

Mennonite Observer

"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." 1 Cor. 2:2.

★
YOUR CHRISTIAN
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Brucks on Way to Belgian Congo

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Brucks and their three children left for Windsor, Ont., from the C.N.R. station in Winnipeg on the evening of January 16, thus setting out on a journey that will return them to the mission field in the Belgian Congo for a second term of service.

The Brucks returned from their first term of missionary service in December of 1954 after about six years of service in the Belgian Congo. During their stay at home they have visited many churches, relating from their varied experiences on the mission field and challenging the Christians to pray and give for the mission field. The

burden for those still without Christ on the mission field evidenced by the Brucks always impressed their listeners.

While on furlough Rev. Brucks also took the opportunity to complete his requirements for the B.R.E. degree at the Mennonite Brethren Bible College. He taught a course in missions during his three-month stay at college, and those who attended the lectures received a remarkable insight into missionary experiences.

The Brucks will stop at Windsor, Ont., to pick up a new panel truck, donated by a Manitoba couple for use on the mission field, and proceed to Hillsboro, Kansas, with it. After a brief stay at the headquarters of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions they will head for New York. They will probably sail during the middle of February on one of the ships of the Belgian-African line. They expect to arrive in Africa 16 days later.

Gem Choir Visits Vauxhall

John Esau

Vauxhall, Alta. — The choir of the Mennonite Brethren Church at Gem, Alta., visited the Mennonite Brethren Church here on Sunday, January 15. The 30-voice choir, directed by Mr. Nick Dueck, served at the morning service and presented a program in the afternoon.

With the choir came Mr. J. P. Doerksen and Rev. J. Pankratz, who gave the messages at the two services. They especially emphasized the value of prayer and discussed the trials and testings that the Lord permits Christians to undergo.

In the afternoon the group presented a splendid program. Although it was three weeks since Christmas, we once more heard some of the wonderful music usually sung during the Christmas season. Thereafter they presented a short dialogue, followed by a testimony and another dialogue based on a young minister's experiences with various people. The absolute truth of the Word of God was especially stressed. Stories for the children were told by Miss Loewen at the morning service and by Miss Peters at the afternoon service.

Both services were very well attended, although it was a cold day with snow falling. The Lord has richly blessed us through this visit. We hope they will come again.

Redekopp to Speak at Tabor College

The forty-fifth annual Bible Conference of Tabor College will be held on the campus during the second week of the spring semester. Conference sessions will begin on Sunday morning, January 29, and terminate the following Sunday evening, February 5.

This year's conference speakers are Rev. I. W. Redekopp of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Rev. George R. Brunk of Denbigh, Virginia. Rev. Redekopp will be the speaker at morning and evening sessions on Sunday, the 29th. Rev. Brunk will speak at similar services the following Sunday.

Both speakers will be heard twice on each intervening week-day. They will each speak once in the forenoon from 10:00 to 11:50. Rev. Redekopp will speak in German each afternoon at 2:00 for the special benefit of the people of the community. Rev. Brunk will address the combined student and community audience each evening at 7:30.

Rev. Brunk is a well-known minister and evangelist of the Vir-

ginia Mennonite Conference. He holds a Th. M. degree from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, and has taught at Eastern Mennonite College, Harrisonburg, Virginia. He is not unfamiliar to the Tabor campus: in the fall of 1954 he was one of the speakers during the school's Christian Life Emphasis Week.



Rev. I. W. Redekopp is well-known in the Mennonite Brethren Conference and in Hillsboro. A graduate of Tabor, AB '46, ThB '46, he is the pastor of the Elmwood M.B. Church of Winnipeg and on the faculty of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in

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Winnipeg. After graduating from Tabor, he attended Kansas State Teachers' College of Emporia, which awarded him an MS degree in 1948.

As in former years, the college extends a warm welcome to all friends of the school to join the students and faculty in this annual conference, which through the years has come to be a high point among the religious activities of Tabor.

Canadian Missionaries Write from Belgium

(Nettie Berg of Coaldale, Alta., and Sarah Peters of Winkler, Man., are Mennonite Brethren Board of Foreign Missions workers studying in Belgium. After completing language studies in Brussels, they began a medical course in Antwerp early in January. Their address now is: 84 Avenue d'Amerique, Antwerp, Belgium, Europe. The accounts which follow tell of their experiences and impressions in Belgium and in French language study.)

"For we are strangers... and sojourners..." was the way King David expressed himself one day. All of us are but strangers on this earth at all times, yet sometimes we are brought to realize it more forcibly. Those of us recently transplanted from an American, Canadian or Congo soil to a Belgian one often feel like a raindrop

in the ocean. We're strangers surrounded by a teeming multitude of people who speak two languages and who pursue a way of life as strange to us as their language is. Yet we can honestly say that they do their best to help us feel at home. This attitude, of course, encourages us to do our part by rounding off some of our American "corners" to fit ourselves into our new environment.

Especially are we grateful for the families who have taken us in; for their willing answers to our many questions; for a gentle reminder when our tongue slips back into the track of least resistance — English instead of French; and for such little favors as a breakfast dish of cornflakes — an item otherwise unknown on a Belgian menu.

(Continued on page 12-1)

EDITORIAL

Dangerous Driving A Moral Problem

They were only figures in the newspaper or on radio news-casts. It seemed a simple case in addition. . . ten more traffic fatalities . . . twenty more killed . . . seven sent to hospital with serious injuries. . . Yet children wait for their father in vain, parents need one less chair at the supper table, mother must go to work now. When added together the total of those who died in traffic accidents during the last year in the United States is higher than the casualty list during the whole Korean War—with Canada not far behind proportionately, if at all.

Yes, the headlines have disappeared, the graves have been closed, the figures totalled. But the total in human misery and suffering can never be summed up.

We maintain that drink was a factor in about 50% of the accidents. Possibly. But what about the other 50%, those accidents involving prominent citizens, well-known church members, Christian leaders? Was it always the other fellow's fault—or could it involve sin: recklessness, selfishness, thoughtlessness?

All of these accidents involved a decision: to pass, although we knew it would be close; to go 50 m.p.h., although the speed limit was 30 m.p.h.; to drive, even though we knew we were sleepy. These were moral decisions, decisions involving human will—inviting injuries or even death, fatherless homes, motherless children.

Oh, we find enough excuses. We were in a hurry to get to the service ("Should have started sooner."), or those slow drivers wore out our patience ("Why don't they go sight-seeing somewhere else?"), or that silly slow zone shouldn't be there any way ("There are no children playing here now."). To multiply our iniquity we say these things in the presence of impressionable children—and then wonder why young people drive recklessly. Our conscience becomes dull through frequent disregard of its warning voice.

We may dedicate our automobile to the Lord, but we are still driving it. We may call for stricter law enforcement, but drive with an eye on the rear-view mirror to spot any stray police-car. We may encourage high schools to give courses in safe driving, and then race down the country road at an excessive speed.

As Robert Royster has written: "It is not enough to advertise and propagandize against dangerous and illegal driving practices: sin has seldom been noticeably affected this way. The best answer to the problem is to recover our moral sense on the highway."

Until we as Christians learn to "do all to the glory of God" we will continue to contribute to the toll of dead and injured on our highways. May God help us to give account of our driving to ourselves—and not occupy ourselves only with the sin of the drinking driver.

Through the Looking-Glass

A Statement

Fifteen representative young people of the M.B. Church in B.C. met in the home of Mr. Wm. Neufeld of Abbotsford, B.C., on Friday evening, December 30. After searching our own hearts in humility before God and in faith in Jesus Christ, and moved by the Holy Spirit, we came to general agreement on the following:

1. We believe that the Christian life finds expression in a mature surrender to God and in living obedience to Jesus Christ—not in saying, "Lord! Lord!" or in good

works or self-gratification, but in doing of the will of our Father in heaven.

2. We believe that each believer must make the decision: does He want to continue living for himself or will he let God begin guiding his life. Our aim as Christians is not to live for ourselves, but to live for God, and to let God reveal Himself through us to others.

3. We believe that a Christian is one who gives his life in humble service in the Church as a brother, and through the Church to his neighbor.

Devotional

"Pour Out Your Heart Before Him" Psalm 62: 8.

Hugo Jantz *

At times human nature is affected by a strange reluctance. Perhaps this manifestation is most marked and most frequent in the Christian's relation to God. Inevitable are the times when sins oppress, when cares distress, and burdens press, but so often these matters are allowed to accumulate unalleviated in our hearts, which, being finite and weak, quickly become congested and easily lose their equilibrium.

And still we carry the load. Oh yes, we know that Jesus is the great and gentle Burden-bearer. We know that He tenderly yearns to enter into our troubled lives and share in all. But in spite of this we brood over our failures, harbour secret sins, stubbornly nurse our griefs or a grudge. Is not such reluctance strange, yes, even sinful?

There are times, many times perhaps, when we actually do come to Him in prayer. Force of habit may drive us to do so. Or we will pray because the pressure is just a little greater than we can bear. A slight release of pressure makes life somewhat more tolerable. But in principle, and for all practical and spiritual purposes, that unsanctified reluctance still remains.

And so our hindered, hampered Christian existence (so-called) grinds on. The cheery smile dies quickly on our lips. Service to God and others is performed out of a sense of duty in an atmosphere of drudgery. A word of testimony, if given at all, is all but smothered in the back-wash of doubt and misery and spiritual inhibition.

Small wonder that the Psalmist, well acquainted with the painful

agony of sinful and unnecessary burdens, and the deadly oppression of his soul's enemy, suddenly throws out the challenge, "Trust in Him at all times; ye people, POUR OUT YOUR HEART BEFORE HIM." The picture that comes to mind is that of an up-turned container, the contents of which are spilled out until absolutely nothing is left within it. That is the spiritual art which we must learn to apply to our hearts when we enter into the presence of our wonderful Lord. We must teach our hearts to tell Him all, absolutely all, that threatens to endanger the development of our life in Christ.

Then we will always be kept free from the unwanted but ever-gathering debris that accumulates because we are still in the world and because the old nature is still within.

And then, kept empty of that debris, we can be filled with the glorious presence of God and all that that means.

Then we shall be able to pour out our lives in holy, joyous service for our precious Lord and Master, and for our fellow-men.

Therefore, daily, "POUR OUT YOUR HEART BEFORE HIM"—and let Him fill it.

* Instructor at the East Chilliwack Bible School, but will leave February 4 to begin preparations for going to Quito, Ecuador, to serve with the radio station HJCB under the sponsorship of the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions.

Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

LESLIE STOBBE — Editor

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

4. We believe that a member of the M.B. Church is one who, though seeing the shortcomings of the Church, identifies himself with it, the Body of Christ, and lets the Holy Spirit work through him for the extension of the Kingdom and to the eternal glory of God.

5. We believe that we stand before these decisions now, decisions with eternal significance and that as we now sow, so shall we reap, and with us those who are following us.

6. We decided we would not come together again except to praise God for what He is doing in our private lives through our commitment and obedience to Him, and in the Church through our humble sacrifice and faithful service—or failing this, when we meet before the judgment seat of Christ.

God grant that we might meet soon, in unity, in spirit, and in truth!

Almost 100 Mennonites at Manitoba Normal School

By Jake Klassen

Of the 600 students at the Manitoba Provincial Normal School in Tuxedo, a suburb of Winnipeg, almost 100 are Mennonites studying to become teachers and missionaries to Manitoba's boys and girls. Although they are a group for themselves, they are respected by the other students and the teachers, maintaining a high standard both in conduct and as candidates for the teaching profession.

The Mennonite Collegiate Institute at Gretna, Man., has the largest representation in this group, with 31 of its graduates studying here. Nine of the students are graduates of the M.B. Collegiate Institute in Winnipeg, 18 are from Winkler, 9 from Steinbach and vicinity, and the rest come from various points in Manitoba—and outside of Manitoba.

The Mennonite students take a very active part in the Teachers' Christian Fellowship, a branch of the International Varsity Christian Fellowship. This group meets on Monday evenings for fellowship and at other times for prayer meetings, which are held in the residential huts. Each one is challenged to do personal work with those whom he contacts and to win them to Christ.

A special feature of the TCF is a choir of 40 under the direction of Elbert Toews. A Christmas cantata was presented by the choir in the Normal School chapel shortly before Christmas.

At the present time 17 boys are preparing a German drama, "Segen des Wohltuns", which is to be presented in various Manitoba centers under the auspices of the "Mennonite Society for the Nurture of the German language". The first presentation will be in Winnipeg in March.

Suffers Stroke

Petaigan, Sask. — Mr. Abram J. Froese, who has not been well during the last while, suffered a stroke on Tuesday afternoon, January 10. An ambulance was called and he was transferred to the Nipawin hospital.

The stroke left Mr. Froese's left side paralyzed, so that he could not speak for the first two days and making it difficult to understand him even now.

His children were all phoned and came to see him. His daughter, Anna, who is teaching at Prairie River, had to return to school to resume her teaching responsibility there, but the other children are staying until their father improves somewhat.



It is a little over a year since the loudspeaker seen on the dresser was installed, but Mrs. Margareta Dueck and Mrs. Frieda Thiessen think it is simply a wonderful idea. Not visible is the walking cane to prove that its installation was warranted. Here they are listening to the Wednesday night Bible study and prayer-meeting.

Shut-Ins Not Shut Out

Members of the North-Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church who are chronic invalids or shut-ins because of physical disabilities no longer need forego the pleasure of listening to the regular church services. Through the initiative of the young people's group the regular services of the church can be heard in seven homes.

Four years ago the plight of the chronically invalid in their district led the young people, whose leader was Frank Isaac at the time, to investigate the possibilities of setting up a local and limited-power radio transmitter. Almost without exception the regular gospel radio programs were of limited help to these people, for they could not understand the English language. Permission was not granted, however.

When permission to set up the transmitter was refused, they cast about for another solution to the problem. Upon enquiry, they graciously received permission from the power utility company to use company poles for leading a direct wire from the loudspeaker in the church to the homes. One of the group, Abe Dueck, was an electrician and supervised the stringing of the wires and the installation of bedside amplifiers. Individuals and the church assisted the group financially in purchasing the wire and the speakers.

During the four years since the inauguration of this project seven homes have been wired for such loudspeakers. Four of the elderly shut-ins have passed away, so that at present there are three homes where shut-ins listen to the church services.

What it means to shut-ins to be able to listen to the regular worship services, the young people's services, prayer-meetings, and special services is hard to express in words. To hear their pastor greet them and give them a word of cheer at the beginning of the service, to hear

the announcements concerning church activities, and to hear the choir and congregation lift their voices in song gives new courage and sustaining power even in severe afflictions. It gives them the feeling that they are still a part of the church proper, even though they must stay at home. Those contacted are unstinting in their praise and wish that many more could enjoy such service.

The young people are to be congratulated for not losing their vision for service after they were denied the privilege of greater service through refusal to set up the local transmitter.

Surely there are other areas where such a scheme would be feasible and possible.

Receive News of Father's Death

John Bartel

Leamington, Ont. — Word has been received from Russia that Peter Driediger died quite some time ago. This came as a shock to his wife and three children, who are resident here since their arrival in Canada. They lost track of their beloved husband and father in 1941 and this is the first information they have received concerning him since then.

At the remembrance service on Sunday, January 15, Rev. Isaak Tiessen comforted the family with the words in Rev. 21: 4: "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

"We do not know when, or where, or how he died, but we know that he is up in glory, where some day we shall meet him in the presence of God," Rev. Tiessen stated.

Harvey Toews Speaks at Elmwood

Harvey Toews, director of the MCC Summer Service program, who is touring western Canada to organize Summer Service units and challenge young people to enter this type of service, spoke at the weekly young people's meeting in the Elmwood M.B. Church in Winnipeg on Wednesday, January 11. About 80 young people were present to hear the challenge to "Responsible Christianity".

Mr. Toews briefly summarized the work that the MCC is doing in relief and rehabilitation. Then he dwelt at length upon the opportunities available in Voluntary Service, especially in Newfoundland, and in Summer Service.

Summer Service is designed especially for students and for those who are preparing for the ministry, for it offers opportunities to work in situations where constant contact is made with people. These people are usually in abnormal situations, in mental hospitals, T.B. sanitoriums, and boys' homes.

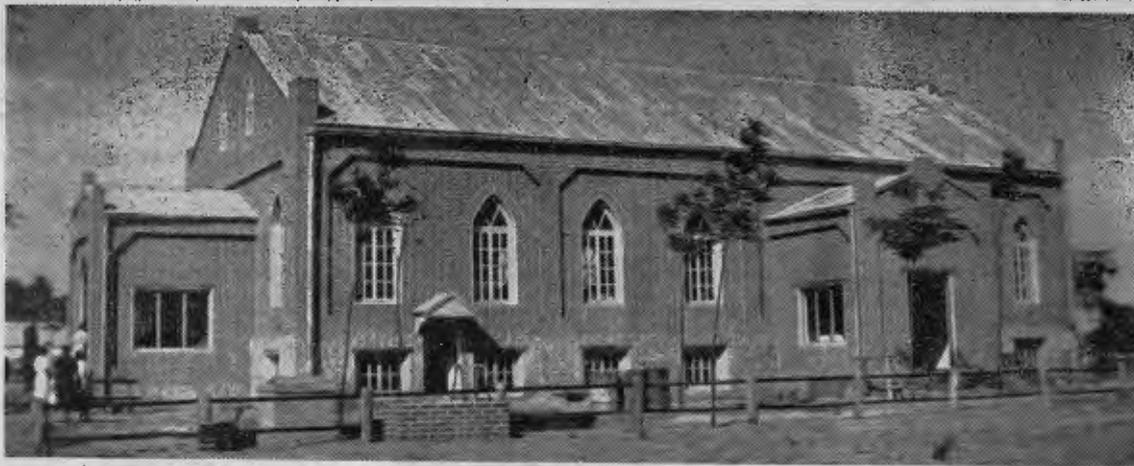
Opportunities for service are open this year at the Ailsa Craig Boys' Farm, the Bethesda Home, Vineland, Ont., Clearwater Lake Sanatorium, The Pas, Man., Homewood Sanatorium, Guelph, Ont., Manitoba Hospital, Brandon, Man., Manitoba Sanatorium, Ninette, Man., Manitoba School, Portage La Prairie, Man., Ontario Hebrew Mission, Karney, Ont., and the Ontario Hospital, London, Ont.

The wages in the various institutions differ and information on this and the conditions and opportunities there may be received from the MCC office in Waterloo, Ont. In order to cover expenses for administration and operation of the Summer Service program, each volunteer agrees to pay a unit fee for the MCC. In non-earning units, i.e. where \$20 or less per month is received by the volunteer, there is no unit fee. In other units the fee is set at 10 per cent of net earnings or \$30, whichever is the lesser figure. These fees are payable to the unit leader on the project upon receipt of the first pay check.

Before the units open in the spring two workshops will be arranged, one in central Ontario and the other near Winnipeg in Manitoba. All volunteers should try to attend one of these workshops.

The MCC operates this program for three reasons: to witness in an area of human need; to provide for a service experience for young people; and to provide a learning experience for the volunteers.

All applications should be sent to: H. W. Toews, MCC, 10 Union St. East, Waterloo, Ontario.



Above you see the large new Mennonite church dedicated on December 11, 1955, in the Neuland settlement. The picture was sent to Mr. C. A. DeFehr by Mr. Peter Derksen, the "Oberschulze" of Neuland. See article below for commentary on conditions in the settlement.

What Does the Future Hold for the Neuland Settlement?

By Peter Derksen, "Oberschulze" in Neuland.

The increasing number of questions that are being directed toward me from all sides and by leading men in our Mennonite brotherhood reveal a real concern in Mennonite circles everywhere about the progress of the Neuland settlement in the Chaco, Paraguay, a settlement that was being built up rapidly during its pioneer years and up to 1953. In part these questions are justified, while in part they are not based upon fact but upon idle gossip.

It is to be noted that people outside of the settlement itself, such as those living in the neighbouring settlements, in Asuncion, and also those outside of Paraguay, are more worried about the future of our settlement than those of us living here. It is true that many have emigrated and more will probably leave us, but if the situation were as grim as outside reports make it, it would be time for all of us to pack up and leave.

Using statistics, I would like to give a brief summary of the population changes here. In 1950 the all-time high in population was reached, with 2472 residing here. On December 31, 1954, the total was down to 2296, and on November 12, 1955, it had dropped to 2120. It is noteworthy, however, that 716 were born in this settlement since its inception, while only 105 have died.

The migration to Argentina and Brazil has almost come to a standstill. It is obvious now that the advantages of these countries do not outweigh the disadvantages here. No one as yet has left for Bolivia, and there is no indication that anyone will. Several families have gone back to Germany, but they were mostly war veterans who were entitled to pensions in Germany, while some families intended to emigrate from Germany to Canada.

From various sources the question has come whether it is true

that 40 families are ready to return to Germany. Yet no one, whether outside or inside the settlement, is able to find out who those 40 families are, in spite of the fact that they are reportedly registered in my office.

The question that concerns me most is the future of this settlement. What does the future hold for Neuland? Again today, as so often in the past, people are basing their predictions upon conditions in the present. It appears, however, that many have forgotten how often the plans and prophecies of men have never come to pass.

I personally would like to give an answer to the above question, not stating what I know, but what I believe will happen. I am convinced that the settlement here was not founded by accident. I be-

lieve that it was God's providence, his foreknowledge, that placed us here. I am also convinced that many others, not only here in Neuland, but also in the other colonies, in Asuncion and outside of Paraguay, share this belief with me. Furthermore, I do not believe that God decided to start this settlement and let it grow for 10 years, only to disband it then.

I would challenge you to stop doubting that Neuland has a future. Rather help us to improve living conditions here. And if there is only faith in the project, know that there is tremendous power in this faith.

No one will deny that the farmer in the Chaco has to work hard to earn his daily bread. It is also an established fact that a hard-working family can establish a

sound economic basis for the future. In spite of the many disadvantages we must not forget the advantages that those who have emigrated point out to us and long for. We have been spared many problems now confronting our northern friends.

Even if today we cannot see the importance of the settlements in the Chaco for our Mennonite brotherhood, I believe that in the not too distant future we will see it more clearly. I personally believe that it will not be long before the population in Neuland will increase.

Last year's drought, which kept up through October, November and into December, was a big blow for the settlement, a blow from which it will not quickly recover. But, praise God, we have received so much rain shortly before Christmas that almost the whole crop could be seeded. If the weather should remain favourable the prospects for a good crop are encouraging.

In spite of the emigration the acreage of cultivated land has not decreased. I believe that even if the population should decrease to 1500, all of this land would still be used. People are still working hard when we are blessed with rain.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have helped to ease the need in the settlement, those who have helped to build up the productive capacity here, and those who have interceded for us with our Father in heaven. I wish everyone of you, and especially the former Neuland people, a blessed new year.

HERE AND THERE AND EVERYWHERE

Broke Hip in Fall on Icy Road

Chilliwack, B.C. — Mr. John Voth, Chilliwack Central Road, broke his hip in a fall on an icy road during the Christmas season.

Mr. Voth, who had not yet fully recovered from a leg injury received last year, fell while walking along an ice-covered road, the result of a sleet-storm. He is convalescing in the Chilliwack General Hospital and prayer is requested for his recovery.

Word of God Central Theme During Prayer Week.

Hepburn, Sask. — The M.B. Church here observed a week of prayer during the first week in January. With the Word of God as the central theme each evening, the various topics were discussed by: Rev. H. A. Willems, "The Living Word of God"; Rev. Paul Wiebe, "The Church in the Light of God's Word"; Rev. P. R.

Toews, "The Preaching of the Word"; and Mr. P. P. Bergman, "Spiritual Revival Through the Word of God."

The meetings were quite well attended and all who came were spiritually edified. Due to a severe snow-storm the prayer-meeting on the fifth night was cancelled.

Transferred to Loon Lake

Hepburn, Sask. — Mr. Wilbert Adrian, son of Rev. and Mrs. J. Adrian, has been transferred to the Imperial Bank staff at Loon Lake, Sask. Mr. Adrian had been working in the local bank for one and a half years.

Mission Sale at Elm Creek

Elm Creek, Man. — On January 13 the Mennonite Brethren Church here met for the annual Mission Sale. This sale is usually held during November, but it had to be postponed because of unfav-

ourable weather. The ladies of the district sold a variety of sewing and fancy needle-work. Proceeds amounted to over 650 dollars.

Annual Business Meeting in Church

Elm Creek, Man. — The Mennonite Brethren Church here met on January 14 for their annual church business meeting. It heard reports from various committees on their activities and planned for the coming year.

In his report Rev. J. Wiens, the leading minister, stated that not only had the Lord blessed the church physically and spiritually, but He had also spoken earnestly through tragedy and death.

The meeting had to be recessed before all business was completed because of blizzard conditions outside. The next meeting was scheduled for January 16.

The regular church service on January 15 and the first Christian Endeavour program of the year had to be cancelled because of the blizzard.

On the Air for Seven Years

Harold Jantz

Virgil, Ont. — "Moments of Blessing" is a 30-minute weekly radio programme of the Mennonite Brethren young people of Virgil, Ont. It is broadcast over radio station CHVC, Niagara Falls, every Sunday at 1 p.m., and is bringing the good news of God's Word to a large listening audience.

In 1949 a group of young men under the leadership of C. M. Penner began the programme, which then was only 15 minutes long. In 1950 the time was increased to 30 minutes, while Brother Herman Kroeker became the programme director and speaker. Gospel songs sung by a men's quartet, short poems, a Bible story for children, and a message from God's Word constitute the usual broadcast.

Niagara Falls, where the broadcast originates, lies in the heart of a vast industrial belt. A potential audience of three to four million people is the tremendous challenge which constantly spurs the radio group on. In addition to the regular broadcast, the group often presents programmes in different centers throughout the area, trying to fulfill their obligation as messengers of the Lord.

Recently the door has opened for a German-language broadcast over the same station at 9:30 p.m., Sunday. This programme should begin soon after the annual church business meetings.

God is blessing His work!

Gideons Give Testaments to Winkler Pupils

Just prior to the Christmas holidays the Morden and Vicinity Gideon Camp presented New Testaments to 146 Winkler school children in Grades 5 to 8. P. D. Labun and H. F. Wiebe, assisted by H. W. Bergen and J. J. Wiens, made the presentation in the school auditorium.

The Gideons are an organization of Christian businessmen whose intention is to make the Word of God available to young and old alike. To achieve this, grade 5 children are to receive a New Testament every year, while for many years already the Gideons have placed Bibles in hotel rooms, hospital rooms, tourist camps, in old folks' homes, and given them to student nurses. The latter receive white leather bound editions, while the grade 5 children are given red leather copies. The Gideons also plan to place a Bible upon every pupil's and upon every teacher's desk.

Funds for this purpose are obtained in different ways. The Gideons themselves are generous and enthusiastic donors; they ar-



Here is the personnel of the radio program "Moments of Blessing". Left to right they are: Mrs. Peter Block, pianist and program producer, John Block, Erwin Loewen, Peter Block, Menno Kroeker, and Herman Kroeker (seated), director and speaker.

range for church services at which their members attend to receive the offering; and through the Memorial Plan individuals contribute funds so that Bibles can be given in memory of a departed loved one.

Sponsor Youth Center in Paraguay

Hillsboro, Kans. — A men's Sunday school class in the Reedley, Calif., Mennonite Brethren Church is supporting the establishment of a "Jugendheim" (youth center) in Friesland colony, Paraguay.

Leading the activities of this center is Willy Jantz, who received part of his church training in North America at Tabor College and at the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg. Brother Jantz, who recently moved from Fernheim to Friesland, receives support from the North American Mennonite Brethren Board of General Welfare and Public Relations.

Purpose of the center is to draw colony young people into closer fellowship and into the service of the Church. The center is situated on a plot of ground about three acres in size near the Mennonite Brethren Church and Bible School.

Facilities will include a playground for recreation and boys' club workshop. Clearing of forest and construction are underway.

Reporting on Waldheim

By John E. Regier

Waldheim, Sask. — The annual business meeting of the Mennonite Brethren Church here was held on December 10. Church business was regulated and responsibilities assigned. Nominations were made for the position of Sunday school superintendent and choir director. Elections followed on December 18, when Brother A. A. Schultz was elected as Sunday school superintendent and Brother Herman Berg as choir director. The Sunday school teaching staff was also elected.

A heavy snow-storm prevented the participation of the Waldheim High School Glee Club in the annual carol festival in Saskatoon. However, the high school and elementary school combined for a Christmas program presented on consecutive evenings, Dec. 20 and 21. The high school, where J. B. Neufeld is principal and Harold Berg the assistant principal, presented the cantata "A King is Given", while the lower grades participated in drills and singing. About 160 students are enrolled in the school.

The Soar Mennonite Church and the Mennonite Brethren Church in Waldheim combined for

a Carol Festival on December 23. This is an annual affair to raise funds for Christmas Cheer.

On December 24 both churches gathered to hear their Sunday school present the story of Christ's birth.

Mrs. John A. Ratslaff missed the Christmas festivities, for she was rushed to the Waldheim Hospital shortly before Christmas. The strain of Christmas preparations apparently had been too great for her heart.

NOT THE RIGHTEOUS!

By Jack Odell

These are stories from the radio series "Unshackled", stories of God at work in the lives of the down-and-out.

Since 1877 Chicago's Pacific Garden Mission has been working among the human wrecks on Skid Row. Five years ago the Mission began reaching out to the refugees from psychiatrist's couches, the "up-and-outers", through the "Unshackled!" broadcasts. Here are some of those stories.

Skid Row is in the book, but so are a lady wrestler, a high-born Parsi from India, an actor, a safe-cracker, a successful executive, a song-writer, and many others. None of them was righteous. All were made right—by the Living Person of Jesus Christ.

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CHILDREN'S PAGE

Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Do you boys and girls enjoy going to Sunday school? What about the church service—do you stay for that too? I wonder how carefully you listen to the Word of God as it is told you in Sunday school and in church. I am going to tell you about three objects and you decide for yourself which of these objects you resemble.

First of all I think of a funnel. Do you know what that is? I am sure you do. It is something your Mother uses to pour liquids (like water) from one jar into another, isn't it? Have you ever noticed what happens when your Mother does that? Why the water goes right through, none is left in the funnel. Now suppose you are the funnel and the Word of God is the water. The Sunday school teacher is telling you a story from the Word of God—and what happens? Because you are a funnel it goes right through, doesn't it. You don't remember anything of it.

Are you like a funnel?

The second object I am thinking of is the sifter your Mother uses to sift the flour when she bakes. After the flour is sifted only lumps remain and these have to be thrown away because they are of no use. Now suppose you are the sifter. No matter how good the Sunday school teacher is, no matter how interesting the lesson is, you remember only the lumps—and you don't remember the flour, the good things she wanted to teach you.

Are you like a sifter?

The third object I am thinking of is a sponge. Have you ever put it into water to see how much it could hold? It holds a lot, doesn't it? It also hides it away and keeps it, for you cannot see it. Now supposing you are a sponge and the Sunday school teacher is telling a story or the minister is telling the news of salvation. You hide away the Word of God in your heart, don't you? In Psalm 119:11 we read: "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee."

Are you like a sponge?

I am sure all of us want to be like the sponge. We all want to be the kind of listeners in Sunday school and in church who hear the Word of God and hide it in our hearts so that we can live as the Lord Jesus wants us to live, don't we?

Aunt Selma.

Children Write

Elm Creek, Manitoba.
Dec. 28, 1955.

Dear Aunt Selma,

I am seven years old and in Grade two. My teacher's name is Miss Tarr.

I have one brother. His name is Richard and he is three years old.

I go to Sunday school every Sunday.

We have lots of snow in our yard. Richard and I slide down the snow banks on our toboggan.

I received an electric caterpillar and lots of other things for Christmas.

I live on a farm. We have lots of cows. We have a dog named Rover. We also have a new calf.

I would like to name this page "The Young Observer Page."

Edwin Kroeker.

(Thank you for that very interesting letter, Edwin. It sure must be fun to go tobogganing. That is an interesting name for the page.)

THE BOY THAT DID NOT CARE

"James, my son, you are wasting your time playing with that kitten when you ought to be studying your lesson. You will get a bad mark," said Mother Mason to her son.

"I don't care," said the boy, as he continued to amuse himself with the kitten.

"But you ought to care, my boy," rejoined the lady, with a sigh. "You will grow up an ignorant, good-for-nothing man if you don't make use of your opportunities."

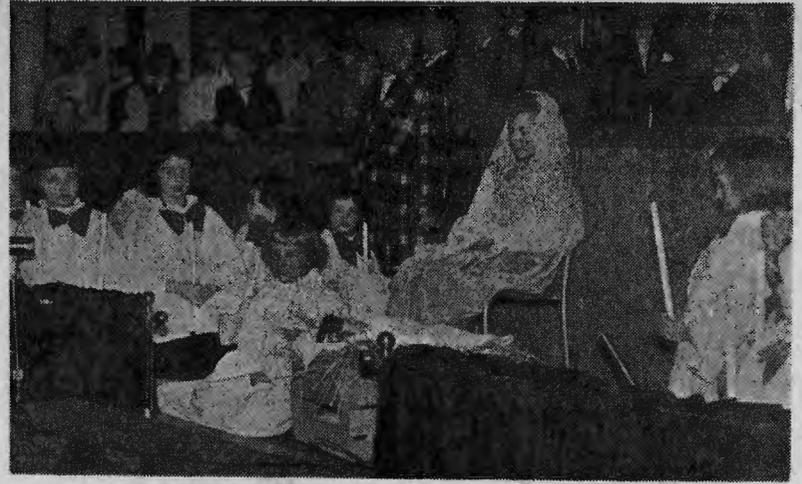
"I don't care," said James, as he raced into the yard.

"Don't care will be the ruin of that child," said the mother to herself. "I must teach him a lesson he will not forget."

Guided by this, the lady made no provision for dinner. When noon arrived, her idle boy rushed into the house as usual, shouting, "Mother, I want my dinner!"

"I don't care," said his mother very calmly, working with her needle without looking up.

"I'm hungry, mother," said the boy.



This picture was taken at the Sunday school program presented on Christmas Eve in the M.B. Church in St. Catharines, Ont. Rather an appealing sight, isn't it? (Photo Walter Penner.)

"I don't care," she repeated.

James was puzzled. His mother had never before thus treated him. They were strange words for her to use, and her manner was so cold that he could not understand it. He was silent for a while, then spoke again. "Mother, I want something to eat."

"I don't care," was the cool reply.

"But recess will soon be over, mother, and I shall starve if I do not get some dinner," urged James.

"I don't care."

This was too much for the boy to endure. He burst into tears. His mother, seeing him subdued, laid down her work, and, calling him to her side, stroked his hair

very gently and said:

"My son, I want to make you see the folly and sin of the habit you have of saying, 'I don't care.' Suppose I did not care for you, what would you do for dinner, for clothing, and for education? You see, I must either care for you, or you must suffer. And if you must suffer through my lack of care for you, don't you think you will also suffer if you don't care for yourself? And don't you see that I must suffer too, if you don't care for my wishes?"

James had never looked on his evil habit in that light before. He promised to do better, and, after having had his dinner, went to school a wiser boy.

Christian Commonwealth.

Cross-Bearers For Christ

By J. H. Janzen

(4th Installment)

PETRUS WALDUS AND THE WALDENSISANS

During the twelfth century there lived a man in Lyons, France, by the name of Peter Valdez or Petrus Waldus, as he was commonly called. He was the son of a rich merchant and a member of the Catholic Church, but he did not live for Jesus during his boyhood and youth. He was unhappy in his sins, but did not turn to God.

One day he and his friends were trying to enjoy themselves at a big, noisy party. Outside a very severe thunderstorm was raging. A bolt of lightning struck the building and one of Peter's friends was instantly killed at the table. This affected Peter deeply and he decided to surrender his heart wholly to the Lord Jesus Christ.

When Petrus Waldus surrendered to Jesus he yielded not only himself but all that he had to the service of God. First of all he had the Bible translated into his mother-tongue, paying for the cost. Then he gave the remainder of his possessions to the poor. Finally, together with others, he went through the land preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the lang-

uage of the common people. Many sinners accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour as a result. He kept up this preaching from 1170 to 1197, founding many churches.

The churches of those who heard the Gospel and believed it grew rapidly, in numbers as well as in strength, for they could understand what the evangelists were saying. The services of the Roman Catholic Church were conducted in Latin and only those who had learned the Latin language in special schools could understand what was being said.

The Roman Catholic priests were disturbed by the success of the Waldensian missionaries. They were losing many of their parishioners to these people and this was causing a decrease in the money they were earning.

The unbelievers on the other hand did not like these evangelists, for they preferred not to know God's plan of salvation. The simple and clear preaching of the Waldensian missionaries made them see their own sin and shortcomings and they could no longer use their ignorance as an excuse when they

(Concluded on page 7-4)

They Brought Good News

By Mildred Bishop Jorgenson

By special permission of Moody Press.

(17th Installment)

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

It was a proud and happy young doctor who sat at his gleaming mahogany desk in the shining new office of the Mission hospital. David was humbled, for he realized his responsibility and that in his own strength he could do nothing. He bowed his head in prayer for strength, for wisdom and for guidance that this new channel for sending forth the good news might be an effective one.

He went to the window which overlooked the street and from which he could see the nearby Bible School. Turning to the door, he stepped out on the balcony, and immediately he was in the midst of that overwhelming perfume and perfect riot of color that is so typical of the tropics. Bougainvillea vines already trailing their thick foliage over the balcony rails were heavy with scarlet blossoms.

There was a marble fountain which sent a sparkling spray over gorgeous pink and yellow roses which surrounded it. The stump of a dead tree was completely covered with fragile snow-white orchids, while from a tall palm hung larger orchids in deep lavender and rose. Smaller palms invitingly shaded several stone benches and comfortable lounging chairs. Brilliantly plumed birds added further brightness. Everywhere was that heavy fragrance seasoning the air so delightfully. The hospital was built after the Spanish custom, a square surrounding an inner patio with balconies from each floor opening on the beautiful flower garden below.

David drew a deep breath of the scent-laden air. It was good to be back in his particular corner of the harvest field.

"The King's business requireth haste," he thought. "I must get busy."

A white clad figure coming noiselessly down the corridor stopped at his side.

"Dr. Nielsen—"

"Yes, Nurse." And his new life of service had begun.

Evangeline had chosen the children's clinic as her special department. Her heart ached for those parasite-infested mites of humanity. Many of them were covered with horrible looking ulcers and did not even whimper through the long, painful treatments. Few of the smaller children wore clothing. Their diet for the most part consisted of sugar water or cocoa water. Sometimes they were given a little meal mixed with water, but many of them had never been given milk. Their misshapen bodies were a pitiable sight—distended

stomachs, above spindly legs that seemed too weak to carry their weight. Evangeline could not help breathing a prayer of thankfulness for her own plump baby so carefully fed and tended by the adoring Margaret and devoted Alba.

A few weeks of treatment and good food wrought wonders in these sick children, but if allowed to go home, they were soon in the same condition again.

"If only we had a home for all these children," Evangeline was telling Maria about them one day.

"Many of them have never known their fathers. Often they are deserted by their mothers and live with grandparents or other relatives."

"Yes, any number of them are shoved out to shift for themselves, without anyone to care what becomes of them."

"If we only had a children's home here at the Mission. We could teach them the Bible as we teach them to read. Not only could we restore their health, we could train them up in the way they should go."

"You are right, Evangeline. It is so important to reach them with the gospel while they are young." There was a light of inspiration shining in Maria's eyes. "I believe our God has answered this prayer before we have called," she said with a smile. "My lawyer reminded me only yesterday that I still have forty acres of land which was not mortgaged but upon which the taxes are now due. I only sighed when I heard it, for I knew I should never be able to pay them now. If the Mission would pay these taxes, it could be used for the children."

"Wonderful!" exclaimed Evangeline.

"And," Maria was becoming more enthusiastic, "there is a well, and a large sprawling house; it used to be our summer home. There are several small buildings too, that the peons used. It was once a part of our largest plantation. We tried to hold it, for we always enjoyed our vacations there."

"This gets better and better," Evangeline beamed on the excited Maria.

"It is only ten miles out. I must see Mr. Longley at once," she said, and moving rapidly for a Colombian she set out for the Bible School.

It did not take much persuasion to get Mr. Longley to agree to the idea. For him to think was to act and the Children's Home was in existence. The students of the Bible School were given a holiday and invited on a picnic. With great enthusiasm they set to work

cleaning and repairing the long unused buildings, spurred on by the energetic Mr. Longley and David.

Margaret was becoming a most useful and cherished member of the Mission family. When she heard about the taxes, she very quietly settled that matter. At first the small Janelle had occupied all her time and attention, but as the golden-haired toddler became an independent small girl, she looked about for other spheres of usefulness. As she heard the missionaries speaking their fluent Spanish in services and personal work, she decided she, too, must master the language. She engaged Maria as her private tutor, but it was not so easy as it looked.

One day Maria privately confided to David, "She is so willing and anxious to learn. I am sorry, but I've never had a student who made so little progress. She can translate fairly well, but I'm afraid she will never be able to speak. She cannot get the accent and pronunciation."

"Poor Aunt Meg! I'm sure it is quite a trial to her."

And indeed it was a trial to Margaret. She was so annoyed with herself. To think that she had been a successful teacher for many years and could not learn something new. It was true she was past sixty, but she believed that anyone with determination could make mental progress no matter what her age.

Early one morning she tossed and turned in her bed; she was unable to sleep. She believed that her Lord had brought her here. Surely He would not have let her come unless she could be of use. How could she help when she could not speak to anyone?

She would get up and perhaps, as she read His Word, God would answer her question. Slipping into a housecoat, she stepped out upon the balcony, breathing in the fresh, flower-scented air. There were some nurses in the garden and their words were wafted up to her.

"I wonder if dear Mrs. Whitmore is up. I wish we could talk over our problems and have prayer with her before we go on duty."

"So do I. She is so sympathetic and understanding. When we've had prayer in her room, I always feel so strengthened and encouraged."

"All the missionaries get together for vespers, but we don't have anything to give us a start for the day—except the prayer at breakfast."

A radiant Margaret leaned over the railing. Her hair hung in two neat gray braids, her fine dark eyes were alight. Her cheeks reflected the rose of her robe.

"Come right up, girls," she called. "I'm just looking for some prayer partners."

As the nurses filed slowly up the stairs, Margaret sensed from their grave expressions that something

was amiss. When they were seated she said,

"Perhaps we had better talk over your problems first. Then, we can pray more intelligently. You all seem troubled. Is there some special concern?"

A nod from the others and one of them became the spokesman. "You have heard of Senor Vallejo, the banker? He has lots of money and much influence in political circles. His wife was brought in during the night in a serious condition. A major operation is necessary to save her life, yet her heart may not stand the shock. You see how terrible it would be if she should die on the operating table. It has taken a long time to win the confidence of the influential people in Sincelajo. One blow like this would be very serious. They might even place restrictions on the work of our Mission."

"Yes, it is serious. But, our Father is more interested in His work here than we could ever be. With Him all things are possible."

Then they knelt and petition after petition went up for the sick woman. They realized all that her complete recovery would mean to missionary endeavor in Colombia. As the nurses quietly slipped away, Margaret said, "The operation is at nine? I'll be praying then."

David's face was lined with concern as he scrubbed for the operation. The head nurse was to give the anesthetic; as she handed him his rubber gloves and tied his hospital gown, she whispered, "Mrs. Whitmore is praying for us."

David glanced out the window. He could see Margaret kneeling at her window across the patio. Faith and courage flooded his heart and he squared his shoulders with a "Ready, Nurse," as he turned to watch them wheel in the patient.

(To be continued)

CROSS-BEARERS FOR CHRIST

(Continued from page 6-4)

sinned. They did not like that at all.

In the lives of the men we have read about until now the heathen, those who were not Christians, started a persecution. But now, in the case of the Waldensians, it was the Roman Catholic Church that began a severe persecution of the Waldensian Christians. The Roman Catholic Church claimed it was the only true church and thus any people who did not follow it or believe as it did were heretics. The faithful Christians were split up into small groups by the persecution and scattered all over the country. They tried to hide in secluded, wooded places, in the deep valleys of the Vosges and Savoy mountains, and anywhere else they could find shelter from their tormentors.

(Next time: The Waldensians fight against their persecutors.)

1955 in Retrospect

A Year of Growth and Expansion in Japan

By Roland M. Wiens*

The year 1955 has been the most crucial year of our Mennonite Brethren mission work in Japan. This is true in three areas: the spiritual life of the missionaries, the method of evangelization, and the spiritual status of the young Japanese church.

Nothing is more important for successful missionary work than the revitalization of the missionaries' personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The summer of 1955 saw this happening for us here in Japan. Most of us attended meetings of the Evangelical Missionary Association of Japan and the Deeper Spiritual Life conferences held in Karuizawa during the month of August. The Holy Spirit dealt with each one of us about personal matters that were displeasing to Him and showed us that there was much more that He could teach us about a deepening of our spiritual life and our fellowship with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gathered at Camp

Following the conference in Karuizawa, which is in the mountains about 500 miles northwest of Osaka, we gathered at our own camp, about seven miles north of our Ishibashi headquarters, for our annual Japan Mennonite Brethren Mission Conference. Each of the five brethren gave the messages which God had laid upon their hearts. The special work that the Lord did in us was to place in each one of us a determination to enter more fully into the ministry of prayer and of intercession. We were again encouraged to spend the early morning hours in communion with God. Men of God in Church History who have accomplished great things for God have been men who rose at three or four every day and spent from two to five, some even eight, hours in prayer for the lost and for the cause of missions. We have much to learn and attain in this "life of prayer" and fellowship with Jesus Christ, but we praise God that His Holy Spirit is teaching us.

The beginning of a new work is sometimes accompanied by much trial and error before the right course of action or right method of operation is finally developed. Again, we believe that in 1955 the Lord has revealed to us His plan for the evangelization of the Osaka area.

National Minister Joins Forces

A national evangelist is able to reach his own people much more effectively than missionaries from a foreign land. But since our work is young, we did not have any older experienced pastor or evangelist to do such work. After a year of prayer and waiting upon

the Lord, He eliminated all the obstacles and brought Rev. Kitano to us, who is a fine fundamental evangelical minister with a burden on his heart for the evangelization of Osaka. At our summer conference, after fasting and prayer, we felt led of the Lord to invite Rev. Kitano to work with us on a faith basis, trusting the Lord for his support. We would in turn encourage our churches to support him. Brother Kitano also felt led of the Holy Spirit to join forces with us for this important task.

Tent Meetings

Three brief tent campaigns were held before cold weather set in. There are definite and permanent results from all three campaigns, for which we give God the glory. Pray that as we begin our spring campaign God's power will work through Brother Kitano and the evangelistic team for the salvation of many souls and the establishment of many new groups of believers.

The young church needs spiritual growth, but often wolves try to destroy the flock. In the early years of our work many people blindly accepted Christianity without realizing the cost and meaning of true discipleship. When faced with this issue, the mere professors have not been able to stand the test. In 1955 there has had to be an elimination of those who have not from the heart confessed Jesus Christ as Lord of all. Pruning is painful, but only a pure, holy church will be able to grow healthy and strong.

Nationalism Hampers Work

Nationalism has also threatened the young church. There are those who have read books by so-called church leaders who are against the missionaries. Then again another sect, which is entirely anti-church, has a great influence here in Japan. The basic problem is that many Christians are not willing to fully surrender to the authority of the Word of God. They want to interpret the Bible from a Japanese standpoint, and build a Japanified church. To a certain extent the church in Japan must be Japanese, but when Japanese customs and traditions which diametrically oppose the Word of God are continued, one is reminded of how Jesus condemned the Jews for making the commandments of God of no effect through their traditions.

In spite of these dangers we praise God for a group of faithful believers in each of our three churches who have been led to a deeper rededication of themselves in 1955, who are resolved to stand upon the Bible as the infallible Word of God and not be moved by every wind of doctrine contrary

to the fundamental teachings of our church.

Begin Bible Course for All

To ground the believers in the Bible and the doctrines of our church the Lord has led us to begin our "Every Believer's Bible Training Course". This was also an outcome of the conference in the summer of 1955. Brother Harry Friesen teaches a course in the Mennonite Brethren Confession of Faith, while Brother Kitano teaches a class in Personal Work. They go to the three churches on separate evenings to teach these classes. In this way every believer has an opportunity to receive Bible instruction. If we had a formal Bible school only a few could attend full time and these would have to be supported. We have had as many as 50 in attendance at these Bible classes. In this way the young church is being rooted and grounded in the Word. Later more intensive training will be given to those who wish to go

ahead.

In all three churches young men are being given an opportunity to preach. From these will come the future pastors, teachers and evangelists of our Mennonite Brethren churches in Japan.

In summary, the year 1955 has seen a growth in the spiritual life of the missionaries, a launching forth into tent evangelism in Osaka, and the rooting and grounding of the young church in the Word of God. All praise to Him.

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

*Mennonite Brethren missionary in Japan. For those who would like to write and receive the prayer letter, here is the address: Rev. Roland M. Wiens, 59 Sompachicho, Ikeda City, Osaka, Japan.

Christmas at Kajiji, Belgian Congo

(The following is taken from a prayer letter sent by Miss Katy Penner, who is stationed on the M.B. mission station at Kajiji, Belgian Congo. —Ed.)

Greetings for 1956 with Colossians 3: 4: "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." As we approach the Christmas season my thoughts have been turning from the first coming of our Lord to His second coming. In our nurses' Bible class we have been studying a little about the last days, and it has become precious to me that we shall be changed and be like Him. How unworthy we are!

Christmas in the Congo! Shopping days! Why, here we hardly think of those days, for our shopping has been done in July or August. Four hundred and twenty-five kilometers is just a little too far to go too often on a big truck or carry-all over bumpy roads.

Children's Program

Here at Kajiji we always go to the white children's program at Belle Vue, which brings back old memories of our school days. This year the program is to be held on December 20, and most of the children can hardly wait until their parents will come for them, for the majority have not seen their parents since the beginning of September. After the program they can go home for a whole month to "do just as we please", as one of them put it yesterday. That means there will be no dormitory rules to follow.

As Christmas is usually a homecoming for the children, so it seems to be here. The village teachers with their children all come to the station to say their verses and to

sing their songs. It is like a beehive when 1200 to 1500 people gather at one place. Some singing is fairly good, in other cases the songs are unrecognizable, but they enjoy it. They will be here for three days, Thursday through Christmas Sunday. Christmas Day is always the biggest day, for then the chiefs of the villages come and a Christmas message is given by one of the missionaries. How we would like to see more of them experience the true meaning of Christmas. On December 26 the teachers pick up new supplies to go back to the villages and teach again with new courage.

Busy Days in Dispensary

At the dispensary these are busy days also, for many have no other opportunity to have their sores bound up with a clean bandage or to drink a little of the missionaries' medicine, even if the illness is not too severe at the moment.

Belgians make more of New Year's Day than of Christmas, and it has become a season of much drinking and dancing in the villages. For nights one hears the beating of the native drums, which always means much dancing and much sin. It seems as though the powers of darkness are let loose at those times. It often becomes a time of temptation for the Christians—it is the life they have grown up in and it seems to have bound such strong fetters around them. Only the power of God can loose them. Pray that as we go into the new year there may be more whose fetters will be loosed.

* For those who want to write Miss Penner, the address is: Kajiji, Kahemba par Kikwit, Congo Belge, Africa.

THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

Use of Filmed Sermons Questioned by Leaders

From two fronts the current widespread use of filmed sermons has been questioned. In the U.S. a visual education publication doubted their effectiveness and in England an evangelical leader warned of their abuse and predicted that "within three years evangelical churches will be flooded with the new Hollywood Evangelism".

After screening one of Billy Graham's filmed sermons, the editors of *Evaluation Bulletin*, published by the Visual Education Fellowship, issued this statement:

"The question is here raised, however, as to the place and effectiveness of filmed sermons in the program of a local church. The amount of the rental fee is a serious limitation by itself, yet even more significant is the matter of using another medium than the personalized 'live' pulpit as a substitute for its preaching of the Gospel. Audio-visual materials were not intended by their pioneers in the church field to replace any already proved media of Christian influence and education."

In England, Evangelist Tom Rees, admitting that he might be a "lone voice", advised pastors to "go steady" (i.e. take it easy) even though there are those who believe that this medium attracts and converts the regular film goer.

Having been in the U.S. no less than 12 times, Ree's comments in his *Hildenborough Bulletin* are not to be dismissed lightly.

"When I visited the United States before the war," wrote the evangelist, "I noticed that the men who drew the largest crowds in Christian circles were those who most ably expounded the Word of God, men like Ironside and Pettigill. When I returned to the States immediately after the war, to my consternation I discovered that "entertainment value" was the cry, and the popular evangelical vaudeville show was all the rage. That has passed, and now the demand is for the Hollywood Gospel film. In many places in the United States, evangelical Christians will go to the door and ask: 'What is it to-night, a speaker or a film?' Only to turn away when they learn that there is no film!"

The evangelist's warning, as reprinted in *The Baptist Bulletin*, declares: "There are already many Christian young people right out of touch with Christ who first acquired a taste for Hollywood films through seeing one or more of these so-called 'Gospel' films. If things go on as they are at present, within three years evangelical churches will be flooded with the new Hollywood Evangelism, and the Bible class and the prayer meeting will

suffer untold damage. Again I cry 'Go steady on those Films!' " (ERA)

Nehru Refuses to Support Bill

Prime Minister Nehru of India refused to support a bill designed to regulate conversions from one religion to another, saying that he doubted that such a bill would help much in suppressing the objectionable proselyting methods plaguing the country. Instead, he feared, passing such legislation would produce other evils and other difficulties".

(ERA)

Effective Ministry With Gospel Tracts

In China, reports Roy J. Birkey, executive director of the Alliance Press, more than 1,000 persons wrote during the past year to tell of their conversion through gospel tracts. Packets of additional literature have been sent to all these enquirers, and efforts are being made to bring them into contact with some group of evangelical believers. "Never in our ministry," says Birkey, "have we seen such manifest hunger and desire for Christian literature."

(ERA)

New Jersey Teen-Agers Hold Bible Marathon

Teen-age members of the Reformed Church at Wyckoff, N.J., conducted a Bible-reading marathon that lasted three days—73 hours, 14 minutes to be exact.

The youths, all high school students from 13 to 18 years old, began reading at Genesis 1: 1 at 11 o'clock Christmas night. They got to Revelation 22: 21 shortly after midnight, December 28. Thirty boys and thirty girls participated in the reading. They went to the pulpit one at a time, each reading for 15 to 30 minutes. Girls took the day shift, boys the night periods.

CANADASCOPE

Storage Payment Level Stated

The federal government plans to have the treasury bear the cost of storage charges on all wheat held by the wheat board in excess of 178,000,000 bushels. Payments are to be based on holdings at the start of the current crop year, August 1, 1955.

Break For Unemployed

Under the new unemployment insurance act a worker is eligible for benefits after he has been cred-

ited with contribution for a total of 30 weeks. Hypothetically, he could obtain credit for 30 weekly contributions by working only one day in each of the 30 weeks and making \$9 or over a day. If a man works only one day a week and makes less than \$9 he is credited with half a week's contribution.

Formerly the worker had to build up 180 days of contributions before he was eligible for unemployment insurance.

Unemployment Down This Winter

Unemployment increased in late November and early December, but the number of unemployed was about 20 per cent below the corresponding period in 1954. There were about 200,000 persons without work December 11, while last year 248,000 were seeking work at the same time.

Losses in Millions in Maritimes

More than a thousand people were homeless in Nova Scotia alone as flooding rivers rolled on to the sea with increasing destruction on January 10 and 11. A three-inch rainfall sent the waters rushing over farmlands and bursting dams. Flood water began receding on

The World Today

Soviets To Launch Arctic Scientific Station

The Russians are launching a new floating scientific station—north pole six—which may follow the drift of an earlier station into northern Canadian waters. Announcement of the new station was made by V. F. Burkhanov, head of the USSR Northern Sea Route Administration. He indicated the Soviets were planning great expansion of their Arctic program, adding to the more than 100 land-based scientific stations which now dot their polar frontier. The new drifting station will make a total of three now operated by the Russians on ice floes in the polar basin.

Britain Sends More Troops to Cyprus

Last week Britain flew 2,000 paratroops to Cyprus and sent other ground forces there to bolster the British forces in the Middle East. It is believed that recent riots in Jordan and the grave position of 20-year-old Sandhurst-trained King Hussein, an ally of Britain, are the immediate reasons for this move.

A-Power Helps Fly Bomber

Press reports indicate that experiments with an atomic reactor

January 12 and mopping-up operations began.

Ottawa Revises Tax-Rental Offer

On January 11 Prime Minister St. Laurent tabled Ottawa's revised tax-rental offer in the House of Commons. Under the new scheme the provinces expect substantially increased payments, for the federal government will pay each province the yield of income and corporation taxes and succession duties within the province at standard rates. In addition, the provinces will get stabilization payments to bring revenues to a flexible floor level.

Urges Food Bank in NATO

A plan for a NATO "food bank" to take care of the agricultural surpluses of the world was suggested in the House of Commons recently by John Diefenbaker. The Prince Albert, Sask., MP declared that this food bank could store world surpluses of grain until lean years, when they could be "utilized for the benefit of mankind".

The Diefenbaker plan would include only the 14 NATO nations. Those with agricultural surpluses would agree to commit them to a central pool.

in a huge B-36 bomber have been carried on for some time.

"Among other things, the reactor is used to investigate problems of shielding against radiation to study effects of radiation on aircraft, materials and systems to develop airborne nuclear instruments," a joint announcement by the U.S. Air Force and Convair Aircraft stated.

It added that all public safety precautions had been taken.

"The reactor is never operated during takeoffs and landings. It is operated only when the aircraft is flying over a pre-designated area where maximum public safety is attainable."

Propose Republic for Pakistan

Pakistan will be the second Commonwealth country to become a republic under the terms of its proposed constitution. The proposals provide for the country's first constitution since the partition of the sub-continent into India and Pakistan eight years ago.

Meanwhile, it was announced that Malaya will proclaim its independence August 31 next year.

Drug Addiction Responsible For Crime

U.S. Senator W. Price Daniel said Monday that drug addiction is responsible for nearly 50 per cent of all crimes in major cities, and for 25 per cent of all those reported in the United States, according to a report by the Associated Press.



These two pictures were taken at a Japanese supper prepared in the P. A. Kroeker home in East Kildonan, Winnipeg, on January 2 by Junko Matsuno and Takashi Niwa, Japanese students studying at the Mennonite Brethren Bible College. At the left Takashi Niwa is holding a frying pan full of delicious Japanese food, which Herman Willms is trying to take out with his chop-sticks. Herman's wife is an interested spectator. "Do you think you'll like it?" Peter Klassen seems to be asking his wife as she helps herself to some soybean sauce in the picture to the right. Intent upon making the most of the meal even though chop-sticks must be used, Peter Hamm (Student Council president at M.B.B.C.) and his wife may be seen in the right background.

MCC news & notes

JORDAN

The Mennonite Central Committee work in Jordan was affected by the second series of riots the weekend of Jan. 8. Ernest Lehman cabled from Beirut, Lebanon: "All Jordan workers safe. Work halted."

Bro. Orie O Miller, Executive Secretary of MCC, who is presently on a deputation visit to the Middle East and Europe, cabled Jan. 12: "Jordan situation still muddled. Probably slowly clearing. Lehman and myself likely going to Jordan Jan. 13 or 14."

We will report further as we get more information from the field.

HABECKER SAILS FOR FORMOSA

Roy Habecker, Washington Boro, Pa., is sailing for Formosa aboard the S.S. Dolly Turman Jan. 20. He will join the MCC unit in Formosa and assist Dr. Roland Brown, the director of the MCC work and the hospital at Hualien.

Bro. Habecker is the son of Mrs. Susan Habecker. He graduated from Philadelphia Bible Institute this past June. He is a member of the Habecker Mennonite Church at Lancaster, Pa.

KOREA

Katherine Dyck, Rosthern, Sask., conducts a clinic for mothers and babies at Pusan, Korea. Two hundred thirty mothers and children come to this clinic for powdered milk and training in baby care. Katherine describes one mother who came recently with two babies tied on her back. "A glance showed me that they were not twins, nor was there more than six months difference in their age. The story was that the older child (seven months old) had been left on her doorstep several months

ago. Now one month ago she had had a baby of her own. She did not have enough milk for both, and especially the older one was undernourished. She was very happy and thankful when we told her she could come regularly for a supply of milk.

"It seems to me that there are a lot of babies abandoned by their mothers. This is hard for Christians to understand. But then to see a poor mother who has not enough for her own family take in a child abandoned and treat it as her own — that is sometimes hard to understand, too."

PASSAGE FOR WORLD CONFERENCE

Menno Travel Service will handle travel arrangements for the Sixth Mennonite World Conference to be held at Karlsruhe, Germany, Aug. 10-16. MTS also plans to conduct tours of Europe and the Holy Land during the summer of 1957. Because there is greater demand for transatlantic transportation each summer, they urge all those planning to go to Europe in 1957 to contact them now.

Weddings

SIEMENS — WIEBE

Mary Wiebe, daughter of Mrs. Peter Wiebe and the late Mr. Wiebe, Kelowna, B.C., and Ernie Siemens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Siemens, Kelowna, B.C., were married on December 18, 1955, in the Mennonite Brethren church at Kelowna, B.C. Rev. J. J. Unger officiated.

Because it was expected that a number of English-speaking friends would be present, the ceremony was conducted largely in the English language. The chairman was Brother George Fast, who also delivered a message in English. Rev. Unger spoke in German and performed the marriage ceremony. Brother Abe Siemens, a brother of the groom, was chairman at a program after the reception.

Deaths

RUTH JANZEN

Ruth Janzen, 6, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Janzen of Kelowna, B.C., went to be with the Lord on Monday, December 5, 1955, in the Kelowna General Hospital. Death is ascribed to a kidney ailment. The funeral was held on December 10 in the Mennonite Brethren church at Kelowna, B.C.

A week before her death, when she was still well and happy, she had told her father, "Daddy, read about the Good Shepherd."

She leaves to mourn her early passing, her parents and a younger brother and sister.

MENNO TOEWS

Menno Toews, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Abe T. Toews of Morden, Man., passed away on December 27, 1955, in the Morden District General Hospital. The funeral was held on December 30 in the M.B. church at Morden, Man.

Menno Toews was born in Winkler on February 11, 1938, and attended the Parkhill School, where he received his elementary school education. Two years ago he began attending high school in Morden and was taking Grade 11 at the time of his death.

He was in good health until about six months ago, when there was a recurrence of seizures of an epileptic nature, which had occurred occasionally before. Early in December he was hospitalized by an attack of influenza. He was apparently well on the road to recovery when he suffered the seizures that resulted in his death.

Menno was a great lover of the outdoors and an interested observer of the ways of nature, as revealed in weather happenings, cloud formations, and other mysteries in nature. He was a member of the Mennonite Brethren Church at Morden.

Colleges

CANADIAN MENNONITE BIBLE COLLEGE

It was with genuine anticipation that the students returned to Winnipeg after their holidays, for they had a beautiful new college building to move into. Much of the moving of furnishings and books to the new building had been done during the Christmas holidays by students who had remained in Winnipeg. Following the registration on Wednesday, Jan. 4, the students spent the remainder of the week in cleaning up the building in preparation for the dedication service. Choir rehearsals were also held daily.

Seventy-six students have enrolled for this term until now, 40 men and 36 women. When this total is broken down it reveals that 21 have come from British Columbia, 9 from Alberta, 16 from Saskatchewan, 18 from Manitoba and 12 from Ontario. Sixteen of these students are married.

The dedication service of the new Canadian Mennonite Bible College building was held on Sunday, January 8, at 2:30 p.m. The 500-seat chapel was full and the overflow crowd was seated in the library, the lounge and the hall. According to unofficial estimates about 1500 attended.

In an impressive ceremony the keys were handed to Dr. J. J. Thiessen by Mr. Schellenberg, representing the contractor, Semmler Construction Co. Dr. Thiessen brought the dedicatory message, which was based upon Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple (I Kings 8:22ff).

Representatives of various institutions, as well as representatives of the churches in the provinces, the Department of Education, the Provincial Normal School, and the Municipality of Tuxedo, brought congratulatory messages. (See article in January 13, 1956, issue.—Ed.)

It was a great and memorable day here at the college. Gratitude and praise toward God were expressed and sincerely felt for providing us with such a fine building in which to prepare for His service.

MENNONITE BRETHREN BIBLE COLLEGE

Rev. William Gering, who is the full-time youth representative of the General Conference of Mennonites in North America, spoke at our chapel service on January 9. Basing his message on Romans 8:35, Rev. Gering spoke on "Wanted, Youth's Christian Aspirations". During the last while he has been visiting the General Conference Mennonite churches in Manitoba in the interests of their conference. His office is located in Newton, Kansas.

"How Can My Ministry Be Effective and Blessed for God?" was the theme of the farewell address by Rev. Henry Brucks. He stressed the basis, motive, need and aim for doing missionary work.

Rev. Brucks is a graduate of the M.B. Bible College and has, together with his family, served one term of missionary service in the Belgian Congo under the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions. The Brucks left Winnipeg on January 16 for a short stop at Hillsboro, Kansas, before proceeding to the mission field for a second term.

Bible Institutes

GRACE BIBLE INSTITUTE, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

The Grace Bible Institute student body cast a favorable ballot on Friday, January 13, to renew their third annual contract with radio station KFAB, Omaha. This 15-minute, student-sponsored, weekly broadcast, known as GRACE NOTES is under the direction of James P. Davies and covers the western half of the United States. A recent letter received would indicate that the KFAB coverage also reaches into the heart of Alaska. GRACE NOTES can also be heard on radio stations WWPS, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, WPEL, Montrose, Pennsylvania, and KPLK, Dallas, Oregon. The radio committee is now corresponding with several other radio stations who have indicated their willingness to sponsor the GRACE NOTES program on sustaining time.

The Public Relations office together with the Student Body Executive are now planning the annual student solicitation tour. The 24-voice Choraliers, under the direction of H. D. Wiebe, have been chosen to represent the student body on this six-day tour into Kansas and Oklahoma, leaving Tuesday, February 28. Concerts will be given in Christian high schools and academies during the day and concerts are also being scheduled in local churches and auditoriums for the evening. Dr. John R. Dick, dean of the school, and Don Plett, president of the student body, will accompany the group.

COALDALE BIBLE SCHOOL

Two months of school have passed by almost too quickly. We can, however, say that the Lord has been near and blessed us.

At the beginning of the term Class 3 had the privilege of visiting several churches of other denominations. We attended the morning service of the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Lethbridge. During the afternoon we visited the Blood Indians at Mac-

leod, and came back to Lethbridge to visit the Church of the Latter Day Saints in the evening. All were filled with thankfulness that we are so privileged and know Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour.

On December 18 the Bible school presented a Christmas program in the M.B. church. Rev. B. W. Sawatzky delivered the evening's message, speaking on "Unto us a Son is given" (Is. 9: 5). Another event before Christmas was the annual Christmas banquet on the evening of December 22.

Now we have stepped into 1956 and know that the Lord has many blessings in store for us. It is our prayer that we could search His Word in order to receive that which He will gladly give us.

Dora Dueck.

EAST CHILLIWACK BIBLE SCHOOL

The East Chilliwack Bible School resumed classes on January 4. Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Jantz, who had spent Christmas with their parents in Virgil, Ontario, arrived back safely that afternoon. We all gathered in chapel to praise our Lord and to share with one another the many blessed experiences of the Christmas season. One sensed a new resolve to become more intimately acquainted with Christ, and a sincere desire to serve Him more effectively during the new year.

At the present time an earnest effort is being made to complete requirements for the first semester, which ends February 3. If any were unable to be with us these past months, they are certainly welcome during the second semester.

We are thankful to God for providing a teacher to take the place of Mr. Hugo Jantz. Rev. Henry Warkentin, field director of the West Coast Children's Mission, will join the teaching staff during the second semester.

Mary Janzen.

HERBERT BIBLE SCHOOL ALUMNI REPORT

On November 19, 1955, the Herbert Bible School Alumni Association met for its annual business and fellowship meeting. The enthusiasm of those present was quite evident, although only a few attended. At the morning session a report was given of what had been done during the last year and plans were made for projects during the new year.

The executive committee reported that they had been able to purchase a deep-freeze and that they were planning to help purchase a new tape-recorder for the school. After planning the next year's activities the group elected Rev. Lawrence Redekopp of Swift Current as president, Rev. C. Braun of Herbert as vice-president, and

Norman Penner as secretary-treasurer. The program committee consists of the brethren Arnold Dueck, Bill Braun and Alvin Siemens.

During the rest of the morning session special items were presented by the Bible school students and a message was given by Rev. Ed. Lautermilch. His theme was "And they stood every man in his place" (Judges 7: 21).

At the afternoon session Rev. Rudy Janzen gave a message on Galatians 4: 18, discussing spiritual zeal and its results. Special items were given by former students.

In closing, it might be well to state the purpose of the Alumni Association, which is: to provide opportunity for Christian fellowship between students, ex-students and instructors of the school; to maintain and increase the interest in the school; and to encourage cheerful support and earnest intercession on behalf of the school.

If any members of this alumni have not received the circular letter, they should send their address to: Norman L. Penner, Rush Lake, Sask.

High Schools

MENNONITE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE NORTH CLEARBROOK, B.C.

On Monday, January 9, Rev. Henry Warkentin, director of the West Coast Children's Mission, with headquarters in Yarrow, spoke at the morning devotion period in the senior high school. Using the story of the wise men as his basis, he challenged us with the questions, "Where is the King?" and "What part does the King have in our lives?"

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, Rev. P. J. Froese of the United Mennonite Church at West Abbotsford spoke on Daniel 5:17-31 in the morning devotion period.

The prayer groups from the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute visited us on Wednesday, Jan. 11, during the noon hour. The boys served in our boys' prayer-meeting and the girls served at the girls' prayer-meeting.

On Friday, Jan. 13, Rev. P. J. Froese spoke to the junior high school during their morning devotions period.

The date for the elocution contest, which is being sponsored by the M.E.I. Alumni Association, has tentatively been set for the middle of April.

The annual grade 13 drama presentation has tentatively been scheduled for April 13 and 14. The class has chosen the dramatized version of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Throughout its existence the M.E.I. has been active in inter-school competition in various sports. Among these basketball has developed into the major at-

traction. Thus on December 29 the senior basketball team met in a round-robin tournament with the Lynden Christian High School, the Seattle Y.M.C.A. team, and King's Garden Methodists of Seattle. In the final game the M.E.I. team defeated the Lynden Christian High team, who had defeated them in all previous encounters and were sporting a 12-game winning streak. The M.E.I. received the tournament trophy. Congratulations are in order for their fine display of sportsmanship.

On January 10 the junior and senior basketball teams journeyed to Mission City for a double-header game. Both teams won, displaying very good sportsmanship while doing so.

Elmer Stobbe XIII.

Adult deafness may result from neglect of ear troubles in childhood. Any severe earache or discharge should have immediate medical attention so that there may be less chance of impaired hearing.

More Devotional Books

Feed My Lambs

By H. T. Vriesen. 386 pp.

Feed My Lambs is dedicated to "all parents that love their children and are concerned about their eternal welfare." This is a book with daily devotional readings for the whole family, yet the language is so simple that the children will easily understand it. Actually, the readings contain large portions of Scripture selected to instruct and ground children upon the Rock of Ages\$3.00

*

Spurgeon's Morning and Evening

By Charles H. Spurgeon. 744 pp.

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CANADIAN MISSIONARIES WRITE FROM BELGIUM

(Continued from page 1-4)

However, looking at our surroundings from another angle — the double-locked, barred doors and windows; the many cold empty churches; the monuments that tell of bloody wars that have so often torn this little country — we are thankful to be *only* strangers here. Do pray for us sojourners in this foreign land that we might prove a blessing and a help to those who need it as much as do the Africans.

—Nettie Berg.

* * *

Paul wrote to Timothy, his beloved son: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Since coming to Belgium, this verse has taken on a deeper, a more profound meaning for us. Before, it meant mainly devoting oneself to gaining a secular education and especially a knowledge of the Bible. However, now the importance of language study seems to be included in those words for even our studies here are to equip us better for the Lord's work.

Day after day, week after week, for a year or possibly even two, we pick up our school-bags every morning to go to our classroom. Emphatically, the professor instructs us in the intricate and complicated details of the French language, as well as in the numerous rules which one must adhere to in order to write and speak a correct French. Rules, yes rules there are and many of them, if only one

could always remember or recall the right one at the right time; yet, one must never forget that there is almost always an exception to a rule, good as it may be, which one must remember equally well. Maybe what one student said is true: "I have found *one* rule which holds true, to which there is no exception; it reads: 'For every rule in the French language, there is an exception.'"

At times the great resemblance between some of the English and French words is quite confusing. One day while writing a sentence, the word for a "physical relapse" was needed; the dictionary gave several translations, so the word, "lapse", resembling closest the English word, was chosen. No wonder the professor thought the sentence to be rather odd, for it read: "After his operation, the patient had a back-slide (the religious sense), because he started work too soon." Now didn't those words resemble each other? This is just one example to show how important it is to know the language well so as not to pervert the true meaning of that which you wish to say. This applies to the general as well as to the spiritual work here as well as in the Congo.

—Sarah Peters.

OLDEST COALDALE RESIDENT PASSES

Coaldale's oldest resident, Mrs. Maria Martens, passed away on Tuesday, January 10, at the age of 94 years. Funeral services were held on Friday, January 13, at the Mennonite Brethren Church in Coaldale. Rev. J. J. Siemens, the leading minister of the church, officiated.

Mrs. Martens was born in Sparau, Russia, and was a refugee in Poland and Germany during the years 1943 to 1949. In the latter year she came to Canada and went to live with her daughter, Mrs. K. Peters, and her grand-daughter, Mrs. H. Heidebrecht.

She is survived by another daughter, Mrs. Maria Goerz, in Hague, Sask., and a daughter in Russia.

PETER KOSLOWSKY TO SING IN CALIFORNIA

Niverville, Man. — Mr. Peter Koslowsky, choir director of the M.B. Church here, left on Tuesday, January 10, for Fresno, California. There he will join the Pacific Bible Institute choir, directed by Dick Friesen, for a tour of the Mennonite Brethren churches in California. Mr. Koslowsky will be tenor soloist in an oratorio that the choir is presenting on their tour.

Accompanying him was his family and his brother John, who is making this a holiday trip. They expect to be gone for two to three weeks.

Senior Citizens' Home Receives Grant

"The construction of this home is a fine indication of the united effort your churches are putting forth to care for your older people," W. C. MacDonald, Roland M.L.A. for Dufferin, told a small gathering in the Town Hall in Winkler on January 7 as he presented a \$17,500 Government of Manitoba check to Rev. J. M. Pauls, chairman of the Old Folks' Home project.

It is expected that the total government contribution toward the construction of the home will amount to \$35,000. The total construction costs are \$80,000.

The home being built is of one-storey construction and will provide accommodation for about 55

TO DEDICATE CHURCH IN REGINA

Regina, Sask. — The Victoria Avenue Mennonite Church of Regina will hold its dedication service at 7 p.m. on January 22. Guest speakers will be Rev. J. J. Thiessen and Rev. G. G. Epp. Rev. Paul Dyck is the interim pastor of the church, which is located at the corner of Victoria Avenue and Ottawa Street in Regina.

ELECT THREE DEACONS

Virgil, Ont. — During the first week of the new year the M.B. Church here experienced great blessings as they met for prayer every evening. The prayer services were quite well attended.

On Sunday, January 8, the church gathered for a communion service. At the same time an election was held to choose three young men as deacons, one from the Niagara Christian Fellowship Chapel and two from the Virgil congregation.

PAY FOR FOLDING ORGAN

Domain, Man. — Rev. and Mrs. Henry Brucks, now on their way to the mission field for a second term, spoke at the Young People's pro-

gram in the M.B. Church here on January 13.

The young people here had volunteered to pay for a folding organ that the Brucks were planning to take along to the mission field. The offering received proved sufficient to pay for the cost of it.

Before Rev. Brucks spoke several items were presented by the young people and Mrs. Brucks related a story. Rev. Brucks spoke on Romans 1:18-25. Once again we realized our indebtedness to the Gospel of Christ and to those around us. At the close of the service Brother J. Pauls, church leader, directed a few words of farewell to the Brucks, referring to Hebrews 13:20-21.

On the Horizon

January 15 to 22. — Rev. A. Schierling of Vancouver, B.C., is giving a series of addresses on the book of Daniel in the Lindbrook M.B. church.

January 21-22. — The Conference of the United Mennonite Churches of British Columbia will be held in Vancouver.

January 22. — Rev. Henry Epp, pastor of the White Horn M.B. Church at Blaine, Wash., will begin evangelistic services in the Vancouver M.B. Church at 43rd and Prince Edward.

January 28. — The annual reunion of the Mennonite Collegiate Institute Graduate Society will be held at the First Mennonite church in Winnipeg at 7:30 p.m.

January 29. — A reunion will be held of all the girls who have at one time or another lived at the Girls' Home in Saskatoon. The service begins at 2 p.m. in the First Mennonite church.

January 29 to February 3. — Rev. John A. Harder of Yarrow, B.C., will be serving at a series of meetings in the M.B. church at Virgil, Ont., emphasizing the deeper spiritual life. At these meetings Rev. Harder will also report on his visit to South America, the relief work being done there, and the mission work the M.B. Church is carrying on there.

January 30 — February 3. — A choir school will be held in the Canadian Mennonite Bible College. It will be directed by Dr. Hohmann of Newton, Kansas.

February 5. — The young people of the Vancouver M.B. Church will present the play "Pilgrim's Progress" on Sunday evening, Feb. 5.

February 9, 10, and 11. — The M.B. Collegiate Institute will present the drama "Die Königin Esther" in the auditorium of the school on Talbot Ave., Winnipeg.

February 27 to March 9. — The annual Ministers' Course will be held in the M.B. Bible College, Winnipeg.

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