

Mennonite Observer

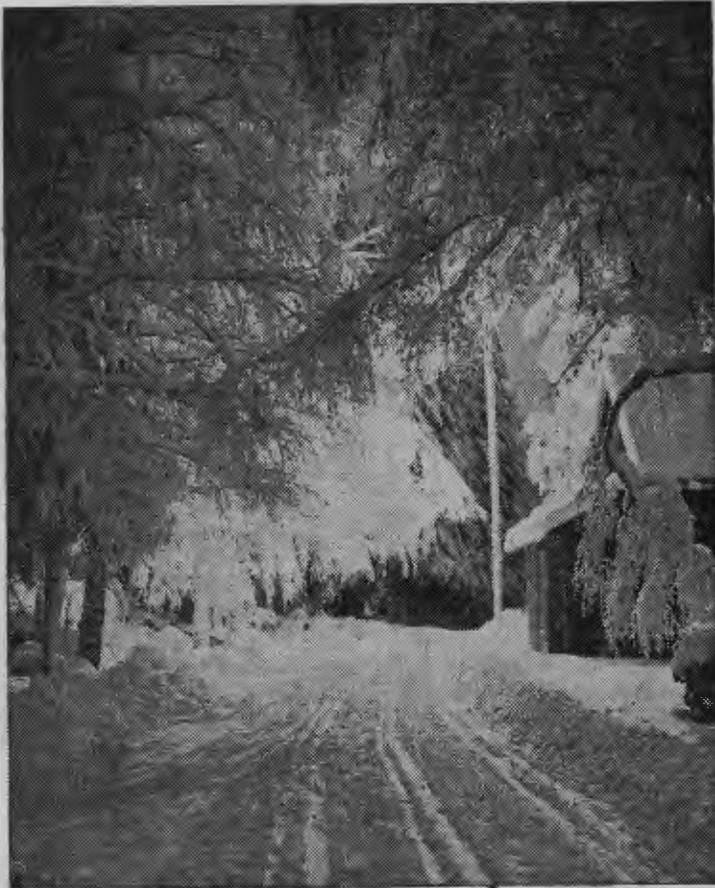
"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." I Cor. 2:8

★
YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

December 27, 1957

The Christian Press, Ltd., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Vol. III, No. 52



"Wash me... whiter than the Snow."

Mission Leader Speaks in Manitoba Church

By Abe Dyck, Jr.

Newton Siding, Man. — "We are saved for a purpose," Rev. J. B. Toews stated in his opening message at the Mission Festival in the Mennonite Brethren church here on Sunday, December 8. "God has not given us personal salvation to possess only for ourselves, but we are to be administrators, stewards, as it were, proclaiming the good news to others."

Satan has been in possession of many heathen countries for centuries, Rev. Toews declared. Now that the light of the gospel is shining into this darkness the battle between light and darkness is ever increasing in intensity, the deputation secretary of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions asserted.

Must Be Battle Conscious

Christians now-a-days must always be on the alert. We must be "battle conscious", Rev. Toews

maintained. As a general once said to his army before crossing the Rhine River during the Second World War: "You will cross the river—without retreat." Paul's testimony to King Agrippa was, "I was not disobedient." He counted not his life dear, but was willing to sacrifice it for Christ.

For his afternoon message, Rev. Toews chose the familiar story of the feeding of the 5,000 men, recorded in Mark 6:32-44. Commenting briefly on the story, Rev. Toews said that in it we find the basic principles for world-wide missions. Because this story is related in all four gospels, it is all the more important for us. Rev. Toews treated the theme under the sub-headings: The Missionary Vision; The Missionary Commission; The Responsibility of Missions, and the Blessings of Missions.

Our attitude toward anything is determined by our valuation on the

subject. Rev. Toews raised the question, "What is our attitude toward missions?" Do we see the value of a soul, or do we send money to heathen countries only because we have been taught to do so? The position the world takes toward God and Christianity today is largely a result of the cold attitude Christians have taken to the lost world.

Human Efforts Not the Answer

Human efforts alone are not the answer to our mission problems today. Christ said to His disciples, "Give ye them to eat", and they,

despairing, asked whether they should buy 200 pennyworth. Jesus asked how many loaves they had. After investigation they found five loaves and two fishes. The boy gave all that he had into the hands of Jesus, where it was multiplied so that there was enough for all. Rev. Toews challenged the audience to give what they had, be it little or much. God doesn't want to know how much we would like to give, what the next person gives, but He is interested in what we have—and then He will multiply it wonderfully.

(Continued on page 4-2)

Successful Carol Service at Lena

By N. Sawatzky

Lena, Man. — An endeavor to restore and bring to mind the true meaning of Christmas (so often left out and forgotten by the people of today) was the reason for many weeks of prayer and rehearsal by the choir of the Mennonite Brethren Church here. Mr. John J. Neufeld directed the choir.

In order to accommodate as many visitors as possible two carol services were held. The first service on Friday, December 13, was for the parents and German-speaking friends. The program opened by the singing of five carols and the invocation by Abe Hildebrandt. Then the Christmas story was presented in carols and Scripture, beginning with the prophecies of the Old Testament to the birth of Christ. This was followed by a short two-act play presented by the young people. This portrayed the joy in giving to those who are in need of daily food and making their Christmas a happier one. The evening was brought to a close with remarks and prayer, spoken by Mr. Jacob Poetker, the church leader.

The second service was held on Sunday evening, December 15. All the seats were reserved for the English-speaking friends of the surrounding district. Here God answered the prayer of many by filling the church to capacity and giving an opportunity to testify to so many. This service was conducted in much the same manner as the first one in respect to the singing of carols.

Harry Martens welcomed the guests and led in the invocation. The conductor, Mr. John Neufeld, then made a few remarks as to the content of the carols and the origin of several of them. Bill Poetker recited a poem between the singing of carols.

(Continued on page 4-4)

Large Audience Hears Steinbach Choir

Steinbach, Man. — A large audience heard the choir of the Steinbach M.B. Church sing the cantata "Bethlehem", by Maunder, on Saturday night, December 21.

Mr. Albert Loewen directed the choir, while the soloists were Peter Koslowsky, tenor, Mrs. Rita Stobbe, soprano, and David Falk, bass. Glenn Loewen accompanied the choir and soloists at the piano.

The cantata depicts the appearance of the angels to the shepherds on the hills near Bethlehem and the reaction of the shepherds to the message of the birth of a Saviour. It then portrays the journey of the wise men to Bethlehem, their gifts to the Christ-child and their worship of the new-born King. Finally, the composer has included a challenge for today's Christians to give themselves as gifts to the Lord of Glory. In a convincing fashion the choir and soloists presented these scenes to the appreciative audience.

Rev. Joe Wiebe closed the song service with a challenge to worship the Lord "in the beauty of holiness."

EDITORIAL

Scare Tactics

One of the most effective aids in defeating an enemy is panic created by scare tactics. Whether it be the use of trumpets and torches, as in Gideon's day, the introduction of the V-1 and the scream bomb during the Second World War, or the launching of the satellites, the object is the same—to panic the enemy.

When we think of the spiritual warfare that we are waging today we find that Satan is using the same scare tactics. We read in I Peter that he goes about as a roaring lion (to scare and immobilize us through fear), seeking whom he may devour. As we are entering a new year we need to remind ourselves of this.

That the scare tactics of Satan are effective is revealed by the apprehension that gripped even the believers when Russia launched its satellites. There was a lot of talk about the impending end of the world—the annihilation of civilization—the early beginning of the tribulation period. It was but a repetition of the same phenomenon after the advent of the atom and hydrogen bombs.

One reason for this fear is that we have come to identify the western world's purposes with God's will and the communist world's purposes with Satan's desires. Thus we instinctively feel that if western civilization were destroyed by the advance of communism, God would be defeated.

This assumption is false—as false as the belief of Judah in Jeremiah's day that Babylon's conquest of Jerusalem would defeat God's purpose. In reality, an ungodly nation was being used of God to punish a nation that had largely turned away from God. Jeremiah knew this and proclaimed it. His call for passive submission to the advancing enemy ultimately resulted in his death, but the people returning from captivity—purified and weaned from idols through suffering—posthumously proved Jeremiah's point.

Satan is using another scare tactic to make the Christian Church impotent in respect to its missionary program. In formerly uncivilized countries people have been caught up in a rising tide of nationalism—the desire to run their affairs themselves and in their own way—because of economic and educational advances. Here and there missionary efforts are being hindered because the foreign missionary is being identified with foreign domination. Playing this note for all he is worth, Satan is stirring up hatred toward missionaries—even in some indigenous Christians. Here in the homeland he is using this development on the field to discourage the believers in their efforts to evangelize the world. To young people he is saying, "Don't prepare for the mission field, for by the time you are ready nationalism will have closed the doors anyway."

We need to recognize that God's program will not be wrecked by nationalism—or any other ism. He may change His approach, but his goal is the same. Even so in mission work we may need to change our methods and emphasis—and at this critical period in mission history we must—but the goal and the Gospel remain the same. That's why we should not let ourselves be panicked by the scare tactics of Satan.

Going into the new year the believer will likely be subjected to an intensified scare campaign. What will the new year hold? Will we be able to hold faith? Will our financial needs be met? These and many other questions will come. Paul has the answer: "In the face of all this, what is there left to say? If God is for us, who can be against us? He Who did not shield His own Son but gave Him up for us all—can we not trust such a God to give us, with Him, everything else that we can need?" (Romans 8:31-32, Phillips translation.)

Some of us have let Satan close our mouth by awakening within us the fear of what others will say. Some of us have ceased our Christian activity because Satan has given us fear of failure or disgrace. He has made us afraid of persecution and thus hobbled our legs that should carry us out witnessing for Christ. Now at the end of another year we can shake off the shackles of fear by the power of God and enter the new year unafraid, for "perfect love casteth out fear." The almighty God will carry us through—be it life or death.

DEVOTIONAL

Reflections on New Year's Eve

By Frank J. Froese*

The days devoted to the commemoration of our Lord's birth have again become a part of the past. Not only has Christmas Day come and gone, but a whole year—the year 1957—will soon be spent.

As we pause at the end of a period of 365 days we ask ourselves how these moments before the beginning of a New Year may be spent most profitably. Involuntarily our thoughts tend to revert to the past. A myriad of thoughts, events and experiences flood our memory. They may be events that we recollect with joy and the memory of which we treasure, or they may be such that we think of them with regret and remorse.

Is anything to be gained by reflecting on the past? Our first impulse may be to quote Paul's declaration: "...forgetting those things which are before..." (Phil. 3:13b). It is true that in a certain sense we as Christians must be willing to separate ourselves from the past, but this only after certain conditions have been met. There were memories of events in Paul's life that were unpleasant to him. Did he simply attempt to ignore them? No, only after having faced up to his past, only after he had sought and found forgiveness from God and, if necessary, from men, does Paul dissociate himself from that aspect of his past life that was regrettable.

We need honesty and grace from God to seek and find forgiveness from God and our fellowmen wherever that is necessary. But we also need to be willing to forgive ourselves. Only if we, as Paul did, are willing to "forget" the failures of the past will we be effective in our daily life as believers. Nothing is more harmful and destructive in our Christian life than a lack of simple faith that what has happened in the past need not happen again in the new year.

Paul could also look back to a rewarding past. However, he chose to also "forget" this aspect of the past. He realized that where he had been an effective Christian witness it was not his own achievement. It humbled Paul to have experienced God using him in His service in spite of his personal failures. Paul had experienced that, in the past, when he had attempted to serve God in His own strength, even though with sincerity and great zeal, he had accomplished the very opposite. When he had believed that he was serving God he had actually been persecuting God's children. Now God had permitted him to "forget" this aspect of the past—but only after Paul had been able to learn the lessons from the past. He had realized the

crippling and even devastating effect of pride and self-righteousness in the life of the servant of God.

Now Paul determined, after learning from the experiences of the past, whether positive or negative, to live in the present with a vision for the future: "I press toward the mark for the price of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:14).

At the close of this year may we resolve, by the grace of God, to avoid accepting the past year as a mould or pattern for the future. Let us rather look with confidence and praise to the "Child of Bethlehem", the Creator of the universe and Saviour of mankind, for our strength and as our example for the coming year. "Let us therefore... be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded God shall reveal even this unto you" (Philippians 3:15).

*A Winnipeg high school teacher and youth worker in the South End M.B. Church.

From Where I Sit

Self-centeredness and self-pity take the joy out of life and produce pessimism. Helen Keller, blind and deaf, once wrote that "at times Silence sits immense upon my soul. Then comes Hope with a sad, sweet smile and whispers, 'There is joy in self-forgetfulness.' So I try to make the light in others' eyes my sun; the music in others' ears, my symphony; the smile on others' lips, my happiness." Christ-centeredness eliminates self as it is lost in Christian service.

—Dr. Carl Yoder.

Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

LESLIE STOBBE — Editor

The Mennonite Observer is being published every Friday by The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd. 159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Manitoba, Canada.

Address all correspondence to the above address.

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

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

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

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

AMUS Discusses Art and Church

Winnipeg, Man. — The Association of Mennonite University Students held its second meeting during this school year in the South End M.B. church on Sunday evening, December 8.

Capably chaired by the president, David Falk, the meeting opened with a public speaking contest, which is held at each meeting to give the participants an opportunity for self-expression in public. Giving interesting talks were Miss Lydia Loewen, Edgar Penner, and Abe Bergen, who won with his topic, "Our Second-Class Citizens—the Indians."

"Art and Our Church" served as the topic for the evening's discussion. This topic was subdivided into audible and visible art and the contribution of each to the worship service. During the discussion it was mentioned that because the primary purpose of the church sanctuary is to serve as a centre for worshipping God, it should be built, beautified and used for that purpose. The problem of the use of the church as a social centre arises, however, especially in the rural community. The use of the church for other purposes depends

on the practicality and the attitude and manner in which the activities are conducted, it was suggested.

Mr. Howard Reimer, presently studying music at the M.B. Bible College, spoke on the role of music in worship. He said music is an excellent means of communication. The instrumental music should set a reverent mood, the choral music should be doctrinal and sung prayerfully, with spirit and understanding (I Cor. 14:15), directing the attention of the worshippers to God. In the active discussion which followed, problems such as the following were raised: the contribution or hindrance of the choir to the worship service, the distraction to the choir member or soloist of the technique required in good singing, the memorization of the song as an aid to prayerful worship, and the selection of music to correspond to the tastes of the congregation. The fact that music should evoke the prayerful participation of the whole congregation as well as create a reverent mood was stressed.

Is our church music really fulfilling its aims? If not, why not? With these questions as a guide to future thought, the meeting was adjourned.

Christmas Program to be Aired

St. Catharines, Ont. — The senior choir of the Mennonite Brethren Church here presented its Christmas program on Sunday night, December 15.

The whole evening centred on the record of Christ's birth in Luke 2: 1-20, with songs inserted to emphasize and apply the truths of the scriptural record. Some of the songs were: Silent night; Have You Any Room for Jesus; There Were Shepherds in the Fields Abiding; the chorus "And the Glory of the Lord" and the "Halleluja Chorus" from the "Messiah".

Not only were our members privileged to hear this program, but it was also recorded and was to be broadcast over the local radio station, which at Christmas gives local church choirs free time for the singing of Christmas carols.

Ladies Host Husbands at Program

Lena, Man. — The ladies of the Mennonite Brethren Church here again invited their husbands for a program and lunch. This annual feature of the church took place on December 12.

A highlight of the program was a portrayal of how Christmas Eve used to be celebrated—in contrast to today's celebration. It was pointed out that in former years there was time to relax before at-

tending the Christmas Eve service, but in this modern age our last-minute Christmas preparations take up too much of our time—at times we even miss the service entirely because of the many preparations.

After the program the husbands were ushered downstairs, where they were seated around the tables. Then the candles were lit and the lights put out. In this peaceful setting those present each quoted a passage of Scripture, whereupon the group sang, "Nun ist sie erschienen." The lunch followed.

Mrs. John Janzen (nee Margaret Froese of Winnipeg) was responsible for all the decorations, and she did a fine job. We were all thankful to the ladies for a wonderful evening of fellowship.

Church Choir Presents Program

Winnipeg, Man. — Christmas is a time of festivities and special events. The annual Christmas program of the North Kildonan M.B. Church choir was one of these.

The lights were turned down as the choir sang for their opening song, "Silent Night." Mr. C. Balzer, the choir director, then made some introductory remarks, following which the choir presented the first half of the program.

The first part of the program included a varied selection of familiar and unfamiliar Christmas songs. John Klassen played "O



Miss Elsie Miller of Smithville, Ohio, was one of the MCC volunteers who last summer helped handicapped children at the Institute of Logopedics, Wichita, Kans. There are similar opportunities with MCC in a number of institutions and camps for next summer.

Water, Next Summer and You

What is life without water?

Life would not continue without daily refreshing drinks of cool water... rain for growing things... the refreshment of bathing... water's healing powers.

The benefits of water and the will to live are earned with great difficulty by many of our nation's crippled children.

They need help.

Imagine yourself, for instance, at Fairlee Manor in Maryland across the scenic Chesapeake Bay from Baltimore. You are surrounded by a score of youngsters in wheel chairs and on crutches. With their handicaps they get so few of the normal experiences of life, but Fairlee Manor compensates.

Maybe they can be healed — and you can help them.

There is Bobby — looking dejected and lifeless in that wheelchair. Help him. Free him from his "prison" and lift him into the sparkling pool and let him splash

"Holy Night" on his violin, and Victor Martens, instructor at the M.B. Bible College, sang a selection by Heinrich Schuetz, accompanied by the piano and two violins. A male octet also sang twice.

Following brief remarks by Rev. Wm. Falk, the pastor, the choir continued with the second part of the program. This was the Christmas section of Bruno Leipold's oratorio "Jesus Nazareus". Some of the delightful orchestral accompaniment was provided by a small string and horn ensemble. The soloists were David Falk, Miss Heidi Dirks, and Miss Betty Kroeker.

Following the program the choir had its annual Christmas banquet in the lower auditorium.

to his heart's content, like a healthy boy.

Take him rowing in the side-waters of the bay. Or maybe he would like to go fishing or crabbing. Guide his uncontrolled fingers as he paints a picture (maybe it depicts the time you took him on a boat ride in the bay).

He can do nothing alone.

Show him that "God is love."

Look at Linda. She is one of the 600 limping and helpless youngsters of California who get a few weeks of "normal summer" at Camp Paivika in the San Bernardino National Forest near Crestline, California.

Help Linda on the saddle horse and ride with her on the winding trail through the magnificent pines down to the lake shore. Watch the circles of ripples as she tosses a stone into the quiet water. Point to the robin as it swoops to the water for a bath.

Linda needs you.

Now you are getting a drink from the hall fountain in the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas. Billy, wearing something like a football helmet, walks up and fastens his wistful eyes to yours.

Billy suffers from cerebral palsy and cannot help himself. You pull out another paper cup and help him drink the ice-cold water. Then you both go into the classroom and start the long process of learning to count. Billy cannot talk but "thank you" flows over his face.

On the eastern seaboard, emotionally maladjusted children wait your help in Governor Bacon Health Center at Delaware City, Del.

Many boys — tomorrow's men — are inwardly longing for you to

(Continued on page 7-4)

Revival Follows Dedication Service

By Nettie Tilitzky

Herbert, Sask. — To the Herbert M.B. Church the "Dedication Days" of November 24—29 were momentous times of blessing.

Beginning with the summer months and finding their climax in the week previous to the dedication, special sessions of prayer and other preparations were instituted to plead God's leading in all of the dedication services for the new church building and for its congregation. By the time the "dedication days" actually arrived, a genuine spirit of anticipation for revival was in evidence, and God did not disappoint us.

Except for a few minor finishing touches inside, the white stucco building of 40' by 69', costing around \$40,000, was ready to be officially occupied by the congregation on Sunday morning, Nov. 24. The special day's services began with the gathering of the congregation and many friends at the front entrance of the building at 10.15 a.m., and the cutting of the ribbon. The church key was officially presented to Rev. Rudy Janzen, who then led the entrance processional, with Rev. J. J. Toews and the church board leading. Organ and piano accompaniment were played by Mrs. Erica Janzen and Miss Nettie Tilitzky.

J. J. Toews Guest Speaker

Special choir selections were interspersed between the morning messages, given by Rev. R. Janzen in English and by our guest speaker for the week, Rev. J. J. Toews, in the German language. The morning session was climaxed by a dinner served to all in the modern basement facilities.

The bilingual, main dedication service in the afternoon began with the entrance of the building committee, the choir and speakers. The main message was again delivered by Rev. Toews. Four songs were sung by the church mixed choir, led by Henry Braun. After the prayers of dedication were spoken by the ministers, J. M. Neufeld, Johann Wiens, Rudy Janzen and J. J. Toews, summary reports were presented by the brethren P. Priebe, B. F. Redekop, John Regier, and L. Hiebert, who were primarily responsible for the building operations.

Many greetings by various representative church ministers and other organizations were heard, both those that had come by letter and those presented personally. A light lunch was served again to guests who had taken time to view the new edifice. Special features of interest to most visitors were the "babyroom" in the west end of the balcony and the built-in baptistry with its background oil painting of an appropriate, beautiful river

scene, done by Rev. A. Goerz of Main Centre. Equipped with sewer and water lines, this fully modern gas-heated structure houses the long-anticipated Sunday school facilities in the basement.

The day's celebrations continued with an evening service that saw another capacity attendance of about 500 people. They heard the special Male Chorus under Bro. Martin Schroeder's leadership and the challenging message by Rev. Toews of Kitchener, Ontario.

Week-day Services

Special services in the English language continued each evening, with a story also for the children and numbers in song alternately by the mixed choir and the male chorus. The children's feature was so interesting that, in spite of local community activities, the children's attendance rose from 30 on Sunday night to 130 at the final Friday service. The Lord was truly in our midst, as on several evenings unbelievers and believers alike came forward to find Christ as Saviour and as Lord. The climax was witnessed on Friday night prior to Bro. Toews' departure by plane, when numerous confessions

Mission Leader Speaks

(Continued from page 1-4)

"The Test of Missions in a World of Crisis," served as Rev. Toews' topic for the evening service. Basing his remarks on John 9:4, "I must work the works of Him that sent me", Rev. Toews stated that our missionary program must keep pace with the changes rapidly taking place in the world today. Illustrating briefly how our mode of living, transportation and scientific development have progressed during the last ten years, Rev. Toews quoted a science magazine as saying that scientific research and progress has recorded more advances during the last ten years than it has in the past four hundred years. There is a titanic struggle going on today between the forces of democracy and communism, and the time for missions is limited, Rev. Toews declared.

Need to Guide Indigenous Church
Because of the rapid development of literacy and the growing nationalism in heathen countries, missionaries of the future will not only go to the field to teach people to read and write, but to try to guide an indigenous church to self-support and self-government.

"This is the time for our missionary program to be stepped up to meet the needs of the people who were once looked down upon, but who are now willing and able to take our work and leadership in their own churches," Rev. Toews stated.

and decisions were witnessed in the lower auditorium.

The groundwork for this revival was laid, we believe, not only in the preparatory weeks of prayer, but also in the German-language morning sessions, where Bro. Toews expounded on the meaning and message of the O. T. Tabernacle in its relation to the N.T. believers, and in the additional, separate discussion periods with the parents and young people on Monday and Tuesday supper hours.

Saturday night witnessed another important service, with the Bethany Bible Institute of Hepburn rendering a challenging program on a similar theme of "dedication to Christ." Even this day witnessed souls coming closer to the Lord, for which we were doubly thankful.

A fitting conclusion to the week occurred in that following Sunday morning's communion service, when the pastor was compelled to shorten his message to allow for confessions and testimonies to be heard well into the afternoon. That evening's Christian Endeavour program continued in the same spirit, as numerous testimonies preceded the messages by Erwin Doell and Rev. R. Janzen on the theme, "Pressing Toward the Mark" (Phil. 3:13-14).

Truly, with David (Ps. 126:3) we sing: "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

Our Readers Say

Need Teaching on Giving

... I wish to congratulate you on the fine job which you have been doing on the *Mennonite Observer*. We enjoy it very much and are gradually beginning to feel we could not get along without it. We believe it should be in every one of our homes where English is the predominant language.

I noticed in particular the editorial in the November 22 issue concerning Christian giving. Your quotation from J. Robert Kreider is most nearly my conviction on the matter. One seldom hears it put that way. It is my conviction that we have scores of well-meaning church members across Canada who perhaps believe they have done their part by giving 10 per cent of their income—but in all possibility some of them are not sacrificing much in doing so. It is a challenging thought that God expects gifts of equal sacrifice, as quoted. I feel that we need a clearer teaching on giving in our churches. I cannot understand the New Testament to teach that all we are

Reduced Issue

Since the Christmas holidays fall in the middle of the holiday week this year, this week's issue of the *Mennonite Observer* has only eight pages instead of the usual twelve pages.

required to give is 10 per cent. It seems to me that a Christian dedicated to the Lord's will and cause would try to give above that—at least if he has a high income. I would like to encourage you to have more articles on this important subject.

May you have a joyous Christmas season and a blessed New Year.

Respectfully yours,

Fred Reimer,
Leamington, Ont.

Successful Carol Service

(Continued from page 1-4)

The highlight of the evening was a message from the Word of God by Rev. Abe Froese of Boissevain, who reminded the congregation whose birthday was being celebrated at Christmas. He stated that we should rejoice in the birth of Christ, and not let the by-products take away the true joy and meaning of Christmas.

He pointed out that the message of Christ's birth was brought to earth by an angel. Yet this message was for all people, not only for the educated and the kings. Christ died an atoning death for the sins of all men. Rev. Froese maintained that at Christmas we are not to only fill our stomachs with sweets, but we are to let our hearts be filled with the wonderful birthday of the Christ-child and all that He did to redeem mankind. In that we are to follow the example of Mary, who "kept all these things and pondered them in her heart."

The Bible Today

Bible salesmen in India sometimes meet with difficulties that are not encountered in our country.

Writing from the Canadian Presbyterian Mission at Jhansi, the Rev. Angus McKay says: "I have just returned from a ten-day tour with the Bible Society Van from Calcutta, which has been visiting our area. We were working in what are called "affected areas", which means areas where there are special police in addition to the regular police on account of the lawlessness of the people. Several bands of robbers are operating throughout the territory, necessitating special corps of more highly trained and more adequately equipped police. We had an interesting time and sold many Gospel portions even if the going was rather rigorous."

Rev. E. J. Heuer, who is in India taking moving pictures for the British and Foreign Bible Society in Canada, will visit the Jhansi field where Mr. McKay is at work.

Congo Literature Work Needs Prayer

By Kathryn Willems

"THOU art the God that answereth prayers." This we can truly say as we think of the work of literature publication here at Kafumba. Truly, our Lord has done far above what we could ask or think. Let us share with you a few of these answers to prayer:

1. Our new building, in which we have the office, bookroom, stockroom and bookstore all under one roof, is wonderful. We thank the Lord for D. Friesen whom the Lord used to support this project and for giving "the people a mind to work" so that it could become a reality.

2. The Lord guided in the preparation of manuscripts so we could keep the printing staff busy all the time.

3. The acquisition of some needed equipment is another answer to prayer. During the past year we have received the following equipment: an automatic inking device, a steel block for the large press, moulds for making our own rollers, new type for both multigraphs, a motor for the press (which the Mission Board paid for), a used but good multigraph from the Graveses and composing sticks.

4. Another answer to prayer is that some of the printing staff are showing spiritual growth and deeper interest and concern for the Lord's work. The Thursday afternoon Bible classes are a real blessing and so is the quiet time they spend each morning in private de-

votion and prayer. Upon their request and with their suggestions we have prepared a monthly prayer guide which has already inspired them for more intercessory prayer for our whole missionary program and especially the literature program.

We are earnestly praying for more help, since one of the printers has again left us. May the Lord definitely guide us to get one whom He has already called for this work. One of our young men has been here for years and is doing excellent work. Sometimes he indicates that he gets so tired of doing just the same work all the time, but he is our right hand in the whole work. We need to pray for him that he might not grow weary in well doing.

Since January we have made thousands of medical cards as well as record and report cards for school and library cards for Belle Vue. Eight different books have been printed which total up to 12,500 copies. We have continued to print the "Mwinda" periodical besides other little jobs.

We now sell books to 20 different mission stations and fill many personal book orders which are mailed to a large area of the Congo. Some of our village teachers and a Christian working at Ineac have a constant account with us for selling literature. May we and the African Christians utilize this open door for spreading the Gospel in the Congo.



Round-Up of World-Wide RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

Governor Makes Appeal for City Churches

Governor Theodore R. McKeldin of Maryland told a church congregation in Baltimore that "urban renewal" must include a reinvigoration of city churches. "Surely a renewal of the spirit is as important as a renewal of walls and roofs," he said. Although there are many arguments for churches to move to the suburbs, the Governor said he thought the arguments for retaining older churches in original neighborhoods are even stronger. "It is not the function of the church to serve either property values or the convenience of its members," he said. "Its function is to provide spiritual strength and comfort to those who need it, and to discharge that function it should take its stand where the need is greatest, not where it is least."

Southern Baptists Invade Canada

Fifteen ministers of the Southern Baptist Convention in the United States will conduct two-week revival campaigns in southern Saskatchewan early next year. The campaign will be part of a five-year program of the Baptist Union that seeks to build 50 new churches in western Canada.

Spare-time Bible Reader

On the street called Chong No near the new Bible House in Seoul, Korea is the shop of a cobbler who makes his spare time count for God. Between the repair jobs he does for the people who pass by, he reads to his customers from his Bible. And the Bible is heard by hundreds who themselves cannot read.

Plane for Missions

After an 11,000-mile delivery flight across the Pacific by an Air Force veteran crew, a light twin-engine airplane will be given to the Missionary Aviation Fellowship to speed missionary work among the New Guinea natives. The plane is a gift of the Span Foundation, a

ent "heart within and God o'erhead," as Longfellow wrote. One thing we may be sure of, and that is they are never coming back. The mill will never grind again with the water that is past. There is no need that it should.

Let us remember in the new year that God is calling us to forget some things. "Forgetting the things that are behind let us press on." The best is yet to be.

group of South Pacific Air Force veterans who contributed toward its cost as an expression of appreciation to natives who helped American forces during the New Guinea campaign in World War II. The gift plane was the first project of a new national organization of South Pacific Air vets, and was sponsored by the Metropolitan New York Squadron of the Air Force Association.

Begins Missionary Career

An Iowa widow, who managed a poultry business, sailed early in December from New York to begin a new career as secretary in a Mission business office in Istanbul, Turkey. Mrs. Lawrence A. Jansen, 52 years old, rented her farm in Charles City, Iowa, when her husband died two years ago. She enrolled in a business college in Iowa. While attending a commissioning service for a Congregational Christian missionary in Iowa last summer. Mrs. Jansen learned of the Istanbul position. Mrs. Jansen was born in Cherakee, Iowa. Her trip to Turkey will be her first abroad. She has three sons and six grandchildren.

Urges Episcopal Church to Expand

A management consultant told leaders of the Protestant Episcopal Church meeting in Greenwich, Connecticut, that the denomination had "lost touch with the masses." Jackson Martindell, president of the American Institute of Management, also declared that the place of Episcopalians in the American scene seems neither understood nor generally appreciated.

He said that the church's membership should be "ten times" its current strength of three million and that its "annual national financial support should be many times the current amounts accounted." "You must disregard the old school tie that has been placed around your tradition," he asserted.

Mr. Martindell said that time had upheld the Episcopal Church's principles "but has not sufficiently broadened either your practices or accomplishments." "You have somewhere lost the catholic appeal while gaining your prestige," he continued.

(The American Institute of Management, a nonprofit group, conducted a "management audit" of the Roman Catholic Church last year. The report gave the church a high rating for administrative efficiency. In 1955 the institute made a study of the American Baptist Convention, but did not release its findings.)

God's Word IN MAN'S WORLD



Useless Lumber

By James H. Hunter

Every housewife knows what that is. There are few homes that do not acquire, some more, some less, of useless junk. Sometimes it is kept out of sight till Spring cleaning time, sometimes it overflows to create a disorderly house. Some people just cannot throw anything away. The result is drawers stuffed with old relics of another day that have long passed their usefulness, articles cluttering the mantle-piece, souvenirs from other lands that cannot be blended with the scheme of the room, and a lot of sentimental silks, woolens, clothes and what-have-you of another day and age that should long since have been disposed of. It is usually the womenfolk who cherish their old belongings and who cannot bear to part with them. But why retain what one does not want and at the end be buried alive under a mass

of sheer rubbish?

What we have said in the preceding paragraph has a pertinent application to each of us concerning the furniture of our minds. There are many people who keep alive their past mistakes, their sins and their failures of another day, their outworn opinions and the ghastly spectres of the might-have-beens. They also need to cultivate the art of throwing away. There is little to be gained by trying to live a yesterday that is past, or to mourn over our losses and shortcomings until they fill our whole horizon and hinder our present usefulness.

Solomon warns us that we do not inquire wisely when we ask why the former days were better than these. But that is what lots of people are doing, and squandering useless sighs on "the good old times." They had much to commend them, we know, but we live in the present and must act in the pres-



Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

In a few days we will close this year and begin a new one. As you think about the way in which Jesus has helped you during the past year, and the way in which he gave you everything that you really needed, I hope you'll thank Jesus from the bottom of your heart. Then when you think of next year, remember to trust the Lord, for He will not let us down.

There was once a poor Dutch widow who had four little children to care for — the oldest being a boy of eight years. One evening she had no bread, and her children were hungry. Gathering the little ones about her, she knelt down and prayed, for she believed God would hear her prayer. When she had finished, her eight-year-old Dirk said, "The Bible tells us that God sent ravens to take food to a good man."

"Yes," answered the mother, "but that was long ago, my dear."

"Well," said Dirk, "the Lord may send ravens now. I'm going to open the door so they can fly in."

Hereupon he quickly opened the door, and the bright light shone out on the street pavement. A short time afterward, the burgomaster, who is the mayor of a Dutch town, was passing by. On noticing the open door, he stopped and looked into the room. He was much pleased with what he saw. The room itself was very clean and tidy, and the mother had her little children gathered around her. He stepped in, saying, "My good woman, why is your door open as late as this?"

She was rather confused at having such a well-dressed gentleman in her poor room. But rising and dropping a curtsy to him, she said, "My little Dirk has done it, sir, that the ravens may fly in to bring us bread." Now it happened that the burgomaster was dressed in a black coat and black trousers and wore a black hat.

"Dirk is right," he said cheerfully, "here is a raven, and a big one, too. Come along with me, my boy, and I'll show you where the bread is."

The great man took Dirk to his house and gave him plenty of bread and butter. Dirk hurried home as fast as he could, and how the little children danced and clapped their hands. The mother gave each of them a slice of bread and butter.

When they had finished eating, Dirk went to the open door, took his cap off his head, and said, "Many thanks, good Lord." Then he shut the door and was soon tucked in bed.

Yes, boys and girls, the Lord answers our prayer if we trust Him.

Aunt Selma.

A True New Year

John stopped, undecided what to do next. He was breathing heavily and his heart was beating rapidly. He looked back disgustedly at the tracks his skis had made in the fresh snow. He was angry at himself for not being able to find the way to the ski hut.

Sometime ago Herb and Peter had come to his house and asked him to accompany them. He had told them, "I'm coming right away, but I have to help my mother a little first. I'll find the way to the hut..."

At first he had found the way easily enough, for he had simply followed the tracks that his friends skis had made. But then he thought of a short-cut and started out on his own. Now he was alone on the wide expanse of snow—and the others would likely already be in

front of the warm fire in the ski-hut.

In itself the idea had been a good one. Their teacher had suggested that the ten oldest boys in the village school accompany him to the ski hut and spend New Year's Eve there. On New Year's Day they would then start out on a ski tour. The parents had agreed to the plan, for they knew the teacher well and respected him. They also knew how much the boys loved and respected him. John himself had really looked forward to this outing.

Yet now he stood all alone on a vast field of snow. He would certainly arrive late at the hut—and he knew how much the teacher disliked latecoming. If only there wasn't so much snow! In summer he would have found his way to

the hut easily. To think that he might have to spend the night here—all alone in the cold snow, with no one to show him the way. John shook himself. He was getting cold.

Meanwhile a warm fire was burning in the fireplace in the hut. Ten pair of skies stood under the sloping roof of the hut. The teacher was at the door, his brow furrowed and a frown creasing his face. A little bird settled on the pine tree standing in front of the hut. A few snowflakes drifted lazily to the ground.

If only John would come soon! All the boys crowded around the window, looking out.

"Why didn't he come with you?" someone asked Herb. Herb shrugged his shoulders.

"He's got to spoil everything," someone grumbled.

"He only needed to follow your tracks..." someone else muttered. "But supposing he left much later..."

"Then the tracks will likely be erased by the wind in some places," the teacher said. "If you don't follow in the tracks right away they often disappear."

The face of the teacher was a study. "Maybe he's thinking of his war experiences," thought Herb, so he said, "Tell us something about your life."

"Once during the war we had also lost contact with our headquarters," he said. "That happens when you are tired, when you waste time, or if you disobey..."

"There... there... there he is," Herb bumped Peter aside in his hurry to get to the door. In the distance John was coming around the bend. His skies were on his shoulders—one of them broken. Very slowly he approached the hut, limping on his left leg.

As the games were in progress later he sat all by himself—unable to take part. Not even the fine lunch tasted any good. He didn't even touch the steaming baked apples.

Shortly before midnight the teacher pulled out his New Testament and read a short passage. Briefly he talked to the boys about following Jesus. "Whom are you following? Who is your ideal? Look back on the past year—is there something that will bother your conscience as you go into the new year? He who said, 'Follow me', can also forgive you and straighten out your way. Only then can you have the real joy and peace."

And then they were out in front of the hut under the starry sky. Softly the bells echoed up from the village below. John had seated himself on a block and was thinking about the words of the teacher. He thought about his experiences that day—he could not enter the new year with a clean conscience.

"Jesus, Saviour, pilot me..." the teacher began to sing. The boys

joined in to sing the first verse. Then they slowly went back into the hut, for they needed to have their sleep if they wanted to go on a ski tour the following day. Only John stayed sitting on his block of wood. "Come," the teacher said as he put his hand on the boy's shoulder, "you need sleep more than all of us after your wanderings."

"I can't sleep," John groaned.

"Why not?"

"I didn't say the truth... when I told the boys I had to help mother... I just wanted to finish the story I was reading," the words came out slowly.

"Jesus can forgive that, too, if we repent and confess our sin. Only believe it! Now, right now, Jesus is saying to you, 'Follow me,'" the teacher said. "If we don't listen to His voice right away and follow His leading we are sure to go astray. I've experienced that—and so have you. But we want to improve during the new year and ask the Lord: Jesus, Saviour, pilot me..."

Sometime later John climbed into his sleeping bag and settled down for the night. He was bubbling over with joy and a deep peace had entered his heart. "I'm not going to forget this day," he thought to himself. "Nor am I going to forget what the teacher said."

Bible Character Jewels

By Mrs. F. H. Fordham. 65pp.

This is a fine series of stories about Bible characters, written so that children can read them themselves or have them read for them by others. Each story has several modern day illustrations to emphasize the value of character traits displayed by the Bible heroes. Colour and black and white pictures illustrate the stories.

Paths of Uprightness

By Mrs. G. E. Fearson. 63pp.

This book is full of practical everyday lessons for boys and girls. The lessons are contained in many fascinating stories. Each group of stories illustrates one virtue, such as kindness, obedience, cheerfulness, forgiveness, gratitude, unselfishness, etc. A truly helpful gift for the child growing up in this modern age. Full-colour picture on cover, with many fine illustrations and pictures in the book.

Favorite Bible Stories

This 63-page book comes complete with full-colour picture on the covers, and colour and black and white pictures to illustrate the stories. Written in a fascinating style are 23 stories from the Bible, including: A Beautiful Garden; A Girl Who Chose the Right; A King Who Stole a Vineyard; Daniel in the Lion's Den; David the Shepherd Boy; Esther the Beautiful Queen; How a Little Girl Helped, and many others.

Each 50¢

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



Millions are Refugees — As Was Christ

"...and he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed into Egypt..."

At this season of the year Christians recall with sensitivity the flight of the Hebrews Joseph and Mary and the Christchild from Palestine into Egypt where they became refugees.

Today the world has millions of refugees. Their plight rests on the conscience of the world. The tragedy of being a refugee must be experienced to be fully understood, although it does not take such an experience to motivate fraternal concern and assistance.

MCC and many other organizations are providing essential spiritual and material help for these many refugees through food and clothing distribution programs, self-help projects, medical and educational service and through other types of action.

Here is a summary of MCC's current work among refugees:

Berlin — Paxmen are helping with recreational work in large transient camps which serve the thousand of refugees from East Germany Thought is being given by MCC to establishing a small camp to afford more personal service.

West Germany — Paxmen are completing the construction of houses for German refugees. Churches are being added to make these communities complete.

Austria — Food and clothing gifts continue to be made to people in Vienna and other parts of Austria who have not been permanently resettled for several years following their flight from communist countries. Some refugees from last year's Hungarian rebellion are being assisted as well.

Jordan — Food and clothing are being distributed to some of the 512,000 Arab refugees from Israel who are in Jordan. In addition are medical assistance, a home for boys and self-help projects in crafts.

Vietnam — MCC workers at Saigon have a small part in permanently resettling North Vietnamese refugees in agricultural areas of South Vietnam.

Aid Planned

Relief assistance is being planned for Old Colony Mennonites who are migrating from Mexico to Northern Ontario.

Voluntary service worker David Schellenberg has been named to coordinate assistance with clothing and food given by MCC constitu-

ents and the Nonresistant Relief Organization of Ontario.

General Conference Mennonites of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., and Anglicans of Ontario have already given some relief help, reports indicate.

Approximately 55 families of Old Colony Mennonites moved to Ontario after drought conditions made living very difficult in Mexico. They are settling at New Liskeard, Thornlos and Matheson Station.

Relief Continues to Arabs

Seventeen MCC workers in Jordan continue to give relief help with food and clothing, medical assistance, institutional care and with self-help projects.

The need for clothing to Arab refugees continues, reports area director Ernest Lehman (Wakarusa, Ind.) Deciding on an effective method of distributing clothing has been a perennial problem, but workers finally seem to have struck upon a workable and satisfactory method.

Under the new plan a member of each refugee family selects garments of clothing according to the particular needs within a total limit rationed to each family.

Workers say this is not only an effective method but it also affords greater opportunity for personal service and association than in the old handout method.

In Jericho, where most of the clothing distribution is done, the warehouse has been restored. It was burned during riots in late 1955. Workers are providing a hot meal five days a week to needy non-refugee children.

MCC cooperated with other voluntary agencies in distributing 900 tons of U.S. government surplus rice and flour on the Israel-Jordan frontier during the past year.

Personnel additions include Ida Stoltzfus (Elverson, Pa.), who returned from furlough in America as director of the Hebron orphanage for boys; Tina Klassen (Abbotsford, B.C.), service in the Nabulus Evangelical Hospital; and Dr. and Mrs. Cornelius Unruh (Winnipeg) in medical work.

Workers Remain

To date there is no indication that the 13 MCC workers in three areas of Indonesia are being asked to leave the country.

However Mrs. Mary Berkman Matthijssen, wife of Dutch Mennonite missionary in Java J. P. Matthijssen, who was an early post-war exchange student at Goshen College, is reported to be making plans to leave for America.

The Indonesians are protesting the failure of the United Nations to open discussion on Dutch control of New Guinea, which Indonesia claims as its territory. Because of the unsettled conditions in Indonesia many Dutch people are leaving the country.

COLLEGES

Tabor College

Annual Bible Conference Set for February 2-9

An announcement from the president's office at Tabor College states that the 47th annual Bible Conference has been scheduled at the college for February 2 through 9.

The principal speaker at this year's conference will be Professor Robert A. Traina, instructor in English Bible at the New York Biblical Seminary. Rev. John B. Toews of Hillsboro, deputation secretary of the Mennonite Brethren Board of Foreign Missions, will be the second speaker.

A Second Gift from Santa Fe

For the second time in two years, Tabor College has been the recipient of a sizeable gift from the Santa Fe Foundation of Chicago, which this month announced a donation of \$30,000 to the Kansas Foundation for Private Colleges. The gift was forwarded by R. G. Rydin, vice president of the foundation.

Milo Farmer of Topeka, executive director of the Kansas college organization, revealed the gift and indicated that it is to be divided equally among the nineteen member institutions.

Goshen College

David Bartow, a freshman at the college, was recently awarded a \$200 scholarship from the American Society of Tool Engineers. Three such scholarships were given by the local ASTE to students chosen on the basis of scholarship and ability to benefit from financial aid. David is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Bartow, Goshen, and the grandson of J. D. Brunk, Mennonite pioneer in church music.

A check of \$8,558.68 was presented to Goshen College by Denzel Short, West Unity, Ohio, chairman of the annual fall Work Drive Committee, at the beginning of the chapel period Monday, Dec. 16. The proceeds from this year's drive will be used for the seating facilities of the new church-chapel building.

The students are participating in a voluntary work drive over the Christmas holidays. An MCC sponsored boy's orphanage in Hebron, Jordan, has been chosen as the recipient of their gift.

The idea for this project grew out of the annual Peace Oratorical Contest. Harry Fortuin, international student from the Netherlands, proposed that an effective peace witness must include material help from "those who have so much to those who have so little."

The suggestion was picked up by the Peace Society, and they, to-

gether with the YPCA, initiated the drive.

Ada Stoltzfus, who with her twin sister, Ida, opened this orphanage in February, 1954, spent three days on the campus speaking in chapel and showing pictures of the work.

Participating students are finding employment in their home communities. The project committee suggested that at least two days of vacation time be given toward making this gift possible.

BIBLE INSTITUTES

Steinbach Bible Institute

The Steinbach Bible Institute was the scene of spiritual blessings on December 4, when the faculty and the students observed a day of fasting and prayer.

The tone for the day was struck with the first message, in which Mr. Dugard, the music director, emphasized the expressions "Our Father" and "love".

All the addresses by the teachers were concluded with seasons of prayer. The climax of the day was reached during the last session when confessions and prayer flowed spontaneously.

In addition to the day of prayer the institute enjoyed the service of Mr. Dawson, who travels in the interests of the Wycliffe Bible Translators.

On Dec. 13 the C. T. Loewen residence was moved onto the campus of the institute. The campus now has seven buildings in addition to the administration building. No doubt those who are concerned about the development of the Lord's work here are grateful for such tokens of divine love.

The first semester examinations will be written on Jan. 13-17. The registration for the second semester takes place on the 20th. Students enrolling for this semester should be here by that day.

B. Hoepfner.

Water, Next Summer And You

(Continued from page 3-4)

understand them, not for the mistakes they made under unfortunate circumstances, but for the fact that they are individuals and have the same desires for appreciation and love as anyone else.

These boys you will find at the Ailsa Craig Boys Farm, Ailsa Craig, Ont., and Wiltwyck School for Boys at Esopus, N.Y.

You are just the person to help these deserving youngsters next summer through the Mennonite Central Committee summer service program which sponsors projects in each of these institutions plus other projects in migrant, medical and community work.

Write now for more information: MCC Summer Service, 10 Union St. East, Waterloo, Ont.

Peace Conference in Saskatchewan

Herbert, Sask. — The weekend of December 7 and 8 witnessed a successful and blessed united peace conference of the Mennonite Brethren and General Conference Mennonite churches of South Saskatchewan in the new Herbert M.B. church.

The peace committee of the South Saskatchewan M.B. Conference, consisting of the brethren, Rev. Rudy Janzen, Rev. Abram Goertz, and Br. George Penner, played hosts to these sessions in grateful response to the conference held at Swift Current almost six years ago, as it was sponsored by the General Conference Mennonite Church committee at that time.

Speakers for these inspiring days were Dr. F. C. Peters of the M.B. Bible College in Winnipeg and Harvey Toews of the Waterloo MCC office, who dealt with such timely topics as: "The First Commandment"; "Biblical Basis for Non-

resistance"; "Can a Thinking Man be a C.O.?" and "Our Peace Witness in Such Projects as Ailsa Craig in alternative service — in disaster service — in voluntary service." Considering the overall theme "Our Peace Witness in South Saskatchewan", the Main Centre M.B. Quartet and the choirs of the Swift Current Bible Institute, the Herbert Mennonite Church, and the Herbert M.B. Church, rendered inspirational numbers in song. An interesting discussion period also occupied an informative part of each of the four sessions.

Judging by the enthusiastic response to this type of meeting — especially by the young people — a greater cooperative program of peace activities is anticipated in the future. To the Lord, as well as these brethren for their willingness to serve, we are grateful for such a blessed time of fellowship.

Three Injured in Two Accidents

Winnipeg, Man. — A Transcona man and two Altona, Man., men were injured in separate accidents last week.

Admitted to hospital at Emerson after his car was in collision with a Dominion Auto Roll transport loaded with late-model vehicles was David Schellenberg of Transcona, a suburb of Winnipeg. He was reported under observation for possible head injuries.

The accident occurred about 50 miles south of Winnipeg on highway No. 75 as Mr. Schellenberg was turning onto the highway from St. Joseph's road. A passenger in the car, Adam Bizak, was killed by the impact. He had come from the Russian Ukraine in 1948 and was majoring in social work at the university of Manitoba.

In another accident Peter Enns, 30, a farmer of the Silberfeld district, and Cornelius Nickel, 24, an Altona truck driver, were injured in a two-car head-on collision. The accident occurred at the south end curve of highway 14A, which by-

passes Altona.

Both men received chest injuries, while Nickel also received an injured knee. They had to remain in hospital for several days.

Newly-Weds to Jordan

Winnipeg, Man. — A North Kildonan couple that was married recently is leaving for medical service in Jordan during the first week in January.

Miss Katie Dyck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John G. Dyck of Winnipeg, and Cornelius Unruh, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Unruh, Winnipeg, were married on Saturday, December 14, in the North Kildonan M.B. church. Rev. Wm. Falk, pastor, officiated.

The groom is a medical doctor and has already spent four months in Paraguay under the auspices of the MCC. The bride is a registered nurse.

Dr. and Mrs. Unruh have been selected by the MCC to work for a two-year term in a hospital in Nablus, Jordan. They expected to leave Winnipeg on December 27.

They will board a boat on January 3, which will take them via Beirut, Lebanon, to their destination.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Unruh are members of the North Kildonan M.B. Church and actively participated in various church activities.

Many Visitors at Elmwood Program

Winnipeg, Man. — Many visitors could be seen in the large congregation that gathered Sunday night, Dec. 22, to hear the choir of the Elmwood M.B. Church sing "Christ and His Soldiers."

Helmut Janzen directed the 64-voice choir in a performance that was termed "a spiritual experience" by many of the visitors. The oratorio lends itself well to this, for it paints a musical picture of Christ's birth, His sufferings, His death, and His resurrection. In the second section the challenge to courageous Christian warfare is extended in choruses and solo pieces that portray both the joys and the difficulties in the Christian life. The translated saints in glory singing the praises of their God completes the musical picture.

Soloists for the performance were: Peter Koslowsky, tenor; David Falk, bass-baritone; Miss Adeline Willems, contralto; and Mrs. Rita Stobbe, soprano. Miss Frieda Duerksen was at the organ.

Opportunity at Market

By Abram and Annie Unruh*

Each year in October or November there are 10 days of special market connected with quite a bit of Hindu religious activities. Hundreds and hundreds of people come from far and near bringing cattle, new ox carts, plows, cloth, utensils, building materials and every product needed in the villages. People come to buy and sell—and see.

At this time a group of missionaries and Christians put up a Gospel tent at the Jatra place. Here they sell Bibles, literature, distribute tracts and testify for the Lord. In groups they walk all over the market grounds to proclaim to smaller and bigger groups that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior of man. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved," they tell the people.

In the evenings they conducted evangelistic meetings near their tent. From 300 to 1,000 people gathered every evening to hear the Gospel of salvation. The preachers had great joy in proclaiming the message of love, but Satan also had his agents in the field. A group of young educated people did their best to disturb the meetings this year. They made noise, asked the people to leave the meeting and finally started to push the people away by force. However, the audience objected and refused to leave. They wanted to hear. The next

night the would-be disturbers went to the tent, bought some literature and started to argue with the preachers. This also did not stop them from conducting the meetings.

The Lord gave the needed courage and faith to the brethren. Many have heard and are now on their way back to their homes in the various villages with the seed of the Gospel in their hearts. We know that the result of the sowing of the seed will be the same as in Matthew 13:3-8. With some it will be lost, but with others it will bear fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold and some thirtyfold.

*M.B. missionaries in India.

On Religious Books

"If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses in this country, and the people do not become religious, I do not know what is to become of us as a nation. And the thought is one to cause solemn reflection on the part of every patriot and Christian. If truth is not diffused, error will be; if God and His word are not known and received, the devil and his works will gain the ascendancy; if the evangelical volume does not reach every hamlet, the pages of a corrupt and licentious literature will; if the power of the Gospel is not felt through the length and breadth of the land, anarchy and misrule, degradation and misery, corruption and darkness, will reign without mitigation or end."

—Daniel Webster.

Dr. Talmage, when a young man, was inclined to be rather skeptical. One day, after he had asked an old minister "why" this and "how" that, the aged man replied, "Talmage, you must let Almighty God know some things you don't know." He acted on the advice, trusted, and preached to thousands afterward.

—The Sunday Companion.

On the Horizon

December 27-29 — The annual Bible Conference in the Elmwood M.B. church, 155 Kelvin St., Winnipeg. Services begin at 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

January 16 to 18 — The boards of the Canadian Conference of Mennonites will meet in Winnipeg for their annual sessions.

February 10 to 23—The annual two-week Ministers' Course will be given at the M.B. Bible College, 77 Kelvin St., Winnipeg. Write for further information concerning courses offered.

LORNE A. WOLCH

B.S., R.O., O.D.

Optometrist and Optician
Eyes Examined

272 Kelvin St., Elmwood
Phone: LE 3-1177

ORDER FORM for the MENNONITE OBSERVER

Subscription rate: \$1.75 per year.

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

Please send me the MENNONITE OBSERVER for year(s).
 New Subscriber Renewal

Enclosed please find \$..... in
(Postal money order or bank cheque, including exchange.)

Name:
(Please print)

Address:

(Sample copies mailed free upon request.)