

Mennonite Observer

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"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

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Ockenga Sees Big Role for Africa in Communist - Free World Struggle

"Africa is synonymous with explosive possibilities and leaders who are extremists," Dr. Harold J. Ockenga, minister of Boston's historic Park Street Church, declared upon his return from a 22,000-mile trip surveying the work of the 32 missionaries in 14 African countries supported by his church. He said

Missionaries of Merged KMB-MB Conference

Missionaries who formerly served under the KMB Conference are herewith presented to members of the MB Conference so they may become acquainted with and intercede for the new workers of their missionary staff.



Linda Kasper, Hillsboro, Kansas, serving in Nigeria (Sudan Interior Mission)



Ina King, Zoar, Inman, Kansas, serving as a teacher in Ethiopia (Sudan Interior Mission)

that the United States must wisely avoid supporting these elements while helping Africa make the transition into the modern world. Speaking on "Africa Tomorrow," Dr. Ockenga told an overflow audience that we may expect greater changes to take place in Africa in the next decade than on any other continent. He believes that following independence, there will be a rash of one-party governments with the possibility of dictators controlling these individual nations. He also said he thinks that the African nations, as such, are going to combine in a boycott of South Africa to compel them to abandon their policy of apartheid. "The government of South Africa will never fall due to weakness from within nor from the revolt of Africans from within, but it may succumb to pressures from without. It should be understood that the term "African" as used in Africa refers to the black race; the white race is termed "European." Therefore, G. Mennen Williams' statement, "Africa for Africans," on his recent African tour was interpreted that Africa should be for the black man.

Dr. Ockenga also believes that Africa will be the arena of struggle between the communist world and the Free World. "Red China is active in Guinea and similar activity is feared by the Portuguese in Angola if that country gets its freedom. In Ethiopia, Emperor Haile Selassie was forced to close out Czechoslovakian subversive activity. The new leaders of Africa are willing to accept help from any source they can get and are not aware of the imperialistic designs

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Whetting the Literary Appetite

By Gertrude Huebert

The Christian Writers' Conference, conducted April 6-8 at the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, was attended by eight Canadians, three of them Mennonites. The conference included workshops on writing for publication sponsored by Christian Writers' Institute, a division of Christian Life magazine, and gave us an opportunity to become ac-

quainted with some of the giants in the sphere of Christian writing, which was an inspiring experience.

Approximately 170 writers, publishers and editors sat spellbound with pencils poised as the first speaker stepped on the platform. Mr. William F. McDermott, a veteran free lance writer for Reader's

Digest, Coronet, McCall's and other magazines, inspired us to do better work in the field of Christian writing. Aunt Theresa, as she is called by many who know her, is a children's radio personality and author of children's books. Miss Theresa Worman claims we must reduce the
(Continued on page 12-1)

The Ways of the Lord in Austria's Oldest City



Enns, Austria . . . the city where the Lord proved His ways

(By Mrs. Cornelius Balzer, Winnipeg, Man., worker in Europe under the Mennonite Brethren Church Board of Missions)

It was the war of 1914-1918. Many lives had been lost, many loved ones had been separated, many a young man had been taken prisoner. So it was that a young Austrian soldier, Anton, came as a prisoner of war to a Mennonite family in Russia. He spent several years on the "Bauernhof" (farm) there, attended Sunday services with the family and was treated very well. The

years came and went. Anton returned to Austria and his Mennonite friends emigrated to Canada.

Before the many heartaches could be healed, a second more terrible horror came upon the peoples all over Europe. They were scattered outwardly and shattered inwardly. Anton was not mobilized, for he was growing older. But his life was rather meaningless. The religious faith that he had, or rather didn't have, gave him nothing. Comparing it with

(Continued on page 11-3)

EDITORIAL

Man's Enduring Influence

There is an ever-increasing number of people born into this world every year and according to statistics there are more than 75 persons dying every minute of each year. The latter part of the statement raises the question whether the world is done with man after his earthly life has come to a close. The English poet John Keats (1795-1821) left the inscription for his tomb, "Here lies one whose name was writ in water." While it is true that man's name might be forgotten, his character and influence are impressed deeply on those who continue on life's way. A glance around us gives sufficient evidence that the past generations are living today. They erected many of our churches, built cities, wrote outstanding books, introduced laws and systems of government and did many other things. We have built on what they have established and our posterity is to reap what we have sown.

A ruler who introduces vicious laws continues to live in them after death and curses successive generations. The one who invents, advocates or submits to fashions which stimulate sensuality and sinful lusts of the flesh corrupts multitudes even after his earthly life has terminated. Authors of base books survive in the pages they have written like a pestilence to which countless souls, who, though at one time guileless and pure, have succumbed. A dead tiger kills no more and a lifeless serpent, though poisonous, has lost its terribleness. The influence of the worker of iniquity, however, reaches far into succeeding generations and even into eternity. He continues to defile, to wound, to corrupt and to destroy. This is true not only of the one who is powerful, but also of the one who is considered least of the evildoers.

It can be stated with confidence that the influence of the righteous is enduring. The iniquities of parents avenge themselves upon their offspring to the third and fourth generation, but the grand life of good parents enriches their posterity to a thousand generations.

The good things which a Christian does are not buried with his body. His exemplary walk, his memory and his virtues continue to live on. The fruitfulness of a faithful servant of God remains as fresh as a palm tree which shadows his grave. Great evangelists and preachers of the gospel, such as A. H. Unruh, J. W. Reimer, H. W. Lohrenz, Jakob Kroeker, D. L. Moody, Charles Spurgeon, John Wesley, George Whitefield etc. are yet abroad. The voices of saintly singers cannot be silenced by time. Pious mothers, though buried, cannot be reckoned dead, because their precious prayers are being answered every day.

It is not only the famous saint, whose actions have won public attention and recognition, who exerts a beneficial influence on his posterity. Every believer, though unknown, obscure and humble, leaves an indelible imprint. Leaves of a tree, though small and insignificant, have left imprints on solid rocks. Thus a quiet and lowly life may end unobserved and in a sense is soon forgotten, yet the image of the person concerned is painted in fast colours, his work is indestructable and his influence is imperishable. Man's garment may be moth-eaten, his photograph may vanish, his earthly dwelling place may be demolished and there may be no trace found of the final resting place of his body, yet the influence on his posterity will remain.

The sphere of man's influence is not confined to this life; it extends to the last day. Therefore must the closing account and the full and final verdict of man wait until that day has come. Things done or left undone may be felt in succeeding ages. It behooves us, therefore, to set a good example to others and to stimulate them to faith and devotion to God. The influence of a pure, useful and dedicated life to the Lord and His cause is the greatest contribution which a Christian can make to the world. May this be fully realized by all those who truly love the Lord.

G. D. H.

DEVOTIONAL

The Divine Diagnosis of the State of Christianity at the End Time

Rev. 3:14-22

(By the late Dr. A. H. Unruh upon special permission. Translated by the Rev. A. P. Dirks, North Kildonan, Man.)

(Continuation from previous issue)

Let us consider on whom this impartial investigation is carried out. It is carried out on Christians who do not wish the diagnosis. Whereas King David prayed that his heart be searched and Paul exhorted the Corinthians to try themselves whether they walked in faith, the church at Laodicea along with the luke-warm Christianity of the end-time feel no need for self-examination. Such a church is slow to listen to a sermon that provokes self-examination. It is content with self and thinks that it possesses everything, but in reality it lacks everything. There is a saying that he who thinks he has plenty is lost. Laodicea professed to be healthy and rich. The Lord complies with the wishes of such persons or churches for a trial, and does not withdraw from those who reject a searching. Moved by love, He illuminates the condition of such people toward salvation. The Lord does not cast out anyone whom He has warned beforehand and who has not rejected His reprimand. Thus it is time that the church of the end-time experience the judgment of the house of God and suffer to be illumined on all sides. The divine diagnosis is established by the deeds and the profession. The Lord said, "I know thy works that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot." Just as the fruit of the tree contains the same sap as the tree, similarly our deeds reveal our nature. Fruits that grow on an uncultivated tree will not improve the tree, but will remain uncultivated. Likewise many deeds cannot change a lukewarm Christian into a zealous follower of Jesus. Deeds can be brought forth even though the attitude toward the Lord is superficial and a high degree of zeal may be revealed. It might be zeal arising from ambition. The pastor of the church at Ephesus had laboured and not fainted, but had lost his first love.

A church may be very active through its many charitable organizations and in spite of them not show any signs of love. "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." All this is possible. There is ample proof that socialism is possible without charity. Numerous works might become the pride of a society. As one may not be a true follower of Jesus without works, so it is impossible to do

works while remaining complacent and saying, "I am rich."

The works of a man with a luke-warm attitude toward Christ are but a cloak to cover his inner emptiness. One who once received the knowledge of Christ must, in case of apostasy, retain something in order to calm his conscience. The Pharisee praying in the temple said, "I walk and I pray." He used these words to cover his own inner emptiness and silence his conscience.

There are many organizations in our churches, such as youth committees, foreign missions groups, music groups, etc. All church activities are works by which we draw attention to ourselves, and which the Lord knows. The question is, "What is the essence of these works? Were they done in obedience to the Lord and His Word, or did they originate in human nature, in order to appear significant before the people? Are these works really born out of the spiritual power of a congregation or were they dictated by reason? Although we do not know, the Lord knows. We are not entitled to judge before the proper time, but the Lord sees the heart and knows the motives that led us to do these works. The quality and motivation for all our works will be judged by the Lord. On the day of judgment the basis will be love toward Christ and our neighbor.

(To be continued)

Blessed is he who has found his work, let him ask no other blessedness. —Carlyle

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CHURCH NEWS

Pleasant and Serious Incidents at Coaldale

Coaldale, Alta. — During the Easter week both the Canadian Mennonite Bible College choir and the Mennonite Brethren Bible College choir from Winnipeg came to Coaldale. Their singing was greatly appreciated by the capacity audiences in the Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren churches.

The choir conductors of Gem and Coaldale have recently taken part in an exchange program which has proven to be of benefit and blessing to the singers as well as the audiences. During March, John Pauls, the conductor of the Coaldale church choir, travelled to Gem for one weekend in order to practise songs with the Gem choir to be performed at a special song program. On April 7, 8, and 9, Henry Peters, the Gem choir conductor, repaid this visit by coming to Coaldale and practising with the young people here. This course in song culminated in a joint choir program on Sunday night, which was attended by a fairly large number of people despite the wintry weather. Included in the musical part of the program was a large selection of beautiful songs by the choir, several solos sung by John Pauls, and a duet by the two conductors. Henry Peters also told a story to the children and brought a message on the blessings of song. He stressed the fact that the words of a hymn are of utmost importance, and that we must think of the truths they convey when we sing. He also pointed out that the art of song is a gift from God, and that it is the duty of all who sing to do so to the best of their ability. Nothing short of our best should be used when we seek to glorify God in song. A special province-wide song festival is being planned for May 21, when these songs will be sung by all church choirs in the Western Canada High School Auditorium in Calgary.

On April 16, the Coaldale Bible School had its closing program and graduation exercises. The graduating class consisted of five boys and three girls. Their testimony in song was: "Weiss ich den Weg auch nicht, Du weisst ihn wohl!" Rev. H. Brucks, missionary from the Congo, brought the graduation address. During the last part of the service the Bible school choir presented the Easter cantata, "The Saviour Lives."

The next evening both Rev. H. Brucks from the Congo and Sister Emma Lepp from India brought challenging missionary messages and reports.

On April 18 we had our annual display and sale for the Mennonite

High School. The attendance and participation was very heartening and encouraging.

During the week two members of the community passed away to their eternal reward. They are Mr. Abram Brauer, 73, who died in a Senior Citizen's Home in Lethbridge, and Mrs. Ann Penner, 26, wife of Harry Penner and the mother of three children. The latter suffered for nearly a year from a tumour in the brain. May the Lord comfort the bereaved and "teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Anne Kornelsen

Passion Week Services Held at Laird

The Easter Conference of the Laird, Sask., M. B. Church began with a service on Good Friday morning. Special numbers were sung by the local choir. "The Death of Christ" was the theme of the messages. Rev. Alfred Schmidt spoke on the doctrinal aspect while Rev. B. Heppner dwelt on the practical aspect. The service ended with the partaking of the Holy Communion.

"The Crucified Life of the Believer," was the topic of the message brought by Rev. Lawrence Redekopp at the evening service. In order to bear fruit we as Christians must, like the corn of wheat, fall into the ground and die. It is essential to die to self and live a life of submission. The special numbers were brought by the male quartet of the Saskatoon M. B. Mission Church.

The Easter Morning Sunrise Service, the first of its kind for this town, was well attended. Christ conquered over death and we too shall not remain in the grave but rise again.

The morning worship service included numbers by the local choir and a message, "The Doctrinal Aspect of the Resurrection of Christ," as brought to us by Rev. Heppner.

After a noon meal in the church parlour enjoyed by all, the afternoon service began with some hearty singing. The Dalmeny M. B. Church band was in attendance serving with appropriate musical and vocal numbers. Rev. Henry Funk of the Rosthern Junior College brought the message.

For the final session in the evening, the church was again filled while the band played some instrumental numbers and the trio served with songs. Rev. Funk entitled his message "The Resurrection Life in the Life of the Christian." Some-

times we try to accomplish the resurrection life by sheer self-effort. No effort, no matter how good, can bring it about; it must be a work of God. He can only be reflected in us as we expose ourselves to His image.

Another recent event of interest was a missionary program presented by the ladies' missionary group. The service included songs by the group as well as by the choir and the reading of the biography of Rev. Herman Warkentin, who died on the mission field in India several years ago. We were again reminded that the life that is worthwhile is one that is lived for Christ and not for self.

Sent in by
Linda Dyck, Rosthern, Sask.

Elmwood Bethel Church Dedicated

Winnipeg, Man. — Dedication services were held at the Elmwood Bethel Mennonite Church on April 23.

The church was acquired when members of the Bethel Mennonite Church decided to establish another congregation for residents of Elmwood, North and East Kildonan, St. Vital and St. Boniface, thus relieving the immediate need for extending the present building on Stafford Street, which was often overcrowded.

Regular Sunday morning services begin on April 30. An official organizational meeting will be held in the evening of the same day. The new group is independent of Bethel Mennonite Church although it has enjoyed the support and encouragement from it on a voluntary basis. The building accommodates about 175 persons.

Peter Schmidt, a deacon of the Bethel Mennonite Church, serves as leader of the group for the present.

Clothing Depot Active

Yarrow, B.C. (MCC) — Since beginning operations in April, 1960, the clothing depot at Yarrow has handled relief contributions from churches in western Canada, thus eliminating the necessity of shipping to the MCC center at Waterloo, Ont. The clothing center is sponsored by the Canadian Mennonite Relief and Immigration Council.

The second shipment of clothing from this depot was sent to Korea on March 22. Contents of the shipment included clothing, shoes, sewing supplies, soap, bandages, school supplies and quilts.

A. A. Wiens, director of the center, writes that the sewing circles are sending new clothing and bedding in good quantities. "Many visitors have come to the center and 210 women came in to help since October," wrote Mr. Wiens. "We are thankful for this interest."

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Heinrich D. Huebert†

(nee Lena Martens), 75, of Sardis, B.C., went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, April 23. Funeral services were held in the Sardis M. B. church on Thursday at 2:30 p.m. Mrs. Huebert was born at Spat, Crimea, Russia. Later she lived at Margenau and then at Alexandertal, from where she and her husband and son moved to Canada in 1926. Here they lived for some length of time at Sedalia, then at Tofield, Alberta, and finally at Sardis, B.C.

Mrs. Huebert, member of the M. B. Church, is survived by her husband, a son Henry with his family, two sisters, three brothers, and many relatives.

Mrs. Emil Lambrecht †

It has pleased the Lord to call one of our sisters, Mrs. Emil Lambrecht, nee Wilhelmina Hein, from the Lindale, Man., Church unto Himself. She was born on April 21, 1890, in Wladimir, Russia, and came to Canada in 1911.

She was married to Emil Lambrecht in Winnipeg in 1913 and has lived in the Lindale district for the past 35 years.

She found the Saviour as a child and joined the M. B. Mission Church at Lindale in 1936.

She bore her affliction patiently since last December, when she was first hospitalized. The Lord Jesus became very precious to her, and she had a longing to depart and be with Christ. On April 3, Easter Monday morning, she quietly passed away.

She leaves to mourn her departure, her husband, one daughter Emma, four sons, Lorne of Vancouver, Fred and his wife Susan, Edward and his wife Kay, Melville and wife Betty, and 14 grandchildren.

The funeral was held in the Morden M. B. church. Mr. Frank Friesen, Jr., opened the service with Psalm 116:15 and prayer. Rev. Frank Friesen brought the German message and Rev. Joe Wiebe based his English message on II Cor. 5:1-10. The pall-bearers were Harry Guderian, Walter Baloun, Alvin Bietof, Charlie Rochub, Wilfred Brown and Rev. Robert Hoover.

It is a joy to see the family take comfort in the words of the Lord Jesus. "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

Mrs. Joe Wiebe

The Janz Brothers Evangelize in Austria

The Janz Brothers evangelistic team conducted an evangelistic crusade in Austria for the first time during five years of ministry in Europe. Austria is considered to be one of the most difficult mission fields in Europe. Missionary organizations working in Austria report that evangelistic meetings are poorly attended and that the results are often very discouraging. It was, therefore, an unusual scene to see one of the largest available halls in Linz (the third largest in Austria) well filled almost every night of the crusade. 474 people were counselled during the brief two-week crusade. It was remarkable that percentage-wise there were more young people counselled and more first-time decisions recorded than in any other Janz Brothers Crusade.

A pastor in Linz said, "I have lived here for 32 years and have never witnessed so many people coming to Christ in a crusade." Another pastor said, "The results of this crusade have caused many skeptics to think differently about evangelism. It was surprising to see people of all age groups respond to the gospel invitation. Men and women of all vocations of life and all social classes stepped forward to confess Christ."

One church reported that all the unsaved loved ones (fathers, mothers, sons and daughters) of all the families belonging to their church were converted during the crusade—70 in all. Among the many who came to Christ were a high church official, an opera singer and an ex-convict.

Leo Janz, evangelist of the Janz Team, felt that the Linz Crusade was surrounded by the prayers of God's people in an unusual way, which undoubtedly accounted for the results.

The Janz Brothers team will be conducting their next crusade in Mannheim, Germany.

Blind Jewish Evangelist Speaks

Virgil, Ont. —

During this Easter season we were again reminded of God's great love toward us when He sent His Son into this world to die for our sins. When He cried out, "It is finished," His work on earth was finished. But not only did He die, but He also rose again, for which we are thankful.

On Sunday evening, April 2, the senior choir brought the Easter message in song. This program consisted of two parts, The Crucifixion and the Resurrection.

Sunday evening, April 9, we were privileged to have with us Rev. Alexander Marks, a blind Jewish evangelist. He presented a dramatized sermon on the Jewish Passover with the help of several young

people. Rev. Marks was dressed in the ceremonial robes of white which stand for purity. Tom Walker favored us with the numbers in song: "The Robe," and "Why Did They Nail Him to Calvary's Tree."

Truly, we experienced anew the wonderful love of God that He showed unto us when He sent Jesus to be our sin-bearer. Linda Willms

A Deacon Goes Home to be with the Lord



"Nevertheless I am continually with thee; thou dost hold my right hand. Thou dost guide me with thy counsel, and afterward thou wilt receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is nothing upon earth that I desire beside thee. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my position for ever" (Psalm 73:23-26).

God in His infinite wisdom has called my beloved husband and father of our children unto Himself into the heavenly kingdom in the early morning of April 22.

Cornelius Peters was born on November 30, 1909, in Orechowo, Russia. He was the second son of his parents Jacob and Elizabeth Peters. As a member of a large family he was brought up under the tender care and protection of his loving parents. While he enjoyed the years of his childhood at home, yet he also found great pleasure in attending Sunday and Day school. The Peters family was not spared the cup of suffering during the time of the famine in Russia, yet by God's grace the mother of the home was able to provide some food daily until help arrived from America. He accepted Christ as his Saviour during evangelistic services held by the United States evangelist, D. M. Hofer. In 1925 the family migrated to Canada from Waldheim, Russia, and settled on a farm at Niverville, Man. Here Mr. Peters' father became ill and on August 9, 1931, he died, leaving his wife and nine children.

Cornelius Peters, who had drifted spiritually, was deeply moved by the death of his father. As a re-

sult of it he renewed his fellowship with the Lord and on August 30, 1931, he was baptized and received as a member in the Mennonite Brethren Church.

At Niverville, my beloved husband and I, Anna Neufeld, learned to know and love each other and on May 31, 1931, we were married. Years of increased joy followed and the hardships of life were easier to bear, because of the privilege of fellowship we were able to have. Five children were born into our home and it was father's greatest desire that all of them should walk in the ways of the Lord.

In 1944 we moved to Winnipeg, where we joined the South End Mennonite Brethren Church. Here he was elected as a deacon and as such he was ordained on July 9, 1950. Faithfully he has endeavored to serve God and the Church and yet he always felt that he was an unworthy servant of the Lord.

My husband was happy in his life's vocation. Could there be anything better for him than to build sanctuaries of the Lord? He was unable to complete the last structure, the new South End Church, to which he was devoted wholeheartedly. In his thinking he visualized a completed church building. During the last days of his life he experienced great joy, because obstacles for obtaining the necessary building materials were removed. Now he stands in God's presence. Someone else will have to finish the work he began.

Having had a serious heart attack on October 15, 1959, my husband recovered slowly. He realized the physical condition he was in and he counted on a sudden call out of this earthly life. He made the necessary provisions for his family and committed them and himself to the loving care of his heavenly Father.

On Friday he had a severe pain in his chest and arms, but he stayed at the building site till the usual quitting time had come. He was calm and introspective as he came home. When I suggested to call the doctor he declared that was not necessary. In the evening the pains decreased. On Saturday, during the early morning hours, however, I noticed a sudden change. I quickly called the doctor, but when he arrived, he could do nothing but substantiate the fact of his death. My husband passed away quietly and peacefully. Our hearts are bleeding and our eyes are tear-filled, yet we know that he is now at home with his Saviour and Lord. He has reached the age of 51 years, 4 months and 21 days.

Left to mourn the early death of Mr. Peters are his wife, three sons, two daughters, one daughter-in-law, one son-in-law, four grandchildren, his mother and stepfather, six brothers and two sisters with their families and many relatives and friends.

We do not pray that we may understand God's ways, but we are praying for grace to glorify the Lord

in our sorrow. God's ways are perfect.

Funeral services were held from the South End M. B. church on Tuesday, April 25, at 2 p.m. Rev. J. P. Neufeld, speaking on the final triumph of a child of God, based his message on Psalm 116, which was the portion of Scripture in which Brother Peters usually found much strength and comfort for his own life.

Rev. F. C. Peters read Heb. 11:4 and spoke on the secret of Abel, being dead, yet was able to speak. Rev. Peters applied the truths of the text by making reference to the one who had now gone home to be with the Lord.

The choir of the South End M. B. Church and a duet from Niverville served with special songs. The funeral service came to a close with the singing of "Befiehl du deine Wege."

Pallbearers were the six brothers of Mr. Peters.

The bereaved family

*

Jacob Rempel †

Mr. Jacob Peters, 43, of 206 Harold Ave., Transcona, Man., died on April 18. Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 22, from the First Mennonite Church, of which he was a member. Besides his wife Helen, he is survived by three daughters, Irma, Margaret and Erica, his parents and three sisters. Rev. J. H. Enns officiated.

*

Abraham Dyck †

Mr. Abraham Dyck, 72, who resided at 751 Garwood Ave., Winnipeg, passed away on April 14, 1961. He was a member of the Sommerfelder Mennonite Church for 55 years. Funeral services took place at the Kerr's Funeral Chapel on April 18. Rev. H. H. Barber officiated. Besides his wife Elizabeth, he is survived by two daughters, five sons and 20 grandchildren.

*

Mrs. Abram A. De Fehr †

On April 22, Mrs. Abram A. De Fehr, 78, of Centennial Road, R.R. 3, Abbotsford, B.C., went home to be with the Lord. Funeral services were held from the Clearbrook M. B. church on April 25. Mrs. De Fehr is survived by her husband and five children. In Canada the DeFehr family has lived in North Kildonan, then in St. Catharines and finally in Clearbrook, B.C.

*

Gerhard J. Braun †

On April 19, 1961, Gerhard J. Braun, 71, of 438 Nairn Ave., Winnipeg, passed away at Concordia Hospital. He was born in Russia, but had lived in Canada for the last 38 years. Rev. J. H. Enns officiated at the funeral service held Friday, April 22, from the First Mennonite Church. Mr. Braun is survived by his wife Maria, two sons, two sisters, one brother and six grandchildren.



The Cause of Foreign Missions

Board of Missions News

A poster has been prepared on the radio work of our conference mission program abroad. In pictures and brief accounts, the poster features the gospel broadcasting by our national churches and missionaries in Ecuador, Europe, India and Japan. Copies have been mailed to churches and schools. Interested individuals may obtain a copy of the poster by requesting it from: Board of Missions, 315 South Lincoln, Hillsboro, Kans., USA.

India

Rosella Toews of the Lustre Church in Montana is preparing to return to India this summer for her third term of missionary service. Sister Toews is a registered nurse and will be serving the cause of the gospel in India in one of the mission hospitals. Before her assignment to a hospital, she will be enrolled in a short specialized training course for nurses in the India School of Medicine of Hyderabad. During her furlough Sister Toews studied one semester at the Bible College in Winnipeg and served in deputation work. Our prayers in behalf of Sister Toews as she prepares to return to India will be appreciated.

The newly-appointed workers to India, Peter Blocks and James Wiebes, are also looking forward to their sailing sometime this summer. Pray that all the necessary papers will be forthcoming in the near future.

The Jadcherla medical center in India is initiating an auxiliary obstetrical training course for national Indian nurses. Marie Riediger will be the initial instructor under the supervision of our medical doctors at Jadcherla.

South America

Walter Pastres request our prayers for the new work they are undertaking in Palmas, Brazil, a city of about 13,000 inhabitants. Their impressions based on their first two weeks in Palmas are that the people are open to the gospel and that there is a good possibility for the establishment of a work for the Lord. Palmas has a high standard of living and many public and private schools. The first Sunday evening service held in their home was attended by four complete families and others to make a total of 19 adults and five children. The Pastres are particularly encouraged by the attendance of complete families, which will be a great help in the establishment of a church.

The second baptism in the new work at Sao Mateus, Brazil, was

held on April 9 when six adults and one young man were baptized. Two others desired baptism but were not permitted to take the step. Those who took the step of baptism did so under difficulties, but with great joy. Joining the group of believers at Sao Mateus for the day were the Erven Thiessens and other believers from Curitiba, who ministered in the baptismal, reception and communion services. Let us thank the Lord for this victory and continue to intercede for the witness in Sao Mateus. With this baptism the group of believers in Sao Mateus numbers 13 adults and eight young people.

G. B. Giesbrecht visited the Mennonite Brethren Churches in Uruguay and Brazil during March to report on his visit to North America during 1960.

Several of our missionaries studying Spanish in Costa Rica have had opportunity to serve and testify in several churches and preaching points in the country. This has also given them opportunity to practice the Spanish, which they will be using in their missionary assignments in Latin America. Eugene Janzen writes that they have been impressed by the piety and poverty they find in these outposts. He also writes about a spiritual crusade in Costa Rica known as an "evangelism in depth." Many souls were being won to the Lord and many church members were coming to know the joy of leading others to a saving knowledge of Christ. Pray for the evangelical cause in Costa Rica and our missionaries in Spanish language study here.

"If I Eat My Morsel Alone"

As Job reviewed his life, he confronted himself with the question: "What then shall I do when God riseth up? and when he visiteth, what shall I answer him?"

God had blessed Job in a singular manner with material possessions. Job recognized the responsibilities connected with these possessions. Realizing that he would have to answer before God some day, he used them to bless others who were less fortunate than he. So faithful was he in this that he could answer God: "I delivered the poor that cried, I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. I was a father to the poor." As far as Job was concerned, it was unthinkable that he would know of a need and not do something about it if he could. He expressed this very strongly by saying: "If I have eaten my morsel myself alone, and the fatherless hath

not eaten thereof; then let mine arm fall from my shoulder blade, and mine arm be broken from the bone."

In other words, what service has an arm to render if it is not to extend a hand of mercy to those in need? What purpose is there in having material possessions if the Christian uses them mainly to meet his own needs?

What answer will you give before God when He visits you? Are you eating your morsel alone while elsewhere souls are dying without the knowledge of the bread of life?

Too many Christians are doing no more than the rich man who permitted Lazarus to eat the crumbs that fell from his well-spread table. What a contrast to the spirit of Christ manifest in Peter when he said, "Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I thee."

God is looking for men and women whose ears are open to the cry of the hungry, whose eyes look with compassion upon the needs of the lost and who will respond with an open heart and hand.

The church of today can say, "I am rich, and increased with goods." But the church must never forget that God has a definite purpose for these riches. It must always remember that God is providing these material blessings that it might have sufficient means to carry on a witness for Christ at home and abroad. A misuse of these blessings will bring serious consequences to the church.

May God raise up many who will not only share their morsel but even their loaves, as did the little lad, and bring the bread of life to those without the knowledge of Christ.

John C. Ratzlaff

Conference of Missionaries in Europe

By Clarence Hiebert

Kaiserslautern, Pfalz, Germany. - Under the theme, "Christ in You the Hope . . .", 81 missionaries and Christian workers from English-speaking countries working in German-speaking areas of Europe met in the Tannenhoehe Retreat Center of Villingen in Southern Germany, April 10-15, for spiritual renewal and fellowship in the sharing of concerns and experiences. Leading nine devotional Biblical studies from Philippians was Capt. Metcalfe of England with the inspiring "Keswick" approach. At the concluding service of testimony, this body of Christian workers voiced new resolve to live in the power of "Christ within, the hope of glory." This same theme also represented for them the compelling force and renewed incentive to carry the gospel to unreached peoples of Europe and the world. Each morning was begun with an informal prayer fellowship dealing with the common concerns of the group.

This retreat is the fourth and largest ever held by the Inter-Mission Christian Workers' Conference. Attending the conference, representing 22 different sponsoring organizations, were 6 Britons, 45 Canadians and 30 from the USA, serving in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Holland.

Daily workshops in the fields of evangelism, Christian education, literature and other related means of outreach offered opportunities for reports, helpful suggestions and the sharing of experiences. One result of these discussions was a concern, expressed especially by those serving in Austria, that an evangelical Bible school be established at some central location in that country in cooperation with Austrian Christian leaders.

The next conference scheduled for May 7-11, 1962, is to be held at the Tannenhoehe again with Cornelius Enns as chairman. Dwight Wads-

worth served as this year's convention leader.

The following were among the guests present at the conference:— Mennonite Brethren Mission: Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Balzer, Mrs. G. H. Jantzen, Mr. and Mrs. John Klassen, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Vogt, and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Warkentin; Janz Brothers Gospel Association: Mr. and Mrs. Leo Janz, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Janz, Mr. John Arthur Froese, Mr. Don Enns, Mr. and Mrs. C. Enns, Miss Betty Petkau, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wiebe; Mennonite Central Committee: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hiebert and Mr. Max Woerlen; Agape Publications: Frieda Fast, Mr. and Mrs. G. Reimer; Child Evangelism: Mr. and Mrs. Esau; Evangelical Free Church Mission: Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gerbrandt; Greater Europe Mission: Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Goertz; Herald of His Coming: Mr. Elmer Klassen; Eastern European Mission: Miss Elizabeth Neufeld; Youth for Christ International: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yoder.

God Blesses in Wels, Austria

Evangelistic Services

The Easter week brought great blessings to Wels, Austria, through the evangelistic meetings conducted by A. J. Neufeld and C. Balzer with the assistance of Dave Wiebes and local missionaries. The nightly attendance reached 250 and as a result hundreds heard the gospel. Nightly the attentive congregation was moved to conviction, and many obeyed the wooing of God's Spirit and accepted Him, but many turned away. We bear great concern for those who failed to come but also for those who have come, that they might continue on with the Lord. Please join us in prayer for them.

The daily children's meetings proved a special success and blessing. (Continued on page 8-4)



THE Young Observers

Hello Girls and Boys,

Did you come home from school recently to find the whole house in a hustle and bustle of confusion? Spring cleaning! Mother just has to make use of the sunny weather to air out cushions and blankets. And she empties out every cupboard and drawer. No doubt some broken slingshot, bladeless knife and torn dolly disappears at this time. She cleans the walls and floors thoroughly. And lastly, she warns every youngster about touching the walls and furniture with soiled hands. My family doesn't like spring cleaning time!

A long, long time ago Israel had a good king called Joash. He enjoyed worshipping in the temple, but he was sad that it was in poor repair and needed cleaning. He asked the priest Jehoiada to help him. They put a large chest at the doorstep to collect gold and silver from all the people who worshipped at the temple. When they had enough, they hired workers to repair it inside and out.

The good people watched every day to see how the workmen were getting along. Soon they would have a beautiful, clean church again. They were happy that their money was helping to make the temple fresh and new again.

So, be cheerful during cleaning days. Homes and churches must be scoured occasionally. What about our hearts? Do we have them clean and pure? Jesus will wash it clean from all sin if you ask Him.

Love, Aunt Helen

By Means of a Tract

There was a warm-hearted Christian merchant who closed his shop on Sunday. In the morning he attended church to worship God, but in the afternoon he went on the street and distributed tracts. Feeling very tired one Sunday afternoon he was resting quietly in his library. On the writing desk was a bundle of tracts. Outside it was pouring rain. He heard steps outside his door, then the library door was pushed open and his eleven-year-old boy ran in. Seeing his father there the lad asked in surprise, "Father, why aren't you going out to distribute tracts today?"

"It's raining too hard," he lightly replied to satisfy the child.

"Papa, doesn't God save people when it rains?"

The merchant was surprised at the question. So he explained, "When it is raining hard there are few people on the street. Moreover, I am very tired, so I'm not going out."

"Papa, shall I go out for you?"

"Son, may God bless you in your good purposes. When you are grown you may continue your father's work." As he rumbled the child's hair the latter coaxed, "Let me go now!" His heart had been touched and he was keen to act.

"It is not convenient in this rain."

"What does that matter if I wear my rubbers and carry an umbrella?" the child begged. Then taking silence for consent, he ran out and was back in a moment clad in his rain clothes. Skipping excitedly, he called, "Father, I'm ready. Please give me some tracts."

Seeing the lad's eagerness the father handed him a few sheets, warning him to be careful and return when he was through. In high spirits the boy started out to distribute the tracts. In the downpour the streets were slippery with scarcely a sign of a person. He waited a long time before he disposed of a single tract. Darkness was coming on; the rain continued relentlessly and there was not a solitary person on the street.

"Return when you're through," had been his father's command. If he were taking his father's place he felt he must finish giving out the tracts before going home. Finally only the last sheet remained in his hand, but there wasn't a person in sight to whom he might give it. He walked another block, but still he was the only one on the lonely street. What was he to do with this last tract? "There's a way. People don't come to me. Why don't I go to them?" With long strides he approached the nearest dwelling and knocked.

"Who's there?" came a voice from within. His heart was thumping, half with fright, half with joy. He waited a moment, but as no one opened the door, he gathered up courage, raised his small fist and knocked again. Timidly he put his ear to the crack to hear if there were any movement inside.

"Who is it?"

"That's good. They'll surely come now," the boy thought. But he waited and still the door remained closed. He grew impatient and began beating a rapid tattoo on the door.

"Who's knocking?" He kept it up until the door opened, and there stood an old woman, distress and sadness on her face. With a radiant smile, the boy said respectfully, "Lady, pardon me, but I've come specially to bring you the gospel." Raising his chubby fist he placed the last tract in her hand.

"Thank you, good-bye." And the child darted off.

The next Sunday evening a small street chapel was crowded with listeners. The warm-hearted merchant was acting as usher. His young son had come along, hoping to learn how to do his father's work. After songs and prayer the chairman asked if anyone wanted to testify to the Lord's grace. An old woman with the light of heaven on her face rose and voiced her praise:

"Thank God, He sent a little angel to save me. Otherwise I would

have ended it all last Sunday night when I was in utter despair. I had reached the dregs of human suffering, having lost husband and son. After a long struggle I gave way to despondency and started to hang myself. Suddenly there was a knock at the door. I responded but made no move, thinking to wait until the person had gone before taking my life. But the knocking continued until I had to open the door. There stood a little angel with the face of spring, who gave me a gospel tract. As I looked at it I knew that God had not forsaken me. I could not keep back the tears but confessed my sin and asked for pardon. Praise the Lord! He saved me!"

The lad whispered softly in his father's ear, "She's the one!" Only then did the father know that God had sent his child to find a lost sheep by means of a tract.

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Strait is the Gate

By MARJORIE BUCKINGHAM

(34th Installment)

"Nancy, it's not what I have done, it's what the Lord has done for you," Maxwell Brandon returned.

Nancy nodded, her eyes shining. "Yes, I know that, Mr. Brandon. But it was through you that I really came to know Him, that's why I am so grateful to you."

The pastor smiled appreciatively. "I'm so glad you feel that way, Nancy. You know, to me that is the greatest of all privileges, introducing men and women to Jesus Christ."

"It makes up for all disappointments, doesn't it, dear?" came Mrs. Brandon's quiet comment.

"Yes, of course, Margaret. And yet, nothing ever lessens the heart-break of seeing someone turn away from the Lord as the rich young ruler did long ago."

"I have often wondered what happened to the rich young ruler, Daddy," put in Pauline. "We're not told in the gospel story, are we?"

"No," agreed her father. "The last we read of him is that he turned away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. He put his possessions before Christ. Actually he was throwing away the gold for dross, just as so many people are doing today."

"Yes," said Nancy with a sigh. "There's Trevor, for one."

"Trevor?" There could be no mistaking the quickened interest on Pauline's part. "Oh no, he's different!" she quickly protested.

"Is he?" queried her father as he looked at his daughter's flushed face with a twinkle in his eye.

"Yes, of course he is, Daddy! I know he's been slipping a bit lately, but he is a Christian."

"If you heard what he said to me the last time I was talking to him, you might not think so, Pauline," Nancy told her.

"Why, Nancy, what did he say?" Pauline asked anxiously.

Nancy hesitated to go on. The girls had discussed many things together, but as if by mutual consent, neither had mentioned anything about Trevor to the other. Of course, Pauline had reasons of her own—reasons which her friend did not suspect. And Nancy was so conscious of the fact that the young man was working against the pastor that she hesitated to bring him into their conversation at all. Even now she was not sure how much she should divulge of what he had said to her. She didn't want Pauline to think too hardly of him, especially when she appeared to be so concerned about him.

"I hope it wasn't anything very terrible," Pauline ventured.

Nancy replied. "For a person who

once accepted Christ, he couldn't have said anything much worse than what he said. He said he was through with the church and religion, and all that sort of thing."

"Yes," commented the pastor gravely, "and his way of living lately seems to prove it, I'm sorry to say."

Pauline was quite distressed. "Oh Dad, it probably isn't true, all this gossip about Trevor that's going on. I'm sure he couldn't be as bad as all that!"

"But he is drinking and gambling, Pauline. He told me so himself," Nancy maintained, not a little puzzled to know why her friend should suddenly be so anxious to defend Trevor.

"I don't think it's as bad as people say. Trevor's newspaper work takes him into all kinds of places," Pauline insisted.

"Undoubtedly," agreed the pastor, "but I know that he is going too far for his own good at the moment, and unless he restrains himself he'll get into trouble. He has been gambling for such big stakes lately that people are beginning to wonder where all the money comes from!"

"That has been worrying me too, Mr. Brandon," Nancy admitted. "I haven't told anybody, but I have an awful feeling that Trevor might know something about the disappearance of that money."

"Nancy!" came a cry of consternation from all three Brandons together, as they stared at the girl in amazement.

"You see," she went on, "he knew just where mother kept the money. In fact he helped her count it the last time she checked it."

"That doesn't prove anything, Nancy!" protested Pauline in an unusually agitated voice.

"No, Pauline, there is no evidence, but the detectives say they don't believe anybody broke in and stole the money. They say it must have been taken by somebody who was in the house, and Trevor has been coming regularly with all the rest of the Progressive Group."

Maxwell Brandon looked doubtful. "Of course, Nancy, in fairness to Trevor it could have been any one of the Progressives for that matter!"

"I know, Mr. Brandon. But somehow I don't think they would. They wouldn't have any real motive."

"But what motive could Trevor possibly have?" Pauline asked.

"I don't exactly know, Pauline," said Nancy, "but Trevor spends a lot of money, and if he happened to be in financial difficulties at that time, he might have been tempted."

"You could be right, Nancy," the pastor said thoughtfully.

"I hope she isn't," put in Mrs. Brandon. "That would be dreadful. Why, his whole life would be ruined if it ever came out!"

"Well, my dear," continued her husband, "you can depend on it that the truth will come out in the end, it always does. God will bring the wrong-doer to justice, whoever it is!"

"But not Trevor, Daddy!" Pauline covered her face with both hands and began to sob. "I couldn't bear it, really I couldn't!"

Nancy became more and more puzzled by Pauline's behaviour and looked to her parents for an explanation, but they were not looking in her direction. She suddenly left her chair and came over to Pauline's side.

Pauline didn't lift her head. "You—you don't really think he did it, Nancy, do you?" she pleaded.

Nancy sighed. "Oh, I don't know Pauline! I hope not, that's all I can say."

"He wouldn't stoop to stealing, Nancy, I'm sure he wouldn't!"

Nancy had not expected her words to produce this kind of a reaction, especially by Pauline, and she wished now that she had kept her own counsel. "Let's forget all about it, Pauline," she urged. "It was just an idea on my part, and there may not be any truth in it at all."

"Oh, but if there is, Nancy!" She sounded so full of despair that Nancy's heart went out to her.

"Even if there were some truth in it, why should it matter so much to you, Pauline?" she ventured.

Pauline Brandon looked into her friend's face with tearful eyes. "Oh, Nancy! I—I—don't know how to tell you."

Nancy looked more bewildered than ever. "Tell me, Pauline."

"Oh, Nancy!" Pauline leaned her head against her friend's shoulder. "I don't want to take him from you. I'd never try to do that. But I can't help it, Nancy. I—I—love him."

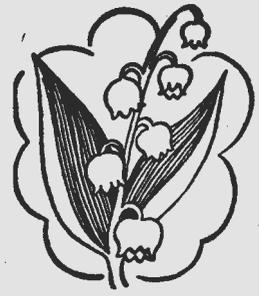
Her voice trailed off into a whisper and Nancy could scarcely believe that she had heard aright, for Pauline's confession had taken her completely by surprise. What would Mr. and Mrs. Brandon think of this new situation, she wondered, or perhaps they knew already. She stole a glance in their direction, only to discover that the chairs they had been occupying were empty. With that insight into the heart and mind of youth, Pauline's parents had retired from the room and left the girls alone together.

"Oh Pauline!" Nancy put her arm around her friend in an affectionate embrace. "I would never have guessed this could happen!"

"You didn't expect from a friend," Pauline cried miserably. "Can you ever forgive me?"

"Forgive you?" echoed Nancy. "Why, Pauline, there's nothing to forgive!"

"But you love him, don't you, Nancy?"



Nancy drew a deep breath. "You know I've broken with Trevor, don't you?"

"Yes, but I thought perhaps—"

Nancy smiled. "No, dear, there's nothing between us at all."

"But he's in love with you, Nancy. Everybody says so!" cried Pauline impulsively.

"I don't think he is" Nancy insisted firmly. "Really, Pauline, I'm sure he's not thinking of you nor of me, or anybody except himself, and I don't think a nice girl like you should be bothering about him at all."

"It's not that, Nancy." Pauline drew herself erect. "I hadn't thought of winning him for myself. All I want to do is to save him from the kind of life he's been living, and with God's help I will!" she added resolutely.

"The trouble is that he seems determined to go his own way and there's nothing that anybody else can do about it," Nancy returned.

Pauline recovered her composure and when she spoke again it was with a quiet composure that could not but impress her companion. "Maybe you're right, Nancy," she admitted, "but somehow I just can't give him up like that. I don't know why. Perhaps it's because I love him. You know, daddy always says there's something about love that won't let you go, and I like to think that it may be my love that will bring him back to God in the end."

There were tears in Nancy's eyes. "Yes, Pauline, it could be. I'll pray that it will be," she said warmly, as she kissed her friend on the cheek.

CHAPTER XX MISSING!

The opening day of the Marquee Mission dawned at last, with everything as near to perfect in prospect as any human enterprise could be. Pastor Brandon and his little executive team had spent long hours in prayerful preparation, and now they felt that they could confidently leave the outcome in the Lord's hands, knowing they had tried to be faithful in their stewardship as "workers together with Him." And the knowledge that there were many people sympathetic to the venture and constantly remembering the mission in prayer was a great encouragement in the face of the strong element of active opposition that they had had to contend with right from the outset.

(To be continued)



Mennonite Central Committee Assignment

In April Miss Betty Peters began a two-year term of Voluntary Service with Mennonite Central Committee at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Haiti. She will join a staff of seven other MCC workers who help meet the medical and economic needs of the Haitian people. She is serving on a non-earning basis. Her service address is: Hospital Albert Schweitzer, Box 4, Saint Marc, Haiti.

Miss Peters belongs to the South Abbotsford Mennonite Brethren Church, Abbotsford, B.C. She graduated from the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute, Abbotsford, B.C., in 1956, and has worked as a licensed practical nurse at Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, B.C. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Johann W. Peters of 32022 Huntingdon Rd., R.R. 5, Abbotsford, B.C.

The Mennonite Central Committee is the relief and service agency for Mennonites of North America. Over 500 men and women of all ages are serving as volunteers "in the name of Christ" in the US, Canada and 27 countries abroad, assisting in various areas of human need.

They are serving under four sections of MCC's organization: Foreign Relief and Services through which millions of persons in 26 countries have been clothed and fed since the MCC was organized in 1920; Voluntary Services in which 138 persons, mostly young people, are serving in children's work as teachers, nurses, as normal control patients in research, and in community development projects in the United States, Canada, Haiti and Newfoundland; Mennonite Mental Health Services in three MCC-sponsored mental hospitals—in Newton, Kans., Reedley, Calif., Hagerstown, Md., and a fourth being planned in Elkhart, Ind.; Peace Section which emphasizes and interprets the role of the nonresistant Christian in areas of war, peace, militarism and race.

Klassen Appointed Assistant Director of Relief

Akron, Pa. (MCC) — Jacob M. Klassen, director of MCC work in Korea, has been appointed Assistant Director of the Foreign Relief and Services program. He will join the Akron staff in August, 1961.

The Klassens have been serving in Korea since August, 1958. Mrs. Klassen and the children will return to Canada in May while Mr.

Klassen visits MCC units abroad for orientation in his work here.

Jacob and Katherine (Schmidt) Klassen are members of the Steinbach Mennonite Brethren Church, Steinbach, Man. They have two daughters, Martha Luella, 9, and Lorna Ruth, 6.

Mr. Klassen is a graduate of Manitoba Teachers' College, Winnipeg, and has also studied at the University of Manitoba.

M. B. Church Board of General Welfare

The Mennonite Brethren Churches in Paraguay will be meeting for their annual conference the first week in July.

A. J. Dueck, leader of the Mennonite Brethren Church, Witmarsum, Brazil, writes about a much-appreciated visit on March 12 by Henry C. Born, H. W. Dueck and Bible school students from Curitiba. A large congregation was present for the morning service when the Lord's Supper was observed and the brethren Born and Dueck preached. A sister was accepted into the membership, and the church now has a membership of 63. An afternoon program was presented by the visiting group from Curitiba. The congregation appreciates the work of Brother Dueck, who has been going to Witmarsum every third week to assist in the youth and music work of the church.

The Mennonite Brethren Church Bible school in Filadelfia, Fernheim, Paraguay, is planned for June 8 to October 1. Willy Janz will serve as principal and will be soliciting students in preparation for the coming term. Other faculty members are currently being engaged. Several new courses are planned. There will be courses in Sunday school work. Men students will be instructed in homiletics and women students in the use of handwork and visual aids for Sunday school instruction.

The Mennonite Brethren Church Bible school is in session in Friesland, Paraguay, with an enrollment of eight women students. Harold Funk and George Giesbrecht are the teachers. Another effort in Friesland to relate the young people to the church is a crafts program in which 25 boys are participating.

Several representatives of our conference will participate in the seminar on "Our National Government and the Christian Witness" in Washington, D.C., April 27-29. Plans are for Leonard J. Franz of Tabor College and William Neufeld of the Board of General Wel-

fare to attend this meeting, which has as its purpose to learn more about the operations of government and to consider the participation and witness of the Christian in government. Delegates to the seminar will meet with congressmen and representatives of several organizations who work with the government in Washington. Dr. Clyde Taylor of the National Association of Evangelicals office in Washington will be one of the speakers. The seminar is planned by a committee consisting of Leonard J. Franz, Tabor College; Guy Hershberger, Goshen College; Carlton Wittlinger, Messiah College; and Elmer Neufeld, MCC Peace Section.

Board of General Welfare

The South American Conference Seminary at Curitiba, Brazil, has begun the publication of an organ entitled "Der Ueberwinder" (The Overcomer). The first issue dated March, 1961, reports the opening of the seminary, a youth retreat at Guarituba, Brazil, and the first conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches in Brazil.

Our seven churches in Brazil organized into a conference last April, and met for their first official conference in Witmarsum last January. God's blessings rested upon the sessions as the delegates considered the theme, "The Fellowship of the Believers" (Die Gemeinschaft der Glaebigen), based on I John 1, and planned the work of the conference. Elected to the conference leadership were the following brethren: Hans Kasdorf, chairman; A. Dyck, assistant chairman; P. Friesen, secretary; and J. Dyck, treasurer.

The following services are planned for the benefit of our churches in South America according to **Der Ueberwinder**: Youth retreat at Blumenau, Brazil, April 29 to May 1; a conference for ministers, deacons, youth workers and Sunday school workers to be held at the seminary, May 22 to 26; a missionary conference at the seminary May 26 to 28 at which missionaries from Brazil and Paraguay will serve; and the conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches of Paraguay, July 2 and 4.

A summer service unit composed of Mennonite Brethren young people will be serving at Bethesda Home, Vineland, Ont., this summer. Bethesda is a home for the care and treatment of the mentally ill operated by the Canadian Conference. The Christian Service Program is particularly happy for this development, for it represents the first summer service project of its program. The unit will be under the direct administration of George Friesen, administrator of Bethesda, in cooperation with the Christian Service Program.

Dwight Wiebe, our conference representative on the MCC Voluntary

Service Advisory Committee, attended a meeting of the committee in Washington, D.C., April 12 and 13. The meeting in Washington enabled committee members to visit the Voluntary Service units in the area and thus more effectively discuss the policies and operations of the Voluntary Service program. One of the conclusions of the meeting was a clarification of the responsibility of MCC and the various conferences for the operation of VS projects. It was agreed that projects with a potential for church development should be the responsibility of the conferences and that projects primarily of a service nature should be pursued by MCC.

The opening of two new Voluntary Service projects was approved by the Advisory Committee. A project will be opened this summer in Atlanta, Ga., where six white volunteers will serve under Negro leadership in a Baptist church program. This is the first venture of its kind responding to the problem of open hostility between the white and colored races. The young people will seek to discover what the Gospel of Christ says and how it expresses itself with regard to racial hatred and segregation. The other new project will be serving in an area south of Mexico City with the leadership of the unit working in cooperation with the Wycliffe Bible translators. A unit of six volunteers will be engaged in educational, agricultural and other services in behalf of the underprivileged people of the area.

God Blesses in Wels

(Continued from page 5-4)

ing. At the last meeting some 250 children attended and daily some accepted the Lord. Brother Balzer directed the children's services and was assisted by the local missionaries.

Only eternity will reveal the exact results, but already we can say: "God hath done great things whereof we are glad."

We would like to thank all who have prayed for Wels. Do continue and God will do even greater things.

Church Dedication and Baptism

We marvel that God has so quickly given us our own place of worship. On March 19 we had our first service in our new church. Two weeks later, on Easter Sunday, we had our first baptismal service in the new church as two persons made this public confession. Then, on April 10, the words from II Chron. 7:16 came true: "For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there forever, and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually." At this dedication service A. J. Neufeld spoke and presented the need for a renewed dedication of the members.

Already the Lord has given beyond expectation and we trust He will now also give the increase.

Lawrence D. Warkentin

NEWS from HERE and THERE

Help for the Despairing

Telephone directories in Ontario's chief cities will soon contain a new listing—"Suicide." Despairing persons will be able to call this number at any hour of the day or night and reach the Salvation Army's brand new anti-suicide bureau. Since there are ten times as many lives lost through suicide as through tuberculosis in Canada, the Salvation Army decided to open an anti-suicide bureau with telephone service in Toronto, Winnipeg, Montreal and Vancouver. The aid of doctors and psychiatrists will be enlisted, and magistrates will be urged to send to the bureau any person who they think may be a potential suicide case.

Conference at Rosemary, Alta.

The annual conference of the Alberta General Conference Mennonite Church took place in Rosemary April 7 and 8 with 67 out of the 93 possible delegates and over thirty visitors in attendance. Total membership at the end of the conference year was 1376.

Adventists Expand in Free China

Leaders of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church met recently with officers from their Far Eastern Headquarters to plan for the expansion and development of the church's missionary work in Free China, Hong Kong and Macao. The former emphasis on medical and educational work is giving way to an intensive evangelistic program being carried on in countries representing nearly 99 per cent of the world's population. Seventh-Day Adventist literature is now being published in 218 languages, and broadcasting is carried on in 25 languages from 1,100 radio stations, and 150 weekly telecasts are made.

Gypsies Take \$2,000 from Amish Farmer

Topeka, Ind. — A 68-year-old Amish farmer was robbed of \$2,000 March 22 by a woman described as a gypsie. Mannas J. S. Yoder was travelling alone in his buggy near Emmatown when he was stopped by two women and a man travelling in a late model car. One of the women approached him and jabbed him in the ribs. Yoder instinctively moved his hand toward the pocket containing the billfold. The woman grabbed the billfold and the trio made a quick getaway. The billfold contained about \$2,000 in cash and checks.

2,000 Lepers More Each Month

The leprosy-plagued country of Thailand is so short of water that some of the apparent symptoms of the disease disappear with a good scrubbing, according to the director of UNICEF (United Nations Children's Emergency Fund). But the director, S. M. Keeny, who recently returned from an on-the-spot inspection tour, hastened to

add that he did not mean to minimize the seriousness of the disease in Thailand. "Each month 2,000 more patients are being added to the lists in Thailand," he said.

Mr. Victor Sifton

Victor Sifton, 64, editor and publisher of the Winnipeg Free Press, died Friday, April 21, in the waiting room of his doctor, whom he wanted to consult on account of his physical condition. Mr. Sifton was a man with strong convictions who exerted an influence in politics, society and especially as an editor.

Mennonites Plan Settlement 700 Miles North of Vancouver

Victoria — Eighty Mennonite families from southern Saskatchewan are planning to open up a new farming area at the edge of solitude in B.C.'s Peace River district.

The group, led by Rev. Julius Enns of Osler, near Saskatoon, Sask., has applied to the provincial lands department for lease of approximately 33,000 acres near Umbach and Prespatu creeks, 55 miles north of Fort. St. John.

They intend to carve a community out of the wilderness, building homes, schools and churches from logs. They will be leaving a grain-growing district to establish themselves in a mixed farming area. After numerous inquiries here and several trips to the area, the group has apparently concluded that the district, about 700 miles north of Vancouver, would be ideal for a self-supporting community.

They would be able to raise their own grain and forage crops for livestock and poultry, and the fertile land is suitable for gardens to fill household needs. The frost-free growing season is about four months, approximately the same as that of the area in which they now live.

Land inspectors are going over the applications, and the formalities of the deal are expected to be completed this summer. Officials expect at least 200 persons will be involved in the re-settlement.

Selling Potatoes to USA

Kroeker Seeds Ltd. believe they made history recently when they shipped the first of five trailer loads of Canada No. 1 table potatoes to Tennessee. Kroeker's said this was the first time that Manitoba potatoes were being shipped to that state. Kroeker Seeds have gone into independent selling and have sold the potatoes, to be delivered to Memphis, Tenn., through a broker.

Don Kroeker said that good crops and heavy plantings had created a surplus in Manitoba this year. Normally the volume of potatoes going to the U.S. is very small. However,

Kroekers say they shipped to some northern states before. This year many shipments from Manitoba have gone to Ontario and Saskatchewan.

Relationship with Peace Corps Uncertain

Akron, Pa. (MCC) — Possible MCC cooperation with the New Peace Corps is still uncertain. The Peace Corps has not yet issued its criteria regarding the role of voluntary agencies in administering Peace Corps personnel, but it is expected that the criteria will soon be released by Gordon Boyce, Director of Private Agency Relations with the Peace Corps.

Mr. Boyce has said he is sure the Peace Corps will want to work through voluntary agencies, but is uncertain about the constitutionality of providing direct support for personnel in church agency programs. There is a possibility that agencies such as MCC will be able to use Peace Corps volunteers in the expansion of present projects.

When the criteria for cooperation are released, they will be carefully studied to determine whether there is any place for MCC as a church agency in administering Peace Corps personnel. Executive Secretary William T. Snyder said concerning possible cooperation, "Our relationship is first of all to the Christian church. We cannot become dissociated from the mission of the church in the underdeveloped areas."

MCC administration is in correspondence with overseas workers to obtain the reaction of the workers to possible use of Peace Corps support in their areas.

Ockenga Sees Africa

(Continued from page 1-2)

of Communism. In Nigeria Communism has made little progress, due in part to the influence of Christian missions. Politically the several parties constitute a healthy climate adverse to dictatorship. As goes Nigeria, so goes Africa. Nigeria is showing Africa the way of responsible government. If Nigeria can hold steady, there is hope of other democracies in Africa. If it succumbs to the heavy communist propaganda effort being directed toward it, then no other democratic nation in Africa will stand," Dr. Ockenga declared.

He said he foresees considerable development of material things in certain centers where national income will be used to set up a showplace as an example of what can be done. "But it will take a long time before the masses can realize the good things of the modern life." Referring to Africa's resources, Dr. Ockenga remarked that foreign capital will dominate the development companies for years. But not without a heavy cut of profits going to the governments of these nations. He emphasized that a strong

policy of conditions accompanying our aid is needed or Africa's resources will go into the Red camp. He pointed out that Ghana, which is overly friendly to communist nations and influence is dependent upon and receiving generous aid from the US. "The conditions of freedom of ballot and a multi-party system would give some controlling strength to our aid."

Speaking of Africa's blame of European colonialism for its backwardness, Dr. Ockenga observed that compared with the cultural achievements of the Mediterranean countries for the past 5,000 years, Africa has made little progress in material, scientific and cultural areas. "The responsibility of Africa's backwardness must not be laid at the door of the Europeans. Rather, Africa's development is the responsibility of the Europeans. The challenge of Africa in educational, political and cultural areas is great.

The hunger for education is universal and is far from being met. Here Christian missions have made a major contribution. Though their educational work is destined to be absorbed by the governments, it must be maintained for the foreseeable future. Racially, the Christian doctrine that all men are equal before God, are created in God's image and are the object of His redemptive love has made a great impact on Africa. But too often the idea of equality has not been tempered by the recognition of inequalities in knowledge, ability, skill, talent and strength. This has resulted in much loose thinking in interrelations, integration and inter marriage. Given character and education, an African is as capable as a European. But to lift 200 million people from primitive to modern life is a herculean task."

"The missionary program of medical aid, education, sanitation, evangelism, vocational training and character building has done more to aid the transition than any other force. The African Christians are grateful to the Church for its missionary work and acknowledge the great debt they owe to Christ. 'Uhuru' or 'independence' is the watchword of Africa. Sixteen African nations received independence since 1959. The action of France, England and Belgium in setting their colonies free was precipitous, but necessitated by the spirit of the times. The present troubles in Kenya and Rhodesia stem from the determination of Africans to administer their own affairs. The sign of two fingers may be seen everywhere among children and adults along the road symbolizing the African demand for freedom and land," Dr. Ockenga said.

(The well-known global missionary program of Park Street Church, supporting 117 missionaries in 49 countries with an annual quarter million dollar budget, was initiated by Dr. Ockenga 22 years ago.)

Reprint from Christian News Report

YOUTH IN ACTION

Calgary Youth Activities

Youth Sunday at Calgary

Youth Sunday, held February 5, was a great asset to the unity of our church. Both young and old united to make this a memorable occasion indeed.

During the morning service, Mr. Henry Schmidt, our youth leader spoke on "You Need the Church," according to I Cor. 12:12-26. He pointed out that we need the church for growth, fellowship and service. Our pastor, Rev. A. P. Regier, then pointed out that "The Church Needs You," according to I Cor. 12:27-31. The church needs our prayer support, our witness and our talents. It also seeks our moral support, financial assistance and our fellowship. A large choir of young people served with suitable songs.

For the afternoon the young people were invited to the different homes of the older members. This was spent in fun, food and fellowship. Many new acquaintances and friends were made.

"At the Crossroads" was the theme of the evening service. A panel discussion expressing the views of Scripture, education, the church, parents, a missionary, the world and youth was presented.

Then to climax the day, the young people had a fireside. Rev. Hutchenson and a quartet from the Berean Bible Institute served very ably. Rev. Hutchenson spoke of the Gift (Christ), the Shift (the Change) and the Sift in a Christian's life.

This eventful day reminded us vividly that in unity there is strength. Both young and old must find and fill their places to further the kingdom of God.

Hulda Prochnau

• • •

"As a Thief in the Night"

On Sunday evening, March 12, a one-hour two-act play, "As a Thief in the Night," was presented in the Calgary Highland Mennonite Brethren church. The following week it was presented in Edmonton.

The play centres around Mr. William Jones, the manager of a large wholesale firm, and his son Frank, a University student, who have permitted the love of the world to crowd Christ out of their lives. Business and reason have taken first place, although other members of the family have remained true to the Lord.

Suddenly, one night, the rapture of the church takes place. Mrs. Jones and other faithful Christians

are gone. The whole town is in an uproar, but it is too late to care for their souls. They have sold their souls for worthless material gain. Only now do they fully understand the meaning of Matt. 24:44: "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh."

The play stirred us to live a more serious Christian life. The fact is clear, "Christ cometh as a thief in the night."

Bertha Schmidt

• • •

Calgary Visits Edmonton

A group of approximately 45 young people gathered at the Calgary Highland M. B. church on the afternoon of Saturday, March 18. We had been looking forward to this weekend excursion to Edmonton for some time, following the invitation from the young people there.

Late in the afternoon we arrived at the James Gibbon School auditorium, where we were accorded a warm welcome. The extensive food preparation seemed to indicate that the Edmonton group had been forewarned as to the size of our party—or of our appetites.

The Edmonton young people had planned a full program of games and fellowship for the evening, which began with a rousing volleyball game between Edmonton and Calgary. Of course, Calgary's victory over Edmonton was inevitable, although the competition was keener than might have been expected. The young people were then divided into smaller groups for relays and other competitive games.

After this physical exertion, the group gathered around the piano for a hearty singsong and a time of Christian fellowship. We were favoured with several songs by an Edmonton male quartet. I am sure the prayer, "Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart," was echoed in the hearts of the listeners. Mr. D. Friesen then led in a short devotional, basing his thoughts on James 3. We were reminded of the potential of the tongue for either good or evil, and of our responsibility to use it for the glory of God alone.

If we had come with apprehensions whether the small group at Edmonton could accommodate the crowd, we found that they were not justified. We were all warmly received into the various homes for the night. After a restful night, we awoke to a bright and beautiful Sunday morning. The tantalizing aroma of coffee aroused our appetites. Were our hearts also anxious

and prepared to appropriate spiritual food? We prayed for God's blessing for the day.

The theme of the Sunday school lesson was in keeping with the Easter season. In the study of John 19, the discussion centred especially around the part Pilate had in Christ's suffering and crucifixion. Sunday school was followed by a short prayer session led by Mr. H. Dueck of Calgary, who used Psalm 33 as a basis for a brief meditation.

The thoughts of the morning message by Mr. Henry Schmidt were based on Luke 17:20-27. Our attention was directed to the fact of Christ's return. "Christ is risen. We believe it to be a fact. Just as surely He is coming back." We realized again how purposeless our life would be without this hope, and that our lives must emphasize that we believe His coming to be very near.

The afternoon service continued in the same vein. The main item of the program was the dramatization of the play, "As a Thief in the Night," by several of the Calgary young people. We pray that the presentation may have made a lasting impression on all of us, giving us a new sense of Christ's imminent return. An octet from Calgary served with several numbers in song.

The weekend had gone by very quickly and it was time to start on our way back to Calgary. We would like to express our appreciation to the Edmonton Church for the wonderful time they gave us. We hope that this excursion has been as spiritually beneficial as it was socially enjoyable.

Bertha Dueck

Winner of Tudor Bowl

Bill Thiessen of Altona Thursday night won the Tudor Bowl, the second highest vocal solo award at the Manitoba Musical Festival.

Mr. Thiessen qualified twice for the competition, once as winner of the sacred solo grade B competition and then as winner of the baritone solo grade B contest. Thursday evening at the festival he sang a musical setting of Edgar Allan Poe's Annabel Lee.

Adjudicator Jan van der Gucht praised Mr. Thiessen's singing. He said it had been a performance he would remember. "I can't imagine that this song could be better sung by anybody . . . a beautiful voice . . . he has that mysterious gift given to so few. He is at one with the spirit of the song."

Mr. Van der Gucht spoke of "a silence you could almost hear" that fell on the hall as Mr. Thiessen sang. "The audience could have adjudicated this competition for me," he said.

Mr. Thiessen was interviewed by various people after the performance. He has studied voice with May Lawson for two years. Sydney Harrison, one of the adjudicators con-

gratulated him and countless others swarmed around him. Mr. Thiessen told the press that he attends the Canadian Mennonite Bible College and intends to major in music. He won the Alma Wynn memorial trophy in 1960.

Increased Interest in Music Festivals

A steady growth of musical interest in the Southern Manitoba Festival becomes more evident every year. Well over 1,000 individual contestants, not including the number of participants in the choirs, are competing in the two-week music festival, a substantial increase from last year's entries. The development of the festival into wider spheres of our musical heritage increases the opportunities to take part, and the executive is pleased with the large number taking part in this enriching and valuable experience.

Vocal competitions were held in Altona and Morden, with Mrs. Dorothy Lawson of Winnipeg as adjudicator. She formerly lived in Crystal City and used to teach piano, violin and voice in the Darlingford area.

The winner of the Co-op Vegetable Oil competition for choirs of selected songs was won by Mrs. Olga Friesen's studio choir with marks of 87 and 85.

In classes 22-27, Miss Jenny Klassen won the Morden competition for girls' solo. She tied for 83 and then won in the finals.

The Morden Collegiate choir under the direction of Mr. Peter Nickel gave a fine performance and scored 85 and 82 on two selections.

The instrumental competitions commenced on Monday, April 24, with Mrs. Francis Wickberg of Winnipeg and Mr. Lyell Gustin of Saskatoon adjudicating. The instrumental finals will be heard in Morden on Friday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m.

The final grand concert featuring all the trophy winners will be held in the Winkler Collegiate on Saturday, April 29, at 8:00 p.m.

Top Honors to Singing Family

Mr. and Mrs. Helmut Rischer, 1097 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg, with their children: Carla, 6, Astrid, 18, Paul, 12, and Helmut, Jr., 19, took top honors in the family class vocal ensemble at the Manitoba Musical Festival on Thursday, April 20. Helmut Rischer, Jr., is studying at St. Paul's Bible College, where he is majoring in voice and piano.

I have brought myself by long meditation to the conviction that a human being with a settled purpose must accomplish it and that nothing can resist a will that will take even existence for its fulfilment.

—Disraeli

EDUCATION

SCHOOLS and COLLEGES

Mennonite Educational Institute

Clearbrook, B.C. — Our school is proud of its senior boys' basketball team for their fine performance in the Provincial Basketball Tournament. Out of 101 schools in B.C., our team was placed third. They were also awarded the Sportsmanship Trophy of the tournament. Ed Suderman, John Haak, and Vic Rahn were placed on All-Star teams. Other members of the team are Henry Suderman, Jim Falk, Hartmut Derksen, George Heidebrecht, John Rahn, Art Friesen, and Howard Loewen.

On March 21, we enjoyed an inter-house indoor track meeting.

The grade 13 annual drama was presented on the evenings of March 23, 24, and 25 in our school gym, and on April 6 in the John Oliver High School auditorium in Vancouver. The name of the drama was "Glaube und Heimat" by Karl Schoenherr. It is the story of Austrian peasants who have to leave their homeland on account of their Christian faith.

Thursday, March 30, the Canadian Mennonite Bible College Choir presented an Easter program in our school.

Easter holidays began on March 31 and continued to April 10. The Senior High School Easter exams were written April 12-17.

1961 Eden Graduates Visit Bible School

The graduating class of Eden Christian College, Niagara-on-the-Lake, visited the Bible School of the Ontario M. B. Conference in Kitchener on Friday, April 14. The class, consisting of 31 students, was accompanied by two faculty members.

The purpose of the visit was to interest young people in the systematic study of God's Word at our own Bible schools. Most of the time was spent attending classes with the regular students. The day ended with a volleyball game between the Bible school students and Eden.

Such visits, it is hoped, will help to maintain interest and foster unity in the work of the schools of our conference.

Eden Faculty Appointments Complete

Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. — Faculty appointments for the academic year 1961-62 have been completed recently. New members on the staff are Mr. Harold Jantz of Virgil, and Mr. John Heidebrecht of Bruce, Alta.

Mr. Jantz is a graduate of Eden Christian College, the second alumnus to join the staff. He is also a graduate of the M. B. Bible College in Winnipeg (B.Th.). As president of the Alumni Association of the College, Mr. Jantz has shown genuine interest and concern for his Alma Mater. His appointment to the faculty is accepted with gratitude. His major teaching field will be English, Bible and Geography.

Mr. John Heidebrecht, formerly of Coaldale, Alta., is currently teaching in Bruce, Alta. He has taught for a number of years in the Alberta Mennonite High School at Coaldale. Mr. Heidebrecht comes to us with excellent recommendations from inspectors and former colleagues. His major field of instruction will be Mathematics and Science. Mr. Heidebrecht has a B. Ed. degree with a major in Science and a minor in Mathematics from the University of Alberta and is completing his work on M.Ed. degree.

We are grateful to God that these appointments could be made and trust that God will continue to bless the work of Eden Christian College.

Other members of the faculty for next year will be Mr. Howard Fast, Mr. Henry Esau, Mr. Peter J. Dick, Mr. George Wichert, and Mr. Rudy Bartel, principal.

R. F. Bartel

1960—Record Year for Mennonite Publishing House

Doylestown, Pa. — The Mennonite Publishing House at Scottdale had a record volume of business in 1960, when sales exceeded two million dollars for the first time, it was reported at the annual meeting of the Mennonite Publication Board held March 24-26 in the Doylestown Mennonite Church.

A generally favorable financial picture was reported along with the 14 per cent increase in sales over 1959. Net operating profit was \$62,000. Nine new books were printed and a total of 5,500,000 tracts circulated.

The Board approved the appointment of Ben Cutrell as Publishing Agent to succeed A. J. Metzler, who has served in that capacity for 26 years. A resolution of appreciation for Brother Metzler's service was adopted. He will continue to give half-time to publishing work in the capacity of Director of Church Relations and Overseas Operations.

John Drescher of Marshallville, Ohio, will succeed Paul Erb as editor of the Gospel Herald in May, 1962.

The Ways of the Lord

(Continued from page 1-4)

what he had seen in the religious services in Russia, he was convinced there was something better to be had, but as yet he didn't have it. His Mennonite friends faithfully kept contact by sending parcels during the hard post-war years.

Shortly after 1945 the doors into many a refugee camp in Europe opened to our American brotherhood through the MCC. Much material aid was given the needy, and attention was paid to the greater spiritual needs of these heart-sore families. Thanks to faithful witnesses in Bible study groups and children's classes, souls were brought to a new life in Christ. Soon the Lord opened greater doors in Germany and Austria for regular meetings of these small fellowships. One of these outposts was Linz, Austria.

This is where the A. J. Neufelds labored for several years, and during that time the Lord led in making contacts in three other surrounding cities. Among these was the oldest city in Austria, Enns. The Neufelds went home on furlough. On one occasion they paid a visit to the Black Creek Mennonite Brethren Church on Vancouver Island. One of the brethren there came up to request a favor of Brother Neufeld: Would he, if he ever came to Enns, Austria, stop to see a family with whom the inquirer had been in contact since the first world war. Another address found its way into the address book. The ways of the Lord . . .

The fall of 1960 came around. We accompanied Brother Neufeld to an evangelistic campaign in Steyr, Austria, some 15 miles from Enns. One morning the brethren, while seeking for a place of worship for the few believers in Enns, also looked up this address. After making acquaintance, the door was left open for them to come again, and come again they did. This time for 10 days of meetings at the end of February, 1961.

This campaign began with a small group of workers and a believer from Steyr gathered for prayer at their cars on the market place in Enns. A mighty tower in which is written the history of the town dating back to Roman times loomed in the centre of the square. Armed with handbills and invitations for the children's meetings, we went forth, two by two, through the streets hunting for the homes. Often it was a real hunt, for many families live in one building. The gate to the yard was sometimes locked, or if we were fortunate enough to get in, the main entrance would be locked, barring us from many little abodes in the big complex. But still we reached quite a few in this city of 10,000, who are almost exclusively non-Protestant. There was no positive Christian witness in this city. It was really the first tilling of the soil.

Wednesday evening we entered the lovely Red Room in the stately town hall, not knowing what to expect. But we knew fellow believers were praying everywhere and our expectancy was of the Lord. We in ourselves were totally unable even to touch this city. But God was.

Five people from the city turned out the first evening. That may sound like very, very few, but the Lord evaluated those souls at five times the value of the whole world. Should we count them for less? Among them was Anton, his wife, and daughter. The attendance slowly began to grow, the interest became very keen and the Lord did miracles. The children's meetings were well attended, and it was a real inspiration to work with these bubbling, enthusiastic little Austrians. The first few meetings almost every question we asked was answered by "Maria" (Mary) or "beichten" (confession). But in a few days that fell away and Christ took on meaning for them. They were heartily ridiculed for going to the meetings, but they came anyway and the Lord drew some of them unto Himself. Their determination and stamina were admirable. The older ones also began coming to the evening meetings.

When the last evening meeting came to a close, 14 men, women and children had come to know Christ. And praise God, Anton and his family were a shining example among them. "He always told me there was something different. He wanted to leave his religion long ago," said his wife. But they had never really found the way. In the following prayer meeting she remarked: "I am as if I'm just born new," and she wasn't quoting Scripture, because she knew none. What joy had entered that home! They bought Bibles, read literature and gave liberally of their meager earnings to support the cause of the gospel in their city. They described it as a second Sodom and Gomorrah. When reprimanded for her decision, Anton's wife brought up this argument: "In choosing a position where I can earn my daily living, I take the one where I earn the most and where I have the most benefits. Shouldn't I do the same when I'm looking for something to fill the needs of my soul?" The opposition was silenced.

It was probably the smallest evangelistic campaign we have worked in thus far, but it was the most inspiring one. We were so conscious of God's working in our midst and we were overwhelmed by His ways which could be traced for decades in the life of this one family. How He loves us, and how much care He takes to win the souls of men unto Himself. It behooves us, who have experienced Him as a living reality, to do our part in fulfilling His commission with an urgency as never before.

Whetting Literary Appetite

(Continued from page 1-4)

infant mortality of ideas. The world around us is full of ideas which she develops at every opportunity. Such an insignificant thing as picking up a small evergreen tree that dropped from a truck on a street in Chicago developed into the lovely story, "The Littlest Christmas Tree." She also makes good use of her friends' children for radio stories. "Doings at the Bangles House" is a favorite radio production.

Dr. Sherwood Wirt, editor of Decision Magazine, said, "To us who push the keys of the typewriter, writing becomes the means to supply the way of salvation to many lost souls." It is necessary to present the material in such a way

that the words, phrases and sentences of the article or chapter in the books attract in the show window.

Mr. Roe, former editor of the African Challenge, illustrated this very forcibly by the use of John 14:16. The African interprets it as: While Jesus is absent in heaven, the Holy Spirit is here to escort us home. To us this interpretation is not very meaningful just as American expressions are often meaningless to the African. In writing we must not only meet the reader on his level, but also keep his interest.

Many "isms" have realized the value of the printed page and are using it to great advantage. We are told that the Communists literally "sowed down China with literature and then took over." The masses of India have been taught to read by the missionaries. Today they are being furnished with reading material by Moscow. Some of us are aware of these dangers.

To flood the world with Christian literature is the aim of Christian writers and publishers. They cannot attempt to do this task alone. Every Christian can enroll in this great mission in some way. What are we as M. B. Church doing to create a greater appetite for Christian literature? The battle is raging. Who will win, the "isms" or Christianity?

Expansion Among South American Mennonites

Asuncion, Paraguay. — In spite of the fact that there still is some emigration from here to Bolivia, Canada, and other countries, a many-sided expansion is under way among South American Mennonite colonies, especially in Paraguay.

Of major importance is the steady progress on the Trans-Chaco road,

which, according to present indications, may be completed ahead of schedule.

Imports to various countries of such items as refrigerators, tractors, trucks, road graders, electrical supplies, and industrial equipment continue. With experimental plots of wheat giving promise that wheat can be grown successfully in Paraguay, milling equipment has been purchased for colonies to make their own flour. Some of these projects are financed by the million dollar USA loan, others through private funds.

Friesland Colony, east of the Paraguay River, has under consideration the purchase of a large tract of cultivated land from the nearby Hutterite Colony, part of which has disbanded. Funds are to be supplied by Mutual Aid Services Inc. of the USA.

General Conference workers, assisted by Mennonite Central Committee personnel, have established a weekly German radio broadcast. Speakers and directors are Rev. Henry Dueck and Peter Epp, with the local youth group providing music and participating in other ways. If plans work out, short wave broadcasts will be started in the near future, making it possible for German listeners in all parts of the country to hear the programs.

Expansion along economic, cultural and religious lines is also under way among the Mennonite colonies in Uruguay and Brazil.

Pembina River Dam Needed

Morden, Man. — Morden Chamber of Commerce in a recent resolution urged the Manitoba and federal governments to give immediate and full consideration to construction of a dam on the Pembina River and to providing an additional water supply to meet the immediate needs of the Morden and Winkler areas.

The resolution says crops in the lower Red River valley could be greatly improved by irrigation, but the present water supply is inadequate for agricultural as well as for industrial purposes.

The Morden and Winkler areas, however, would benefit only to a limited degree by the proposed dam on the Pembina River. The present dam on the Dead Horse Creek west of Morden is inadequate to meet the needs of this district.

An extra water supply would therefore be necessary even if the Pembina dam is constructed, the resolution says.

ON THE HORIZON

April 29 and 30. — Meeting sponsored by the Inter-Church Mission of the Canadian Protestant churches to be held in Winnipeg. The evangelist is Rev. Tom Rees of London, England.

April 30. — Dedication services for the new house of the Lord of the Hill Ave. Mennonite Brethren Church, 3717 Hill Ave., Regina, Sask.

April 23—30. — Evangelistic services at the Hill Avenue Mennonite Brethren church, Regina, Sask., with Rev. Art Martens.

May 6. — MBCI presents spring concert in its auditorium at 173 Talbot Ave., Winnipeg 5, at 8 p.m.

May 7. — Manitoba M. B. Youth Workers' Conference, held at Brandon M. B. church, 4th and Hill Streets.

May 13. — The M. B. Bible College oratorio choir performing the German "Brahms' Requiem," Saturday at 8:00 p.m. at the Elmwood M. B. church.

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