

Mennonite Observer

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

★
YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

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Common Task of Missions Emphasized

By Rudy Wiebe

Winnipeg, Man. — "The Mennonite Brethren Church is responsible for 12 million people on its foreign mission fields. No one will ever reach them if we do not!" With these words Rev. A. E. Janzen, executive secretary of the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions, challenged those attending the first meeting of the annual Missionary Conference held at the M. B. Bible College from Feb. 21-24.

Missionaries participating in the conference included Miss Nettie Berg, Kafumba, Africa; Rev. David Nightingale of HCJB, Quito, Ecuador; Rev. Julius Kasper of India. Rev. John Epp, mission worker at Coldwater, Ont., presented the facts about mission work in our own country.

Rev. Janzen stated that "the sun never sets on M. B. mission fields." They circle the globe. He further outlined some of the pressing needs of the M. B. foreign mission program. "There is, above all, the need for each of us to know that we personally are involved in the work." Not just the more than 200 missionaries or the board are doing mission work. The farmer as he plows, the housewife in the kitchen, the student studying—all must know that only through their prayers can our mission work be a success.

"We are labourers together," was emphasized by every speaker.

"The undefeated strategy of foreign missions is organized prayer."

A brief review of the 1957 mission prospect was given and several tangible projects outlined. Needs revealed include a new central headquarters building in Kikwit, Belgian Congo—already a need for ten years; a church to be constructed at Deverakonda, India; as well as the first M. B.

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Gospel Light Hour Expands

Winnipeg, Man. — When radio station CFAM, 1290 kc, goes on the air at Altona, Man., it will carry three additional programs for the Gospel Light Hour, as well as the regular Sunday programs.

Envisioned in this greatly expanded radio ministry is an outreach not only to adults, but also to children. Already tapes are being prepared to implement the three types of radio programs: half-hour programs both in German and English on Sunday, daily 15-minute devotional programs in both languages, and a half-hour children's program on Saturday.

The Gospel Light Hour began as a project by several students from

the M. B. Bible College—most of whom are now active in foreign missions. A few years ago the program was taken over by the M. B. conference of Manitoba, although it remained on a self-supporting basis. Present broadcasts include The Gospel Light Hour over CKY, Winnipeg; CFCO, Chatham, Ont.; and HCJB, Quito, Ecuador; and „Licht des Evangeliums" over KFNW, Fargo, N.D. and HCJB, Quito.

Children's Hour Added

When children in Manitoba tune in on CFAM, Altona, on Saturday night, March 16, at 7:30 to 8:00 p.m., they will hear the first of the weekly Gospel Light Children's Hour. This program will be produced in Winnipeg.

Director of the Children's Hour is Mr. Toby Voth, superintendent of the afternoon Sunday school at the Gospel Light Mission. He will
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Manitoba MDS Organized

Rosenort, Man. — Manitoba Mennonite Disaster Service was organized on a province-wide basis at a meeting attended by more than 250 church representatives in the Evangelical Mennonite church here.

Held on Friday afternoon, February 22, the organizational meeting included representatives of all Mennonite groups in Manitoba except the Sommerfelder. Chairman of the meeting was Rev. W. M. Enns of Winkler, Man., who has served as chairman of the temporary MDS committee organized in the spring of 1956 when the Red River threatened to flood.

Discussion at the meeting served to pinpoint the value of an organized disaster service. Participants in the discussion pointed to the Vita tornado as an example where organized assistance would have given a much greater witness. A

recent incident wherein the temporary MDS committee organized clean-up operations after a fire in a store in Morris served to high-
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National Sunday School Convention Set

Winnipeg, Man. — Rev. Abe Regier, chairman of the Canadian M. B. Sunday School Committee, has announced a three-day national Sunday School Convention in The Sunday School Instructor. It will be held in the M. B. Auditorium at Herbert, Sask., from April 26 to 28.

Theme for the convention will be "Building the Church Through the Sunday School". Featured speakers will be Dr. Paul Lederach of Scottdale, Pa., Rev. Arthur Flaming from California, and Rev. A. A. Kroeker.



These scenes are from the Missionary Conference at the M.B. Bible College, held from Feb. 21 to 24. At left Rev. J. J. Kasper, missionary to India now on furlough, is pointing out some aspect of one of the curios at the missionary display on India to those serving with him at the conference. They are Rev. John B. Epp, Coldwater, Ont.; Rev. David Nightingale, M.B. representative on radio station HCJB, Quito, staff; and Rev. A. E. Janzen, executive secretary of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions. The second picture shows the Far East display, while the picture at right is of the Africa display.

EDITORIAL

They Are Human Too

Most of us, consciously or unconsciously, think of missionaries as a little more divine than the rest of us ordinary humans. We cannot exactly place them into any particular category; their presence has created a new category—missionaries. Apparently untouched by the ordinary desires of humans, they go out to preach the Gospel—sometimes in the face of almost sure death.

That they are different no one will deny; though not in the way we often imagine. They are different because, hearing God's call to be His ambassadors to the people living in darkness without hope and without God, they are willing to forsake the comforts of an easy living at home, willing to leave father and mother—and sometimes sons and daughters—for the Gospel's sake. On the field they are willing to undergo great privations and work against tremendous odds so that some of the millions dying without Christ might hear the good news that Jesus Christ saves.

Yet missionaries are still very human. They still love their parents, their brothers and sisters—and their children. It is a tremendous effort to leave all these for a mission field where mail deliveries are slow, where mosquitos plague, ants destroy, fevers waste, and native helpers prove untrue and need painstaking training. The scorching heat wilts them, the new diet upsets them, the language study dismays them and the slow progress threatens to discourage them. If it were not for the love of Christ constraining them—and if it were not for the distance separating them—they would no doubt come home at the earliest opportunity.

That's why they ask for letters, for instance. We think we are busy—and they are too busy to become lonely—so we let our correspondence lag and die a spasmodic death. But on the field the missionary waits for news from home, for spiritual encouragement. He waits especially to see that one line, "We are praying for you." Oh yes, we may have written the first year—but are we still writing regularly the fifth and sixth year?

Science has added to the possibilities for communication. Tape recordings of that family gathering at Christmas or Easter—of the alma mater giving the closing program or celebrating graduation—of a regular Sunday morning worship service in the home church—of the Bible or youth conference—will provide wonderful inspiration and blessing to the missionary with a tape recorder.

Missionaries are subject to the ordinary—and oftentimes special—temptations to discouragement because of slow progress, because of the shortage of time and personnel in the face of the tremendous spiritual need of countless unreached heathen, because of an apparent lack of interest at home, because of the abnormal environment with its unexpected dangers. There may be temptations to work in their own strength, to slacken in the personal fellowship with Christ because of the pressure of too much work. Since missionaries are human, these temptations seem to come with irresistible force.

Therefore we must pray for the missionaries. Temptations can only be overcome in the power of God—and in prayer we tap the inexhaustible resources of God's power. While we pray in Canada, God is answering our prayer in Africa, India, Japan, South America, Europe, and China. The enemy of our souls is not afraid to attack missionaries, but we can throw up a "wall of fire" round about them through prayer.

Yes, missionaries are human, too. We need to keep on showing them that we are remembering them and that we are praying for them. And we need to gain the spirit of intercession so evident in the life of Paul and revealed so clearly in his letters.

SHINTOISM REVIVING

When Japan was at war, participation in Shinto rites became the test of national loyalty. Because of this, Christians in Japan and in conquered lands faced a serious dilemma.

None of the believers had any desire to take part in reverencing

the emperor or the national heroes of the past. But most of them thought it better to comply outwardly with minimum requirements than to court annihilation through an official ban denying them right of assembly. Pressure was so heavy that there seemed no alternative. A small minority did

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DEVOTIONAL

Bread From Heaven

By Rev. Charles E. Notson

"And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed . . . and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. . . . Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world. When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone." —John 6:11, 14, 15.

Among those who profess conversion to Christ will be found occasionally an outstanding personality who is temporarily under the illusion that Christ has become converted to him. He may suddenly strike on the idea that essentially Christ is aiming at the same things he is. It delights him to realize that he has such a powerful ally, and it is easy for Christians to mistake his emotion for heavenly joy.

On that occasion when five thousand men followed Christ into the desert they do not seem to have been a casual mob intrigued through idle curiosity. Mere curiosity seekers lose interest and turn homeward when mealtime approaches. It is not likely that so many people were under a spell, like the children in the story of the Pied Piper of Hamelin.

How could the rabble, drawn together on the spur of the moment, make a serious offer involving control of the government? Is it conceivable that the thought of making Jesus king occurred to the diners for the first time while they ate the loaves and fishes? This crowd must have been composed largely of influential citizens who had been deeply moved by reports about Jesus and were out to see for themselves. They were men who could have made Him king.

Puzzled as they were by Christ's lack of interest, they still did not give up. Their representatives sought Him in Capernaum the next day. They were not abashed when He told them frankly that all they wanted from Him was more food. Their motive was not selfish; they had the interests of the nation at heart.

What was crystal clear to them seemed unintelligible to Him. They had in mind authority, organized resistance to enemies, establishment of power, national recognition and eventual dominion. Did they not have the assurance that these things were their positive right under divine covenant? Instead of considering the matter sensibly He vaporized about being Himself "bread from heaven". This annoyed some of them who knew

the Carpenter of Nazareth well. What He said about sacrifice and His giving His flesh for food and His blood for drink was too offensive to bear. If only He had been loving and gracious as He was the evening before! Why should He refuse to give them bread when He could provide it with so little effort?

Food without toil was available to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, and man has never gotten over feeling that he is being denied an inalienable right because he has to struggle to survive. Money that Christians might consecrate to send the message of salvation where men have not heard they spend on the most recent appliances, whether they are needed or not. We have more leisure, but multitudes of us are forfeiting access to fullness of life. Having become so "fond of these earthly toys" we have but dim appreciation that "the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world."

In a vague way Christ is recognized as having blessed us with comfortable homes, congenial friends, good jobs, and many useful and entertaining inventions. If it were not for Him and what He did to release the minds of men and transform the social order through His teachings, these benefits would not be ours. But gratitude that goes no deeper than that is even less acceptable to Christ than was the honor offered Him by the multitude who ate the

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Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

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Forging Ahead in Faith

By P. C. Tilitzky

Yarrow, B.C. — In spite of various changes in leadership throughout the last year, the young people of the Yarrow M. B. Church still continue moving ahead in faith.

Every Wednesday night, with a few exceptions, between 50 and 90 young people gather for Bible study and prayer-meeting. At the present time our pastor, Rev. Herman Lenzman, is expounding the Gospel of Mark to the Word-hungry listeners. After the Word-study the group divides into four smaller classes for questions and answers on the portion discussed and then unites in prayer. Foreign, local and personal needs are brought before the mercy-seat of our loving, omnipotent, Heavenly Father. It moves our hearts to hear the young babes in Christ pray. How much more is the tender, compassionate heart of our Saviour and Lord moved to answer.

A special project of faith was the evangelistic campaign from January 25 to February 3. Here, too, the young people displayed their spiritual stamina. They continued in prayer, delivered invitations to every house in the settlement, many sang in the mass choir, and others did personal work. The Lord blessed the services.

Rev. Henry Epp of Blaine, Wash., expounded and preached the Word clearly and abundantly. Many

Christians, also young people, saw the need for cleansing their walk. Others came, repented, believed, and received eternal life. To God be the glory. "We" have decided to follow Jesus. In faith we will go on, and on to victory.

GOSPEL LIGHT HOUR AT STEINBACH

Steinbach, Man. — It was a great joy to have the Gospel Light Hour radio group in the M. B. church on Sunday night, February 17. Their visit re-emphasized the fact that many homes would never hear the Gospel if they could not be reached by Gospel programs on the radio.

Rev. J. M. Schmidt, director and speaker of the program, outlined the increased ministry of the Gospel Light Hour when the station CFAM goes on the air at Altona, Man. For his message he read II Kings 5:19-24. He stated that we are privileged above many others to have Bible schools, high schools, and colleges.

PUBLISH OWN NEWS SHEET

Abbotsford, B.C. — To keep the young people working or studying away from home informed as to what is going on in the home church and also to create a tie between them and their church, the young people of the Arnold M. B. Church are publishing "The Chal-

lenge".

This mimeographed sheet is to be primarily a news sheet giving facts of interest, but it also has a devotional section, an editorial, and perhaps a poem. Published bi-monthly, "The Challenge" is now in its second year of publication.

Significant reminders in the January-February issue are to listen to The Gospel Hour, a program sponsored by the M. B. young people of B.C., and now broadcast over CHWK at 12:30 noon on Sunday, and to make use of the church library, open Sunday morning af-

ter the service. Another good feature is the diagrammatic portrayal of the young people's committees and leadership.

This issue also reveals that young people from the Arnold M. B. Church sang at 85 homes in the district at Christmas. They also presented a play, "The Challenge of the Cross", in the church on New Year's Eve.

Evangelistic services were held in the Arnold M. B. church by Rev. C. N. Hiebert from January 20 to 25. Rev. Hiebert, in his clear-cut way, presented the way of salvation to all.

Missionary Visits Steinbach

By Kathryne Froese

Steinbach, Man. — Miss Nettie Berg, home on furlough after missionary work in the Belgian Congo, visited the Steinbach M. B. Church on Sunday morning, February 3. She related how the Lord had sought her and called her into His service.

Miss Berg returned to Steinbach later when the two sewing circles presented a program to raise funds for the schools on different mission stations.

Rev. H. A. Regehr opened the program by reading Luke 10:1-12. The ladies sang a few songs, gave a number of recitations, and the junior ladies presented a dialogue. In her talk Miss Berg compared

the youth and family life of Samuel to that of an African. She stressed that there was little love, no discipline, and no cleanliness among Africans. The father did not feel any responsibility towards his wife and family. The women worked in the field from early until late, while the men sat around on the streets visiting.

The missionaries are taking children from such families to the mission schools where they are trained and taught the Word of God.

PETER KOSLOWSKY TO SING AT EDEN

Virgil, Ont. — The Eden Christian College extends an invitation to its two annual events to take place in the school auditorium. The Choral Concert is to be held March 2, 7:30 p.m. Mr. Peter Koslowsky, CBC tenor from Manitoba, will be the guest artist. The Eden Senior Choir also will render pieces from great oratorios, German Lieder, Folk Songs and Negro Spirituals.

The drama, "The Carpenter", by Dorothy Clarke Wilson will be presented Thursday and Saturday night, March 14 and 16, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for both events may be obtained from students of this school.

Rich Blessings at Ministers' Course

By John B. Epp

Winnipeg, Man. — With the challenging and promising words of I Peter 5:9-10-Dr. Unruh, speaking on behalf of the faculty, concluded the annual Ministers' Study Course held at the M. B. Bible College, Feb. 11-22.

Forty-three pastors, ministers and mission workers representing all 5 provincial M. B. conferences availed themselves of the privilege to replenish depleted resources and

refresh both heart and mind in their sacred ministry. It provided a spiritual retreat for all in attendance and many priceless gems of thought and inspiration were gleaned from the all too brief yet blessed study fellowship.

The subjects under study which related directly to the needs of pastor and congregation, proved both timely and practical. The College faculty, although labouring under the additional load of instruction,

spared no efforts to make the Study as profitable and pleasant as possible.

Expressing the appreciation and gratitude of the brethren, Rev. B. Epp, Vauxhall, Alta., referred to the abundant grace given in Christ Jesus to all of God's servants. The grace that calls is also the grace that sustains. With these thoughts the brethren returned to the multiple duties awaiting them at home.



These brethren participated in the Ministers' Course at the M. B. Bible College, Feb. 11 to 22. The teachers are in the first row, with the exception of one at either end. First row, left to right, Bernhard Epp, Henry Voth, Herbert Giesbrecht, David Ewert, J. H. Quiring, Dr. A. H. Unruh, J. A. Toews, Henry Baerg, Victor Toews, I. W. Redekopp, and J. P. Epp. Second row: D. J. Klassen, P. A. Unger, F. Wiens, J. J. Nickel, Wm. Buller, J. G. Klassen, D. Dick, P. Goertz, I. H. Block, A. A. Loewen, F. Kroeker, Wm. Schroeder. Third row: A. Penner, F. Froese, J. J. Wiebe, F. Friesen, P. Pauls, Wm. Wiens, H. A. Regehr, J. Wiebe, A. H. Konrad, P. C. Penner, J. J. Neufeld, G. Dirks, J. B. Epp, Nick Dyck. Fourth row: A. P. Unger, P. P. Dueck, H. H. Siemens, H. Penner, F. D. Reimer, P. L. Friesen, H. G. Bartsch, N. Redekopp, J. J. Loewen, P. Esau, H. Enns, C. P. Dyck, A. Plett.

WINS FELLOWSHIP FOR STUDY OVERSEAS

Evanson, Ill. — Rudy H. Wiebe of Coaldale, Alta., has been awarded a Rotary Foundation Fellowship for advanced study at the University of Zürich, Switzerland, during the 1957-58 academic year, it has been announced by Rotary International, as that world-wide service club organization observed its 52nd anniversary.

One of 103 outstanding graduate students from 30 countries to receive a Rotary Fellowship, Mr. Wiebe was recommended by the Rotary Club of Coaldale.

A 1953 graduate from the Alberta Mennonite High School, Mr. Wiebe received the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alberta in Edmonton in 1956. At the present time he is studying at the M. B. Bible College, Winnipeg. He has won several prizes for his literary work, both in English and German.

This all-expense-paid fellowship is given to college or university graduates between 20 and 29 years old who have shown high scholastic ability, leadership ability, have an interest in world affairs, and make friends easily. The Rotary Fellowships average \$2,500 and have been given to a total number of 948 students since 1947.

OPENING CEREMONIES SLATED FOR MARCH 13

Winnipeg, Man. — Opening ceremonies for the new Altona radio station, CFAM, are slated for 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 13. Dignitaries present for the occasion will include Premier Campbell, Dr. H. H. Saunderson, president of the University of Manitoba, and other government and civic officials. The opening prayer will be led by Bishop Schultz, while Rev. J. A. Toews, Winnipeg, will lead in the closing prayer.

The 1,000-watt station will go on the air at 1290 kilocycles. Its coverage includes most of southern Manitoba, including Winnipeg. Owned and operated by the Southern Manitoba Broadcasting Company, with A. J. Thiessen as president, the station will be assisted by Inland Broadcasting Company during its first year of operation.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZES CMBC COLLEGE WORK

Winnipeg, Man. — The Senate of the University of Manitoba has recently approved an arrangement whereby work done at the Canadian Mennonite Bible College in Winnipeg will be recognized by the University of Manitoba.

According to this arrangement, students at the Canadian Mennonite Bible College will be given

credit for advance standing at the university on the same basis as students proceeding from other institutions of higher learning. Such credit will be given on the basis of equivalence of work done in both institutions.

MORE ABOUT

Common Task of Missions Emphasized

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church in Austria. The latter will be in Linz, where three workers are active at the present time and a growing church is worshipping the Lord. The hospital work in Mexico will be greatly aided by the erection of a hospital building. Conditions there are now so bad that nurses are sometimes forced to attend patients in their own rooms.

The missionaries themselves reported on the fields they represented. Miss Berg, who is to return to Africa shortly, spoke of the medical and teaching work. She particularly emphasized that these were not primarily humanitarian efforts, but rather the means of reaching the lost for Christ.

Rev. Nightingale, working under the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions, is responsible for the German language broadcasts from radio station HCJB, Quito, an interdenominational work of evangelization by radio. The station sends out the Gospel in seven different languages to all parts of the world. The coloured slides he showed illustrated the beauty of the Ecuadorian mountains, but also the sin-blinding misery of the natives. With the Hugo Jantzes and Miss Sally Schroeder now also active at Quito, the M. B. mission board is planning to open a resident mission in the city of Quito in addition to the radio work.

Rev. Kasper, who is home on his second furlough from India, also showed slides of the progress of the Gospel. There are about 23,000 M. B. Christians in India—almost as many as in North America. Yet they need guidance, especially in the training of native workers. Literature and more Bible teaching staff is desperately needed. The average lifetime of the native in India is 27 years, he reported, and there are almost three million people on our field. Every 27 years a new generation, which has never heard of Christ, is born—the need is desperate.

The sermons, besides the reports and the lectures, were most challenging. Some quotes are: "Our bread supply is unlimited", as referring to the Bread of Life; "We must see the glory of God before we will ever see the misery of unsaved millions"; "We divide the

labor, yet all work at the same net"; "Man is not merely an object of divine love—we must also be filled with it". These thoughts, and many more like them, following closely one after the other, built up an overwhelming impression of the huge work yet to be done. We realized that the whole M. B. Church must participate as individuals, not merely rest on what is being done by the churches as such.

The students also had a vital part in the services. Special musical groups, ranging from the school choir to octets, quartets, and soloists, sang several songs at each service, helping very much to deepen the spiritual impression of the messages. The seven prayer bands had also arranged mission displays in the library of seven different areas in the world. These displays consisted of maps, curios, literature, and posters stating essential mission facts. They were most interesting and the many visitors studied them carefully. The play, "One Jungle Night", was presented on Saturday night to an overflowing audience.

The final service drew a capacity crowd to the Elmwood M. B. church, where they heard the challenge of mission work presented by Rev. Nightingale, Rev. Kasper, and Rev. Janzen.

After the final service the missionaries left for other duties. In the minds of their listeners they left many thoughts, such as: "We cannot work up a love for the work of God. It will only come if we have a revival in our own hearts—and a revival requires everything."

The Foreign Missions Committee and the M. B. Bible College faculty planned the programs. Their endeavors are appreciated—we know the results will be seen on the mission fields of the future.

MORE ABOUT

Gospel Light Hour Expands

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also give the lesson, while the story will be told by Miss Kay Wiens, a Winnipeg teacher and S.S. teacher at the Gospel Light Mission. Music will be provided by a 35-voice children's choir containing children from the three M. B. churches in Winnipeg and the Gospel Light Mission and directed by Miss Frieda Duerksen, organist at the Elmwood M. B. church and teacher in Winnipeg.

Dr. Unruh to Inaugurate Devotional Program

Dr. A. H. Unruh will inaugurate the German 15-minute daily devotional program to be heard mornings at 6:45 to 7:00 on CFAM. The 15-minute devotional program

in English will be directed by Rev. John Schmidt, present director and speaker on the Gospel Light Hour. It will be heard at 9:15 to 9:30 p.m., directly following the newscast.

Music for the two daily devotional programs will be taped by the M. B. church choirs and the choir from the M. B. Bible College.

Rev. Bill Schmidt will join the radio group as co-worker at the beginning of June. He has been director of the Gospel Bells radio program sponsored by the Coaldale M. B. Church over Lethbridge, Alta., and is presently studying for his M.A. at the Kansas University at Wichita, Kans. He speaks both German and English and is a brother to Rev. John Schmidt.

„Licht des Evangeliums” Transferred

The German program „Licht des Evangeliums”, sponsored by The Gospel Light Hour will be transferred from KFNW, Fargo, N.D., to CFAM for Sunday morning, March 17, at 8 a.m.

The Gospel Light Hour, the original one-half hour program now broadcast over CKY, Winnipeg, will also be broadcast over CFAM at 9:30 to 10:00 p.m. The program over CKY will be retained, however.

MORE ABOUT

Manitoba MDS Organized Province-Wide

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light the effectiveness of a united witness. Others described the personal value of helping out those struck by disaster and compared it with the help given by the Good Samaritan to the man fallen among thieves.

The executive council appointed by the meeting included John F. Unruh, Rosenfeld; Jake Neudorf, Winkler; P. G. Buhler, Rosenfeld; J. A. Neufeld, Lena; J. Enns, Newton Siding; S. Rieger, Steinbach; Peter Epp, Homewood; A. K. Penner, Giroux; Herman Riesen, Winnipeg; C. K. Plett, Lorette; B. Schroeder, Lowe Farm; T. Heinrichs, Altona; W. M. Enns, Winkler; Wilbert Loewen, Winnipeg; J. L. Loewen, Rosenort; J. M. Wiens, Morden; J. Penner, Holmfield; George Peters, Boissevain.

At a short meeting after the general discussion, the executive council elected Rev. W. M. Enns as chairman; Wilbert Loewen as vice-chairman; and John M. Wiens as secretary-treasurer. J. L. Loewen of Rosenort was appointed co-ordinator.

Future steps include the election of a contact man in each church and the appointment of a field man. The contact men in the church will help the co-ordinator in gaining men and supplies needed, while the field man will act as foreman in the disaster area.

Teaching in Newfoundland

By Glen and Luetta Harder
MCC Voluntary Service

Looking out of our upstairs apartment window we have a priceless view of the sea here at Wild Cove, Newfoundland, where we serve as public school teachers in the voluntary service program of Mennonite Central Committee. On either side of the cove large mountains rise from the water's edge.

Children in our cove are overjoyed with snow. Some children come to school on sleds, others come on "rackets" (snowshoes). Everyone here wears snowshoes in deep winter snow.

Wild Cove youngsters do not have good schooling. This is due to their isolation from information and because of poorly-qualified teachers.

Reference books are at a premium. Our greatest handicap seems to be the children's lack of background knowledge. Having lived in this fishing village all their lives, these children cannot comprehend simple concepts which Canadian textbooks take for granted. For instance, they do not understand the meaning of a head of wheat or an ear of corn.

They have not known the concepts of cooperation or competition. We are teaching them a few games, volley ball being the most suited to the rocky hillsides.

Families are large. Discipline is lacking. Parents encourage teachers to "crack it to 'em" but are surprised if we carry through our disciplinary threats.

The chief income of the cove is from the sale of the summer's catch of dried cod fish. Men put in long and hard hours during fishing season. Women help split and head the fish and children help spread the fish on the "flakes" (drying racks).

It was difficult for us to adjust to the slower pace of life. A 20-mile trip is an all-day project here. When we go visiting and at midnight say it is time to go to bed, they invariably reply, "Lots of time, sure." They like to sit around and talk—or just sit, if conversation lags.

Men go off to lumbering camps for several months during the winter. Women and children stay in the cove. Women get their children ready for school, gather wood for the cookstove, haul water with pails and wash clothes by hand.

Religiously the people are Christians and very eager to attend church. Respect for other's views is unknown. They have a legalistic attitude toward the sabbath—Sunday is to be a day of rest, and that is exactly what they do.

They sleep until noon on Sun-

day, then eat a "hogeneous" (huge) dinner and sleep again. Children are not permitted to play on Sunday, not even throw stones into the water or color a picture. Such activities would be considered "sin".

Children are, however, permitted to go visiting any time of the day and on any day of the week. They all seem to make a bee-line for our house, a small three-room apartment above Luetta's school-room. They walk in and out of the house any time without knocking.

The concept of love seems to be foreign to the cove people. They think of God as a Spirit of Vengeance, a god which must be appeased.

Their speech (English) is very interesting. Common expressions are "My son!" (an exclamation), "some good!" (denoting something exceptionally fine) and "dear" (expensive).

MORE ABOUT

Bread From Heaven

(Continued from page 2-4)

loaves and the fishes. They did at least concede His right to rule though they misunderstood the nature of His kingdom.

Decrying the emphasis upon material benefits, some earnest Christians in their giving of thanks major upon spiritual blessings. This too is very proper and ought to be done, but care should be taken lest we fall into the same snare as those who were Jesus' guests by the sea. Bread for our spiritual nourishment may be no less perishable than bread for our bodies. At least that is true of what we customarily call "spiritual bread".

Sermons, Bible lessons, devotional books, articles, testimonies and hymns are all sources of inspiration and spiritual help. They inform us, warn us, rebuke us, exhort us and stimulate us. In the measure that they contribute to a clearer grasp of the Word of God and stir us to keep fresh our relationship to Christ in all phases of our daily life, they are identified with our spiritual nourishment. If they fail to do this they are but empty husks. Christ Himself is the living bread. His broken body and His shed blood sustain us. Our utter dependence upon His life poured out for us leaves no room for glorying in accomplishments of men.

Whenever the followers of Christ have deviated from this simplicity of faith the resulting conditions have become intolerable to men who have suffered the loss of



This small fishing village is typical of Newfoundland. Wild Cove, where the Harders teach, is a small village accented with picket fences and steamships.

They never pronounce the consonant "h" in a word, causing the emergence of words like "ill" for hill, "ouse" for house. All words beginning with vowels are preceded by an "h" causing "heggs" for eggs, "heat" for eat.

We are asked, "ow much hoil does you burn in dat stove? His hit very dear?"

The people of Wild Cove are

grateful for teachers and are always very friendly. We are given all the potatoes, vegetables and eggs we want. They would seemingly give us the "shirt off their backs".

We are in charge of the Church school. A minister serves this community once a month. They are in real need of Christian instruction, which is a challenge to us.

all things that they might gain Christ. As such men have given voice to the deep yearnings of their hearts they have appeared at first to be harsh critics and enemies of the church. Usually officials find some way to silence them. They have been transferred, promoted, exhorted, threatened, cut off from fellowship as well as from employment, and even executed as heretics. But here and there a Luther, a Wesley, a Simpson has been heard and understood by multitudes of men in spite of all efforts to impose silence upon him.

Fired by the sacrificial-devotion of such men others have rallied about them to lend their support. They have organized themselves into spiritual societies which in time gained recognition and respect as contributing fresh vitality to the church. The written sermons, the letters, the hymns, the books, the reports and all pronouncements of such leaders have then been gathered and published to perpetuate their inspiring ministry. Students in later generations pore over these records to discover the secret of spiritual power. Quotations from these men add a tone of authority to sermons which would otherwise lack substance.

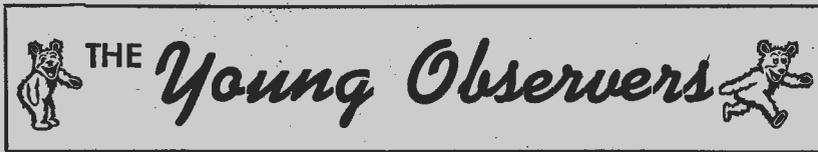
At length a system of interpretation for the founder's writings is developed within the organization and this becomes a standard to which all members must subscribe. Again and again the manna which God has sent through His faithful servants has been mistaken for the living bread, and the effort to preserve it as a "spiritual heritage" has had the result that "it bred worms, and stank". The process of enforcing conform-

ity to teachings given of God has done more to destroy the spirit of unity in Christian societies than any other one thing. Loyalty to any Christian organization which must be backed by sanctions is a counterfeit of true loyalty which by the very nature of it must be spontaneous.

Fiercely devoted to what they conceive to be the position and teachings of their organization's founder, leaders of later generations succeed in building up the very kind of thing which under another name once tortured the spirit of that very founder until he could not hold his peace. C. S. Lewis has commented, "There is a fatal tendency in all human activities for the means to encroach upon the very ends which they were intended to serve." Nowhere is this more evident than in Christian groups. Organization is admittedly necessary but it must be kept bound upon the altar ready to be offered and to be consumed at a moment's notice by the destroying fire. When it is not so offered our little minds run to schemes as unacceptable to Christ as was the idea of making Him a benevolent despot over Israel.

We assume that because we offer Him a crown and profess allegiance to Him as King that He will recognize our earnest labors as worthy service unto Him. If we had ears to hear we too should be humbled by His rebuke, "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed."

Alliance Weekly.



Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Last week we discussed how important it is that we take some time to talk to God. However, we must not only talk to God; we must also let God talk to us.

God has given us a most wonderful book in which He talks to us and tells us what He wants us to do. It also tells us how we should live—and many other wonderful things. Do you know the name of this book? Yes, it is the Bible.

The Bible is certainly a very wonderful book, but it will not help us if we do not read it. Could we know the story about the Lord Jesus and His love if we did not read it in the Bible? We also read how sin can keep us from God and how we can get rid of this sin. There are things in the Bible which can help us in anything we do and anywhere we go.

Truly, boys and girls, a book like that should be read often. We should take time every day to read some part of the Bible. In school or at home it will be a light on your way and keep you from many of the things which would not please Jesus.

The verse, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path", will only be true if we read the Word.

Boys and girls, are you setting aside a little time each day to get to know yourself and to learn to know God by reading His book, the Bible?
Aunt Selma.

Children Write

Dear Aunt Selma,

I like to read your letters and stories. I wish more girls and boys would write letters. We moved to Winnipeg last fall. My father goes to the M. B. Bible College.

I read the book *Henry's Red Sea*. It is interesting.

Last week I had the measles and missed school for a week. Now my brother Richard and Verner have measles. The name of the school I go to is Ralph Brown. My teacher's name is Miss Loewen.

379 Machray, Yours truly,
Winnipeg, Man. Edwin Kroeker

(Thank you for that letter, Edwin. We are glad that you liked *Henry's Red Sea*. I hope other boys and girls will do what you have done—write a letter to this page. We'd like to know what you do and some of the unusual experiences you have. —Aunt Selma)

The Greater Gift

Pearl Holloway

"Isn't it wonderful?" Caroline Sailing cried, rushing into the house after Sunday School. "We're going to send a box to a school for colored children. Miss Meyers said if we had any clothes we had outgrown we could bring them, too. Could I send that red dress I don't like any more?"

Mother lifted her eyebrows in surprise. "Is that the kind of giving you do?" she asked.

Caroline flushed and hung her head. "I didn't think it would make any difference," she stam-

pered. "They don't have nice things anyway, and—"

"Why are you sending this box?" asked Mother, going on with her sewing.

"I never thought of that when I wanted to send the old red dress," Caroline admitted. "Miss Meyers said we were sending it to show those children that Jesus loves them."

"How much would you think Daddy and I loved you if we gave you worn-out toys and clothes?"

"Not very much," a low voice answered. "I—could I send those animal books Aunt Gussie gave me two years ago? I love them yet, but I'm too old for them now, and some of those children might enjoy them."

"You really want to do that?"

"I really do. I'm sorry I was so selfish at first. I just didn't think, did I?"

"There are some other dresses in the closet which are clean and whole, but too small for you, and it doesn't seem right to let them hang there waiting for Dolly to grow into them," Mrs. Sailing suggested.

"They are pretty, too, aren't they?" Caroline sang out. "Miss Meyers said they loved bright things."

"What's all this about packing a box for a colored school?" Daddy asked at supper one night.

"It's perfectly wonderful!" Caroline assured him, her eyes shining. "I never knew it was so much fun to give things away. We're sending books and colors and ribbons and clothes and—" She paused, out of breath.

Daddy was quiet for a moment,

then remarked, "Jeff Biggers was telling me today how lonesome his Sally is because the children at school don't play with her."

Caroline looked up quickly. "But she's—," she began, when Daddy interrupted with, "Yes, she's colored, just like the children who will receive this box. I was wondering—"

Caroline's eyes grew big and round. "You mean," she gasped, "you mean it isn't fair to send all these things to children a long way off and not do anything for Sally Biggers?"

"What do you think?"

"Sally wouldn't want a box," Mother spoke up. "I am sure she has plenty of clothes and toys."

"I wonder if Miss Meyers thought about that," Caroline said slowly.

"Perhaps she is wondering how long it will take you folks to think," Daddy's eyes were twinkling now.

"We're having a meeting tomorrow," Caroline announced, "and I'm going to ask her. I wonder how we would feel if we went where the box is going and nobody invited us to have any fun."

"That's what I wonder, too," Daddy smiled.

Caroline caught up with Miss Meyers on the way to the church. "Don't you think it's funny for us to send boxes to colored children a long way off," she asked, "and let the only little colored girl in our own town be lonesome?"

Miss Meyers started suddenly, then her face grew red. "I suppose it is," she agreed. "I hadn't given it a thought, though."

"I hadn't, either," Caroline chirped, "till Daddy asked me about it. I guess we wouldn't have a very good time if nobody invited us to play."

"I guess we wouldn't," the teacher added.

Caroline's eyes were shining when the others came, and she asked her question quickly. "Don't you think it's funny for us to send things to colored people a long way off and not even be nice to them at home?"

"We—why—they—," Don Bowers choked a little, but Dulcie Meadows said, "Of course it is! Why didn't we think of it sooner?"

"What are we going to do about it?" Tom Walker asked.

"I know what I'm going to do," Caroline told them. "I'm going to ask Sally Biggers if she wouldn't like to send something, too."

"Suppose you and Betty run down to Sally's now and ask her to come to our meeting," Miss Meyers smiled.

There was some grumbling as the girls left, but by the time they came back, with Sally carrying a gay rag doll and a box of colors, everybody was good-natured.

"I'm glad you mentioned it,

Daddy," Caroline cried as she told about it. "I wonder if the Lord Jesus is glad, too?"

"I am sure He is," Mother declared, "I am sure He is."

Missionary Stories for Children

Each 50c

The Wallpaper That Talked

By Margaret Jean Tuininga.

This is a booklet with missionary stories written especially for children. The title is the heading of the first story, which tells of wallpaper that talked in Japan. Other stories tell of children in South America, India, Africa, Mexico and Alaska. This booklet is also an excellent source for Sunday school teachers and other workers with children.

Polly Parrot

By Eva Doerksen. 62 pp.

This is a delightful series of letters by Polly Parrot, who stays at a missionary in Africa. Since the missionary does not have time to write letters, Polly Parrot tells about what she sees going on—and is it ever interesting!

The Long Chase

By Margaret Epp. 63 pp.

This booklet has two stories: *The Long Chase* and *Budworms and Tepees*. In the first story the reader meets Stan—and Patty—and Patrick—and Dr. Beatty. There's a lot of adventure, and a good deal of mystery tied up in this story of the Northwest Territories . . . and Mounties . . . and Eskimos. The second story involves Pete and his Cree Indian friends in an isolated sawmill settlement.

Peppermint Sue

By Margaret Epp. 64 pp.

Sue Hilary comes home to Canada from the mission field in Peru, where her parents are serving as missionaries. At home she gets mixed up in all kinds of exciting adventures, including catching a gang of thieves. Finally the thieves pay their debts—and become Christians.

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

The School of God By Peggy Arbogast

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(30th Installment)

Ruth nodded. "That is the way Connie wanted it," she explained. "She said that the blue reminded her of the sky and the silver of the silvery stars that twinkled in that sky on the night our Saviour was born."

Betty and Bob went over to Aunt Sally's then, to assist her in the trimming of her tree. Keith remained with Ruth to help her hang the stockings and arrange the gifts.

"I must have everything finished before the folks come for the Prayer Meeting, and yet I had to wait until Betty and Bob were gone before I could begin to arrange the surprises."

The first stocking that Ruth hung was for her father. It was filled with little remembrances which she and Connie had made for him. There were even a few which they had persuaded Betty to make, although she had laughed at their belief that he would return for Christmas. Directly beneath the stocking she placed the Bible which she and Bob had purchased for him. She opened it to the gospel of John and placed the marker hurriedly at the sixth chapter without particularly noticing which chapter it was. Then she arranged the other stockings and the gifts in neat little piles beneath each one.

At last everything was finished and the room in readiness for the prayer meeting which was to precede the caroling. They were finished none too soon, for almost immediately the young people began to arrive. Janet and Ted were among the first to come. Soon the entire group had gathered. First they sang a few carols, just for practice they said. Then Keith read the Christmas story as recorded by Luke. Following this a half-hour was spent in prayer.

It was with an attitude of reverence and praise that the young people left the house and began their walk along the snowy road. Their voices rose harmoniously as they sang the old familiar carols from their heart, bringing cheer to every home that they passed. So intent were they upon getting started that they did not notice the lurking figure near the Arnold home as they left. As soon as they were a short distance down the road, the man went swiftly up the path leading to the house. His arms were laden with bundles. These he placed carefully upon the steps while he fingered in his pocket for his key. Noiselessly he

placed it in the keyhole and turned the lock. In another moment he was inside the house, and feeling his way about the living room. He did not wish his presence known, so he made no light. The brightness of the moon upon the snow had temporarily blinded him as he entered the dark room. However, his eyes soon became adjusted to the change and he was able to see the different objects in the room quite clearly by the aid of the blue Christmas tree lights.

He paused before placing the gifts he had brought. "They won't be back for a long time yet. I'll just sit here by the tree for awhile," he whispered to himself. So he placed his packages upon the floor beside the large arm chair into which he sank wearily. He raised his eyes toward the tree, and a startled exclamation escaped his lips. "Was he dreaming?" Swiftly he was carried back through the years to the first Christmas they had spent in his home. He and his wife had trimmed the tree just like this one. There were all blue lights, silvery tinsel and a huge silver star at the top. They had hung a stocking for each other by the fire-place. In between the two longer ones had been a tiny one for Baby Ruth. His eyes seemed fixed upon the star which shone so, that it seemed to the man, the whole room must be filled with its light. "Oh, may our baby's life shine like that star until she leads many souls to the Babe of the Manger Who was born to die that we might live." The man rubbed his eyes and shook himself, so real his memories had become. He had been sitting upon the arm of this same chair when his wife, nestling close beside him, had uttered those words about Ruth so many years before. He had laughed at her then and told her she was taking life too seriously since that evangelist had been to town. But when she had seemed hurt he had patted her affectionately and told her to go ahead and enjoy her new religion if it comforted her.

On, on through the years he traveled as he sat by the lighted tree. Life had been good then! There had been other children—the twins had been born. Christmas was always a jolly time. And then, soon after the birth of Connie, his wife had died. Life for him had been different since then. There had been no more jolly Christmases. The children, except Baby Connie, had been sent away to school and camps. Almost,

shortly before Connie's birth, he had opened his heart to his wife's Saviour, but after his wife's death his heart had been hardened. He had daily grown farther away from the God he had never acknowledged.

The man sighed, for these were not happy memories now. He had met Stan Greene—a much younger man to be sure—but he had been strangely attracted to him. This attraction had led him to drink—to gambling. He had lost heavily. It had been necessary to bring the twins, then Ruth home from school, and to dismiss the maids. He had found it wise to sell his car. Still he continued to lose. He began to see Stan in his true light. He knew that he had only been friendly because of what he hoped to get from the older man. Then had come that night in June, when he felt his children had no room for him. He realized now that it was his own fault. He had left home that night and turned his steps resolutely to the hide-out where he found Stan as he had hoped. He had determined that he was going to get back his lost money that night. And he had—to the very penny. Luck seemed to be with him. He had been so exultant that he had almost returned home, but a certain look in Stan's eyes had warned him that he had better go while he had the chance. So he had boarded a train going farther west. There he had stayed, ever on the lookout—fearfully for Stan. Because of his fear he had been able to abstain from drinking. He could better meet Stan if he were sober. Also, Stan was not there to tempt him. He had worked at odd jobs and managed to save most of the money which he had won back from the younger man.

Then, one day he had seen a torn strip of newspaper lying in the road. "Stan Greene, notorious gambler, dies in auto wreck." The headlines seemed to scream their message to him. He had seized the paper but found that the article beneath, giving the details, had been torn away. He had searched the daily newspapers for the account but had not found it. With the coming of the Christmas season, had come a desire to return home—not to stay, no, his children did not want him—but just to see the old place—just to place the children's gifts beneath the tree once more. Stan was dead; there was no need to be afraid to return now.

Up through the years to the present again, traveled the man's thoughts as he sat gazing at the tree. Again his eyes became riveted on the large star at the top. Again he seemed to hear his wife's gentle voice saying, "Oh, may our baby's life shine like that star until she leads many souls to the Babe of the Manger, Who was born to die that we might live." The

mother's prayer had been answered, he thought. Ruth's life was like a star, pointing lost souls to the Babe of the Manger—yea beyond the manger to the cross, where the Saviour had been lifted up to die. Still his eyes kept looking at the star. It seemed to have cast a spell upon him. It seemed to be beckoning him to follow—to come to the manger—to the Cross and receive the eternal life that the Saviour had died to give.

He brushed away a tear. "No, that life was not for him. He had been too wicked, too sinful. It was all right for his children." Suddenly he was glad that they believed, and he gazed at the star now with longing. "Oh that he might follow—follow to the manger—to the Cross." In the distance he heard the strains of music as the voices of the carolers wafted forth through the still night. "Joy to the world"—he brushed away a tear. He wished now that he might possess that joy about which they were singing. "But it's too late," he moaned. The sound of the singing voices grew nearer. "I must hurry and place the gifts before they return and find me," he cried as he rose from the chair.

For the first time, as he forced his gaze away from the star, he beheld the stockings hanging by the fireplace. Wonderingly he gazed at the first one. "Oh it could not be true—yet it must be." There in the light which shone from the tree he could read, "Daddy," written in large white letters across the first red sock. Trembling he seized it in his hands and eagerly pulled out the contents. No child had ever derived more delight from their Christmas stocking than did this sin-sick father. Forgetting his desire not to be discovered, he snapped on the light that he might better see the contents which the children had made for him. Lovingly he handled each article, then his gaze traveled downward to the pile of gifts on the floor. He looked at the Bible, then picked it up greedily. A card was lying on the top. Eagerly he read it. "To Daddy, with love from Ruth and Bob." Beneath these words were more in Ruth's handwriting. "The bookmark is from Connie. She made it herself."

(To be continued)

52 Varieties of Programs By T. C. Gardner. 32 pp.

This booklet has program ideas for all occasions. The idea is not to give basic program material, but rather to offer suggestions on how to vary the programs in order that each program will be interesting, inspiring and dynamic. Everyone working with young people should have this book.

Price 35c.

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

Mennonite Brethren Mission Notes

Increase in Colombia

— Our Istmina Church in Colombia contributed around 4500.00 pesos for the work of the Lord in 1956, according to John A. Dyck. Brother Dyck believes their contributions would have been more had they been able to construct a church building. Late in December he indicated the possibility of doing the leveling in the near future.

— Some interesting figures regarding evangelization in Colombia are also reported by Brother Dyck. It is estimated that the number of Christian believers and sympathizers in Colombia has increased from 25,000 to 100,000 during the period from 1948 to 1956. After 10 years in Colombia, our mission has three national preachers—two supported by local churches and one by the mission.

40 Converted Among Chulupies

J. H. Franz from Paraguay writes the glad information that around 40 Chulupie Indians have been converted. This is the tribe whose language was difficult to acquire and who, up to the recent times, had not shown evidence of clear-cut conversion to the Lord Jesus Christ. Now under the Lord's blessings and the work of the Holy Spirit this tribe, too, is beginning to turn unto the Lord.

Finally Ship Station Wagon

The new station wagon, purchased for the Brazil Mission, could finally be shipped from New York to Brazil in the Lord's good providence. During all these months it was necessary to wait for a permit to import this vehicle into Brazil.

David Wirsches have transferred from the Choco in Colombia to LaCumbre, Valle, where they are slowly preparing, by way of documents and transportation, to come to the homeland on furlough.

Jantzes Ill

From Ecuador information has been received that Brother and Sister Hugo Jantz have been laid up with jaundice and are therefore unable to take care of their work at present. May we make this a matter of sincere intercession that the Lord may return them to their work soon.

Supplement Available

The pictures and biographical sketches of 21 new missionaries are available in the recent supplement to the 1954 Missionary Album. The following missionaries are featured in the supplement: Africa—Leslie Ortman, Arthur H. Wiebes, Katherine F. Wiens; Colombia—Ebner J. Friesen, Vernon A. Reimers, Esther Wiens; Ecuador—Hugo W. Jantzes, Sally Schroeder; Europe—Elton Bergs, Maria Foth;

India—Helen Dueck; Mexico—Maria Schultz; Paraguay—Albert Ennses; Indiahoma—Ruby Siebert. The supplement is available from the Board of Foreign Missions office for 50 cents a copy. The revised Album containing the supplement sells for \$2.50.

Printing Press at Kafumba

The Kafumba printshop provides a significant service for the Congo mission field, judged by a report from Kathryn Willems on the work done in 1956. Jobs included printing of 3,500 Gospel tracts, 1,000 copies of the Gospel of John, the 12-page bi-monthly paper Mwinda, thousands of cards for school, medical and church records, school certificates, more than 10,000 school books and many other jobs.

Village Work in India

From Narayanpet, India, Brother and Sister P. V. Balzer write that they are now giving themselves to preaching in the villages following the close of their Bible school. Rains for this season are past, roads are passable and the people call for the Gospel and for church organizations and encouragements. In encouraging contin-

ued prayer remembrance, Brother Balzer says work in India does not become easier, but rather harder.

Being Restored

Brother and Sister D. J. Gerbrandt came to the United States border to have their papers renewed and at the same time came as far as Hillsboro. On their way back Brother and Sister Gerbrandt took with them Miss Teresa Conreras who had been under the medical care of Dr. A. W. Schlichting, Reedley, California. Teresa is the sister who was injured in the car accident in 1955 and whose walking is gradually being restored under the Lord's good providence.

Ground Breaking

Ground-breaking for the new church building of the Post Oak Mission congregation was held on February 7. As is generally known, Post Oak Mission must be moved from its present location towards Indiahoma because the government has annexed Post Oak Mission ground for the Fort Sill military reservation.

To Return on Furlough

Japan missionaries are beginning to make preparation to make it possible for Brother and Sister Harry Friesen and family to come home on furlough this summer.

Capacity Attendance Feature of Bible Conference

By Walter Unger

Hepburn, Sask. — The annual Bible Conference of the Northern Saskatchewan Mennonite Brethren churches was held here from February 11 to 14. The main speaker was Rev. B. J. Braun of Fresno, California.

Rev. Braun is president of both the Pacific Bible Institute and the newly-formed M. B. Biblical Seminary. He has a unique combination of radiant personality, deep spiritual perception and illuminating exposition. His messages on the Sermon on the Mount were of deep religious fervour. He had the encouragement of speaking to a full house at all of his lectures.

Great Interest Shown

The interest shown in the conference was truly exceptional. The ten churches of the Northern District, as well as outlying mission stations, were well represented. Tribute must go to the host church at Hepburn and Pastor Walter Wiebe for their cordial friendship and splendid hospitality.

Rev. Braun chose to limit his treatise on the "Sermon on the Mount" to the Beatitudes, as found in Matthew 5:3-10. In his introductory message he pointed out the similarity of the Beatitudes to the musical scale, in which the eighth note is the same as the first, but with fuller overtones. Likewise,

the promise to the poor in Spirit is not fully enjoyed until the eighth "Blessed".

The "poor in spirit" were not necessarily the mentally deficient or sinners, declared Rev. Braun. Nor was it the laity in contrast to the clergy, or those in prison. To be "poor in spirit" is a heart's attitude. The people thus blessed are the real possessors of things—and the real benefactors of the world.

True Mourners

Rev. Braun characterized the true mourners as those who had experienced knowledge of sin, conviction of sin, sorrow for sin, confession of sin, forsaking of sin, and restitution. There should be mourning for one's own sin, Rev. Braun insisted, for the lukewarmness in the church, and for the lost. He quoted Moody as saying, "No one has ever become a Christian who has not had someone to pray for him."

The "meek" are those who are courageous enough to yield to God, Rev. Braun declared. Meekness does not imply weakness, but rather great inner strength.

Though the hunger drive may destroy all sense of respect through its intensity, the hunger described in the Beatitudes is after righteousness, Rev. Braun maintained.

This should ultimately issue in sanctification.

A synonym for "merciful" is sympathy, according to Rev. Braun. This may be defined as a tender feeling, a real longing to actually help. Our mercy is expressed through our treatment of others. The promise to the merciful is mercy in the present life, as well as an eternal reward.

Three Kinds of Peacemakers

Rev. Braun's last message in the series was on the peacemakers. He outlined the three kinds of peace described in the Scriptures, peace with God, the peace of God, and peace with men. These are based primarily upon the redemptive work of Christ. Peace with God came at Calvary. The peace of God can be secured by a daily, implicit obedience to God. It is only when these are present that peace with man can be enjoyed, Rev. Braun asserted.

Rev. Braun had also been commissioned "to take in hand to set forth in order a declaration of the things which are most surely believed among us", namely, the principles of non-resistance. In this respect Rev. Braun stated that all our principles must have Biblical backing. We must thus believe in the authenticity and genuineness of the Bible, he maintained in his first message.

Old Testament proofs for this apparently New Testament teaching served as the subject matter for Rev. Braun's second message on non-resistance. Drawing upon Old Testament sources, he stated that human life is sacred, murder is sin, it separates from God—and punishment is the prerogative of God. In outlining these principles, Rev. Braun traced them through the history of Israel. Yet God eventually stopped dealing through a theocracy. Neither is the church a political nation. Our calling is primarily to evangelism, not to warfare. The example of Christ is the final authority for the Christian and He taught that we must ignore the slights of others, refrain from the use of the sword, love our enemies, and that we should realize that His kingdom was not earthly, but a heavenly kingdom.

Six Changes at New Birth

The greatest attestation to non-resistance is on the basis of the Christian's personal relationship to Christ. This is not pacifism, he maintained. He continued that there are six basic changes at the new birth: our new nature, a new citizenship, a new spiritual warfare, the yielded will to Christ, the beginning of a new loyalty, and a new mission in life.

A Christian's attitude is not negative, but definitely positive. He must pray for, pay tribute to, be

(Continued on page 10-3)

THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

World's Largest Sunday School Plans to Expand

Baptist Temple in Akron, Ohio, which is said to have the world's largest Sunday school, plans to build another four-story wing on its huge church. The new \$400,000 building program will not be finished until Easter, 1958. There will be four assembly halls in the new wing, bringing the total of assembly areas to 13. Seating capacity of the various assembly halls runs from 500 to 5,000 each. This addition of 100 classrooms, plus assembly halls, will make it possible to seat 25,000 persons for a single service, all tuned in on the worship program through a public address system. It will boost the Sunday school capacity for a present 7,000 to a possible 10,000 per Sunday.

To care for the congregation of more than 15,000 the church now has four pastors, seven secretaries, a minister of visitation, 20 part-time workers and three custodians. The annual budget is over half a million dollars, an average of more than \$10,000 per Sunday.

Church in Cemetery

LEBANON, INDIANA. — An infant congregation in Lebanon is beginning its life in a cemetery. St. Peter's mission, newest in the Episcopal diocese of Indianapolis, wanted to resist the immediate pressure for a new building, so it made an agreement with the Lebanon Cemetery to use the stone Gothic chapel in the middle of the cemetery grounds as a meeting place. The agreement calls for use of the chapel for at least the next two years. The chapel is spacious and well-equipped. There is a sexton, and all the utilities are provided at a nominal fee. St. Peter's boast of having "the largest churchyard in the diocese of Indianapolis", and places advertising in the local newspaper inviting people to come to the cemetery and join them in worshipping the Lord.

Describes His Conversion

A former Japanese "suicide" pilot, now a Protestant minister, said it was the impact of Christian literature—and a girl—that converted him to Christianity. The Rev. Sakae Kobayashi, a minister of the United Church of Christ in Japan, told his story to the annual meeting of the National Council of Churches' Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature, in New York City.

He said he was a suicide pilot at the age of 21. One day in 1945 he was sitting in the cockpit of his plane in Tokyo waiting to take off on a mission from which he would not return. While the propellers

were warming up a ground crewman ran to tell him that Japan had surrendered. "I went home despondent and bitter," he said. "My house had been burned, my mother and grandmother killed. There was no food, no work." Mr. Kobayashi said the only work he could get was in an oil refinery. There he met a girl who showed him the New Testament she was reading. She persuaded him to go to church with her. Out of curiosity he did. The sermon he heard that day dealt with the theme of loving one's enemies and it was a bit hard for him to take. "Nevertheless," he said, "I went again and discovered the newness of life that Christianity brings." The following year he entered a theological seminary. He became a Christian minister and married the girl who had led him to the religion of his former enemies.

CANADASCOPE

Budgetary Surplus Large

The federal budgetary surplus of \$536,320,000 for the first ten months of the current fiscal year is three times the comparable figure for 1955-56. Because of increased demands the speculation is that about \$300,000,000 will remain at the end of the year as surplus. This may be reduced still further if the government applies the \$100,000,000 cost of the Canada Council to this year's accounts.

Quarantine Addicts Says RCMP

"The RCMP feels that while there is an addict market there will be criminals to supply it and the jailing of addicts and addict-peddlers seldom cures these unhappy people of the drug habit," RCMP Commissioner L. H. Nicholson says in his annual report tabled in the Commons.

"The force feels that the root of the problem could be attacked with real hope of success by compulsorily quarantining all addicts, treating them and releasing them then under careful parole arrangements."

Grain Quota Set-Up Altered

A move to ease Canada's heavy wheat surplus was made by the Federal Government when it announced that after August 1 farmers will be able to include fields sown to clover, alfalfa, tame hay or similar forage in the specified acreage for their grain quota.

Current quotas, controlling the amount of grain which a farmer may deliver to the Canadian Wheat Board, are based on specified acreage—the area sown to grain or

in summerfallow. Each farmer gets a chance to make an initial delivery—a choice of 300 bushels of wheat, 500 bushels of barley or 800 bushels of oats—after which wheat deliveries are set at one bushel an acre and moved up as all farmers in a region complete shipments.

The purpose of the new system, as expressed by Trade Minister Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, is "not to penalize those farmers who believe that soil-building crops are the proper adjunct to their farming methods."

Little Change Called For in Liquor Report

Alberta's liquor laws, virtually unchanged since prohibition was repealed 34 years ago, would not be drastically changed under the recommendations of a legislature committee. Main recommendations call for plebiscites on mixed drinking in Calgary and Edmonton beer parlors and abolition of the present liquor-permit system. The report calls for more government inspection of beer parlors and at the same time turned down a bid for additional liquor privileges in private clubs.

THE WORLD TODAY

Franco Revamps Economic Policy

Generalissimo Francisco Franco has announced a new government dedicated to increased social welfare in Spain through deficit financing and economic experiment.

In reshuffling the cabinet, he has reduced Falangist representation in the cabinet from six to four ministers, with Monarchist representation remaining at seven. In doing so he appointed Fernando Maria Castiella, 49, as foreign minister and eliminated the old ministers who favor austerity to combat Spain's growing inflation and picked new men who favor spending and economic experiment.

Indonesia Opens Door to Communists

President Sukarno of Indonesia has announced a plan for revolt-torn Indonesia which would open the door for the first time to Communist participation in government. In a nation-wide broadcast he said that western democracy is "not suitable" for the Indonesian people and is not "true democracy in accordance with the ideals of the Indonesian people."

The Communist party immediately pledged its "full support" for Sukarno's plan. They will be represented in a new national council that Sukarno himself will

lead. Until now they were barred from cabinet representation at the insistence of the Moslem parties.

National Health Service

Doctors May Strike in England

Fifty thousand angry doctors are making ready plans to quit the National Health Service if the British government turns down their claim for a pay increase. If the government grants the pay demand, it will mean a rise of \$1,400 in the average general practitioner's income of around \$6,200 a year. The government has said it will set up a royal commission to look into the wage situation, but doctors called the move a government stall.

STUDY SEVEN LAWS OF TEACHING

By H. Teigrob.

Port Rowan, Ont. — Moody filmstrips and lectures from young brethren were used by the M. B. Sunday school here to study the seven laws of teaching as given in the book, "The Seven Laws of Teaching", by Gregory. About 25 teachers plus a number of other interested persons took part in the course, which was divided into four sessions.

Meeting Friday evening, Feb. 22, Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon and evening, the teachers heard discussions and saw films on "The Law of the Teacher and the Law of the Learner" and "The Laws of Language, Lesson and Teaching Process" on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday afternoon there were two lectures on the teaching process and the learning process, followed by a demonstration lesson by one of the teachers. Sunday evening the laws of the learning process, review and application and final test were presented through filmstrips.

The discussion held at each meeting also proved very enlightening and profitable. No doubt the resolution of each teacher was as the motto of the course suggested, to "Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Tim. 2:15).

BLAZE LEAVES FAMILY HOMELESS

Plum Coulee, Man. — A blaze at noon on Tuesday, Feb. 19, destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin A. Friesen, leaving the family of five homeless. Contents were covered by insurance, but the house was only covered to the extent of \$2,000. Some of the contents were saved. A road main-tainer and car standing near the house could be removed in time.

Weddings

MR. & MRS. WALTER H. DUECK



were married in the St. Catharines M. B. church, Rev. H. Penner officiating. The bride is the former Alvina Esther Dyck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dyck of St. Catharines, Ont., while the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Dueck of Virgil, Ont.
(Photo by G. G. Epp)

MCC

news & notes

CANNING FOR RELIEF

The MCC portable canner ended its 1956-57 season with 84,987 cans of meat products valued at \$72,903 for overseas relief distribution.

The canner operated in communities in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri and Oklahoma. It was operated by Wilmer Wedel of Burns, Kans., and Leonard Steider of Shickley, Nebr.

The final tabulation of cans shows beef 62,615; pork 9,924; lard 7,934; hamburger 2,158; turkey 854; chicken 332; and cooking fat 170.

Additional fruits, vegetables and meats were canned in communities of California; Oregon; Kalona, Iowa; Bluffton, Ohio; Grabill, Ind.; Orrville, Ohio; Lowville, N.Y.; Grantville, Md. and others. Their work totaled 49,237 cans.

A new canning plant was constructed at Akron, Pa., and after a month of operation Eastern Mennonites have put up 30,240 cans of meat.

CHRISTMAS BUNDLES

Children in many parts of the world were made happy by the more than 28,000 colorful good-

will Christmas bundles distributed during the past yuletide, according to reports by relief workers.

Bundles for children containing clothing and toys were distributed in Korea, Japan, Hongkong, Vietnam, Taiwan (Formosa), Jordan, Algeria, France, England, Germany and Austria.

In Vietnam the bundles were distributed just about the right time of the year—during the cool season when bamboo houses and tropical clothing do not provide enough warmth. So, many children in the Banmethuot area were thrilled with their new warm clothes. Before the bundles were presented, crowds of people gathered to hear an explanation of the meaning of Christmas.

In Korea, workers report, "Most of the children were amazed at what they found after removing the safety pins holding the bundles together. Some children removed their rags immediately to put on the new clothing. The toys also added a note of cheer."

In Paraguay bundles sent to Mennonite settlements were received with gratefulness according to Abram Fast, Oberschulze of Friesland Colony, who writes:

"In the name of the recipients of the Christmas bundles I want to express hearty thanks. The bundles created great joy, especially among our children, and helped make the Christmas celebration nicer."

In Berlin children of refugee families who are not registered as refugees received about 300 bundles. Other bundles were given to Berlin Mennonite children and some were mailed to children in the East Zone.

Elsewhere in Germany members of European Pax Services visited homes in the villages before Christmas to invite to a program and distribution at Christmastime.

In London, England, children who live in poor home conditions received bundles distributed by Mr. and Mrs. John E. Coffman of the London Mennonite Centre. The bundles were distributed personally, providing opportunity for follow-up service.

Brochures presenting information on how to prepare bundles for Christmas 1957 have been mailed to congregations. Deadline for bundles to be in clothing depots is July 1.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Although Newfoundland is experiencing one of its coldest winters of the century, a group of Mennonite young people are happily and busily serving "in the name of Christ". They are members of MCC voluntary service teams teaching and nursing in northern Newfoundland.

Teacher Lois Brenneman (Kalona, Ia.) of Twillingate Island writes, "When the ten below zero

wind blows a 60 mph gale, we are mighty glad to put on heavy ski suits, three wool sweaters, two pairs of socks, fleece-lined boots and Eskimo parkas before we set out for school."

She began carrying her lunch during the winter as her school is a mile and a half from where she boards. But the people of the community thought that pathetic, so they have flooded her with invitations to dinners of moose, wild duck, bull bird, turrs and fish.

Some patients at Notre Dame Bay Hospital arrive by plane or dog sled because automobile transportation is curbed for the winter, according to volunteer nurse Erna Fast (Chortitz, Man.).

MCC volunteers serve in three separate communities in Newfoundland, where residents engage in fishing and lumbering. There is great need for teachers and nurses. Volunteers have almost unlimited opportunities for many types of direct Christian service. Inquiries are welcomed to MCC Voluntary Service, Akron, Pa.

TAIWAN

Blankets and clothing were distributed to families living in the interior mountain area of Taiwan (Formosa) who suffered loss of houses and crops from ocean typhoons last summer.

Milk kitchens continue to supply nutrition to Taiwan youngsters. Some Taiwan young men assist in the milk program.

MORE ABOUT

Capacity Attendance Feature of Bible Conference

(Continued from page 8-4)

subject to, and honour his government. Yet we are ambassadors for Christ, primarily.

Another feature of the Bible Conference was a historical profile of the Mennonite Brethren Church. It was developed in three lectures by two Bethany Bible Institute instructors, George D. Geddert and Waldo Lepp.

The narrative began in the Molotschna Colony of South Russia during the middle of the last century, tracing the reasons for the formation of the M. B. Church and the contributing factors leading to its organization. The church's first years in Russia, its difficulties after the turn of the century, beginnings in the new world, and the present status were depicted by the instructors. The reports on the church, especially in its foreign and home missions program, caused rejoicing for what God has done. Yet the brethren also challenged the hearers to greater progress in this century of progress.

Biblical Exposition

Rev. Nick Jantz, pastor of the Laird M. B. Church, delivered two

addresses at the conference. Both were developed interestingly and were applied to existing needs in our congregations.

The first lecture dealt with the Kingdom of God. Rev. Jantz differentiated between the "kingdom" in our hearts and the visible future kingdom to be set up by Christ. Our entrance into the Kingdom of God is possible only through the new birth. In his message Rev. Jantz also described the future visible kingdom and refuted the erroneous views held by Jehovah's Witnesses and Seventh Day Adventists.

In his message on "Law and Grace" he outlined our positional stand in Jesus Christ—justified by faith. Rev. Jantz maintained that the law was the schoolteacher pointing to the perfect sacrifice of Christ. The Christian ought not to revert back to the law, but esteem only those things worthy which he can and has received from Christ.

The Bible Today

Since translators of the Bible in Mission fields of all denominations all over the world are confronted with the tremendous task of reducing languages to writing and then translating the Scriptures into the newly written forms, the British and Foreign Bible Society is currently providing two new tools for these workers.

The first of these is a new edition of the Greek New Testament. The discoveries of the past 80-90 years and the advance in textual criticism has led to the issue of this newest edition. It has been prepared by Dr. Erwin Nestle, son of Dr. Eberhard Nestle, in collaboration with Professor G. D. Kilpatrick of Queen's College, Oxford. A new feature is that it contains a full and comprehensive critical apparatus which will make it probably the best and most up-to-date pocket edition for students yet published.

Another valuable tool is a Greek-English Diglot for the use of translators. This is a simple translation of the Greek into English presented page for page with the Greek itself. This is designed to help the growing number of nationals who have a little knowledge of Greek but are largely dependent upon English versions.

It will be used also by missionaries who are working with these nationals.

The draft translation will be prepared by missionary scholars representing the main mission field areas of the world, India, Africa, South East Asia and Oceania. This draft will be checked by a group of New Testament experts in England for fidelity.

HIGH SCHOOLS

SHARON MENNONITE COLLEGIATE

A near-capacity audience was present on Tuesday, February 19, at the Sharon Mennonite Collegiate in Yarrow for the presentation of a German literary program. It had been prepared and was presented by the senior grades, under the direction of Mr. William Friesen.

A mixed group sang two German folk songs, „Goldene Abendsonne” and „Waldlust”, to open the program. Then followed two poems, „Das Kind am Brunnen”, presented by Betty Dahl, and „Der Taucher”, recited by Lena Brauer and Anne Klassen. The group then sang two more German songs, „Guter Mond” and „Ueber allen Gipfeln”.

The highlight of the evening was the drama, „Maria Stuart”, presented by members of the senior matriculation class. The play, written by Friedrich Schiller, concerns Maria Stuart, a British queen who has been condemned to death by her sister and successor to the throne, Elizabeth. The part of Maria Stuart was well portrayed by Linda Dahl. Margaret Konrad played the part of Queen Elizabeth.

Waldo Neufeldt

hopeless destiny of man without Jesus Christ in the song, „No Hope without Jesus.” The male quartet, ladies quartet and ladies' trio also sang.

The theme of the evening was accentuated by the dialogue, „The Challenge of the Cross”. This dialogue vividly portrayed some of the false motives which Christians have in taking up the Cross of Christ. Students participating in the dialogue were: Agnes Wiebe, Anne Epp, Susan Dyck, Lydia Dyck, Allan Guenther, Dave Pauls, and Abe Wiebe.

Soloists Katherine Mueller and Margaret Wiebe were accompanied by the choir as they sang Mendelssohn's anthem, „I Waited for the Lord”. The song relates the composer's experience of the Lord's answer to his prayer.

After the service the student body and faculty members were cordially invited to partake of a fellowship lunch which had been prepared by the local church choir. The entire evening proved to be a time of blessing and real Christian fellowship.

Recently we as school were privileged to hear Mr. and Mrs. Adolf Jantz in our chapel service. Mr. Jantz is a member of the famous Jantz brothers quartet. The Jantz's application as missionaries to the Greater Europe Mission has been accepted. At the present time, they are doing deputation work in preparation to their going to Germany. Mrs. Jantz gave her personal testimony and briefly related how the Lord had led them to the mission field of Germany. Then one of the students accompanied the couple at the piano as they sang a duet. Mr. Jantz showed the students numerous slides of Germany and of the work which has already been done there by the missionaries. Two of his brothers are already there and the Lord is richly blessing their ministry. He also related the pitiful religious conditions existing in Germany today. Germany has ample cathedrals and churches and it is not unusual to find churches with a membership of five or six thousand, but alas, very often only about 4% or even less ever attend church. We were challenged by the Jantz' report and agreed with them that the fields truly are ripe unto harvest but the laborers few!

The students who completed the Grade 2 Music Theory course prescribed by the Royal Toronto Conservatory of Music have received their examination results. The course was given by Mr. H. P. Neufeldt, the musical director of our Institute. Those who passed with first class honours are: Richard Ratzlaff, Cornie Wiens, Anne Klassen, Kay Klassen, Jake Konrad; honours, Marlene Krahn, Susie Dyck; pass, Margaret Wiebe.

COLLEGES

TABOR COLLEGE

Wiebe to be Dean of Students

A recent announcement from the president's office at Tabor College indicates that Dr. Vernon R. Wiebe will step into the position of Dean of Students, effective June 1. Dr. Wiebe's appointment to this post comes out of a reorganization of the personnel services at Tabor, and is a result of a curricular and administrative self-study now in progress by the college faculty.

In this new position, Dr. Wiebe will be coordinator of health services, the testing program, academic and vocational counseling, housing, and advisement. His office will house all non-academic records and will synchronize all special services to students.

Dr. Wiebe has served for five years in his present position as professor of physical education and director of athletics. During most of this time he has been a member of the Personnel Committee.

He will continue to teach advanced physical education and will remain as director of athletics. Delmer Reimer has been appointed head coach and instructor in athletics.

Gift Toward Tabor Library

The president's office at Tabor College last week announced the receipt of the second major gift of money within the past month.

The donors are Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Ediger, who own and operate a ranch near Wasco, California. Their gift of \$5000 will go into the library building fund. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ediger are former Tabor students, having attended here in the 1920's. They are the parents of two Tabor students, Jeanette, a junior, and Evelyn, a freshman, and have long been active members of the San Joaquin Valley chapter of the Tabor alumni association.

The Unified Education Fund of the Mennonite Brethren Conference had previously received a gift of \$25,000 from the Maple Leaf Foundation of Wasco; proceeds from this fund are divided between the Hillsboro, Kansas, and Fresno, California, campuses of the conference schools.

Mennonite Brethren Board of Welfare

— David B. Wiens of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, has been reporting on the mission of the MCC delegation to Russia in the United States. Beginning in Washington in January he traveled down the West Coast, then reported in churches in the Midwest during February and early March. His itinerary was sponsored by the Board of General

Welfare office in Hillsboro, Kansas.

— A total of 61 students are attending Mennonite Brethren Bible School and Institute at Bage, Brazil, which began on February 8. This session represents a new development in the Bible instruction and Christian training program of the South American Mennonite Brethren Conference. Short-term Bible schools have been held at Bage before, but the South American Mennonite Brethren Institute is being conducted under a new arrangement first at Bage and then in Fernheim, Paraguay. The entire instructional program in Bage will go until June 1. That date will mark the conclusion of the Bible school and the transfer of the Bible Institute to Fernheim for the second semester. Teachers in the Bible Institute include G. H. Sukkau, principal, and C. C. Peters, instructor. These brethren also instruct in the Bible school. Other teachers in the Bible school are Peter Klassen, Gerhard Wall and Mrs. Lydia Peters.

— A Bible conference and ordination were special services from January 24 to 27 in the El Ombu Mennonite Brethren Church in Uruguay. Kornelius Funk, the pastor, was ordained to the ministry on Sunday, January 27. Ministering to the church during those days were C. C. Peters, who spoke on I John 1, and G. H. Sukkau, who spoke on James 1. Evangelistic services were held in the evenings. The congregation and visitors were blessed by God's presence. Visitors from other Mennonite colonies in Uruguay and Baptists attended.

SHINTOISM REVIVING

(Continued from page 2-2)

refuse to conform lest they compromise their testimony.

At the war's close Shintoism ceased to be the state religion; its influence was broken. Evangelical churches in Japan which had been pushed into a government-dominated organization sought to withdraw. Their bitter foe was dead and they enjoyed the prospect of public favor—or so they thought.

But the wounded cult of ancestor worship is rearing its head again. Old temples and shrines are being repaired. New ones are being erected. Once more the narrow streets of Japanese cities and villages re-echo with the shouts of crowds joining in Shinto festivals as in former days. The number of pilgrims visiting shrines is increasing every year.

It may take a long time for Shintoism to dominate the thoughts and actions of the people as it did before, but evidences of resurgence are a warning that the churches can expect renewed pressure when it does.

Alliance Weekly.



Mennonite students at the annual AMUS banquet in Winnipeg heard Rev. D. Ewert, left, speak on "Mennonites in the Twentieth Century". The Christian Press, Ltd. cup given to the winner of the public speaking contest is presented to Peter Peters by Mr. H. F. Klassen in the centre picture (Miss Margaret Klassen is in the foreground). At right is another scene from the banquet.

Discusses Twentieth Century Mennonitism

Winnipeg, Man. — "Menno Simons taught that the final and ultimate authority is what Christ and His disciples taught. He believed that there is no revelation that God made to man outside of the Bible. Only insofar as we accept this position are we as twentieth century Mennonites in the spirit of Menno Simons," asserted Rev. David Ewert in his address as honorary president to the Association of Mennonite University Students at their annual banquet in Moore's on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

Another highlight of the banquet included the finals in the public speaking contest. Participating were Dave Suderman, who argued that Mennonites were not only a religious group but that through the progress of the centuries they had become a national group; Henry Krahn, who spoke on the complete musical experience; and Peter Peters, who maintained that we must remain individuals—not only someone in a crowd. The

judges, Victor Adrian, Rev. David Janzen and Ferdinand Pauls, declared Peter Peters the winner. He was presented The Christian Press, Ltd. cup by Mr. H. F. Klassen, managing director.

"To Menno Simons a creed did not mean anything unless it gripped the heart," Rev. Ewert further contended in his address. This clearly implied a radical difference between the old life before the new birth and the new life thereafter. Other theological implications of Menno Simons' loyalty to the Bible were an emphasis on salvation as only the first step in discipleship. Although his application of Scripture to life was rather rigid at times, Menno Simons insisted that in ethics neither fashion nor custom counted—but what the Scriptures taught.

"He did not advocate a passive isolation. Rather, he insisted that believers are the light of the world, the salt of the earth," Rev. Ewert stated. Yet he held the church at the centre of his theology. He strongly stressed the purity of the church, and maintained that it was a fellowship of believers only. This meant maintaining discipline in the church.

"Menno Simons stood for absolutes. Are we being engulfed in

the morass of relativism?" he asked as he applied the principles of Menno Simons to us today. "Have we paid enough attention to the connection between salvation and discipleship? The initial experience and godly living were one to Menno Simons."

"As Mennonites of the twentieth century we have hope along only the path of 'sola scriptura'—the Scriptures alone," Rev. Ewert declared in closing.

David Falk was elected president of AMUS for the next year by acclamation.

EVANGELICAL MENNONITES HOLD FIRST S.S. CONVENTION

Steinbach, Man. — The Evangelical Mennonite Church Sunday School Convention was held on February 23 and 24 in the Blumenort church, Steinbach.

Topics under discussion were: Why a Sunday School Conference? The Qualifications of the Teacher; The Qualifications of the Superintendent; The Preparation of the Lesson; Sunday School Material; and others. Most of the speakers were ministers from the various Evangelical Mennonite churches.

The sessions were well attended, with a capacity audience filling the church the last night.

One of the main reasons for the convention was to make people more Sunday school conscious. Then, of course, another reason was to give instruction to those engaged in the work.

Although this is the first convention that this conference has held, it is fairly safe to say that it will not be the last.

MENNONITE SCHOOL OFFICIALS, MINISTERS MEET

Rosenort, Man. — Representatives of the teaching profession, the trustees' association, and leaders of various church groups met at the Rosenhoff school here on Mon-

day evening, Feb. 18, to discuss problems in education.

Thus was realized a quarter-century old dream of the late Prof. H. H. Ewert, a prominent Mennonite educational leader in Southern Manitoba for many years.

Seven teachers, seven trustees, and seven church leaders were appointed to a 21-member educational council at this historic session. This council will meet again on the afternoon of March 2.

Main item for discussion was the co-ordination curriculum for instruction of the German language and religion in public schools, prepared by a committee of the Mennonite Teachers' Conference. It is expected that the curriculum will be published in the near future.

Chairman at the meeting was H. G. Enns, teacher in Gnadenthal. Secretary was P. J. Rempel, teacher at Rosenhoff.

On the Horizon

March 7 and 8 — Third annual meeting of the Association of Mennonite Aid Societies in the Atlantic Hotel, Chicago.

March 10. — The young people of the Port Rowan M. B. Church will present a program in the Leamington, Ont., M. B. church at the evening service.

March 14 and 16. — The drama, "The Carpenter", will be presented in the Eden Christian College auditorium, Virgil, Ont., on Thursday and Saturday night.

March 15-17. — Conference on adult activities at Kitchener, Ont. Nelson Kauffman and Boyd Nelson will speak.

March 22 to 24. — The Mennonite Youth Organization of Saskatchewan will have its annual conference in Saskatoon. Henry Poettcker, Winnipeg, will be the guest speaker.

March 23 and 24 — Northern Saskatchewan Sunday School Convention in the Saskatoon M. B. church. Rev. I. W. Redekopp and Rev. H. Baerg will speak.

LORNE A. WOLCH

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