

Mennonite Observer

Ex. Bethel Life Mennonite College

"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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To Train National Workers for Brazil



Mr. and Mrs. Donald Faul assigned to M.B. Mission Work in Brazil.
(See Missions Report on page 5)

Christmas and Missions

By Lando Hiebert

Although Christmas comes once a year and missions is a year-round activity, they are integrally related. Just as every Christian mystery, such as the death of Christ, His resurrection and His second coming, is an essential part of the missionary message, so is the birth of Christ.

Christ left heaven's glory for the sinful earth and race of people, and so became the pioneer emissary of the Gospel. Just as Jesus came to this earth, even so it is the coming of the missionary to a strange land and people, that comprises missions.

At His birth the angels became the messengers of good tidings of great joy. In our times it is the privilege of the missionaries and the national evangelists to be the messengers of those good tidings of deliverance from and forgiveness of sins.

For 2,000 years the Israelites after Abraham waited for the coming of the Messiah, and for almost 2,000 years after His coming, the untold people of our earth have waited and are still waiting for the coming of the messengers of peace. Their longings are expressed by the aged,

awaiting Simeon who could say: "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation A light to lighten the Gentiles." Even so today many a newly-enlightened believer can claim the same faith in the Savior of the world.

At the very heart of Christmas is the miracle of the incarnation. God the Son became the Son of man. The angels declared: "Unto you is born this day, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." It is a miracle that the Son of God was born into the human race, and it is also a miracle that a person can be born again to become a son of God. This is the miracle of missions. The Apostle John writes: "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ, is born of God."

As Christmas is so very much a time of the giving of gifts, even so missions is ever only possible by virtue of the many continuous gifts even during all the seasons of the year. It was the Wise Men who brought their gifts to Jesus. Thus by example at least they initiated the practice of giving for the Kingdom of God. In the midst of the maize of the many gifts we are

also reminded of the words of the Apostle who said: "Thanks be to God for the unspeakable gift" — the gift of His only Son. If the season of Christmas is the time for the exchange of gifts, certainly the greatest exchange is God's giving His Son, and the believer's in turn giving himself and his possessions to Christ. For the many gifts of this Christmas season and for the faithful giving of all our churches throughout the entire year in

(Continued on page 12-1)

Sudden Severe Illness

On Boxing Day, December 26, Mr. J. K. Neufeld, production manager of the Christian Press, suffered a heart attack. He is in the Winnipeg General Hospital and is resting comfortably, though still very ill.

Prayers in his behalf shall be appreciated.

Leaving for Brazil

Sisters Helen Toews and Katherine Wiens have responded to the opportunity for missionary service in Brazil in view of the uncertainty of their return to the Congo. These missionary nurses were in their first terms of service in the Congo when the political upheaval began in 1960. Both are members of the Coaldale, M. B. Church. Following language study, they will



Miss Helen Toews

enter a new spiritual thrust of our conference in Brazil. A large evangelical hospital in Curitiba has asked our conference to supply nurses to assist in its administration and to help the institution fulfill its evangelistic ministry to patients. Mrs. Olga (Pries) Dueck began serving in the hospital October 1. Our missionary nurses are to be responsible for the internal operation of several major departments of the hospital. Their assignment here is also significant in view of plans to establish a Brazil mission center in Curitiba and to build a church evangelistic program in the city.

Readers, Please Note!

With this issue the publication of the "Mennonite Observer" comes to a close.

In about three weeks we expect to have, God willing, the new English Conference family paper in our homes. The name of this new paper is to be "Mennonite Brethren Herald."

We would like to commit this new paper to your prayers. The publication of the paper is the climax of much planning on the part of the different committees of the Conference and of the now Conference-owned publishing house, The Christian Press.

The need for an English family paper for our homes has been felt for many years in the Canadian

Conference. Various attempts have been made to publish such a paper. The "Konferenz-Jugendblatt" was published in 1944 — first almost entirely in German but in later years almost completely in English. About ten years later the "Jugendblatt" was discontinued in the hope that the much-needed English family paper would be started. In 1955 the "Mennonite Observer" was published by the Christian Press Ltd. In the past years this paper has found a welcome place in our homes and we have been blessed by the soundly spiritual material we found in it. It should be noted, however, that this paper was never the official organ of the M. B. Canadian Conference.

(Continued on page 10-3)

EDITORIAL

A Personal Word from the Editor

Gratefulness fills my heart when I think of God's marvellous grace He has given for the publication of the "Mennonite Observer" during the 6½ years of its existence. Many sisters and brethren have faithfully and regularly sent in their reports. May the Lord reward them for their splendid contributions they have made in this important field of service.

Eighteen of Dr. A. H. Unruh's devotionals, translated by Rev. Alexander Dirks deserve a special word of recognition. Others, who have made frequent personal contributions are: Dr. F. C. Peters, Rev. Rudy Janzen, Rev. J. A. Toews, Rev. H. R. Baerg, Rev. J. H. Quiring, Rev. Victor Toews, Rev. Cornelius Wall, Rev. J. M. Schmidt and many others, who have sent in articles occasionally. The M.B. Board of Missions, the Mennonite Central Committee, the M. B. Church Board of General Welfare and Public Relations, schools, institutions, young peoples groups, organizations and individuals have served us by sending in articles which were of tremendous value.

Sisters, who devoted much of their time for the children's page are: Miss Anne Voth (Aunt Anne), Mrs. John Doerksen (Aunt Helen) and Mrs. G. D. Huebert (Katie Huebert). Miss Voth and Mrs. Doerksen have written practical, weekly articles for the girls and boys and Mrs. Huebert selected appropriate stories for the children's page.

We extend a very special word of gratitude to the Christian Press family with its General Manager, H. F. Klassen and Production Manager, J. K. Neufeld, for help and advice received from them in the various areas of service which made the production, publication and circulation of the "Mennonite Observer" a pleasure and we trust that it has also borne fruit.

Many letters of appreciation have come to our office during the course of time and we are thankful for every word of constructive criticism, encouragement and recognition received, as well as for every prayer spoken in our behalf. A word of sincere gratitude to all who have helped directly or indirectly in this important work of publication.

To our many subscribers and readers we say a hearty "thank you" for the inspiration they have given us by the very fact of having read the "Mennonite Observer" with interest and appreciation. May the Lord bestow upon all of them an abundance of His marvellous grace.

Brother Leslie Stobbe, who was the first editor of the "Mennonite Observer", has spared no effort to faithfully serve the Lord, the Conference and the many readers of this Christian paper. I had the privilege of continuing the work as editor of the "Mennonite Observer".

The M. B. Conference has decided to replace this paper by the "Mennonite Brethren Herald", of which Mr. Rudy Wiebe is the appointed editor. May the Lord help Brother Wiebe as he serves in this capacity and we trust that he will enjoy your cooperation, assistance and prayers as this great responsibility rests upon his shoulders.

We also invoke God's special blessings upon the new paper as it enters into thousands of homes. May the contents of it reflect the glory of the Lord, help believers to be edified spiritually, be instrumental in the extension of the kingdom of God and may it exert a positive, Christian influence upon the many individuals, homes, communities, areas and countries where it will find entrance.

G. D. Huebert
96 Martin Ave.
Winnipeg 5, Man., Canada.

DEVOTIONAL

The Eleventh Hour

By Rev. H. R. Baerg, instructor at the M.B. Bible College

As another year has passed and we stand on the threshold of a new year, we are again reminded of the adage, "time and tide wait for no man." Time moves relentlessly on as a stream; only we do not stand on the bank and objectively ob-

serve its flow—somehow we are involved. We have been plunged into the stream and are destined to an encounter with events and circumstances for a given period of time. How rapidly the year of 1961 has sped by. The events and

experiences of the past days and months have left their impact upon our lives. A new year is upon us. Soon we must accustom ourselves to writing "1962" on letters and documents which require a date. Many of us recall how difficult it was to get used to writing "1930", for example. The figure seemed so unreal, for we had been so long in 1929. Now it seems but as yesterday when we launched upon what was then the New Year of "1961". One is reminded of the verse found on the clock in Chester Cathedral:

When as a child I laughed and wept
—time crept.
When as a youth I dreamed and talked—time walked.
When I became a full grown man—
time ran.
And later as I older grew—time
flew.
Soon I shall find while travelling
on—time gone.

The start of a new year is a time of hope and faith for it is a time of new beginnings, making amends and "turning over a new leaf." However, it is also a time of somber reflections and heart searching, for, with the passing of another year, we have been made conscious of the fact that time will run out for us sooner or later — our time is limited. Since no one can predict with accuracy or any amount of certainty when our time will run out, we must live in the spirit of the "end time" or the "last hour."

We live in a generation which is acutely time conscious and when time seems to be too brief in which to accomplish the multitudinous tasks of our complex lives. We are beset on every side by calendars and clocks which remind us of the passing nature of time. We wear or carry watches on our person which measure the seconds and minutes and hours for us. We live in an era when fashions and styles change rapidly—what was new a short time ago is out of date and old. The most treasured values today are those which are most fleeting and transient such as youth, beauty and pleasure. All these cause us to grope for the bubble which is soon to burst and vanish and we neglect the real and abiding values. However, there have been epochs in man's history during which the relentless passage of time was more or less unobserved. In such ages of relative stability, time's slow finger moved unnoticed. People thought in terms of a life and not an hour. They kept in mind the words of the Apostle Paul, "The things that are seen are temporal, but the things that are not seen are eternal" (II Cor. 4:18). Their motto was expressed in the words above a cathedral door of Milan which reads, "That only is important which is eternal." For this reason, we must concede, the church of past cent-

uries accomplished more than we do with all our modern means and methods and multiplied organizations and activities. Only as the church thought of itself living in the "eleventh hour" was it a truly fruitful and successful church.

Now Is the Time

The watchword of our time seems to be "Now or Never." As we look about us we notice on every hand that the doors are fast closing to the entrance of the Gospel. Time seems to be running out. The consummation of the ages appears to be approaching. Our Brethren were moved by the concept of the "Last Hour" to zeal and urgency in carrying out the Great Commission; they did not console themselves with a "more advantageous tomorrow."

Time is divided into the periods —past, present and future. The past—consisting of days, months, years—is a memory. The present is a moment. The future is an uncertainty. The present is ours to redeem and utilize. Whatever we desire in the future must be pursued or possessed today. We cannot console ourselves with the thought that some time in the future I will yield myself to the Lord and do his work. Faith lays hold of the promises and brings them into fulfilment today. To a certain degree, today is the future; and all things which we look for in the tomorrows are attainable today. Let us be moved by the same impotunity which characterized our Brethren and not look for tomorrow, or next year, or the next generation, or the next century. Who knows whether we will have any more opportunities than the present?

God does not calculate in terms of days, weeks, months and years as men do. God thinks in terms of faithfulness—bought up opportunities. Stroughton says: "Time is life's ladder with which some lift themselves into fame, while others let themselves down into degradation; time is life's freightage with which some trade and make a fortune, while others, like the pro-

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CHURCH NEWS

Gideons Distribute Many Bibles

A group of Gideons from the Yorkton camp recently held a service at Foam Lake to bring us information of their activities. There were Mr. and Mrs. J. Berg, Mr. and Mrs. E. Hoffman and R. Zilkowski. There are 8 men in the Yorkton camp.

Brother Berg read Heb. 4:1 to 16 as the opening Scripture. A musical selection was brought by Mrs. Hoffman and Brother Zilkowski. Brother Hoffman outlined the work saying the Yorkton camp was organized in 1957 and has placed 7,774 testaments in the schools of this area since then, also 485 Bibles in hotels, motels and hospitals. Does it pay? He told of several instances of persons being saved through the reading of these, including one family of 6 who read the Gideon Testament taken home by their school-age son.

A vocal duet was rendered by Mr. and Mrs. Berg then Mr. Zilkowski told how the Memorial Bible plan is used by some funeral directors in dedicating Bibles in memory of the departed loved one. These are numbered and a record is kept of their placement in hotels, prisons etc. so they can be traced at any time by the relatives, if desired.

Sometimes Christians criticize the work of distributing Testaments in areas where they might be destroyed, but the Gideons can often enter areas where the gospel is not well received.

digal, waste it in riotous living; time is life's tree from which some gather precious fruit, while others lie under its shade and die of starvation."

The Church of Jesus Christ moves on into the year 1962 because God is extending his grace. We must redeem the time in which we live even though they be evil days. We do not know if we will have another year or if we will have another century, no one knows the time of God's hour. But this we know: God's timepiece is dependable—there are no irregularities in God's timing. He says, "Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." It is indeed the eleventh hour.

Time Is Running Out

Time is exceedingly brief. God has given us a task to perform and has allotted the time in which to do it. To our shame we must say that it appears as if the prescribed time has been consumed but we have not completed the task.

God is blessing this work by opening new areas. Gideon of old was willing to attempt the impossible and so are the Gideons of today. Approximately 150 school testaments to be distributed in this school unit were dedicated at the close of the service with prayer by Brother Reimer, local pastor.

Mrs. A. Dell.

Ladies Have Inspiring Meetings

Beechy, Sask. — The Beechy Ladies Aid had a special Christmas meeting. After reciting Luke 2: 1-20 in unison and enjoying some games which our president, Mrs. Woelk, had prepared, each member presented her prayer sister with a small gift. Our hearts became more bound in Christian love. As we continue to pray for our new prayer sister we want to remember last year's too—that "in all these things we might be more than conquerors through Him that loved us" (Rom. 8:37).

Friday night the Good News Club had a lovely short demonstration program for their parents. Maria Funk, accompanied by several students from Millar Memorial Bible Institute, Pamburn, Sask. presented songs and a play "X-mas or Christmas, Which?" The way of salvation was clearly shown. Mr. Wes Andrei featured his steel guitar and gave a thrilling testimony to the Lord's grace in his life; having grown up in a Greek Orthodox home and later vainly tried to seek

The sad fact is that time once lost cannot be recovered. No one is able to move God's clock backward or forward. The past cannot be retrieved or improved, it is a finished product. The only redeeming factor is that the present is still ours to make a better future.

Time must be accounted for, therefore, we should be careful that we invest it wisely. The two rules of John Wesley, could also be our standard: "Never be unemployed," and "never be triflingly employed." We may shorten our time by being slow to start, by "killing" or wasting time, or by using it for ourselves. There are few things with which we are more profligate than with time. It can be our greatest treasure or it can be our greatest waste. What will it be for us this year? A general rule for the wise expenditure of time for the individual and for us as a Brotherhood in this year of 1962, is to expend our time for the advancement of the Kingdom of God and for the Glory of Christ.

The Father's Hand

While through this changing world below,
I would not choose my path to go;
'Tis Father's hand that leadeth me,
Then, oh how safe His child must be.

Sometimes we walk in sunshine bright,
Sometimes in darkness of the night;
Sometimes the way I cannot see—
But Father's hand still leadeth me.

Sometimes there seems no way to take,
But Father's hand a way doth make.

Sometimes I hear Him gently say,
"Come follow me, this is the way."

Why should I mind the way I go?
His way is best for me, I know.
He is my strength, my truth, my way.

He is my comfort, rod and stay.

So on we travel hand in hand,
Bound for the heavenly promised land.

Always through all eternity
I'll praise His name for leading me!
Heinrich E. Reimer

satisfaction in "giving entertainment to the world."

The Sunday School is presenting the Christmas pageant, "The Old, Old Story." May Christmas be Christ to us this year!

Mrs. P. Willems

Over 50,000 Records Sold

The Hillsboro, Kan., Mennonite Brethren Male Chorus, organized 30 years ago, has recorded 56 songs and sold over 50,000 records. The proceeds of the sales have been used for benevolent and missionary purposes. Of the original 27 members of the chorus when it began on Nov. 30, 1931, six are still singing with the group. They are Pete Dalke, Ben B. Funk, Harry Funk, Irvin Jost, D. J. Penner, and P. J. Unruh. The first director was H. W. Baerg. Since Herbert C. Richert became director the chorus has given more than 200 concerts and filled other engagements. Although personnel has changed over the years, a membership of 20 or more has always been maintained.

Important Conference to be Held

Representatives of two Mennonite conferences will meet January 20 to discuss possible joint production of a week-day Bible school curriculum. The meeting will include the Editorial Committee of the General Conference Mennonite Church and the Weekday Bible School Counsel and Reference Committee of the (Old) Mennonite Church. These groups have for ten years cooperated in joint production of graded Sunday school materials. M. B. representatives also have been invited.

Auto-Buggy Crash Takes Two Lives

Goshen, Ind. — An Amish man and one of his daughters were fatally injured within a few feet of their driveway in rural Topeka, Ind., on the late evening of Dec. 6 when their horse-drawn buggy was hit by a car.

Killed instantly in the collision was Samuel J. Bontrager, 59-year-old father of 13, who was dragged 180 feet under the car. Viola Bontrager, 15, died unexpectedly the next evening in the Lagrange County hospital. She suffered a skull fracture and multiple body bruises.

Also hospitalized were four other daughters who were riding in the buggy, and the driver of the car, Jesse L. Spann Jr., 45, of North Manchester, who was only slightly hurt.

Elma Bontrager, 12, at first thought to be the most seriously injured, was listed Dec. 9 as "fair to poor" with a head injury at a Fort Wayne hospital. Her twin sister, Emma, was released after treatment for bruises.

The other Bontrager sisters hospitalized are Ruby, 10, who suffered a broken leg, and Irene with minor lacerations.

Double funeral services were held Dec. 9 at the Orla Troyer home.

H. A. Schultz in Fatal Accident

Metz, France — Henry Arthur Schultz, 28, of Herbert, Sask., a mobile equipment operator at the RCAF Fourth Fighter Wing, Baden-Soellingen, Germany, was killed recently in a highway accident. An RCAF spokesman said he was returning to base when he lost control of his car and it turned over.

Schultz is survived by his wife, the former Anna Hitzroth of Hamilton, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Schultz of Brant, Alta., and three young children.

Devehr Receives Jail Sentence

A Winnipeg youth who was charged with theft and fraud after he was arrested for disobeying a traffic summons, was sentenced in city magistrate's court to five months in jail.

Victor David Devehr, 21, of 404 Spence Street pleaded guilty to five charges of fraud and one of theft before Magistrate M. H. Garton.

Devehr was arrested Nov. 17 for disobeying a traffic summons. While his articles were being seized by police a stolen credit card was found in his possession.

Police investigation later revealed that Devehr stole the credit card from a Winnipeg service station in September and purchased tires, a battery and gasoline for a total of \$134 on five occasions.

Views on Christ's Incarnation Depicted

Portage la Prairie — "For unto us a child is born unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulders: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6). The Lord has bestowed many blessings upon us in the work in Portage la Prairie. The work is under the leadership of our pastor, Reverend John Quiring. We have been working in Sunday School in the city of Portage la Prairie and also in the outlying districts. The Lord has opened numerous doors where we may serve. Twice a month we sing in an old folks home and Rev. Quiring ministers to the ladies in the Ladies' Jail every Thursday. On Wednesday we all gather for prayer meeting where we fellowship together in prayer through which the Lord has given us the power to work in His vineyard.

On December 17 the Mennonite Brethren Sunday School of Portage la Prairie presented the play "The Characters of Christmas". This was a five act play where the shepherds, wisemen, king, innkeeper and you have a different outlook on Christ's coming. First the outlook of the shepherds toward the coming Messiah was depicted. Here we saw how the shepherds accepted Him. Then the wisemen were presented showing how they expected Him. In the third act we saw how the King rejected Him. He had no room for the Messiah.

The children sang carols to

coincide with the different scenes. In the fourth scene we saw how the innkeeper neglected Him. The last scene gave everyone an opportunity to make a decision for himself. Here the song "Have You any Room for Jesus" was sung by a quartet. A goodly number of parents of the children were present. The Lord blessed us as we all gathered together to celebrate the incarnation of Christ.

The Hobby Club Sunday School of the Mount Pleasant district and the Poplar Bluff district presented the Christmas Story in tableau form on December 17 in the afternoon. The parents and friends were out to hear the program.

The Ladies' Fellowship Club gathered on December 18 to sing

carols at the different homes in Portage la Prairie. We caroled at 12 homes and left a little hamper with goodies for each family. Here we saw how thankful we should be for all the blessings the Lord has bestowed upon us in giving us Christian parents who have taught us about Christ. The homes we visited were very poor. The people were indeed thankful.

The grace of our Lord and Master became great to us when Rev. Quiring spoke on Titus 2:11-13 at Christmas. He drew our attention to the source of this grace, how it was manifested to us and the promises of God to His people. Then Christ's second coming to this earth was drawn to our attention. We should look to this hope and be ready at all times to meet our Lord and Master.

Mary Wall

Crosses at Christmas?

By Dwight Wiebe

Nearly two thousand years ago the angel of the Lord brought the message which is repeated around the world at every passing Christmas season. If this message is true, then why has the world not changed for the better?

Let's roll back the clock to the time of the first Christmas. What did people think and do and say at the time that Christ was born?

History tells us that at this time Rome ruled the world. This meant that the Jews were living under the much-hated conditions of an occupation government. To make matters worse, this government demanded that everyone report to his own city to be registered for taxation.

These were the circumstances that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem. When they arrived in the city, they could find no vacancy in the inn. Then, as today, the pressure of everyday affairs and the cares of the moment closed people's eyes to the needs of the individual. That is why Joseph and Mary were denied the comfort of the inn and were forced to take refuge in a stable.

Into such humble conditions the Christ child was born, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger.

This was the setting of the first Christmas, and it is important for us to see that the attitudes of men did not change the purposes of God. Christ did not come into this world to be given a great reception and welcome. No, Christ came with a much higher purpose, that of being the Redeemer of a lost world.

It was the divinity of Christ that made possible the appearance of the angels and their prophetic message to the shepherds. From the day of His birth few people recognized Jesus as the Son of God.

The understanding displayed by

the 12-year-old Jesus in the temple caused many to be astonished, yet no one realized who He was or comprehended the meaning of His words: "Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?"

Even when He began to teach and preach and heal, He was not recognized as the Prince of Peace. Nor did His ministry bring about the "peace on earth, goodwill toward men" prophesied by the angels.

Nowhere can we find the life of Christ better described than in the book of Isaiah. "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief... He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities... with His stripes we are healed."

The birth and life of Christ cannot be separated from His death on the cross. Humanly speaking this was the ultimate in failure; however, from God's point of view this was the very fulfillment of Christ's purpose for coming into the world.

What did the angels mean with their message of the first Christmas eve? In John 14:27 Jesus states: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid."

This is the true spirit of peace referred to in the message of the angels on that first Christmas eve. However, this peace would not have been possible without the cross in the life of the Prince of Peace.

... And in despair I bowed my head: There is no peace on earth, I said, For hate is strong and mocks the song

of peace on earth, goodwill to men.

There was a time when the symbol of the cross represented love — a love so great that it was willing to accept death in order to redeem sinful man. At the same time it demonstrated man's fear and hatred driven to the extreme.

For Christ, the cross was His hour of greatest sacrifice. For man, the cross was his hour of deepest despair. But the sacrifice of love vanquished despair, giving man the possibility of release from the bonds of fear and hatred.

Today this cross still offers man redemption. But a new cross looms on the horizon — the mushroom "cross" of the hydrogen bomb.

Modern man has produced an age of scientific advancement. But what, with Christ, would have developed into a power for good, has without Him been used to produce a tool of destruction.

Man claim that the bomb is his answer to fear — but in truth it is the result of his fear. Nation is afraid of nation, race is prejudiced against race and the world finds itself divided into two major camps — East and West — both prepared to destroy each other, if necessary, in an effort of total retaliation.

Without Christ, two thousand years of man's progress have created a second cross out of fear and a destructive force which knows no boundaries. The world in its efforts to take Christ out of Christmas finds itself alone and frightened. For without the "Prince of Peace" there can be no peace on earth — no goodwill to men.

Once each year people around the world pause to remember the first Christmas. For those who have accepted Christ and His way of life, Christmas could be a season of peace and good will toward all men.

Across the nation and in other lands Christians should unite their hearts and prayers in a single effort to demonstrate to the world that the cross of fear is the road to destruction and that only the cross of Christ can lead us into the way of peace and life-everlasting.

Returning from the Congo

George Faul has to return from the Congo because of illness in his family who have been residing in Reedley, California, since his departure for the Congo last September. He was scheduled to fly from Leopoldville December 19. The services of Brother Faul will be greatly missed in the teacher-training school at Nyanga where he was serving as principal. Let us pray for the Faul family and for personnel continuing the important work at Nyanga of preparing Christian teachers and leaders for the Congo.

CBMC President Appointed

Mr. D. E. Redekop has been installed president of the Winnipeg Christian Business Men's Committee for 1962. The committee is a branch of the Christian Business Men's Committee International, Chicago, Ill. Mr. Redekop is Sunday school superintendent at the South End Mennonite Brethren Church.



Mr. Dave E. Redekop



The Cause of Foreign Missions

Mission Work in Texas

La Casita, Texas — Evangelistic services conducted here November 12 to 19 by Mauricio Martinez were well attended and six souls were saved. In October young people from the La Casita and La Grulla Churches participated in a Bible contest in the church. This was the first meeting of the Youth for Christ organization of young people from the Latin American M. B. Churches in southern Texas. At the second Youth for Christ meeting at El Faro School November 25, most of the churches were well represented.

La Grulla, Texas — Evangelistic services with Mauricio Martinez were conducted here from November 19 to November 25 in the open air in the front yards of the believers. A different home was selected for each evening so the many neighbors who otherwise might never attend the service would hear the Gospel. The second week of services from November 26 to December 3 in the church were equally well-attended. A good number made decisions for Christ.

Chihuahua, Texas — Approximately 200 persons responded to the invitation of the sisters of the church for a Thanksgiving supper November 23. Following the supper an evangelistic message was presented in the church. The church was crowded, but the believers rejoiced to see so much interest. After the service, a quilt made by the sisters of the church was sold.

M. B. Church Mission News



Miss Anna Goertzen

To supply another worker for Nyanga, the Board of Missions felt led of the Lord to approach Miss Anna Goertzen about returning to the Congo. Sister Goertzen has prayerfully considered this call, has also felt led to return and is now making preparations to fly from

Wichita around January 12. The second semester of the Nyanga school is scheduled to begin January 17. Sister Goertzen has been attending Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, Fresno, California, and plans to visit her home church at Paxton, Nebraska, enroute to Hillsboro. Sister Goertzen has a wealth of missionary experiences in the Congo, having first gone to that field in 1938.

That Campa Indian Christian men would dedicate themselves to Christ and prepare themselves to teach and evangelize their fellow tribesmen is a special concern of our Peru missionary staff at this time. Paul Friesen writes that it is difficult to find such men because the Campas have been slow to make definite commitments to Christ and because of moral problems. Let us work with our Peru missionaries by praying that the grace of God will transform Campa men into Gospel evangelists.

Mrs. J. H. Franz submits the following developments in the work in Paraguay:

J. H. Franz served in evangelistic services in Buenos Aires November 26 to December 3 in the Mennonite work led by Martin Duerksen.

Sixty-eight Chulupie Indian believers were baptized in Filadelfia November 26. They were believers from the Fernheim and Neuland mission areas.

Asuncion Christian Academy, the school for missionary children in which missionaries Miss Miriam Jantzen and Miss Mary Esther Martens teach, closed its school year November 22.

Daily Vacation Bible School enrollment in the new M.B. Church in Asuncion reached 190 on the third day.

Eight missionaries are scheduled to depart for the great mission field of Brazil during the second week of the New Year. Their departure is cause for sincere gratitude to the Lord. For some time there has been a great concern in our conference to enter more fully into the great spiritual opportunities of Brazil. Pictures and information regarding the Paul Kliever and James Lomheim families will be presented in a coming issue. All of these eight workers will be taking up Portuguese language study in Campinas, Brazil, on January 22.

Brother and Sister Donald G. Faul of the Sawyer, North Dakota Church are new missionaries of the conference. After language study, their ministry will be to serve in the Bible school program to train national Christian workers for Brazil. The son of Gust Fauls,

Velva, North Dakota, Don has prepared for missionary service at Prairie Bible Institute, Tabor College and Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary. The daughter of Mrs. John E. Klippenstein, Swift Current, Sask., Marie studied for Christian service at Herbert Bible School, Mennonite Brethren Bible College and St. Boniface School of Nursing in Winnipeg from which she received the RN degree. The Fauls are to be ordained by the Sawyer Church on December 31.

Suzanne, the five-year-old daughter of Vernon Reimers, Colombia missionaries on furlough at Orland, California, has been examined by a heart specialist who recommends surgery to improve her health. The Reimer family will appreciate our prayers for the Lord's guidance in this surgery and for the restoration of Suzanne's health.

A. E. Janzen plans to leave India early in January. Let us pray for

his safe return to Hillsboro. J. B. Toews was scheduled to arrive in Hillsboro from Europe December 23. Missionaries write that the ministry and fellowship of the brethren Janzen and Toews have been a great blessing to the cause of Christ in India.

On the Brazil field the Administrative Committee will meet January 3 to review the work of 1961 and to plan for 1962; the board representing the mission before the Brazilian government will conduct its annual meeting January 4; and a DVBS for children of the Curitiba home will be conducted at the beginning of January.

Believers at Atalaya and Santa Rosa in Peru are undertaking for the first time the support of summer Bible school teachers. Two individuals will teach in these areas which these believers are seeking to reach for Christ. Missionaries believe this is a real step forward in the faith of the believers.

Dear Praying Friends:



Miss Katherine Wiens

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

Our furlough is coming to a close. It has been good to spend time with my beloved family and many of my dear praying friends. The Lord has given new courage to prepare for the days ahead.

In view of the unrest in the world everywhere, I have been much in prayer about my next term. In August of this year my mission board, the American Mennonite Brethren Mission, asked me whether I'd be willing to be relocated from the Congo, Africa, to Curitiba, Brazil, South America. After considering this invitation I said that I would accept the new assignment.

This was not thoughtlessly or easily done. My heart has learned to love the Africans in our area where I labored last term. I had begun to appreciate their language and to understand their ways. Their needs are great and many. In our area many are still without spiritual leadership and guidance. Let us not forget to pray for them.

As we now turn from the Congo; it's languages and it's people, to Brazil for the Lord's leading and undertaking, we are reminded of Abraham, in Hebrew 11:8, "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went." So we, who are now called to meet new languages, new cultures, new food, new sicknesses, and new people, must go by faith.

Do pray for us that we might be enabled to spread the good news, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men."

We plan to be in Brazil in time for language study in the early part of 1962.

In need of prayer,

Your ambassador,
Katharine F. Wiens

Very likely Miss Wiens will leave for South America at the beginning of the new year.

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THE Young Observers

Hello Boys and Girls,

How was Christmas at your house? Did you get just what you wanted? I guess it is lots of fun to try those new skis and toboggans and skates during the holidays. This week of fun and frolic was really worth waiting for.

The year is almost ended. We like to think of the good and pleasant things that happened to us. We like to forget the unpleasant and disturbing things. We want to forget our mistakes and sins. But, try as we might, we can't forget them.

How shall we be able to close the year in peace? In Luke we read about the publican who stood afar off. He cast his eyes down, smote on his breast, and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." Let us be like the publican, and throw ourselves upon the mercy of God. All that was wrong in 1961, and in every year before that, was paid by the Lamb of God. He will forgive our mistakes and faults of 1961, and we will be able to think of the good and pleasant things that we are proud of, and enter into 1962 with joy and happiness.

Happy New Year to all my readers.
Love, Aunt Helen.

Pattern Fit

I really goofed the other day. Isn't it strange how often teenagers know better than they do? When I was telling you about myself, I forgot to tell you that when I get an idea I think is good, others have a hard time talking me out of it.

That's the way it was the day Mom and I went shopping. I get an allowance each week. It is not very much, but enough. My folks give it to me for helping around the home. Most of the time I'm able to add to that fund by baby sitting for folks who have small children. And I always save part of what I earn to buy the things I really want.

Well, one day I found the cutest dress in a magazine for high school girls. I was crazy about it but knew I'd never have enough money to buy it.

"Why don't you get material and a pattern and make one like it?" my mother suggested.

That sounded like a good idea, so one day when we were at the Emporium, Mom and I looked through the pattern books. We found a pattern almost like the dress I lik-

ed so well. I knew Mom could help me change it to make it the same. It was a princess style with a sweetheart neckline.

But finding the material wasn't so easy. When we were almost ready to give up, I spied just what I wanted on a remnant table.

"But that's not enough yardage," Mom told me. "It's about a half-yard less than the pattern says you need."

Well, I wouldn't believe her, so when she wasn't looking I bought the material anyway. That's one thing about my own money. My folks say I can spend it any way I want as long as I give my tithe first (that's the ten percent I give to the Lord).

When I got home I went upstairs and laid the material out on my bed and put the pattern on it. I followed the directions exactly, folding the material lengthwise. But try as I could I wasn't able to make the pattern fit.

Finally I tried another diagram the pattern suggested, folding the material in half, crosswise. It was still several inches too short.

No matter what I did it wouldn't come out right. I'd think I had it all just the way it was supposed to be, then I'd find I didn't have cuffs, a sleeve, or the facing for the neck opening.

You can imagine how I hated to tell Mom what I had done. But after dinner that night I asked her to come up to my room so I could show her what a mess I was in.

I thought she'd scold me but she only laughed at me.

"Sheryl," she said, I've been trying for days to find a good illustration for my Sunday school lesson about the Ten Commandments, and now you've given me a dandy one."

"Me?" I couldn't see how a piece of material that didn't fit the pattern could be any help to her at all.

"Look," she said "God's commandments are the pattern for right living, aren't they?"

"Mmmhmmmm." I followed her that far.

"A lot of people think they can change the commandments to fit their own way of living, but they can't.

"Like this," she pointed to the place where one sleeve was sticking out on the bedspread way beyond the piece of cloth I had bought. "Why don't you cut the sleeve that way?" she asked me.

"One sleeve would be short and the other long," I told her.

"Don't you see? That's the way it is in life too. We have to adjust our lives to God's pattern—it's perfect for us and can't be changed whenever we feel it ought to be. Certain things are wrong because God's commandments say they are, and no amount of thinking otherwise can change them."

Later she showed me how I could adjust the material to fit the pattern. We made a yoke for the sweetheart neckline out of a different colour, a shade that blended perfectly with the material. Finally I got my dress cut and sewed.

But, do you know, whenever I wear that dress I think of the lesson I learned that night. We adjust to God's pattern of righteousness, not He to ours!

Reprint from
"The Young Soldier"

The Averted Disaster

The Baltimore and Ohio Railway Co. of USA have on their records of some years ago one of the most thrilling experiences possible.

Close to the railway line stood a rude log cabin occupied by a widow and her daughter. One very stormy night they were awakened with the noise of a terrible crash. It was the railway bridge that had been blown down. They were on the scene in a few moments. The broken railway bridge projected into the air over the deep gorge, while the raging torrent roared below.

Quick as a flash they decided what to do, seeing the next express was due within a few minutes. Their only bedstead, a wooden one, and a few chairs were carried up the steep embankment and piled in the middle of the track, then set ablaze. Still the express did not appear, and there was no more available wood for burning. The fire began to die out; while just then the distant rumbling could be heard. The widow pulled off her shawl with some of her clothing, flung them into the fire; then with a pole waved the flaming garments before the oncoming train. The shrill whistle blew



Good Beginnings

With God begin the day:
Look up to Him and pray
For guidance through its hours,
For grace and heavenly powers.

With God begin the week;
Attend His house and seek
From Him the help you need
In every word and deed.

With God begin the year:
Embark without a fear;
His Everlasting Arm
Will save you from all harm.

as the train rounded the bend. The great head-light lit up the track, with the woman waving frantically. The brakes were applied and the great express drew up, only a few feet from the yawning chasm.

The passengers heard the news and were soon around the widow and daughter hearing all the details, and thanking them profusely. Railway officials and passengers knelt together and gave thanks to God for such a marvelous deliverance from certain death. A collection was taken, and handed to the widow; while the railway company made provision for her for the rest of her life.

"As a Little Child"

A little child is the most dependent thing on earth. All its resources are in its parents' love; all it can do is to cry, which indicates its needs to the mother's heart. If we interpret its language, it means, "Mother, wash me; I cannot wash myself. Mother, clothe me; I am naked and cannot clothe myself. Mother, feed me; I cannot feed myself. Mother, carry me; I cannot walk." It is written, "A mother may forget her sucking child; yet will not I forget thee."

This it is to receive the Kingdom of God as a little child—to come to Jesus in our helplessness and say, "Lord Jesus, wash me! Clothe me! Feed me! Carry me! Save me, Lord, or I perish."

—Rainsford



ANTONIA

written by Jean A. Rees

(22nd Installment)

"It was jolly mean asking you all about Madame Recamier's artist, expecting you to know a thing like that, as if he was giving a lesson."

"You can't blame the old man: only last week we were having a lecture on French art and he rubbed it in like anything about Louis David's dates, so naturally he thought I ought to know."

"Well, I think he's very bossy and I'd hate to be his wife, he'd always tell her what to do and what not to do."

"Oh, June's all right, don't you worry. Why, the old man dotes on her. He thinks no one can paint like she can and all she does is right."

"Well, all I can say is that I'd hate to marry a bossy man years older than me."

"Now there, Madame Recamier, you're right," agreed John, "you ought to marry a man of—how old did you say you were?"

"Twenty," said Tony.

"Yes, you ought to marry a man, say three years older than yourself."

"Why?" said Tony, rather mystified, "what makes you say that?"

"Ah!" murmured John, in a tone of voice that implied many things.

"How old are you anyway?" said Tony, suspiciously.

"Twenty-three," he said, "but that's just a coincidence. Don't build on that, don't think I meant anything. Don't construe this into a proposal of marriage." Tony found herself blushing and said:

"Of course not. But you asked me in such a way that I wanted to know what you meant."

"My dear Madame Recamier," said John grandly, "don't misunderstand me. The only thing which is preventing me from going down on one knee and laying my heart and hand at your feet is that—er—my present circumstances make it impossible for me to support you in—er—the position to which you have been accustomed." Tony couldn't help laughing and at that moment Chloe put her head round the door and said:

"If you could get off your knees for a moment, Romeo, and get back to work I think it might be rather better." John leapt to his feet and said:

"Certainly, Ma'am, coming, Ma'am, but you must take Madame Recamier away, she's a distraction to me." Tony went away laughing. She was quite unused to this kind of banter. Her sisters, of course, had many admirers who came to

the house, who openly paid them compliments, but John Miles was different somehow, and nobody had even hinted before that she was attractive. Not, of course, that John Miles was serious, he was just a clown, she told herself, but all the same it was rather fun to be called "Madame Recamier."

CHAPTER IX

"HAM AND EGGS"

"My dear Hamish," I said, "what is the matter? You look as if you've seen a ghost." I was just turning into the gate of Cherry Tree Cottage when I saw Hamish coming towards me, presumably on his way to Greengates. He looked like a man distraught.

"What's the matter?" I repeated.

"They've taken June to hospital," he said in a hollow tone.

"Is there something wrong?" I said.

"I sincerely hope not," he said, "but she went three hours ago and I haven't heard anything since."

"You mean the baby's started?" I said.

"Yes. I don't know what I'm doing with myself."

"Come and sit down and have a cup of tea," I urged, "you obviously need looking after at a time like this."

He came inside and told me that they had realized the baby was starting and he had run June into the hospital in Wychester, where she was having the baby in a private ward. It was the hospital to which Dr. Theo Penn was attached and so he was attending her.

"Do you mind if I ring the hospital?" When he came back from the telephone, "No news yet," he said, "they keep telling me there's no sign of it arriving yet. They say June's very comfortable and everything is going according to plan. Surely it ought to be here by now?"

"Not at all," I told him, "a first baby may take twenty-four hours to arrive."

"Twenty-four hours! I shall be a corpse by then."

"Now pull yourself together, Hamish," I said, "this has happened before."

"I know it has," he moaned, "but not to me and not to June."

I made him a cup of tea and talked of various things to try and take his mind off it. Just at that moment we saw Dr. Theo Penn's car draw up at the house opposite. Hamish was out of the house in a trice.

"Theo," he said anxiously, "what

are you doing here, neglecting your job, why aren't you at the hospital with June?" Dr. Theo Penn looked kindly at his friend Hamish.

"Now look here, old man," he said, "calm down. June's baby won't be born until the morning I don't suppose."

"Not until the morning?" said Hamish.

"No, and I can't sit at her bedside all that time you know. She's in excellent hands and I'm keeping in touch with them on the telephone and I shall be going back there again soon. Everything's quite normal. Now, I'll telephone you the moment anything happens."

"You're quite sure the whole thing's normal?" said Hamish.

"Quite normal," said the doctor. "Now, you go and sit down. She'll be all right soon."

I got Hamish calmed down and we persuaded him to stay and have dinner with us, telling him to ring the hospital and let them know what the telephone number was, so that they could contact him at once. We managed to take Hamish's mind off it a little and he relaxed and teased Tony about her job. I think, finding him so anxious about his wife and the baby, made Tony revise her view of him a bit, thinking that a man who was so concerned about his wife could not be quite so bad after all.

I was awakened the following morning about half-past six, with the telephone ringing violently. Wondering what on earth could be the matter, I reached out for the phone and heard an excited voice.

"Margaret, Margaret, are you there?"

"Who's that speaking?" I said, still half in a dream.

"It's Hamish. What do you think," he said, "what do you think?"

"It's arrived!" I said, "tell me, is it a girl or a boy?"

"Girl or a boy?" he chuckled, "it's both! It's twins!"

"Well," I said, "it was a bit difficult for her, wasn't it? You wanted a boy and she wanted a girl, so she had to oblige."

John Miles arrived at the shop soon after lunch instead of just after four, to do his painting.

"You're early," said Chloe, "what's the matter with you?"

"We've all got a half-holiday," he said, "the old man was nearly off his head with excitement today. He made out he was doing us all a great favour by giving us a half-holiday but, as a matter of fact, he wasn't in any fit state to take classes or give lectures. I think he made a virtue of necessity and told us all to go home."

As soon as June was able to see visitors Hamish escorted me himself, with great pride, to show off the twins. June was looking very well indeed and had made a great recovery. One of the most ludicrous sights I have ever seen was the

proud father with a twin on each arm.

"What are you going to call them, June?" I asked.

"It's really very funny," she said, "we're going to call the boy Giles Hamish Hamilton, after my father and after Hamish, and we're going to call the girl Erica. What with Hamish and Erica the proud father will call them nothing but ham and eggs, so they've got a nickname already."

"Most appropriate," I said, "but I suppose you are going to call him Giles, to distinguish Junior from Senior?"

"Yes," said June, "I only hope he doesn't get stuck with the nickname of Ham."

"Do you think you and the little girl from the village are going to be able to cope, when you get back home again?" I asked. A cloud came over June's face at that moment and she said:

"We . . . ell," and gave a look at her husband. "Hamish insists that I've got to have a Nanny. He says I'll never cope all by myself, even with a village girl. What do you think, Margaret?" she said. It's always a difficult position when a wife appeals to you, knowing that she thinks one thing and the husband thinks the other.

"Of course, it depends on the kind of Nanny you get," I said.

"Some of my friends have had them," said June gloomily, "and I've heard about them. Smart young girls straight from a training school and you have an awful feeling that whatever you do, they have learnt on page 12 of their manual: 'How to cope with difficult parents. What to do when the mother wishes to interfere and upset the routine.' But I don't want somebody taking my babies from me and planning a routine."

"Still, you will have to have a routine," said Hamish kindly.

"I know, but I want it to be a routine that I plan, not that's come out of some book that a trained Nanny has up her sleeve."

"Well, we'll see about her," said Hamish soothingly. "As a matter of fact I have heard of someone, a widow of about fifty, who sounds very suitable."

"I think she sounds horrible," said June, looking quite tearful at the prospect.

"You shall interview her yourself when you get home and if you don't like her you needn't have her."

"What do you feel about having twins now, Hamish?" I asked.

"Well, frankly I was quite horrified when I first heard it on the telephone, but now that I've seen them both, I think you can't have too much of a good thing!"

Since this issue brings the "Mennonite Observer" to a close, we are sorry to discontinue this story. But the book "Antonia" is available at the Christian Press for \$1.70.



MCC News & Notes

Special Peace Section Meeting

Akron, Pa. (MCC) — The Peace Section of the Mennonite Central Committee, in a special meeting with representatives of Mennonite Disaster Service Saturday, December 9, recommended that a further and more specific statement of position on recent civil defense developments, including the building of fallout shelters and other welfare services, be drawn up for use in representations to government and for use within the Mennonite constituency.

MDS has been considering the possibility of seeking some understanding regarding civil defense welfare services with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, which is responsible for handling this aspect of the civil defense program, though the main part of the civil defense program is now lodged with the Secretary of Defense. Members of the Peace Section, asked by MDS to serve in an advisory capacity in clarifying this relationship, expressed concern that any such understanding should not commit us to the kind of preparations for wartime disaster which would indirectly support the total military program and thus be in conflict with our Christian peace witness.

Statement of Position

The meeting recommended that the statement setting forth the church's position on participation in disaster services in the event of war, on the limitations on current preparations for such wartime disaster, and our position regarding the building of fallout shelters and our concern regarding the total current military development should be drafted by a committee of three and then presented to the Annual Meetings of the MCC Peace Section and MDS for approval. Such further statement, if approved, would be used in MDS negotiations with Washington and also for clarification of position within our own constituencies.

C. L. Graber, who had been asked by MDS to work out such a relationship, reported that the civil defense program is currently undergoing sweeping changes. It is hard, he said, to keep our own position clear at a time when government agencies themselves are not sure of their roles.

New CD Structure

The meeting noted that major responsibility for civil defense ad-

ministration has been assigned to the Secretary of Defense (this assignment includes the fallout shelter program). The former Office of Civil Defense Mobilization has now become an Office of Emergency Planning. Other agencies of government, such as the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, have been assigned particular responsibilities, directly by the President, though these will be closely coordinated with the functions under the Secretary of Defense.

The civil defense organization as formerly known appears to be breaking down, with more emphasis currently on the use of existing government agencies for various aspects of the civil defense program. However, civil defense as a concept involving defensive preparation for war is stronger than ever,

involving more program, more manpower and more money. In addition to money already appropriated, \$700 million was requested by the Kennedy administration on December 14 especially for subsidies in building public fallout shelters in schools, hospitals, public buildings and communities. In the present situation the distinction between military and civilian is extremely difficult to maintain.



friendly. "We have the feeling that the time is not far away when the Morros will come out of the bush," he said.

MCC is requesting prayer that those in the Chaco be given wisdom and guidance in the situation and that friendly contact with the Morro Indians be eventually established.

Morro Indians Near Experimental Farm in Chaco

Akron, Pa. (MCC) — Recently MCC has received from workers in Paraguay reports that there is increasing evidence of Morro Indians near the Experimental Farm in Fernheim Colony in the Chaco. Robert Unruh, who manages the Experimental Farm, wrote early in December that signs of the Morros have been seen and that this has become a cause for concern among the farm workers.

Unruh thinks, however, that the Morros are probably not intending to make a hostile attack and may even be attempting to be

Livestock Donated to Chaco

A recent report from Asuncion, Paraguay, indicates that the livestock donated in May by Lancaster County, Pa., farmers to Mennonite colonists in the Chaco is doing very well there. The 18 bull calves went through a period of climatization but are now in good condition. The calves and the 30 pigs in the shipment were distributed to farmers through the Experimental Farm in Colony Fernheim.

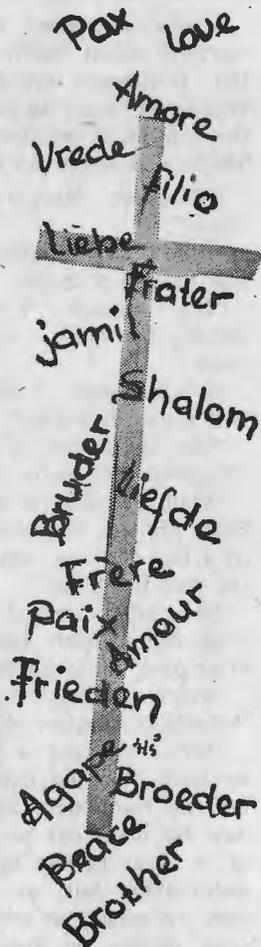
MAN

—Austrian, Vietnamese, Christian or Muslim—cannot be satisfied with food only; his inquiring mind must be satisfied as well. Curious, he explores the philosophies and the sciences to obtain a solution for this unrest.

Disillusioned by the carefully phrased, meaningless explanations, the searching man watches his neighbors. He notices Christians dedicated to their Faith, willing to serve, to suffer and to speak to all men that the Word became reality through Christ. You can communicate this speech . . . different, dynamic, understood in all dialects. Speech filled, not of war, but of peace, service and love, spoken to strangers who are brothers. This speech is simple yet complicated; it is a daily life.

Will you continue to answer the world's questions with words of peace by providing for workers in relief service?

Contribute generously and regularly to your church's relief and service offerings. In groups where such offerings are not taken, gifts may be sent directly to the



MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

21 South Twelfth Street
Akron, Pennsylvania

187 King Street
Kitchener, Ontario

NEWS from HERE and THERE

Gains in church membership in the United States in 1960 were in proportion to population gains, thus changing the pattern of the past 15 years when church membership increased more rapidly than population. The Yearbook of American Churches reports members of all faiths numbered 114,449,217, an increase of 1.9 per cent over 1959 when membership totaled 112,226,905. In the same period population increased 1.8 per cent. Membership by groups is as follows (1959 figures in brackets):

Protestant 63,668,835 (62,543,501). Roman Catholic 42,104,900 (40,871,307), Jewish 5,367,000 (5,500,000), Eastern Orthodox 2,698,663 (2,807,612), Old Catholic and Polish National Catholic 589,819 (484,489), Buddhist 20,000 (20,000).

An increase in the number of persons earning advanced doctoral degrees was announced recently for the 1960-61 academic year by the United States Office of Education. At least 10,500 doctorates were granted in this country during the year, compared with 9,800 in 1959-60 and 9,400 in 1958-59, the office said. The office based its estimate on reports from 605 colleges and universities. They reported that some 13,400 graduate students completed their work for a doctorate during the 1960-61 school year.

The knowledge that food can be kept for years when it is frozen has been used by primitive man since the days when much of the earth was a frozen waste.

We get a dramatic example of the powers of Nature's refrigerator in the frozen bodies of mammoths which are still found in the wilds of Siberia. These animals became extinct many years ago—yet Nature has kept their bodies in perfect condition.

Mechanical refrigerators were first used in the home about 1917.

Norway — The Norwegian Missionary Council does not want any official relationship with the World Council of Churches since the latter was integrated with the International Missionary Council at New Delhi in November.

Israel — An archaeological expedition was recently reported to have discovered remains believed to be those of an ancient Israelite settlement dating to King David's time (about 3,000 years ago). The reports said the site was near the Ein Gev settlement on the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Bolivia — A new constitution confirming the status of Roman Catholicism as the nation's official religion of the state has been rati-

fied by the Bolivian Congress. Article 3 of the constitution declares that the state "recognizes and supports the Catholic, Apostolic and Roman religion." At the same time, it says, the state guarantees "the public exercise of all other cults." The new constitution abolishes the old system of patronage under which the state had the right to nominate bishops and supervise all church property.

Egypt — Gamal Abdel Nasser can never embrace Communism because of his deep-rooted religious convictions. This is the opinion of author-lecturer Grant C. Butler, who interviewed Egypt's strong man recently. Butler says Nasser explained to him the origin and depth of his religion during a two-hour meeting. "I think you are the same as I—you inherited your religion," Nasser told Butler. "You are a Christian, I a Moslem. When I was 18 I decided not to take just the word of those who believed. I studied the Koran and the Christian Bible. Then I found the answer right here (indicating his heart). I found there was a God. I believe in Him. He exists. I believe most of our troubles come from people who call themselves Christians and Moslems but do not live up to their religions."

Russia — A Communist Party Congress in the Caucasus has been reported to have called upon Moslem leaders in the Soviet Union to "modernize their religion and adapt it to communist ideas." A report of the Congress, published in an official party paper, declared that "the aims and ideals of Mohammed have been realized in communist philosophy." Also, in Moscow, two new reference books on atheism have been published by a state publishing house as political literature. One is entitled a Textbook of Scientific Atheism, and was compiled by a team of Soviet scientists. The second book is a revised edition of Sputnik Atheists. It is a 500-page book of anti-religious cartoons. Some 180-thousand copies have been published thus far.

Eighty per cent of evangelical work accomplished on Indian reservations in the United States is sponsored by the Assemblies of God, according to a recent National Association of Evangelicals' survey. The Assemblies of God is reaching Indians in 19 states. However, there are 172 tribes and 227 reservations still unevangelized by the organization. During the past year, 108 evangelistic campaigns were conducted among Indians with over 800 adherents added to the faith. The average Sunday school attendance in Indian churches dur-

ing 1960 reached 53.5. The Assemblies of God has over 85 churches among the Indians, a gain of 13 over the previous year. The denomination has 148 missionaries to the American Indians and over 110 preaching points.

Egypt — The United Arab Republic has approved an Italian plan to save two 3,200-year-old temples built by Rameses II at Abu Simbel in Nubia. The temples are threatened by the Nile waters that will rise behind the Aswan High Dam. Sarwat Okasha, Minister of Culture, said the temples would be raised according to a plan worked out by Prof. Pierro Gazzalo and a team of Italian engineers. The plan will preserve the 400,000-ton temple Rameses II built in his own honor and a smaller structure dedicated to his Queen, Nefertari. (Rameses reigned from 1292 to 1225 B.C.) Mr. Okasha said lifting the temples 186 feet with 300 hydraulic jacks would cost \$70,000,000.

The pace of new house building in Canada picked up in September with 20 per cent more homes started than a year earlier. Total new house starts for the first nine months were 67,279. However, at the same time there was a drop in mortgage lending, signaling a possible slow-down in new construction during the winter.

Brussels — The Belgian government is studying the possibility of suing the United Nations for the loss of Belgian property and lives during the UN military action in the Congo's Katanga province, Foreign Minister Paul-Henri Spaak told parliament Tuesday night.

Spaak said that if such an action were launched it would be the first time that an international organization was sued by a state.

Ottawa — A \$71,000,000 sale of wheat and barley to Communist China under the long-term agreement concluded last spring was announced here recently by Agriculture Minister Hamilton.

The new contract involves 30,600,000 bushels of wheat and 8,900,000 bushels of barley for shipment from Pacific ports during the next five months.

The grain was sold for payment in convertible sterling, 25 per cent in cash at the time of shipment and the balance to be paid on nine-month credit terms.

Canadian grain sales to Communist China since last February now total some 94,000,000 bushels of wheat and 37,000,000 bushels of barley.

Of these amounts 80,000,000 bushels of wheat and 12,000,000 bushels of barley have been sold for cash and the rest on terms involving 25 per cent cash and nine months credit. The Chinese are expected to start paying on the credit about the end of February.

A New Year Motto

By Ruth Tracy

What are Bible's first four words?
"In the beginning God!"
How can we safely find our roads
Where no one yet has trod?

Only by choosing Him as Guide
Who plans our every day,
Small though we be in world so wide
We need not go astray.

Turn to the Bible's closing page,
Your New Year prayer to see:
Pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!" and engage
His warrior to be.

Then every day if you will look,
With prayer for opened eyes,
You'll find within God's Holy Book
Words that will make you wise.

The Lord will go before thee, yes,
He knows the way we take;
All needs He will supply, no less;
He never will forsake.

His arms are underneath His own,
And round us is His love.
His guidance daily will be shown,
Each promise we may prove.

So let us enter this New Year
With Jesus as our Guide;
There will be nothing then to fear,
Although the world is wide.

"The Young Soldier"

Prince Albert — The federal government plans to make an acreage payment to prairie farmers on the current crop year, Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced Tuesday, December 12. The payment will be similar to that made in 1958 and 1960.

Last year the federal government paid out \$42,000,000 in acreage grants. The maximum amount paid a farmer was \$200. The same figures applied in 1958, the first year the payment was made. Farmers were paid \$1 per cultivated acre to the maximum amount.

"We intend to ask parliament to make provision this year for acreage payments on a similar basis to the two earlier years as soon as parliament can deal with the matter," the prime minister said.

"Humility is perfect quietness of heart. It is to have no trouble. It is never to be fretted or vexed or irritated or sore or disappointed. It is to expect nothing, to wonder at nothing that is done to me, to feel nothing done against me. It is to be at rest when nobody praises me, and when I am blamed or despised. It is to have a blessed home in the Lord, where I can go in and shut the door, and kneel before my Father in secret, and be at peace as in a deep sea of calmness, when all around and above is trouble."

—Andrew Murray

YOUTH IN ACTION

Girls Trained to Tempt Men

Moscow — Specially-trained girl announcers who read anti-religious poems over the air are being employed by Soviet radio stations in an effort to dissuade young men from training for the Russian Orthodox Church priesthood, the Moscow Radio disclosed.

It said the girls belong to Kom-somol, the Communist youth organization which urges other young women in more personal and direct attempts to discourage young seminarians.

Christmas Concert and Pageant Presented

On December 21 the fall term at Canadian Mennonite Bible College came to an end. The end of the term is such that it is both a culmination and an evaluation of the term's work.

With most of the term papers written and reading assignments finished the students, along with

Die Mennonites

(bilingual)

Wo immer man nur looked und geht
Der Mennonite vor einem steht;
Zur right und left und up und down
Man sieht die Mennonites in town.

Die Mennonites sind everywhere,
Sind auf der ground und in der air;
Der eine travelt auf dem train,
Der eine fliegt in einem plane.
Und einer faehrt ein Model T,
Der andre sitzt in Headingly.

Die Mennonites sind auch nicht
gleich,
Denn some sind arm und some sind
reich;
Und some sind smart und some sind
dumb,
While some sind schlecht und an-
dre fromm.

Von Holland kommen diese Leut',
Nun sind sie in der Welt zerstreut.
Their father, Menno, ist lang tot,
But yet, sie tun was er gebot.
Jetzt liven sie in Canada,
In Deutschland and Siberia,
In Paraguay und auch Brazil,
Und Kansas sie schon nearly fill.

Die Mennonites die liebt man sehr,
Some places less and andre mehr.
In Canada and U.S.A.

Die Mennonites gehn where they
may;

Doch Mr. Khrushchev and his boys
die geben Mennonites nicht viel
joys.

Doch eins ist sure as ABC,
Dass if no Mennonites should be,
Die alte World would turn no more
Weil es would lose its very core.

Helmut T. Huebert, M.D.
(Composed when he was in
grade 12)

the faculty and about 40 friends of the College presented a Christmas concert in the College chapel on Dec. 9 and 10. December 12 was the night when faculty, staff, and students got together for a Christmas banquet. The highlight of this evening was a pageant written and produced by CMBC students. It sought to point out the need for peace for which mankind has always striven, but all too often by false means. This peace was manifest in the Prince of Peace who was born as a child at Christmas.

No school term, however, would be complete without an accounting for that which has been studied and so the last week has been set aside as "exam week." During this week full attention is given to the preparation for and the writing of exams.

The College board executive, too, saw fit to spend a day evaluating the work of the College during the past term as well as making plans for the future.

Registration day for the winter term is January 3.

Brief News Items

Mr. and Mrs. Isaak A. Dyck, Winkler, Man., left for Matheson Island, Man., where they will serve as mission workers of the Mennonite Pioneer Mission.

Peter John Wiebe, Herbert, Sask., was awarded the B.Ed. degree at the Fall Convocation of the University of Saskatchewan on November 25.

Albert Schroeder, draftsman, and Jacob Sawatzky, junior high teacher, were ordained as ministers of the First Mennonite Church in Winnipeg on Sunday, December 3, by Elder J. H. Enns.

Victor Carl Friesen, Rosthern, Sask., was awarded the B.A. degree with distinction at the Fall Convocation of the University of Saskatchewan on November 25.

Erika Joyce Redekop, Winnipeg, was listed in the 1961 University of Manitoba music school scholarship list as the winner of the Gold Medal and the Ethel M. Lupton Book Prize.

Marlene Tjart, R.N., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Tjart, Hespeler, Ont., and member of the Mennonite Brethren Church at Kitchener, will serve with MCC's Voluntary Service program at the Albert Schweitzer hospital at Saint Marc, Haiti. Prior to entering VS, Miss Tjart was an obstetric nurse at South Waterloo Memorial hospital for one year.

Kae Martens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Martens, Lena, Man., and member of the Elmwood Mennonite Brethren Church, Winnipeg, will serve with the MCC's Voluntary Service program at Junior Village, a temporary home for children from broken homes in Washington, D.C. Prior to entering VS, Miss Martens was with the Manitoba Civil Service for three years.

Glenn Harder, 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Harder, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., won a Silver Medal from the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, for having obtained the highest mark in grade five examination in the province of Ontario. He has studied violin for four years with Sister Mary Alexandra, now a missionary in Japan. His present teacher is Mr. D. Aird of Niagara Falls.

Readers, Please, Note!

(Continued from page 1)

Meanwhile The Canadian Conference had established a Publication Committee. From the records of this committee we note that it has been their concern from the very beginning to plan for the publication of a family paper for our Conference.

At this point we should, however, note that in actuality we have a family paper for our Conference, namely the "Christian Leader", which is published biweekly by the M. B. Publishing House in Hillsboro, Kansas. This paper is the English organ of the M.B. Church of North America devoted to the interest of the Conference of which the Canadian area forms a part. The "Christian Leader" is an excellent paper. The difficulty has been that Canadian coverage has been lacking and it has failed to become popular in the majority of homes of the members of the Canadian Conference.

In 1959 the Conference at Hepburn asked the Publication Committee to investigate the possibility of working together with our brethren in the United States area of our General Conference. The intimation was that the possibilities of adapting the "Christian Leader" to our Canadian reading audience was to be investigated. If this could be done, the problem of providing a family paper would then be solved. The Publication Committee, however, sensing that the purchase of the Christian Press was soon to take place, waited for developments; for if the Christian Press were to become the property of the Conference, this body would become the publishers of existing papers and such others as it might wish to publish.

The Christian Press was purchased by the Conference at its 1960 sessions in Virgil, Ontario. The Administration Committee of

the newly acquired property had several meetings in Winnipeg in August 1960. One of the most important questions on the agenda was the English family paper. The committee declared that such a paper was a necessity.

Plans of working together with the brethren of the United States area were now seriously considered. Meetings were held between the committees in charge of publications in the two areas. Although the brethren in principle were in favour of working together in the field of publications, no agreement was reached by which it would be possible to have one paper serve the two areas. On the contrary, the final outcome of all the negotiations regarding the wished-for family paper was the recommendation "that we have two conference papers... with two editions, printed at two places." Thus autonomy of action was handed back to the Conference of our area again. Last July the Conference at Coaldale asked the Publication Committee to proceed with plans for the publication of a family paper for the Canadian Conference area. This the committee has done. In about three weeks we hope to have the first copy of the new paper out. The editor of this paper is Brother Rudi Wiebe, M.A., Th.B.

Today, then, we have two English family papers in the General Mennonite Brethren Conference of N. America, the "Christian Leader" and the "Mennonite Brethren Herald." Both papers pursue the same aims and have equal status. But it is reasonable to assume that the "Christian Leader" will make efforts of meeting the need of the readers of the United States area while the "M. B. Herald" will try to meet the needs of the readers of the Canadian area where the needs of the two areas might differ. We sincerely hope, however, that the "Christian Leader" will have many readers in the Canadian Conference, while the "M.B. Herald" will also find a place in the homes of the United States area.

We look forward with much hope, but we would seem grossly thoughtless if at this time we were not to look into the past, too, to think of those who have provided the groundwork for the paper we hope to have before us soon. We owe a vote of thanks to those brethren who visioned the needs of youth when they provided for the publication of the "Jugendblatt." We say thanks to those who have faithfully worked on the "Mennonite Observer", and we will pray for and help along those who today take upon themselves the task of preparing this paper for us. May God's benign blessings rest upon the efforts of all of us.

The Publication Committee of the Canadian M.B. Conference
F. H. Friesen, chairman
A. W. Schellenberg, secretary

EDUCATION SCHOOLS and COLLEGES

Students Attend IVCF Missionary Convention

Nine Tabor College students spent part of their Christmas vacation attending the Sixth International Student Missionary Convention December 27-31 at the University of Illinois, Urbana.

Five thousand students from colleges and schools of nursing were expected for the five-day conference sponsored by the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, an interdenominational organization working among college youth.

Rev. Billy Graham is the keynote speaker, with some 200 missionaries taking part in the sessions. Major speakers include Festo Kivengere, an Anglican schools supervisor in

Exams

That school life, why it sure is fun;
We think of play, and work we shun.

With volleyball and crokinole
We spend our time now as a whole.

Oh yes, there are a few black sheep
Who keep in books their noses deep;

Majority, though is a rule,
So let the bookworm be a fool.

But what is this the teacher said?
A stinging thought runs through my head—

In fourteen days the first exam!
Oh brother, now it's time to cram!

The pages of the physics book
Still have an unfamiliar look;
The chemistry is new to me—
What did we take in poetry?

I study till my eyes are red,
At one or two I go to bed;
And then at six I'm up again
To fill that vacuum in my brain.

Exams are breathing down my neck,
And soon make me a nervous wreck!
They come as spooks in all my dreams,
And oft my heart for comfort screams,

Disaster strikes! And like a storm
Leaves wrecks and ruins of every form.

In spite of sighs and tears and sweat
A series of failures is all I get.

The holidays fly by like a day,
And when they're over we soon say:
That school life, why it sure is fun;
We think of play and work we shun.

(By an M.B.C.I student of grade XI, who won a number of scholarships.)

East Africa; Paul Lindell, of the Lutheran World Mission Prayer League; Subodh Sahu, an Indian evangelist; and David Adeney, former missionary on the Chinese mainland, now working with Far East students.

Tabor students attending are: Donald Baerg Winnipeg, Manitoba; Ralph Earles, Clinton, Oklahoma; John Froese, Newton Siding, Manitoba; Carla Hatton, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Rebecca Nord, Bakersfield, California; Hannington Pamba, Kitus, Kenya; Richard Quiring, San Jose, California; Larry Unruh, Tampa, Kansas; and Wilma Jean Vogt, Colony, Oklahoma.

List Six Tabor Seniors in College Who's Who

The names of six Tabor College seniors have been selected for publication in this year's edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*. Nominations are made annually by a joint faculty-student committee and submitted to the publishers of the volume.

Seniors chosen include Mervin Dick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anon Dick, Mountain Lake, Minnesota; LeRoy Friesen, son of Mr. and Mrs. John V. Friesen, Bingham Lake, Minnesota; Larry Kliewer, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Kliewer, Big Bow, Kansas;

Jane Lauth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lauth, Harvey, North Dakota; Waldo Neufeldt, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Neufeldt, Yarrow, British Columbia; and Paul Toews, son of Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Toews of Hillsboro, Kansas.

Selections for *Who's Who* are based on academic achievement, leadership in school activities, and promise of future usefulness to society.

Activities at Steinbach Bible Institute

December 5 was set aside as a day of prayer at the Steinbach Bible Institute. Time was spent in soul-searching, personal meditation, intercessory prayer, and praise.

The practical work committee has been active in organizing various types of Christian activity. Arrangements have been made to visit the people in the Invalid Home every Tuesday evening. Every Wednesday evening a group goes to sing at the Bethesda Hospital. Several brethren are making home visitations once a week.

The yearbook is progressing

favourably. All are beginning to look forward to its completion.

Several special activities took place during the Christmas season. The dormitory students had their Christmas supper on Tuesday, December 19, while the whole school had a special evening the next day. On Thursday, December 21, the school choir presented the cantata, "The Gift Supreme," in the Evangelical Mennonite church. The Christmas recess began that evening, and lasts till January 3.

First semester examinations will be written during the week of January 8-12. It is expected that several new students will register for the second semester, starting on January 15.

Prayer Room in Memory of Rev. Sawatsky

Fresno, Calif. — Students of the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary here have contributed funds for building a prayer room, construction on which was begun Nov. 23.

The room is 8½ by 9½ feet in size and is located in the north wing of the basement. It is mahogany paneled, with a rug on the floor. An appropriately selected table and chairs add to the devotional atmosphere of the room. It is a memorial to the late Rev. Walter Sawatsky, former missionary in the Congo.

In Bethlehem of Judaea

In that part of the world which first saw Bethlehem's star, a million Arab refugees are living in squalor.

These Palestinian Arabs, who became refugees when Palestine was partitioned 13 years ago, live in camps in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Gaza. Each year around 25,000 babies add to their number and to the urgency of the problem.

In the town of Bethlehem itself thousands of refugees are living in caves and hovels which they managed to rent for a few piasters a month. Others have found accommodation of a kind in the nearby villages of Beit Jala and Beit Sahur (the traditional site of the shepherd's fields) or in refugee camps in the vicinity.

The tiny country of Jordan (a little larger than the state of Indiana) has 535,000 of these homeless people. Many seem determined to return to their former homes in what is now Israel, making little effort to adjust to new conditions or opportunities.

In the Holy Land this Christmas 18 relief workers minister "in the name of Christ" to Arab refugees by distributing clothing, helping refugee women with handwork, meeting medical needs, teaching trades and providing a home for orphan boys. Among them are 5 representatives of the Mennonite Brethren Conference: Martha Epp, Chilli-

General News

Following their church service on Sunday evening, the 100-member Haynes Memorial Baptist church at Chattanooga, Tenn., gathered outside on the gravel parking lot to watch the burning of a TV set, Roulette wheel, packs of cards, several pairs of dice and more than 100 pair of shorts and skin-tight slacks.

A commemorative four-cent postage stamp has been issued to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Presbyterian clergyman who invented the game of basketball in 1891. The stamp honoring Dr. James Naismith first was placed on sale at Springfield College, Springfield, Mass., where as an instructor in physical education he nailed a pair of peach baskets to the gymnasium balcony and laid down a set of basic rules which, virtually unchanged, govern the game now played in more than 50 countries.

The United Nations statistical office reports that the world's population is increasing at a minimum rate of 46,000,000 a year. Since statistics from many countries are unreliable, the figure might be as high as 55,000,000. The greatest part of the annual population increase occurs in Asia, where 56 per cent of the world's population now lives. Asia has only 30 per cent of the earth's total land area.

wack, B.C.; Susan Epp, Vancouver, B.C.; Agatha Esau, Coaldale, Alta.; and Dr. and Mrs. John J. Krahn, Winnipeg, Man.

Dr. Krahn describes an example of the great medical needs of Jordan. A child in Idna came to us recently with Keratomalacia—a condition where the eye is destroyed for lack of Vitamin A. Blindness could be the only outcome. Daily injections of Vitamin A and other local treatments were administered. A consultant in Jerusalem helped us to an accurate diagnosis. After two weeks the structures of her eye were being restored to normal, the infection disappearing and recovery imminent. Now her vision is good, the eye almost normal and her sight restored. "Thank God!" we all say. A miracle for us no less than for the parents.

Miss Esau, who works in the boys' orphanage at Hebron, writes: "When we see the strength of the Moslem world, it sometimes seems hopeless to try to witness, but with the Lord all things are possible. We have Bible study once a week to which the boys come. We believe it is time a mission program be started here. We have two believing Christian teachers. They teach the Sunday School lessons. Will you pray for these teachers and trust the Lord to bring these boys to a saving knowledge of Christ our Saviour?"

Announcement

Rev. J. P. Neufeld, pastor of the South End M. B. Church, Winnipeg, for 11 years, has received a call from the Lord and the Conference to go to South America. The Church has greatly appreciated the work of Brother Neufeld and therefore it accepted his resignation with a heavy heart. We as a Church covet God's richest blessings for Rev. and Mrs. Neufeld as they enter their new field of service.

Please direct all future correspondence concerning church matters to the South End Mennonite Brethren Church, 1420 Portage Ave., Winnipeg 10, Manitoba.

Christmas and Missions

(Continued from page 1)

behalf of missions, the Lord be praised.

The birth of the Christ Child at Bethlehem was something entirely new upon the earth. Never had it happened before, never to happen again. When Christmas comes we know that the end of the year is near and that the New Year is at hand. But even as one single new event upon the earth in the plan of God became the way of salvation for lost mankind, even so many

a single event of the past year, never to be repeated, has brought eternal life to some human soul. Even as the birth of our Lord was entirely a new thing in that day, even so each new day and each new year afford to the church the opportunity of accomplishing something entirely new, something never carried out before.

The new frontiers of reaching out to the unreached areas and unclaimed souls of man are open to the church for the coming year. The message of salvation so gloriously proclaimed by the angels to the shepherds at Bethlehem may now be proclaimed by various means unto the far corners of the earth.

Mr. Abe Friesen in Fatal Accident

Mr. Abe Friesen, 36, of Rosenort, Manitoba, was killed in a highway accident, between Morris and Lowe Farm, Thursday morning, December 28. Mr. Friesen is survived by his wife Elma (nee Kroeker), four children ranging in age from 5 days (the baby was born Dec. 23) to 12 years, 4 sisters, 3 brothers, his parents, J. H. Friesens, who reside at McTavish, Manitoba, and other relatives and friends.

July was the best month for births — 2,119 new babies — and November the worst with only 1,308 new arrivals.

Deaths during the year slumped from 1960's total of 7,528 to 6,945.

An Excerpt from Diefenbaker's Christmas Message

Ottawa (CP) — In his annual Christmas message Prime Minister Diefenbaker said,

"As we gather round the festive tree and table for joy and good cheer, the basic message of Christmas, the teaching of the one whose nativity we commemorate, is more vitally needed now than ever.

"And as our minds turn toward Bethlehem, each of us must adopt more earnestly than ever the Chris-

tian principles of love and brotherhood and the dignity of the human person."

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"Mennonite Brethren Herald" * is the name of the new weekly that will be published in Canada by the Mennonite Brethren General Conference. The first issue is to come off the press in January 1962. (Please note details in a special announcement by the Publication Committee of the Canadian M.B. Conference on pages 1 and 10 of this issue.)

The Christian Press Ltd. has published the Mennonite Observer since September 1955; this paper is now being replaced by the M.B. Herald. We thank the brethren Leslie Stobbe and Rev. G. D. Huebert, who have served very faithfully as editors of the Mennonite Observer. We have also appreciated the work of all reporters and thank all those, who contributed toward the regular publication of this Christian family paper!

Prepaid subscriptions will be honoured by the new weekly, the M.B. Herald. M.B. church members, who as of January 1962 will subscribe through their Canadian conference treasury, will receive credit notes for their individual prepayments on the Mennonite Observer.

May God grant His abundant blessings to this publication service and may His name be glorified!

With Christian greetings and our best wishes for the new year 1962,

sincerely yours,
H. F. Klassen
General Manager
The Christian Press Ltd.

ON THE HORIZON

Every Sunday. — German school program of Manitoba public schools over radio station CFAM from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. (CST).

January 14-26. — Bible Emphasis at Eden Christian College, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.

January 19-20. — Annual meeting of Mennonite Central Committee in Chicago.

Future Subscribers

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jantzen of Vancouver a son, Ernie Charles, on November 22, 1961. Ernie Charles is a brother to Alfred, Judy and Kenneth.

Correction

The heading of the devotional article should be "The Eleventh Hour". See page 2.

1961 Statistics on Weddings, Births and Deaths

Wedding bells rang for fewer Manitoba couples in 1961 than in 1960 — only 6,215 compared with 6,606 last year.

The 1961 statistics, released by Health Minister George Johnson, are based on actual figures to the end of November and an estimate for December.

Mr. Johnson also reveals a drop in the 1961 birth-rate, 22,683 compared with 23,438 in 1960.

June was the year's most popular marriage month, with 787. March was quietest, with only 232 marriages.

BOOKLETS, WHICH CHILDREN ENJOY!

The stories contained in many of these booklets are short, interesting, fascinating and illustrated with many pictures which captivate the interest of the children to such an extent that they want to see and hear more and more.

The handcraft and chalk talk booklets are likewise of great value, because they stimulate the children to mental and physical actions under the leadership of parents, teachers or older brothers and sisters. Here is the list of these fine booklets:

- Brave Men of the Bible. Emma Pettey. 65¢
 - Bible Friends to Know. Flay Barnard. 65¢
 - More Bible Friends to Know. Jane Williams. 65¢
 - When Jesus Was Here. Sadie Holcombe Davis. 65¢
 - Children of Bible Days. Florence Hearn. 65¢
 - Early Bible Days. James Hislop and H. M. Brock. 25¢
 - Men of Bible Times. James Hislop and H. M. Brock. 25¢
 - Suffer Little Children. James Hislop and H. M. Brock. .. 25¢
 - Easy Handicrafts for Juniors. Carolyn Howard. \$1.00
 - Five Hundred Things for Boys and Girls to Do. Vernon Howard. \$1.50
 - Fun to Do Handicraft for Junior and Junior Highs. Eleanor Doan. \$1.50
 - Build It Yourself. L. Paul Neuffer. \$1.00
 - Chalk Talk for the Amateur. Lionel A. Hunt. 75¢
 - More Chalk Talks for the Amateur. Lionel A. Hunt. \$1.00
- The following 12 booklets are by Mary Miller:
- Pictures Stories of the N. T. Jesus Came. Picture Stories of the New Testament. No. 1 30¢
 - Stories Jesus Told. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 2 30¢
 - Jesus the Healer. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 3 30¢

- People Jesus Met. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 4 30¢
- Jesus the Shepherd. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 5 30¢
- Jesus and His Friends. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 6 30¢
- Followers of Jesus. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 7 30¢
- Adventures for Jesus. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 8 30¢
- God Calls. Picture Stories of the New Testament. No. 9 ... 30¢
- Adventures for God. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 10 30¢
- God's Promise. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 11 30¢
- Warriors for God. Picture Stories of the N. T. No. 12 30¢

Booklets with Pictures to Color

Each booklet contains 13 pages of attractive pictures which are to be colored. At the bottom of each page there is a brief description of the picture and also the text for a Bible story and a memory Bible verse. Illustrations by Vera Kennedy Gohman. Each booklet

- In God's House
- God's Family
- Bible Families
- God's Love
- God Is Good
- Helpers for Jesus
- Jesus Loves Us

Tiny Question Books

These 16-page booklets for 2 and 3-year-olds have 8 pages with attractive pictures and on the remaining pages are questions which relate to the pictures. Mothers appreciate them for their youngsters. Each 60¢

- Which Child is Helping? Where?
- Who?
- Why?
- I Wonder How? See the Colors?

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