

# Mennonite Observer

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

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YOUR CHRISTIAN  
FAMILY WEEKLY

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Met 24 Mennonites

## Prayers Protected Delegation

Winnipeg, Man. — "God's answer to Communism in Russia is a series of awakenings and revivals in many centres," Rev. D. B. Wiens told a packed audience in the Elmwood M.B. church on Sunday morning, Dec. 16, in his report on the visit of the two-man Mennonite delegation to Russia. In speaking of their tour, he said, "Your prayers raised a wall about us, so that they could not touch us."

A hushed congregation of over a thousand strained to hear every word as Rev. Wiens reported on the trip he and Dr. H. S. Bender of Goshen, Ind., had made to Russia. The crowd is typical of the throngs greeting Rev. Wiens wherever he reports. Other Sunday reports were in the First Mennonite church and in the South End M.B. church in Winnipeg. Very few eyes remained dry during the one and a half hour report on conditions in Russia. Speaking in German, with many direct quotations in Russian, he stirred the hearts of the listeners deeply.

"We went to seek our brethren, as Joseph was sent to seek his brethren by his father Jacob," Rev. Wiens stated in speaking on the purpose of the delegation's visit to Russia. They were not able to visit the centres planned upon, but "our mission was saved from failure by the few addresses we had risked taking along," he reported. Most Mennonite communities are in "Restricted Areas", and as such are not accessible to tourists. Since their passport was stamped "tourist", they could not visit them, but they could call for people in these areas to come to them. Using the addresses they had, they were able to call out Mennonites from several centers to Moscow and Alma Ata.

In their conversations with Elder Voth, Rev. Woelk, and others, in-

cluding two of Rev. Wiens' nephews, the delegates found out much that is of great value. Materially, the Mennonites are better off now than they have been for some time, reports indicate. Spiritually, they reveal a courage that is admirable. God's Word is being preached, people are coming to know the Lord in large numbers in evangelistic services, baptisms are held with large numbers of candidates.

"Our brethren in Russia will accuse us for our complacency before the judgment seat of Christ,"

the speaker maintained. Undaunted by the ever-present danger from an anti-God government, they are providing spiritual leadership even in Baptist circles.

"There is a hunger for God evident in Russia. If one were permitted to go into the villages and preach the Word freely, people would come to Christ in throngs," Rev. Wiens asserted. This spiritual hunger could be seen everywhere they went. Baptists and Mennonites are trying to meet this need, but in Mennonite communities there is a lack of qualified ministers. What ministers there are, are largely old men. In some cases elderly women have to take the initiative.

(Continued on page 4-2)

## Historic Study Conference

Winnipeg, Man. — Twenty-five leading ministers, pastors, and educators of the 24,500-member Mennonite Brethren Church in N. America met in the M.B. Bible College here from December 12 to 15 for the first study conference of its kind in the M.B. Church's nearly 100-year history.

Representation at the study conference included the Committee of Reference and Counsel of the M.B. General Conference, two faculty members from the M.B. Bible College, Tabor College, and the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, and delegates appointed by the three district conferences in the United States and the provinces in Canada.

In the stimulating exchange concerning the theological concepts and doctrinal truths basic to the Mennonite Brethren doctrinal position, the brethren found a greater unity than they had anticipated. Rather than having to achieve unity, they needed only to give a new expression to it.

Beginning with the reading of a paper by one of the participating

brethren, the 10 long sessions featured an abundance of thorough discussion about the topic discussed in the paper. While about an hour was devoted to the reading of papers devoted to assigned topics, about two hours were reserved for discussion of each topic. In addition, little groups of men could be seen eagerly discussing some facet of the topics during the intermissions.

Discussion centered on the topics: The Scriptural Concept of the Church and its Implications for the Organizational and Structural-Functions for the Mennonite Brethren Church; The Biblical Teaching on Sanctification; The Baptism and Infilling of the Holy Spirit; The Gifts of the Holy Spirit to the Believers; The Scriptural Teaching on the Preservation of the Believer; The Scriptural Principles of a Separated Life: "Grundzuege der Theologie der Mennoniten-Bruedergemeinde"; and "Grundzuege im Charakter der Glaubensstellung unserer Vaeter".

While in Winnipeg, the men were received into the homes in the city, with meals provided at the M. B. Bible College.

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## Bible Studies Organized

Chilliwack, B.C. — The young people's group of the East Chilliwack M.B. church have organized Wednesday night Bible studies. The group is preparing to compete in a province-wide contest on the Gospel of Mark. Each week a quiz is given on one chapter of the book and the scores for the individuals and the six teams are tabulated. After each chapter has been studied the persons with the top marks will be pitted against the other top people in the British Columbia M. B. churches.

With the study of Mark, prayer meetings are also combined. Following the quiz and a general study of the Gospel, the group divides for prayer. This is a great time of blessing and strengthening to the whole group.

The Bible classes seem to be very successful. The interest is high and a good number of the young people are faithful in attendance. We pray that God will use this contest to bring us closer to Him through His word.

### NO ISSUE NEXT WEEK

The Mennonite Observer will not be published next week, December 28. Publication will be resumed with the January 4 issue.

# Christmas Greetings and a Blessed New Year!



## EDITORIAL

### A Question to Ponder at Christmas

The innkeeper at Bethlehem when Christ was born is the object of many accusations, much self-righteous denunciation and many expressions of pity. No room in the inn sets the stage for many of our Christmas plays, dialogues, and sermons. We forget that we have much in common with the innkeeper.

Poignantly we describe the arrival of Joseph and Mary in Bethlehem and their disappointment at finding no room in the inn. The innkeeper is portrayed as so happy with his inn-full of tax collectors and the well-to-do in the land, that his heart remains cold despite the eloquent pleas of the poor couple. With his pockets jingling with Roman money, he scornfully offers them a place with the cattle. To complete the drama of the occasion, we express our sympathy with him when he finds that the child born in his stable receives the honor due a king. If the poor man had only known, we sigh.

But let's change the scene. This is Christmas 1956. The rush of orders at the store or warehouse is keeping father at work later than usual. In spite of time and a half for overtime, he is tired when he comes home, with only enough energy left to eat supper, read the daily paper, and retire for the night's rest. The children are probably asleep by the time he comes home. Mother is also busy, bustling about because of the infinitely many preparations needed to make the Christmas celebration a "success". There are the candies to make, the decorations to put up, the clothes to clean for Christmas festivities, and the pastries to bake.

The evenings before Christmas are filled with the multitude of programs presented by church organizations and schools. Socials add to the dizzy round. Family gatherings and social calls make the Christmas holidays a perpetual round of visiting and preparation of food. Finally, a relieved sigh announces that the family can settle down into the day-by-day routine. Christmas is past.

There was no time during the evenings to gather the family around the piano (or violin or guitar) to sing some of the grand Christmas carols. There was no time to sit down as family and prayerfully, meditatively, read the various prophecies relating to the coming of Christ and the story of His birth as related in the Gospels. There was no time for father and mother to read, or tell, some of the fine stories that have been written with a Christmas theme. There was no time to prepare some Christmas cheer with the children for those children in the neighborhood who probably will not have a cheery Christmas.

When Christmas day came, thoughts of God's great gift are smothered in the shower of gifts, some of them so lavish that the debts created by them will haunt the family for a long time. The family's preoccupation with the gifts precludes a timely arrival at the church service, so the pastor thoughtfully starts it late. Of course, mother (or one of the girls) must stay home so that the family can properly "celebrate" Christmas with a heavy meal.

The innkeeper at Bethlehem had no inkling that Christ would be born that day. How could he know that the tired young couple and their yet to be born son would be the centre of attention the next morning—and for many mornings to come. Because of that he can be excused for treating them as ordinary travellers. But we know Christ was born in Bethlehem. We profess to remember His birth at Christmas. Can we be excused when we assign him to the "stable", too? Isn't His place being taken by the trappings of a commercialized Christmas? That is a question we need to ponder at Christmas.

## DEVOTIONAL

### Unworthy: Yet Worthy

By G. B. Dyck \*

In John 1:27 we read, "He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe latchet I am not worthy to unloose."

The Pharisees had sent to enquire who this rather strange character baptizing along Jordan really was. Was he the Christ? Was he Elias or some other prophet? John is not negligent nor tardy in his reply but gives testimony of himself, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord. I came for a witness to bear witness of the Light, that all men through Him might believe. I baptize with water, but there standeth one among you whom ye know not and I am not worthy of Him, no not as much as to open his shoe's latchet."

Quite vividly there comes to my mind a scene of my grade school days when in a little white school house in the open country of Manitoba our teacher asked us, "What do you want to be in life?" Certainly that was the all-important question; we all wanted to be great, we all wanted to make a big impression. And what were the goals of our childhood aspirations? One young boy said, "I want to be a missionary." Others followed with "Engineer", "Pilot", "Farmer", "Doctor", "Nurse" etc. Another added, "I want to be a man." You can readily see from these answers that this group of children could well typify the youth of our land. People today want to achieve, they want to excel and so find a place among the worthies of our land.

In considering John the Baptist we truly have a great man before us. He feared not the Pharisees, but said to them, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance." Likewise he answered the common people, as well as the robust soldiers who loved to break out in violence and contest for higher wages. The wicked Herod himself does not escape the reproof, the lashing words of judgment as they cut through his hardened conscience, and yet, this great man John said, "I am not worthy."

This is the testimony of various other great men. Moses said unto God, "Who am I, that I should go before Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?" Gideon said, "O my Lord, where withal shall I save Israel? Behold my family is poor in Manasseh and I am the least in my father's house." The great king Solomon said, "And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but

a little child: and I know not how to go out or come in."

These are the testimonies of men who accomplished great things in life, who made contributions to their people whereby they shall ever be remembered. Moses was chosen to bring forth a people out of bondage and slavery to a land that floweth with milk and honey. Gideon was chosen to redeem his people in a time when the loss of all that is dear to a people was at stake. Solomon was chosen of God to build that beautiful temple in which the Lord chose to dwell in the midst of Israel and to reveal himself in a special way. The path to greatness, we must conclude, lies dormant in the attitude of unworthiness and is manifested in the willingness to do the little, the insignificant things which finally are also important.

Those who do enter into the work of the Lord possibly feel with Paul when he says, "I am not meet to be called an apostle", or would add the words of John the Baptist, "He must increase but I must decrease." This feeling of unworthiness in the presence of a greater One had a wholesome influence upon John's life. It prompted him to forsake his parents, leave the comforts of home and go out to serve the Lord in the wilderness, to be satisfied to be dressed in camel's hair and to exchange the dainties of a mother's kitchen for locusts and wild honey. We further question what makes men and women willing to join themselves

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## Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

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

## Successful Carol Festival at Abbotsford

Abbotsford, B.C. — Mennonite church choirs, school choirs, and district church choirs sang at a carol festival sponsored by the Rotary Club in Abbotsford Junior High School auditorium. It was the most successful carol festival to date.

A stirring rendition of the Hallelujah Chorus by massed choirs under the direction of Menno Neufeld was the highlight of the concluding evening. Accompanying was the Valley String Orchestra, which also contributed to the Friday program under the direction of Walter Neufeld.

A Mennonite choir taking part at the Thursday night program was the South Abbotsford M.B. Church young men's choir, directed by John Ratzlaff. Some other groups were a grade nine choir led by Henry Wiebe; a Senior High School teachers male chorus; and the Abbotsford Senior High School girls glee club, led by J. Wittenberg.

The Friday night audience heard the North Clearbrook M.B. Church choir, led by John Suderman; the Mennonite Educational Institute Choir, under Rev. C. D. Toews; the McCallum Road M.B. Church choir, under Wm. Wiebe; the Bethel Choir, led by Menno Neufeld, and other groups.

Audiences joined in carol singing both nights.

## Mexico Colonists Face Feed Shortage

A report in the Mennonite Weekly Review states that the main concern of Mennonite colonists in the Cuauhtemoc area of Mexico is the serious shortage of feed. Everyone is inquiring from his neighbor whether he has any to spare or knows where some is to be had.

All available oats straw, corn stalks and other fodder is salvaged to help carry livestock through until next harvest.

In a number of instances farmers offered to trade off some of their cows for feed. A few villages north of here had more rain this past summer and consequently can get good prices for any feed they have to spare. In general the feed shortage may be almost as great as it was during the extreme drouth years in the early '50s.

The occasional farmer who is fortunate enough to have irrigation wells had good crops and will be amply supplied for the winter. More are trying to make wells of their own, although the expense involved is high.

Bean threshing has been the order of the day here since late October.

### Better in Durango

Conditions are probably slightly better among the Mennonite colonists in Durango province, 400 miles to the south. Limited areas there had ample rainfall and excellent crops.

The economic situation in Mexico is complicated by the reduced buying power of the peso. It recently dropped as low as 8¢ in U.S. currency.

## Neuwied Group Has Own Church Now

Neuwied, Germany — The Mennonite Brethren Church here had the joy of signing the title deed that made it the owner of its own house of worship. The building became church property on December 7, and was moved into after December 15. A former inn, it provides sufficient room for the church and youth work, in addition to living quarters for the resident minister.

The new address of Rev. J. W. Vogt is: Neuwied, Rhein, Wiedbachstraße 11, Germany.

Rev. H. H. Janzen visited the church here upon his arrival in Europe. His present address is: Basel, Dittingerstraße 12, Switzerland.

## NEW PERIODICAL FOR CONGO CHRISTIANS

"MWINDA" is a bi-monthly journal which the Kafumba station publishes for the Christians on the Congo field. Edited by Ervin L. Friesen, this magazine of Christian instruction is also read by people from other societies. At present this 12-page periodical has a subscription of about 450.

Each issue has a theme article. Sections are devoted to evangelism, the Christian life, Bible study, women's concerns, native stories, testimonies of native leaders and history of our missions.

Besides the regular articles, the church and mission news draw much interest. Most interesting, however, are the two or three pages of letters to the editor. When approached about buying a subscription recently, an African asked: "What is the Mwinda?" Another replied: "It is a paper where you can write anything you want and they print it."

## Radio Recital for Mennonite Soloist

St. Catharines, Ont. — John Heidebrecht of the M.B. Church here was heard in an unusual recital of songs and French horn music on December 2 over radio station CKTB.

Mr. Heidebrecht, who is the owner of Heidebrecht Recording

Service, 301 Church Rd., is a bass soloist and an accomplished performer on the French horn. With his recording service he helps produce the Messengers of Christ and other programs.

His radio program included as songs Beethoven's "Nature's Ador-

ation" and "in Questa Tomba", Schubert's 'Omnipotence', and a hymn by the Russian composer Bortniansky, composed in 1822. He played the Mozart Concerto in D Major for horn and a selection from the Horn Quintet by the same composer.

## Evangelism Among Slavic Refugees

By Charles Grikman

We thank God for His enabling to carry on the work, with which He has entrusted us. There is much to be done in answering letters, sending out of Scriptures, preaching in our local churches, visiting the old people's homes, prisons, hospitals, and sanatoriums.

In July we were privileged to attend and address a conference of our Slavic brethren in Northern France. There young people impressed us very favourably with their earnest desire to follow Christ and to learn more of Him.

The miners in Belgium had their annual holiday in July. Our brethren used one half of it for a Bible course, which was held at La Louviere. It was a very busy and happy time. The local families showed a very warm hospitality, providing lodging and caring for the meals.

Then we spent a few days in Holland, visiting refugees, who do not know the Dutch language and on that account feel themselves very lonely. Two meetings were addressed — one in a private home and the other in a sanatorium. We also attended a conference for Dutch believers, where we enjoyed a very refreshing Christian fellowship. There we had the joy of meeting again after ten years Dr. Ivan V. Magal from the U.S.A., the editor of "The New Way", who spent a while with us in Belgium. Though very fully occupied with his medical work, the spiritual needs of the refugees are much upon his heart.

Through the united effort of our local groups and the parents it was possible to send some 30 of our young people to youth camps this summer, where they not only enjoyed rest and recreation, but also received solid food from the Word of God under the guidance of experienced youth leaders and Christian workers.

On several occasions we were able to see off groups of refugees leaving for Canada and U.S.A. and to supply them with Scriptures in different languages. The same applies to refugees in prisons, to the sick in the hospitals and sanatoriums and the aged in the old people's homes, all of whom are glad to have the Good News in written and oral form. We endeavour to visit them regularly.

In August we had a unique opportunity together with brother V.

Magal (Graduate of Goshen College), to meet a group of 700 refugees, who were liberated from a camp in Yugoslavia and who came to Belgium, and to give them Scriptures in six different languages. That very day a terrible mining catastrophe took place near Charleroi, where some 260 miners lost their lives. Their relatives and friends were supplied with Gospels and "Words of Comfort and Consolation."

Again 20 Gospel articles have been printed this year in the leading Paris Russian newspaper, which have brought in a number of letters and requests for Scriptures. One came from a learned man, an astronomer. He says: "I am reading your articles with much interest. I have studied and continue to study astronomy. But knowing the movements of heavenly bodies and the constitution of the universe, I know very little, practically nothing, concerning the Creator of the universe and still less concerning His Son. Please help me to find the truth."

Here is another letter: "I received the Holy Scriptures and do thank you from all my heart. I am really overjoyed. For many years I have dreamed about the possibility of being able to buy a copy of the Scriptures, but could not afford the price, being in material hardship. Now I have received it free of charge. Thank you once again very heartily."

These are only two samples from many interesting letters, which have been received. It is surprising to know that there are still so many refugees who do not possess a copy of the Word of God. Thank God through the help of some faithful friends, so far it has been possible to satisfy all the demands.

In September, together with Brother V. Magal, we spent three weeks in Germany, conducting Bible courses. The first was for the Slavic and Baltic Evangelical preachers. It was held at Schorborn, near Hannover, in a big country house, where we stayed, studied and had our meals together. Some 25 participants gathered for the purpose from all over Germany. Two Latvian preachers travelled many hundreds of kilometers, driving a miniature Messerschmitt car (a covered motorcycle on three wheels). How they managed to

(Continued on page 8-4)

## HERE AND THERE AND EVERYWHERE

### New Mission Chapel Dedicated

Saskatoon, Sask. — The Mennonite Brethren Mission of Saskatchewan held dedication services for their new chapel in the city here on Sunday afternoon, December 2. The Lawrence Redekopps are city missionaries here. The basement has been used for about two years already.

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### Special Project Undertaken By Girls' Class

Dalmeny, Sask. — The Intermediate girls' class of the Sunday school of the Mennonite Brethren Church here has undertaken an ambitious project. They want to raise \$5.00 every Sunday (\$20.00 a month) to help finance the printing of the Gospel of Mark in the Amochia language. During the month of November they received \$20.10.

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### Christian Endeavor Hears Rev. Martens

Dalmeny, Sask. — Rev. Art Martens of Saskatoon was the guest speaker at the Christian Endeavor of the M. B. Church here on Sunday, December 9. The theme for the evening was, "The Lord's Coming in Relation to Salvation". Musical features were a trumpet ensemble, and a solo by Albert Lepp, the choir director.

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### Hammond Organ Installed in Dalmeny Church

Dalmeny, Sask. — Tribute was paid to the Music Committee of the M. B. Church here on Sunday, Dec. 9, for their efforts in procuring a Hammond organ for the church. Fully paid for, it is adding to the worship in the church services.

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### Vineland Choir Sings at St. Catharines

St. Catharines, Ont. — The medium of music is universally loved, appreciated and used by man to convey thoughts and feelings. How good if it is used for God's praise as in hymns, Christian songs and in cantatas, where the music is built around a Christian theme. It was the privilege of the St. Catharines M. B. Church to be hosts to the Vineland M. B. Church choir on December 9 when they sang the cantata, "Zion". Their singing was greatly appreciated and reminded the listeners of the heavenly Zion which God has prepared for those that follow Him.

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### Mission Office Relocated

Hepburn, Sask. — The residence and office of the M. B. Mission of Saskatchewan headquarters has

been relocated. With the expansion at the Bethany Bible Institute, the former residence, located next to the institute, was turned over to the school. A new residence and office have been purchased in the southern section of Hepburn.

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Mrs. P. Schellenberg Passes Away  
North Clearbrook, B.C. — Mrs. Peter Schellenberg passed away on December 10 after suffering much pain for the last six weeks. Death is attributed to cancer.

A casualty of the sudden onslaught of winter was Mrs. C. F. Klassen, who fell and broke her arm.

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### Hand Lacerated in Starting Fan

Abbotsford, B.C. — A sudden start by the fan of the truck he was trying to help start, seriously injured two fingers and caused lacerations on one hand of Mr. J. H. Willms.

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### Move to Menno Home

Abbotsford, B.C. — Mrs. Amelia Peters and Mrs. Martens, who lived together on Columbia Rd. for ten

## MORE ABOUT PRAYER PROTECTED DELEGATION

(Continued from page 1-3)

The most frequent request received was for a Bible. In their visits to Russian Baptist churches in Moscow, Kiev, Alma Ata and Tashkent, they received many requests for God's Word. The Russian Baptists will be publishing a Russian Bible in January, and it is hoped this will help alleviate the extreme shortage of Bibles.

Most Mennonites contacted asked that food and clothing not be sent, but pleaded for parcels of songbooks and Bibles. The Bibles should be sent singly, to individual addresses. Registered letters should also not be sent, since they awaken suspicion.

Rev. Wiens devoted a large section of his report to their contacts with the Russian Baptists. The two brethren were given the privilege of speaking to the congregation in Moscow upon several occasions. The large church there was filled with worshippers, with a large number standing. Young people were also in evidence, especially in the 75-voice choir, composed largely of young people. In Kiev, Alma Ata, and Tashkent they also worshipped in the Baptist churches, and found the membership very happy to greet these brethren from outside of Russia. Everywhere they

years have moved into the Menno Home. Mrs. Peters, who is 77, did the cooking for both, while Mrs. Martens, 87, looked after the flowers and the garden. Their household articles were sold at the South Abbotsford M. B. church on December 11, with the receipts going to missions.

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### Ladies' Sewing Circle Has Christmas Program

Abbotsford, B.C. — The Senior Ladies' Sewing Circle met on Thursday, Dec. 13, for their Christmas program and lunch. The Sewing Circle meets every Thursday for fellowship.

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### Ladies' Christmas Social

Chilliwack, B.C. — The Bible school chapel was filled with Christmas joy and blessing when the Mary-Martha Sewing Circle of the East Chilliwack M.B. church had their annual social there. The ladies had prepared a delicious cold supper which they enjoyed together with their husbands. Several songs and poems were rendered. Rev. Thielmann, local church leader expressed a few thoughts on Jesus as the only Son of God. Later the ladies exchanged gifts with their prayer-sisters. The evening was a blessing and served to spread true Christmas spirit.

went, the ministers preached biblical, Christ-centred messages.

Other impressions gained in their tour added to the interest in the report. The brethren visited the mausoleum in which Lenin and Stalin are displayed, where regularly long lines of people wait to see the "leaders of the revolution."

The educational standard in Russia has been raised tremendously during the last years. Many are going to school. Noticeable was the absence of pornographic filth in the magazines. But there is a real lack of information about conditions in democratic countries—except for negative aspects, such as the Negro-white conflict in the southern United States and the unemployment. Peace propaganda is very prominent, and has influenced even the Christians, so that there is much talk about a "false" peace.

The living standard as a whole is not high, with the wage of someone working in a hospital, for instance, at 430 rubels, while ladies' shoes cost about 700 rubels, and a men's suit from 300 to 2,000 rubels.

The prospects for emigration from Russia are not good, and Rev. Wiens warned against raising false hopes. Only recognized German citizens are allowed to emigrate, not those who were naturalized by Hitler, for instance. But this may not be as bad as it appears, for Mennonites are the "salt of the earth" where they are living, Rev. Wiens

stated. God may want to use them as witnesses in that dark country.

## THE GIFT BIBLE AND ITS USE

One of the most popular Christmas gifts, year after year, is the Bible. The care given such a gift decides how long it will be useful. Properly cared for it should last for generations.

The way a new Bible is opened is of utmost importance. The book should be placed on its back on a flat surface. After opening the front cover the fingers should be run along the groove where cover and pages join. This procedure then should be followed inside the back cover.

While still in the same position the book should be opened at about 20 to 30 pages from the front—the fingers again drawn along the centre groove. This should be done alternately from the back and front about 30 pages apart until the centre of the book is reached. This gives both suppleness and longer life to the binding.

Bibles should never be stored near a radiator or other heat sources. A couple of drops (or more) of linseed oil rubbed into the hands and on the cover will freshen it up from time to time.

A suggested list of daily Bible readings for 1957 may be secured free from the British and Foreign Bible Society, Winnipeg. Many ministers of most denominations have a supply of these folders or may easily secure them.

## BLEAK CHRISTMAS IN BUDAPEST

Hungarians went Christmas shopping on Sunday, Dec. 16, in drab, dimly-lit stores of their battered capital, according to a report by Reuters.

They thronged gift shops which kept the custom of opening on the last two Sundays before Christmas. Many had boarded-up and barren windows, lacking the colorful displays of toys and Christmas trimming of normal times, and most closed about 2 p.m. local time to allow the staff to travel home before dark.

Crowds trekked through the battle-scarred streets, past Soviet tanks and armored cars, in cold, dull, misty weather, and clung inside and outside buses and trams, clutching Christmas parcels and Christmas trees.

A few houses already had decorations in their windows, but there was little Christmas atmosphere about the stricken city, still showing the wounds of the fighting which raged through it a few weeks ago, and which is now short of coal and electric power, and uncertain of the future.

# A Christmas in Prison

Some years ago while conducting a series of meetings in Michigan City, I was asked to preach to the convicts in the State prison. I sat on the platform with the governor and watched the prisoners march in—700 men, young and old. They marched in lock step, every man's hand on the shoulder of the man before him. At the word of command they sat down. Among that number there were seventy-six "lifers", men who had been committed to prison for life for the crime of murder.

After the singing I arose to preach, but could hardly speak for weeping. Disregarding all the rules of the prison, in my earnestness to help the poor, fallen men, I left the platform and walked down the aisle among them, taking one, and then another by the hand and praying for them. At the end of the row of men who were committed for murder, sat a man who more than his fellows seemed marked by sin's blighting curse.

His face was seamed and rigid with scars and marks of vice and sin. He looked as though he might be a demon incarnate if once aroused to anger. I placed my hand upon his shoulder and wept and prayed for and with him.

When the service was over, the governor said to me, "Well, Kain, do you know you have broken the rules of the prison by leaving the platform?" "Yes, governor, but I never can keep any rule while preaching. And I did want to get up close to the poor, despairing fellows, and pray for them, and tell them of the love of Jesus the Saviour. He came to seek and save that which was lost."

"Do you remember," said the governor, "that man at the end of the line in the lifers' row, whom you prayed with? Would you like to hear his history?" "Yes," I answered gladly. "Well, here it is in brief: Tom Galson was sent here about eight years ago for the crime of murder. He was without a doubt one of the most desperate and vicious characters we had ever received, and, as was expected, gave us a great deal of trouble.

"One Christmas Eve, about six years ago, duty compelled me to spend the night at the prison, instead of at home, as I had anticipated. Early in the morning, while it was yet dark, I left the prison for my home, my pockets full of presents for my little girl. It was a bitterly cold morning and I buttoned my overcoat up to protect myself from the cutting wind that swept in from the lake. As I hurried along I thought I saw somebody skulking in the shadow of the prison wall. I stopped and looked a little more closely, and

I saw a little girl, wretchedly clothed in a thin dress; her bare feet thrust into a pair of shoes much the worse for wear. In her hand she held, tightly clasped, a small paper parcel. Wondering who she was and why she was out so early in the morning, and yet too weary to be interested, I hurried on. But soon I heard that I was being followed. I stopped and turned around, and there stood before me the same wretched looking child.

"What do you want?" I asked sharply. "Are you the governor of the prison, sir?" "Yes, who are you and why are you not at home?" "Please, sir, I have no home; mama died in the poor house two weeks ago, an' she told me just before she died that papa (Tom Galson) was in prison; an' she thought maybe he would like to see his little girl, now that mamma is dead. Please, can't you let me see my papa? Today is Christmas, and I want to give him a present."

"No," I replied gruffly, "You will have to wait until visitor's day," and started on. I had not gone many steps when I felt a pull at my coat, and a pleading voice said, "Please don't go." I stopped once more, and looked into the pinched beseeching face before me. Great tears were in her eyes, while her chin quivered with emotion.

"Mister," she said, "if your little girl was me, and your little girl's mamma had died in the poor house, an' her papa was in the prison, an' she had no place to go an' no one to love her, don't you think she would like to see her papa? If it was Christmas, and your little girl came to see me, if I was governor of the prison, an' asked me to please let her see her papa to give him a Christmas present, don't you—don't you think I would say yes?"

"By this time a great lump was in my throat, and my eyes were swimming in tears. I answered, 'Yes, my little girl, I think you would, and you shall see your papa'; and taking her hand I hurried back to the prison, thinking of my own fair-haired little girl at home. Arriving at my office I bade her come near the warm stove, while I sent a guard to bring No. 37 from his cell. As soon as he came into the office and saw the little girl, his face clouded with an angry frown, and in a gruff, savage tone he snapped out:

"Nellie, what are you doing here; what do you want? Go back to your mother.' 'Please, papa,' sobbed the little girl, 'mamma's dead. She died two weeks ago in the poor house, an' before she died she told me to take care of Jimmy, 'cause you loved him so; an'

told me to tell you she loved you, too—but papa,—and her voice broke in sobs and tears—'Jimmy died, too, last week, and now I am alone, papa, an' today's Christmas, papa, an' I thought, maybe as you loved Jimmie, you would like a little Christmas present from him.'

"Here she unrolled the little bundle she held in her hand, until she came to a little package of tissue paper, from which she took out a little, fair curl, and put it in her father's hand saying as she did so: 'I cut it from dear little Jimmy's head, papa, just before they buried him.'

"No. 37 by this time was sobbing like a child, and so was I. Stooping down, 37 picked up the little girl, pressed her convulsively to his breast, while his great frame shook with suppressed emotion.

"This scene was too sacred for me to look upon, so I softly opened the door, and left them alone. In about an hour I returned. No. 37 sat near the stove, with his little daughter on his knee. He looked at me sheepishly for a moment and then said, 'Governor, I haven't the money;' then suddenly stripping off his prison jacket, he said, 'For God's sake, don't let my little girl go out this bitter, cold day with that thin dress. Let me give her this coat. I'll work early and late; I'll do anything. I'll be a man. Please, governor, let me cover her

with this coat.' Tears were streaming down the face of the hardened man.

"No, Galson," I said, 'keep your coat; your little girl shall not suffer. I'll take her to my home and see what my wife can do for her.' 'God bless you,' sobbed Galson. I took the girl to my home. She remained with us for a number of years and became a true Christian by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. God's book shows man's need and God's remedy. Tom Galson also became a Christian and then gave us no more trouble."

A year ago, when I visited the prison again, the governor said to me, "Kain, would you like to see Tom Galson, whose story I told you a few years ago?" "Yes," I answered. The governor took me down a quiet street and stopping at a neat home, knocked at the door. The door was opened by a cheerful young woman who greeted the governor with the utmost cordiality.

"We went in and the governor introduced me to Nellie and her father, who, because of his reformation had received pardon and was now living an upright Christian life with his daughter whose little Christmas gift had broken his heart. 'Christ died for the ungodly.'

From the tract published by the Free Gospel Tract Distributors, Edmonton, Alberta.

## One Solitary Life

Here is a young man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30, and then for 3 years he was an itinerary preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never went to college. He never put his foot inside a big city. He never traveled 200 miles from the place where he was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

While he was still a young man, the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. He was turned over to his enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for the only piece of his property on earth, and that was his coat. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

I am far within the mark when I say, that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that

were ever built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of men upon this earth as has that One Solitary Life.

Author Unknown.

## UNWORTHY: YET WORTHY

(Continued from page 2-4)

to the leper stations and with them to die as a leper? What makes people willing to be sold into slavery in order to win some to Christ? What makes people willing to remain behind the "iron curtain" and share the miseries of oppression, poverty and fear? John the Baptist did not complain when he was cast into prison even though he could not understand why he was there. And when Peter and John had been beaten and commanded not to speak in the name of Jesus, they departed rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

Worthy? But not in themselves worthy. Only as they served Christ.—"Thou art worthy, O Lord, Thou art worthy to take the Book. — Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing."

\* Pastor of the Dalmeny M. B. Church.

## THE Young Observers

### Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Many miles to the east of Jerusalem there lived some men who studied the stars. These men were very wise and knew the meaning of some of the stars.

One night as they were looking into heaven they saw a star shining far brighter than any of the others. They knew that when this star would shine, a King was to be born.

"Come," they said to one another, "let us go and follow the star to see the King who has been born."

They travelled many miles until they came to Jerusalem. There they asked, "Where is the King that has been born? We have seen his star in the east!" The people in Jerusalem had not heard of such a King. At last the wise men of the city found out by studying the Old Testament that a King was to be born in Bethlehem. The King Herod, to whom the wise men from the east had gone, was not very happy about another king being born, but he pretended that he also wanted to see the child.

The wise men of the east then hurried on and when they came out of the city, they saw the star again. They were very happy, and followed the star, which stopped at Bethlehem over the place where the Baby Jesus lay. They had found the King at last. Falling down before Him, they worshipped Him and brought Him many precious gifts.

This Christmas, boys and girls, let us also fall down and worship Him, giving Him the gift which Jesus wants above all else from us—our heart.

Aunt Selma.



### The Quarrel of the Toys

By Justa Lee Allen

It was Christmas Eve. Everything was quiet outside except for the crunch, crunch of the snow as an occasional, belated Christmas shopper trudged by.

All was quiet within the little parlor, too, until the star on the top of the Christmas tree admired itself in the mirror across the room. And that is what started the whole thing.

"Hmmm," said the star, "I guess I am about the most important thing here." It turned this way and that, the better to see itself glisten and sparkle.

At that remark the toy engine puffed so hard it almost blew the doll's hat off. "Just what makes you think that?" asked the engine.

"Think? Who doubts it?" flashed the star. "Look at my position. At

the very top of the Christmas tree, which is as it should be. Everybody looks up to a star."

"Oh, is that all!" exploded the rubber balloon, with a sigh of relief.

"All?" repeated the star. It twinkled to itself in the mirror. "I am by far, the most important thing at this season, because I make people think of that first Christmas so long ago."

"I disagree with you, Bright One," said the little gray camel, forgetting for the first time in his life that he was a timid creature. "What could have been more important on that first Christmas than a camel? Why, even the airships, and trains, and automobiles envy me."

But the toy airship, and the toy train, and the toy auto cut that speech short with a whirr-r-r-, and a toot, toot, and a honk, honk!

Fido, the toy dog, began tapping on the floor with his tail. Everything became quiet for a moment.

"Thank you, Fido, for calling the house to order," said the little manger, "for I want to remind all of you that everyone just naturally thinks of a manger at Christmas time. The artists paint me, and the poets write about me and the musicians sing about me. The manger bed was the most glorious spot in the world on that first Christmas morning."

The toy turkey winked at the candies and other sweetmeats.

"Why not be modern, Old Timer?" he asked. "My sweetmeat friends and I know what is most important at Christmas. People could not have Christmas dinners and parties without us. Parties are growing to be more popular all the time. So—that settles this important question," said the turkey with a strut.

"You make me laugh!" said the little spoon. "I suppose you never heard of Christmas gifts. What would Christmas be without gifts? Exchanging gifts is quite modern, too. It's gifts that people think of at Christmas time."

"The spoon is right," declared the perfume atomizer. "Gifts counted on that first Christmas, too."

"Baa-a-a!" bleated the toy sheep, "you all make me sick!"

"Is that so?" said the atomizer, bracing itself against the trunk of the tree. Swish! it shot out a spray of perfume which missed the sheep and hit the turkey gobbler right in the eye.

"Gobble! Gobble!" said the turkey. "How dare you?"

The turkey started for the atomizer, but flogged the dog instead.

"Bow-wow!" said the dog, as he fell against the stuffed cat.

The cat began to scratch; the lion roared; the bear growled; the whistles screamed; the horns blew, and the drums rolled. Such a noise you never heard! Jack-in-the-box popped up and made an ugly face at the little tin soldier. The little tin soldier unsheathed his ugly sword.

Just then the Bible storybook spoke for the first time. "My friends," the book began, "have you forgotten what the angels said on that first Christmas eve? I am sure you remember—'Peace on earth, good will toward men.'"

Shame on you all to quarrel on Christmas Eve."

"I know a secret which should make you happy," continued the storybook. "I have it printed here on my pages."

"Silence!" commanded the Christmas tree. "Let us hear the storybook's secret."

The storybook spoke kindly, but very plainly. "You are all important at Christmas time," he began. With the storybook's very first words every toy gave attention. "You are all important, because you make people think of that first Christmas, and each of you helps to make a happy yuletide season. But you are all wrong when you think you are the most important thing about Christmas, for none of you is 'most important!'"

"It was like this," explained the storybook. "The Star of Bethlehem shone on that first Christmas; yes, but it shone for the Lord Jesus. The manger bed was glorified, because it cradled the Prince of Peace. The camel was important, because he carried the wisemen. There was rejoicing among the angels, but it was because of the newborn King. Gifts were there—for the Christ-child. Don't you see, my friends? But only One is really important; that is the Lord Jesus."

Long before the storybook had finished, all the toys had stopped fighting. The whistles, and the horns, and the drums had ceased their screaming, and blowing, and rolling. Jack got back into the box, and the little tin soldier put away his sword. Then the star in the top of the Christmas tree bowed its head in shame, and said: "Please forgive me, toys, for starting this quarrel."

(Continued on page 10-3)



CHILD OF HOPE

Enrico, Hans or Andre — He is the child who has found love. He has been hungry, but now he is fed. He was sick but now he is well. He was a refugee, but now he has a home. Given "in the name of Christ", this has brought hope and trust to the face once darkened with fear and want. The Child of Need or the Child of Hope? The future of thousands is in the hands of those who at this season celebrate the coming of the King of Love. Give to these in need; send to your conference treasurer or Mennonite Central Committee, Akron, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

## The School of God By Peggy Arbogast

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(21st Installment)

Ruth looked at Betty in surprise. The younger girl had presented a very accurate picture of the circumstances that confronted them, and Ruth was amazed. Betty had never before faced facts so intelligently. "Could it be that whatever was ahead of them would be the means of changing Betty too?"

"Suppose you tell me the facts from the beginning," suggested Ruth as they sat down to the table. So once more Bob told of the empty room, the bed that had not been slept in, and the note which he had found upon the bureau.

"Bob, what do you think we should do concerning his request not to search for him? Do you think we should obey?" questioned Ruth in perplexity when she had heard the story.

"Yes, I think we should," answered the boy slowly. "There are several angles to it. No matter what kind of means we employed for a search, it would take money. And Betty's already told you we haven't any. Dr. Blake thinks the same. I told him about this when I found the note. You were asleep, Ruth, and I felt perhaps he could suggest something."

Bob was interrupted by the ringing of the doorbell. "I guess that's Doc now," he mused as he walked towards the door. He returned a few seconds later followed by Ted.

"How's the nurse?" he grinned, as he glanced at Ruth, noting with approval the more rested appearance she gave.

"Feeling fine," was the answer, and then the smile faded, and she added, "Except that I'm terribly shocked with the news these two just hurled at me about father."

"Yes, that is too bad," answered the doctor. "But I'm going to ask you to do a very hard thing. I'm going to ask you to try to forget all about it for tonight. Take a walk or play a game of Tiddly-winks or something. At least don't talk about your problems. Go to bed early, then in the morning, after you've all had a good night's sleep, hold a family consultation and decide then what can or what ought to be done. You'll be surprised how much clearer a view you will have of things."

The doctor left them to think over his prescription while he went upstairs to visit his patient. He was very much pleased with Connie's condition. He repeated his previous advice when he returned downstairs. "Bob, do you think you can take care of Betty for an

hour or so?" he asked. "I'm going to kidnap Ruth and take her for a spin in my car—sort of blow the cobwebs from her brain, you know."

Ruth began to protest but was over-ruled. "You are under doctor's orders now," laughed Ted, as she climbed into the car.

"Mm, this feels good," murmured the girl a few minutes later as she sniffed at the refreshing breeze, "This is the first time I've been able to relax in weeks."

"That is why I insisted that you come, Ruth. You need more relaxation. You need to get out with other young people. You need to get back to church—to your Sunday school class."

"No, I'm giving up the class, and I'm not going back to church," Ruth's voice was firm as she made this reply.

"Ruth Arnold, I'm surprised at you," ejaculated Ted in an amazed voice. "I didn't think you were so small as to mind what people say. That is, I mean, to mind it enough to let it govern your actions. You ought to hold your head up and keep going among the people, even if it is hard."

Ruth brushed away a tear. "You wouldn't say that—if you knew how hard it is for me to keep away from church and the young people," she replied in a voice that trembled.

"Hard to keep away!" ejaculated the doctor. "Then for Pete's sake, why do you do it?"

"Because," answered the girl. "There are other people to think of. Oh, I don't know why I am telling you this. I made up my mind I would tell no one. You see, there are some mighty fine people in the church, people who are above gossiping and snubbing others because someone in their family has done something wrong. Those people would insist upon being friendly to me, and because I crave their friendship I'd be too weak not to accept it."

"Well, why on earth shouldn't you accept it?" interrupted Ted in surprise.

"Oh, Dr. Blake, can't you see? It would only turn the other people against them too. You know real well that both the pastor, and also Janet Gray, would not stoop to snubbing me. But look at their positions. Janet's a school teacher in this town. She's hired by a board whose members look in contempt upon my family. Mr. Stuart is the pastor of those people. If they felt he was friendly with us, they'd cause an awful lot of trouble at the

church."

To Ruth's great surprise, Ted threw back his head and laughed heartily.

"Ruth," he said, "If you'll pardon me for saying it, you're a silly little goose. Here, Keith and Miss Gray—even Aunt Sally—have been greatly concerned about you. They feared you had grown bitter, you've been trying to protect them from something they are not in the least concerned about. What if it does mean that some people will turn against them? They are big enough and strong enough in the Lord to face that. But Ruth, I doubt if it would turn folks against them too. I believe there are a lot of the folks here who don't feel that what is going on is correct, but they aren't used to opposing the popular current. They are waiting for a leader—someone to be bold enough to defy the crowd. Believe me, Ruth, when folks see the pastor, the teacher, and Aunt Sally befriend you, there are going to be others who will follow, and before long the whole thing will blow over."

"Oh, doctor, do you really think so," cried the girl hopefully.

"Yes, I do, and I want you to promise me that you'll go back."

Ruth hesitated for a moment. "I won't promise," she said, "but I will pray about it."

"That satisfies me," said Ted as they rounded a curve.

They spent most of the remaining time in silence as they drove about the countryside. It was still early when they returned and the Arnolds were faithful in carrying out their physician's advice. They retired early and made an honest effort to put the worries and cares of the home away from their minds for the night. Bob and Ruth were successful for they had the great Burden-Bearer upon Whom to cast all their care. But the usually selfish Betty lay and pondered what was to be their lot in life in the future.

It was still quite early when Ruth arose. For the first time in many days she sped first to her "trusting room", there to fellowship with her Saviour, and find strength for the day which lay before her.

A few moments later she met Bob and together they prepared the breakfast. Betty came down looking pale, worn and very unhappy. Quietly they ate their breakfast, each one waiting for someone else to speak first concerning the large problems which confronted them.

At the end of the meal, Ruth rose and suggested that they go into the living room where they could be more comfortable while they talked. "The dishes can wait until we have finished. I think it would be best for us to have our talk now before Connie awakens."

The others agreed and followed her from the kitchen. Bob was the first to break the silence which again descended upon them. "Ruth, I haven't been a Christian long, but in the short time that I have I've been thinking. I would suggest that now and every morning before we separate to go about our different tasks that we read a short portion of Scripture and have a word of prayer together."

Ruth's eyes were shining. "I think that's a wonderful idea, Bob," she replied. "Connie will love it too later on when she will be able to join us."

Betty sneered. "You can let me out of that. I don't want any part of that religious stuff," and as she said these words she left the room.

If Betty expected a sharp re-monstration to follow, she was disappointed. Ruth calmly replied, "Of course, Betty, if you'd rather not stay, we won't expect you to. Feasting at the table of the Lord is a blessed privilege which we can accept or reject. We cannot be forced to do it. Shall we call you when we have finished and are ready to discuss our plans for the future?"

Betty murmured an ungrateful "yes" as she left the room.

Together Bob and Ruth opened Bibles and softly Bob read aloud the first Psalm. Then one after the other they lifted their voices in prayer.

Betty, sitting in the dining room, waiting until they would finish, listened sulkily to the voices of her brother and sister in the next room. She could not distinguish the words but the peace and contentment in the tones of their voices was evident, and Betty was jealous.

When the devotions were finished, Ruth called Betty, who returned to the living room. They all agreed that Ruth was an absolute necessity in the home. Bob would start immediately to look for work, and if necessary, Betty too could seek a position.

As they parted a few minutes later, Bob drove first to the firm where his father had been employed. He was fortunate in promptly securing an interview with his father's former employer. He was not surprised to learn that his father had not appeared at work that week. He was totally unprepared to receive the news that Mr. Arnold's work had for some time proven unsatisfactory, and that the firm felt they would have to let him go. The gentleman was very kind to Bob, and listened sympathetically as the boy told of his father's disappearance. He offered Bob no hopes of a position, but said that they had intended to give Mr. Arnold a month's salary in advance when they dismissed him, and this money was now entrusted to Bob,

(To be continued)

## Mennonite Aid Societies Unite for Service

By Howard Raid

In July of 1955, the Mennonite Central Committee called together the Mennonite Mutual Aid Societies of the United States and Canada in a conference to study mutual aid problems. At this conference papers were read on the various aspects of Mennonite Mutual Aid, including the burial aid plans, surgical, and disability plans, credit and loan organizations, automobile aid, and property aid. As this conference progressed, there seemed to develop a spontaneous movement for a permanent organization.

The representatives found that their problems were common to many of the organizations. It was, therefore, felt that many valuable ideas could be learned from the experiences of other mutual aid societies. Because of this desire to learn from one another and because of the desire to aid one another, the Association of Mennonite Aid Societies was established.

A committee composed of representative members present was elected to implement the organization of such a society and to plan for the next conference. During the year, this committee, composed of Howard Raid of Bluffton, Ohio, chairman; C. J. Rempel of Kitchener, Ontario, vice-chairman; Harold Swartzendruber of Goshen, Indiana, secretary; M. L. Klopfenstein of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Wayne W. Martin of Goodville, Pennsylvania; Samuel S. Wenger of Paradise, Pennsylvania; and Elmer Ediger of North Newton, Kansas, met and set up two sub-committees and the program for the second conference.

One subcommittee composed of William Snyder, assistant executive secretary of MCC, and Samuel Wenger, a Lancaster County attorney, developed the Constitution for the Association of Mennonite Aid Societies.

A second subcommittee composed of Wayne W. Martin of the Goodville Mutual Casualty Company, Goodville, Pennsylvania; Jacob K. Redekop of the Canada and States Mennonite Insurance Association, Mountain Lake, Minnesota; Jacob Wedel of the Mennonite Hilfs-Plan, Moundridge, Kansas; Harold Schmidt of Mennonite Aid Union, Baden, Ontario; and M. L. Klopfenstein of Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana, studied risk re-sharing. Technical advice was provided to this subcommittee through the services of Elvin Souder, also a Lancaster County attorney, Samuel Wenger, and Neal Dubson, an insurance consultant in Pennsylvania.

These two subcommittees reported back to the annual conference held in July, 1956. At this conference, the report of the subcommit-

tee on the Association of Mennonite Aid Societies was accepted, thus bringing into being a national mutual aid association to help in strengthening existing societies and in the development of new ones.

This new organization elected the following officers: Harold Swartzendruber of Mennonite Mutual Aid Inc., as chairman; Howard Raid of Mennonite Mutual Aid Society as secretary-treasurer; Samuel Wenger, J. W. Fretz, professor at Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas, Harold Schmidt, and Jacob Wedel as Board members. These men are to carry on the promotion of the work of the organization.

The risk re-sharing committee's report was also accepted. This report recommended the formation of the Mennonite Indemnity Inc., a risk reinsuring company. This company is to be established in the state of Pennsylvania with a capital and surplus of \$150,000. Its directors are to be selected from the various Mennonite Aid Societies throughout the United States and Canada. Its basic purpose is to supply reinsurance facilities for all Mennonite Mutual Aid Societies. At the latest report, about two-thirds of the necessary capital and surplus had been subscribed and the preliminary steps have been taken to secure recognition with the Pennsylvania Department of Insurance.

It is hoped that this new organization, the Association of Mennonite Aid Societies, and its daughter organization, the Mennonite Indemnity, Inc., will enable the Mennonite Brotherhood to better meet its mutual aid problems. Through this organization and its conferences, we should be able to provide special services to any society that desires them. Research projects can be instituted and carried on to make thorough studies of the operation, procedures, and techniques being used. Experiences can be exchanged from one society to another and by presenting a united front, we can win wider acceptance of our mutual aid practices.

One might turn to the writings of Paul, as recorded in Galatians 6:10, for a bit of inspiration for this type of work. Here Paul says, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

It seems to me that this organization, while it is primarily concerned about strengthening those of the household of faith, should do it not just to strengthen ourselves, but that because of this strength we might more effectively proclaim the message that Christ has given unto us.

It is planned to hold a third con-

ference of the Association of Mennonite Aid Societies in Chicago, March 7-8. This conference will again be held in the Atlantic Hotel and all Mennonite Aid Societies are invited to participate. As in other years, there will be a series of inspirational messages and reports of the activities of the Association and all member societies. It is also planned to have a discussion period so that special problems of local aid societies might be presented.

If there are any Mennonite Mutual Aid Societies in the United States or Canada who have not received information about this new association, will you please communicate with the secretary-treasurer of this organization, Howard Raid, Bluffton College, Bluffton, Ohio.



## Cooperative Effort in German Program

**Winnipeg, Man.** — The Deklamatorium "Siehe, Dein König Kommt", sponsored by the Mennonite Society for the Nurture of the German Language, was presented at the South End M. B. Church on Sunday, December 9. Members of the three Mennonite Brethren Churches in Winnipeg, the First Mennonite Church, the North Kildonan Mennonite Church, and the Sargent Avenue Mennonite Church participated.

In his introductory remarks Rev. G. Fast pointed out that the missionary motive outweighed all other reasons in working for the preservation of the German language, and that the main aim of this program was the glorification of God.

Prepared and directed by Rev. C. C. Penner, the program consisted of declamations and songs presenting the first and second coming of Christ. Mr. Pauls of Elmwood and Mrs. Rita Schmidt of South End served as soloists. Mrs. Viola Falk, North Kildonan, directed a boys' choir. Miss Hanneliese Unruh of North Kildonan played violin solos. Mr. H. Strempler of the Sargent Avenue Mennonite Church directed a small orchestra of various instruments. A group of students of the M. B. Bible College served with songs.

As a cooperative effort representing six Mennonite churches, the program was a challenge to Christian unity. Half of the offering received was designated for assistance in Paraguay.

## MORE ABOUT Evangelism Among Slavic Refugees

(Continued from page 3-4)

arrive is a real mystery, because both are invalids, having only one arm each. Certain parts of the road had been very slippery and dangerous. Yet they came and it was a real joy to have them with us. Some of the brethren used their annual holiday in order to be present at this course.

One member of the audience was a blind brother, who could not take any notes, but he assured us that all that he heard was stored up in his memory. Another one was an aged brother, well known in Evangelical circles as a poet, whose verses are being published in all the Russian Evangelical periodicals. In spite of his advanced age (80 years), he is still very active and alert. On the last morning at the breakfast table he read to us a piece of poetry dedicated to the course, which he had written early that very morning. At times he has such an inspiration that he hardly manages to write down the verses, which come at great speed. Everyone has his own gift.

This course lasted for ten days. Each day we started at eight o'clock in the morning and continued until eight at night, naturally with brief intervals for meals. The following subjects were treated or rather touched upon (what else could we do in such a short time): Bible Doctrine, Christian Apologetics, Homiletics, Types of the Old Testament (Tabernacle in the Wilderness), The Early Days of the Russian Gospel Movement, Difficult passages of the Bible, etc. The brethren proved to be most zealous students, who showed a sustained interest from the beginning to the very end. Our only regret was that the time at our disposal was really too short. Nevertheless, all agreed that it was certainly worth while thus to come together.

A conference was held at Munich for Christian workers and believers, who came together chiefly from Southern Germany. It comprised Bible study, based on the Tabernacle in the Wilderness and on the Epistle to the Ephesians.

Our last conference was held at Liege on November 1, when the refugees met from all over Belgium. It was very well attended. The weather was favourable. This fact also contributed to the success of the conference. Besides the main meetings two parallel gatherings were held, one in German and the other in French for our young people. In conclusion seven came forward, deciding for Christ.

We do thank you very warmly for all your interest, prayers and help. Please continue to remember this work in your prayers.

## THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

### Alaskan Missionary to Remain Despite Death of Husband, Son

A young woman missionary who helplessly watched her baby son slowly freeze to death and later saw all hope ebb for the safety of her missing husband, has decided to remain and continue their evangelistic work among the nomadic Indians of a lonely sub-Arctic outpost.

The husband, missionary Albert Kelly, 26, serving with the Central Alaskan Mission, disappeared in a skiff while seeking help after his family was marooned on a desolate island in Glens Bay last November 6. His wife, Vera, 25, was later rescued from a rocky beach with her daughter, Rebecca, 3, where they had been without food or shelter for four days and nights. Nearby lay the frozen body of the Kelly's 4-month-old son, Thomas, a victim of starvation and the bitter Alaskan cold.

Recuperating in Faith Hospital, Glenallen, Mrs. Kelly declared: "My husband may be dead. My baby is dead. But I still have my faith in God. Despite everything, God has been good to us and I want to continue in His service." (ERA)

\* \* \*

### Reports Clergymen Not Safe Drivers

Clergymen as a group are "not good, safe drivers", M. L. Allison of the accident prevention department of Employers Mutual Casualty Company, Charlotte, N.C., said at Ashville, N.C. "Most clergymen drive like they are going to a fire," he told the North Carolina chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers. His topic was "We Forget Our Religion When We Drive".

\* \* \*

### Over Sixty Per Cent of Arrests Connected With Liquor

More than 60 per cent of all arrests made by police in the first six months of 1956 were due to crimes directly related to alcoholic beverages, the Methodist Board of Temperance reported at Washington, D.C. The board said that an analysis of the latest FBI Uniform Crime Report shows that out of approximately three million arrests for all offenses, 60 and two-thirds per cent were related to alcohol. The figures are taken from police reports from 1,771 cities.

Elsewhere, more persons were convicted in England and Wales last year of drunkenness than in any other year since 1938, an official Government statement revealed. From 54,518 in 1938, the figure declined steadily to 20,545 in 1946 and then took a sharp jump reaching 54,210 in 1955.

The London metropolitan area recorded 19,903 offenses last year. Birmingham was second with 4,806 and Liverpool third with 3,085.

(ERA)

\* \* \*

### Anglican Vicar Unfrocked

A Church of England court has unfrocked a vicar who was found alive and living with a woman after allegedly faking death by drowning.

His wife, family, and parishioners mourned him last year when he vanished after ostensibly going swimming. His clothes were found on the beach.

This year he was found living under an assumed name in Switzerland with a wealthy, middle-aged English business woman.

He was charged with wilfully abandoning his parish and with living in adultery.

## CANADASCOPE

### Queen Sends Message of Sympathy

Queen Elizabeth sent a message of sympathy to the relatives of the 62 persons aboard a Trans-Canada Air Lines North Star missing in British Columbia. The message reads:

"I have heard with deep concern of the tragic loss of the Canadian airliner in the Rocky Mountains. Please convey my sincere sympathy to all the relatives of those who have lost their lives."

The message was made public by TCA President G. R. McGregor, who received it through Governor-General Vincent Massey.

The large plane has not yet been found, with search for it hampered by inclement weather.

\* \* \*

### Freight Rate Boost

The railways have been authorized to boost freight rates by another four per cent, in addition to the seven per cent increase they got last June. The new increase can be brought into effect on January 1.

\* \* \*

### Diefenbaker New PC Leader

The Progressive Conservative party held its convention last week, electing a Prince Albert MP, John Diefenbaker, as its leader. Observers believe this is a move to woo the voters of the West, where the Progressive Conservatives won only 8 seats in the last federal election. But there is also need for patching up the rift between the Quebec Conservatives and the party, a split that developed at the convention when John Diefenbaker was elected leader of the party.

\* \* \*

### Red River Valley May Get Winnipeg Water

A proposal to supply the Red River Valley towns of Carman, Ro-

land, Winkler, Plum Coulee, Altona, Gretna, Morris, and others, with water from the Greater Winnipeg Water District is creating interest in valley centres. The towns involved would need about 2,000,000 gallons a day, which the city water reservoir can supply easily.

At present, most of the towns depend on wells, cisterns and dug-outs for their water supply.

The proposed pipeline would cost between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000. The main line would run from Winnipeg to Gretna, about 72 miles, with branch lines running to other towns and villages.

## THE WORLD

### TODAY

#### U.S. Drought Worst in 700 Years

Scientists say that not in 700 years has it been so dry in some places in the southwestern United States. In Colorado, the situation is worse in some areas than in the 1930's. In Utah some ranges are described as being "bare as a hardwood floor". In Arizona, scientists inspecting tree rings, find it one of the worst droughts in 700 years. In Kansas many fields are too dry to sow wheat, with seed not sprouting in other fields. Many trees are dying in Oklahoma.

No single rain will break the drought. Experts say it will take lengthy rains, possibly for years, to restore subsoil moisture.

\* \* \*

#### Difficulties in Clearing Canal

British and French salvage ships have begun clearing the Suez Canal at Port Said from sunken ships, but indications are that they may not be able to complete the job. The Egyptians are taking exception to the British and French crews on the salvage ships, although they declare themselves willing to let the ships do the job if different crews are brought in. The British say that they will not permit this.

### Emigration Is Goal of Many British

A great exodus is underway from Britain, where taxes are high, wages are low, prices rising and gas rationing is now in effect. Thousands have packed their bags and gone to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Rhodesia. Thousands more are asking daily how to get into those countries. One newspaper says it is the "greatest scuttle in history."

\* \* \*

### Unrest Continues

Unrest continues in Hungary and Poland, with strikes and attacks by the underground nationalists seriously affecting the economic life of the nations. Even in the Baltic section of Russia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania — there has been considerable unrest. In Hungary the government is now arresting many for illegal possession of arms, an offence punishable with death.

\* \* \*

### Tito Comrade Ends Up in Jail

A Communist "People's Court" has convicted former vice-president Milovan Djilas of subversion and sentenced him to three years of "strict imprisonment". Mr. Djilas, a former close associate of President Marshal Tito, was charged with "criminal" behaviour in "misinforming the foreign public" about Yugoslav internal and foreign affairs.

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\* \* \*

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## Weddings

### FRIESEN—HUEBNER

The marriage of Hilda Huebner, daughter of Mrs. George Huebner and the late Mr. Huebner of Winkler, to Bert Friesen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Friesen, took place on December 8 in the Mennonite Brethren church at Winkler. Rev. J. H. Quiring officiated.

The young couple will reside in Winkler.

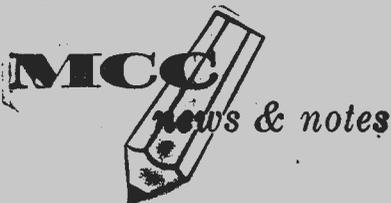
## Obituaries

### MR. FRED WALL

Mr. Fred Wall, 78, of Warman, Sask., passed away on December 4 at home in Warman. The funeral services were held from the Warman M. B. Church on December 8.

Mr. Wall was born in Manitoba and moved to Warman as a young man. He was engaged in farming, but also worked for the CNR, and during the last few years as a janitor for the Warman municipal offices. He was known as a quiet, confident Christian, and as such died in a very peaceful way, passing to be with the Lord as if he were falling asleep.

He is survived by his wife, one daughter, four sons, 13 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren.



### HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

MCC is prepared to receive expressions of interest from people who desire to sponsor a Hungarian refugee immigrant to be registered for future placement.

Immigrations will be processed by Church World Service, who will cooperate with MCC in bringing Hungarians to the United States as recommended by MCC workers in Austria.

CWS said most refugees coming to the United States are young men whose family ties have been broken. There will be no orphans or other children in these movements.

Also there will be few, if any, farm families because the people now coming are from the student or bureaucratic brackets who rebelled against the existing social order in Hungary. Most of them formerly lived in cities.

Of the more than 21,500 refugees coming to the United States, it is believed approximately 4,000 will be Protestants. This is based on percentages already applicable to those who have arrived.

At the present time there are many more offers from sponsors than immigrants. First arrivals will have adequate care, but the problem of sponsorship might be more difficult later.

CWS has been advised that it may call on MCC at any time to help resettle refugees, particularly Protestants who are skilled in small manufacturing or agriculture.

**MCC is also expanding its relief operations in Austria. Financial contributions for Hungarian refugees may be sent to MCC through respective conference offices.**

### JORDAN

The land of Christ's birth will be relatively silent for Christmas 1956 as traditional pilgrimages reportedly will not be permitted because of uncertain political conditions.

MCC relief workers in Jordan who are headquartered in Old Jerusalem probably will be among the few Americans in the city on Christmas day. Most of the MCC Jordan team have returned to their previous places of service following a temporary stay in Lebanon during the Suez Canal crisis.

Bessie Plant (Edmonton, Alta.), who transferred to Jordan from Taiwan just before the crisis, is now serving in a home for aged invalids near Bethlehem.

### BERLIN

Groups of unrecognized refugees from East Germany living in private quarters in West Berlin were supplied with clothing by the MCC unit.

These particular refugees depend on West German churches for supplies. With the Hungary crises such supplies dwindled considerably, so the MCC supplies were given.

### WEST GERMANY

Procedures are taking form for the unprecedented alternative service program in West Germany's new conscription law, according to Paul Bender (Goshen, Ind.) and Ernst Harder (Newton, Kans.) who attended a committee meeting on this matter.

It is possible that sizable numbers of persons will claim to be conscientious objectors when conscription begins in 1957, Bender said. There seems to be a healthy interest among church people, he added.

Details of the alternative service program are yet to be worked out but preliminary action has been taken by the Committee for Conscientious Objector Questions, which the two men attended. It drew up a memorandum covering its wishes for provisions of the program. This will be distributed to members of parliament and other officials. An informational statement on the plan is to be distributed to draft-age men.

A full-time secretary is planned for the committee's continuing communication with the government. Bender said the chief handicap to the committee is the lack of an integrated constituency backing for united interest and for financial backing.

Peace leaders hope to set up counseling centers where alternative service recruits can receive information and help with conscription problems. As plans now stand each conscientious objector registrant will appear privately before an area tribunal to be recognized for alternative service.

### SWITZERLAND

The production of Christian educational literature for Europe continues at Agape Verlag in Basel, Switzerland, by an international team of writers, editors, translators and printers.

During the past year three complete printed courses and one temporary course in German were issued. Three courses were produced in French. A total of 10,000 pupil's manuals and 2000 teacher's manuals came off the press in French and German during the year.

Distribution centers were set up at Frankfurt, Germany, and at Montbeliard, France. Distributions are also being arranged for Belgium.

Business manager and printer is Kenneth Hiebert (Mountain Lake, Minn.). Mrs. Hiebert is secretary and printing assistant. Hilda Carper (Denbigh, Va.) is editor-in-chief and German editor. Mary Classen (West Liberty, Ohio) was parttime French editor before returning to the United States.

Others on the staff include Anne Comstesse (Riom, France), French editor and translator; Anni Dyck (Stuttgart, Wuerttemberg, Germany), German writer and secretary; Irene Hege (Wissembourg, France), French translator; Dora Lichti (Dirmstein/Pfalz, Germany), German writer and translator; and Helene Schmitt (Deutschhof/Pfalz, Germany), German secretary.

### THE QUARREL OF THE TOYS

(Continued from page 6-4)

Then the star brightened happily, as it added, "from now on, I am shining for the Lord Jesus."

Everything was very quiet without. Not even the crunch, crunch of the snow could be heard. And all was very quiet within the little parlor. Each toy stood peaceful, and straight, and still in its place awaiting the dawn of another Christmas day; when softly and sweetly on the midnight air came the faraway strains of music as the carolers sang:

"Silent night, holy night,  
Jesus, the Saviour, is born!"

Young Ambassador

## Mennonite Books

### Growing Up to Love

By H. Clair Amstutz, M.D.  
101 pp.

Every parent who wants his child to have wholesome attitudes about sex will profit immensely from *Growing Up to Love*. For this book puts sex education in the context of love in the family. Giving children facts about sex at the proper time is important. This book treats the problems parents face as they guide their children from the cradle to maturity.

The book speaks redemptively to our modern secular world by showing us the confusion we face during adolescence, courtship, and marriage. It will restore your confidence in God and in His creation, man . . . . . \$2.50

### Christian Nurture of Children

By Alta Mae Erb. 178 pp.

Parents looking for a manual which will guide them in nurturing their children in genuine Christian faith will want this book. Many books on child psychology and child study are secular and humanistic in their emphasis. This unique book combines the principles of child psychology and pedagogy with a distinctly Christian viewpoint and emphasis . . . . . \$2.00

### The Challenge of Christian Stewardship

By Milo Kauffman. 180 pp.

What Christian stewardship means in everyday life is important. From his wide experience the author of this book speaks of time, of man's talents, his ambitions, his work and his money. He speaks of giving and saving; of investing and spending and earning. And he also devotes considerable space to the motivations for good stewardship.

This book will be of special interest to pastors, for what the church knows about stewardship is largely a result of your teaching. You will find this book a helpful source book of ideas and insights on the whole subject of stewardship . . . . . \$2.50

### The Alpha and the Omega

By Paul Erb. 153 pp.

The command to watch and to wait for the return of Christ (and the hope that goes with that watching) has often been lost in futile bickering and worthless speculation. In this book the author sees history as a drama and concisely summarizes the development of God's relationship to man from the creation to the present day. In this context he describes the second coming of Christ as the final culmination of history and the hope toward which all Christians look. He concludes with a heartening call to renewed watching and a positive witness to the return of Christ . . . \$2.50

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## BIBLE INSTITUTES

### MENNONITE BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE North Clearbrook, B.C.

On Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 11, students were dismissed because a number of parents telephoned the school showing great concern for their children. They feared that the blizzard in the Matsqui and Sumas flats would make it almost impossible for the children to return home if they were dismissed from classes at the usual time. Since only about fifteen students showed up for classes on Wednesday, and also due to the power failure, no classes were conducted. Though this was only a brief holiday, it was good while it lasted! No doubt it gave some of the students an opportunity to do some much needed reviewing as well as some previously neglected homework.

On Sunday evening, December 9, the MBBi student body, together with Rev. Wieler, principal, and instructors Rev. Voth and Mr. Neufeldt, presented a program at the Fraserview Mennonite Brethren church in Vancouver. The program consisted of opening scripture and prayer by Bill Klassen, president of the graduating class, musical selections by the school choir, male quartet, ladies quartet, male choir, and ladies trio. The school choir sang two Christmas songs, "This is the Day" and "Weihnachten". These musical selections were interspersed with testimonies by Anne Bergman and Ferdie Toews, a story for the children by Agnes Koehn, and a talk on Christian Evidences by Vic Guenther. A very challenging and heart warming message was delivered by Rev. H. Voth, who spoke on the text Isaiah 53:1-3.

After the service the students and faculty members enjoyed a fellowship lunch in the church basement. The evening proved to be a time of real Christian fellowship and spiritual blessing to all.

By Victor Guenther.

### ONTARIO M. B. CONFERENCE BIBLE SCHOOL

The Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute at Kitchener has now been functioning for nearly two months with the Lord's provisions and grace. In looking back upon these few short weeks we find that the Lord is certainly becoming dearer to us daily. We have especially experienced His love in the work He is presenting to us. At the present time we are in a position to say with the Psalmist: "Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing" (Psalm 100:2), for the Master has given us opportunities to do just that.

We have, for example, a service group that sponsors a "Story Hour" on Tuesday afternoons. This is an hour during which the boys and girls of the neighbourhood are brought into closer contact with the Lord through story telling, singing and Bible lessons. This group, headed by Brother Jake Wichert, has the great pleasure of presenting the gospel in this manner to a class of about sixty.

Our efforts are not only confined to children; for every Wednesday finds either a quartet, a mixed chorus or a men's choir proclaiming the message to the hospitalized at the Freeport Sanatorium. It is to such shut-ins that a hymn speaks most. We have often noticed that some frail old lady has been visibly moved by some favourite song.



This quartet from the Ontario M.B. Bible Institute is singing at Freeport Sanatorium as part of the practical mission outreach.

Progressing through the week, we have a great opportunity of service at the Institute for the Blind, as well as the Kitchener Old Folks Home. At these institutions the school generally serves as a whole, with Rev. John Wall directing the school choir, accompanied by Hildegard Klassen. The former usually brings a short message, and if singing ever was appreciated, it is certainly by these old folk. They usually join in with the singing and seem to hesitate to say "Good night" when we must leave.

Thus I think we have abundant proof that the Lord has enriched our lives by giving us this service. For this we thank our Lord, and in return we humbly pray that He might make us vessels unto honour and fit for His use.

As students of MBBi we would like to greet you with a "Merry Christmas", and may God bless you in the year 1957.

### SWIFT CURRENT BIBLE INSTITUTE

Miss Anna Toews, our cook and dean, accompanied Rev. and Mrs. Hans Dyck to Rosthern on November 21. They attended the Sunday School Convention held there from November 21 to 23. Miss Toews is the secretary of the Sunday School Committee for Saskatchewan.

A missionary to Colombia, Mr. V. Leng, was in our midst on Sunday, November 24. He spoke in the morning service and was also the guest chapel speaker in Bible school on Monday morning.

It was our privilege to listen to Rev. Russel Hughes of Regina from December 5 to 7. He had his miniature tabernacle with him. In his lectures he depicted very clearly the many ways in which the tabernacle pointed to Christ and the cross.

The Bible school students presented their Christmas program in church on Sunday evening, December 16. The annual Christmas social was on Thursday evening, December 20. After Christmas, the school term starts on January 3.

Jessie Martens.

their exams and are busily preparing for the Christmas festivities. Two programs, a Carol Festival and a Christmas pageant, on December 18 and 21 respectively, provide this year's Christmas activities. A number of choirs from various communities joined the Sharon chorus to make this evening a real success. "The Scepter of Israel", a Christmas pageant in five parts, is creating much interest in the community.

On December 27, at 7:30 p.m., Alumnae Homecoming Night festivities will begin. A basketball game between alumnae members and students should prove especially interesting. Other events plus a lunch have been planned and all alumnae members are cordially invited to attend.

## COLLEGES

### TABOR COLLEGE

#### Faculty Members Participate In Prayer Vigil

President Leonard J. Franz, Dr. Lando Hiebert, and Professor Wesley J. Prieb represented Tabor College at a prayer vigil for ministers and deacons of the Southern District of the Mennonite Brethren Church, which was held in Hutchinson, Kansas, December 6 and 7. Dr. Franz gave the challenge at the Friday morning vigil, speaking about "Special Needs in Our Conference Education."

He listed four needs which he termed vital to our educational program. "There is a need for understanding world conditions," he said, "and we need to understand young people in the new world setting." Another concern is that the content and philosophy of our educational offerings shall be so oriented that there can exist the proper integration between church and school. "The fourth emphasis," he continued, "is the organizational needs that we face in the immediate future."

Dr. Hiebert outlined "Specific Needs in Foreign Missions" in giving the Thursday afternoon challenge. Prof. Prieb was the leader of the Friday forenoon session.

#### Debaters Attend Oklahoma Meet

Roger Wollman, Tabor senior from Frankfurt, South Dakota, won a rating of "excellent" at the Forensic Progression Tournament sponsored by East Central College of Ada, Oklahoma, Nov. 29—Dec. 1.

Three other representatives of Tabor's debate team present at the meet all received ratings of "good". They were Robert Lauth, junior, Harvey, North Dakota; Henry Kliever, sophomore, Ulysses, Kansas;

(Continued on page 12-1)

## HIGH SCHOOLS

### Sharon Mennonite Collegiate

The pre-Christmas term has been a tremendously busy one at the Sharon Mennonite Collegiate for both students and teachers. A number of programs have been presented and several are still to come. The play, "Was bedeutet dir das Kreuz", has been presented in three churches. It was well received in every church and won the school many new friends. The parents showed excellent cooperation in giving their cars to make the various trips possible.

The completion of the auditorium (96 feet by 54 feet) is another significant landmark in the development of the Sharon Mennonite Collegiate. The ceiling and walls have been insulated and completed. Gas heating units have been installed to guarantee quick and efficient heating. The stage has been plastered and has been built on a curve to provide good resonance. The acoustics in the auditorium are excellent.

The auditorium was completed on November 24 by 6:30 p.m. and by 7:30 of the same day the first activity, the showing of the Martin Luther film, saw its use. On the following Tuesday the Ladies Auxiliary put on a program consisting of an apron sale and the play, "Naemann". The evening was appreciated by all, with the proceeds (\$360) to be used to put the finishing touches on the Home Economics room.

Students have already written

**TABOR COLLEGE**

(Continued from page 11-4)

and Dalton Reimer, sophomore, Reedley, California.

Lautt and Reimer teamed up to win three of four rounds of debate in discussing the pros and cons of this year's national topic, "Resolved: that the United States discontinue direct economic aid to foreign countries." Wollman and Kliever won two of four rounds. Professor Alden H. Ewert accompanied the group and served as one of the judges of the 19-college meet.

**WINKLER BIBLE SCHOOL**

**The Value of Bible School for Teachers**

What value does a Bible school, the Winkler Bible School, for instance, have for a teacher? Can teachers gain anything in attending this school? My answer is a definite "Yes". Here's why:

A knowledge of Scripture is supremely important for all Christians, especially teachers. In the

Winkler Bible School many of the books of the Bible are studied. Yet how can a teacher use this knowledge if but very little of the Bible is taught in public schools? In many subjects this knowledge of God's Word can be woven into the teaching program to bring out the truth of God. Then, too, in everything a teacher does and thinks this knowledge is beneficial.

Sunday school methods are also taught at the Winkler Bible School. This subject can be a real help for any teacher, for most Christian teachers are interested in teaching Sunday school classes. How to teach so that the lessons will be a blessing is difficult if the teacher does not know how to go about it. At Winkler Bible School experienced teachers give valuable instruction in this field.

We also study Child Psychology at this school. Although we as teachers have studied this at Normal School, there is a different approach here, and other aspects are mentioned. We learn how to handle children in a Christian manner, which is of great value to Christian teachers.

Teachers can also profit greatly from the music periods at Winkler Bible School. We all know that children's singing must be led properly to be successful. This is where the conducting classes prove helpful.

This year 70 students are attending the Winkler Bible School. Of these, four are teachers. We'd like to extend an invitation to everyone, especially teachers, to attend the Winkler Bible School. The Lord has a blessing in store for everyone.

By Elaine Rempel.

**Addresses Ladies' Mission Societies**

**Winnipeg, Man.** — Rev. J. B. Toews addressed a large group of women representing the various ladies' mission societies of the Mennonite Brethren Church in Manitoba on December 10 at the South End Mennonite Brethren Church.

Basing his remarks on Ephesians 4:15-16, Rev. Toews outlined the need of the mission fields. "An awakening of the churches for the spiritual need of the world is of greatest importance today," Rev. Toews stated. Furthermore, he pointed out that we are in need of an awakening to the problems of our missionaries in order to provide for them the opportunities of more productive work. Daily 12,500 children attend Mennonite Brethren mission schools, but adequate accommodation for these children is lacking. The need for more hospitals is great. Instead of being able to devote all their time to the spiritual needs on the mission field, the missionaries have to spend much time in constructing temporary schools and hospitals. Rev. Toews emphasized the importance and the scriptural basis of the ministry of women in helping to supply the needs of the mission fields.

In answering questions submitted by the group, Rev. Toews maintained that the missionary zeal and sacrifice, especially in the young married age group, was stifled by the materialistic trends of today.

**On the Horizon**

December 23 and 30 — The M. B. Bible College Acappella Choir and Rev. David Ewert may be heard every Sunday morning, 7:30 to 8:00 a.m., throughout December on CJOB, Winnipeg.

December 28-30 — Rev. J. B. Toews and Dr. A. H. Unruh will speak at the annual "Bibelbesprechung" in the Elmwood Mennonite Brethren church.

Feb. 11 to March 9. — The Canadian Mennonite Bible College is sponsoring a Ministers' Course, with a variety of subjects, both exegetical and practical, being offered. Applications should be in by December 31. Those interested should write to Rev. I. I. Friesen, C.M.B.C., 600 University Boulevard E, Tuxedo, Winnipeg 9, Man.

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**Recent Arrivals**

**The 'Jesus Family' in Communist China**

By Dr. D. Vaughan Rees. 126 pp.  
This is the story of Chinese Christians who maintained their witness in spite of the Communist government. Their communal style of living proved so effective that the Communists could only marvel. They were truly the "salt of the earth" in their community. .... 85¢

\* \* \*

**Paul's Prison Prayers**

By W. Graham Scroggie. 78 pp.  
"Let your requests be made known unto God" is generally understood to refer to things temporal and material, and our prayers are confined largely to that level. But the prayers of the Apostle Paul were on a much higher level, as this book shows.

Paul's prayers show that the eternal is vastly greater than the temporal, and the spiritual than the material. We should study these prayers, we should make them our own, for "the prayer of the upright is His delight." ..... \$1.20

\* \* \*

**Thirty Years a Watchtower Slave**

By William J. Schnell. 207 pp.

This is a much needed book. Like a giant octopus the Watch Tower Society has spread its tentacles to the far corners of the world.

It is the inner workings of this organization which the author lays bare and exposes to public view for the first time in history. Although Mr. Schnell pulls no punches, he displays no rancor or bitterness. This book is his life's story as a Jehovah's Witness. It is his confession of wrongdoing to God and his fellow men. In so doing he reveals the Jehovah's Witnesses and The Watch Tower Bible Society and Tract Society for what they really are. .... \$2.95

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