

# Mennonite Observer

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

★  
YOUR CHRISTIAN  
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This is the 36-voice Greendale Male Choir that sang at the B.C. Penitentiary at New Westminster, B.C., on April 30 under the sponsorship of the Chilliwack camp of the Gideons. The Gideons accompanying the choir are seated in the front row. Mr. John H. Hooge is the choir conductor.

## GREENDALE MALE CHOIR SINGS AT PENITENTIARY

By John H. Hooge

*Sardis, B.C.* — The Greendale Male Choir had the privilege of singing in the B.C. Penitentiary for the second time in six months.

Sponsored by the Gideons organization in Chilliwack, the choir went to the penitentiary on April 30 to sing at the morning service to an audience of about 150 men. A hearty song service, in which the inmates took part, was enjoyed by everyone. Mr. Fred Lukas of Vancouver, B.C., a member of the Gideons, delivered the message.

The 36-voice male choir, directed by John H. Hooge, counted it a special privilege to witness for their Lord on this occasion. We trust that God will bless this service to the hardened hearts of many men.

## Twelve Baptized in Winnipeg

By John Peters

*Winnipeg, Man.* — The South End M. B. Church again has been blessed by the addition of twelve believers who followed the Lord's example in baptism. Their personal testimony showed that most of them had been saved through John 3:16 and were led to believe that baptism was necessary for spiritual growth from Mark 16:16.

The message by Rev. J. P. Neufeld, pastor, had Romans 6:3-4 as

its basis. He stated that through baptism a believer is showing that he is "dying to the world and is being buried with the Lord". He also claimed that a baptized person would overcome many temptations that he would otherwise yield to. He emphasized the power that had won these people to Christ, and stated that this source of power was unlimited. The more it is used by a believer, the more powerful it becomes in him.

After the baptismal ceremony, the twelve candidates were received in the church. The candidates were: Miss Lydia Friesen, Abe Schellenberg, Miss Lena Loepky, Miss Mary Dueck, Miss Katie Dueck, Ernst Dyck, Miss Annie Toews, Miss Lorraine Shrier, Miss Wanda Friesen, Peter Mierau and Brother and Sister Richard Schroeder.

## M. B. Church Organized in Calgary

By J. A. Froese

*Calgary Alta.* — Sunday, May 6, the official organization of a Mennonite Brethren Church in Calgary took place in the Canadian Legion Hall on 8th Avenue West, which has been the meeting place of the Mission Group for three years. The services were led by Rev. J. A. Froese, city missionary.

At the morning service Rev. John Pankratz, Gem., Alta., spoke on Isaiah 28:16, and Rev. Peter Doerksen, Gem., Alta., spoke on Philippians 2:7-9, and Mark 9:30-37. Well-chosen songs were sung by a small choir under the direction of Bro. David Ratzlaff of Calgary. The Lord spoke directly and blessed the hearts of those present. At the afternoon service Rev. D. J. Pankratz, Coaldale, delivered a message on Acts 11:19-26. Through the message

the Lord spoke to the future church in Calgary of the need of a sound spiritual building, of humility in the life of the individual member and the principles for spiritual growth.

Rev. Froese then turned the meeting over to Rev. David Pankratz, the conference leader in the province. Brother Pankratz drew the attention of the assembly to the confession of faith of the Mennonite Brethren Church and to some of the church rules. Forty-two members of the Mennonite Brethren Conference were willing to organize a church on the basis of the principles presented to them. It is expected that others, who through various circumstances could not be present, will join the church soon.

Brother Pankratz then led the meeting during the election of the church leadership. Brother Abram

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## ONE DEAD IN ACCIDENT

*Sardis, B.C.* — An early morning car-train crash here on May 12 took the life of one person and sent another to the hospital with serious injuries.

Dead is Miss Anne Regehr, 20, while Victor Regehr, 22, is confined to a Vancouver hospital with serious head injuries. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Regehr, Sinclair Rd.

Proceeding home in their car from a visit, they ran into a moving train. The car was totally demolished, and it was three-quarters of a hour before the victims could be freed from the wreckage. Miss Regehr was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital, while Victor Regehr's condition was still serious on May 14.

The funeral for Miss Regehr is expected to be on May 19, by which time it is hoped that Victor will be over the crisis. The funeral services will be held in the Mennonite Brethren church, since the United Mennonite church, of which Miss Regehr was a member, has not been restored yet, although services are being held in the basement.

The bereaved parents requested earnest prayer, as announced in the Mennonite churches here.

# EDITORIAL

## Devotional

### But Where is the Power?

We have large and beautiful church edifices, with new and larger ones on the planning board. We have large congregations, with a fair proportion of young people in the church. We have thoroughly organized societies, committees, conferences, and boards. Our own schools produce workers for the church and the mission field. **But where is the power?**

We read of the early Church that "great fear came upon all . . . as heard these things". Where is the fear inspired by a church that practises church discipline? Can it be said of us that "of the rest durst no man join himself to them"? This was a demonstration of the powerful witness of the early Church.

Is it ever said of those in our community that "they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened"? Do the people who watch us at our daily task stand in awe of the power visible in our life? Does the work of the church in the community produce that holy reverence that stills criticism—that overwhelms the sinner? Yes, in certain cases that is true—and then revival breaks out. But that should be the rule, not the exception.

Scripture also bears witness that "with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all". When we testify, when we proclaim the Word, is it with "great power"? Are our churches growing—not only barely holding their own? Can it be said of us, that "believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women"? If we are honest we must confess that we reveal a distinct lack of power judging by that criterion. Oh yes, now and then there is a great accession of church members. Now and then we hear of our home mission and foreign mission churches growing steadily, but is the witness of the local church producing this in its community?

Next Sunday we will especially remember Pentecost. In some churches there will no doubt be the first sermon this year about the Holy Spirit. And yet at Pentecost Christ's promise, "But ye shall receive power", became reality when the Holy Spirit came. The Holy Spirit is the power in the believer and in the church. Could the reason for our powerlessness be a neglect of the glorious fact that the Holy Spirit has come and is willing to give us power? Have we left Him out of the picture too much in our private life and in our church life? Is He grieved because the victory over sin that He can give is not there?

This Pentecost let us re-evaluate our attitude to the Holy Spirit, let us study God's Word to find His place in our lives—and then let's permit Him to fill us with power.

### OUR READERS SAY

#### ARE WE INCONSISTENT?

The Editor:

As M. B. church members we believe that the Bible teaches that such practices as drinking intoxicating beverages or smoking tobacco are against Christ's teachings because they impair man's health physically and undermine his total witness morally and spiritually. To my knowledge, all our churches require their members to refrain from using these "evils". I am entirely in agreement with this stand and believe that it is adequately supported by the Scriptures, by medical science, and by common sense.

I also believe that producing, handling, selling, distributing, or otherwise furthering these prac-

tices or condoning them is contrary to the spirit of the principle. For example, I believe that a person who works in a brewery or sells products directly to a brewery (such as malting barley, grapes) or who grows tobacco or works in a tobacco plantation or in the hop fields is violating the spirit of the principle as directly as anyone who drinks alcohol or smokes or chews tobacco. To my mind these two are inseparable. We are inconsistent if we hold that drinking or smoking is wrong but to contribute to their production in the ways mentioned is not. He who engages in such production is surely a link in the drinking chain. If the hops are not picked they cannot be shipped to the brewery: so much is certain.

However, it seems that the point I have just raised is not nearly as

"Be ye holy, for I am holy" (I Peter 1:15-16).

The person that has passed from death unto life has come into direct contact with the holiness of God. When we see our sins in the light of the holiness of God, we realize with Isaiah: "Woe is me, for I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips."

From that look at our own sinfulness and filthiness, our desire is turned into a longing to be as holy as our Lord and Saviour. Whenever this longing or desire disappears, the Lord is apt to send something to show us our sinfulness. As soon as we see that, do we not turn and say, "Lord, I want to be holy"? The Holy Spirit, whom the Lord has given us after his ascension, has this great work to do within us, to make us holy. Holiness is the Spirit's chief characteristic, and since we have the Holy Spirit after regeneration, we have the possibility of being holy.

It is not only that we long to be holy, but we are commanded in God's Word to be holy. Is I Peter 1:15,16, "Be ye holy, for I am holy", not a direct command? The Lord requires us to be holy at all times, for He has made the provision for us, through His shed blood, that we can have our sins forgiven and blotted out.

Our text commands us to be holy in all manner of conversation.

self-evident as I take it to be, because we have church members in good standing who engage in exactly these practices, yet support the theory or principle of total abstinence wholeheartedly. We have church members in various parts of Canada who do sell grapes and malting barley to the wineries and breweries; who do grow tobacco or work on tobacco farms (not smoking or drinking, of course), or who pick hops or work in the hop fields. Such occupations have been common for years in many areas: in others they are considered quite legitimate (everyone else does it) and in most areas thanks are given to God for providing this means of obtaining a livelihood and for supporting the Missions projects at home and abroad.

I firmly believe that such practices are a direct contradiction of the principle of abstinence. You would find it difficult to convince a man of the world that the contrary was true, and I have yet to find anyone who can justify participation in them. The fact that many of our leading ministers and church leaders have in times past

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### Is Holiness Our Aim?

By Rev. Norman Fehr \*

How needful that our tongue be holy unto God, that the words we speak, breath forth the holiness of God. In Eph. 1:4 we are further exhorted to be holy and without blame before Him in love. Others who come into contact with us are to sense holiness in our behaviour, dealings and manner of life. Paul writes to the Romans in chapter 12:1, that it is only reasonable on our part to present our bodies "a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God".

When we consider what Christ has done for us, and the possibility of being holy, we cannot give any excuse for not striving with all our might to fulfill the command of God's Word that we are to be holy. We find in Eph. 5:27 that our Lord and Saviour would love to present His Church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but holy and without blemish. The Holy Spirit is seeking to accomplish this in our lives, that at the day when Jesus shall present us before the Father, we may be holy.

In view of Pentecost, there is no better way of using our time, than to use these days for a renewal of holiness in our lives. In view of our failures, shortcomings and sins in, our lives, there remains yet much land to be possessed—to be made holier. May our daily prayer and our sincere aim be, "Lord, I want to be holy."

\* Home mission worker at Warman, Sask., under the M. B. Mission of Saskatchewan.

## Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

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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.*

## Flood Crests Threaten Area

By A. Dyck, Jr.

*Newton Siding, Man.* — Trucks, bulldozers, and draglines were pressed into round-the-clock operation, as old earthen dikes were repaired and others completely rebuilt in preparation for the Assiniboine flood crests, with the final one still two to three weeks away. Already the water is four inches from the top of the major dikes at Elie.

Major work on the dikes was done at the Hoop and Holler bend, six miles west of Newton, and at High Bluff bridge, where earlier flash floods had torn out an old dam. This was built years ago when a large horseshoe bend in the river had been eliminated by excavating a new channel.

Three weeks ago this area east of Portage la Prairie, including Newton, Oakville, Fortier, Elie and Dakota, was flooded. Extensive damage was done by the swiftly moving water. Many roads were cut and bridges washed out, especially in the Elie area. Soil erosion is costing many farmers valuable farmland acreage, for some gullies were up to four feet in depth.

Basement windows were sand-bagged and livestock moved to higher ground, often into barn lofts. On many farms conditions

have not changed, for farmers are awaiting the results of the next crests. Should flooding occur again, the extra work of sand-bagging windows and moving chicks into hay-lofts will be spared. However, if the water again invades this area, there will be little, and in some cases, no seeding done. Should flooding occur, it will be the fourth consecutive year of crop failure because of too much moisture for many farmers.

### REV. MARTENS HOLDS EVANGELISTIC SERVICES

By John Stoesz

*Niverville, Man.* — The Rev. Peter Martens, colporteur of the M. B. Church in Manitoba, expounded the meaning of the cross at evangelistic services held in the Arron School, five miles east of Niverville, from April 30 to May 2. This is a settlement of the Sommerfelder Mennonites.

The services were well attended and we feel certain that God will not permit His Word to return void. The Arron Young People's Choir, led by the teacher, Mr. John Stoesz, sang at each service. A quartet from Niverville also rendered faithful service.

### Alumni Sponsors Program

By John Stoesz

*Niverville, Man.* — The Alumni Association of the M. B. Bible College, Manitoba branch, presented a well-balanced program in the M. B. church here on Sunday night, May 6. This is one in a series of programs they are sponsoring to awaken interest in and support for the college.

Mr. George Enns, a Winnipeg school teacher, led the service, since he is chairman of the Manitoba branch of the Alumni. He was accompanied by a small choir consisting of past and present students at the college, directed by Mr. Helmut Janzen.

During the course of the program three testimonies revealed the leading of God in the lives of His children. Miss Junko Matsuno, a fourth-year student planning to leave San Francisco on July 10 for her homeland, Japan, praised God for salvation in childhood and for daily guidance. Mr. Erich Giesbrecht, Paraguay, who is completing his second year at the M. B. Bible College, testified especially to God's leading. Miss Helen Toews, R.N., from Coaldale, Alta., who has been taking a post-graduate course in nursing supervision and training, testified concerning what her years at the M. B. Bible College had meant to

her.

Miss Margaret Schulz, another graduate, treated the children to one of her fine stories. Other Alumni members participating in the program were Mr. Leslie Stobbe, who reported on the work and value of the college, and Mr. J. D. Friesen, who delivered a brief but spiritually stimulating message on the different phases of faith. The program was enhanced by the wonderful singing of the choir.

After the service the Mission Circle of the Church served lunch to the visitors.

### Youth Workers Meet in Elm Creek

*Elm Creek, Man.* — The central district of the Manitoba M. B. Conference held a youth workers' meeting on May 7, at 8 p.m. Representatives of four churches met in the M. B. church here upon this occasion.

Rev. Dave Dyck from Newton Siding was elected chairman of the service and Henry P. Schroeder of Elm Creek the recording secretary. The meeting heard reports on the work of the various branches of youth work, followed by a short report from the various choir leaders. N. J. Dick of Elm Creek reported on the Sunday school work, while Rev. Dave Dyck reported on youth work. The group decided to again hold their annual Dominion Day youth meeting.

Rev. D. Dyck resigned as youth leader because he felt that he had too many responsibilities. The gathering accepted his resignation, thanking him for his services. Dave Froese was elected to take his place.

### TOP WEEKLY IN MANITOBA

The Red River Valley Echo, published by D. W. Friesen and Sons of Altona, Man., has been judged the best all-round weekly newspaper with a circulation of more than 1,250 in Manitoba.

Among newspapers with circulations under 1,250, the Winkler Progress, published by P. T. Friesen and Son, of Winkler, Man., was judged best.

D. K. Friesen's editorial page in the Red River Valley Echo was judged second best in the province.

These awards were announced last week by the Manitoba division of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper association at their annual convention.

### RECEIVE HIGH MARKS IN FESTIVAL

*Black Creek, B.C.* — An added feature of the annual Island Musical Festival at Nanaimo, B.C., was the participation of the M. B. Church choir of Black Creek, B.C. The 30-voice choir traveled 80

miles to take part in the festival on Tuesday evening, May 8, singing "Verdant Meadows", by Handel, and "Break Forth into Joy". They received the highest marks of the evening, being awarded 85 and 84 marks for their songs.

The choir conductor, Albert Wedel, was awarded highest marks in the tenor class.

### Enroute to India

*Hillsboro, Kans.* — Two Canadian registered nurses—Helen Dueck of Coaldale, Alta., and Margaret Suderman of Morden,



Miss Helen Dueck, R.N.

Man.— are enroute to India for service under the Mennonite Board of Foreign Missions.

Their departure aboard the SS Andrew Jackson was scheduled for May 7 from Savannah, Ga.



Miss Margaret Suderman, R.N.

Miss Dueck is a first-term missionary. Just previous to her departure, she attended Tabor College for the past semester. A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob P. Dueck of Coaldale, she is a graduate of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College.

Miss Suderman returns for her fourth term of missionary service in India. She had been on furlough since May, 1955.

### ARE WE INCONSISTENT?

(Continued from page 2-3)

engaged in these practices has certainly not helped to clarify the issue. I, personally, picked hops for many years taking for granted that everything was in order, until I was "aroused from my dogmatic slumbers" and became deeply disturbed and confused about the whole matter the more I (and some friends of mine) thought about it. We agreed that our stand had been inconsistent.

There are many reasons why the situation has become what it is, but they will not justify the practice nor minimize the wrong. Has the church not sufficient strength to cope with this evil? Is our witness to the world of any real effect in such matters? Have we allowed our spiritual vision to be dimmed by the prospects of material gain? God will never expect us to supply our needs in an illegitimate manner. Are we willing to retrace our steps, confess our wrongs openly (they have been committed openly) and agree to abide by the biblical principles we claim to live by? Can you justify practices of this type, whether you are engaged in them or not? Would you say we are inconsistent in this matter?

Peter Klassen,  
Winnipeg, Man.

## HERE AND THERE AND EVERYWHERE

### Choir Visits Aldergrove Church

*Aldergrove, B.C.* — On Sunday, May 6, the South Abbotsford M. B. Church choir, under the direction of Mr. Albert Dyck, sang at the morning worship service in the M. B. church here. They sang a number of songs that provided inspiration and were a real treat. Rev. Herman Voth, pastor of the church here, delivered a message on the second coming of Christ.

### Hold Spring Banquet

*Winnipeg, Man.* — The lower auditorium of the North Kildonan M. B. Church was the scene of the annual spring banquet sponsored by the young people. The tables were attractively arranged and appropriately decorated with daffodils. After a good meal accompanied by pleasant conversation to aid the digestion, the group of approximately 100 young people saw two films. They were religious as well as educational in nature. Corny Balzer, the choir leader in the church, also sang a solo.

Those present gained spiritual inspiration through fellowship and devotion.

### Engagement Announced

*Winnipeg, Man.* — The engagement of Miss Mitzi Suderman to Mr. Helmut Peters of North Kildonan was announced Sunday, May 6, in the North Kildonan M. B. church.

### Enjoy an Evening of Fellowship

*Niverville, Man.* — The young people of the General Conference Mennonite and the M. B. churches here enjoyed an evening of fellowship on Saturday, May 5. The highlight of the evening was an excellent play, "The Seeker", presented by the young people of the Bethel Mennonite Mission Church in Winnipeg.

The play touched the hearts of those present as they saw a lost, searching soul find peace with God. The congregation was vividly reminded that only by diligent seeking, and that only in the Scriptures, can a lost soul come to a saving knowledge of Christ.

Peter Koslowsky sang "Harre meine Seele", while a male quartet from the M. B. Church sang the closing song, "The Promised Land". Peter Krahn from the Mennonite Church was chairman for the evening.

### New Choir Director

*Vineland, Ont.* — Constant changes seem to be the order of the day also for the M. B. church here. Some young people leave us, others return. We are glad that

Miss Frieda Koop and Henry Penner have come home from Winkler Bible School. Miss Koop already has her place as Sunday school teacher.

Mr. Ernie Reimer has succeeded Ed Unrau to the position as our church choir director. The latter has moved to Stoney Creek, and as manager of a construction company finds it impossible to continue serving our church in this capacity.

Miss Catharine Penner, of Beamsville, has returned to her secretarial duties at Akron, Penn. She spent a week with her family after the death and funeral of their father, Mr. Peter Penner.

We are particularly distressed to hear that Miss Betty Baerg shall be confined to the St. Catharines Sanatorium for an indefinite period. It is believed she contracted the disease in the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital of Grimsby, Ont., where she has been employed for several years.

### Mixed Quartet Wins Acclaim at Festival

*Abbotsford, B.C.* — A mixed quartet from the South Abbotsford M. B. Church received the highest mark ever given at the music festival held at Mission, B.C.

Singing "Down Yonder Green Valley", the quartet had to repeat the performance immediately at the request of the adjudicator. He awarded them a mark of 95, the highest in the 13-year history of the festival. They were invited to sing Friday night, May 11, again. When the applause did not stop, they sang "Lobe den Herrn, meine Seele" as an encore.

Members of the quartet are Katie Mueller, soprano; Mary Klassen, alto; John Thiessen, tenor; and John Klassen, bass.

### Accepts Position with Fisheries Department

*Winnipeg, Man.* — Mr. Nick Neufeld, M.Sc., instructor in bacteriology during the last two years at the University of Manitoba, has accepted a position in Vancouver with the Federal Department of Fisheries. He will fill the newly-created position of bacteriologist. Mr. Neufeld will also continue his studies, working toward his Ph.D. His special field is parasitology.

Mr. Neufeld has taught at The Pas, Manitoba, for some time. Later he was an instructor at the Mennonite Collegiate Institute, Gretna.

The Neufelds moved to Vancouver this week, where Mr. Neufeld will assume his new position. He is the son of Dr. N. J. Neufeld, Winnipeg.

### Leamington Hard Hit by Storm

*Leamington, Ont.* — This district was struck by a severe electrical storm on May 12 at 8:15 p.m. The storm hit with a cloudburst and hail the size of pigeons' eggs.

Much damage was done to the greenhouses in the district, with one grower estimating that 90% of his were destroyed. Many basements and roads were flooded, with cars marooned on the streets because of the water. The fields are so saturated with moisture after a week of heavy rains, that one cannot walk across them without getting stuck. There has been a rain storm every night and the ditches have been flowing at full capacity to take off the surface water.

### MARRY IN PARAGUAY

Brother Albert Enns and Sister Anna Eckert were married in Filadelfia, Fernheim colony, Paraguay, on April 11. Their ordination was planned for April 22. Sister Enns left America late in March to join Brother Enns in the work in Asuncion among the Paraguayans of eastern Paraguay.

### Final Gathering of Group

By Mrs. H. Teigrob

*Port Rowan, Ont.* — Sixteen ladies of the "Maria-Martha Verein" gathered in the home of Mrs. Henry Teigrob on the evening of May 8 for the final gathering of the winter.

The song, "Wenn der Heiland als Koenig erscheint", was sung to begin the meeting. After Scripture and prayer the regular program began, which was somewhat different this time, as it was the last meeting. Mrs. John Heinrichs and Mrs. Peter Driediger sang "If You Could Know How Jesus Loves You", after which the leader, Mrs. Jake Reimer, mentioned some of the things written by the missionary couple, the John Esaus of the Belgian Congo, in their letters. This was of special interest, for Mrs. Esau's home is here.

Among other items discussed was the sending of flowers and cards to those who were ill. Several told of their experiences and blessings during the past winter. Names were exchanged among the 20 members of the group for the "Secret Pal" or "Sister". The person whose name is drawn is to be prayed for especially, visited, and sent a birthday card signed, "Your Sister". She must not discover who her "secret pal" is until the group begins functioning again in fall.

"Pause for a Moment of Prayer" was sung by Mrs. Abe Petkau and Mrs. Henry Klassen. Mrs. Jake Petkau led in the regular devotional period, reading Eph. 1:3-

7. She stressed that when mothers walk holy and without blame before their children, they will see their reflection in their children. The great significance of a praying mother cannot be over-emphasized. Often the prayer of a mother keeps a child from sin.

Several more testimonies and a prayer closed the meeting. A light lunch was enjoyed before the group dispersed.

### INTER-CHURCH YOUTH RALLIES PLANNED

*Manitou, Man.* — A number of meetings have been held here to discuss the possibility of conducting a series of services called, "Inter-Church Youth Rally". The first meeting is being held on the evening of May 18, with a guest speaker present.

The purpose of these meetings is: to strengthen the local groups in a unified manner, and to reach the young people of the community who are out of fellowship of the church. The services will emphasize the evangelical work of the Christian faith. As many local young people's groups as possible will take part in the activities. Speakers will be called in for the services.

The officers in the committee taking care of arrangements are: Franklin Voth, president; Miss Lorna Compton, vice-president; Abe Martens, treasurer; Miss Norma Breault, secretary; and Dennis Birdsell, Henry Toews and Jake Huebner. The committee is working with the local ministers in full cooperation in this unified endeavor.

Churches cooperating are the Mennonite General Conference Church, the Mennonite Brethren Church, St. Johns Anglican Church, St. Andrew's United Church, and Elim Temple (Pentecostal).

### M. B. CHURCH ORGANIZED IN CALGARY

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Rempel was elected as church leader, Brother John Wiens as assistant and Brother Ernest Ratzlaff as secretary. Two ordained ministers, Rev. David Kroeker and Rev. J. A. Froese, are members of this newly-formed church and were asked by Brother Pankratz whether they would be willing to teach the Word of God as revealed in the Bible and as it is understood by the Mennonite Brethren Conference. They promised to be faithful.

The blessings of the morning and afternoon were brought to a climax as the assembly observed the Lord's Supper. Rev. Peter Doerksen was in charge of the communion service. A season of prayer and the kiss of brotherly love brought the service to a close.

This is the first city church of the Mennonite Brethren Conference of Alberta.

## Leads Man to Christ in Jail

By Abe Quiring\*

*Horndean, Man.* — Greetings in Jesus Name with Matth. 18:11, "For the Son of Man is come to save that which was lost." It is truly precious to know that Jesus has come to save all who are lost. He did not come to call the righteous, but the sinners to repentance. On the other hand, we know that there is none righteous, although we do occasionally hear the remark here from people that they feel quite secure as to their eternal destiny. Yet, when further enquiry is made, we realize that it is only a false foundation of self-righteousness upon which they are resting. We know that only the ones saved by grace through faith will some day rest with the Father in glory.

Of late we have experienced bountiful blessings here at Horndean. For quite some time during the winter it seemed as though all our efforts to win people to Christ were in vain—and our prayers for the salvation of souls were not being answered. We realize that God can also test us in this manner. After searching our hearts and putting forth greater efforts in prayer and labor, God suddenly broke the ice and a number of people found Christ to be the only true Friend and Saviour.

Two of these new believers are of the many who returned from Mexico some time ago. They are young men of 17 and 19 years of age. For some time they were very indifferent to all invitations to the services. They seemed to have no interest in spiritual matters whatsoever, yet God had been at work in their hearts.

Suddenly these two young men began to attend the services, also coming out for Bible study and Sunday school. A marvelous change had taken place, despite the fact that they had not as yet accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. I had spoken to each one personally a number of times and also invited them to come and see me some day. One day they both came to see me at my home. When they were asked what their attitude toward Christ was, they immediately replied that they just could not continue to live the way they had been living thus far. Praise God for the progress that they have already made since they received the forgiveness of sins.

During the week preceding Easter, Rev. Peter Martens of Steinbach, Man., conducted a week of evangelistic services in our church, and the Lord richly blessed us at the time. A number of people found Christ to be a Saviour who forgives all sin.

A short time ago I visited a man at Headingly jail. I had spoken to him previously—while he was still at home. He was hard

and embittered at that time, yet he admitted that Christ was lacking in his life. Upon hearing of his imprisonment, the Lord laid it upon my heart to go and see him.

When I arrived I realized that he was quite happy that I had come. One of the first things he mentioned was that he wanted to live a different life after his release. From God's Word I then pointed out to him that it was very dangerous to postpone salvation to a future date. He then replied that all he must do was to accept Jesus Christ immediately. Behind prison bars we then prayed and he found peace through faith in Christ. May God give him grace that he may be able to grow and lead a true Christian life after his release. He needs our prayers.

Thus God has been with us—yet it has not been a time without trials and difficulties. Pray that we may continue to be a rich blessing to many who are as yet in the darkest of night.

\* Home mission worker at Horndean, Man., under the M. B. Conference of Manitoba.

## Hold Farewell Service for Teacher

By Ben Hoepfner

*Steinbach, Man.* — On Sunday, May 6, the M. B. Church here had a farewell service for Rev. and Mrs. Jacob N. Wittenberg, long-time instructor at the Steinbach Bible Institute.

Rev. Henry Regehr, the pastor of the M. B. Church, related some of the services the Wittenbergs had given to the church and to the community. Rev. Regehr thanked the Wittenbergs and read Isaiah 41:10 as a farewell message.

A number of the brethren of the church followed Rev. Regehr, extending farewell wishes to the elderly couple and reading appropriate Bible verses. Rev. B. Hoepfner, who represented the Bible Institute, read the song, "O Gott, mein Gott", and quoted Isa. 41:13.

After the farewell wishes, Rev. Wittenberg spoke on Moses' plea for divine guidance and presence and Samuel's farewell speech to Israel: "Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you." His deep desire was to spend his last days in the ministry of intercession.

Rev. Wittenberg has given up his position in the Steinbach Institute because of ill health. He was much beloved by the church and the Bible Institute.

This farewell service also served as a farewell for Mr. and Mrs. John Rempel of Steinbach. Mr. Rempel had served the church in

the capacity of a member of a church committee at various times. In his farewell speech Mr. Rempel read I Peter chapter one, with several comments. Mr. and Mrs. Rempel, like the Wittenbergs, were well-beloved.

Both couples are making British Columbia their new home.

## MOTHER'S DAY EVENT

*Vineland, Ont.* — The Vineland M. B. Sunday school presented a Mother's Day program Sunday morning, May 13. Peter Doerksen, superintendent, made the opening remarks, then Mr. Aaron Wall, a member of the Sunday school committee, made the introductory remarks and prayed.

In our church, as most everywhere, we have the practice of wearing red carnations. Mr. Wall drew our attention to the fact that not one white flower was visible among the children on the platform. Thank God for His grace and goodness!

The children sang and recited very well with the exception of a

few, and even they gave a great deal of pleasure.

Rev. J. F. Redekop of North Clearbrook, B.C., who is at present serving our church as evangelist, spoke on the responsibility of the Christian mother. The story of Hanna, as found in I Samuel chapter one, served as an example.

Rev. H. P. Wiebe then made some announcements and spoke the closing prayer.

## LARGE CROWD HEARS BETHEL CHOIR

*Abbotsford, B.C.* — Over 1,000 heard the Bethel Choir, directed by Menno Neufeld, present Handel's Messiah in the Abbotsford Junior High School auditorium on Sunday afternoon, May 6.

The 65-voice choir was accompanied by the Valley String orchestra, also conducted by Mr. Neufeld. Piano accompanist was Miss Rita Mueller.

Soloists were John Ratzlaff, Abbotsford, tenor; Mrs. Anna Toews, Abbotsford, contralto; Barbara Sloggett, Vancouver, soprano; and Ken Smith, Vancouver, bass.

## Revise Bible School Program at Coaldale

Changing times and changing needs are forcing a revision of the Bible school set-up in Canada. Bible schools that have drastically revised their teaching program and have already tried out the new system for a year are those in Kitchener, Herbert, East Chilliwack, and Hepburn. Now Rev. Abe Regier, principal of the Coaldale Bible School, has announced a completely revised Bible school schedule for next year.

Rev. Regier stated that "continual requests from high school graduates for a prolonged, intensive Bible course, rather than a course spread over several years with consequent intervening months", was probably the decisive factor. "As most high school graduates have spent 10 months a year studying for the greater part of their life, they desire this in Bible school also. Seeing that many of them go on to college or university, they feel that they would rather spend one long term here than two short ones."

There is a complicating factor, however, that calls for adaptation to circumstances. Instead of coming to Bible school with a unified educational background, students arrive who might be placed in four categories. There are those who have not even completed high school. Others can study during the winter only because of conditions at home. And of those who have graduated from high school, some are the products of the public school system, while others have graduated from a private Christian high school.

In order to meet the needs of all

four groups, the program has been revised and approved by the church. Next fall the school year will begin around the middle of October and terminate at the end of the following June, giving a school year of 8½ months. This will be divided into two semesters, the first semester terminating toward the end of February. Subjects will be offered according to a course system, rather than a class system, as was the case until now.

Under the new schedule, high school graduates can enroll in October and graduate in June, meaning they complete the course in one year. To accommodate those who can study during the winter only, the semesters will be offered alternately, rotating in such a way that the winter semester will be offered in spring the next year, and vice versa. Students coming from Christian high schools will receive credit for courses taken there and special electives will be available to them to enable them to take a full load.

Those who have not completed high school must complete entrance requirements, that is, a preliminary course of one semester. This will consist of present first class work.

The work that was formerly covered in 10 months, or two five-month school years, must now be completed in 8½ months. This is to be made possible by the exclusion of less relevant material from the program. Another evident advantage is that a student taking the full year must take part in school-opening preliminaries only once, instead of twice.

## THE Young Observers

### Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Do you like to have your own little garden beside mother's big one? A garden is such an interesting place if we take a real interest in it. We like to watch the rows of beans and carrots and radishes become thicker and greener every day. We like to watch the bees settle on the flowers or the humming birds hover among the sweet peas and morning glories. We may even surprise a little rabbit among the cabbage some dewy morning.

The Rev. Hallock tells of something else he found in his garden. It was a common toad. He fed it crumbs every day and liked to watch it as it hopped about among the plants, darting out its bright red tongue to catch any small insects which came in its way.

One day he found his little friend in a very unusual occupation. The toad was pulling his skin over his head in much the same way that a small boy takes off his pullover, only it was harder work for him to do it. But he tugged bravely away with his forefeet until he was free. Then, what a bright new coat he displayed!

Sometimes, boys and girls, we have a bad temper or a cross disposition. That is an old coat we must work hard to get rid of, too. We must put on a new appearance of good temper and cheerfulness. "Be ye kind one to another, tender hearted", the Bible tells us. Then we, too, will have a bright new coat.

Aunt Selma

## Cross-Bearers For Christ

By J. H. Janzen

(20th Installment)

### MENNO'S CONVERSION

Night was falling. Menno stood at the window of his parsonage, looking toward the West. The gilded cross of the nearby church stood out boldly against the sunset glow of the sky, and in the distance the great western dike loomed up in the dusk. His thoughts went back to his childhood days when he had played and argued with his brother Peter.

Peter was no more. His life had come to an abrupt, untimely end—while Menno still lived under the protection of the great, strong dike, defying "Sleek Jack". His special dike, spiritually speaking, was the Roman Catholic Church, and there was certainly more laziness than defiance in his life under its protection. Nobody tried to take anything away from him, or to take his life. He was safe and snug as long as he served the church.

Fully conscious of the sinfulness of such a life he went down on his knees and prayed from the bottom of his heart:

"Oh my God, have mercy on me, the sorely afflicted sinner, and create in me a pure heart. Forgive my corrupt ways for the sake of the blood of Jesus Christ and endow me with Thy Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, and give me courage, and frankness to preach Thy adorable, holy Name accord-

ing to Thy infallible Word, and to seek the ignorant and lost, and to lead them to Thee!"

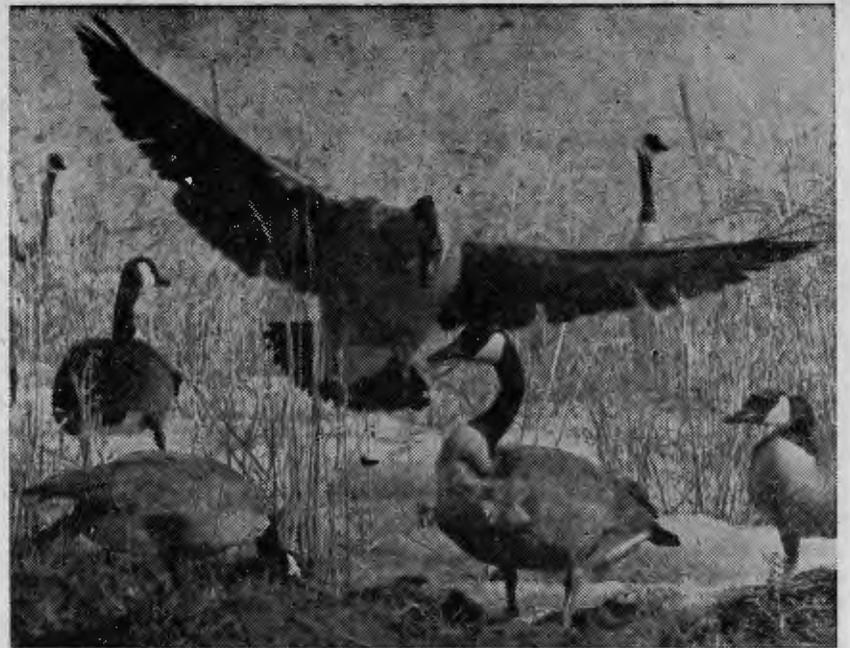
When he rose from his knees the last glimmer of the sunset had passed from the sky. Darkness filled his room and enveloped him. But from on high the stars shone, encouraging him not to despair, but to trust in the Lord, and to confess Him steadfastly and unafraid.

The next day was Sunday. Menno served in his church as usual; but as he mounted the stairs to his elevated pulpit, the congregation felt as if they saw an entirely changed man before them.

He read his text from the Bible and preached his sermon. He had always been a good speaker, but today he spoke as never before, holding his audience spellbound from start to finish, so that everyone of his words seemed to penetrate the hearts of his listeners. When they went home after the service they said to one another, "Today we have heard a real, evangelical preacher, and the power of the Almighty was with him."

From now on his sermons were different from what they had been before. The Catholic ecclesiastical princes did not like this change, but they left him alone, as long as he preached his evangelical sermons in the service of the church.

But he could not stay on as a priest much longer. He would



Every fall most of the birds in Canada fly south for the winter. And in spring they come back to their home districts in Canada. These annual migrations of the birds are as sure as the coming of spring and fall. Who taught them to do this? Who told them the winter is warmer in the south? The only answer is that God put that instinct in them. He cares for the birds—and surely He will care for you, too. The picture you see shows some Canada geese in a sanctuary for birds.

have been willing to preach in his church, but he declined to say mass and to baptize infants. This, of course, caused him to be dismissed from his office. He had to vacate his parsonage, his salary was cut off—but he did not mind very much. His heart was now filled with God's perfect love, which casts out fear. No longer was he afraid of suffering and death.

(To be continued)

### I'M AS GOOD AS ANYBODY

In the neighborhood of the home of a boy of whom I am about to tell you, there had been from time to time special religious gatherings for the young. Several of his acquaintances were in some way changed; but how that change was brought about this boy could not understand.

One winter's evening he set out with the determination to go and see for himself what these services were like, and what had made his young companions so different.

My young friend from his infancy, had been trained religiously, and, was naturally amiable—so comparing himself with many boys whom he knew, he reasoned thus:

"It is a good thing for them to be changed; it is very well for them to begin to lead a new life, but with me it is very different. I always read my Bible, and pray every day. I have no need of this change. I am as good as anybody."

With these self-righteous thoughts filling his mind, he arrived at his destination. He listened attentively to the preaching

of the word, and sang the hymns with the confirmed idea that he needed no new birth.

The next night he went again, and presently something was said, which seemed as if aimed directly at him. The word of God,

"All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God," struck into this self-righteous boy's soul. The Holy Spirit revealed to him his lost condition, and he saw himself to be, "though as good as anybody," still, after all, nothing but a poor lost sinner. His heart was broken, and in his shame and grief he besought the Lord to speak peace to his sin-burdened soul.

Henceforth he no longer boasted of his own goodness. He looked to Christ for pardon, and is now living to tell others of his Saviour.

Dear young friends, are you saying, "I am as good as anybody," or have you cried to God, "I have sinned," and found mercy?

"There is none that doeth good, no, not one." Psalm 14:3.

"All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3: 23.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." I Timothy 1:16.

### Henry's Red Sea

By Barbara Smucker. 108 pp.

Here in language simple enough for even the nine-year-old is the dramatic and thrilling story of the escape of 1000 Mennonite refugees from Berlin in 1947. Henry Bergen, 11, tired, hungry, fatherless and homeless, is the central figure. His exploits will inspire your children. \$1.65  
The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.  
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.

## THE MAN IN BEARSKIN

By J. Keuning

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(15th Installment)

To the immigrant family, this new abode seemed like a palace in comparison with their temporary shelter. Yet the furnishings and interior were of the barest sort. The floor was the solid, hardened earth. The fireplace was poorly built. The smoke found a readier exit through the cracks about the eaves than through the hole which was intended for that purpose. There were no bedsteads, simply a neatly piled heap of moss and hemlock needles to soften the ground. A large box served as a table, and three or four sections of a tree trunk took the place of chairs. There was no mirror, no clock, no stove, no dresser—only the absolute essentials.

In the matter of clothing, affairs among the settlers were also somewhat precarious. The substantial woolen garments which the adults had brought with them from the Netherlands were put to the severest usage, and when they began to wear out, it was found a difficult matter to replace them. The scarcity of money prevented the restocking of many wardrobes, and by the beginning of winter, most of the colonists found themselves with thin and threadbare clothes just at the beginning of the period in which they would most need warm and stout coverings.

The younger generation were outfitted with the off-castings of their elders. The housewife found her ingenuity taxed to the utmost by the demands of her progeny in the line of clothing. The woolen stockings of father and mother were unravelled to be rewoven into thick, warm stockings for the young; the ample petticoats of mother and the flowing breeches of father were remodelled to fit the diminutive bodies of the children.

It was during these autumnal months that the grey ghost of pestilence stalked among the huts of the colony. It came as a breath of wind, silent, still, unseen. Its phantom form flitted from door to door, touching with its mortal hand the father, the mother, the babe. Its greed for souls was insatiable. To some it brought a fever, to some dysentery, to others it brought small-pox. The course of its passage was traced by the moans of the suffering. Swift, sure, relentless it was, sparing neither the strong nor the weak. Impartially, copiously, it spread its poisonous toxin, breathing the sigh of death into every lowly home.

It was not strange that the

spread of its fatal forces could not be stopped. There had been much rain, the lowlands were swampy, the habitations chill and damp. The food was coarse and uninviting, there was little variety in the menu. Those who became ill were unable to combat the disease, for medicines and trained nursing were unobtainable. The drinking water was not properly cared for, and frequent pollution was unavoidable. All conditions seemed propitious for the unimpeded rampage of pestilence.

These were the times that tried men's faith. Every home had its groaning sufferer, its fevered patient, watched over by an anxious parent, or a sorrowful child. Often the crude means to cure seemed but proper food to augment the ravages of affliction. Death was common among the villagers. The hearts of men became calloused to the ordinary darts of grief. So customary did it become to hear of the end of a friend or relative, that the information was received dully, almost indifferently. Men no longer cared who died and who lived. It seemed but a matter of time before all would have followed after the first victims of the plague. To the stricken band of settlers, annihilation seemed inevitable, their condition utterly hopeless.

There was a man in the settlement who kept his courage. It was Dominie Van Raalte. He was sorely grieved to see his faithful followers so fearfully plagued, but he could not sit by and submit. He must fight the curse with all the strength of his manhood. He went about from hovel to hovel cheering the bereaved, comforting the dying, soothing, helping, praying. In every hut he shed a light of hope, in every heart he kindled a spark of resolution. When the cowardly whimpered, he reviled them; when the well became sick, he visited; when the sick died, he buried them. Ceaseless was his toil, tireless his frame. He slumbered little, worked unremittingly, prayed fervently and believingly.

He sent to the city for doctors, for medicines, and for other help. He was only partially successful. The doctors who first came were quacks and swindlers, doling out ineffective doses, taking for their accursed services the last pittance of a stricken family. Finally a skilled physician came to his succor. He and Van Raalte tended to the most urgent cases, gave advice and medicine to the nurse of those who were in less need.

So great was the rate of mortality that for a time the dead could not be properly buried. Coffins could not be provided, and the stiff forms were laid away under trees, wrapped in but a single blanket. There were no formal funerals to honor the departed. A simple prayer, a psalm sung in tearful voice by a handful of mourners, a lowering away into the shallow slit of earth and an undisturbed sleep in an unmarked grave!

The home of Gerrit Kolf was not exempt from the presence of the gaunt, grey spirit. It touched the healthy cheeks of Jacob, and they became flushed with fever. It stroked his fresh forehead, and it became dry and hot. It waved its hand over his body, and the strength of his limbs left him. He took to his bed of moss, and the struggle for life began.

It would have been much easier to win if there had been medicine, for Jacob was a wiry lad, hardened by the rough out-door life. But it was before the coming of the doctor, and there was nothing to be had. The fever gained in height, and in two days Jacob was a wild-eyed, delirious sufferer among the hundreds of others who were stricken. He lost all desire for food, but his longing for water grew proportionately. He rolled and tossed almost ceaselessly, slept but feverishly, talked incoherently. Sometimes he would talk of his youngest days in the Netherlands, then of the ocean voyage, of the woods, and of bears and rifles, and bear meat.

A quack doctor came with a quack remedy. Gerrit paid five dollars for a small bottle of it and watched with eagerness the effect of it upon his son. But there was no apparent improvement. Each morning and evening the little family—father, mother, and three small children—kneeling reverently upon the earthen floor, while the father lifted his prayer to heaven, asking for divine assistance and divine mercy.

It was a terrible time for the family. To lose Jacob, the oldest child, the right hand of the father, would have been a terrible blow. The thought of the danger which the rest of the family ran, now that there was a serious illness among them, caused the heart of the brave Gerrit to quake with misgivings. What if the mother should become ill and die? Who would care for the little children? Worse yet, what if he himself should succumb to the pestilence and leave his tender family at the mercy of the cruel-hearted wilderness? Gerrit knew it was not right to think of these things and to anticipate them, but the concern which filled his mind could not be denied. It had happened and was now happening to other families. Only to-day he had seen

the shrouded corpse of a father borne to the neighboring forest to be laid away among the silent oaks, while in a little hut there wept a pale wife and two little daughters. It was hard, it was sad, but it was true. And he was no better than the dead. It could just as well have been his stiff form that filled the shallow grave under the shadow of the oak.

It was through the instigations of such thoughts that Gerrit first felt the sharp pricks of remorse for having taken his family into this desolate village. Until now he had been cheerful and optimistic, but now he felt the strength of his confidence wane. The expediency of his venture was gravely questioned. Mrs. Kolf helped much to augment his remorse. She was free to express her discontent with the whole project and incessantly gave voice to her regret for even having consented to leave the Fatherland.

In the moments of prayer during which Gerrit unloosed the flood gates of his heart and permitted its most secret stream to gush forth, he felt the reassuring prop of his faith and trust in God. He knew at these times that it was good for him to be where he was, for Jacob to be sick, for the hardships to be many. In these moments he drank deeply from the source-springs of spiritual strength and found in them the encouragement without which he could not have endured.

In spite of the lack of medicine, Jacob fought the disease stubbornly and successfully. The crisis passed and the weakened youth began to mend. For several days he seemed to gain but little strength, and a relapse seemed imminent. Finally, the youthful constitution overcame, the boy began to eat, and to grow stronger; and recovery was assured.

During these days Gerrit found it difficult to provide food for his family. He went out to hunt several times, but seemed destined to have no good fortune whatsoever. Each time he came home with no game. Finally his patience prevailed and a splendid buck fell victim to his rifle. This success was providential, for there was hardly a morsel of nourishing food left in the cabin with which to feed the hungry mouths. But though his success augured well for more favorable conditions in the household, the joy which it brought was soon turned to sorrow.

It is not given to many of God's children to hold a great audience spellbound by their ministry; but it is the calling of all so to walk that the world may take knowledge of us that we have been with Jesus. This was true of the early disciples of whom we read in the Book of Acts.—Choice Gleanings Calendar.

(To be continued)

## Touring in Southern Brazil

By Peter Sawatsky

(Conclusion)

It required a strenuous climb to reach the school, but it affords a fine view of the city. Rev. Betts, the rector of the boys' school, the Institute Porto Alegre, pointed out three sections of the city where evangelistic work is badly needed.

Rio Grande do Sul is the cattle country of southern Brazil. Instead of mountains there are low, rolling hills called *cochilhas*. Everywhere cattle and sheep are seen grazing on the green slopes. These are tended by the dashing *gauchos*, the Brazilian cowboys whose typical costume includes a hat, a fancy shirt, baggy trousers, boots, and often a knife or revolver. Also reminiscent of pioneer days, but still a frequent sight here, are the slow ox-teams pulling two-wheeled wooden carts along the dirt roads.

Leaving the capital and traveling south, I stopped next at Pelotas, an old city and the largest city in the south near the Uruguayan border. The evangelical churches here are small in number and size for the large population. The young Baptist minister, just recently out of the seminary, spoke as if the city was being fully evangelized, until I pointed out that five or six small evangelical churches in a city of 100,000 show a membership of less than 1 per cent of the population.

In the morning I left Pelotas for the interior on the crowded train. It was late afternoon and it had begun to rain when the train finally arrived in Bage, about 220 kilometers west of Pelotas. The main purpose of the trip was to explore the southern states for a possible location for our work, but it also offered a good opportunity to visit the Mennonite colony about 35 kilometers south of Bage and to attend the M. B. conference. The one bus for that day to the settlement had already gone, so I went to the Pensao Duque de Caixias, where Mennonites were said to gather. After a short wait Mr. Jacob Epp and his sons stopped there with their *caminhao* (truck) and took me along to the colony and offered me the hospitality of their home during my stay. I shared a room here with Mr. A. J. Dick, director of the MCC center in Sao Paulo.

My visit with the Mennonites here was a pleasant interval on a long, tiring trip. The delegates and visitors received a warm welcome and enjoyed the good hospitality. It was a profitable time of fellowship in spiritual things and of making and renewing acquaintances. I met two of my former Bible School teachers from Canada, Rev. C. C. Peters and Rev.

G. Sukkau, and several former classmates who are now teaching in Mennonite colonies in South America.

The settlers at Bage are nearly all Mennonite Brethren and have their own church, Bible school, and high school. The church has established a mission station nearby where services are conducted in Portuguese. Though the settlement is relatively new, there are signs of growth and prosperity. They have built good homes and most farms have modern tractors and combines. Their primary crop is wheat, which has a high price, but corn is also grown. Often corn is planted right after the wheat is harvested, so that two crops a year are grown.

On my way south I had followed a coastal route; so on my return I visited important cities in the interior. I made efforts to contact pastors and missionaries who might be able to give helpful information on the evangelical work and needs in their areas. It was a disappointment to find absent some of the men I had hoped to contact, but this could be expected since their work demands some travel. The Baptist missionary in Santa Maria had left to attend the State Convention just before I arrived. When I arrived at the Methodist orphanage at the edge of the town, the Methodist Bishop, who knows the district well, was preparing to take some of the boys on a trip and had only a few minutes to spare.

In Passo Fundo I visited the Methodist high school and had lunch with the director, Rev. Schisler, and some of the teachers in the school dining-room. Such schools are a strong influence for the evangelical cause in Brazil.

Lages is an important center of the cattle raising and lumbering area of Santa Catarina. Here I enjoyed the hospitality of the Presbyterian pastor and his wife. He took the time to show me various parts of the city and I accompanied him on several visits he made. One of these included a ladies' sewing group where I was asked to conduct the devotional period.

In Rio Negro I had an interesting visit with the Lutheran pastor and his wife. They came from Germany a number of years ago and had learned to know some Mennonites there.

The next day I arrived back in Curitiba. Because of the approaching carnival days, all transportation was crowded. I was fortunate in getting the last seat on a plane to Sao Paulo. In Sao Paulo the buses to Campinas were filled. Hurrying to the station, I man-

aged to get standing room on the train and two hours later arrived in Campinas. After three weeks of travel I was happy to be home again.

My trip has given me a better understanding of the land and the people of the southern states. In traveling and living with the people one receives practice in speaking their language and one learns to know them better. The majority of people, of course, are Brazilians and with them one speaks Portuguese. Among the Mennonites the common language here is still low German; in cities like Blumenau most people speak German, and when one meets a missionary we usually revert to English. The trip provided opportunities to learn what the evangelicals are doing and to notice where more work needs to be done. Many of the small towns have no organized evangelical churches and

many of the small groups of believers have no pastors. The larger cities also have areas of need which the existing churches are not reaching. There are towns and areas where the people are largely Italian and strongly Catholic in faith, while other places are predominantly German and Lutheran. Because of their traditional religion these people have been harder to reach, but they are in great spiritual need and more work ought to be done among them.

In a day of rising nationalism in less developed countries and of opposition to foreign missions, we are grateful for the openness of the people to the Gospel and are challenged by the opportunities there are to witness in Brazil. Pray that every believer may be faithful in doing his part to make Christ known and to build His Church.

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ASSOCIATED MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARIES PLAN

On March 7, 1956, the Board of Trustees of the Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Chicago took the following action:

"Having carefully and prayerfully considered the different views expressed in the meeting of December 21-22, 1955, regarding a desirable location for the proposed Associated Mennonite Seminaries, and the subsequent consideration of an Elkhart site as a possible location for such purpose, and having attempted to weigh the implications therein for all concerned:

Be it resolved, that we express ourselves as ready to accept an Elkhart location for the proposed Associated Mennonite Seminaries, and are ready to take mutual steps to that end, subject to acceptance of this position by the other interested groups and looking forward to approval by our General Conference at its forthcoming sessions in August of this year."

On April 7, 1956, the Executive Committee of the Mennonite Board of Education took the following action:

"We take note of the action of the Board of Mennonite Biblical Seminary of accepting an Elkhart location for the proposed Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, understanding that the action preferring Elkhart to the Goshen location is based largely on the belief that the Elkhart location, being removed from the vicinity of Goshen College, affords a stronger guarantee of that mutuality which they feel is necessary to the success of the associated seminaries project.

Inasmuch as we share the conviction that mutuality is necessary for the success of the proposed

project, and since we had believed that this is guaranteed by the plan of cooperation, we suggest that the members of the original exploratory group meet together at an early date to review and discuss the Plan of Cooperation in the light of recent developments."

On April 17 a group of 10 representatives of the two Biblical Seminaries and their Executive Committee boards, with the addition of a representative of the E. M. B. conference, met in an all-day session in Chicago for a further careful examination of the situation in the light of the above two actions. The Proposed Plan of Cooperation was again reviewed, and the matter of location was given thorough consideration. A helpful discussion was held. Both groups are continuing their consideration of location further in the hope that a mutually satisfactory solution may ultimately be reached.

Released by:

A. S. Rosenberger,  
President of the Board of Trustees of the Mennonite Biblical Seminary  
Nelson Kauffman,  
President of the Mennonite Board of Education.

### God Portrays More Women By Grace McAllister

This book pictures in words the women of the Old Testament—faraway characters too often forgotten. In reading about their problems, temptations, and failures, women will be impressed with the similarity of life's over-all circumstances whether they be in Old Testament times or in today. Some of the accounts are heart-rending; some even may be considered sordid, but one cannot deny that they are stark realism.

Excellent for the home and for women's meetings ..... \$2.50  
The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.  
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.

## THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

### Five Mennonite Brethren Churches Closed

In an intensified campaign against the Protestant minority in Colombia, 30 churches have been closed since the middle of April. They include five churches of the Mennonite Brethren in Istmina, Choco, four of the Foursquare Gospel Mission in the State of Santander, ten of the Evangelical Alliance Mission in North Santander, seven of the Interamerican Mission (Oriental Missionary Society) in Bolivar, two Baptist churches in Amazonas, and two Lutheran in Boyaca.

The boundaries of the Catholic "mission territories" have recently been changed, in order to force the closing of some evangelical churches. (Mission territories are those areas reserved by law for Roman Catholic evangelization, and all non-Catholic missionary work is prohibited there.)

It has been reported that all the work of the Gospel Missionary Union in Quibdo and Atroto has been closed. John Dyck, a Mennonite Brethren missionary at Istmina, Choco, has been placed under a fine. Miss Trella Hall of

the Assemblies of God was fined for having two Catholic pupils in her school at Sogamoso. In order to enroll their two sons the parents had stated they were not Catholics, but the boys later admitted they were Catholics, thus bringing upon the missionary the charge of having broken Colombia's educational laws which forbid the presence of Catholic pupils in a school that does not give them instruction in the Roman Catholic religion.

(MNS)

### Mexican Government "Rents" Churches

In Mexico, a congregation of evangelical Indians has been required by law to pay one thousand pesos (about \$81.00) for permission to hold worship services in its own church building. Mexican law requires that when a church has erected a building for worship, the titles to that property must be given to the government. Thus the government owns all church buildings in the country. The law further provides that the government will in turn give written permission to hold public services in the building. (MNS)



On May 11, at the Convocation of the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, A. R. Brown, who for more than 13 years has been the CBC's Prairie Gardener, heard Sunday mornings, received the degree of Hon. LL.D. Mr. Brown, formerly of Saskatoon and Lloydminster, now lives at Watford, Ontario. He has written more than 650 scripts for the CBC, and answered innumerable queries from listeners. Inset in the picture is George Secord, of Winnipeg, who throughout Mr. Gardener's radio career has been his "voice". Mr. Secord says he doesn't know a hoe from a spade, but hundreds of people write to say how much he sounds like a real old "prairie gardener".

by Rabbi David B. Hollander, president of the Rabbinical Council of America. He said that this was the first time since the Russian revolution of 1917 that a rabbinic group has received permission to enter the country.

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### Eisenhower's Heart Heals Well

President Eisenhower received a doctor's report on Saturday that his heart is "well healed" and his general health good.

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### Many Killed in Algeria

Nearly 1,000 were reported killed as French troops battled Algerian rebels a week ago in grim retaliation for the massacre of European farm families. The Arab nationalists meanwhile did not let up in their own campaign of nit-and-run arson and assassination.

### CONCENTRATE ON MISSIONS

Black Creek, B.C. — Rev. John Reimer, home missionary of the West Coast Children's Mission at Harrison Hot Springs, B.C., visited the M. B. Church here on March 29. The theme for the evening service was "Christ, the Resurrection and the Life". After a short message, Rev. Reimer showed slides and gave a report on the mission work at Harrison. An offering of 75 dollars was received and will go toward the purchase of a Sunday school bus for the Gospel Chapel at Harrison.

On May 3 the young people here held their spring mission sale. After a short program, the articles made by the young people were sold. Coffee and donuts were sold for refreshments. Over \$120 was received and will be used to aid various mission projects.

### News from Herbert Young People

By Margaret Heinrichs

Herbert, Sask. — As Herbert M. B. Young People's Group we have been especially privileged to have several missionaries with us during the last few weeks. They have been a challenge and an incentive to us to also do our part in the tremendous task of world evangelism.

On April 11, Miss Marie Schulz, one of our own young people and M. B. missionary to Mexico, Mr. Dan Kroeker, missionary candidate for Ecuador, and Rev. Henry Brucks, field director for a missionary society working in Japan, conducted a panel discussion on prerequisites for young people contemplating missionary service and other pertinent missionary problems. Rev. Brucks also showed very informative and interesting slides from his particular field.

Miss Margaret Imrie, on furlough from Africa, was with us on April 25. Her topic was "Finding God's Will in Your Life".

On May 2, Miss Eleanor Neufeld showed us slides from her work of teaching school in Ethiopia.

The young people, under the capable leadership of Mr. Clarence Peters, are planning several new mission projects for the spring and summer.

The first project is to help meet a need on the home mission field. The objective is to collect \$60 to help pay for the new chapel at Port Edward, B.C., a Canada Inland Mission station.

The second project is in the foreign field and involves the support of two Bible school students for a term at the M. B. mission station in Mexico.

## CANADASCOPE

### New Communist Campaign Among Canadian Youth

(Canadian Scene) The National Federation of Labour Youth, which is the youth branch of the Communist Party in Canada, has launched a campaign centering around sports.

The NFLY is currently soliciting the support of Canadian organizations for the campaign. This operation is the result of a directive handed down by the World Federation of Democratic Youth (Communist) last year.

NFLY is being handled differently in different parts of the country. In the Province of Quebec it has taken the form of an opinion poll. But the over-all purpose remains the same—the preparation of the young people for the reception of Communist ideas.

\*\*\*

### Ships Tie Up in Strike

Mediation talks were resumed on Monday, but the strike that has tied up a mounting number of ships on the Great Lakes was still on. Sixty-three ships are directly involved, but an announced "united-front" policy of the Association of Lake Carriers, two of whom are affected, may tie up as many as 280 ships.

\*\*\*

### Drama Festival President in Trouble

The Dominion Drama Festival president, David J. Ongley, sent

a letter last week to 3,000 supporters of the festival urging them to "remember and support" Calvert Distillers Ltd. whenever the opportunity arose. The distillery donates between \$20,000 and \$25,000 to the festival annually.

Repercussions were immediate. Dr. Ernest E. Long, secretary of the general council of the United Church of Canada, protested publicly. Over the weekend Governor-general Vincent Massey, whose name was used on the stationery used in sending the letter, called Mr. Ongley to his residence for a two-hour conference.

In a letter to Dr. Long, Mr. Massey stated, "While it is natural for the officers of an organization . . . to be grateful to those who give it their support, it is an entirely different matter to use the name of the organization to promote the sale of the products of one of its supporters, regardless of what those products may be."

Subsequently, Mr. Ongley has sent a letter to those who received the first letter, explaining the "misunderstanding". This action apparently satisfied Mr. Massey.

## The World Today

### First Rabbis to Visit Russia Since 1917

Soviet Russia has granted permission to a delegation of five U.S. rabbis to visit that country to meet "with representatives of the Jewish community", it was announced on Sunday. Permission was obtained

## Weddings

### BAERG — BRAUN

Margaret Braun, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Braun of Hepburn, Sask., and Isaac Baerg, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Baerg of McCreary, Manitoba, were married on May 5 in the M. B. church at Hepburn, Sask. Rev. J. H. Epp, principal of the Bethany Bible Institute, officiated.

Many guests from Regina, Sask., attended the wedding. The bride and groom have both been employed there and will reside in Regina following their honeymoon trip to the Black Hills of the Dakotas.

\* \* \*

### BARTEL — WARKENTIN

Katie Warkentin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abram Martens, Coaldale, Alta., and Ewald Bartel, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Bartel, Coaldale, were married on Sunday, May 6, in the Mennonite Brethren church at Coaldale, Alta. Rev. J. J. Siemens officiated, while Rev. Abe Regier gave an English message.

\* \* \*

### CELEBRATE 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. George Schmidt of Coaldale, Alta., celebrated their Silver Wedding anniversary in the Coaldale M. B. church on May 12, at 2:30 p.m. Rev. A. Willms of Coaldale and Rev. Isaac Janzen of Abbotsford, B.C., were the speakers for the occasion.

Mr. Werner Schmidt, a son of the couple, sang the solo, "Thanks be to God", while Miss Helga Schmidt, a daughter, expressed her gratitude to her parents by means of a poem. She also presented them with a silver wreath as a symbol of 25 years of happily married life.

The choir, composed of close relatives and friends of the couple, sang the songs, "Lobe den Herrn, meine Seele", "Great is Thy Faithfulness", "Bis hieher", and "Es sollen wohl Berge weichen".

The reception, attended by friends and relatives, was held in the church basement.

### Future Subscribers

Rev. and Mrs. Henry C. Born of Chilliwack, B.C., are the parents of an infant daughter, Rebecca Rachel, born in Asuncion, Paraguay, April 16. The Borns are workers serving in Volendam colony, Paraguay, under the Mennonite Brethren Board of General Welfare.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Suderman of Port Rowan, Ont., a daughter, Katherine Helen, on May 3, 1956; a little sister for Cheryll and David.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Penner of Chilliwack, B.C., became the parents of a daughter, Yvonne Katherine, on April 27. Mrs. Penner is the former Margarete Dick.

Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Lepp (nee Nellie Poetker) of Hepburn, Sask., are the proud parents of a baby boy, Vernon Daniel, born on May 7.

Randolph Albert Regehr, born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Regehr of North Kildonan, Man. Mr. Regehr is young people's leader in the M. B. Church at North Kildonan.

Margaret Eileen Wiens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Wiens of North Kildonan, Man.

Dorothy Jane Regehr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Regehr of North Kildonan, Man.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Penner of Elm Creek, Man., a son, Richard Henry, on March 29.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Nick Schmidt of Elm Creek, Man., a son, David Robert, on April 14.



### OPEN ANOTHER FEEDING STATION

MCC in Jordan has opened another feeding center in a frontier village along the Jewish border. MCC canned meat, beans, rice, milk and bread supplement the diet of these villagers. The dividing line between, Jordan and Israel cuts many villages off from the well and farming lands which supported the people.

\* \* \*

### BOY JOINS ORPHANAGE FAMILY

The newest addition to the Mennonite orphanage at Hebron is seven and one-half years old. His mother deserted the father and family six years ago. The little boy slept with another poor refugee family and spent his days on the streets. One day a social worker in Amman found him and arranged for him to come to the Mennonite orphanage at Hebron.

After a few days his father telephoned to say that he could not do without his boy. That same day he came for him.

"What subjects do you teach?" "What will my boy do when he has finished his education?" he asked.

The workers explained that the boy would be expected to find work in the occupation for which he was training in school.

After the MCC workers answered his questions the father left his son at the orphanage. Although he missed him he knew that free

education, clothes and food were worth accepting. With a few tears he bid his son farewell and went down the street through the rain to catch the bus.

\* \* \*

### PLANS CHANGE FOR RUSSIAN BAPTISTS

Plans for the meeting of five Russian Baptist church leaders with the MCC Executive Committee at Goshen, Indiana, have been changed. Goshen is in one of the areas banned for Russian visitors under restrictions set up by the State Department when Russia placed similar restrictions on American visitors.

The Mennonite Central Committee is now making arrangements through the Baptist World Alliance for another meeting place. Further announcement will be made later.

\* \* \*

### EUROPE PAX DIRECTOR HOME

Dwight Wiebe, director of Pax in Europe for the past two years, has returned to the U.S. for a six-week furlough. During this time he will visit former Pax men in Archbold and Bluffton, Ohio; Goshen, Ind.; Roanoke, Ill.; Kalona, Iowa; Henderson, Nebr.; and his home community at Hillsboro, Kans. He is also interested in contacting young men interested in Pax service before he returns to Europe for a second term.

\* \* \*

### BERLIN FAMILIES RECEIVE FOOD

In April MCC'ers in Berlin held a food distribution for 100 families. Seventy families were from the East Zone and 30 from West Berlin.

J. K. Klassen writes: "Since we had wrapped the cheese and butter in plain paper and put the flour into plain paper bags they had a better chance of getting them across the border.

"However, one lady had a discouraging experience indeed. She was asked out of the train by the border controls and after they had checked her bags she was told to take everything back from where she received it. 'We in the Democratic Republic need not accept beggar gifts,' the officials told her. How sorry we felt for the lady when she returned the package, for which she had been so glad. As far as we know all the others got through safely."

\* \* \*

### PAX MEN HELP BERLIN REFUGEES

Two Pax men, LaMoine Epp of Henderson, Nebr., and Wayne Epp of Hampton, Nebr., are now assisting in social and recreational activities with refugee youths in Red Cross refugee camps in Berlin.

### SAILS FOR INDIA

Jean Geiger of Kitchener, Ont., sailed from Montreal May 15 for a three-year term of service in India. She will be secretary and administrative assistant to Dr. Frank Kline, president of Yeotmal Union Biblical Seminary in central India. Yeotmal is the cooperative evangelical seminary effort of 20 groups in India, including three Mennonite Missions.

Jean is the daughter of Jerry and Rose Geiger of Kitchener and a member of the United Missionary Church there.

\* \* \*

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY VISITS UNITS ABROAD

Bro. Orie O. Miller, Executive Secretary of MCC, left May 11 to visit MCC units abroad. His itinerary includes Japan, Korea, Formosa, Indochina, Indonesia, India, Jordan and Europe. He plans to return August 16.

## COLLEGES

### TABOR COLLEGE Commencement Week Activities Set

Activities for the final week of school have been announced at Tabor College, with Commencement exercises scheduled for Thursday, May 24, at 10:00 a.m., in the college auditorium. Thirty-two graduates will receive their diplomas at this forty-eighth annual ceremony.

Dr. Ernest L. Ackley, dean and acting president of Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Kansas, will be the commencement speaker, entitling his address "The Glory of Life".

Baccalaureate services have been set for Sunday, May 20, at 8:00 p.m. in the Hillsboro Mennonite Brethren church. President Frank C. Peters will speak on this occasion.

On Wednesday, May 23, the graduates will present their annual class program in the college auditorium at 8:00 p.m. Events of the week will be concluded Thursday evening, May 24, at 6:30, when the Annual Alumni Banquet will be held in Fellowship Hall of the Hillsboro M. B. Church.

### MENNONITE BRETHREN BIBLE COLLEGE

#### Prayer and Fast Day

On Monday, May 7, Dr. Hyman Appelman, a Jewish evangelist holding a series of services at the Grant Memorial Baptist Church, spoke in chapel.

Dr. A. H. Unruh spoke to us on Tuesday morning on Exodus 33:17-23, elaborating on Moses' vision of God. He drew our attention to the fact that it should also be our desire to "see" God.

Wednesday, May 9, was set

aside as a day of prayer and fasting. No classes were held and only supper was served, so that students and teachers had ample time for meditation and prayer. Dr. Janzen spoke on I Peter 1: 13:25 in the morning chapel service and Brother Henry Voth led the testimony and prayer-meeting at 3:00 p.m. It was truly a blessed time, in which the Lord could speak to each one of us.

The graduate testimony was given by Henry Martens of Sperling, Manitoba, on Thursday morning in chapel. The "Current Events" period in the afternoon was sponsored by the Peace Problems Committee. Rev. J. A. Toews gave a review of our stand as Christians on non-resistance. He gave five answers to the question, "Why Can a Christian Not Participate in War?"

At the Friday night student meeting the ten-member student council for 1956-57 was elected. The results are: Henry Dick, president; Jerry Hildebrand, vice-president; Miss Marion Bergen, secretary-treasurer; Henry Esau, foreign missions promoter; Ben Doerksen, home missions promoter; George Block, literary committee promoter; Henry Regehr, yearbook promoter; Rudy Baerg, music committee promoter; George Schroeder, recreation promoter; and Miss Marie Ratzlaff, medical aid promoter.

Henry Warkentin

## CANADIAN MENNONITE BIBLE COLLEGE

We have much for which to praise the Lord. The attendance at the "Children's Hour", a project which was begun about a month ago by a group of students for non-Mennonite children in the vicinity of the Bethel Mission Church, has been steadily growing, until now the group has tripled its size, numbering ninety at the last meeting. The students engaged in this work are receiving a great blessing from it. Besides teaching a Bible lesson, they spend a part of the time teaching various crafts.

We had two outside speakers for Chapel last week. Rev. Andrew Shelly of the Chicago Biblical Seminary spoke on Monday, May 7, on the spiritual resources for Christian workers, thoughts taken from the life of the disciples during the period between Easter and Pentecost. The following Friday Rev. Henry H. Janzen, president of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College, Winnipeg, gave a devotional message based on Psalm 116:12-19.

Once again the middle of the term has rolled around, and therefore the students have been busily studying, and writing mid-term exams.

The Music Society sponsored a

spring recital on Friday, May 11, featuring numbers by some of the piano and voice students and two madrigals by the Sight-singing Class. Voice soloists were: Bob Baergen, Don Krause, Vernon Neufeld, Henry Olfert; and piano soloists: Susan Pankratz, Anne Neufeld and Irma Wiens. Mr. George Wiebe closed off the recital with a talk on the Christian's attitude to secular music.

## MENNONITE BROTHERS BIBLICAL SEMINARY, FRESNO, CALIF.

Besides numerous term papers, book reviews and daily assignments, the seminarians at Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary are active in practical Christian work, putting theory into practice. Preaching and teaching in nearby churches are part of the student's busy schedule.

### Pastoral Work

Eugene Janzen is pastor of the Mission Bible Church, an extension project of the Fresno M. B. Church. Plans for a revival campaign are materializing, Mr. Janzen states. Vernon Janzen is pastor of the Selma Chapel. Recently licensed by the Reedley M. B. Church, he will conduct the first baptismal service at the Chapel shortly. He reports that eight candidates have requested baptism.

### Church and Youth Work

Walter Heinrichs is vice-president of the Youth Fellowship in the Fresno M. B. Church. Dave Plett is the youth director in the Armenian Presbyterian Church. Alfred Schmidt's ministry of teaching and preaching takes him to Sunset Gardens, a Chapel project of the Pacific District Home Missions Board. Paul Hiebert serves in a rural community church in the capacity of Sunday school teacher and choir director.

### Sunday School and Bible Class

David Block and Floyd Born are active in Sunday school work at Hammerfield, a community enterprise in the outskirts of Fresno. Rev. Paul Kroeker teaches a class in the Armenian Presbyterian Church; Walter Friesen teaches in the local M. B. Church; Bob Heinrichs in the Reedley M. B. Church; and Elmer Martens at West Park M. B. Church in Fresno. Arlo Heinrichs superintends the Sunday school which he began in the vicinity of the new Seminary campus. This work is the nucleus of the new M. B. Church to be built on East Butler in Fresno.

Nick Rempel, Victor Flaming and Peter C. Martens are on call for preaching engagements, such as at Rescue Missions, chapels and churches.

One conviction is rapidly crystallizing: theological training puts a man in the path of far greater

and more sacrificial services than the preparation for any other profession. The effect of this realization, however, is by no means a deterrent but a challenge.

Dave Plett

## BIBLE INSTITUTES

### EAST CHILLIWACK BIBLE SCHOOL

The final weeks of the Bible school are fast approaching. Future events of special interest are the outing, May 21, exams, May 22-25, Bible Conference, May 25 to 27, graduation, May 27, and the graduation banquet, May 28.

At present we are studying hard (at least encouraging one another to do so) and taking advantage of the excellent spring weather to play volleyball or softball. There was even some competition with the nearby elementary school!

Rev. John A. Harder, who recently returned from the meeting of the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions in Hillsboro, Kans., spoke to us during chapel period on May 8. He chose as his opening texts, Matth. 20:1; 9:37-38, and II Tim. 2:15. His talk revealed the qualifications of a mission worker and gave an over-all review of our mission fields.

Rev. Harder challenged us to pray more earnestly for our missionaries on the field and those engaged in special studies. He aptly explained why candidates are chosen so carefully, emphasizing that the cost of a life and missionary funds are too high to be treated lightly. Declaring that very few people realize the hardships workers face, he asserted that a true re-birth, a love for Christ, a stable character, education, and experience in Christian work are the most important pre-requisites of a missionary.

He touched briefly on the needs in the various mission fields. Africa needs well-trained teachers, India needs a pure Gospel to counteract Soviet literature, Japan presents a tremendous intellectual challenge while South America requires perseverance and patience.

The work at Quito, Ecuador, where Brother and Sister Hugo Jantz will be stationed, was also outlined.

Mary Janzen.

### GRACE BIBLE INSTITUTE OMAHA NEBRASKA

The Baccalaureate service was conducted at the Grace Bible Institute auditorium Sunday night, May 13, at 7:30, with Dr. Joseph W. Schmidt, interim president, bringing the message on the topic, "The Final Test". Diplomas were given to 48 graduating seniors at the Commencement exercises on Wednesday evening, May 16, at 8:00, in the First Presbyterian

Church, 34th and Farnam. Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, delivered the address.

Miss Sylvia Morgan, member of the music faculty, returned to Omaha on April 30 after a two weeks' stay in Holland, where she attended the Reaper's Fellowship Conference which was held at Noordwijk-aan-zee. The Reaper's Fellowship headquarters are located at Rijnsaterwaude under the direction of its founder, Mr. Cornelius Van der Braggen. Miss Morgan is a prayer partner of this organization and the conference was geared for inspiration and information to the seventy-two American prayer partners that were present at the conference. This organization serves in a soul-saving ministry which exceeds the Holland borders into neighboring countries.

### Mennonite Educational Institute, North Clearbrook, B. C.

Rev. Leslie Buehler, missionary to India, visited the boys' prayer group on Wednesday, May 9. He reported on the work in India, relating some of the hardships and some things to be thankful for. He showed us the spiritual need of India and challenged us to pray.

On Thursday, May 10, Rev. Henry Unrau, who conducted the services at the Spiritual Emphasis Week here this spring, spoke at a joint morning devotion period. Basing his message on Acts 4:1-24, he challenged us to speak boldly for Christ. He has just completed a week of evangelistic services in the Clearbrook Mennonite Church.

The day of the track and field meet, May 11, came—with clouds and rain. Despite the inclement weather, many attended the best meet yet held at MEI. Twice rain interrupted the competition, but as soon as the clouds passed, the sun began to shine and the meet continued. The teachers were the judges and score-keepers. Helping the teachers was John Klassen, a graduate of last year and winner of the sportsmanship award.

Sixty per cent of the previously established records were broken at the meet. Winning all the total individual points possible were Ernest Loewen, senior, Bruno Fast and Rudy Bansmer, juniors. Ernest Loewen broke two senior records and is holder of three (1955). His hop-step-and-jump record is 39'6", nearly three feet more than the previous record. Sig Polle eclipsed last year's senior broad jump record by 13 inches, jumping 19'7". Bruno Fast, junior, broke all records in the junior boys' 100-yard sprint, the 220 and the 440. In doing so he also eclipsed two senior boys' records and tied the third. Walter

(Continued on page 12-1.)

