

# Mennonite Observer

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

I Cor. 2:2

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YOUR CHRISTIAN  
FAMILY WEEKLY

December 30, 1960

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## Rhymes of the Chimes

By Anne May Garber

Every time the clock doth chime,  
It seems to say a line or lines;  
It seems to send out o'er the air  
A heartfelt yearning, longing pray-  
er:

"Eternal God, O Joy Divine,  
Live on within this heart of mine."

On some especially stormy day,  
The clock might ring another way;  
The clouds might seem so dark to  
me

The chimes remind me, Lord, of  
Thee:

"Eternal God, O Light Divine,  
Shine on within this heart of mine."

Many things a clock can say;  
The chimes will ring on through the  
day

To always bring a message true,  
Directing prayers, O God, to you:  
"Eternal God, I rest in Thee;  
No other place is there for me."

When I awake at night sometimes,  
I hear the clock ring out its chimes;  
Its tones so clear and pure and true,  
Directing me, O God, to you:  
"Look unto me, look unto me,  
For I have said, I'll be with thee."

All the nights and all the days  
Should always be brimful of praise.  
The days make weeks, the weeks  
make years

Of joys and sorrows, smiles and  
tears.

I praise the Lord for all the times  
He sends His message by the chimes.

## God Answers Prayer

As most of you friends know, we as workers in Europe under the Mennonite Brethren Church Board of Missions began a religious broadcast over Luxembourg radio station this past June. The first program went out over the air between 6:45 and 7:00 o'clock on the evening of June 14. We had been praying for such a program for a long time, and when it was finally granted to us, we accepted it as an answer to our prayers and thanked the Lord for His marvelous grace.

Little did we know at that time how many and what difficulties we would encounter with the program. During the first few weeks, reception in some parts of the continent was good, and letters began to come

into our office at Neuwied/Rhein, Germany. But then, all at once, the situation changed. Our programs were disturbed by terrible noises for which nobody seemed to know the cause. On November 6, on my way back from Brussels, I stopped in Luxembourg to consult with the radio station staff regarding the problem. I was told that the dis-

turbance was caused by the change in season and that in winter short wave reception is generally poor. In response to my request for time on another wave length, I was informed that nothing was available.

Meanwhile, reception became still worse, and the number of letters received in our office dropped to al-

(Continued on page 4-4)

## Brooklands Sunday School

Winnipeg, Man. — For three years now it has been our privilege to serve our Lord by conducting a Sunday school at Brooklands. The Brooklands Sunday school is held in the Woodsworth School—a two-room school on the northwest edge of Brooklands. The Lord has blessed the work here and we are looking forward to greater blessing in the future.

This is an example of youth striving to fulfill the command that Jesus gave to His disciples shortly before His ascension: "... Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16: 15b). This commission was the driving force which prompted the

young people of the South End M. B. Church of Winnipeg to search for places where the Gospel of Jesus Christ could be proclaimed. They found Brooklands and St. Laurent. The Brooklands School Board opened the Woodsworth School to us and so made it possible to start a Sunday school work there.

The homes in this community are generally poor. Living quarters are small and crowded. The physical need is indicative of the spiritual need. Upon entering some homes it is soon evident that no claims to any religion are made. Others maintain affiliation with some church but seldom attend. Both groups

(Continued on page 10-1)

## M. B. Church in Bage, Brazil



A strong M.B. Church in South America is strategic. See article "Moved with Compassion" on page 4-1.

## Reunited after 19 Years

A 19-year separation ended Thursday, December 22, when Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rempel were reunited at Winnipeg International Airport.

Mr. Rempel's journey followed five years of strenuous effort to obtain his passport and he believes that a letter which he wrote to Mr. Khrushchev obtained his release. In the letter, Mr. Rempel stated, "I asked him how he would feel if he were separated from his family for 19 years."

The journey was made from Moscow to Winnipeg via Paris, Brussels, New York and Toronto, and it lasted from Dec. 19 to Dec. 22.

The family in Winnipeg only

(Continued on page 9-4)

A  
BLESSED NEW YEAR  
to All  
Readers, Reporters  
Contributors and  
Friends of the  
"Mennonite Observer"  
The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.

## EDITORIAL

### Old Paths and New Ways

At the close of the year we are usually reminded of the immediate or distant past and we also think of those things which the future may hold for us. This is true of millions of individuals, but especially of believers and churches. Those who are sincere are examining themselves and are concerned about improving their way of life.

In the history of the church emphasis has often been placed on certain vital truths so strongly, that she has for a time lost sight of other truths which are of equal or even greater importance. This is true of at least part of the Christian church today. Certain neglected truths therefore, need urgently to be brought back into focus again. It is well for our present day teachers of the Word to follow the good example of the Apostle Paul, who declared "all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:27), and to heed the exhortation, "Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls" (Jer. 6:16).

We must look closely at the old paths of our pious, God-fearing fathers, accept their biblical principles and apply them to the new circumstances and situations of life. Some of the paths which we must walk in order to recapture our lost power are the following:

1. *There must be a right relationship to God.* Believers or Christian churches that have lost the proper vision of God will never regain their former glory unless they return to the faith and walk that puts God where He belongs.

A young man, in the prime of life, knew where to place God. When he proposed to an attractive, virtuous young lady he said, "God is first in my life, the work of the Lord is second, and if you are willing to be third, you shall be my life's partner." The two joined hands and hearts and together they became successful servants of God on the mission field. God should occupy first place in the church and also in the life of the individual believer.

2. *Jesus Christ must be made Lord* in our churches, schools, homes, and in our own personal life. The Christmas season usually gives evidence that there are many people who have either never recognized Christ as their King or they have dethroned Him in their thinking and living.

Charles Lamb had the right attitude in this matter. When he was asked what he and his friends would do if the greatest of the dead were suddenly to appear in flesh and blood once more, he replied, "You see, if Shakespeare entered, we should all rise; if Christ appeared, we should kneel."

We must cease to merely look upon Jesus as a way to escape eternal punishment, or as One through Whom we can have material gain by commercializing Christian feasts, positions, institutions or service. It should again be emphasized that Jesus cannot be divided and that He is either "Lord of all, or not Lord at all."

3. *Believers must repudiate half-heartedness and not occupy a stand between the church and the world.* They must not live in a twilight zone. Someone has criticized the Christians of America by stating that the world on our continent has become Christian and Christianity has become worldly.

In many ways the church is imitating the world, so that religious journalism, advertising, worship, preaching, teaching and singing are often but a poor echo of the voice of the world. In many churches there is lack of division in spirit as well as in practice between a sinful world and a redeemed body of believers. Repentance and a turn to a Christ-centred life is the only remedy for such a situation.

4. *Another path believers must go is that of internalism.* Formalism and externalism should give way to the inner man. The outward appearance of a person is of some importance, but it is vastly more significant to have an inward beauty of the heart. Externalism took over in the life of the Pharisees. Jesus criticized them for it and with His messages He pierced through the external and touched the heart and thus He placed religion into the inner life of men.

We have mentioned four ways in which many have strayed, probably without wanting it, or even without noticing it. Its effects, however, are the same. At the close of this year it should be a matter of great concern to "see and ask for the old

paths, where is the good way, and to walk therein in order to find rest for the soul (Jer. 6:16) and to be blessed of God from Whom all blessings flow.  
G.D.H.

## DEVOTIONAL

### New Year's Meditation

#### "Fear Not"

By Rev. J. J. Toews, instructor

M. B. Bible College, Winnipeg

At the turn of the year, many hearts are filled with anxious thoughts. Unexpected experiences of the past bring uneasiness to man's soul. The future is veiled in the mysterious unknown and thus adds to the craving of man for something trustworthy. "Heaven and earth shall pass away," the Saviour said. Such words imply a future with extreme strain on human endurance. But Jesus adds to the above quotation, "My words shall not pass away." If security is to be found, it must be rooted in His words. For this meditation we would like to underscore His words as recorded in Hebrews 13:5b-6: "For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

1. Here we find the basis of fearlessness. F. D. Roosevelt, the one-time president of the USA, said, "America has nothing to fear but fear." How can we conquer fear when opposing ideologies threaten human annihilation by means of atomic missileheads? It is sheer mockery to only admonish man not to fear unless we offer him a reliable antidote to fear. Throughout the ages the saints of the Lord have found this antidote in the assurance of the divine presence. When Moses trembled to go and face Pharaoh in behalf of Israel, Jehovah encouraged him with the words, "Certainly I will be with thee" (Ex. 3:12). The Lord encouraged a hesitating Joshua with the words: "As I was with Moses, so will I be with thee: I will not fail thee nor forsake thee and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man" (Judges 6:16). The tragic moment for Samson was not when he was attacked by the Philistines but when we read that "he wist not that the Lord was departed from him" (Judges 16:20). When Elijah departed from his servant Elisha, the latter had only one concern: "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" (II Kings 2:14). It did not matter what he would have to face, if only God was with him. The prophet says, "Fear not, for I am with thee" (Isaiah 41:10). In the Great Commission, Christ sends His disciples into all the world to preach the gospel, but not without this assurance: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20). The basis of fearlessness must be the assurance of the Lord's presence.

2. Experience of fearlessness comes by trusting in this divine assurance. The passage out of Heb-

rews 13 states that because "he hath said, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee," is why "we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper and I will not fear . . ." Just to say, "I will not fear," is a New Year's resolution that will not stand in times of trial. "I will not fear" must be based on what God has said. Fearlessness does not mean freedom from difficult and frustrating experiences. Material security is only relative, and things which may happen can grip the heart and breed unconquerable fear. Only an assurance of divine origin can bring tranquility. Such trust enabled Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to say to Nebuchadnezzar, "We are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up" (Daniel 3:16-18). These men did not build their fearlessness on the assumption that they would escape the fiery furnace. Their fearlessness rooted in their trust in God. They were not disappointed. They experienced the fiery furnace, but while in it walked in the company of one whose form was like "the Son of God." Of Daniel we read, not that he was spared the lion's den, but: "So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him because he believed in his God" (Dan. 6:23b). Paul was not spared the agony of the Roman

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for Mennonites of All Age-groups

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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.

# CHURCH NEWS

## Recent Newton Siding Activities

**Newton Siding, Man.** — During the past weeks we have been reminded of the real meaning of Christmas on several occasions. This has caused us to think more seriously as to Christ's place in our lives.

On the weekend of December 11 we were privileged to have Rev. J. J. Toews at our church. His messages served to prepare our hearts for the Christmas season. The topics of a number of his messages dealt with the sanctification of the believer. The Sunday morning message was based on Luke 3:1-6, the theme being, "A Biblical Preparation for Christmas." Our attention was directed to the fact that every valley must be exalted before we can be ready to meet Christ. Not only do the valleys have to be exalted, the mountains must also be made low. In order to have Christ meet us, we must make the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

God has given us the opportunity to have Sunday school in two public schools in our district. Every other Sunday the Word of God is brought to the boys and girls in these schools. We were happy to direct their attention to the Saviour through the Christmas programs at this Christmas time.

On December 9 we had our Christmas social at the West Curtis Mission Sunday School. We thank God for the answers to prayer that we received for this evening. Many children and their parents came out. The evening consisted of some carol singing, two testimonies from Sunday school teachers and some informal activities. The lunch that followed gave us as teachers an opportunity to meet the parents. It is our prayer that the testimonies, songs and personal contacts may serve to draw these people closer to our Saviour.

trial. But in this experience he testified, "Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me and strengthened me" (II Tim. 4:17).

The most important question for 1961 is not, "What will we experience?" Jesus Himself says to His suffering church: "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer." The most important question is much more, "Who is going to be with me?" If He has said to me, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee," then I may boldly say, "The Lord is my helper and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." If our life will bear this note of confidence and assurance, then we will be a great witness to the fact that we are walking in fiery furnaces and lions' dens in the heavenly company of His presence.

The Christmas program at the North Ridge Mission Sunday School was held on December 18. The good attendance was an answer to prayer. The short program included recitations, songs and readings by both pupils and teachers. Mr. James Nikkel, director of the Sunday school, gave a short talk on the importance of Christ at Christmas. We again realized that to have a happy Christmas we must give Christ room in our hearts.

Looking into the future it is our prayer that Christ may take first place in our life and in all our activities.

Elfrieda Dueck

## Revival Services at Kelstern

**Kelstern, Sask.** — "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad" (Psalm 126:3).

On November 30, Rev. Art Martens of Hepburn visited us in the interests of the Sask. M. B. Mission. He reported on the work in the various fields and also showed slides.

December 1 marked the beginning of the evangelistic campaign with the Rev. Henry Epp of Saskatoon. The week before the services was spent canvassing the districts round about, inviting the people to come. We had several special prayer meetings asking God to bless the services, to speak to us as Christians and above all draw souls unto Himself.

On the first evening, Rev. Epp spoke on Gal. 2:20: "Not I, but Christ." All of our interests, plans and ambitions must be centered around Christ. Then He will be able to use us in winning souls for Him. We felt the moving of the Holy Spirit. He also worked in the hearts of the unsaved. Several children came forward to accept the Lord and others had their faith restored.

We experienced the power of God anew and I am sure most of us desire to follow Him more closely and serve Him better in the future.

Mrs. Elsie Muller

## 26 Denominational S.S. Secretaries Met

**Chicago, Ill., USA** — Twenty-six denominational Sunday school secretaries met Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, December 6, 7 and 8, in Chicago's Palmer House Hotel to discuss Sunday school needs and plan phases of the Sunday school calendar year.

High on the list of the crowded agenda was a discussion of present trends in Sunday school. The secretaries agreed that there was a need for a testing device to measure the efficiency of both teaching and learning. The secretaries also recognized the need for more specific

helps for the Sunday school student, especially in the area of lesson assignments which would enable and encourage the pupil to study his lesson through the week. It was decided that this improvement would take the combined effort of both lesson writers and Sunday school teachers.

These denominational Sunday school secretaries form a commission of the National Sunday School Association. They meet annually to plan National Family Week, National Sunday School Week, March to Sunday School in March and other programs in which most of the denominations cooperate.

## General Conference Budget High

**North Newton, Kans.** — The General Conference Council of Boards concluded its three-day session here December 2 by adopting an over-all budget of \$1,155,600 for 1961, the biggest in the history of the conference. This represents an increase of 11.4 per cent over the budget of 1960, which was \$1,037,000.

Included in the total are the budgets of the four major conference boards, the Board of Missions, Christian Service, Education and Publication, and Business Administration. Largest of the subsidiary budgets is the one of the Board of Missions, which is \$740,000.

## New Mennonite Settlement in Ontario

**Fort Frances, Ont.** — Art Livingstone of Fort Frances said recently that he expects 30 Mennonite families to settle on farms between Stratton and Rainy River in the near future. They will be the first Mennonites to settle in the Rainy River district. Mr. Livingstone is acting as their purchasing agent.

The families expected will come from Mexico. They are descendants of Mennonites who left western Canada years ago to settle in Mexico. Mr. Livingstone said two families have arrived in the area, and that they have retained Canadian citizenship.

## 60-Year Publisher Dies at 85

**Freeman, S.D.** — Jacob J. Mendel, 85, South Dakota teacher-farmer, and owner and editor of the Freeman Courier for the past 60 years, died at the local Community Hospital on November 30. By a strange coincidence that was also the day the last issue of the Courier was published under his ownership. A short time ago the paper was sold to the Pine Hill Printery.

The Courier under Mendel's guidance increased from a circulation in the beginning of 200 to 2,000.

## Newly Appointed Editor

The Executive Committee of the General Conference of Mennonites approved the appointment of May-

nard Shelly as editor of **The Mennonite** at their November 29 meeting. Shelly succeeds J. N. Smucker, who has served as editor of the Conference's official publication since 1950. The new editor will assume responsibility soon after February 1, 1961.

After graduating from Bluffton College and Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Maynard Shelly served the First Mennonite Church in Allentown, Pa. While attending college and seminary he held pastorates at the New Stark (Ohio) Federated Church and Boynton (Hope-dale, Ill.) Mennonite Church.

## Question of Hutterite Expansion

**Edmonton, Alta.** — A halt in expansion of Hutterite colonies until a study is made by an Alberta Farmer's Union committee was urged in a resolution adopted at the FUA annual convention. E. C. Nelson of Edmonton, FUA president, said in his office recently that he did not have a copy of the motion before him but "abolition of colonies was not the intent nor was there any discussion in that vein."

"There was no discussion in the convention that would indicate any intention of depriving the Hutterites of any of their rights as citizens," said Mr. Nelson, "but it was pointed out that the Hutterites should recognize their responsibilities as citizens as well."

## Change of Leadership

**Justice, Man.** — In 1937, Rev. J. J. Loewen became leader of the Brookdale M. B. Church, now Justice M. B. Church. For many years Rev. Loewen lived and farmed in the Justice district. But in 1958, he moved to the city of Brandon, some twenty-five miles from the church he was serving, and it became increasingly difficult to maintain the desired contact with church members and to actively participate in church functions. Hence he requested to be released after twenty-two years of church leadership.

The request was complied with at the annual church meeting on December 14, and Brother H. P. Penner was elected to succeed Rev. Loewen. Formerly of Springstein, Man., Mr. Penner has been farming in this district for ten years. Although not an ordained minister, he has served the Justice M. B. Church through ministering of God's Word, Sunday school and other work.

Interested readers should take note of the following newly-elected church officers and their addresses:

Mr. H. P. Penner (Church leader), Ingelow, Man., Phone 305-13 Brookdale Exchange

Mr. W. Loewen (Assistant church leader), Box 5, Justice, Man., Phone PA 8-6114 Brandon Exchange

Mr. P. Pankratz (S.S. superintendent), Justice, Man., Phone PA 8-3435 Brandon Exchange

## Moved with Compassion



When Jesus saw such people, He was moved with compassion.

Triennial Report of the Board of General Welfare and Public Relations

"When Jesus saw much people, He was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd" (Mark 6:34).

When the Lord Jesus ministered on this earth, He described the suffering, unhappy multitudes as "sheep having no shepherd." They were scattered, hungry, restless and afraid. They were spiritually lost. Our Lord came to earth as "the Good Shepherd." The Good Shepherd gave His life for the sheep. He fed them when they were hungry, He forgave sinners, He healed the sick, He relieved the suffering, He comforted the broken-hearted, He calmed the fear-stricken. He did for the scattered multitudes what none other could do.

Today's critical world situation with its nations in turmoil, its exploding population and its distressed multitudes is also in great need of compassion such as Jesus had. As His disciples we must be concerned about the fearful, suffering multitudes if we would be true and faithful to Him and effective in our testimony and witness for the gospel in the world today.

As a brotherhood it has again been our privilege during the past three years to minister to the needs of suffering humanity throughout

the world through our relief and service channels. The following report reflects the services of the past triennium and then emphasizes the urgencies calling for Christian compassion in the various fields of service.

### I. Compassion for Brotherhood Needs—The South American Brotherhood

As we look back upon the experiences of our brethren and sisters who fled as refugees from Europe and pioneered in South America, we can thank God for the progress that has been made. When they arrived in Paraguay in 1930, they lived in tents and worshipped under the trees. At that time we were able to assist them by providing bread, clothing and plows and by helping them obtain houses and land. During the years which followed, we helped our Mennonite Brethren Churches in Paraguay build four houses of worship and are now assisting them in the construction of a fifth church building. In Brazil three church buildings—one during this past conference term—have been erected with assistance from the North American brotherhood, and in Uruguay we have helped our brethren build two churches. Today our brethren and sisters in Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay have their own homes, churches, schools and industries.

Our major efforts today are to

assist the churches in their efforts to build the kingdom of God in their colonies and win the lost to Christ in the surrounding areas. A primary means of stabilizing our South American conference has been through the Bible schools and higher-level theological institute. Bible schools have been conducted in Bage and Guarituba in Brazil, and in Fernheim and Friesland, Paraguay. Theological courses have been taught at Bage and Fernheim.

Concerning the ministry of the Bible schools, one of the brethren in South America has stated: "The need for the Bible schools in our South American brotherhood cannot be over-emphasized. They should be continued at all cost."

Today four of the graduates are Bible school teachers. Others are serving as ministers and elementary school teachers. Our missionaries to the Paraguayan Indians have studied and prepared in the Bible schools.

For some time the need for a permanent higher Bible school to train ministers and other workers for our South American Conference has been recognized. At this time such a theological school is being established in Curitiba, Brazil, with assistance from the North American brotherhood. This venture requires our prayers and financial support.

The Bible schools have been conducted with the assistance of a number of workers from North

America. The following brethren and sisters from North America are currently serving our South American brotherhood: H. C. Borns, Elmwood Church, Winnipeg, Man., serving in Fernheim, Paraguay, and Curitiba, Brazil; H. W. Duecks, Kitchener, Ont., Guarituba and Witmarsum, Brazil; Frank Peters, Elmwood, Winnipeg, Man., Bage, Brazil; and John Walls, Kitchener, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Another important ministry in South America during the past triennium was the evangelistic work of Brother G. W. Peters. God richly

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### God Answers Prayer

(Continued from page 1-3)

most nil. We received a number of letters complaining about poor reception. What should we do? The only refuge we had was prayer.

On December 8, when I returned from the Bienenberg where I am teaching in the European Mennonite Bible School for two days each week, I found a letter on my desk from Luxembourg radio station. It informed us that the station is going to change our program to medium wave, and instead of broadcasting it in the evening of each Friday, it will now be sent out in the morning of that day from 7 to 7:15 a.m. God had kept His great promise according to Psalm 50:15 "And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." For this reason we are praising and glorifying the precious name of our Lord and would like to call on you to join us in our praise.

The new wave length and time will commence on January 6, 1961. We know that this information will interest you and you will be grateful to the Lord for the marvelous help He has rendered us in this vital ministry.

Yours in His blessed service,  
H. H. Janzen

### Retiring Council Member Honoured

The Morden council, town staff members and their wives gathered at a banquet in the Manitoba Hotel recently to honor Mr. J. J. Riediger who has served in the Morden council for 10 years and will retire from public office at the end of this year.

Of his ten years on Council, Mr. Riediger spent 9 as chairman of the Water Works Committee and he also served on various other committees.

Mr. and Mrs. Riediger were presented with a beautiful engraved copper tray from the Town and a brief case and bouquet of roses from the members of the council and staff members. In making the presentations, Mayor H. A. Cochlan paid tribute to Mr. Riediger for the years of devoted service he has given to the town.



# The Cause of Foreign Missions

## 1960 Foreign Missions Report Status of Sister Churches Abroad:

### Mexico and Southern Texas

Nearly a decade has passed since the Mennonite Brethren Conference entered Mexico with the purpose of bringing the gospel to people who had become a special concern to members of our brotherhood. During the intervening years the ministry has been directed more to the nationals than to the Mennonite colonies, which was the objective at first. The past decade has been marked by many changes and difficult obstacles. However, the work of God has not been in vain. Today there are three churches who are assuming responsibility for a positive witness. Through their ministry of the Word to the people of their own communities they show the potential for progressive expansion. At the time of the conference there is only one missionary sister in Mexico. The other personnel have been withdrawn because of immigration difficulties. Now definite steps are being taken for the return of a new missionary staff to begin a ministry in some of the larger population centers in this country to the south of the United States.

The Bible school at Nuevo Ideal is being re-opened under national leadership, but it will receive some missions subsidy for its operation. This bold undertaking reflects some of the personal courage and sense of responsibility which our national brethren have.

The large Latin population close to the U.S. border, with its evangelistic opportunities, led the Southern District Conference to establish a missionary effort in that area some 20 years ago. The growth of the churches in this area is offering extended opportunities for a strong gospel witness among Latin Americans. After prayerful consideration, the Board of Foreign Missions responded to the invitation of the Southern District to accept the church-building and evangelistic work here. Plans are in progress to organize the three churches in Mexico and those in southern Texas into a Latin American conference which would be independent administratively, but would receive necessary assistance in the form of financial subsidies and some missionary personnel. At present difficulties are being encountered in carrying out the program, however, there is promise of normal development into a conference which will be able to establish itself as a living witness in southern USA and Mexico.

In Mexico there are the following

churches with their membership as given: Nuevo Ideal 45, Piedras Negras 51, and San Miguel 22, with a total membership of 118. In southern Texas: Chihuahua 60, La Casita 38, La Grulla 41, La Joya 8, Los Ebanos 41, Lull 24, and Mission 24, with a total of 236. Altogether there are 354 members in the churches in Mexico and Southern Texas.

At Piedras Negras, Mexico, five persons were baptized on November 13. Among them were a school teacher and his wife. This baptismal service was held in connection with revival services at Piedras Negras November 6 to 13.

### Paraguay

"The people that walk in darkness have seen a great light. They that dwell in the land of the shadow of death upon them has the light shined." The prophetic truth of this Scripture has been literally fulfilled in the evangelization of the Chulupie and Lengua Indians. A people who lived in the thorn bushes of the Paraguayan Chaco have responded to the gospel. In recent years these converts have increased into a church of several hundred baptized believers. Their growth and understanding of Scripture stand out as unique in the history of missions. The change from a nomadic life to a settled society was an adjustment which they could accomplish only through the spiritual motivations which came to them through the message and light of the cross. Great problems are confronting the Indian church as it seeks to build its own social organization and economy. This process will be extremely difficult, for which they will require the continued assistance of the churches of North America. The missionary program among the Indians of Paraguay also offers avenues by which the message of the gospel can be brought to other tribes who are still untouched.

The school for Paraguayan and Indian children established at Yalve-Sanga is an opportunity to develop future leadership for the evangelization of their own countrymen. Definite consideration is given to the need for training Indian leadership capable of assuming the direction of their church and evangelistic program.

The gospel outreach in Asuncion, capital of Paraguay, has recorded some very encouraging progress during the past several years; it has also faced some of the most serious spiritual testings. The growth is gradual but healthy. Social and moral standards in the national Paraguayan society constitute a serious threat to a healthy Biblical concept of Christian discipleship. The church under the able leadership of missionary Albert Enns is rising to the occasion and by God's grace will maintain a standard consistent with the Word. An enlargement of the outreach to the people in the population centers of Paraguay is at present a major concern and consideration of the Board of Foreign Missions.

There are the following Indian churches in Paraguay: Filadelfia 29 members, Kayin 84 members, Lengua Ipuna 138 and Yalve-Sanga 182, with a total membership of 433. The Paraguayan church in Asuncion has 17 baptized members.

### Japan

A Japanese Christian worker, Phillip Tsuchiya, has felt led of the Lord to join our Mennonite Brethren Church in Japan. He has served effectively as interpreter in numerous larger evangelistic campaigns in Japan. Let us thank the Lord for this brother and pray for His blessing upon his ministry in Japan.

### Congo

Irvin L. Friesen, missionary on furlough from the Congo, attended the ninth annual conference of Evangelical Literature Overseas held in Wheaton, Ill., November 30 to December 3. Brother Friesen is one of several Congo missionaries devoting their major efforts to the production of urgently-needed Christian literature for the Congo.

Nettie Berg has returned to the home of her parents at Coaldale, Alta., to be with her father who is failing in health. Sister Berg has been working at the Hillsboro headquarters with Margaret Dyck and Katherine Willems in the production of Christian literature for the Congo. She will continue working on the production of Sunday school material at home as her schedule will permit.

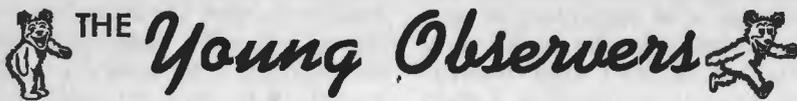
Our men missionaries in the Congo have been engaged in the following services during recent weeks:

The services of doctors Ernest W. Schmidt and Vernon W. Vogt are very much in demand. Brother Schmidt is serving in the Kikwit hospital and indicates there is one doctor in the area for a population of 340,000. Brother Vogt is serving in a state hospital at Masi-Manimba which has a capacity of 300 beds. The only Protestant in the hospital, he reports that he has been well received and requests prayer that he may be an effective witness for Christ in that place. He has also been given the responsibility of serving at a nearby leprosy and tuberculosis camp. The address of Dr. Vernon Vogt is as follows: %Hospital, Masi-Manimba, via Leopoldville, Republic of Congo.

Robert Kroeker, Arnold Prieb and Orville Wiebe have been visiting various mission stations to assist the national church and schools. At one point along the way they found the ferry anchored in the middle of the river and were not permitted to cross until permission had been received from the administrator's office. Brother Kroeker has been consulting with the national brethren on the various stations regarding the possibility of re-opening the Bible school at Kafumba. At Panzi the brethren were well received and report this area was spared some of Congo's turmoil since the territory had not allowed just anyone to enter. Brother Wiebe consulted with the school staff at Panzi and Brother Prieb reports that some people walked an hour to attend a meeting held in one of the churches in the Panzi area. Let us continue to pray for the Congolese church and our brethren who are seeking to assist them.

## Statistical Summary of Mennonite Brethren Churches Abroad based on Figures for a One-Year Period

	Brazil	Colombia	Congo	Europe	India	Japan	Mexico & S. Texas	Paraguay	Total
<b>Baptized Believers</b> .....	86	132	5,399	123	23,000	221	354	450	29,765
<b>Aver. Weekly Attendance</b> ..		344	9,784	887	26,500	395		1,100	39,010
<b>Organized Churches</b> .....	1	5	36	3	100	5	6	4	160
<b>National Ministers</b> .....		6	9	2	54	5	5	5	86
<b>National Teachers</b> .....	10	9	251		108				378
<b>Primary Schools</b> .....	1	4	159		8			5	177
<b>Primary Students</b> .....	250	112	7,412		1,600			223	9,597
<b>Secondary Schools</b> .....	1				1				2
<b>Secondary Students</b> .....	80				410				490
<b>Bible Schools</b> .....	1		1		3	1			6
<b>Bible School Students</b> .....	15	12	60		123	30			240
<b>Hospitals</b> .....			1		6			2	9
<b>Dispensaries</b> .....		1	4					4	9
<b>Aver. Yearly Consultations</b> ..		1,160	168,974		102,556			1,100	273,790
<b>Printing Presses</b> .....			1		1				2
<b>Book Stores</b> .....		1	1		1	1			4



## THE Young Observers

### Hello, Girls and Boys

This is the last letter to you in 1960. Soon the year will be over. I have enjoyed writing to you.

Today we want to think of the many good things God has done for you during the past year. Did He keep you safe from accidents? Did He make you well again after an illness? Were you always well-dressed and well-fed? Yes, you have felt the love of Jesus in your lives. Have you thanked Him for His goodness?

Do you all know the story about the ten lepers? Jesus healed ten sick lepers. Only one of them returned "and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down at His feet, giving Him thanks." The other nine received the love and kindness too, but were ungrateful.

As the year comes to a close, let us thank the Lord for all He has done for us during 1960. We, too, can fall down at His feet, and glorify God.

Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul,  
Thank you, Lord, for making me whole.  
Thank you, Lord, for giving to me  
Thy great salvation so rich and free.

A very happy New Year to each and everyone of you.

Love, Aunt Helen.

## Happy Sliding

Linda had received a new sled for Christmas. How very happy she was when she awakened one bright morning to find the ground all covered with deep snow.

"May I take my new sled out, Mother?" she called from her bedroom.

"Indeed, you may," Mother answered. "This is just the kind of a day that sleds are made for."

Linda dressed quickly, ate her breakfast, and then was bundled up in her bright red snow suit.

When she reached the hill at the back of Grandmother's house, some other children were already there. What a jolly time they had! Some were sliding down the hill. Others were building snowmen and rolling huge snowballs.

Linda sat down on her sled and held on to the steering rope tightly.



The sled fairly flew down the hill. It almost frightened her.

As she came to the field that stretched away into the meadow she pulled one side of the rope too fast, and the sled turned right over and Linda landed in the soft snow. She looked like a snowman herself when she started walking up the hill. Then one of the older children showed Linda how to steer and she learned very quickly.

One time as Linda came to the top of the hill and was ready to slide down again, she saw a little boy stand watching the children. Linda had another ride down the hill and when she came to the top again, the little boy was still there. He did not look very happy.

"Why don't you slide, little boy?" Linda asked him.

"I have no sled," he answered, and he looked as if he would cry.

Linda sat down on her sled and was just going to slide down, when she got off and went to the little boy and said, "You may take my sled, little boy."

How the boy smiled. He took Linda's sled and away he sailed down into the field. When he came back to Linda with the sled, he said, "Thank you, very much. You have a good sled."

Then Linda had a slide and when she came up the hill again, she let the boy have another turn. So they took turns the rest of the morning.

When Linda went home for lunch, her cheeks were just like two rosy red apples. Her eyes sparkled like stars and she told Mother all about the little boy who had no sled.

Mother said, "I am so glad that

my little girl was willing to share her fun with someone else."

Linda thought a moment and said, "That is what my teacher told us in Sunday school. She said we would be happier if we shared our things and did not keep everything to ourselves. Is that why I am so happy now, Mother?"

Mother smiled and answered, "I am very sure that is the reason. Now wash your hands. I see Daddy and brother coming, and I know you must be hungry after climbing up the hill so many times and being out in the cold air all morning."

Reprinted from Salvation Army's publication, *The Young Soldier*

### An Indian Calendar

The Indians who once roamed our great North America had months on their calendar, but they called them "moons." And, according to their habit, they gave the "moons" charming tribal names.

Here is a list of the "moons" in the calendar of the Sioux Indians, as they used them in speech and writing. The "moons" are not listed in the order of our months, although there is one to correspond to each of our months. How many can you identify? Make your list as correctly as you can and compare it with the correct answer.

1. The Moon of the Red Cherries.
2. The Moon When Ponies Shed
3. The Moon of the Snow Blind
4. The Moon of Making Fat
5. The Moon of Falling Leaves
6. The Moon of the Green Grass Appearing
7. The Moon When the Calves Grow Hair
8. The Moon When the Cherries Turn Black
9. The Moon When the Bark of the Trees Cracks
10. The Moon of the Changing Season
11. The Moon of the Dark Red Calves
12. The Moon of the Frost in the Tepee.

#### Answers:

1. July; 2. May; 3. March; 4. June; 5. November; 6. April; 7. September; 8. August; 9. December; 10. October; 11. February; 12. January.

### Ready to Obey

Dear Master, for this coming year  
Just one request I bring:

I do not pray for happiness,  
Or any earthly thing;

I do not ask to understand  
The way Thou leadest me,  
But this I ask: Teach me to do  
The thing that pleaseth Thee!

I want to know Thy guiding voice,  
To walk with Thee each day.  
Dear Master, make me swift to  
hear,

And ready to obey.  
And thus the year I now begin,  
A happy year will be  
If I shall always seek to do  
The thing that pleaseth Thee.



### Christmas Bundles at Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute

Winnipeg, Man. — "It is more blessed to give than to receive" is what our dear Saviour told us (Acts 20:35). We at the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute have found out how true this is. For the past few weeks we have been collecting clothes for some of the less fortunate families north of Winnipeg. Encouraged by Rev. J. J. Neufeld, speaker on the Low German Gospel Light Hour program, we have collected enough clothes for four of the families with whom he has had contact. Rev. Neufeld had to repack some of our bundles so that he could get them all into his car. There are still many more families that could be helped. "God loveth a cheerful giver." We have received a great blessing and joy in doing this. Now we take this opportunity to wish these families, and all others, a very blessed New Year.

Bonnie Guenther,  
Grade 7 student

### Brave Girl Donates Kidney to Ailing Sister

Over the Christmas season a brave 12-year-old Steinbach, Man., girl gave the greatest gift of all to her ailing twin sister—one of her healthy kidneys—during a transplant operation at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, Mass.

The way was cleared at a special session of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court for the girl to make the gift to her sick sister. Justice Arthur E. Whittemore heard the petition brought by Mrs. Agnes Nightingale of Steinbach, seeking a court decree enabling doctors at the hospital to perform a kidney transplant on her daughter.

Court approval was necessary for protection of the team of doctors who performed the operation on Lana and Johanna Nightingale. Johanna is the twin who suffered from a serious kidney ailment since the age of seven and spent months in Canadian hospitals. She had two bad kidneys and they both had to be removed to make way for the healthy one.

## Strait is the Gate

By MARJORIE BUCKINGHAM

(17th Installment)

Maxwell Brandon took a deep breath. "I dislike anything that savours of bargaining with God," he said solemnly, "but because I believe there is a principle involved here which will vitally affect the destiny of this church, in the Name of my Lord I accept the challenge."

Something the pastor's voice and bearing silenced his critics and set even his supporters thinking deeply. There was a moment's silence, and then the chairman rose to his feet.

"I think we are all agreed," he said in an obvious effort to be impartial, "that Pastor Brandon has faced us all with a challenge tonight, and while we may not be agreed as to means and methods, I think we should refrain from harsh criticism or hasty judgment at this stage. If the pastor can prove that his method is workable then I am sure he will have done this church a great service."

The chairman's remarks were greeted by a murmur of assent, and thus encouraged, he continued. "I feel sure that our differences will resolve themselves in time, brethren, because the outcome will show who is right, we or the pastor. And if the pastor is right, then we don't want to be found to have worked against him. I therefore suggest that in the meantime we refrain from obstructing Pastor Brandon in any way whatever in his ministry at this church, so that we shall not be held responsible if he fails, nor be accused of working against God if he succeeds."

The motion was carried unanimously, although Charles Norwood's vote was cast grudgingly and the expression on his face seemed to indicate that he had not surrendered his own personal right to criticize or condemn.

### CHAPTER XI

#### A SONG IN THE NIGHT

Life went on uneventfully at Southdown Grove as the lazy days of spring merged into the busier, more purposeful days of early summer. The compromise which the deacons had agreed upon seemed to have healed the breach in the church, at least temporarily, and the ladies took up the challenge of the five hundred dollars with overwhelming enthusiasm. Mrs. Norwood, for one, was so busy organizing "afternoons" which always incorporated some additional money-making device, that she had no time to maintain her usual vigilance over her daughter's activities. She scarcely seemed to notice that Trevor's visits to the house were becoming less frequent, and that more and more of Nancy's time

was being taken up with church meetings and activities; or if she did notice these things she seemed to be giving them very little serious thought. Thelma Norwood had one all-absorbing interest at the present time—an interest in which her husband shared to the full in spirit, if not in person—the raising of the set sum of money before Pastor Brandon could produce a similar amount just by "sitting with his hands folded and offering up pious prayers," as she expressed his attitude.

"It's a very easy way out of things just to say, 'leave it to the Lord,'" Charles was prone to meditate. "But Mr. Brandon will have to learn that God helps those who help themselves."

"Anyway, doesn't it say in the Bible that 'faith without works is dead'?"

Time and again Mrs. Norwood threw out this challenge hoping to draw her daughter into the discussion, but, praying for needed grace, Nancy steered clear of the storm centre, refusing to be drawn into any argument on the subject which, unknown to her mother, was really a burden on her heart.

Mr. Brandon himself had never mentioned the matter to the church, but Nancy, not a little embarrassed by her parents' uncompromising attitude, had taken the opportunity to discuss it with him privately and to assure him that her prayers would join with his and those of his family for evidence of the direct provision of God in this way. And she appreciated his understanding and tolerance.

"We know exactly where you stand, Nancy," he assured her, "so you needn't worry about that, and we feel certain that your parents will see things in their true perspective before very long."

"That's very generous of you, Mr. Brandon," faltered the girl, "because mother is really working very hard to prove that you're wrong."

Maxwell Brandon smiled serenely. "But I know that I'm right, you see. I can say with the apostle Paul, 'I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able...'"

"Mr. Brandon," she cried eagerly, "why don't you ask the whole church to pray, call a special prayer meeting, or something like that!"

But the pastor shook his head. "We don't feel we should do that, Nancy, for two reasons," he explained. "Firstly, it would make a division in the church, because a good many people think the same way as your folks do. And secondly, we feel that it is really more a personal matter than a matter for the church."

"How do you mean, Mr. Brandon?"

"Well, we look at it this way. The repairs to the manse may be very desirable to us as a family, but they aren't really essential to the work of the extension of the kingdom of God in this district. So we have decided to make it just a matter for family prayer, realizing that the Lord knows our needs and will not withhold any good thing from us."

Nancy listened thoughtfully and then conceded, "I dare say you are right, Mr. Brandon."

"We think we are," he reiterated confidently. "We feel it is better just to keep on praying and not to discuss the matter with any of the church members. Of course, I have discussed it with you, but we have come to regard you almost as one of the family!"

Which was quite true, for the friendship between Nancy Norwood and Pauline Brandon had developed apace and Nancy had become a frequent and welcome visitor to the manse.

The two girls had much in common and their affection for one another was quite mutual. Nancy's slight superiority in years was offset by Pauline's spiritual maturity and a strong bond was soon forged between them. They found pleasure in each other's company, talking together of their Christian experience, and their hopes and aspirations as well as their disappointments. The fact that Nancy's parents refused to share in the deeper experience of her fuller surrender to Christ drew her even closer to Pauline and her family, and the homely Christian atmosphere of the manse was a great source of strength and comfort to her. Not that she loved her own home any the less; but her association with the Brandon family led her to pray for her own dear ones with greater fervour and sincerity.

Nancy and Pauline spent some very happy hours together. Pauline loved to hear Nancy sing, and she soon became her friend's unofficial accompanist. They practised often together, and in this way Nancy added many lovely hymns to her collection of solo pieces. Pauline usually chose the hymns, many of which were new to Nancy. The words themselves were an inspiration, and as she sang them over, Nancy experienced a deep inward satisfaction that nothing else she sang ever gave her. She had been learning singing for several years and always set aside a regular time for practice each day, but the time spent with Pauline at the piano was different. In the singing of the hymns she was able to express something of the joy of her own experience in Christ, and it was this that gave a new rich quality to her voice. Nancy was quite unconscious of it herself. All she knew was that when she sang these sacred songs



her heart was singing, too, and the things of which she sang became more real to her than the things she could actually touch and see. But those who heard her sing said that her very soul was in her voice, and they listened enthralled to the old familiar tunes which seemed sweeter and more full of meaning as she sang them. Sometimes an entirely new piece would break upon them, something that Nancy herself had composed to fit in with some tune that Pauline had played to her, and which expressed her own personal experience of Christ better than anybody else's words ever could. These were pieces she sang best of all, they said, and certainly they gave Nancy and her friend the greatest joy.

They had their church work in common, too. Nancy's weekend visits to Granny Weston's cottage soon became a regular institution, and Pauline insisted on joining her friend in a project so dear to her own heart, for anything in the way of practical Christian service had a great appeal for Pauline Brandon. So with her mother's ready cooperation, Pauline replanned her Saturday family chores to make the necessary time available, and every Saturday afternoon the two girls went together to the cottage by the sea—not just to pay a formal visit, but to give all the help they could to the little lady whom they had come to regard as a real friend.

They came laden with small gifts which they had gathered from sympathetic friends—jars of jam and jellies, eggs, sweets, fruit and many other items by means of which they managed to keep her cupboards well stocked. They brought books and papers, too, from time to time, and always a lovely bunch of fresh flowers which Nancy arranged so tastefully in the old vases that the room was transformed by their fragrance and beauty. Indeed, the whole house was transformed by their visit, for they swept and tidied the little cottage through from front to back, gave the old lady her tea on an attractively set tray, washed the dishes and set everything in order again before they left. And, of course, Nancy always sang some hymns for the old lady—a treat which probably meant as much, or even more, to Granny Weston than all the practical help they gave her, for her joy at listening to the girl's voice was lovely to see.

(To be continued)



## Medical Work at Thailand



Prae, Thailand. Pictured is the local Christian church of over 500 members. Thailand is predominantly Buddhist, having more Buddhist temples than there are Christians. An MCC doctor assists at the Christian hospital located in Prae, a city of 50,000 people. Photo by James Steiner



Prae, Thailand. Shown is the tuberculosis ward of the 35-bed Prae Christian Hospital operated by the Thailand Church of Christ (Presbyterian). An MCC doctor, Dr. James Steiner, is serving here. Photo by J. Steiner

(This article is based on reports from Dr. James Steiner of Prae Christian Hospital.)

In Prae, a town of 50,000 people in the north central part of Thailand, an MCC physician, James Steiner, M.D., of Sterling, Ohio, began medical service in January, 1960. Prae is in a fertile valley surrounded by mountains and is primarily an agricultural society. The Prae Christian Hospital offers services to a population of 300,000.

The Prae Mission Station was opened in 1893 by "the pioneer of North Siam," the Rev. Daniel McGilvary, a Presbyterian missionary of whom it is said that "neither Carey nor Judson surpassed him in strength of faith and zeal of purpose." Today there are nine organized Churches of Christ in Thailand in the Prae area, with 1500 communicant members. The medical work began in 1895 and from a small beginning has expanded into a large and respected institution. The hospital is located on the edge

of town with houses for workers and a Christian school for 960 pupils also on the compound. Not directly on the compound but very near is the local church with over 500 members. Dr. Steiner as the licensed head and director of the Prae Hospital is directly responsible to the Medical Committee of the Church of Christ in Thailand.

The Prae Christian Hospital is entirely self-supporting. The cost of maintenance, repairs, equipment, expansion and operation during the past 10 years has been met entirely from local donations and hospital receipts.

From receipts and from the gifts of Thai well-wishers and supporters in the community, the hospital recently constructed a new re-enforced concrete administrative and surgical unit including outpatient department, pharmacy and laboratory. At present a new building containing six private rooms is being constructed. The rest of the 35-bed unit is located in Thai-type wooden

buildings. In 1958 the hospital cared for 5400 outpatients and 1560 inpatients.

The reason for MCC's sending a doctor to Prae is that the hospital faced immediate closing unless a doctor with a first class license took over the leadership. The government is in the process of up-grading its medical laws and now requires that the certified head and director of all hospitals hold a first-class medical license. Dr. Steiner has recently passed examinations entitling him to a Thai medical license.

Unfortunately the Thai Christian doctor who labored at Prae for many years did not have formal training and therefore holds only a second class doctor's certificate. This doctor has built up the hospital's reputation in the community and has carried the load except when there has been an American doctor, which has been less than half the time.

MCC has been requested to supply a doctor until July, 1963. At that time the son of the Thai Christian doctor, now studying medicine in the U.S., will return to Prae to

assume responsibility for the hospital.

## News Briefs

Ten European countries will be on the itinerary of next summer's Menno Travel Service European tour. Countries to be visited are: Portugal, France, Holland, Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Belgium and England. The tour will leave Montreal on Friday, July 14, via Canadian Pacific Airlines for Lisbon, Portugal, and will return on the Empress of Britain scheduled to leave Liverpool on Tuesday, August 22, and to arrive in Montreal on Tuesday, August 29. For further information contact your regional Menno Travel Service office.

A radio station in Saigon, Vietnam, has agreed to broadcast the Mennonite Hour program, "The Way to Life," on one Sunday evening a month. Appreciation for the work of Mennonites through MCC and the Eastern Mennonite Mission Board was a factor in the granting of the request.

## "But I Have Prayed for Thee"

The denial of Peter was predicted by Jesus in the words: "Simon, Simon, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat" (Luke 22:31). We cannot help but draw a parallel between Peter and our Congolese pastors as they face temptations greater than any they have faced before.

These are strategic days in the Congo. Communism's greedy hand is stretched toward the Congo, grasping for the souls of men. Our mission area is controlled by a political party which is strongly communistic. Everyone belongs to it. It is the patriotic thing to do. These people, so fresh from heathendom and colonialism, are very gullible. They believe anything their leaders tell them. Even the missionary must be tactful in discussing and warning against the insidious doctrines of Communism. It is so easy for them to brush it off with, "Oh, you just don't want us to be independent!"

The old enemies still remain—paganism, heathen superstitions and tribal disagreements. These all have a strong hold on the hearts of those who were reared in heathen homes.

There are many temptations which we ourselves face each day, one is pride, which, we are told, comes before a fall. Ownership of a bicycle, a radio, even dark glasses and long trousers can inflate a person and give him hitherto unknown prestige. We know of a pastor at a neighboring mission who has assumed ownership of the missionary's car, hired a chauffeur and visits his parishioners in great style.

How he finances the project is difficult to answer.

Then there are new religions entering Congo for the first time. The Belgian government did not permit Jehovah's Witnesses to operate here previously. Now they are here with their literature and "another gospel."

Kibanguism is a cult which employs the symbols of both Christianity and paganism. It holds that Simon Kibangu is the saviour of the Congolese.

Before the national crisis the native pastors always had the missionary to depend on for counsel and advice. Suddenly they had to solve all the problems themselves. We are thankful that they have the New Testament, but they have no textbooks from which to gather sermon material and encouragement for their spiritual lives.

Tremendous odds! As we look at the many temptations and difficulties we partly understand their predicament. However, our precious Lord did not leave Peter with only a warning. He said: "But I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not." Our part, dear friends, is to intercede for these our brethren, that their faith will not fail neither in the darkest hours nor in the mundane everyday life.

He said not:  
"Thou shalt not be tempested,  
Thou shalt not be travailed,  
Thou shalt not be afflicted."

But He said:  
"Thou shalt not be overcome!"

Bob and Wanda Kroeker

# NEWS from HERE and THERE

## Editor of Eternity Magazine Dies

Having submitted to brain surgery after a trip to Central America in early October, Dr. Donald Grey Barnhouse, editor of the widely read Eternity Magazine, died on November 4 at the age of 65. A theological conservative, Dr. Barnhouse was much respected for his fairness and objectivity in dealing with present-day religious issues.

## Gideons' Request Rejected

A request by Gideons for permission to distribute New Testaments in the city schools was turned down by the school board of New Castle, Pa., on grounds that it violates the U.S. Constitution. The board based its decision on an opinion of the Department of Justice. The Gideons, in turn, pointed out that frequently other materials are freely distributed, some of which are definitely detrimental.

## Albert Schweitzer's Birthday

Eighty-six tons of supplies—a ton for each year of his life—will be donated to Dr. Albert Schweitzer by American businessmen on his 86th birthday, January 14. Schweitzer, Alsatian-born doctor, philosopher and musician, has become internationally famous through his humanitarian work at Lambarene

Hospital in French Equatorial Africa.

## Conscientious Objectors in Germany

Conscientious objectors are receiving sympathetic consideration in Germany under the new CO provisions. Thus far 8,399 registrants have requested consideration for alternate civilian service.

## Opera Star's Passing

Apple Valley, Calif. — Famed baritone John Charles Thomas, star of opera, concerts and radio during his 45-year career, died recently of cancer at his home. He was 68. He had been ill for months and in a coma for days. He underwent surgery, described at the time as minor, at the UCLA medical center March 18, 1959. Death was attributed to intestinal cancer.

## 4 Million Jobless

Washington — Unemployment in the United States topped 4,000,000 in November—the highest idle figure for the month since depression days of the 30's. The number at work was also a record. The government reported that job changes between October and November were mainly seasonal except for a further decline of 150,000 in factory employment.

next day I resumed my watch from the bridge. The docks were becoming even blacker with people. Then a message was relayed to us by a blinker signal light. It came from the naval vessel commanding our sea forces in the area and ordered me to proceed toward the dock. Close to shore, Army officers boarded us and one asked, "Can you help us evacuate the civilians?"

"Of course," I replied. "How many could you take?" he inquired. "I don't know," I answered. "Maybe a couple of thousand, if we're lucky."

Now night had fallen. Shells from our own warships in back of us screamed over our heads. We could tell that the enemy had found the range of the port. Despite the obvious risk, all our lights were switched on while we prepared to load.

## In Double Danger

We were sitting ducks, perfectly outlined in the glare, yet no enemy shell struck even close. One of our own heavy guns could easily have lobbed a shell into the crush of people by mistake. Yet none did. The incredibly difficult job of loading the frightened refugees began. All dock space was taken, so we had to make fast to a Liberty Ship moored there. Hastily, our crewmen built a ramp to the Liberty, then began herding the refugees across its deck, over the rail on the opposite side and onto the Meredith Victory.

Both ships rocked crazily from the concussion of our own shells. Yet the refugees were going aboard safely. I saw terror on their faces as they kept their young ones close. Meekly they heeded our cries of "bali, bali!" Korean for "hurry, hurry!" One of the few words we knew in the language.

Where did we put them? We crammed them into every bit of available space. In some parts of the ship, there are three tiers of cargo holds. Into these we jammed humanity. We put batches into the bottommost holds by herding them onto makeshift wooden platforms and lowering them by means of winches. Then we partially sealed the holds, leaving only some air spaces. Atop the lowest holds, in the 'tween-decks cargo areas, we stacked more and more people.

There were families with eight and ten children, and we took them all. There was a man with a violin, a woman with a sewing machine, a young girl with triplets. There were 17 wounded, some stretcher cases, many who were aged, hundreds of babies. They streamed aboard. At any moment, I expected the cry: "That's all." But it never came during all that night. "It's crazy," said the second officer along about dawn. "It's like that crazy joke the clowns play in the circus, where a dozen giants get into one tiny car." Somehow, somewhere, 8,000 tons of steel were stretching to make room for all who were coming.

Finally, as the sun rode high the next morning, we had 14,000 human beings jammed aboard! It was impossible—and yet they were there. There couldn't be that much room—yet there was.

(Continued in next issue)

## Reunited after 19 Years

(Continued from page 1-4)

learned of Mr. Rempel's intended arrival on Tuesday, Dec. 21. Everyone of the family was greatly excited and everyone was also at the airport to greet him.

With tears of joy in her eyes, Mrs. Rempel said that it was impossible for her to describe her feelings at the sight of her husband. "It is overwhelming. It is impossible to believe this happiness," she said.

Mr. Rempel made an encouraging statement. He said, "The Russians seem to be relaxing the restrictions on emigration." He thought that others would be allowed to leave Russia, if they had close relatives to go to.

Having arrived in Winnipeg, Mr. Rempel had so much to see, he "could not grasp everything at once," said his wife. On Friday, Dec. 23, he was getting a brand new wardrobe in one of the stores here.

# I Witnessed a Christmas Miracle

By Leonard P. LaRue

(14,000 frightened men, women and children huddled on the Korean coast. There was no place to flee. But—it was the season of miracles. Here, from one of the most unusual heroes of any war, is the story.

The great Hungnam rescue of December, 1950, passed virtually unnoticed in the midst of the Chinese Communist offensive that dark winter of the Korean War. Since then, the feat of Captain Leonard P. La Rue and his merchant mariners has become partly known—but the full story of their incredible voyage has never before been told. Today, we are proud to present the man who was formerly called Captain Leonard P. La Rue, U.S. Merchant Marine. We believe you will agree that no more fitting story than his could be told at this Christmas season.)

I will always remember with awe and reverence the fantastic voyage we made ten years ago Christmas, on the other side of the world.

I believe God sailed with us those three days. I believe this because by all the laws of logic the loss of life could have been enormous. Yet not a soul perished. Time after time, dangers that threatened to explode into disaster were mirac-

ulously averted. Perhaps you too will find a deepened inspiration in the events of three remarkable days in the bleak winter of 1950 . . .

It was shortly before Christmas and, under a slate-gray sky, the Chinese Communists' big guns were bombarding the port city of Hungnam on the northeast coast of Korea.

My ship, the S.S. Meredith Victory, was riding at anchor a few miles offshore. She was a merchant vessel, under charter to the Military Sea Transportation Service to supply our meager forces in the area. From the bridge, I trained my binoculars on the shore and saw a pitiable scene.

South Korean refugees thronged the docks. With them was everything they could wheel, carry or drag. Beside them, like frightened chicks, were their children. As far as my glasses could sweep, the dock area was dark with masses of humanity, all caught in a giant vise. Behind them were the Communist Chinese who would kill or enslave them; before them was the vast open sea.

Sleep was impossible that night under the constant shelling, and all



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## Brooklands Sunday School

(Continued from page 1-3)

need Christ, and to present Him is our primary aim.

There are no Protestant churches in the village of Brooklands. In fact, there is only one church in the whole village and that one is Roman Catholic. Brooklands then is a needy field, "white unto harvest." Various groups have had Sunday school or adult services in different parts of Brooklands, but for one reason or another have failed to maintain them. The Lord has given us grace to gain the confidence of many of the parents and children. Many of the parents are anxious to see the work continue there. Many bring their children by car. None of the children are picked up by our workers. All come on their own. The children are open to God's Word. Many have accepted Christ as their personal Saviour in Sunday school, camp, or DVBS. These young Christians present a challenge to the teachers, who are largely responsible for their growth in faith in Christ.

We have eight classes in four departments from Beginners to Intermediates. The teachers are recruited mostly from the teachers' training class of the South End M. B. Church. We have been blessed with faithful workers, many of whom have been with us since the work was begun in November, 1957.

The conditions at Woodsworth School are far from ideal. Two rooms for eight classes presents a problem. However, in this also the Lord has been with us in that additional space has been offered by the Brooklands School Board. The new Brooklands Collegiate has been placed at our disposal with the request that we start services there as soon as possible. The chairman of the Board actually requested an early start because of the need of churches in the area. The Lord willing, we are looking forward to establishing Sunday school and church services in the heart of Brooklands early in the New Year. We are especially thankful for this open door, because it will also help to ease the overcrowded conditions at the Woodsworth School.

This work, then, presents us with a greater challenge today than ever before. It is the urgent prayer of

# YOUTH IN ACTION

all concerned that our service here will go forward and will be worthy of His grace.

Bert Huebner and Len Schroeder

## DVBS in Brooklands, a Suburb of Winnipeg

"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).

This verse has been our standing motto for DVBS during the past three years that we have had the privilege of instructing the girls and boys at Brooklands. Each year we have seen God work in the hearts of the children. Each year we have seen the enthusiasm grow and the blessings enjoyed more abundantly.

This work is being sponsored by the young people of the South End M. B. Church. It is a practical application of God's command to spread the gospel. It is indeed encouraging to see the enthusiasm with which the teachers work during the two weeks. For some it means postponing supper until about 10 p.m. and sacrificing some well deserved sleep, but they have the deep satisfaction of knowing that they are obeying God's command.

The circumstances under which we work are by no means ideal. On the contrary, they are awkward and impractical. One room is divided into two by a curtain and each section has a class of 30 to 40 girls and boys sitting two on a seat. With a class of Juniors on one side of the curtain and a class of Primaries on the other side, we often wonder how it is possible to teach. Although it may appear as if the boys are not paying any attention and that it is a waste of time, the power of God's Word is at work. One by one the girls and boys come to their teacher and ask the all-important question, "What must I do to be saved?" It is then that the teacher can show the pupil the simple steps of salvation. And what a joy it is to see the face of the pupil as well as

that of the teacher after they have had a little talk with God. It is quite obvious that God has been victorious once again.

It is encouraging to hear a little girl say, "My, but it was easy and simple to accept Christ." It reminds us of Matt. 18:3: "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." It is this great truth that encourages us again and again to work, and to work hard, to win the child for Christ, for we may never have another opportunity.

Although the blessings far exceed the difficulties, it is often quite discouraging, especially for the teachers of the pre-school children. In a class of some 30 pre-school children things do not always work as planned. Although disciplinary problems are not too great, the odd little one does tax the patience of the teacher. One day all the pages of a workbook were glued together, on another a little girl's dress was torn in half by a restless boy. But it is good to know that God's grace is sufficient even at such times.

Each summer, as DVBS draws to a close, the teachers join their hearts and voices in special thanksgiving and praise to God for His unfailing guidance and help. This year we look back on a summer that exceeded all expectations. The enrollment stood at 156 with an average daily attendance of 94 and 9 recorded decisions. In deep humility we say, "Glory to God." We would like to exhort you to join us in this great work by remembering us in your prayers. The Lord has blessed and will bless if we continue to work according to His will.

Alfred Schellenberg

## My Experiences at Brooklands Sunday School

Mission Sunday school work brings with it both problems and blessings. My association with the primary boys at Brooklands has definitely enriched my spiritual life. Even unpleasant incidents have "worked together for good" (Rom. 8:28). The sometimes discouraging attendance, the ever-present discipline problem, and above all, my own attitude toward the work and students, demand constant attention. It is my conviction that in Sunday school the teacher learns as much, if not more, than his pupil. Truths from God's Word have become alive and have often taken on a new meaning for me. It is a thrill to observe how God works in a Sunday school such as ours. The fellowship with these children in and out of the classroom is a wonderful experience.

"The greatest need in our church work today is trained teachers who will put their whole mind into their preparation, their whole soul into their presentation, and their whole life into their illustration" (Marion Laurence). May I be willing to become such a teacher and thus help to fill this need.

Hart Schroeder

## Survey Reveals No S.S. in Many Areas

A recent survey made of school districts in the Metro Winnipeg area revealed that only a few districts would allow Sunday schools to be conducted in their schools. In some areas there are no churches to serve the people.

East St. Paul and Brooklands school districts have allowed Sunday school to be held in their schools. Grant Memorial Church has sponsored a Sunday school at East St. Paul since 1953, and South End M. B. Church has conducted Sunday school at the Woodsworth School since late 1957.

According to a school official, there are several churches in the Charleswood area, some having a Sunday school.

Fort Whyte School District has had no Sunday school for years, according to the school principal. The closest church is in Fort Garry proper.

West St. Paul has no Sunday school, although many of its schools are located in outlying areas where there are no churches.

St. Charles reports that there is a Protestant church in the area and Sunday school is being held there. However, it is a large community and not all the people belong to or attend this church.

There are spiritually neglected school districts in Winnipeg with closed doors for the gospel. Let us pray that they might be opened. However, there are also areas which are open to the Word of God. Let us redeem the time and do our utmost in order to reach those who are receptive to the message of salvation.

A Brooklands S.S. Worker

## Brooklands S.S. Program

The Sunday school at Brooklands presented its Christmas concert on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18. About 60 students took part in the program and about 50 parents and visitors attended. Addressing the parents, Rev. J. P. Neufeld compared the children's singing and telling of Christ's birth to that first holy night when the angels spread the wondrous story.

The use of the new Collegiate Auditorium was granted by the Brooklands School Board, even for regular Sunday school classes. We hope that the surrounding district will be canvassed and classes begun there early in the new year.

Mrs. Vanita Schmidt



Mission Sunday School at Brooklands, a suburb of the city of Winnipeg. Sunday school teachers and pupils gather here every Sunday to study the Scriptures.

# EDUCATION

## SCHOOLS and COLLEGES

### M. B. Bible College

#### Instructors Serve at Weekend Conferences

On Saturday, December 10, Rev. David Ewert served as speaker at the North Kildonan Mission rally. On the following Sunday morning he delivered the missionary challenge at the Elmwood Mennonite Brethren church at the commissioning service for Sister Anne Wiebe, R.N., newly appointed missionary to South America. Miss Wiebe is a B.R.E. graduate ('56) of the College.

President Toews served as evangelist at the Crystal City Mennonite church. The pastor of the church is Rev. Peter Harms. Dean Henry R. Baerg visited an Evangelical Mennonite congregation at Riverton, Man., while Rev. J. J. Toews conducted a weekend Bible study in the Newton Siding Mennonite Brethren church. Rev. Cornelius Wall preached at the Bethel Mennonite church in Winnipeg.

#### Student Accepts Call to Pastorate

Mr. David Froese of Greendale, B.C., has accepted a call to the County Line Mennonite Brethren Church. He will complete his work for the B.Th. degree after the fall semester and hopes to graduate in spring. Mr. and Mrs. Froese intend to begin their new work in March. Mr. Froese is a member of the Greendale M. B. Church and is a graduate of the Yarrow Bible School. Mrs. Froese is the former Linda Siemens of Main Centre, Sask., and graduated with the B.R.E. in the spring of 1960. The County Line Church was formerly a mission station of the West Coast Children's Mission of British Columbia.

#### Carol Program Attracts Large Audience

A capacity crowd quickly filled the College auditorium to hear the presentation of Christmas carols by the thirty-seven members of the A Cappella Choir under the direction of Victor Martens. The invocation was made by Dean H. R. Baerg. This year's carol program featured many special numbers by quartets and octets. Carols from various countries were sung in German, English and Latin.

Appropriate scripture readings accompanied the singing and were presented by David Epp and Kenneth Neufeld. Rev. Cornelius Wall offered the benedictory prayer.

Radio station CFAM will broadcast the service on December 24, between 6 and 8 p.m.

#### Japanese Leader Visits College

Rev. Kyoichi Kitano, moderator of the Japanese Mennonite Breth-

ren Conference and Dean of the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute in Japan visited the College on December 12. Accompanying Rev. Kitano was the Executive Secretary of the Mission Board, Rev. J. B. Toews. Rev. Kitano presented two lectures to the faculty and students of the College. In his first lecture he sketched the history of missionary activity in Japan from 1549 to the present century. Stressing the problems faced by modern day missionaries, he pointed out that "the knowledge and thought life of the Japanese person has been completely built upon secular and worldly education with no Biblical truth as a foundation." He also made reference to pagan and traditional ways of family life which make it difficult for young Christians to remain firm in their faith. The speaker paid tribute to the sacrificial efforts of the American missionaries labouring under the Mennonite Brethren Board of Missions when he said, "How thankful we are for the toilsome work of our missionaries in the Mennonite Brethren Church in Japan."

In introducing the speaker, Rev. J. B. Toews made mention of the high level of culture and education in Japan. "Most of our people at home have not fully grasped the significance of this," said Mr. Toews. The average standard of living and education is said to be equal to the highest in the advanced countries of the West.

Rev. J. B. Toews then addressed the student body concerning the changes in missionary strategy necessitated by the sociological, cultural and political changes in the field. He referred to the rapid urbanization which has come to most eastern countries, a 400% increase in some countries as compared to the 250% increase in America. "We must go to the larger centers and work from there," the speaker said. He used Cali, Colombia, as an example, where a lot has been purchased in the heart of that great metropolis. Already the results are most encouraging.

In his second address, Rev. Kitano outlined the future work of the missionaries for our church in Japan. Four special areas of ministry are open to missionaries from America: tent evangelism, Bible school teaching, publication work, and special preaching in the churches.

Concluding the special sessions, Rev. J. B. Toews referred to the special demands placed upon mission workers of the future. With reference to the qualifications of workers, Mr. Toews said, "the flannelgraph level of ministry is over, the future demands men of a high

level of training." Special areas of service which must be exploited are the radio ministry and publications. Both areas require professional excellence of the workers.

### Activities in Sharon Collegiate

Yarrow, B.C. — The Sharon Mennonite Collegiate this year has a student body of 97 and a teaching staff of 6. The first highlight of this year was the opening program held in the Yarrow M. B. church. The two school choirs and a string ensemble took part in the program. Rev. Bernard Epp of Chilliwack challenged us with a message on discipleship, his theme being, "Therefore Stand."

An evening of fellowship was held by the teachers of the Mennonite Educational Institute and Sharon. Approximately forty people were gathered at Sharon for volleyball games and good chicken dinner. The main feature of the evening was an excellent discussion by Dr. John Ross of the University of B.C. The theme, "A Christian Educator's View of God's Universe," was very pertinent to problems of our educated youth.

Next came Christmas exams. The Annual Sharon Christmas Carol Festival took place on Dec. 19. The school's Christmas banquet was held on the Wednesday before Christmas. In the New Year, school begins on January 5, 1961, and students and teachers alike are looking unto the Lord for guidance.

Carol Friesen

### Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Elkhart, Ind. — A sum of \$200 is being made available by the Board of Christian Service of the General Conference to be used by seminary students in a special race relations study tour. A committee consisting of Dean S. F. Pannabecker, Leland Harder, C. J. Dyck, and Loris Habegger has been set up to plan the details of the tour.

### Moved With Compassion

(Continued from page 4-4)

blessed this ministry for the salvation of souls and the strengthening of the churches.

The past triennium has also seen the development of a greater conference consciousness among our churches in South America. For some time the conference has been more of a spiritual fellowship than an organization for service. The need for conference ministries has been recognized, and at the South American Conference earlier this year, committees were elected to serve the following conference interests: Reference and Counsel, Education, Home Missions, Youth

Work, Constitution, Music, Sunday School and Trustees.

Because of geographic distances the South American Conference decided it would be well for the churches in the separate countries to organize into conferences to facilitate their working together. During the past year the churches in Brazil and Paraguay have organized as separate conferences. Uruguay had its churches organized for some time.

During the past three years a considerable number of new converts have been baptized and added to the membership of the churches. Immigration to Canada of some of the members and several ministers has affected the churches.

At present there are nine churches and fellowships in Brazil with a total membership of 914; five churches in Paraguay with 1,200 members, and five groups of Mennonite Brethren in Uruguay totaling 103 members. The total membership of our churches in South America is 2,019.

We dare not relinquish our responsibility to stand by our South American brotherhood. It is true that the brethren in the south are beginning to develop more of the leaders they need. A strong Mennonite Brethren Church in South America is a strategic and urgent need of the hour. So we want to stand by, giving such help as is needed and requested by them.

At present two or three ministers and teachers are needed in South America. Two colonies are asking for two doctors and a nurse. Replacements will be needed for two North American worker families who will return in 1961-1962.

Through MCC we continue to provide assistance and services in South America which are common to all the Mennonites in Paraguay, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Bolivia. These services are concerned with the long-term rehabilitation needs of some 16,000 Mennonite immigrants who have settled in South America during the past 30 years. South American Mennonites are making progress in economic development and church outreach, but they still face many problems.

Work on the Trans-Chaco highway from Asuncion to Filadelfia is steadily progressing. Some 70 miles of the proposed 290-mile road are completed. With the financial help of the Schowalter Foundation, the experimental farm near Fernheim colony is taking on more meaning. Under the direction of an MCC doctor at Kilometer 81, the leprosy mission brings medicine and love to more than 500 patients. The Paraguayan Mennonite congregations have taken steps to jointly sponsor the spiritual phase of the outreach. In Buenos Aires, Argentina, Montevideo, Uruguay, and Sao Paulo, Brazil, centers are maintained to aid the colonists living in or visiting these cities.

### Toronto Mennonite Students' Invitation

The Toronto Association of Mennonite University Students extends an invitation to all high school students and older young people who may be interested in higher education, to visit the campus of the University of Toronto on Saturday, January 28, 1961. University buildings will be toured, a banquet will be held in the evening, and throughout the day the chief concern will be to answer questions concerning college courses and professional opportunities. For further information contact your local pastor, leader of your Young People's group, or write to Frances Klassen, 94 Crescent Rd., Toronto 5.

A few weeks ago our AMUS group was privileged to have Dr. J.

Burkholder tell us of his experiences in the medical and mission field of Ethiopia. Slides illustrating some of the conditions under which the people live were also shown.

F. Klassen

### William Reimer †

Mr. William Reimer, 30, of 997 St. Mary's Road, died recently in St. Boniface Hospital. Born in Gretna, Man., he had lived in Manitoba all his life. Surviving are his wife, Jean; one daughter, Bonnie; his mother, Mrs. Mary Reimer; five brothers, A. W., John W., D. W., Jacob W. and Henry Reimer, and two sisters, Mrs. Otto Loewen and Mrs. W. T. Heinrichs. Funeral service was held in Bethel Mennonite church, Rev. Ernest Wiebe officiating.

### German Program at Bethel College

Newton, Kans. — The faculty and students of the Bethel College Department of German presented a program of German Christmas music, readings, and a play at the Bethel College Mennonite church on Friday evening, December 9.

Some of the well-loved German carols were sung by the students. The cast of the play was made up of students from Germany, Paraguay, Canada, and USA. Helen Loewen of Gretna, Man., and Louise Dick of Leamington, Ont., directed the play entitled "Heut schließt er wieder auf die Tür."

Reinhild Kauenhoven and Ursula Schumacher, two students from Germany, played a flute duet.

Following the program, the audience was invited to some refreshments.

### ON THE HORIZON

February 6-17, 1961. — Annual Ministers' Course, Mennonite Brethren Bible College.

March 3-5, 1961. — Annual Bible and Missionary Conference, Mennonite Brethren Bible College.

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