

Mennonite Observer

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

★
YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

September 28, 1956

The Christian Press, Ltd., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Vol. II, No. 38-39



These are the ministers, youth leaders and Sunday school teachers at the Arnold, B.C., Mennonite Brethren Church. From Sunday to Sunday they serve with messages from the Word of God for young and old. Seated in the front row are, left to right, Mr. H. Wiens, youth leader; Rev. I. J. Toews; Rev. I. P. Goertzen, leading minister; Rev. Gustav Ratzlaff; Mr. P. P. Wiens, Sunday school superintendent. In the fifth row, second from the left, is Mr. John Rempel, assistant youth leader, while in the fourth row, center, is Rev. Peter Dyck.

Two Ordained at South Abbotsford

Abbotsford, B.C. — Friends from many Fraser Valley Mennonite Brethren churches gathered on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 16, in the South Abbotsford M. B. church to participate in the ordination of Mr. Wm. Neufeld and Mr. A. J. Stobbe into the ministry. Both brethren had served the church for several years as "Mitarbeiter".

Rev. J. J. Stobbe, leading minister of the church, spoke briefly on Acts 18:9-10 to begin the service. He was followed by Rev. C. D. Toews, who used 1 Tim. 4: 11-16 as his text. Rev. Toews pointed out that the minister must have an adequate preparation, both spiritual and academic. In respect to the standing of the minister he declared, "Not his clothing give the minister his dignity, but his behaviour in his dealings with people." Constant study characterizes the minister who has a successful ministry, he maintained.

The British Columbia M. B. Conference leader, Rev. Herman Lenzman, elaborated on the spiritual ministry of the minister in personal work. He asserted that the care of souls ("Seelsorge") is an essential part of the minister's work. The Word of God gives

many examples of such work, indicating that in this way believers are prepared for service. The care of souls does not substitute for the preaching of the Word, but it strengthens it because it applies it to the needs of the individual. He maintained that "many church meetings could be avoided through 'Seelsorge'."

The prayers of dedication and ordination were spoken by Rev. Isaac Janzen, Rev. C. D. Toews, Rev. J. J. Stobbe, and Rev. H. Lenzman. Thereafter various ministers conveyed the best wishes of their church to the brethren and encouraged them with a verse of Scripture. Both Mr. Neufeld and Mr. Stobbe gave brief testimonies.

Rev. Isaac Janzen, assistant church leader at South Abbotsford M. B. Church, spoke in closing on Acts 12:5.

Rev. Wm. Neufeld was one of the first teachers appointed to the Mennonite Educational Institute and he is still teaching there. He is well-known in B.C., since he has been youth leader in the province for several years.

Rev. A. J. Stobbe, a pioneer resident in the Agassiz and Abbotsford areas, has been active in church work for over 20 years as choir leader, Sunday school teach-

er, and extension worker. One of the early workers with the West Coast Children's Mission, he has been its field director at one time and is a perennial member of the board of directors. At the present time he is also chairman of the board of directors of the M. B. Bible Institute. The responsibility of the regular Sunday services at the Otter Road mission chapel has been his for a number of years. Under his leadership the work has been consolidated considerably.

Regina Welcomes New Pastor

Regina, Sask. — A welcome was given to Mr. and Mrs. Helmut Klassen by the Regina M. B. Church on Sunday afternoon, September 9. Mr. Klassen has accepted the pastorate in this church. He is a graduate of the M. B. Bible College. Both he and his wife come from Virgil, Ontario.

Church members participated in the program set up to welcome the Klassens. Rev. G. L. Braun, who resigned as pastor this spring, was visiting the Regina church and delivered a message welcoming Mr. Helmut Klassen as pastor. He encouraged him with the verses of Scripture from 2 Timothy 4: 1-2.

Rev. Norman Bergen of the Victoria Avenue Mennonite Church also spoke a few words of welcome in the name of his congregation.

BAPTISM AT SASKATOON

Saskatoon, Sask. — Four candidates followed the Lord in baptism at the baptismal service of the M. B. church at Saskatoon, Sask., on September 9. The South Saskatchewan River was the scene of the baptism. Rev. Lawrence Redekop, who recently took charge of the City Mission here, presented a short message on Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ..." Officiating at the baptism was Rev. H. S. Rempel.

At the evening communion service the church welcomed into its fellowship the baptized ones: Rubina Janz, Edwin Penner, John Dyck, and Kenneth Neufeld. Rev. and Mrs. George Brucks also were accepted into the church.

IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
★ Strength Through a Family Altar	2
★ Faith and Works	2
★ First M.B. Church Among "Nationals"	3
★ Active Youth Leader Leaves Niagara Chapel	3
★ Active in Home Church in Japan	4
★ 121 Dead in Mahbubnagar Railroad Accident	5
★ The Migrant Ministry—It is Challenging	8
★ Teachers Meet in Volendam	8
★ School News	11
★ M.B. Christians in Colombia	12
★ Ministers and Deacons Meet in Paraguay	12

Medical Work Improved by X-ray

By G. J. Froese, M.D.

The arrival of our new Universal X-ray machine caused a great stir here at Jadcherla. We were elated, as were our native friends. We are very grateful to our Almighty Father for giving us this machine. Next to the Lord we are thankful to the Manitoba Women's Organizations who have made this possible. We heard reports through personal letters that various "Frauenvereine" were collecting funds for the X-ray. Lately we have seen (in the *Zionsbote*) the actual figures that the various churches have given. We are humbled and thankful for all the offerings you have made for the Lord's cause.

Not only was it a miracle that the X-ray was purchased but also that it reached here complete and in good condition. When Dr. Friesen went to Madras to see the X-ray through customs two of the boxes were missing. However, they were found later and shipped here. On the way another box was misplaced but also found again. The X-ray arrived in Jadcherla just after we had left for the hills. As soon as we came back we set it up and have been doing a great deal of fluoroscopy (screening) since. The incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis in this country is very high. With the help of the X-ray we can confirm our clinical diagnoses and then also watch the progress.

(Continued on page 4-2)

EDITORIAL

Devotional

Faith and Works

By Peter Bergen

Strength Through a Family Altar

History bears eloquent testimony that the breakdown of the home leads to the breakdown of society and the disintegration of a culture. The church also stands or falls on the strength of the homes represented in it.

It may seem that a strong pulpit ministry and an effective administration alone will build up a strong church. But a God-fearing, Spirit-filled pastor will be ineffective to a large extent if the homes in the church are not Christ-centered. The family as a unit must support and undergird the church and its ministry if the church is to be successful in its mission in the community.

Love and loyalty are prerequisites for a strong home, but the key to a Christ-centered home is the family altar. Regular twice-daily devotions, where God's Word is reverently read and simply explained, where everyone participates in prayer fellowship, provide the basis for a truly spiritual atmosphere in a home.

A regular pattern of family devotions provides the members of a family with the fundamental knowledge of Scripture needed to make Sunday school and the proclamation of the Word meaningful. They also raise the ethical and moral standard of the home. Public reading of God's Word in the family reveals God's attitude toward sin and pinpoints it in the life of the individual. The inescapable facts of the nature and reward of sin stand out in all their clarity at such times.

The family altar provides a much-needed focus for the family. It constitutes a center around which the family gathers. As the members of a family concentrate on Christ and His Word, misunderstandings lose their force. In the presence of the almighty God petty differences vanish into insignificance.

There may be times when family devotions become mechanical. It is then up to the father as house-priest to utilize all available aids to make these times interesting for everyone. Some families read the Bible by turn, others vary this with responsive reading. Some homes provide variety for the children by reading from a children's Bible story book. The use of hymns, gospel records, and simple illustrations, maps and charts, all will help to make this period of worship and teaching more meaningful. Only as the family altar retains its vitality can it fulfill its real purpose.

The home without a family altar is not a really Christian home. Without the fellowship and worship of family devotions the home is by-passing its supreme purpose. If parents do not find time to unitedly seek God's face with their children, the chances are that their children will not think it necessary to seek God personally.

The disintegration now evident in Mennonite society and in the churches because of urbanization and increasing prosperity can be halted only if a vital and meaningful family altar is established in every home. Many new homes have been established this summer and the best start is made with family devotions in the home.

BIRTHDAY THOUGHTS

Today is my birthday. Contrary to former years, I did not await it impatiently nor with great joy. True, it is a pleasure to receive birthday greetings from dear friends. The cards have a deeper meaning now than in former years. But this is a day for reflection—a day to stop and look back the way I have come, and a time to look into the future.

I look back, and, oh, the way I have come is so short, and so fraught with failures and disappointments. It seems it was but yesterday when I baked my first batch of cookies. And just before that I made mud pies with my two younger brothers. We decor-

ated them with weed seeds and pulverized red brick until they looked good enough to eat. The childhood scenes come to mind so readily; similarly, the memory of a walk taken in the early morning hours is still fresh in the mind at noon time.

Ah, life is so short, so short! "Lord, teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." And when I think of all my sins and follies, of the harsh tongue, the evil thoughts and actions, the wasted hours, I hide my head in shame and cry out with the Psalmist David, "Remember not the sins of my youth, O Lord."

And now I turn my face to the future: what does it have in store

James 1:22—"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Mr. Dwight Moody tells a story of the time when most of Chicago had been destroyed by fire. Moody was collecting money for those who had lost everything in the conflagration. In the town of Fall River he met a rich man who was very liberal, and Moody received a large cheque from him. The rich man then conducted Moody to the houses of other rich men whom he knew and asked them to contribute. When the man left Moody at the train, Moody grasped his hand and said, "If you ever come to Chicago, call on me and I will return the favour." The man replied, "Mr. Moody, don't wait for me; do it to the first man to come along."

Can man ever repay God for the infinite grace and love which God has shed upon mankind? Never! God does require, however, that we accept the work of Christ by faith and then become "obedient from the heart" to the teachings of our Lord. As one reads the Scriptures one becomes overwhelmed by the fact that *Sola fide*—faith alone—is not enough to enter the Kingdom of God; there must also be obedience in action—works. Both are necessary and the Kingdom of God is not attained by one only. This thought is clearly stated in James 2:24, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only." How do our lives meet the demands of these requirements?

Christ has given us not an elaborate set of rules for living, but rather has given us a principle of living—the principle of love. Christ directs us to apply this love to two objectives: first, to the Lord our God, and so become spiritualized; and, secondly, to our fellowmen and so become socialized. Since we cannot repay God, our love for God is demonstrated in our love for our fellowmen. Thus when Scripture states that we be doers of the word, it means that we must practice Love on those with whom we are in contact—our fellowmen. But love for our fellowmen is never possible unless love for God has been first realized. Christ is our Saviour—but He has also left us an ex-

ample to follow in His footsteps (1 Peter 2:21).

As a man, Christ has come down to us as the world's greatest healer. The testimony of Peter in Acts 10:38 is, "Jesus went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed. . . ." Here we see Christ establishing the bonds between the spiritual and social worlds. But Christ was not only a healer—He was, first and foremost, a Saviour, concerned with the souls of men. But He did not forget His role as a healer. Jesus lived in a society suffering from all manner of social evils and He did His best to "do good" to all that were oppressed.

Christ was born to die for the sins of the world—that was God's plan. But during His life Christ practised good works. We profess to be Christians. The very word "Christian" means "Christ like" or "followers of Christ". As followers of Christ we should then be motivated by the ideals which Christ laid down for us. In 1 Peter 4:1 the great Apostle says, "Forasmuch then as Christ has suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind." We are to think as Christ thought—His thoughts were Love. His motives for service to mankind were Love, and not personal profit or prestige. The loving heart of Christ could not idly by-pass suffering humanity and He had to serve while He could. He became a servant, not only of God, but

(Continued on page 8-3)

Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

LESLIE STOBBE — Editor

The MENNONITE OBSERVER is being published every Friday by

The Christian Press, Ltd.,
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5,
Manitoba, Canada.

Address all correspondence to the above address.

Managing Director — H. F. Klassen
Production Manager — J. K. Neufeld

Subscription rate: \$1.75 a year;
in combination with the
Mennonitische Rundschau — \$4.50 a year,
payable in advance.

Authorized as Second Class Mail,
Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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.

(Continued on page 3-4)

First M. B. Church Among "Nationals"

Asuncion, Paraguay. — The baptism of two believers here on July 8 marks the beginning of a Mennonite Brethren Church among Paraguayans in this capital city.

These converts are among the first fruits of Mennonite Brethren work among Paraguayan nationals begun last year. The workers are Brother and Sister Albert Enns, supported by the North American Mennonite Brethren Board of Foreign Missions.

Names of these new believers are Cirilo A. Zayas and Angel Gagliardi. One of them had known about the coming of the Mennonites to Paraguay. After his conversion, he inquired as to why the Mennonites had not presented

much sooner the truth the Lord had revealed to them.

Attending the baptismal service in the Baptist church were several ministers from the Chaco, friends from the leprosy mission, Mennonites living in Asuncion and many Paraguayans. For some, it was the first time they saw an adult person baptized.

A strong effort is being made by Missionary Enns to establish a strong self-supporting group of believers. Like Apostolic believers, this group meets in their homes for services.

Missionary Enns is an immigrant to Paraguay from Russia. Mrs. Enns is the former Anna Eckert of St. Catharines, Ontario, also an immigrant from Russia.

nor General's Award for Poetry, Wilfred Watson, Canadian Novelist Henry Kreisel and Dennis Godfrey, and critic and translator Dr. F. N. Salter were among Mr. Wiebe's professors at the University of Alberta.

While W. O. Mitchell and Mr. Wiebe have never met, it is interesting to note they are both from Southern Alberta and have studied under some of the same professors at the University of Alberta.

Mr. Wiebe is presently engaged in writing historical notes on Alberta's Agricultural development. After studying at the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg he plans to do post-graduate work in English.

Hepburn Girl Wins Scholarship and Medal

Miss Geraldine Wiens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wiens of Hepburn, Sask., has been awarded the Frederick Harris scholarship by the Toronto Conservatory of Music and the Prov-



Miss Geraldine Wiens

vincial Silver Medal for obtaining the highest mark in the province in the Grade VII Piano examinations. Her mark was 87. Geraldine is a student of Miss Marjorie Wiens.

Active Youth Leader Leaves Niagara Chapel

Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. — A farewell service was held at the Niagara Christian Fellowship Chapel on Sunday, September 9, for a young couple, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Gossen, who have served very faithfully there. The Gossens are leaving for Winnipeg, where Brother Gossen will study at the M. B. Bible College.

A time of rich fellowship marked the evening. A brother-in-law of the Gossens gave a short message on the theme of "Christian Love". Several testimonies were also given by workers at the Chapel, in which they told how the Gossens had been a blessing to them in their

own lives. Harvey Gossen was active as Sunday School teacher, young people's leader, in Bible memory work and in tract mission work.

The decision to leave their work at Niagara at this time was not an easy one for the Gossens, and was made only after clear direction from the Lord was received. Brother Gossen is leaving a good position which he has held for ten years.

Three young people from the Fellowship Chapel, Marlene McDermott, Mabel Borishenko and Lena Harssema, are also leaving for the winter to study at the Briercrest Bible Institute. One other Sunday school teacher, Harold Jantz, will also be attending the M. B. Bible College at Winnipeg this coming winter.

Special Film Showing at Namaka

Namaka, Alta. — Rev. Bob Simpson of the "Sunrise Gospel Hour", Calgary, Alberta, was the guest speaker at a Young People's meeting held in the M. B. church at Namaka, Alberta, in September 9. The highlight of the evening service was a showing of the film, "Angel in Ebony".

This film portrays the life story of Sammy Morris, a Negro boy from the very heart of heathen Africa. The son of a tribal chief, he was captured by a rival chieftain and held for ransom. While a prisoner, he was sorely beaten; later, he managed to escape.

After wandering through the jungle for some time, he reached a mission station where he was gloriously saved. His great desire for a deeper knowledge of the Scriptures led to his "hitch-hiking" across the Atlantic ocean to the U.S.A. where he enrolled at Taylor University. Because of the extreme cold, he became ill and died as a result. However, Taylor University today, more than a century later, is still reaping the fruits of the wonderful testimony of this negro student.

Rev. Simpson closed the service with a short message based on Gen. 5:24, "And Enoch walked with God; and was not, for God took him." He urged his hearers to dedicate their lives also to the Lord, and to serve Him wholeheartedly.

BIRTHDAY THOUGHTS

(Continued from page 2-3)

by day. Each new day a gift from God, to live in God's strength and for His glory alone. At this time one realizes that a life lived unto self is empty and valueless, but it becomes rich and meaningful when spent in the service of others.

And so, looking back I have many regrets, but looking into the future. I hear Christ saying, "Follow me day by day." —M. J.

Winkler Girl Wins Violin Scholarship

Miss Gloria Kroeker, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Kroeker, Winkler, Man., has been awarded the Frederick Harris Scholarship in Grade VII Violin by the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto. She obtained the highest marks



Miss Gloria Kroeker.

(93) in that grade for Manitoba, with first class honors.

Her teacher is Mr. Emmanuel Horch, 274 Helmsdale Ave., Winnipeg 5. The scholarship is valued at \$40.00 and is granted for continued tuition with her present teacher.

Gloria is a student of the Winkler Collegiate.

ACCIDENT NEAR HORNDEAN

Plum Coulee, Man. — David M. Hiebert of Plum Coulee (Grossweide District), Man., is at present in the hospital with severe back and shoulder injuries received in an auto accident on Friday, September 7. Mr. Hiebert and his brother, Martin M. Hiebert, were on their way to Horndean, when their car went out of control and overturned after they

had crossed a small bridge about one half mile north of Horndean.

Martin M. Hiebert, who was driver of the car, received only minor bruises, while David M. Hiebert was thrown partly out of the car and received very serious injuries.

He was taken to the Winkler Hospital by ambulance, and on Tuesday, September 11, he was transferred to the Winnipeg General Hospital.

Rudy Wiebe Wins First Prize

The national short story contest for Canadian University students was won by a 21-year-old 1956 graduate of the University of Alberta. Rudy H. Wiebe, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Wiebe of Coaldale, Alberta, won top honours in the contest in which over 50 University students from fourteen Canadian Universities competed. The first prize story was published in the September issue of Liberty magazine.

Mr. Wiebe's prize winning story, "The Midnight Ride of an Alberta Boy", which was submitted under the title, "Eight and the Present", was written while he was a third year English student at the University of Alberta. Judging the contest were Dr. F. M. Salter, University of Alberta; Prof. E. A. McCourt, University of Saskatchewan; and W. O. Mitchell of High River, Alberta—well known Canadian author of the "Jake and the Kid" series and the novel "Who Has Seen the Wind".

Having won two scholarships at the Alberta Mennonite High School at Coaldale (10 miles east of Lethbridge), Mr. Wiebe went to the University of Alberta, where in his final year he won the James Folinsbee Memorial Prize in English and the German Government Prize in German.

The 1956 winner of the Govern-

HERE AND THERE AND EVERYWHERE

Fire Destroys Teacherage

Plum Coulee, Man. — Fire of unknown origin destroyed the teacherage of the Melba School District, Horndean, Man., on the night of September 20. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

Garage Operator Has Accident

Hepburn, Sask. — Mr. Jake Lepp, garage operator and implement dealer at Hepburn, Sask., lost the forefinger on his left hand when it caught in the starter gear on a tractor which he was trying to start and which backfired. John Boldt rushed him to Saskatoon for medical attention, and the next day Mr. Lepp was back at work in the garage! The accident happened just at supper time on Tuesday, September 4.

Leaving for Voluntary Service

East Aldergrove, B.C. — Miss Anita Peters, member of the East Aldergrove M. B. church, left on Thursday, September 13, for Akron, Pennsylvania. She is attending the orientation school there for three weeks, whereupon she will be placed in one of the MCC voluntary service units for one year. She expects to be working among children.

Miss Peters attended the Mennonite Educational Institute at Abbotsford, B.C., for several years. During the past winter she also studied at the M. B. Bible College at Winnipeg.

Dedication for Nurses

Neuland, Paraguay. — An inauguration and dedication service was held here for five student nurses who have completed the training course at the Konkordia Hospital under the direction of Dr. W. Rakko. This service was planned for August 26. This information was reported by William Schroeder of Steinbach, Manitoba, Mennonite Brethren worker in Neuland.

Recovering After Brain Operation

North Clearbrook, B.C. — Mr. Harold Klassen, one-time teacher at the Mennonite Educational Institute, is recovering after an operation to remove a brain tumor. The Klassen are thankful to God for His help in this trying period.

Unique Visit at Chilliwack

Chilliwack, B.C. — The "Jugendverein" of the East Chilliwack M. B. Church had a unique visit with Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Jantz on Sunday, September 16. The missionary couple with their

daughter, Janet, were present in the form of a tape recording and a coloured set of slides. Mr. Jantz was formerly an instructor at the East Chilliwack Bible School.

The slides gave us a glimpse into their preparatory mission work. It took us from Hillsboro, Kansas, mission headquarters, to San Jose, Costa Rica, where the couple have been studying Spanish. Now they have started their missionary work at Quito, Ecuador, and ask us to uphold them with our prayers.

Baptism at Hepburn

Hepburn, Sask. — Nine candidates were baptized and received into the M. B. church at Hepburn, Sask., at a baptismal service held at the Hepburn Ferry site on Sunday morning, September 9. Rev. J. H. Epp brought the baptismal message, and the choir served with appropriate songs. The candidates were: Leonard Friesen, Dale Van Nes, Lawrence Adrian, Bob Schmor, Jake Braun, Helen Braun, Carol and Gwen Epp, and Deanna Willms.

D. B. Wiens at Vineland

Vineland, Ont. — The Vineland M. B. church observed its annual Thanksgiving and Mission Festival on Sunday, Sept. 16, 1956. Rev. David Wiens of Saskatoon, Sask., was the guest speaker.

On the following evening he brought a report on his work in Neuwied, Germany. It was very interesting and the church was well filled. An offering was taken to aid our brethren in Germany to acquire a church of their own. The offering on Sunday amounted to \$2,368.58.

RESIGNATION OF PASTOR

Saskatoon, Sask. — Rev. Art Martens announced to his congregation on September 5 his resignation as pastor. Rev. Martens has ministered to the M. B. church at Saskatoon, Sask., for five years. He is relinquishing the pastorate on the advice of his physician, because of a heart condition.

His faithful ministering of the Word has been greatly appreciated. The prayers of his congregation will follow him for his restoration to health and service.

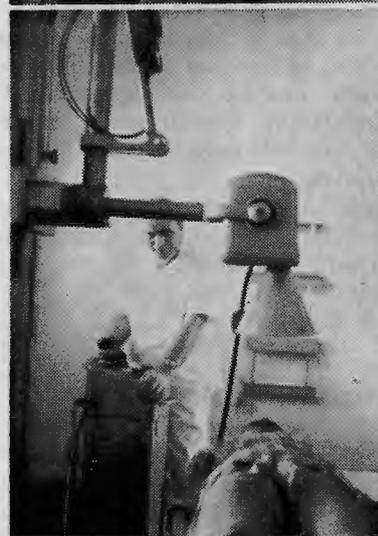
In the meantime, Rev. H. S. Rempel will act as pastor.

MEDICAL WORK IMPROVED BY X-RAY

(Continued from page 1-4)

Jeremiah is the eight-year-old son of Christian parents. He had been playing and injured his right leg half-way between the knee and the ankle. There was a little swell-

ing, but we did not think the leg was broken, as there was no obvious displacement. However, the X-ray revealed a fracture of the tibia. We put the leg in a cast and in a few weeks we hope he will be able to walk again. If the Manitoba ladies had not sent us an X-ray machine this little boy would probably have been sent



Dr. G. J. Froese is showing using the new X-ray machine installed in the Mennonite Brethren hospital at Jadcherla, India. See accompanying article for more details.

home with a bandage on his leg and a few pills for pain. As a result he would have limped all his life.

Many of the ignorant people think an X-ray machine can diagnose and cure everything. We have to tell them that that is not the case. But we tell them there is One who sees and knows everything. He can cure their sick souls as well as their bodies if they accept Him as their Saviour. It is our daily prayer that through our work here not only bodies will be healed but many souls saved.

We are also grateful to the various B.C. sewing circles who have collected funds for our hospital beds. As the hospital expands we are in need of more beds.

Please continue to pray for your representatives on the field, that we may truly be here to the glory of God.

* Medical missionary under the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions. He is stationed at the A.M.B. Mission Hospital, Jadcherla, India.

Active in Home Church in Japan

Miss Junko Matsuno, who graduated from the Bachelor of Religious Education course at the M. B. Bible College this summer, has arrived in her homeland and is active in her home church.

Miss Matsuno, who lives in Osaka, Japan, boarded a ship in San Francisco on July 12 and arrived at Yokohama on July 26. Her father, sisters, cousins and friends were there to greet her. Since then she has been helping at home and adjusting to life in Japan again. She plans to teach, but since the school year begins in April, she has not found a teaching position as yet. She is planning to help along at the M. B. mission, whose main station is a 15-minute walk from her home.

In her home church Miss Matsuno has been asked to be an advisor for the Sunday school teachers. She writes, "I'm glad I can do my part right at home. All the experience I had at MBBC will help me a great deal. I am now using Miss Nettie Kroeker's Christian Education of Children notes and Rev. Redekopp's Christian Education of Youth notes. We have Bible study on Wednesday nights and are taking up Romans three. I'm studying Greek at the same time and hope to continue it."

Miss Matsuno expresses her thanks to "everybody who has prayed on my behalf and helped me to get through the M. B. Bible College." She writes: "The new faith that I received in Christ while in Canada is something so strong and precious to me."

Return to Ethiopia



The Frank Klassen left on September 18 to return to Ethiopia via New York, Paris, Rome, Athens and Addis Ababa. They will instruct at the teachers' college at Harar. This will be their second term in Ethiopia, where they have taught for three years previous to their visit home this summer.

121 Dead in Mahbubnagar Railroad Accident

By John Wiebe *

Mahbubnagar, India. — This report is being written on a Sunday, just one week after the tragic railroad accident that took the lives of 121 people and injured 22 others. A nine-car passenger train had plunged into a rain-swollen stream around a curve near the little village of Appanpallix at 12:40, at night, September 1.

Especially heavy monsoon rains during the last while had washed out bridges, breached reservoirs and softened up mud houses until they collapsed.

The day before the accident Dr. and Mrs. J. Friesen had been welcomed into our Mahbubnagar home. Heavy rains started and we invited them to stay until it would stop raining. When the rains did not stop, the Friesens decided to drive home. They arrived home safely.

Sunday morning Lazaru, our reliable table-boy, told us at the breakfast table about the accident that occurred about four miles east of Mahbubnagar. We left the breakfast table and hurried to the scene in our Chevrolet car.

After winding our way through anxious masses we arrived at the stream, now a wide river. When we drew near the damaged bridge we saw the bodies of many dead. An accident is no respecter of persons, and we saw old and young, even babies, lying there. While crossing the badly damaged bridge, we were shocked by the sight of many bodies lining the river downstream.

We continued along the railroad crossing until we reached the place where the train had plunged into the river. Never have we witnessed such destruction and loss of life. The engine was leaning precariously off the farther bank. It had smashed right through the wide pillars supporting the 30-foot girders. The earth behind the pillars had been eroded by the fast-flowing torrent.

Six railroad cars were still standing on the tracks. In front of these a first and second class car was leaning over into the rushing stream, its other end crushed into splinters. The two third-class cars, which spilled their passengers into the water, had been demolished, crushed between the engine and oncoming cars. Such railroad cars have a capacity for 70 passengers on meter gauge trains, but invariably carry many more passengers.

The many dead had been gathered on a mound. Their number grew as police and volunteers extricated more and more bodies

from the wreckage and from the dirty stream. Groups who had identified loved ones among the dead, were weeping in anguish. Death and destruction reigned because a 30-foot bridge had been washed away. There had been no one to raise a stop signal.

Before evening the bodies had been removed, but the impression made on the mind will remain for a long time. Thanks to the Church World Service we are in a position to distribute milk powder and Cheddar cheese to laborers and crews repairing the great damage.

Another breach in the railway occurred the same night, about 300 feet closer to Mahbubnagar. Very much work remains to be done before the tracks will be permanently repaired.

This accident, with its heavy death toll, has brought fear to the people. On Tuesday complete confusion prevailed in this town of 20,000 people. Word had spread that the bank of the city water supply reservoir was giving way and that a flood was threatening a large part of the town, including our mission compound. Warned by fleeing passers-by, we too left the compound for higher ground. There we were informed, to our great relief, that it was a false alarm.

Rubin, a young Christian teacher from Gadwal, was in the front coach when the accident happened. Along with others he was flung into the foaming river. As the torrent carried him downstream he caught hold of the branch of a tree and was able to pull himself out of the deluge. His life was spared. We received him into our home and after we had given him something warm to drink and he had rested briefly, he witnessed to God's wonderful help in the time of need. His prayers had been heard.

In closing we would like to encourage all of you to write. We know that you are all very busy, but not too busy to write a little note to the Wiebes in India. Your letters are a definite encouragement while we are in the work on the mission field.

There are now 380 children attending the school here. Our heads ache when we have to pay the 16 teachers at the end of the month, for they can be so very impatient. We now pay 1650 Rs. a month, making close to \$400 a month in salaries for the teachers alone. Over one-half of that is paid by the government of India in the form of Grant-in-Aid. We are thankful for this, because it is time that India helps to educate her Christian boys and girls. Of



The "India part" of the John Wiebe family before the twins, David and Paul, left for study in the United States. The Wiebes are working under the M.B. Board of Foreign Missions.

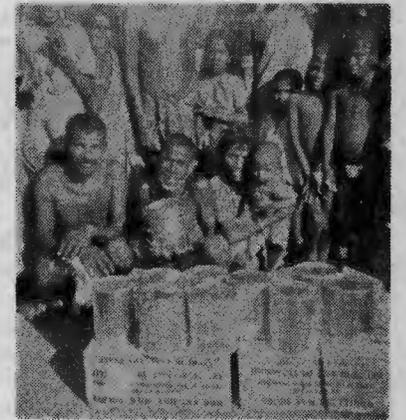


These are the senior girls of the high school at Mahbubnagar, India, where the John Wiebes are stationed.

course we also have non-Christian children in the school.

Another 1000 cases of milk and 105 cases of cheddar cheese from America have arrived. Such food is greatly valued by the people who eat and drink it. It helps to build up the body of the many very poor people. It is distributed by our missionaries and also by other charitable agencies. We are thankful to the Church World Service of America for such food supplies.

* Rev. and Mrs. John Wiebe are missionaries under the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions at the A.M.B. Mission, Mahbubnagar, Deccan, India.



Here is a scene from the distribution of Church World Service milk to the poor in a village in India. The picture was sent in by Rev. John Wiebe, M. B. missionary at Mahbubnagar, India.

Mennonite Brethren Board of Welfare

— The Neuland Mennonite Brethren Church in Paraguay has elected several candidates for the ministry (Mitarbeiter) in each of the two affiliated branches, Gnadental and Waldrode. Emigration has greatly reduced the ranks of ordained ministers.

— A baptism in Montevideo, Uruguay, by the Mennonite Brethren group was planned for September 2, according to C. C. Peters of Yarrow, B.C., Board worker.

— A profitable ministers and deacons' conference was held in Neu-Halbstadt, Neuland colony,

Paraguay, August 15 to 19, according to William Schroeder, Board worker. The theme was "The New Testament Church". Most ministers and deacons from the following churches were present: Fernheim and Neuland Mennonite Brethren churches, Fernheim and Neuland Mennonite churches and Fernheim Evangelical Mennonite Brethren church. Several ministers from Menno colony also attended. The Lord's blessing was evident in the program which was planned for both edification and instruction. Evangelistic meetings were held in the evening with Peter Klassen of Fernheim as evangelist.

(Continued on page 8-2)

THE Young Observers

Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Autumn is a time of many beautiful colours, among them bonfires. It is always a thrill to watch the dried garden vines and leaves burning brightly in the crisp, fall air. Better still, throw in a basket of acorns and listen to them crackling in the flames.

Did you know the origin of the word "bonfire"? It actually comes from "bonefire" because long ago men and women were burned at the stake for their faithfulness to their Christian beliefs.

The Bible speaks of bonfires, too. After Paul's inspired preaching at Ephesus, many books of magic and fortune-telling were burned in a large fire in the market-place by the believers.

When printing had been invented and the Bible translated from Latin into the languages of the people, enemies of God wanted to destroy it. A wicked man by the name of Pockington bought every Bible he could find and then—burned them. That was a sad bonfire, indeed!

But a friend of God, Martin Luther, had a bonfire, too. His enemies had printed many pamphlets against him, but Luther's friends gathered and burned them in a mighty blaze to God's glory.

We could do with a bonfire like that occasionally. A bonfire of all bad books, bad pictures, in fact, everything that is bad. It would make us and the world better. Aunt Selma

He is Coming Soon

There was once a gentleman who had two fine houses, one in the city and one in the country. When he and his family were in the city they left the country house in charge of some of the servants. When the time came round for them to go back to the country for a while, they would send a message to the servants, saying:

"We are coming back on such and such a day; get the house ready."

When the servants received this message they began to bustle about and to get everything clean and nice. They were so busy that even the dogs about the place got to know when the master was coming by seeing the servants so active in making ready for him.

The Lord Jesus Christ has sent a message from heaven to His servants telling them that He is soon coming again. He says,

"Surely, I come quickly." Rev. 22:20.

He wants us to do all we can to prepare for His return by letting others know about it, and by telling them the story of salvation. If we are earnest and active in doing this, poor unsaved people will get to know that something is going to happen, and that they had better get ready for it, even if they do not understand that the Lord Jesus Himself is coming again.

If we always bear in mind that the Lord is coming soon, it will make a great difference to us in our lives. We shall not wish to

go to any place where we should not like Him to find us when He comes. We shall not read any book that we should not like Him to find us reading. We shall not keep any company that would not please Him. In all our ways we shall try to serve and honor Him, and thus show that we are really expecting Him from heaven.

There is a very sad verse that says "Without are dogs" Rev. 22:15. When the Lord Jesus comes and shuts the door of salvation those who have trusted in Him will be *inside* rejoicing in being with their Saviour. Outside will be those called "dogs", those who have never been cleansed from their sins, those who are rejectors of Christ. God grant that none of my young friends may be among them in that day.

Come to the Lord Jesus Christ now, take Him as your Saviour, and make Him your best Friend, then you will be ready to meet Him when He comes—perhaps today.

"For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry." Heb. 10:37.

Alec's Boat

There was once a little boy named Alec who was often told about the Lord Jesus. His mother used to read stories to him out of God's book of the wonderful works of Jesus.

Perhaps you could tell some yourself! How once He fed five thousand people, who had followed

Him, from a few loaves and two little fishes, and made them enough to feed a great company of people; how sick people were brought in beds in the cool of the evening and Jesus healed them all; how He loved little children and took them in His arms and blessed them and would not let them be sent away.

Alec loved to hear these stories.



He had a beautiful boat given him to sail on a pond near his home and he thought it was the finest thing he had ever had, so one night when he knelt down before getting into bed, he said,

"Lord Jesus, I give You my boat, because I love You so."

I am sure, quite sure, that the Lord Jesus looked into Alec's heart and saw that he really loved Him, and was glad to find it was so, but He wanted something more than his boat.

What does Prov. 23:26 say? "My son, give Me thine heart."

The Lord Jesus wanted the very best and biggest thing that Alec would give—He wanted *himself*.

There are a great many children who give to God; they give their pennies and many other things, but what He wants first of all is *yourself*.

I wonder if you have ever given *yourself* to Him!

A little girl called Ruth wanted to give herself to Jesus, so one night before she got into bed she knelt down and after she had thanked the Lord Jesus for all His goodness to her, she said,

"Lord Jesus, I give myself to You and everything I have."

You know what it says in the fifteenth chapter of Luke—that there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth. Repenting means turning away from yourself and turning to God. It is saying to Jesus,

"I am sorry that I have done just what I liked and have been troublesome and wanted everything for myself; but I give myself to Thee, Lord Jesus, to seek to please Thee from this evening."

The Lord Jesus makes everything so simple for little children. He does not want them to think it is only the grown-up people He invites to come to Him.

He says, "Come unto Me." Perhaps you will wonder how to come to Jesus, when He is in heaven and you are on earth. He can hear you and see you, and every thought of your heart is known to Him—so that coming to Him means, accepting Him as Saviour, the one who died to save you, and giving yourself to Him, just as Ruth did.

We can send our thoughts and our desires as messages to Him, just as you would if your parents were away from home. Perhaps you would telephone or write to them, and you would be sure to get messages and letters from them.

God's Word, the Bible, is full of messages from Him to us, and the more you read it the more you will see how full His heart is of love and goodness towards you. Don't go to bed to-night without coming to the Lord Jesus, and accepting Him as your Saviour.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I Tim. 1:15.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31.

Future Subscribers

Born to Mr. and Mrs. David Penner (nee Jessie Loewen) on September 3, a son, Larry David. Mr. and Mrs. Penner reside in Brandon, Man.

* * *

Neuland, Paraguay. — Mr. and Mrs. William Schroeder of Steinbach, Man., are the parents of a newly-born son—William James. Mrs. Schroeder is the former Hilda Enns. The Schroeders serve in Neuland with the assistance of the North American Mennonite Brethren Board of General Welfare. He teaches in the colony Zentralschule.

For Children

Each 70¢

Robert Moffat

By J. C. Western-Holt. 94 pages.

This is the story of a gardener's boy who started life in a modest home and went to a village school, yet who sailed forth to a barbarous land six thousand miles away and, facing a lonely death a hundred times, succeeded in leading bloodthirsty and ignorant peoples into civilized ways.

John Paton

By Winnifred M. Pearce. 96 pp.

For many years John Paton laboured among the cannibals in the South Seas. In hourly danger of attack for long periods of time, he went heroically on with his work, having many miraculous escapes. His faith and courage in the face of death make a most inspiring story.

The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.

The School of God By Peggy Arbogast

—Used by permission of Wm. B. Erdmans Publishing Company—

(9th Installment)

Keith glanced up at her in alarm from the place where he had been piling wood for the fire. "What is wrong, Miss Arnold?" he questioned. A bit of a smile began to creep across the girl's face. She was blessed with a sense of humor which often came to her rescue in difficult moments.

"The frankfurters," she gasped. "They are at home in the refrigerator. Oh, how I could be so stupid?"

The minister threw back his head and laughed heartily. "My, is that all that's wrong? I thought something really serious was the matter. You had me thoroughly frightened for a moment. We had better go and get them though, for these youngsters are going to work up ravenous appetites which won't be satisfied with mere empty rolls."

"Oh, I'll get Bob to go for them," laughed Ruth.

"No, you won't do anything of the kind. Bob's having a good time in the treasure hunt. We have everything else ready and we can be back before the hunt is over."

"Sure you can," agreed Betty who had heard the conversation. "Go ahead with Mr. Stuart, Ruth. He might have difficulty in locating them, the way we have them mixed in with our own food in the refrigerator. We'll manage all right until you get back."

"But," still protested Ruth. "What about Connie?"

"She'll be all right. She's enjoying the hunt too, and Bob can keep an eye on her for that short time."

Keith opened the door of his car and helped Ruth in. "You really need a few minutes rest," he said as he climbed into the driver's seat. "You've worked awfully hard in preparation for this afternoon. In fact you've worked hard ever since you returned to Briarwood. If your father won't take a hand to see that you take care of yourself, your pastor will," and Keith arched his eyebrows as he tried to assume a stern look.

Ruth smiled. "I am tired," she admitted. "I never realized how difficult housework was. But it's been fun too. I was just thinking this morning how much easier my lessons in the School of God have been than I expected. The only thing that has been really difficult and trying was entering the School and learning the first lesson. Since then, everything has been running smoothly. I'm sure Dean Edwards

and Aunt Sally must have been mistaken when they told me that the lessons in this school would be hard. Don't you think that they must have been wrong?"

Keith's face was very serious as he replied, "Sometimes I almost wish that they were wrong. But experience proves that they are correct. More often than not, the lessons are difficult. It is true that there are times of comparative ease in between the hard things, but they are only rests. And you know, I don't think we learn as much during our rest periods. Did you ever hear of the Plateau of Learning?"

Ruth nodded. "Yes, we studied about that in our Education courses at college. Represented graphically, an individual's learning increases until it reaches a certain point and then it remains constant for a while before it soars upward again."

"Exactly," responded Keith. "Can't you see how the same truth applies here? Your learning in the School of God increased rapidly when you first entered. Now you have reached a plateau of learning. When you have fully absorbed the old lessons, when your rest period has adequately strengthened you for the next lesson, your Teacher will send it, but not before. These plateaus of learning are necessary as sort of breathing spells."

"A preacher I once heard, told of a plant in a certain horticultural hall. This plant would grow nicely until it reached the top of its trellis. Above that height it would die. It had to be watched carefully and when it reached the height of the trellis, the men would come at night and take up the trellis, putting in its place a higher one. So in our lives, Christ sets a certain goal of growth. When we have reached that goal, He gives us peace and rest for a while, until we get firmly established. Then night comes in the form of trials and tribulations. Everything is black. During the night the Lord puts up a higher trellis in our lives and when we wake up in the morning, we see how much further we have to go—how many more lessons we are to learn."

"Oh," breathed Ruth, "That is beautiful. I see it now. I really have reached a plateau of learning. For some time now, I've been resting. I wonder how much more of this quietness I shall have before the next trellis is put before me?"

"No one can say that, Miss Ar-

nold," replied the pastor. "But we can safely leave it in our Saviour's hands. He knows when the periods of rest and quiet are necessary, and He knows how long to permit them. You can be sure that when He sends the darkness again and erects another trellis it will be only after He is sure that His pupil is ready for the next lesson."

"When you put it that way," said Ruth, "the trials don't look quite so formidable. It almost makes me anxious to begin soaring upward again, to leave this plateau for the 'hill of difficulty'. But meanwhile I shall praise the Lord for this rest period, this plateau of learning, for it has been blessed."

CHAPTER VIII

The girls and boys were just returning from the Treasure Hunt, when Ruth and Keith climbed from his car and deposited the bundle of frankfurters with the rest of the lunch. The few who had been back long enough to miss the pastor and Ruth, and to whom Betty had told the story in explanation of their absence, laughed heartily as they glimpsed the embarrassed expression upon Ruth's face.

In a few minutes it was time for the baseball game. Betty and her friends entered enthusiastically into this. All those not playing gathered about and sat on the grass to watch the fun and cheer the players. Ruth, Janet, and the girls from the Institute were among these. Their inactivity was not because of lack of interest, but the outing had been planned especially for the younger girls and boys and there were enough of these to form the two teams.

The few boys and girls of Connie's age who had come, started off on a small hike of their own, following the course of a babbling brook. Connie, however, remained behind and joined Ruth and her friends as they watched the game. She was unusually quiet, but Ruth attributed this to a feeling of shyness in the presence of Janet and the girls from the Institute.

The girls were first at the bat. Bob as pitcher made short work of the first inning. Kitty made a splendid pitcher for the girls. Every moment of the game was enjoyed by both the participants and the sideline fans. There had been one very tense moment in the third inning when the ball had gone astray and with speed and force had whizzed past the onlookers, barely missing Ruth's head. The minister who was acting as umpire had seen it proceeding in her direction. He had turned white and tried to call a warning, but his throat had so tightened that no sound was emitted from his lips. Ruth in blissful ignorance had continued talking to her beloved

Nancy. Enraptured at being together again they had let their eyes momentarily wander from the game. Janet, however, saw the swiftly oncoming ball just in time to grab Ruth and draw her head down out of its path.

Realizing what had so nearly happened, Connie had burst into tears. For several minutes she had clung desperately to her sister, while Ruth, calm and peaceful throughout the excitement, had endeavored to comfort the child. Others too had felt rather shaky for a while, for Ruth was dear to the hearts of several who were present.

The game finally ended with the score 7 to 3 in favor of the boys. The girls, however, had put up a stiff battle and played a good game. Tired by the strenuous exercise they were glad to rest awhile and watch the stunts which had been prepared.

Janet had been an invaluable aid in this preparation. Possessing a vivid imagination she had written several truly humorous skits which were enacted with enthusiasm by the younger boys and girls.

The group from the Bible Institute had also prepared a stunt. This helped to win the approval of the Briarwood Young People. The visitors had been much in prayer for this day and they wanted to show the home group what a good time consecrated young people can really have in the Lord.

Many were truly sorry when the stunts were over. Everyone had enjoyed them thoroughly. But the exercise and the abundance of fresh air had done their part in arousing ravenous appetites.

Ruth felt that she had never been so happy. She sensed the growing feeling of respect that the younger people had toward her, their pastor and the group from the Bible Institute. There was a real attitude of reverence as every head was bowed while Keith returned thanks for the food and fellowship.

After dinner there were several relay races. How the youngsters laughed as they watched the girls stuff clothespins in the mouths of the boys, who then ran and with their teeth placed the clothespins upon a rope held by two of the girls. When the pastor began to laugh and dropped his clothespin in the high grass, Betty, who was directing the game, cried, "You'll have to pick it up with your teeth."

"Oh boy—this is good," cried one of the boys of Connie's age. Janet who was trying to put a clothespin into the mouth of her partner and watch the minister at the same time, poked the clothespin into the eye of the waiting boy. Fortunately, he saw it coming soon enough to at least avoid getting hit very hard.

(To be continued)

The Migrant Ministry — It Is Challenging!

A period of voluntary service really changes the course of some lives—and that includes the volunteer.

For Carl and Marilyn Wolgemuth of Elizabethtown, Pa., entering the voluntary service program of Mennonite Central Committee opened a new and big sphere of opportunity and Christian service.

Their assignment was that of a ministry to agricultural migrant workers at Coalinga, Calif. Now after two years of service (he as a I-W) they are continuing their ministry to these migrants. They had no idea their future would be so challenging.

"When first asked to assume leadership of a migrant unit in California," the couple recalls, "we had never heard of migrants, but the work sounded interesting, so we accepted the position."

Dotting the once desert area of Fresno County's west side are hundreds of isolated labor camps, the outgrowth of irrigation and large-scale farming of cotton, berries and other crops which require much hand labor. Migrant workers and their families live in these camps while working on the farms.

Within a year more than a thousand Negroes, Anglos (another name for whites) and Mexican Americans will live in a single camp in this area. There are a dozen camps in a radius of five miles.

A typical camp presents a depressing picture. There are bleak rows of tent-like cabins termed homes. A mother bends over a tub and scrub board. Children play in the dust beside the cabin. Men arrive from the cotton field and assemble for a game of dice . . . all this in one of the richest counties of the United States.

There is a serious spiritual and moral poverty among these people. Their constant moving and many defeats produce a basic dissatisfaction with life and a weary wandering after something better.

But they are like anyone else: they respond to a friend who loves and understands them. The Wolgemuths stated, "They must be understood as a people without roots whose lives are withered and void of purpose beyond that of earning their daily beans and finding a little pleasure."

The MCC service unit, which began in 1949, presently is composed of five persons: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Friesen of Elbing, Kans.; Elson Sommers of Uniontown, Ohio; Tina Warkentin of Superb, Sask.; and Herman Dueck of Abbotsford, B.C.

They conduct Bible schools for camp children, provide health education for mothers, offer weekly religious services, sewing classes for women, recreation for teen-

agers plus countless other services.

The Wolgemuths, who have completed their term of service, had a question continually churning in their minds: "What kind of church can these migrants attend when they become Christians?" They felt the migrants would not feel welcome in city churches.

So by the time the couple was ready to complete their service with MCC, they agreed with MCC and the Brethren in Christ board of missions to begin a mission program at nearby Huron with the view to establishing a church for the people they loved and served.

They continue to work closely with the MCC unit. Marilyn is a nurse with the department of public health in connection with the work.

"We have no doubt but what any person who has a sincere desire to work with people would find a great challenge in the migrant ministry," the Wolgemuths say.

I-W men particularly are needed to work with migrant fathers and boys. Skills in athletics, art, music, counseling, carpentry and other fields are valuable. School teachers, nurses, students, ministers, farmers, secretaries and homemakers can all find a place for their interests in the migrant ministry.

Agricultural migrants are not confined to California but may be found all along both the west and east coasts of the United States. MCC also operates summer units in New York state.

All present a big challenge to young people who want to spend some time in genuine service to man and God.

MENNONITE BROTHERS BOARD OF WELFARE

(Continued from page 5-4)

gelist. Mennonite Brethren participating in the conference included Gerhard Schartner, J. H. Franz, G. H. Sukkau, R. C. Seibel and William Schroeder.

— Fernheim Bible Institute in Paraguay plans to present a play with a Christian message in five different churches. Name of the dialogue is "Die Werbung für das Kreuz" (Wooring or Appeal of the Cross).

— That the South American churches are interested in helping themselves is evidenced by a contribution by the Curitiba church in Brazil to assist Mennonite Brethren in Montevideo, Uruguay.

— Mennonite Brethren attending meetings in Chicago the last week in August included C. A. DeFehr and M. A. Kroeker, the MCC Mennonite Aid Section meeting; Arthur Jost and Henry R. Martens, the Mennonite Men-

tal Health Services meeting; Waldo D. Hiebert and P. C. Hiebert, the MCC executive committee meeting, and Ed J. Peters, a meeting of Mennonite Economic Development Associates.

— Hans Kasdorf, who was to go to South America in August as a church worker with the assistance of the Board of General Welfare, has been invited to teach in the Chilliwack Bible School in British Columbia. The departure of the Kasdorfs has been delayed by needed legal documentation.

— Brother and Sister Heinrich Ekk have been asked to manage the Mennonite Brethren centre in Montevideo, Uruguay, until permanent help can be obtained. The Ekks are members of the Bage Mennonite Brethren Church in Brazil. At present the Board is searching for a couple to serve in this capacity. This work calls for

a party able to serve as house-parents, to teach in the Bible school, to preach and to counsel with our people living in the city or coming on business.

— Willy Janz writes that the "youth evangelization week" of July 5 to 9 in Friesland Mennonite Brethren church was a special time of blessing and spiritual refreshing. These evangelistic meetings were planned and led by a youth committee. A group of young people took an active part in these programs. This group met for a prayer session every night before the service. God used the Spirit-directed message by Henry C. Born of Volendam to speak to the congregation, according to Brother Janz.

— Sister Gerhard Balzer, wife of the leader of the Fernheim Mennonite Brethren Church, is seriously ill.

Paraguay Teachers Meet in Volendam

Volendam, Paraguay. — This year's meeting of the Paraguay Mennonite Teachers' Association was held here for three days in July.

Each year during the winter vacation the teachers of the Mennonite colonies in Paraguay meet to discuss elementary school work. Leader of this year's meeting was J. Redekopp of Volendam, with P. Wiens of Fernheim assisting.

A total of 36 teachers in "Volkschulen" (elementary schools) and "Zentralschulen" (high schools) and four school board members were present from the following colonies: Fernheim, Friesland, Menno, Neuland and Volendam. A delegate from Uruguay was also present. All colonies in Paraguay have elementary schools. There are four high schools.

For the delegates from the Chaco, the three-day conference involved a total of 10 days to cover the distance of only a few hundred miles via truck, tractor, buggy and

airplane. Among the teachers attending were several Canadians serving in Paraguay: Frank Dyck and Bruno Epp, General Conference representatives, and Henry C. Born and William Schroeder, Mennonite Brethren representatives.

Model instructional classes on local history, music and church history were presented. Together with several prepared papers, these sessions helped to refresh teaching methods. Uniform courses of study in the schools were also discussed. One evening the theme, "United Goals in Day and Sunday Schools", was discussed with Sunday school teachers.

Reporting on this conference was Henry C. Born of Chilliwack, B.C. Brother Born teaches in the Volendam Zentralschule and serves in various church capacities in the colony under the North American Mennonite Brethren Board of General Welfare.

FAITH AND WORKS

(Continued from page 2-4)

also of man. What have we become?

It is easy enough to emphasize the externals and rituals in our religion. Unfortunately, we see so many churches that have become so concerned with these aspects that the real Love of Christ has been overshadowed by externals. Men are put out of church for breach of rules of external conduct, but are they put out because they are greedy, unkind or unmerciful? We ought to read again what Jesus said to the Pharisees about ritual. In Matthew 23:23-26, Jesus clearly tells us what the test is to get into the Kingdom of God. The test seems to be deeds done in the name of

Christ, "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me . . . as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Here Christ himself indirectly underlines a great spiritual truth: *Faith without works is dead.* The Lord, through Paul, admonishes us, ". . . let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart. So then as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, especially to those who are of the household of faith." Our faith may be great! How are our works?

THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

Little to Criticize

In England, of hundreds of letters received by the British Broadcasting Company during the television series, "Jesus of Nazareth", only a small proportion attacked the presentation. There were some letters from children, asking, for example, why Matthew was not called Levi, why the healing of Peter's mother-in-law was taken as the first miracle rather than the turning of water into wine, or why in the Lord's Prayer the word "debts" was used instead of "trespassers". Perhaps the most striking reaction was that of an eleven-year-old girl in Bristol who watched the temptation in the wilderness. She talked at length about it. Then at bedtime she said to her mother: "Now I know temptation is not devils; it is something inside you." (WCD)

Constitutional Issue in Pakistan

In Pakistan, Joshua Fazluddin, chairman of the Christian Constitutional Committee, has declared that the final attitude of Christians toward the national constitution being prepared for approval early next year "shall be determined according to the freedom granted them toward God who . . . is the final authority for every Christian". Mr. Fazluddin foresees a possible rejection of the new charter if it tries to "put Christ on a footstool" or denies religious freedom within the meaning of the Bible. Some evangelicals predict

that they will no longer be allowed to evangelize if official status is given to Islam, as proposed in the preliminary draft of the constitution which requires that the Prime Minister must be a Moslem. (WCD)

U.S. Parochial School Movement Continues to Gain

The parochial school movement among Protestants is gaining rapidly. This report was made to two national meetings of teachers and parents during the month of August.

More than 36,000 pupils are enrolled in 187 day schools affiliated with National Union of Christian Schools, Dr. Joh. A. Van Bruggen reported to 425 delegates at the union's Grand Rapids convention. He predicted that enrollment would double by 1965. (The union's schools are operated independently of churches, but are controlled by parents of Calvinistic faith, mostly members of the Christian Reformed Church.)

At River Forest, Illinois, 400 delegates attending the combined annual meetings of the National Lutheran Parent-Teacher League and the Lutheran Education Association were told that the Missouri Synod now operates more than 1,330 full-time parochial schools in the U.S. and Canada. It has by far the largest private school system among Protestant groups. (CIN)

CANADASCOPE

Record Trade Deficit

Canada faces prospects of an unprecedented \$900,000,000 deficit in foreign trade this year, almost triple that of 1955, informants said Wednesday.

The deficit is the excess of imports over exports. So far Canada's foreign trade has broken all records, but the emphasis has been on the buying side.

In the first six months of 1956, the deficit rose to a record \$457,500,000, swelling from \$146,000,000 in the similar 1955 period.

It is expected the deficit for the second half of 1956 will be slightly less than that for the first half.

Gigantic Seaway Project Attracts Thousands

Interest in the construction work along the International Rapids Section of the St. Lawrence River, in Eastern Ontario, has reached a high peak this year. Since the start of the job more than 160,000 persons have visited lookouts or

have taken conducted tours of the Ontario Hydro part of the power development.

Visitors have come to the St. Lawrence Power Project from every province in Canada, nearly all parts of the United States, and from many distant countries — including Britain, Germany, Holland, Italy, Australia, India and Pakistan.

One of the most popular places for visitors is an elevated platform lookout on old No. 2 Highway at Nine Mile Road, just two miles west of the Roosevelt Bridge in the outskirts of Cornwall. A large parking lot here, accommodating about 100 cars, usually is well-filled each day, and packed on weekends with travellers desiring to get a look at the construction work.

In front of the viewing platform, Ontario Hydro has placed a large map. This is used by the guides to explain to visitors the progress of construction of the key structures.

Hydro's other lookout for visitors along busy No. 2 Highway is situated adjacent to the spectac-

ular Long Sault Rapids. This is where many visitors get their first explanation of the work in progress for the dam. They then proceed to the powerhouse lookout for further explanation, and also proceed by bus under the canals to the actual powerhouse site.

Canadian Scene.

"Oasis" in the North

Seven hundred and fifty miles northwest of Edmonton, in a land that is coated with ice and snow throughout the eight-month-long winter, a dominion experimental farm is growing summer fruits and vegetables that would grace even the rich Okanagan, Annapolis or St. Lawrence valleys. The crops are small in quantity on the 83-acre tract of land in the Mackenzie River valley, but government scientists say their quality compares favorably with anything grown elsewhere in Canada.

Agriculturists there claim they can produce 55 bushels of wheat an acre—if the frost does not get to the crop before it ripens. Wheat matures in 95 days, instead of the 110 days it usually takes for prairie wheat to ripen.

The farm, established in 1947 for the study of agriculture conditions in the sub-Arctic Mackenzie Valley, doesn't produce commercially but does sell eggs to Fort Simpson's residents. Potatoes are also stored and sold as seed to the natives.

The soil is good, but despite the proximity of one of North America's greatest rivers, the area is practically arid.

—o—

The World Today

Suez Problem to United Nations

The British government on Sunday announced that it asked, together with France, for a meeting of the UN Security Council on Wednesday, September 26, to consider the situation created by the Egyptian nationalization of the Suez Canal last July 26.

The purpose in placing the problem before the UN is to compel the representatives there of Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser to state before all the world the terms on which he is prepared to negotiate for a settlement, if he wants one.

Nicaragua President Shot and Paralyzed

President Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua had four operations performed on him after he was shot by a would-be assassin before midnight on September 21. A medical bulletin said that it was uncertain whether President Sa-

moza would regain use of his right leg, paralyzed by a bullet in his spinal column.

West German Ship Shelled by Nationalists

The West German consulate charged on September 24 that Nationalist Chinese guns raked the German freighter Monika, seeking shelter from typhoon Gilda off the China coast. A consulate spokesman said that the Monika—enroute from Hong Kong to Japan with a nonstrategic cargo—gave normal identification signals and hoisted her flag when within 1½ miles off Tan, biggest of the Nationalist-held Tan Island group near Quemoy and Amoy. Officers said the 1,106-ton Monika ran into some 300 rounds of fire and took 10 direct hits as she headed for Amoy harbor.

—o—

CONCRETE FOR CISTERNS

One, two, three—one part cement, two parts sand, three parts stones (coarse aggregate) and not over four gallons of water per sack of cement, is the recommended recipe for waterproof concrete.

Screening the gravel pays. Less cement will be used when the recommended proportions of sand and coarse aggregate are used. Furthermore, good quality concrete is assured when good materials are used.

On farms small tilting-bucket concrete mixers are commonly used. Good quality concrete can be made with these mixers if the water, cement, sand and stones are used in the recommended proportions. The shovel method of measuring and adding water haphazardly gives unpredictable quality. There is no assurance that a concrete cistern built in this manner will hold water any better than a gunny sack.

The gravel should be separated by using a quarter-inch screen. The material that passes through the screen is sand. The material that does not pass through is coarse aggregate. Use two parts of sand and three of coarse aggregate when making concrete for cistern. The screening may be done while the mixer is operating. There is plenty of time for this, especially if there is someone to start screening a quarter hour before mixing starts.

The small bucket type mixers will hold about two quarts of cement, four quarts of sand, and six quarts of coarse aggregate. It will be handy to have a pail which will hold four quarts of sand and two pails each holding three quarts of coarse aggregate. Less than one quart of water is used with this batch. If the first batch is too stiff, reduce the amount of sand until a workable mix is obtained.

Weddings

FEHR — GERANSKY

Alice Geransky, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Geransky of Hepburn, Sask., and John Fehr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Fehr of Hepburn, Sask., were married on September 8, 1956, in the Mennonite Brethren church at Hepburn, Sask. Rev. Walter Wiebe officiated.

ESAU — DICK

A marriage was solemnized on Sunday, September 9, in the M. B. church at Elm Creek, Man., when Eleonore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Dick, became the bride of Henry, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Esau. Rev. J. Wiens officiated. Mrs. E. Neufeld, aunt of the bride, played the wedding music.

Bridesmaids were Miss Annie Dick, sister of the bride, and Miss Mary Wall, cousin of the bride. Miss Rita Dick, sister of the bride, and Paulette Esau, cousin of the groom, were the flower-girls. Ushers were Henry Dick, brother of the bride, and Alvin Esau, brother to the groom.

Following the ceremony a reception was held in the lower auditorium of the church. Many friends and relatives were present.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Esau left for a honeymoon in the USA. They will reside in Winnipeg.



Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hintz, who were married on September 1 in the Elmwood M. B. church. The bride is the former Hedy Janzen.

NEUFELD — UNGER

Ruth Ann Unger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Unger of Horndean, Manitoba, and Jake Neufeld, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Neufeld, also of Horndean, were married in the Grossweide Mennonite Brethren church on Sunday, September 16. Rev. John J. Neufeld officiated, with Rev. George D. Huebert of the Winkler Bible School as guest speaker.



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Klassen, Winnipeg. Arthur Klassen is the son of Mr. H. F. Klassen, editor of the "Mennonitische Rundschau". The bride is the former Milly Dyck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. K. Dyck, Winkler. They were married on Sept. 3 in the Elmwood M.B. church.

REIMER — BLOCK

Selma Block, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob H. Block, and Henry Reimer, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Reimer, Main Centre, Sask., were married on September 16, 1956, in the Mennonite Brethren church at Herbert, Saskatchewan. Rev. Rudy Janzen officiated.

be conveyed to North Americans for the contributions.

Clothing and new baby articles were distributed in a Berlin refugee camp. Baby blankets and comforters were given to a number of poor families in the area.

Klassen reports 14 young people from the East Zone of Germany went to Menno-Heim to receive baptismal instructions from Pastor Paul Schowalter of Weierhof. He later officiated at a baptismal and communion service for 17 young people.

JORDAN

If you were to visit the school for boys at Hebron, Jordan, one day in August you would have seen them with purple faces!

The school was moved into a different building nearby—but it was not the moving that made their faces turn purple. Rather it was the location: the new building is surrounded with all kinds of fruit trees, including mulberry. So the little fellows lost no time in sampling the fruit and promptly letting it dye their faces.

The new building provides larger facilities for the school, directed by Ida and Ada Stolfus. It was formerly used by the United Nations relief offices and had been burned during riots last January. Repairs and redecorating was finished just before the Muslim New Year began, when their contract in the old building expired.

NEPAL

Rudy Friesen (Marquette, Man.) has moved to Katmandu, Nepal, where he is helping construct hospitals for a new united Christian mission effort.

It is expected Christians from India will carry the major evangelistic responsibility while several

Christian mission groups provide institutional facilities. Mr. Friesen served in Calcutta and northern India areas in flood rehabilitation before joining the team to Nepal, a kingdom bordering India at the north.

GERMANY

Two Pax Services projects of housebuilding for refugee families have been completed at Wedel and Backnang, Germany.

Plans call for Paxmen to return next year to Wedel to construct a church for the Mennonite congregation. Wedel Paxmen Dalton Hostetler (Harper, Kans.) and Forrest King (West Liberty, Ohio) now serve at Vienna, Austria, rebuilding a Christian school.

GREECE

Persons joining the agricultural demonstration project at Tsakones, Greece, are Ira Zook (Latour, Mo.), James Lambright (La-Grange, Ind. His two brothers are already in Pax Greece), and Anna who will be matron. They were transferred from units in Germany.

PARAGUAY LEPROSY MISSION

Dr. John R. Schmidt (Newton, Kans.) is currently doing deputational work in the interest of the Barrio Grande leprosy mission in Paraguay.

The project is staffed primarily by service volunteers from Mennonite colonies. Treatment is both on the hospital compound and in homes of patients who find geographical and financial barriers too great to go to hospitals.

The mission was formed when Mennonite colonies in Paraguay and MCC decided such a project was a way to say "thank you" to Paraguay, where some 6000 Mennonite refugees from Russia had found a home and freedom (an additional 7000 migrated in 1947).

JUNIOR VILLAGE

Junior Village at Washington, D.C., has a new home for the 200 dependent and neglected children it serves.

Members of the voluntary service unit here participated in the dedication ceremonies that officially opened the new and spacious quarters on a 60-acre tract overlooking the Potomac River. The village was formerly located in inadequate quarters on Loughboro Rd. where MCC service volunteers worked a few years ago. New facilities include 12 buildings and 260 wards.

Mennonite volunteers who serve as counselors have new and pleasant living quarters, one of the unit members reported.

Village administrators say they are in need of more counselors and maintenance workers—an approved placement for I-W men. Inquiries may be addressed to MCC Voluntary Service, Waterloo, Ont.

Obituaries

MR. HERM. HILDEBRANDT

Herman Hildebrandt, 70, passed away in Saskatoon City Hospital on August 27, 1956, as the result of heart failure. Funeral services were held in the M. B. church at Hepburn, Sask., on Thursday, August 30.

Mr. Hildebrandt was born in Waldeck, Russia, in 1886, and immigrated to South Dakota in 1910. He moved to Great Deer, Sask., and, except for an interval of 7 years, they have lived here since then.

Mr. Hildebrandt leaves to mourn his passing his wife, a son, Mr. Roland Hildebrandt (with family), and two daughters: Adina and Louise.

MCC
news & notes

BERLIN

German refugee families in Berlin who received food and comforters in distributions by J. K. Klassen (Gretna, Man.) were grateful and asked their thanks to

COLLEGES

TABOR COLLEGE

Many Attended College Opening Festivities

The largest crowd to attend a Tabor College opening festival in recent years was on hand Sunday, September 9, for the forty-ninth annual formal opening of the school.

The key-note of the day was sounded in a forenoon service at the Hillsboro M. B. church by Rev. Orlando Harms, editor of the *Christian Leader* and manager of the Mennonite Brethren Publishing House; he stated that the prime objective of today's liberal arts college must be to create vision in its students.

The guest speaker, Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College, encouraged the students and the audience assembled to maintain a firm faith in God even in adversity. "Never doubt in the dark what you believed in the light," he said.

Many guests walked through the campus buildings during the "open house" session at 2:00 p.m. Of special interest was the library building project and the remodeling undertaken at the women's residence quadrangle.

Professor Rupert K. Hohmann appeared before a Tabor audience for the first time since his recent appointment as assistant professor of violin. He shared the stage at a 3:00 p.m. musicale with two fine arts alumni: Mrs. Myrliss Hershey of Wichita and Mr. J. C. Kiewer of Lawrence. Guests and alumni mixed informally at the college fellowship tea at 4:00.

Dr. Edman's evening address was preceded by a meditation by Rev. Loyal Funk, pastor of the Fairview, Oklahoma, M. B. Church, who voiced confidence in the ability of the Christian college to meet the needs of mankind. Speaking as an alumnus, he commended the college for the role it has played through the years in producing Christian leadership.

Last Year's Tabor Enrollment Exceeded

With enrollment figures still incomplete for the fall semester, Dr. Ben J. Wiens, registrar at Tabor College, announced that 231 students had registered by Monday noon, September 10.

Last year's total figure was 230. Late enrollees and special students are expected to swell the present figure to some extent during this week. The trend this year appears to be toward more full-time enrollments.

has classes for the second year in its new building. Instruction is given in four classes, with a good library available to students to aid them in their study of God's Word.

The Institute sponsors a weekly radio broadcast over KPUG, Bellingham, Wash. Ample opportunity is given for the use of good talent in the service of the Lord, both in the radio ministry and other practical work.

SEMINARY RECOMMENDATION ACCEPTED

An important step taken by the General Conference Mennonite Church at its 34th triennial session in Winnipeg, Man., was the acceptance of the recommendation by the board of Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Chicago to relocate the seminary at Elkhart, Indiana, and enter into a cooperative relationship with Goshen College Biblical Seminary. This recommendation carried by a vote of 1108 to 352.

As outlined, the three-year program of establishing new facilities at Elkhart will involve a financial outlay of approximately \$400,000. The plan of cooperation proposes that the organizational setup be known as The Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries and "that the two cooperative, full seminaries shall be independent institutions, each granting degrees in its own right and fully accredited as early as possible".

—"Mennonite Weekly Review."

DENVER YOUTH CENTER

A new building designed for neighborhood youth activity and for the voluntary service unit house has been dedicated in Denver, Colo. It is located at 430 W. 9th Ave., next to First Mennonite church.

A program of Bible instruction, recreation, crafts and hobbies is planned for youth of the area under the supervision of VS unit members who work in Denver hospitals. Denver I-W men also make use of the facilities.

INDONESIA

Groundwork continues to be laid for agricultural services on the island of Timor in eastern Indonesia where Leonard Kingsley (Berne, Ind.) serves.

He has been made a member of an economic development committee of the Christian Church which is studying the cattle market situation and also the possibility of setting up a dairy demonstration project.

The committee is working on openings in other Indonesian cities to market the range cattle of the interior of Timor. Cattle marketing in Timor up to this time has been done only by Chinese businessmen because Timorese stock-

raisers did not have necessary capital to get started. The Church seeks to assist them and now has government permission to ship cattle when capital is available.

Government surplus milk is to be distributed to school children in mountain areas of the island where economic conditions are poor.

The other MCC unit in Indonesia is at Kudus, Java, where a team of six persons operate medical clinics and related services.

CHRISTMAS BUNDLES

More than 28,000 colorful goodwill Christmas bundles are baled and ready for shipment to many parts of the world where they will be distributed to homeless and suffering children during the coming yuletide.

A total of 28,222 bundles were contributed this year. This represents a slight increase over the total of 27,920 bundles given a year ago.

The four processing centers report the following figures (the 1955 number in parenthesis): Ephrata, Pa., 15,204 (14,917); North Newton, Kans., 6,240 (6,421); Kitchener, Ont., 5,347 (5,257); and Reedley, Calif., 1,426 (1,325).

The bundles are to be shipped to the following nations: Korea 6,636; Jordan 6,624; Austria 5,309; Germany 4,456; Vietnam 3,336; Taiwan 840; France and Algeria 534; Hong Kong 444; and England 38.

Distributions will be made by relief workers and other volunteers.

BIBLE INSTITUTES

GRACE BIBLE INSTITUTE

Installation of New President at Grace Bible Institute

Marking the beginning of the fourteenth year of Grace Bible Institute, Dr. Joseph W. Schmidt was installed as President of the Institute in a public service in the School Auditorium at Omaha, Nebraska, on Thursday, September 6, 1956.

The Rev. D. J. Unruh of Newton, Kansas, president of the Board of Directors, performed the installation ceremony before a large assembly of students, faculty members and friends of the school.

An address, "The Christian's Relation to the Law", was given by Dr. Ernest L. Ackley, dean of Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City.

The Rev. D. J. Unruh, after giving the formal charge to Dr. Schmidt, enjoined faculty members and the Board of Directors to cooperate wholeheartedly in the work of the school. The student body was directed to give cheerful submission to the program of the Institute to which they had come.

At an evening service, Dr. Schmidt spoke a brief response, emphasizing the place that Grace Bible Institute takes among Christian schools in preparing Christian workers.

A noon luncheon was served the faculty, staff and guests.

Completing the activities of the initial week of school, a construction convocation was held on Friday, September 8, commemorating the beginning of construction of the new auditorium and committing the work of building unto the Lord.

—Jacob J. Regier.

MENNONITE BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE

Second Year in New Building

North Clearbrook, B.C. — A good enrollment is expected for the coming school year at the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute here according to Rev. A. H. Wierler, principal. A goodly number of applications have already been received.

Registration day for the new school year is on Monday, October 1. Classes will begin the following day. After a week of instruction the annual fall conference will be held. Guest speaker for the three-day conference, September 7-9, will be Rev. B. J. Braun, president of the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, Fresno, Calif.

Young people who are interested in studying God's Word are invited to join the many young people who are planning to attend the M. B. Bible Institute, which

A Man Called PETER

By Catherine Marshall

If you want your faith renewed, read the stirring examples of God's provision for unwavering trust. If you want your heart warmed, consider the remarkable success of a humble man dedicated to God. If you are wondering whether God has really planned your life and will reveal His will to you, you will receive an unqualified "Yes!" in this book.

This is the luminous personal story of a great man of God. More than that, it is a story of God's blessing upon life that is consecrated to His service.

This book contains not only a biography of Peter Marshall's life, it also contains six of his sermons. If you feel God has called you to proclaim His message, then you will be helped immensely by the reading of these sermons. For sheer beauty of speech, for down-to-earth discussion of life's problems, these sermons rival Spurgeon's.

Price \$2.45

The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.



Voluntary Service Class at Akron, Pa. This orientation group is serving in a number of Voluntary Service units with the Mennonite Central Committee. (Front from left) Margaret Harder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Harder of Winkler, Man. (who has not attended at the M.B. Bible College as a report in the August 31 issue stated); Betty Reinford of Telford, Pa; Loise Brenneman of Kalona, Iowa; Erna Fast of Chortitz, Man.; who are all serving in Newfoundland; Darlene Hinemon and Helen Buller of Reedley, Calif., both in Akron Offices. — (Back row) David Martens of Arnold, B.C., Camp Landon, Miss.; Herman Dueck of Abbotsford, B.C., migrant ministry at Coalinga, Calif.; Leonard Steider of Shickley, Nebr., clothing depot at Ephrata, Pa.

M. B. Christians in Colombia

By D. Kruger

Fierce opposition and persecution resulted in more prayer for mission work in Colombia, and the church is growing, stated Rev. Dan Wirsche in a recent report given at the M. B. church in Saskatoon, Sask. The Wirsches have spent two five-year terms in Colombia under the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions.

In the Choco, their field, there

are many white people, but the majority are mixed. The black people are regarded by national Indians as "special sinners", into whose blood the devil injected charcoal because they were so sinful.

Colombia is a progressive state, in many ways. The cities have modern conveniences, beautiful stores, cars and factories. The

young people move into the cities and strive after education. The missionary is no longer regarded as an authority.

The bone of contention in Colombia is religious freedom. Since 1947 there have been only eight months of peace for the missionary. The persecution of Christians cannot be adequately described here. At first, attendance at M. B. mission stations, Istmina Choco and Noanama, dropped considerably. But the Christians grew stronger in faith as they faced persecution. Attendance mounted again.

Mission schools and chapels were closed. No literature could be distributed openly. No preaching was allowed anywhere. The medical clinic, through which many hearts had been won, was closed.

One day the mayor, during a visit, became ill. He came to the missionaries for medicine for his stomach-ache. "This clinic is closed," said Lillian Schafer, "I may not!" Finally he said, "I

am the mayor. I give you permission to give me the medicine." By this time a group of nationals had gathered to watch proceedings. In justice, they too demanded medicine. The mayor opened the clinic, and it has been open ever since.

A young Christian, unaware of observers, offered a tract to another with whom he had been speaking. Arrested, he walked between two policemen, singing choruses and witnessing. In jail he witnessed to other convicts, procured gospels and distributed them. Souls were saved through his faithful testimony.

The Colombian Christians, won through the M. B. mission, are proud to be called Mennonites. They gather in two's or three's in homes to read and pray. In a year's time they found that the church had more than doubled in spite of all opposition and persecution, to the honor of an Almighty God, who guides the affairs according to His eternal purpose.

Ministers and Deacons Meet in Paraguay

Neuland, Paraguay. — Ministers and deacons from Mennonite churches in the Paraguayan Chaco met in conference here in the village of Neu-Halbstadt August 15 to 19.

Theme of the inspirational and study conference was "The New Testament Church." Most ministers and deacons from the following churches attended: Fernheim and Neuland Mennonite Churches, Fernheim and Neuland Mennonite Brethren Churches, and Fernheim Evangelical Mennonite Brethren Church. Several ministers from Menno colony also participated.

Both edification and instruction were planned in the program and God graciously blessed, William Schroeder said in a complete German report of the conference. Brother Schroeder from Steinbach, Man., serves as Zentral-schule principal in Neuland and gives much effort to the work of the Church.) More than 100 persons participated, besides many visitors who attended the open meetings.

After a fellowship breakfast, the morning meetings started with a prayer period and Bible study at 8:30. The rest of the morning and afternoon sessions were given to prepared reports and messages on the conference theme. Discussions followed. Topics discussed were concerned with the origin, organization, nurture and mission of the New Testament Church.

Evangelistic services were held in the evenings. Peter Klassen, Bible school teacher from Fernheim, was the evangelist. Music was presented by the Mennonite

Church choir of Neu-Halbstadt, the Mennonite Brethren Church choir of Gnadental, and a men's octet and orchestra from Neu-Halbstadt.

Participating in the conference were several individuals well-known in North American circles: G. Schartner, H. P. Epp, Jacob Duerksen, J. H. Franz, G. H. Sukkau, R. C. Seibel and William Schroeder. The latter four were among those presenting messages.

H. P. Epp, General Conference Mennonite Church representative from North America, presented the conference message Sunday morning. A message directed to ministers' and deacons' wives was given by minister N. Wiebe.

Frank J. Wiens, MCC representative from Asuncion, and several guests from Brazil also attended some of the meetings. Unfortunately it was not possible for Gerhard Balzer from Fernheim to be present to carry out his planned assignment. Mrs. Balzer is seriously ill. Brother Balzer is leader of the Fernheim Mennonite Brethren Church.

CLERK TYPIST WANTED

Steady position with good pay. Five-day week. Apply in own handwriting, stating past experience, education and age.

BOX "E" The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.
159 Kelvin Street, Winnipeg 5, Manitoba

ORDER FORM for the MENNONITE OBSERVER

Subscription rate: \$1.75 per year.

The Christian Press, Ltd.
159 Kelvin St.,
Winnipeg 5, Manitoba.

Please send me the MENNONITE OBSERVER for year(s).

Enclosed please find \$..... in
(Postal money order or bank cheque, including exchange.)

Name:
(Please print)

Address:
(Sample copies mailed free upon request.)

For Your Building Materials
Write or Phone
Redekopp Lumber & Supply Co.
Phone EDison 1-4311
WINNIPEG 5, MANITOBA
Free planning and estimating.

LORNE A. WOLCH
B.Sc., R.O., O.D.
Optometrist and Optician
Eyes Examined
272 Kelvin St., Elmwood
Phone: 50-1177