

Mennoite Observer

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

I Cor. 2:2

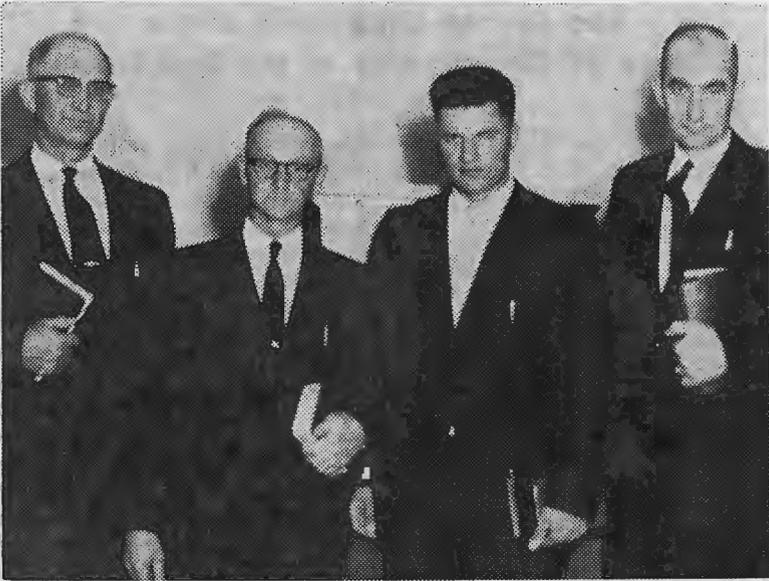
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YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

May 19, 1961

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Dedication of the Straiton Chapel



From left to right: Rev. P. C. Penner, Rev. G. Ratzlaff, Gerhard Rempel, and Rev. N. Dyck at the dedication of the Straiton Gospel Chapel.

Arnold, B.C. — "For this new house we praise Thee," sang the choir at the dedication of the Strait-Gospel Chapel.

Approximately 175 friends from the Arnold M. B. Church as well as other parts of the community filled the new chapel for its dedication service on Sunday evening, April 30. A welcome was extended by the superintendent, Mr. Gerhard Rempel. He also led in the invocation.

A small choir led by Frank Dyck served in song during the service. Violinists Edward Dyck and Dorothy and Edward Balzer rendered a stirring string trio followed by a poem, "Why I Go to Church," recited by Beatrice Farina, one of the Straiton pupils. A short history of the Sunday school work and a report from the building committee were also included in the service. Rev. Nick Dyck, pastor of the Mc-Connel Creek Gospel Chapel, gave the dedication message using a portion from II Chronicles as a basis for his sermon. Rev. G. Ratzlaff, pastor of the sponsoring Arnold M. B. Church, and Rev. P. C. Penner, assistant to the pastor, spoke the dedicatory prayers in the German and English languages respectively.

Sunday school work in the Straiton area was begun in 1944 by Louise Toews and Mary Warkentine. At that time they had four to seven pupils attending. The Frank

Sawatzky's carried on the work and were succeeded in 1947 by John Rempel who remained in charge until 1952. The attendance had

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8,000 Christians in Laos

High in the mountains of Central Laos, three days by foot and horseback from the main road, is the village of Ben Pho San Noy. The vil-

lage has a church, a congregation, but no pastor. This is typical, for there are 200 villages in this mountainous country, about 8,000 Christians in all, and only 14 Christian workers to minister to them. The church at Ben Pho Sang Noy has the distinction of having for its minister—a radio! Here's the story: A poor rice farmer, a Christian, Mr. Bah Khu, has a radio in his home, and nearly every night the people of the church crowd around to hear the radio preach to them in their own tongue as the Laos broadcasts are sent from the Far East Broadcasting Co's Manila stations. These programs are put together by dedicated missionaries.

Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Unruh Now at Home

On May 1, Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Unruh of India arrived in Vancouver. First they visited their widowed mother, Mrs. A. H. Unruh at Chilliwack, B.C., then their children, the George Blocks, at La Glace, Alta., then their daughter Kathryn Unruh and the Walter Reghehrs in Winnipeg. On May 22 they expect to attend the graduation exercises at Tabor College where their son Donald is graduating this spring. The Unruh family will reside at 45 Carmen Ave., Winnipeg 5, Man., and their telephone number is LE 3-7797.

Receiving Awards



Emily Viola Warkentin

Diligent Miss Emily Warkentin daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Warkentin of 155 Helmsdale Ave., Winnipeg, won the C. Gordon Smith and W. A. Murphy scholarships and the outstanding school citizenship award at the 73rd commencement exercises of the Winnipeg General Hospital school of nursing on Monday, May 15.

Miss Betty Friesen of Morris, Man., has also done outstanding work. She won a general proficiency award at the graduation exercises, at the Grace Hospital school of nursing.

Landes, Berthold Schanzenbaeher and Friedrich Seibert. Four of them are Mennonites and four belong to the Evangelical (Lutheran) Church.

(Continued on page 8-3)

German Conscientious Objectors Enter Service

By Rev. Peter J. Dyck

Never before in the history of Germany has there been a law exempting conscientious objectors from military service and providing for an alternative service program. The post-war constitution of Germany provides for the recognition of conscientious objection to military service and in January of 1960 a law to this effect was passed.

After considerable delay and much discussion this law was implemented in April, 1961. Some 3,000 young men have to date been officially recognized as CO's by hearing commissions set up for this purpose in accordance with Paragraph 26 of the military service

law. About half of the men base their objection to military service on Christian grounds; the other half are motivated by humanitarian and other considerations.

An Historic Occasion

April 8, 1961, was an historic occasion. On that day EIRENE welcomed its first German CO's, who reported at Mennoniten-Haus in Kaiserslautern for orientation and placement. More will arrive in May and June. Introducing each other over a cup of tea at the informal reception, they gave their names as Manfred Apel, Herman Fellmann, Bernd Haas, Guenter Jantzen, Walter Kaufmann, Ernst

EDITORIAL

The World Outlook

The greatest optimist if attempting to take a reasonably balanced view of the trend of world events, could not by any stretch of imagination, call them promising for the present prosperity and condition of mankind. For whether we look at Europe, Asia, Africa or the regions beyond, we see little else than seething unrest and discontent with their present situation among the peoples of the earth. Truly, there is evident in every direction a longing, a dreaming of dreams, whereby if any particular nation became the world's dominating power and able thereby to impose her will on other countries, there would be ushered in an era of universal change. To sum up the outlook in one sentence, what we actually view is a clash of wills among the nations and their rulers, making a very troubled sea, over which the storms of world-wide conflict are steadily gathering with increasing intensity.

Man is trying to do without God! Small wonder, then, that the sea is becoming more troubled, that its waves are rising ever higher in their restlessness, that world peace is as elusive as any fantastic dream. If God be the final arbiter of the lives and doctrines of men, as our conscience tells us He is, who save He, can give the true dictum upon the impasse with which we are faced? How brimful of meaning are His words to us today, as His voice speaks to us through the prophet Isaiah: "The wicked (those who omit God from their calculations) are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked" (Isa. 57:20,21).

What does the future hold for us and what may we expect as the outcome of the present ominous conditions? To the Christian the present state of things has not come with the shock of the unexpected. On the contrary, the Bible, which speaks with all the dignity and majesty of final authority, has foretold in prophecy these happenings as being among the inescapable signs of the end of this age. That this present Godlessness, combined with another equally distinct warning, proclaims to all who read and believe the words of the Bible as being divinely inspired, that we are on the verge of stupendous happenings.

The other equally striking sign is the return of the Jews to their own land to become once more a nation with a home of its own. The Bible, so evidently correct in its prophecies, clearly vindicates its claim to the unbiased reader of being not of man, but of divine origin, even of God.

This being self-evident, how infinitely more reliable is the Bible than any merely human source of information, as to the nature of the climax toward which these signs of the end of the age point. For that things must come to a head soon, no thinking man can doubt.

What then has the Bible to say to us as to the immediate future? In the Book of Revelation the veil is drawn aside and to the Apostle John the future is disclosed in a series of panoramic visions. The signs already mentioned usher in events so high above the range of human experience as to reach the miraculous, and to identify themselves as ordained by the hand of God alone. These divine happenings will surely come to pass. They are: the coming of the Lord for His people, the Great Tribulation, and the Lord's return to judge those who have rejected Him as Saviour and bring in the Millennial reign upon the earth.

The Tribulation is significantly called "Great," because the divine judgments which will fall upon the rebellious world will be so great in their intensity as to utterly dwarf anything that has ever befallen mankind before. The description given us shows them to be terrible, awful, unprecedented. Of them the Saviour said, "... there shall be great tribulation, such as was not from the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be" (Matt. 24:21). It will be a period when Satan, the "god of this world" will be allowed to rule over his poor blinded people, finally gathering them under his two leaders, the False Prophet and the Antichrist, for the last great battle, Armageddon—there to fight against God Himself, with the result that death from above and beneath seals their doom for ever. For Christ comes at the head of the heavenly hosts no longer as Saviour but as Judge and meets His foes in person. Deluded by Satan, they dare to pit themselves against the King of kings.

The result of the battle is an awful slaughter. This incident will usher in the Millenium, the reign of Christ on earth for a thousand years.

Moreover, according to the divine manifesto, a mysterious event will take place before the Great Tribulation, namely, the Rapture. "Behold," writes Paul, "I show you a mystery; we (the saved) shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound and the dead (saved) shall be raised incorruptible, and we (the living saved) shall be changed" (I Cor. 15:51,52). This event, when Christ will take His saints to glory, is miraculous indeed. God in His mercy calls us through today's world-wide warnings. Christians do well, therefore, to be ready for Christ's return, and unbelievers should get right with God and be saved.

By C. Carre. Abridged from a tract

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)

In our modern time when lukewarmness is remarkably felt the servants of God are sighing. Only those who are indifferent find no reason for sighing. Instead of sighing they are enthusiastic about the advancement in culture which they support, but with regard to spiritual light no desire is felt.

The sighing, as was discussed in our discourse, is associated with a strong desire for a change of the condition into which the church had entered, "I would that thou wert cold or hot." The Lord's statement should not be explained as if the appraisal meant that the church was ungodly or pious. The word "cold" suggests a state of indifference to the gospel. Provided that the people of the Laodicean church had never heard the gospel, they might have been reached easier. A certain Russian once declared to a Russian Baptist, "We Russians are clay out of which something can be moulded still, but you Baptists who yield to apostasy are broken roof-tiles out of which nothing can be formed. For those who never had been reached by the gospel, there is still hope that it will affect them during the great tribulation, but those who were touched already will be liable for judgment.

If the professing ones at Laodicea had remained in love to Christ, they would have had the best of prospects. Their High Priest had overcome their casual weaknesses by His Spirit and discipline applied by the church. With a view into the future, the Lord longs for a change of the inner self.

Because the Lord never punishes unless He has warned before, He here exhorts to discontinue the disposition held, saying, "I will spew thee out of my mouth." The great High Priest personally pleads for every believer before God. He preserves his name in His mouth,

whereas the lukewarm one who will be spewed out is not mentioned before His Father anymore. As the Lord dealt with unbelieving Israel in the desert, so He will treat the lukewarm. They cease to belong to His people.

The Lord promised those at Sardis, who had not defiled their garments, that He would confess their names before the Father. This promise was not granted the church at Laodicea. If the professing ones are spewed out, there is no further call to work. The Lord calls men into His service. The indifferent ones, however, cannot be considered for God's service because of their lukewarm attitude in the carrying out of the Lord's orders. They are judged by the word, "Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord deceitfully, and cursed be he that keepeth back his sword from blood." Indeed, what a great loss for a

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CHURCH NEWS

Mission Program Instead of Fund-Raising Auction

St. Catharines, Ont. — The fourth annual spring program of our Mission Group was presented at the St. Catharines M. B. church on Sunday evening of April 30. Like many other churches, we too have various women's groups enthusiastically active in mission projects and service to our community. In the past four years the Mission Group has replaced its yearly fund-raising auction by a mission program, and the results have been most gratifying.

The Mission Group has a membership of over 60 young women, most of whom are mothers of small children, so that fancy needlework must of necessity be left to the older groups. Our bi-monthly meetings take the form of a worship service, in which the study of God's Word, personal testimonies and prayer are a refreshing source of strength and real fellowship to all present. This past winter, as in previous years, a fair portion of the evening has been devoted to singing—regular choir practice in fact. Thus the entire group formed the ladies' choir working towards making our annual program a blessing to all concerned.

This year the program included a number of well-chosen songs, be-

man who calls himself a servant of God!

It is a frightful fate to be spewed out. This act indicates that the confessor is undeserving, he is an adverse person; he is the salt that is cast out to be trodden under foot. And there is reason to believe that he will be cast into the great tribulation and be judged like the depraved. What a dreadful threat! It would be well if all the lukewarm would heed the warning and take it to heart.

A gloomy picture was just presented to you. Do not believe that it is but the product of my own pessimism, which is in direct contradiction to the gospel. No, it is the picture of the lukewarm, professing Christian whom the Scriptures present. I am convinced that the condition of the lukewarm person is far more serious than we have been able to describe. I wish we would all be roused in our day. If, however, some of the readers should question whether there can be hope for the lukewarm or complacent, I would suggest to them to finish reading the chapter and to pay close attention to that which follows. I wish the Lord were able to lead the mere professing Christian to a decisive search for help. This would be the beginning of restoration. Let us pray that the Lord deliver us from lukewarmness.

ginning with Mendelssohn's "Lift Thine Eyes." A dialogue depicting the true significance of the cross in the lives of various individuals, believers and unbelievers alike, took up a good part of the evening. Then there were special numbers and the choir sang "Nearer My God to Thee," "The Lord is My Shepherd," and "He Wants Me Too."

It was indeed a joy to serve our Lord in this manner and be a blessing to the large congregation in attendance. Our pastor, Rev. Henry Penner, closed the service with a few well-chosen passages on how and where we must bear our cross to be a true witness to our community in these days of great uncertainty and doubt.

It is the sincere prayer of the Mission Group that the presented program might be a true blessing to those who attended and that the

money collected by a free-will offering may be used to further the cause of Christ both in our immediate surroundings and in the regions beyond.

Mrs. Irma Pauls

A Heart-Touching Message in Song

The M. B. Bible College oratorio choir presented "Das Deutsche Requiem" by Johannes Brahms at the Elmwood Mennonite Brethren church on May 13. The large audience listened with great interest as the choir, under the able leadership of Mr. Victor Martens, rendered its musical service.

Miss Joyce Redekopp at the organ, Mrs. Dorothy Martens as soprano soloist, Mr. David Falk as bass soloist, and all the members of the choir gave evidence in their singing that they had a worthwhile message to proclaim which was to touch the hearts of the listeners. Their effort has not failed its purpose and the spiritual benefit derived from it was accepted with gratefulness.

Revival at Winnipegosis



Left to right: Mr. John J. McDonald of Toronto, our guest soloist; Rev. John M. Schmidt, our guest speaker; the Gospel Light Hour quartet: John Klassen, Len Schroeder, Frank Funk and George Olfert. (Photo sent in by C. A. Friesen)

During the past few weeks we have experienced the moving of God's Spirit in our midst. In answer to faithful prayers of God's children, the Lord spoke to many hearts even before the evangelistic campaign began. Christians had their lives cleansed and sinners were under conviction.

April 23-30, Rev. John M. Schmidt of the Gospel Light Hour in Winnipeg served us at the Gospel Light Mission with messages from God's Word. Special music for the services was rendered by several guest singers in addition to a local crusade choir. Mr. John McDonald, a baritone soloist from Toronto, was with us for the first 4 days and the Gospel Light Hour quartet served us in the three closing rallies. God spoke in a definite way through the consecrated singing of these brethren. The children's features by

Brother Schmidt each night were enjoyed by young and old.

Attendance was very good all week, revealing the hunger and thirst of hearts for hope and assurance in these troubled times. We rejoice and praise God for many decisions during the last few days of the campaign. Besides several first-time conversions, many Christians surrendered their lives to the Lord. We are thankful for several parents and many young people who dedicated themselves to live wholly for Christ and serve Him more faithfully. A number are considering baptism this summer.

We solicit your continued prayers for the believers here in Winnipegosis that God could use each one of us to win others for Him in this strong Catholic community.

C. Alfred Friesen

WEDDINGS

Hiebert—Dyck

Miss Tena Dyck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob P. Dyck of Clearbrook, B.C., and Mr. Jacob Hiebert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Hiebert of Matsqui, B.C., were married in the Clearbrook M. B. church on May 9. Rev. John Epp officiated, with Rev. J. J. Unger also giving a message.

Miss Alice Sawatsky was soloist and Miss Linda Dyck the organist. Special visitors were Mrs. Friesen and family of Coaldale, Alta.; Mrs. Friesen is the sister of the bridegroom. Miss Linda Dyck, sister of the bride, arrived from Rosthern, Sask.

The couple will reside in Vancouver.

Dyck—Gilmore

Miss Anne Lucille Gilmore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Basil Gilmore, R.R. 1, Lowbanks, and Mr. Henry Abram Dyck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dyck, 27 Beamer Ave., St. Catharines, Ont., were married at the Brethren in Christ church on April 1. Rev. Edward Gilmore officiated.

The soloist, Robert Gilmore, Wainfleet, sang "The Lord's Prayer" and was accompanied by Al Day of Sherkston. Lynda Gilmore of Lowbanks was maid-of-honor. Also attending the bride were Mrs. Ruby Warkentin of Wainfleet as bridesmaid, Cheryl Dyck of St. Catharines as flower girl, and Robbie Gilmore also attended.

After a wedding trip to Northern Ontario, the newlyweds will reside at 25 Hainer, St. Catharines, Ont.

Silver Wedding Anniversary Observed

Rev. and Mrs. Hans Rempel observed their silver wedding anniversary in the Niagara United Mennonite church on April 30. Two years ago the Rempels came from Paraguay, where Rev. Rempel was the leading minister of the Mennonite Church, of Neuland.

Future Subscribers

Mr. Rudy Baerg and Mrs. Baerg (nee Hildegard Hein) of Winkler, Man., are happy to announce the birth of a son, Ronald Allen. The new arrival occurred in the Winkler Hospital on May 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Baerg together with their two children expect to move to Winnipeg from Winkler, Man., on about June 1. Their address will then be: 77 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.

Born to David and Lydia Froese of Oak Bluff, a daughter, Heather Lynette, on May 13, 1961.

Spiritual Highlights at Bage, Brazil

On March 31, eighteen believers were baptized and accepted as members in the Mennonite Brethren Church of Bage, Brazil. A month later a Bible conference was held in the same church. The teachers of the Bible school served with messages from God's Word. On Sunday morning, April 30, Rev. John Wall had a special message for the parents. The meetings were well attended.

Rev. Buhler Ordained

Lost River, Sask. — Ordination services were held in the Bethany Mennonite Church at Lost River on April 23. Rev. A. Buhler was ordained as elder of the church. Opening remarks were made by Rev. H. H. Penner, Saskatoon. Rev. and Mrs. Buhler were officially ordained by Rev. P. G. Sawatsky, Saskatoon. A few special numbers and greetings completed the program. Rev. A. Buhler spoke briefly and Rev. V. Nickel made the closing remarks. A fellowship lunch followed. Mr. and Mrs. P. Buhler, Abbotsford, B.C., parents of Rev. A. Buhlers, were present at the ordination.

500,000 lbs. Whole Milk from Canada for Distribution by MCC

MCC is now in the process of distributing the 500,000 lbs. of whole milk powder made available this year by the Canadian government. Shipments began in March and are scheduled to be completed by June.

The milk powder will go to Haiti, Algeria, Paraguay, British Honduras,

Whitsunday

Spirit of Truth! on this thy day,
To thee for help we cry,
To guide us through the dreary way
Of dak mortality.

We ask not, Lord, thy cloven flame,
Or tongues of various tone;
But long thy praises to proclaim,
With fervor in our own.

We mourn not that prophetic skill
Is found on earth no more;
Enough for us to trace thy will
In Scripture's sacred lore.

We neither have nor seek the power
Ill demons to control;
But thou in dark temptation's hour
Shalt chase them from the soul.

No heavenly harpings soothe our ear,
No mystic dreams we share;
Yet hope to feel thy comfort near,
And bless thee in our prayer.

When tongues shall cease, and
power decay,
And knowledge empty prove,
Do thou thy trembling searvants
stay,
With faith, with hope, with love!
Reginald Heber

ras, Jordan, Formosa, Vietnam, Korea and Indonesia. It was hoped that some of the powder could be sent to the Congo, but this will not be necessary now because United Nations is supplying adequate food to the Congo at present. Canadian Mennonite relief committees are endeavoring to raise money to cover shipping costs for the milk powder.

Ladies' Auxiliaries Have Inspiring Meeting

Main Centre, Sask. — About 150 ladies gathered at the M. B. church at Main Centre on April 26 for the bi-annual meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliaries of the Southern Saskatchewan M. B. churches.

The meeting was opened by general singing led by Mrs. Elizabeth Wiebe of Main Centre. A few words of welcome were then given by Mrs. Lydia Braun. The meeting was then turned over to Mrs. Helen Thiesen, the new president.

She gave a few words of encouragement and gave two purposes for the meeting, namely: fellowship and unity in God. Then followed a short season of prayer.

After that the business was taken care of. The major project for this summer is the collecting of \$500 for the support of the Bible school in Brazil. An additional collection of \$500 was planned for the summer, to be used in various ways.

Miss Hulda Martens, missionary from the Congo, who was with us, then gave a short talk on praise and prayer, according to Acts 16:25. She stressed that we should praise and pray even when we don't feel like it. This was followed by a song from Beechy.

Mrs. Adelina Martens, missionary on furlough from India, guest speaker of the day, then spoke to us on a portion of Scripture taken from Col. 3. She stressed how important it is to walk with the Lord. She also related some of her experiences in India, and closed the morning session with prayer. The local Ladies' Aid served a delicious meal.

The afternoon session was again opened by general singing, led by Mrs. Laura Schroeder from Main Centre, after which Miss Helen Giesbrecht from Regina opened the meeting by reading from Acts 12 and praying. A trio from Regina then brought a number in song.

Mrs. Bill Buller from Flowing Well then brought a recitation: "Give Us Today, Lord." This was followed by a song from the Junior Ladies' Aid of Herbert.

A stirring testimony via letter was heard from Mrs. C. C. Penner of Swift Current regarding her battles and victories in giving her daughter to serve the Lord in the foreign field.

The Woodrow Ladies' Aid served with a trio, after which a report was heard from the Junior Ladies' Aid of Swift Current. Mrs. Schmidt from Kelstern then favored us with a solo.

Mrs. Adelina Martens then gave a challenging message. To please God is what should occupy us most. Love is an outward action of inward feeling. Prayer is to be a sacrifice if we want it to bring results, and God has commanded us to give sacrifices, our own selves, for His service. We also have an obligation to pray for the lost.

A song was then heard from the Greenfarm Ladies' Aid. The Beechy ladies gave the invitation for the next meeting, which will be held in fall. Another song was heard from the Main Centre group, after which Mrs. Gripp from Woodrow closed the meeting with prayer.

A lunch was then enjoyed by all, before leaving for their respective homes, refreshed and encouraged to continue in their work for the Lord in this way.

Mrs. Agnes Redekop

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Sarah Peters †

On May 12, 1961, at the Concordia Hospital, Mrs. Sarah Peters, 56, beloved wife of Henry Peters of 98 Cobourg Ave., Elmwood, went home to be with the Lord. She was born in Southern Russia and came to Canada 14 years ago with her husband. They have resided in Winnipeg for the past 6 years.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Monday, May 15, in the Central Mennonite Brethren church, Juno and William. The Rev. D. K. Duerksen officiated. Interment was in the family plot at the Springfield cemetery.

Ed Croissant †

Mr. Ed Croissant, 59, member of the Woodrow M. B. Church, Sask., died on April 27. Funeral services were held from the local M. B. church on April 29. Left to mourn are his wife, Mrs. Croissant, three daughters, and four sons.

A Modern Miracle

By Gertrude Huebert



Mr. Kornelius Siemens

"The God of miracles is still living," were the words uttered by a young man seven months ago. Little did he realize that this would apply in his life.

Kornelius Siemens, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. K. Siemens of 923 Ave. F, North, Saskatoon, was born in Russia on April 12, 1923. As a small child he emigrated to Canada with his parents. Blessed with a keen, inquisitive mind, it was natural for him to pursue a course of study that would satisfy his thirst for knowledge. He received his primary and secondary education at Caswell Public School and Bedford Road Collegiate in Saskatoon, Sask. While taking night classes in typing and bookkeeping he made himself useful in his father's trucking business.

In 1946, he was graduated with a B.Sc., in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Saskatchewan. Hard work and honest

dealings in every respect had won him the respect of teachers and fellow students. To become perfect in all his efforts became the drive in his life. For relaxation he enjoyed good music. Excellent health permitted him to be active in most sports. Photography interested him greatly. To develop the hobby there was ample opportunity in his travels from B.C. to Montreal, USA, Flin Flon and many other places. Interesting, educational pictures found a place in his album while he was employed by Harold Harvey Construction Company at Dawson Creek, B.C., and on the construction program of the Alaska Highway. No stone remained unturned to obtain finances to continue his studies and gain a practical education during the summer months.

After graduation, Mr. Siemens became design engineer with Howard Smith Pulp and Paper Co. This work took him to Sault St. Marie, Ont., for two years. In 1949 he joined the engineering and agricultural firm of Main, Rensaa and Minsos in Edmonton. With eager anticipation he established his own private consulting firm in 1953, specializing in mechanical designing of plumbing, heating and air conditioning systems for new buildings.

God was blessing abundantly. The young engineer seemed satisfied to do a thorough job in his profession and live a life at which no one could point a finger. He was also active in the young people's group in Edmonton, where he attended church. What more could one do?

Then one day God drew Mr. Siemens apart and spoke almost audibly to him. Abruptly the young man stopped to think. When he confided in his mother concerning

(Continued on page 12-1)



The Cause of Foreign Missions

Latin America

Ann Klassen arrived in Paraguay from Costa Rica April 22 and was preparing to enter the work in the Chaco as soon as possible. She also reports that the corner stone for the national church building in Asuncion was laid on April 22.



A Colombian believer, Hector Castaneda, being baptized by the Cali Church pastor, Daniel Duque, with missionary Wilmer Quiring in the background.

The Cali Church in Colombia rejoiced on April 9 when two more precious young people testified of their faith in the Lord by taking the step of baptism. Ligia Espinosa, 18, was saved one year ago and her life manifests a growing experience with the Lord. Hector Castaneda, a Christian for about three years, has proven his sincere love for the Lord in many ways. They both take part in the evangelistic outreach of the church. These and other young people need your prayers. They are the future leaders of our church in Colombia.



Herman Bullers with daughters Carol, Linda and Joyce

Herman Bullers drove to their new home in LaCumbre, Colombia, after spending several days at the

mission office in Cali. They have already entered into the work and we rejoice that the Lord has supplied these workers. May He bless their ministry richly.

—Mrs. Wilmer Quiring

The Congo

Harold Fehderaus are continuing to experience the Lord's blessing in their work of perfecting the Kituba language New Testament for the Congo. The second lap of their travels, which was a survey of the French Congo, is to be completed by the end of May and the third lap will take them into the Kikwit area. With the Congo still in an unsettled condition, Brother Fehderau will be going into the interior alone early in June while Sister Fehderau remains in Leopoldville. Brother Fehderau will be assisted in his travels by the Missionary Aviation Fellowship plane in the Congo. Brother Fehderau plans to spend about three weeks in the Kikwit area, which will bring the travelling for the Kituba survey to a close.

Gain of Assemblies of God

Records of the Assemblies of God Foreign Missions Department show a gain of seven foreign Bible schools in the past year bringing the total to 71, officials of the denomination report. Most recently opened are institutions in Haiti, Brazil, Bolivia, British Guiana and Congo, Africa. Total enrollment in all foreign schools for the past year was more than 2,500. The Bible schools are staffed by missionaries and national workers. However, because of the withdrawal of Assemblies of God missionaries from Congo, the Bible school there is being operated by nationals. Six institutes in the Philippines and Mexico are also under supervision. Most of the native administrators in the schools are products of the Assemblies of God training program. The denomination seeks to prepare nationals for religious leadership in their own countries and cultures. Because of war activities going on in Indonesia, the Bible institute previously established there had to be closed this year. However, its operation will be resumed when conditions permit. Reprint from Christian News Report

"Voice of the Gospel" Progressing; New Africa Station to Start Tests

The Lutheran World Federation's new radio station in Ethiopia, "Voice of the Gospel," plans to be-

gin local experimental broadcasts over a one-kilowatt transmitter in September, Dr. Sigurd Aske, director of the broadcasting service, reports. Operation of the experimental transmitter will be a prelude to full-scale broadcasting which is expected to start late in 1962. When completed, the \$1,100,000 station will be one of the most powerful Christian missionary broadcasting centers in the world. Its two 100-kw short wave transmitters are to beam religious and cultural programs in two dozen languages over a radius from Nigeria to Indonesia and from the Near East to South Africa.

The LWF radio director said ground has already been broken for some of the station's buildings and construction bids will be opened in May. He predicted that the first buildings will be finished by August and that by the end of this year work will be well advanced on one of the two big transmitters. Building plans, Dr. Aske reported, were drafted by Ingvar Eknor, a Swedish architect who has been in Ethiopia for a number of years as a leader in his country's technical assistance to the African nation, particularly in the field of training architects. The studios in Addis Ababa are expected to be ready in about a year. The "Voice of the Gospel" will air not only live programs from these studios but also taped ones prepared there and in production studios located in other areas. Tanganyika, Madagascar and

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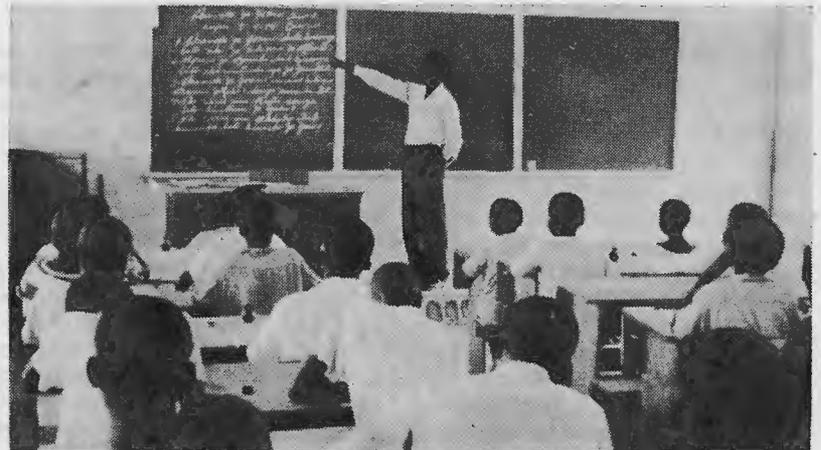
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South Africa are among the countries that are to have such studios, which will be set up and operated by the Lutheran churches of those countries.

Dr. Aske said that roughly 30 per cent of the programs of the station will be specifically religious. The other 70 per cent will be a variety of news broadcasts, educational programs and all kinds of service programs in the field of agriculture, hygiene, home economics and entertainment.

He reported that station's permanent staff—program, engineering and administrative—is now nearly complete. It includes persons of Ethiopian, American, Norwegian, Swedish and German nationalities. (Reprint from Christian News Report)

Life in the Congo Illustrated



Elementary schools are being taught and operated by Congolese teachers with counsel and guidance by our mission. This picture illustrates the article, "The Challenge to the Church in the Congo Today," of the previous issue.



Our national church in the Congo is carrying on, but our continued prayer support for continued growth is essential. See report for this picture entitled, "The Challenge to the Church in the Congo Today," found in previous issue of this paper.

THE Young Observers

Hello Girls and Boys,

We have celebrated Ascension Day a week ago. Many of you will have had a school holiday. Did you remember our risen Lord on that day? He was victorious over death and ascended into heaven to be with God, the Father. His work on earth was completed. "He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight."

After this the disciples remained together, waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This happened at Pentecost. On Sunday, the day we call Pentecost, we are especially thankful for the Spirit of God that dwells in the hearts of all believers.

Many wonderful things happened on that first Pentecost. The Spirit descended from heaven as a rushing mighty wind. The disciples began to speak in other languages so that all nationalities could hear God's Word. Peter, who previously denied his Master, now preached openly and so wondrously that three thousand people were converted that day. Don't you wish you could have heard Peter's preaching? Wouldn't it be a wonderful sight to see 3000 saved at one evangelistic meeting?

Even today, the Spirit has the same power. He convinces sinners of the need of Christ. He is our Comforter, our Helper, our Teacher and our Guide. He would have us grow into mature children of God. The Bible says the fruit of the Spirit are "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."

May Thy Spirit ever dwell in our hearts.

Love, Aunt Helen

The Young Bugler

or, The General's Story

"There was a time," said General Hardress—a grand old hero of the Indian Mutiny—to a friend, "when there was neither love nor obedience toward God in me, until, by God's mercy, my frozen heart was melted and warmed into life by a child."

"It was during the Indian service—stirring times, too, ripe with mutiny and murder. At that time I had in my regiment a little bugler. I had often noticed him as being too delicate for the life he had to lead; but he was born in the regiment, and we were bound to make the best of him. His father, as brave a man as ever lived, had been killed in action, and his mother had just drooped and died six months later."

"She had brought up the boy strictly according to her light. But as he liked better going to prayer meetings with her than joining in the horseplay of the other boys he was not popular, and suffered from many a coarse taunt and mocking word in consequence."

"After his mother died his life was made a misery by the scoffing sneers and ribald jokes of the men whose butt he was."

"About two years later, when Willie Holt was fourteen years old, the regiment was camping some miles away for rifle practice. I had intended leaving the lad behind, thinking him too delicate for such work—the ground was swampy and unhealthy—but my sergeant-major begged hard to 'take him along.'

"There is mischief in the air, Colonel," he said, "and rough as they treat the lad—and they do lead him a life—his pluck and his patience tells on 'em, for the boy is a saint, sir, he is indeed."

I had a rough lot of recruits just then, and before we had been out a fortnight several acts of disobedience had been brought to my notice—those were dangerous times—and I had determined to make an example of the very next offence by having the culprit flogged.

One morning it was reported to me that, during the night, the targets had been thrown down and otherwise damaged, and the usual practice could not take place. This was serious, indeed; and on investigation the rascally act was traced to a man or men in the same tent with Willie Holt, two of them being the worst characters in the regiment. The whole lot were instantly put under arrest, to be tried by court martial, when evidence was produced to prove that one or more of the prisoners were guilty of the crime. In vain were they appealed to produce the men, and at last I spoke:

"We have all heard the evidence that proves the perpetrator of last night's wicked act to be one of the men before us." Then turning to the prisoners, I added, "If any one of you who slept in No. 4 tent last night will come forward and take his punishment like a man, the rest will get off free; but if not, there

remains no alternative but to punish you all—each man in turn to receive ten strokes of the lash."

For the space of a couple of minutes dead silence followed. Then from the midst of the prisoners, where his slight form had been completely hidden, Willie Holt came forward. He advanced to within a few feet from where I sat; his face was very pale; a fixed look of purpose stamped on every line of it, and his steadfast shining eye met mine clear and full.

"Colonel," he said, "you have passed your word that if any one of those who slept in No. 4 tent last night comes forward to take his punishment the rest shall get off scot-free. I am ready, sir; and, please, may I take it now?"

For a moment I was speechless, so utterly was I taken by surprise. Then I turned upon the prisoners in a fray of anger and disgust.

"Is there no man among you worthy of the name? Are you all cowards enough to let this lad suffer for your sins? For that he is innocent, you know as well as I." But they stood sullen and silent, with never a word.

Then I turned to the boy, whose patient, pleading eyes were fixed on my face, and never in all my life have I found myself so painfully situated. I knew my word must stand, and the lad knew it too, as he repeated once more, "I am ready,

sir." Sick at heart I gave the order, and he was led away for punishment.

Bravely he stood with back bared, as one—two—three strokes descended. At the fourth a faint moan escaped his white lips, and ere the fifth fell, a hoarse cry burst from the group of prisoners who had been forced to witness the scene, and, with one bound Jim Sykes, the black sheep of the regiment, seized the whip, as with choking, gasping utterance he shouted:

"Stop it, Colonel, stop it, and tie me up instead. He didn't do it, I did." And with convulsed and anguished face he flung his arms around the boy.

Fainting and almost speechless, Willie lifted his eyes to the man's face and smiled—such a smile. "No, Jim," he whispered, "you are safe now; the Colonel's word will stand." His head fell forward, he had fainted.

The next day as I was making for the hospital tent where the boy lay I met the doctor.

"How is the lad?" I asked.

"Sinking, Colonel," he said quietly.

"What!" I said, horrified beyond words.

"Yes, the shock of yesterday was too much for his feeble strength. I have known for some months it was only a question of time," he added. (To be continued in next issue)

Silent Sermons



I like to read in a silent tree
The lesson that is there for me;
Its brawny arms outstretched in air
Bespeaking power and purpose there.

Again I find in running brooks
More wisdom than in many books;
While rugged stones and fragrant flowers
Speak peace to me for happy hours.

The stars that shine through darkest night
Tell me of God's majestic might;
A sermon clear the sun conveys,
Dispelling shadows with its rays.

Thoughts inspired by soaring birds
Oft outweigh a million words;
God's silent things of earth and sky,
Our man-made eloquence defy.

—Grenville Kleiser

Strait is the Gate

By MARJORIE BUCKINGHAM

(37th Installment)

But how had it happened, everybody was asking? What had made David Brandon wander away from the open-air meeting and his mother's watchful care? He had never been alone on the pier before, until this tragic occasion. What had taken him there now—for the first and last time? What had been the reason for his fatal fall? These were the questions everybody was asking and which nobody could answer. Speculation about the cause of the incident continued.

The child should never have been taken to the open-air meeting, many people said. He was too young to understand what was going on and nothing was more natural than that he should wander off in search of diversion. Others declared that his mother was to blame. She should have raised the alarm as soon as she missed him, or better still, should have given him her full attention instead of talking to Mrs. Norwood for so long. But those who had seen the little boy's enthusiasm as he took his part in the meeting were more charitable in their views. Perhaps something in the message his father was giving had so gripped his child-mind that he had gone out to seek the wanderers for whom his father was always so concerned. Perhaps the sight of some of his playmates romping on the beach had fostered the idea. But at best it was all conjecture. Nobody really knew what had happened, and nobody would ever know. Only little David Brandon himself could have told them, and he was dead.

Death had claimed him so swiftly—the little boy whose winsome ways had warmed the hearts of so many. One moment he had been alive, pulsating with the vigour and vitality of childhood, the next he was dead—a limp and lifeless form from which the soul had fled. It was unbelievable, but it was true. Life and death were close companions, if one paused to consider.

Maxwell and Margaret Brandon realized something of this tragic truth as they stood together on the private balcony of the hospital overlooking the sea. They were alone. The many friends who had come to help and express sympathy had left and the stricken parents were alone with their grief—stunned and almost stupified by the suddenness of their loss. It was growing late. The sun had slipped below the western horizon, and the quiet hush of the evening was beginning to settle over land and sea. But time had lost its significance for them as they tried in vain to pierce the veil beyond which lies the vastness of eternity. In a moment of time he had slipped out of their reach, their

lips trembled and her voice choked into silence.

baby, their little one—child of their mature, deeper love. He still seemed so near that they felt as though they could reach out and touch him, but there was a veil between. He had gone on before them into the land of eternal day, and had left them in the shadows of this earthly life.

For a long while neither of them spoke. Then at last the pastor's tired, toneless voice broke the silence. "I—I can't believe it, Margaret."

"Oh, Maxwell!"

Margaret Brandon turned and buried her face against her husband's shoulder. The pain in her heart was suffocating. She wanted to cry, but the tears would not come. Her grief was too deep, too agonizing to dissolve in tears, and the memory of the scene on the beach intensified her sorrow.

Maxwell Brandon had an awful feeling of inadequacy, as he tried to comfort his wife. He had comforted and strengthened many who were about to pass through the valley of death, but now he had nothing to say. His heart felt void and empty. What of all the precious promises of God with which he had so often challenged people in hours of crisis? He could not recall one of them at this moment. And as for prayer—he could not pray. Never in all his ministerial experience had he failed to uphold a stricken soul before the throne of grace in earnest prayer. Now he could not utter a petition.

Maxwell Brandon had never felt this way before, and as a sense of inward alarm crept over him, he made an effort to brace himself. But it was as though he had been mentally and spiritually paralysed and his physical movements were very mechanical. He was deeply shocked, although he was not a stranger to sorrow and grief; he had met them many times before. He had seen the deep wounds and scars they leave. Nor was he unfamiliar with the desolation of death; he had faced it countless times. But now it was different; it had invaded his own heart and home.

"Maxwell!"

Margaret's white, agonized face looked up into his. The anguish in her eyes wrenched his heart, but he only held her close and waited for her to go on.

"Maxwell, you—you know what they're saying?"

"Saying?" he echoed mechanically.

Margaret's voice sounded a long way off, the effect increased by the surge of the sea and the boom of the breakers on the shore.

"Many people are saying that—that we should never have brought little David to the meeting." Her

lips trembled and her voice choked into silence.

Maxwell Brandon stiffened. So they were talking already. Yes, of course they would be talking. The whole town would be talking! And sooner or later he would have to face them, he would have to talk, too. In his present state of mind the prospect was almost frightening. They would all be waiting to see how he would acquit himself in the face of this tragedy. He had preached to others so often.

His eyes swept the wide expanse of water before them, turbulent now in the gathering gloom, as heavy, storm-laden clouds scurried across the sky. How different, he thought, from the bright world of sunshine in which they had been revelling but a few hours before! Everything had changed in the last few hours—everything except that ship out there, riding at anchor. He had seen it earlier in the day, and it was there still—the one stable thing in the whole restless scene.

"If we hadn't let him go to the meeting," Margaret Brandon said ruefully.

At last Maxwell Brandon, his eyes still fixed on the ship at anchor, spoke with a steady voice. "He had his heart set on going, Margaret. I don't think it would have been right to refuse him."

"Oh, if we had only known that it might end this way!" Margaret responded.

Maxwell Brandon drew in a deep breath of the salt-tanged air, which seemed to ease the burning pain in his heart. Then he slowly said, "Maybe it's just as well that we didn't know, Margaret. Maybe it's just as well."

"But we might have been able to save him!" she cried. "If only I hadn't talked to Mrs. Norwood."

He sighed. "You mean, if she hadn't been talking to you!"

"Yes, I suppose so," she returned wearily. "But if only—"

"Darling," he broke in, "none of our 'ifs' can bring him back to us."

"But we wouldn't have lost him—if—if we had never come to Southdown Grove!"

Maxwell Brandon was silent. If they had never come to Southdown Grove. But he had had to come. It had not been his choice; God had sent him here. But for what? For this?

"It's hard to say, dear," he began.

But she was not to be comforted. "If only we had stayed in the country, we wouldn't have lost him like this!"

Margaret Brandon was re-living every detail of that awful tragedy, with the roar of the sea making maddening, monotonous music in her ears. Yes, the sea! If they had never come to a seaside town—

"I—I never want to look at the sea again!" Margaret Brandon clung to her husband as she turned away from the scene that was so intimately interwoven with her heart-breaking experience. "I can't bear it!"

With a tender, protecting gesture he tried to shield her from the sights and sounds that reminded her of the tragedy, but he himself did not turn away. There was something about that wide expanse of water that seemed to fascinate him. He looked from the ship still riding serenely at anchor, to the foam-crested waves that battered the shore, threatening to engulf the sand altogether, but always falling back as though restrained by some powerful unseen hand. Whose hand? He knew! The words of the prophet Jeremiah came to his mind: "The Lord hath placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it." Only so far, then, and no farther.

"Margaret," he whispered in a husky voice, his words slow and hesitant as he tried to express something of the conviction that was slowly finding its way into his stricken heart. "Margaret—there must be—something we have to learn—from all this!"

She clung to him in tense emotion. "I—I can't see it," she faltered.

"Darling, I couldn't either until now." He looked up. The wind blowing in from the sea, heavy with misty spray, cooled his burning cheeks and throbbing head. His thinking was becoming clearer, his perspective more acute. "But now I'm beginning to see."

"What, Maxwell?" she whispered, as he paused.

"There's something about the sea, Margaret, and the way God's hand holds back those waves that makes me think of a message for us!"

"What?" she queried, with a faint hint of reviving hope.

"I think of a promise: When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee." He paused as though to allow the full meaning of the words to permeate his own soul. "That's the message, I think."

Margaret Brandon did not look up, but when she spoke her voice was stronger and more assured. "Go on!" she urged.

"We are passing through the waters, Margaret—deep waters. So deep that they threaten to overwhelm us altogether. But they never will, darling. They never will, because there is a Hand that holds them back."

"The Hand of God!" she echoed softly.

Maxwell Brandon's pulse quickened at her words. Was she conscious of it, too? The strong and powerful Hand that was undergirding them now, holding them in spite of themselves, in spite of the storm of doubt and despair that had swept over their souls! The Hand that held the ocean in its trackless course—the Hand that held them, and would not let them go.

"And underneath are the Everlasting Arms," Maxwell said aloud. "Yes," she whispered, "yes!"

(To be continued)



MCC News & Notes

German Conscientious Objectors

(Continued from page 1-4)

All of them asked for exemption from military service on Christian grounds. EIRENE (International Christian Service for Peace) intends to accept only CO's whose motivation is Christian. EIRENE was organized in 1957 by MCC and Brethren Service Commission, is also sponsored by other groups such as the German Mennonite Peace Committee and the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, and is supported by the World Council of Churches and other groups.

In my orientation message on the peace witness of Mennonites in America, I pointed out that American CO's met much opposition during World War I, but thanks largely to their clear witness and perse-

erance the present status and form of service has been achieved. The future of the CO program in Germany also depends a great deal on the testimony and witness, devotion and sincerity of the first CO's drafted for alternative service. The German community at large, though sick and tired of war, is not pacifist and generally has little sympathy for the absolute pacifist position. There are groups and forces at work which could identify the CO position with political ideologies. This must not happen. Again, others see in the CO nothing more than cheap labor. The spread of this notion would also be devastating to the cause.

Wilfried von Rekowski, Executive Secretary of EIRENE, told the group of the origin and aims of EIRENE and that it has been officially recognized by the German government as a sponsoring agency

authorized to employ and supervise the employment of German CO's. He also gave each man detailed instruction on such things as work assignment and reporting.

Theo Glueck, Chairman of the German Peace Committee, based his message on Phil. 4:4-9, where the Apostle Paul encourages the congregation of believers to "rejoice in the Lord," "to have no anxiety about anything," "to be steadfast in prayer and thankful, being then assured that "the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

After this weekend orientation the fellows reported to their places of work on Monday, April 10. Four went to an Evangelical sanatorium and nursing home, three to a mental hospital, and one to the Mennonite children's home in Bad Duerkheim.

The First Report

The men were encouraged to report to EIRENE about their experiences. The first report from one of the men serving in a 400-bed institution has just been received in the EIRENE office. The tone of the report is one of gratitude and of eager anticipation. The following is an excerpt from the report:

"One thing is certain, we four are

happy with our new work. Of course, we still lack perspective to see the project as a whole, but we have wholeheartedly entered into those niches assigned to us. Further reports about our peace service will follow. Just an explanation about the words "peace service" (Friedensdienst). We have agreed not to use the words "alternative service" (Ersatzdienst) if it can be avoided. We want to regard our service quite consciously as a peace and love service (Friedens- und Liebesdienst) and not as an alternative to some other kind of service."

Present Inadequacies of the Program

While it is gratifying to know that at last German conscientious objectors are exempt from military service and permitted to do service outside the army and without uniform, the present alternative service program as administered by the Ministry of Labor has at least two serious shortcomings. In the first place the law requires that all CO's be assigned to service in hospitals and nursing homes as long as these institutions can absorb them, and only after these places are filled may they be assigned to public welfare projects of a more general nature. In the second place, the service must be within Germany.

The program has just begun, and it is already evident that in the first group drafted there are those who by natural inclination, education and training do not fit into the hospital type of service. Some would rather build a hospital than work inside one, rather dig or do something else with their hands. Why should they not be permitted to do such work if it can be found, if it is meaningful as a peace service, and is personally satisfying to the fellows?

Secondly, why should not the German CO be permitted to serve abroad? After all, his brother in the army does. The lawmakers have taken great pains to assure equality of rights and duties for both the soldier and the CO, including basic pay (the minimum scale as paid to a private in the army), length of service (21 months), insurance, etc. Then why do they not also have foreign service? We are confident, however, that in time this will come, because the reason for the present discrimination is not intentional but dictated by necessity. There are difficulties which the government cannot overlook at this moment, but after some experience has been gained in administering the program, the scope of service will also be enlarged. After all, American CO's also served at home long before they were permitted to serve abroad.

EIRENE must pioneer and be ever ready to assist the conscientious objectors and the German government to implement the alternative service program, improving it where possible and urging changes where necessary.



First German Conscientious Objectors were at EIRENE in Kaiserslautern on April 8 and 9 before they went to their appointed places of service. These are: Bernd Haas, Berthold Schanzenbaeher, Guenter Jantzen, Walter Paufmann, Manfred Apel, Friedrich Seibert, Hermann Fellmann, Ernst Landes. To the right are: Peter J. Dyck, chairman of EIRENE; next to him is Theo Glueck, chairman of DMFK, and fourth from the right is Wilfried von Rekowski, business manager of EIRENE.

Missions and Welfare Board Representatives to Visit South America this Summer

The Board of Missions has asked J. B. Toews, its general secretary, and the Board of General Welfare has asked Waldo Hiebert, its chairman, to undertake administrative visits to South America this summer in the interests of our conference work.

While these brethren have individual assignments from their respective Boards, they will be working together on matters of concern to both Boards. The Mission Board has been concerned with missionary outreach in South America and the Welfare Board with assistance to our South American churches.

For some time there has been the concern that the assistance and liaisonship from North America would be more effectively integrated and that more responsibility for the work be transferred to the field.

Together with the leaders of our South American Conference and churches and workers from North America, Brethren Toews and Hiebert will discuss the integration of the various branches of conference work in South America. A specific concern is the re-organization of the mission program to provide for fuller administrative responsibility on the part of the South American churches. These consultations also grow out of an overture from South America to North America suggesting a coordination of the various branches of work.

Another concern is for the church life of the Chulupie and Lengua Indians in Paraguay. A colonization program is to be carried out to safeguard the welfare of the Indian people. Basic policies are to be worked out to guide the Chulupie and Lengua churches in the face of this colonization.

The new missions principles and policies as adopted by the 1960 Gen-

eral Conference will be reviewed with missionaries and national churches in Colombia, Peru, Brazil and Paraguay. Special consideration will be given to an expansion of the missionary program in South America with which the Board of missions was charged by the 1960 General Conference.

Brother Toews is scheduled to depart from Wichita on May 22 for visits to Colombia and Peru, and Brother Hiebert is to leave from Wichita on June 8. They will meet in Sao Paulo or Curitiba, Brazil, where they will begin their consultations with the Mennonite Brethren Churches in Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. They are scheduled to return in August.

These consultations will have far-reaching implications for the work of the Lord and our brotherhood in South America and require our earnest intercession. Our prayers in behalf of our brethren in these important deliberations during the coming months are required.

NEWS from HERE and THERE

Kennedy Urged Hour of Prayer

President Kennedy has urged the American people to unite in an hour of prayer at 11 a.m. on Memorial Day, May 30. He urged that they pray "for a new world of law where peace and justice shall prevail." He also urged the people to invoke the blessing of God on (the families) of those who have died in defense of their country. The proclamation said the high courage and the supreme sacrifice of Americans who gave their lives in battle had made it possible for the United States to flourish under freedom and justice. He said that "the same principles and revolutionary beliefs for which our forebearers fought and died are still at issue in the world and the challenge against them can be met only through the same qualities of courage, strength and unflinching determination shown by our noble dead."

Reprint from Christian News Report

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Water Shortage in California

Southern California farmers will face increasingly serious shortages of irrigation water in the months ahead, according to the state's department of water resources. Since below average precipitation during winter and spring failed to replenish reservoirs, the demand upon ground water is expected to be very heavy. The Reedley-Dinuba area, home of numerous Mennonite farm families, is one of the regions affected by the three-year drought.

*

Accredited Schools Receive Fellowship

Forty-five U.S. faculty members, representing almost as many accredited schools and seminaries, have received fellowship grants to enable them to undertake further study, the American Association of Theological Schools has reported. The recipients represent 17 denominations and fully 85 per cent of them indicate that they intend to pursue their studies abroad.

*

Paxmen Peace Conference

The annual peace conference of Paxmen in Europe was held recently at Regensburg, Germany. Following the conference, a new unit was opened near Salzburg, Austria, where Paxmen will assist in building homes for refugees. Housing projects for Mennonite refugees in West Germany are now largely completed.

*

U.S. Population Increase

The U.S. population increased 27,997,000 between 1950 and 1960, according to a report by the Cen-

sus Bureau. During that decade 15,610,000 persons died but also 40,947,000 children were born. An additional gain of 2,660,000 was accounted for by net immigration, Census Bureau records show. The Census account of April 1, 1960, gave the total U.S. population as 179,323,175.

*

U.S. Crop Estimate

Washington — The agriculture department recently forecast this year's U.S. winter wheat crop at 1,095,697,000 bushels. This estimate is 2,703,000 bushels less than last month's forecast of 1,099,000,000 bushels. It compares with last year's crop of 1,117,131,000 bushels, the second largest on record, and with the 1950-59 average of 840,244,000 bushels.

No forecast was given for spring wheat, but a crop of 288,000,000 bushels has been indicated on the basis of growers' planting plans and recent acreage yields.

Thus a spring wheat crop of 288,000,000 bushels plus the indicated winter wheat crop would give a total production of 1,383,697,000 bushels. Total production last year was 1,363,443,000 bushels, also the second highest on record.

A total crop of 1,200,000,000 bushels would add to a huge surplus in which the government has more than \$3,000,000,000 invested.

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The department said the yield of winter wheat per harvested acre was expected to average 26.5 bushels compared to 27.5 last year and 20.9 for the 10-year average.

Australian Baptists against WCC Ties

For the second time the Baptist Union of New South Wales voted in Sydney, Australia, against affiliating with the World Council of Churches and the Australian Council of Churches. "We are, however," the speakers said, "prepared to co-

operate with other Christians in all evangelical and interchurch movements whose objectives (we) can support."

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YOUTH IN ACTION

Youth Workers' Conference at Brandon

A real time of inspiration was experienced at the annual M. B. Youth Workers' Conference held in the Brandon M. B. church on Sunday afternoon and evening, May 7. The topic for discussion at the conference was "Guiding Principles of Youth Work." The speaker was the Rev. J. H. Quiring, pastor of the Winkler M. B. Church. A ladies' sextet and the church choir provided the special numbers in song during the afternoon and evening sessions respectively.

The pastor of the Brandon Church, Rev. Harvey Goossen, welcomed some 130 youth workers, af-

ter which Brother Frank Krueger from Brandon, led in the invocation. For his first message, Rev. Quiring spoke on the topic, "Guiding Principles of Youth Work on the Local Level or in the Local Church." Rev. Quiring stated that we must recognize that youth is a part of a complete unit of society and not just an isolated part. He further stated that youth work is the joint responsibility of home, school and church, and that youth work must include the whole of youth, that is, it must meet all the needs of youth. Rev. Quiring then suggested some specific principles in youth work.

Young People's Retreat at Istmina, Choco



The picture shows, left to right: Don Juan Perea, San Jose; Don C. Hugo Zorrilla, Yumbo; and Miss Annie Dyck, Cali, taking part in the program in our chapel in Istmina during one of the services of the retreat.

"Call upon me, and I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jer. 33:3). This great promise our great God has once again fulfilled before our eyes. You who responded to our recent call to prayer may now join us in praising the Lord for the many rich blessings received during the Young People's Retreat held April 22 to 24 in Istmina, Choco.

The main thoughts expressed in the sermons and classes challenged the listeners anew to a victorious, sanctified life in Christ. Only then can we be ambassadors for the King of kings, winning many souls in the countries of South America.

During the retreat, Don Juan Perea, San Jose; Don C. Hugo Zorrilla, Yumbo; and Miss Annie Dyck, Cali, took part in a service. Our Choco young people enjoyed the visit of these three from our Valle churches, greatly appreciating their efforts to establish closer contacts

between the isolated areas of our constituency.

Srta. Marciana Arango, a nurse at the Istmina dispensary, writes: "With respect to our meetings, I can say they were the cause of much peace, joy and happiness in our hearts. I say 'our hearts' not only of myself in the singular, but I note it also in the others. Really, you cannot imagine the joy I experienced with my Lord Jesus."

Another testimony, which comes from Don Guillermo Ramirez, whom some of you know as "Cundito," reads as follows: "I want to tell you that our Retreat was very joyous. It was another profitable experience in my life: to be gathered together listening to lessons from the Word."

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits!"

Your co-worker in Colombia,
Herta J. Voth,
Istmina, Choco,
Colombia, South America

He stated that love is required for effective youth work, which is a basic principle. Then we must study youth as individuals in their total environment, evaluate their potential, and ascertain their problems and needs. He stated further that we must instruct youth, warn them, organize them, and occupy them purposefully.

After the message, the conference was divided into discussion groups, where some of the pertinent questions were discussed, and later each group gave a report. This proved very interesting and enlightening on various points of the youth work in our province.

Speaking on the topic, "Guiding Principles of Youth Work in United Efforts," in the evening service, Rev. Quiring suggested three areas where they might be applied. He referred to the areas of publication, youth conferences, and youth projects. Rev. Quiring stated that the purpose of a youth conference might be for information, inspiration, edification and for wider social contacts. Thinking of youth projects, Rev. Quiring felt that they should be small enough to suit the youth group of the local church. Exchange visits of youth groups would be very beneficial to our young people.

The invocation for the evening session was made by Brother Jake Falk of Winnipeg. An interesting part of the evening session was the presentation of "New Ideas in Youth Work," dealing with new ideas and methods which had proved effective in the local youth program. To close the conference, the chairman of the Manitoba Youth Committee, Brother Wm. Schroeder, read from John 9:4 and challenged us to work while we have the opportunity, while we have the young people. "The night cometh, when no man can work."

Is Smoking Harmful?

Smokers Reduce Lifespan

Every cigarette you smoke cuts 14.4 minutes from your lifespan, Dr. Linus Pauling, Nobel prize-winning chemist, recently told students at the University of Toronto. "If everyone were to stop smoking," he said, "the over-all life expectancy would rise by four years." This is based on evidence which shows that the life expectancy of a person who smokes a pack a day from the age of 20 on is reduced by eight years. (Approximately half the population does not now smoke or smokes very moderately.)

Reprint from Christian News Report

Teenage Smoking

Vancouver — A cancer research expert who smokes 20 cigarets a day says parents are shortening the lives of their children if they allow the youngsters to smoke.

Charles F. A. Culling of the University of British Columbia pathology department called the situation

pathetic. "One million children now in school in the United States will die of lung cancer and, furthermore, 44,000 Canadians will die of the lung disease this year," Mr. Culling told a B.C. meeting of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College recently.

"This rests fairly and squarely on the parents' shoulders. If the parents were told that a certain food might possibly cause harm to their children, that food would cease to be sold in stores. Why then don't they apply the same reasoning and stop their children from smoking?"

Winnipeg Free Press

3,000 Visit Israel for Sixth Pentecostal World Convention

More than 3,000 delegates, representing Pentecostal denominations in all parts of the world, were expected to attend the sixth Pentecostal World Convention which convenes in Jerusalem, Israel, May 19-21. The Rev. Gayle F. Lewis, assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies of God and secretary of the planning committee, reported a current registration of 2,500, with daily increases. Leaders of the approximately eight million Pentecostals of the world form the greater percentage of those attending the conference.

Sessions of the gathering are being held in Jerusalem's new Convention Center. Guests stay at the Holy Land, King David, Kings and other hotels. Because housing facilities are not plentiful, registration may be restricted, Mr. Lewis indicated.

Among other duties, Lewis made further contacts concerning four tours arranged for delegates from the United States and Canada who desired to visit Europe and the Near East before and after the convention. Tours range from 15 to 32 days and include places of interest in Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Syria, Greece, Italy, France and England.

Resurgence of Religious Activity

Moscow — The Communist party has become concerned about a resurgence of religious activity among Christian groups in the Soviet Union. The Komsomol (Communist Youth League) and other party organizations have been told to struggle especially against a tendency of some young people to enter congregations of the All-Union Baptist Evangelical Church, Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Pentecostals and other groups. **Kommunist**, journal of the party's Central Committee, accused sectarian leaders in a recent issue of frequent violations of Soviet law in proselytizing and expanding religious and church social activities. The article presaged an intensification of atheistic propaganda by the state and a drive by local authorities to curb the revival of Christian influence.

EDUCATION

SCHOOLS and COLLEGES

Grace Hospital Graduating Class Largest in History

Winnipeg, Man. — The largest graduating class in the history of Grace Hospital school of nursing drew one of the largest crowds ever to pack Young United Church for the school's 27th graduating exercises recently. Many stood as 59 nurses received their diplomas and pins, with national officers of the Salvation Army officiating at the ceremony.

Lt. Col. Reginald Gage of Toronto, national staff secretary, and brother of Lt. Col. Gladys Gage, administrator of the hospital, was chairman, and his wife gave the prayer of dedication. Lt. Col. H. J. Janes of Toronto, women's social service secretary for Canada and Bermuda, presented the diplomas and Major Gladys McGregor, the pins. Lt. Col. Arthur Moulton introduced the chairman.

Healing Team

Addressing the graduating class, Rev. Dr. D. B. MacDonald said members were graduating into "a healing team trained to use physical and spiritual resources."

Valedictorian was Miss Adina Penner.

Dr. N. D. McCreath, chief of medical staff, noted it was the biggest year in the hospital's history, with 1,000 more patients and 200 more births as well as 1,100 more emergency and casualty patients treated.

Graduating Class

Among the graduates in class 61A, who completed their course in January, were: Margaret Bartel, Giroux, Man.; Mrs. Audrey Bergman, Mrs. Sharon Biberdorf, Lena Brandt, Morris, Man.; Gladys Juanita Brown, Nipawin, Sask.; Ruth Brown, Jessie Doerksen, Margaret Dueck, Altona, Man.; Tina Dyck, Plum Coulee, Man.; Marie Heinrichs, Rabbit Lake, Sask.; Janice Hildebrand, Grunthal, Man.; Anne Martens, Manitou, Man.; Anne Siebert, Coaldale, Alta.; Mary Toews, Homewood, Man.

Some of the 61B graduates who will complete instruction in September were: Helen M. Boschman, Carrot River, Sask.; Eleanor Enns, Arnaud, Man.; Beverley J. Fehr, Gladstone, Man.; Betty Friesen, Morris, Man.; Adina Penner, Steinbach, Man.

Winnipeg Free Press

New Dormitories Dedicated at Pacific College

Fresno, Calif. — A large number of friends of Pacific College gath-

ered on the campus recently as dedication services were held for the newly-completed boys' and girls' dormitories.

The completion of the buildings marks an important step forward in the development of the new college campus. Pacific College, a junior college sponsored by the Mennonite Brethren Conference, was recently accredited by the Western College Association.

Dr. M. S. Gaede, secretary of the M. B. Board of Education, gave the dedicatory message. P. A. Enns, chairman of the Western Committee of the Board, presented the buildings, and Joel Wiebe, interim director of the college, responded. Dedicatory prayers were offered by Rev. H. R. Wiens of Dinuba, E. J. Peters, chairman of the U.S. Board of Education, and Robert Klassen, librarian of the college.

\$20,000 Library Annuity

A \$20,000 annuity for the establishment of a library fund at the M. B. Biblical Seminary here has been made available by Rev. and Mrs. John H. Lohrenz of Fresno, it was announced recently by B. J. Braun, the seminary president. The Lohrenzes are former missionaries to India.

Commencement Exercises at MCI

Gretna, Man. — Year-end festivities at the Mennonite Collegiate Institute this year included a music festival on Sunday, May 14. The program featured both the junior and senior choirs as well as other items of interest.

The annual "Schulfest," usually

considered a highlight of the year, will be held on Sunday, May 28, beginning at 10:00 a.m., and graduation will follow on the afternoon of the same day. There are 58 students in the graduating class in a total of 160 at the school this year.

Teaching during the current school year are six teachers: Rev. P. J. Schaefer, principal; Gerhard Ens, C. P. Zacharias, Henry Ens, Jacob Letkeman and John Friesen.

Freeman Junior College

An annual campus clean-up and a work-day project are two spring events that have become traditional at Freeman. Both of them have again been carried out this year and both have received the whole-hearted cooperation of students and staff.

Campus clean-up activities included such things as raking leaves, hauling ashes, doing repair work, removing storm windows on campus buildings, washing windows, cleaning window shades and blinds and other odd jobs.

Work-day was held May 1 and received the cooperation of people living in the area, who gave employment to students and staff members. The project is selected by the students and all arrangements are made by the student council. This year's earnings will help pay for a new station wagon for the school.

Bluffton College

The Bluffton College Music-Lecture Series will feature as its last concert of the year, the Karamu Quartet Ensemble of Karamu House, Cleveland, on Sunday, May 14.

This nationally famous vocal group is recognized as one of the outstanding male quartets in the United States. Members of the quartet include Charles W. Tomlin,

first tenor; J. Edward Cooper, second tenor; Gerald B. Harris, baritone; Glenn H. Settle, bass; and J. Harold Brown, arranger and accompanist.

Dramatic Production

The cast has been chosen and a three weeks long rehearsal begun for the dramatic production of "John Brown's Body," epic poem by Stephen Vincent Benet, which will be performed by the drama and music departments as part of the commencement activities on Friday and Saturday evenings, June 2 and 3.

The historical setting of the production is the American Civil War. It includes music by the A Cappella Choir and a speaking choir.

New Seminary in Montevideo Dedicated

The dedication of the new campus of the Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Montevideo, Uruguay, took place at a service in the seminary chapel on April 8. The dedication sermon was delivered by Dr. Miguez Bonino, president of Union Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina. "If we want to be successful students in a seminary or effective ministers after graduation it is necessary to be true believers, hard-working students, and zealous witnesses," he said.

Seminario Biblico Evangelico, as the seminary is called in Spanish, last fall purchased a three-and-one-half-acre estate with two buildings on it. The land was secured with the intention of erecting additional buildings in the future. Congregations in the United States and Canada have financed the purchase of the campus. The seminary, established in 1956, is a joint project of General Conference Mennonites and (Old) Mennonites in South America. Instruction is given in German and Spanish.

Faculty and Graduates at the Clearbrook M.B. Bible Institute



The commencement exercises of the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute of Clearbrook, B.C., have been scheduled for the afternoon of May 21, 2:30 p.m., in the auditorium of the Mennonite Educational Institute. There are 23 graduates. Dave Giesbrecht was class president and Irma Suderman valedictorian. First row, left to right: Betty Wiebe, Elsie Toews, Irma Suderman, Rev. H. H. Nikkel, instructor, Rev. George G. Konrad, principal, Rev. Nick Willems, dean of students, Marie Rempel, Susan Brown, Erna Unger. Second row, left to right: Rudy Bandsmer, Elsa Isaac, Bertha Loewen, Mr. H. P. Neufeldt, music director, Rev. John B. Epp, registrar, Louise Rempel, Anne Hildebrandt, Isaac Fehr. Third row, left to right: Jake Suderman, Gilbert Brandt, Roy Dueck, George Friesen, Jake Epp, Ed Rempel, Herb Voth, Dave Giesbrecht, Ernest Schmidt, Ed Dueck, Pete Suderman.

A Modern Miracle

(Continued from page 4-4)

his health, she warned him. One medical doctor brushed the signs of trouble aside saying, "Get out of the office more often and enjoy sports."

Questioningly Ken looked into the future. Was he really ill? All signs seemed to point in that direction. Like a trumpet call it came to him:

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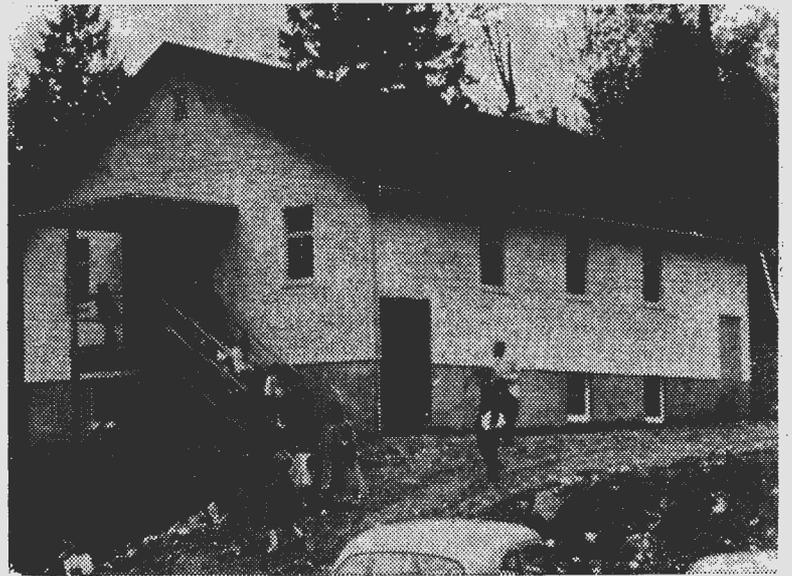
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"Prepare to meet thy God." When it became clear to him at Christmas time that his days were numbered, he said one day, "The God of miracles is still living." With a blooming business before him, a home prepared for the loveliest girl in the world, life did look good for him.

Very suddenly his sense of values changed when as a sinner he sought and found peace in the blood of the Lamb. The miracle of all ages became a reality to the man so soon to meet the Saviour face to face. Visitors left his bedside with a new spiritual vision. His concern for lost souls was voiced at different occasions. A week before his passing he said, "Had I my life to relive, how different it would be."

Happy in the Lord, he went to be with his Maker on March 27, 1961. He left to meet some day in glory, his parents, his fiancée, one sister in Ontario, one brother, a manufacturer in Australia, one brother, a doctor, in Outlook, Sask., and two brothers in Saskatoon.



The Straiton Gospel Chapel sponsored by the M. B. Church at Arnold, B.C.

**Dedication of
Straiton Chapel**

(Continued from page 1-2)

climbed to about twenty during these years, so Mary Wiebe and Helen Toews assisted in the teaching. The children were being taught in the Straiton school on Sunday afternoons.

From 1952 to 1955, John Enns took over this outpost Sunday school. The attendance had again climbed and now stood at twenty-five. At about this time they began conducting evening services once a month. Until leaving to take over at McConnel Creek, Nick Dyck had an important part in this Sunday school as well. At the time that Abe Wiebe was in charge, 1956-1957, Sunday school was taught in the home of the Leo Sears family. Then they moved the children to the Straiton community hall and Werner Falk took over the leadership.

In 1958 Walter Dueck was put in charge and the children were moved again, this time to the basement of the Kilgard school. Attendance had now climbed to about thirty. Mr. Dueck is still teaching, but at present Mr. Gerhard Rempel is the Sunday school superintendent heading a staff of about ten teachers.

The land for the new chapel was purchased in 1959 and the sod-turning ceremony was held on August 12, 1959. Two months later the basement was dedicated and since then has been the place of worship for approximately forty-five chil-

dren. In March, 1961, an adult class was begun and monthly evening services are again being held. On the staff at Straiton are: Mr. and Mrs. G. Rempel, Mr. and Mrs. W. Dueck, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wiens, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Wiens, Frank Dyck, Peter Pankratz, Ruth Penner, Betty Siemens, Elsie and Erna Hooge, all from the Arnold M. B. Church.

The Lord has blessed the Sunday school at Straiton and may He continue to do so.

Ruth Schmidt

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ON THE HORIZON

May 19. — Graduation Exercises Friday at 7:30 p.m. by the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute at the M.B.C.I. auditorium.

May 21. — Closing Program of the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute to be held at the M.B.C.I. auditorium on Sunday at 7 p.m.

May 28. — Graduation Exercises of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College to be held at the MBCI auditorium on Sunday at 7:00 p.m.

June 2 and 3. — The Manitoba Mennonite Brethren Conference to convene at the North Kildonan M. B. church.

June 18. — Graduation at Canadian Mennonite Bible College, Winnipeg.

July 5-11. — Canadian Mennonite Church Conference to be held in Calgary.

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