethren presented a series of lectures at a Sunday school teachers' convention in Neu-Halbstadt.

— Dec. 18 the large new General Conference Mennonite Church building was dedicated in Neu-Halbstadt. J. Isaak of Fernheim was the guest speaker. Hans Rempel, the local minister, offered the dedicatory prayer.

— In the first week of 1956, when Christians the world over were uniting in prayer, prayer meetings were also held throughout the colony.

* William Schroeder from Steinbach, Man., serves in Neuland colony, Paraguay, under the North American Mennonite Brethren Board of General Welfare and Public Relations. The Schroeder family lives in New Halbstadt.

— The Waldorf restaurant chain in Boston has distributed about 80,000 prayer cards in the past year. These cards are placed on tables in the restaurant and the customer is invited to take one home for family use.

LAST RITES FOR H. H. BLOCK

The funeral service for Brother H. H. Block of Borden, Sask., was held on January 15, 1956, in the Mennonite Brethren church at Borden. He passed on to his reward on January 11 in the hospital at Borden, Sask., after suffering several years from a progressive cancer.

Rev. I. H. Block, leading minister of the local church and brother of the deceased, pictured Brother Block's life as running strikingly parallel to that of Job. After reading from Job 17, he said, "Job, the afflicted, when experiencing the keenest sorrow and pain spoke these words. This is the story of a suffering saint, the picture of a child of God suffering according to the will of God. This is the story of my brother." Yet the dark night leads into celestial light, he declared.

The second speaker, Rev. H. S. Rempel of Saskatoon spoke words of comfort to the family and congregation. It was an opportune occasion to make an evangelistic appeal also, he stated, for surely the unsaved were not immune to the inner turmoil that the thought of death brings. The believer, however, has hope; he can praise God and rejoice even in the hour of parting. Rev. Rempel asserted that the positive testimony of Brother Block as he patiently awaited the hour of his redemption was convincing proof of the reality and sufficiency of faith in Christ. With Job he had been able to say, "Mine eyes shall behold Him, and I shall be no stranger to Him."

Rev. A. J. Sawatsky spoke on "The Blessings of Death". He stated that Brother Block is now delivered from all sin, sorrow and pain; he will suffer no more, but enjoy the rest, peace and joy of them that die in the Lord.

A men's double quartet sang "Jesus Will Walk With Me Down Through the Valley" and "The Pearly White City". Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Nickel sang "Take My Hand, Blessed Lord, Lead Me Home", a song that had comforted Brother Block during his last days of intense suffering.

At the cemetery Rev. Jake Block of Herbert, also a brother of the deceased, spoke briefly, reminding the listeners that there was a resurrection morning coming.

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR MRS. HOFFMAN

The first funeral service of 1956 in the Mennonite Brethren Church at Main Centre, Sask., was held on Jan. 19, at 1:30 p.m., for Mrs. Henry Hoffman, 51, wife of Mr. Henry Hoffman (longtime employee of the local branch of the Pioneer Co-op Assoc.) and the mother of 5 children, 12 to 21 years of age. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry

H. Goertzen, reside in Herbert, Sask.

Mrs. Hoffman was taken to the Herbert Hospital on Dec. 26 and transferred to Saskatoon on Dec. 30. Her suffering was caused by a tumor on the brain. The unexpected news of her passing on Jan. 15 in the Saskatoon City Hospital made a perceptible impact on the entire community.

Although the weather was disagreeably cold and many roads were blocked with snow, a large number turned out to attend the service and express their sympathy. Rev. John Siemens based his opening message on Psalm 39: 4-5. The third verse of I Samuel 20, "There is but a step between me and death", served as text for the message given in the English language by Rev. John D. Goertzen. Rev. Goertzen stated that the words speak of the uncertainty of life, of the solemnity of death and of the necessity of watchful preparation.

Mrs. Hoffman's parting testimony was that she was prepared to meet the Lord.

Mr. Hoffman is at present un-

employed because of ill health. The heartfelt sympathy of many friends goes out to the bereaved family and many fervent prayers of God's people ascend on their behalf.

PETER FRIESEN PASSES

Peter Friesen, 25, passed away at his home in Arnaud, Man., on January 20, 1956. The funeral service was held in the St. Elizabeth Mennonite church on Sunday, January 22.

Born at Arnaud, Man., on October 5, 1930, Peter Friesen had an attack of rheumatic fever and pneumonia at the age of 10 that left his heart in a weakened condition. He was frequently confined to the hospital during the last few years and suffered a great deal of pain, but he bore it patiently and never complained. In 1952 he was baptized and joined the St. Elizabeth Mennonite Church.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter P. Friesen, and six sisters, Katherine, Elizabeth, Margaret, Mary, Agnes and Agatha (Mrs. John Krueger of Dominion City, Man.).

hundred were sent to Burgenland, an area of Austria formerly in the Russian Zone. Another 300 were distributed in Upper Austria by the Mennonite Brethren missionary in Linz. The remainder were given to needy children in and about Vienna.

Although there is now less need for large-scale food and clothing distribution among the refugees in Austria, Irene Bishop, MCC worker there, writes: "MCC still has a place here in Austria. The refugees, particularly children and TB patients, need supplementary aid from relief agencies such as MCC. And we especially need to help the small scattered group of Mennonites in Austria with material help from time to time."

During the past years MCC workers have conducted church services one Sunday a month for the Mennonite refugees in Vienna. In September of 1955 Bro. Ernst Wyss and his family, representing the Swiss Mennonite Church, moved to Vienna from Switzerland, and he has taken over the responsibility for the church there.

ASSISTANCE AT MCC HEADQUARTERS

Four new workers have joined the staff at Akron, Pa., MCC headquarters. Angeline Peters, Dinuba, Calif.; Metta Ann Janzen, Ritzville, Wash.; and Lois Barkey, Mishawaka, Ind., are working as secretaries in Voluntary Service, Mental Health and Relief offices respectively. They are members of the Mennonite Brethren, General Conference and Mennonite Church groups.

Eugene Gauger, Stratton, Nebr.,

is assisting in the Information Office for his I-W service. During the past year he has been Religion Editor of the Lincoln, Nebr., Journal, and he has taken graduate work in journalism at the University of Nebraska. One of his major duties at Akron will be editing The I-W Mirror, a bi-weekly paper sent to all Mennonite and Brethren in Christ I-W men.

Translation Work

(The following is taken from a prayer letter sent by the Jake Loewens, who are active in Colombia as M.B. missionaries. Their home is Yarrow, B.C.)

Christ's birthday has come and gone. To those of you who remembered us with cards and letters we want to express a hearty thank you! To those who did not have our address we want to say that we are still anxious to hear from you.

Our assignment on the field was twofold: (1) to provide some translated materials for the Waunana, whose language the David Wirsches and we have learned; and (2) to make a survey of all the Choco dialects related to Waunana in an effort to prepare the basis for a common Bible translation for all of the Choco-speaking Indians.

We are happy to report that a start has been made in the translation of the Gospel of Mark into the Waunana. Even though Mark is considered to be a simple gospel, we found that already in the first chapter we would have to face many complicated word problems—remission of sin, baptism, repentance—in fact, we would have to organize a complete hierarchy of words to describe religious experience. After much prayer and study of Greek, English, German and Spanish words we were able to construct with Waunana stems and suffixes terms that were often very similar to the Greek. Repentance became "to change one's manner of thinking", conversion became "to change one's manner of living", etc. However, many more problems face us, and your prayers are vital to the success of this project.

The dialect survey too has made progress. On the first trip we were able to get a fair amount of data in two new dialects. This data has now been analyzed and filed. Several interesting observations in terms of the common translation have been made, but there are several more dialects to study before adequate decisions can be made. At present we are again in the Choco, where we hope to complete the work begun on the two dialects, and possibly begin with a third. We covet your intercession.

The address of the Loewens is: Rev. Jake Loewen, Avenida 9a No. 10-74, Cali, Valle, Colombia, South America.



MILK DISTRIBUTION IN HUALIEN

A total of 65 villages in Hualien County, Formosa, cooperated with MCC in serving some two million feedings of milk during the past year to village children.

These aboriginal villages usually have a church and at least one Christian family. This family was responsible to prepare the milk from the milk powder each morning, and the children in the area came for it.

Since some villages had more than one station, a total of about 100 homes prepared milk. They had a total enrollment of 10,982. However, a number of stations served milk for only a few months through different parts of the year. The peak in the program came last spring when over 7000 children received milk each morning.

The MCC also distributes this government surplus milk powder to several kindergartens and a trade school for the blind. At the MCC hospital in Hualien milk is served to all in-patients twice each day.

CHRISTMAS BUNDLES DISTRIBUTED IN AUSTRIA

Two thousand and fifty Christmas bundles were distributed among the refugee children in Austria. Five hundred went to Upper Austria, the area of Austria's greatest refugee population. Three

Bible Institutes

EAST CHILLIWACK BIBLE SCHOOL

The week commencing January 15 will not soon be forgotten by the students of the East Chilliwack Bible School. By shortening our class periods we were able to attend three afternoon services conducted by Dr. A. H. Unruh in the local church. He also visited us in chapel one morning.

On January 19 we were able to see the film, "What makes a Missionary?" On the following morning Rev. and Mrs. Abe Toews, missionaries to French Equatorial Africa, reported on their work and showed one of their films. It has been a time of earnest questioning on the part of the students—does God want me to be a missionary?

We again experienced rich blessings when we attended the ordination service of Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Jantz. Rev. G. Thielman and Dr. A. H. Unruh were the two speakers. The former pointed out the call of a servant of the Lord by Christ, our missionary example, while the latter stressed the responsibility of the church towards its servants. The service was held in the Chilliwack M.B. church.

Colleges

MENNONITE BROTHERS BIBLE COLLEGE

A Cappella Choir to Tour Ontario.

Final arrangements are being made for the tour of the Ontario M.B. churches by the 31-voice A Cappella Choir, directed by Mr. Henry Voth. The tour will be made at Easter.

CMBC Visits MBBC

On Friday evening, January 27, the student body of the Canadian Mennonite Bible College visited us at MBBC. This visit, an annual occasion, coincided with the presentation of the drama, "Steadfast in Hope", written by John B. Toews (student), and produced by the Literary Committee. Adapted from the book, *The Martyr of the Catacombs*, the drama vividly portrayed the persecutions that the early Christians in Rome had to suffer. The auditorium in the M.B. Collegiate Institute was completely filled with visitors and students. A hushed audience was deeply moved as scenes of gruesome torture and horrible death were described and as the heroism of the Christians came to light in scenes where they, both young and old, remained true to their Lord even unto death. Excellent staging and costuming made the scenes very realistic. "Oh, that I might yield my life as a sacrifice for my Lord," was the fervent prayer of many a

heart challenged by the drama.

Following the almost 2-hour presentation of the drama a reception was held in the Ebenezer dining hall for the CMBC students. The food and fellowship were enjoyed by students of both colleges. We felt anew the bond of love which unites all true believers in Christ.

The students at MBBC are eagerly awaiting the return visit which they will pay to CMBC in the near future.

Helmut Klassen

GOSHEN COLLEGE

Goshen College faculty and students greeted with interest the January 30 publication of the *Complete Writings of Menno Simons*, edited by J. C. Wenger of the Seminary faculty. Also included in the book is a revision of Dean H. S. Bender's 1936 biography of Menno Simons. The release of the new volume, the first "complete" edition of the writings of Menno Simons, marks the completion of ten years of planning, translating and publishing.

Rutenber Speaks

Culbert G. Rutenber, Professor of the Philosophy of Religion at Eastern Baptist Seminary, Philadelphia, visited the campus Feb. 5, Dr. Rutenber, author of *The Dagger And The Cross* and *The Price And The Prize*, spoke on the subjects "Power for This Hour" and "The God in Whom We Believe."

Conrad Grebel Lectures

Gideon Yoder, Hesston, Kansas, will present the fifth series of the annual Conrad Grebel Lectures at Goshen College, Feb. 13—15. The lectures on "The Education and Evangelization of Children" will be delivered at 3:10 Monday through Friday, with a 7:00 p.m. Monday lecture.

Agricultural Education Conference

An Agricultural Education Study Conference is scheduled for Feb. 17 and 18. Speaker at the one public session of the conference, Friday at 7:30 p.m., will be I. W. Moomaw, Executive Secretary of Agricultural Missions, Inc., formerly a missionary to India, Dr. Moomaw is the author of the books entitled *Education and Village Improvement* and *The Indian Farmer Speaks*. He will speak on agricultural missions in his talk entitled "Hope Rises From the Land."

Christian Life Activities

Speakers for the annual Christian Life Conference Feb. 10—12 include John Mosemann and H. S. Bender, from the college faculty in addition to Richard Yordy, Freeport, Illinois, and Harold Bauman, Orrville, Ohio. Paul Mininger is chairman of a Saturday evening "Symposium on Christian Vocation."

On Feb. 17, the World Day of Prayer, all classes will be suspended between the hours of 9:00 and 11:30 while students and faculty observe the day of prayer.

Concordia College Choir

The 60-voice Concordia College Choir from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, is scheduled to appear Feb. 20 on the Lecture-Music Series. Paul Christiansen, director of the choir, is the son of the founder and brother of the present director of the well-known St. Olaf Choir.

High Schools

MENNONITE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE NORTH CLEARBROOK, B.C.

Dr. David Wedel, president of Bethel College, Newton, Kansas, spoke to the student body at a joint morning devotion period in the auditorium on January 23. He based his message on John 19: 17: "And he bearing his cross. . ."

On Wednesday, January 25, the boys' prayer group, following an invitation from the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute, walked to the Bible Institute for a joint prayer-meeting with the boys' prayer group there.

On Friday, January 27, John Esau, student at the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute and mission worker at the West Coast Children's Mission chapel at County Line, spoke in the junior high morning devotion period.

One of the hardest places to preserve an even temper and maintain a Christian witness is in competitive play. The M.E.I. senior boys' basketball team demonstrated that this can be done in the face of insults when they played a basketball team from the Chilliwack Senior High. Both the junior and senior teams won their ends of a double-header here on January 16, but the Chilliwack Senior High team severely tested the mettle of the M.E.I. boys, receiving four technical fouls for improper language on the basketball floor.

MENNONITE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS-PLAN WORKSHOP

A news release from the Association of Mennonite University Students at Winnipeg, Man., declares that a workshop on Voluntary Service will be held some time during the first weeks in March. They state:

Last spring the Mennonite students in Winnipeg met to discuss the meaning of non-resistance in principle and practice. All discussions were keyed toward a positive approach to non-resistance, "that we love peace more than we hate war", that as Christians we be con-

strained by the love of God to serve.

Many questions were raised during the latter part of the conference as to the avenues of service available for Mennonite young people. Was there an adequate alternative service program in which we could serve when compulsory military service came into effect? Was such voluntary service done in peace-time? Could we participate in social services now—and would such service be recognized during a catastrophe, such as war? In short, we asked: "Are there practical outlets in which we can turn passive non-resistance into active love?" All of us were sincere and interested—but very few of us were informed.

The MCC administration heard of our concern over the apathy of Mennonite youth (and this apathy is found among all of us) in regard to voluntary service. When we spoke to Mr. Harvey Toews in Winnipeg a few weeks ago he expressed a keen desire to speak to the young people of this province at a gathering in Winnipeg. He said that the field of social and relief work was wide open and he declared that he would welcome any suggestions. The MCC, he stated, was particularly interested in obtaining the services of professional people: teachers, doctors, nurses, social workers, etc. There also remains a lot of work in mental hospitals, boys' homes and in other fields you might suggest. In many of these places a person receives an excellent training and might even find his life's profession there. To discuss these opportunities and the problems involved we are planning to call a gathering of all the Mennonite young people interested in this type of service.

The time and place of this "Shop-Talk" are not definite yet, but it will be held in Winnipeg on a week-end between March 1 and 15. A later announcement will give more definite particulars.

The program for this meeting will probably include an afternoon session on Saturday at which Mr. Harvey Toews, who is in charge of voluntary service in Canada, and several other men will address young people interested in special phases of social and relief work. These groups will then have an opportunity to question the MCC

(Continued on page 12-1)

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VOLUNTARY SERVICE WORKSHOP

(Continued from page 11-4)

about opportunities for professional people. On Sunday afternoon and evening the speakers will address large audiences in one of the city churches. Then in the intermission Mr. Toews and others with experience in MCC work, will be ready to discuss problems and to give suggestions to anyone interested. You may also bring your suggestions and tender any criticism you have. It is hoped to serve a lunch to tide everyone over until the evening service.

We hope you will keep this coming event in mind and plan to be there. We trust that you will support it in prayer and through your active participation at the services.

Harder in Week of Services in Vineland

Martha Janzen

Vineland, Ont. — Rev. J. A. Harder of Yarrow, B.C., chairman of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions, conducted a one-week series of services in the Mennonite Brethren church here. Held from January 22 to 27, the services were well attended.

During the first four evenings Rev. Harder based his messages on the epistle to the Philippians, while

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on Thursday he reported on his visit to South America and on Friday he reported on foreign mission work in Europe and South America.

These services were very valuable in emphasizing the deeper spiritual life; God's Word spoke to us in all its strength and power. South America, the adopted home of many of our relatives and loved ones, was laid upon our hearts. We rejoiced to hear of the success and prosperity in many cases, but felt drawn to intercede for those who daily face the privations of a meager existence. To hear of the poverty, of the crude huts, of the ants, flies and drought; made us feel unworthy of God's goodness and mercy to us. Does it not also compel us to give?

At first the Friday night services posed quite a problem, since that evening the German church school is conducted and the two choirs meet for practising. However, this problem was solved by staggering the various meetings.

We thank Rev. Harder for having visited us. Thank God for His blessings to us!

Bartsch to Europe for Evangelism

Rev. H. G. Bartsch, a pioneer M.B. missionary to the Belgian Congo, is scheduled to leave Halifax for Germany aboard the S.S. Astoria on February 4. In Germany he plans to engage in evangelistic work in the refugee camps for approximately six months. Mrs. Bartsch is not accompanying her husband on the trip.

Stopping off in Winnipeg on business while on his way east from his home in Yarrow, B.C., Rev. Bartsch stated that he had

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR LETTER WRITERS

Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Dyck, serving on the Matende station in the Belgian Congo, announce that all Matende mail reaching their district between December 24, 1955, and January 1, 1956, has been lost by the porter and has not been found. If some are wondering about their mail, the Dycks would be glad to hear from them again. The Dycks' address is: B.P. 65 Kikwit, Congo Belge, Africa.

UNRUH SPEAKS AT EAST CHILLIWACK

Chilliwack, B.C. — The presence of the Lord was felt at the services conducted by Dr. A. H. Unruh in the East Chilliwack Mennonite Brethren Church from December 15 until the end of the week.

Beginning on Sunday morning and continuing every afternoon of the week, Dr. Unruh gave an exposition of I Corinthians. He also spoke at evening services, at which time he spoke on a variety of themes.

been urged many times to go to Europe, but this was the first time it had been feasible. Speaking in the Elmwood M. B. church on Sunday morning, he declared that one of his primary motives in going was the reported need for the Gospel in the many refugee camps in Germany and Austria. When other occasions for preaching the Word of God would present themselves he would be happy to serve the Lord there.

The Bartsches are known across Canada in Mennonite circles for their vivid portrayals of conditions in Africa after their return from their service in the Belgian Congo, where they began a mission station in the Bololo area. Later the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions assumed the responsibility for the mission work on the field. Upon their return in the 1940's they settled in Yarrow, B.C. In recent years they were house-parents in the Bethesda Home in Vineland, Ont., for a period of three years.

On his way to Halifax Rev. Bartsch will stop off briefly at Waterloo, Ontario, where his son, Arthur, is studying at Waterloo College. In Germany his first stop will be Detmold, where his children, the Bill Reimers, are studying at the Nordwestdeutsche Musikakademie. Thereupon he will begin his evangelistic activity.

On the Horizon

February 5. — Evangelistic meetings will begin on this date in the East Chilliwack Mennonite Brethren Church. Rev. Nick Willems of Woodrow, Sask., will speak.

February 5 — The new addition to the Bethesda Home at Vineland, Ontario, will be dedicated on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 5.

February 5. — The young people of the Vancouver M.B. Church will present the play "Pilgrim's Progress" on Sunday evening, Feb. 5.

February 7 to 10. — Rev. Erland Waltner of Newton, Kansas, will speak at the annual Bible Week at the Canadian Mennonite Bible College, located just south of the Provincial Normal School in Tuxedo, Winnipeg. He will discuss the first eight chapters of Acts under the general theme "Evangelism". Instructors at the college will present a series of papers on a variety of subjects under the same general theme.

The first meeting will begin at 10 a.m.; February 7. Everyone is welcome.

February 9, 10, and 11. — The M.B. Collegiate Institute will present the drama "Die Königin Esther" in the auditorium of the school on Talbot Ave., Winnipeg.

February 10. — The Fairview Mennonite Home at Preston, Ont., will be formally opened for inspection on this date. Dedication services have been postponed until April.

February 12 to 17. — The annual "Bible Emphasis Week" will be held at the Eden Christian College at this time. Rev. Hugo Jantz, who will soon be leaving to take up missionary service at Quito, Ecuador, on radio station HCJB, will speak.

February 24 to 26 — The annual Missionary Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College will be held in the Elmwood Mennonite Brethren Church in Winnipeg.

February 25. — Eden Christian College is planning a musical evening on which a wide variety of instrumental pieces and choir songs will be presented.

February 27 to March 9 — A two-week Ministers' Course will be given at the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg. Dr. A. H. Unruh will assist the faculty in its presentation of a thorough course of Bible study, practical theology and church history. Ministers and laymen of all denominations are invited to attend the course.

WILLIAM MARTENS

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Barrister and Solicitor

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