

# Mennonite Observer

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

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YOUR CHRISTIAN  
FAMILY WEEKLY

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This is the Board of Education of the Mennonite Brethren Conference of North America. The members are, left to right, E. J. Peters, Wasco, Calif. (chairman); Walt Warkentin, Dinuba, Calif. (honorary member); P. A. Enns, Dinuba (regional chairman); Dr. M. S. Gaede, Reedley, Calif.; Rev. Leo Wiens, Frazer, Mont.; Rev. Wm. Neufeld, San Jose, Calif.; Allen Grunau, Corn Okla.; Rev. J. J. Toews, Kitchener, Ont. (secretary); J. W. Warkentin, Hillsboro, Kans. (treasurer); Rev. C. F. Pleptt, Reedley (KMB representative). Dr. J. C. Graumann of Harvey, N.D., is not shown.

## New Campus Development Planned

Fresno, Calif. — The Board of Education of the Mennonite Brethren Conference of North America convened for a three-day session at the Seminary campus in Fresno on January 23-25. The board directs the program of the Unified Educational System which includes the three schools: Tabor College of Hillsboro, Kansas, the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary and Pacific Bible Institute of Fresno, California.

Plans under discussion concerned the development of a new Fresno campus for the Pacific Bible Institute and a liberal arts junior college program. The campus will be on a 20-acre site at Butler and Chestnut. E. G. Peters, chairman of the board, reported that the institute's present building has been put up for sale. Plans call for applying the proceeds to the construction of a new administration building on the new campus. Peters announced that the \$600,000 project should begin within a year. Institute and junior college facilities for 300 students, including classrooms, a library and administration offices, are in the blueprint stage.

In an interview with a news reporter, Peters stated: "We feel education, in itself, without Christian training, misses the concept of the founding fathers of America. This

concept is based on faith in God and a self-ruling people under the direct guidance of God. Therefore, to properly prepare young people for becoming good citizens we must give them Christian training."

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## Ministers and Deacons Meet

Winnipeg, Man. — The ministers and deacons of the three Mennonite Brethren churches in the city met on Monday, January 28, for their first meeting of the new year.

Discussion at the gathering centered on the contributions that ministers and deacons can make to youth work. A short talk by Mr. Henry Schmidt, youth leader of the northern district of the M. B. conference in Manitoba, outlined what youth workers expected from the deacons and ministers. Points of emphasis were intercessory prayer, co-operation, guidance, and an exemplary life.

He maintained that the vital interest of the leading men in the church is needed in youth work. This includes acquainting themselves with the youth program in the church, occasionally attending some functions to see what young

people are doing, and constructive criticism where necessary.

An encouraging discussion followed the talk. The vital interest of those present in youth of today could be sensed in the remarks made.

## B. C. Nurse to Korea

MCC Information Service

Anna Klassen of Yarrow, B.C., and Arlene Zimmerman of Bareville, Pa., are on their way to Korea where they will be nurses in children's hospitals in Seoul and Pusan.

Hundreds of orphaned children are treated in Korea charity hospitals then placed in orphanages. A great number of these children suffer from sickness caused by lack of proper care and from malnutrition.



Miss Klassen had been a district nurse for the Winnipeg Health Department. She had other nursing experience at New Westminster and Essondale, B.C.

She is a graduate of St. Paul's Hospital school of nursing in Vancouver and studied at Yarrow Bible School and the Mennonite Collegiate Institute at Yarrow.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David J. Klassen of Yarrow, and a member of North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church at Winnipeg.

Miss Zimmerman has nursing experience at Ephrata, Lancaster and Philadelphia, Pa., and Sarasota, Fla. She is a graduate of the Goshen College school of nursing.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Zimmerman of Bareville and a member of Monterey Mennonite Church.

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## Transfer to Different Field

By Henry Brucks

Belgian Congo, Africa. — Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus. It gives us joy to write to you again from the field here. The Christmas season with the "specials" is a matter of history again. At the same time it was a blessed time again for us as well as the many native friends that attended the various services.

On December 16 we had the closing exercises and graduation of the Bible school. Their motto was "Be strong in the Lord." Nine students graduated from the three-year course. A number of these come from neighboring missions, while 5 are from our own mission. These men are now entering the various phases of work. We trust that they will be staunch pillars in their vicinity. We have committed them anew to the Lord.

After this came the Christmas programs, brought to us by the station school and then also some of the village schools. The programs that the teachers and students of the village schools had prepared were in some cases very original, but it was remarkable to see how they had accepted the fact of Christmas.

Shortly after Christmas we left for our southern field—Kajiji. The Lord blessed us there on January 9 with a daughter, Joanne Sharon. It is at Kajiji that we have our doctor, and hope to have a hospital in the future. It is about 250 miles

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## EDITORIAL

## DEVOTIONAL

### "We Have Heard Him Ourselves"

By Frank J. Froese

### Whose Responsibility?

Increasing urbanization has brought on many problems in the economic life of rural communities and cities. But it has also created problems for the church, such as bulging church buildings in the city and the need for new buildings in development areas in cities. The increasing disruption of home life and mounting materialism are also often blamed on urbanization.

There is one problem that is often overlooked, however, and that is the large number of church members who move to the city for shorter or longer periods of time, yet retain their membership in the church "back home". This situation is intensified by the increase in the student population in the city. They may not go home more than three or four times a year, but they often do not bother to join the church which is their spiritual home for from three to six years.

There are reasons for such action, of course, but their validity is often doubtful. One reason that is more often felt than expressed, is that in the small rural churches one feels at home so much that it's like saying goodbye to Mom and Dad when the membership is transferred—and that's hard. Another motive determining such action (or inaction) is that city churches need larger church fees for upkeep—and students are notoriously short of money (although most churches will take this into consideration). Some also feel that their stay in the city is not long enough to warrant a transfer of membership—although some deem it long enough to purchase a house. And then there are those who do not only want to get away from Mom and Dad, but they also want to get out from the discipline of the church. Finally, some simply never give it a thought!

The church member himself is the loser, of course. He may (and only too often does) not feel at home in any Mennonite church in the city—and becomes a church vagabond, drifting from church to church as the mood (and the distance to travel) suits him. But he may also stick with one church and go there regularly, for Sunday morning services, that is. In either case he does not feel at home. He cannot, for one cannot feel at home until one helps to bear the cost, until one puts his shoulder to the wheel when a task needs to be done, until one has a part in deciding church policy—and until one helps to make others feel at home. To do this, he must be a member.

But whose responsibility is it then if someone has been away from home for six months, a year (with no prospect of immediately returning) and he still has not transferred his membership? In the first analysis, it is the responsibility of the church member himself. A true believer will seek the fellowship of the believers in the full sense of the term, and he will not be satisfied with being only an onlooker.

Yet if the church member takes no action, what then? Should the pastor of the church (or one of the members) admonish him and point out his responsibility to himself? He may—at the risk of being accused of stealing another church's members or being unduly zealous to gain members. When the home church does nothing, there is, however, no alternative.

The real responsibility lies with the home church. They are responsible for their members to God and must bear the consequences of indifference if there is such. The church must go after the lost, seek out those that have strayed—and even if it necessitates travelling to the city. It is a symptom of spiritual lethargy in many churches that there are many in the city today who have gone for lengthy periods of time, yes, they may even be participating in church activities in the city, but they have never transferred their church membership.

The church is a fellowship of believers who exhort, admonish and build up one another. When that is missing and we come together only to worship (or perforce of habit), then we have fallen prey to formalism. That is why we need to make sure that every member who moves away enters into a new fellowship of believers in the city or community he comes to.

"Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world" (John 4:42).

Thus in simple words the people of Sychar gave expression to a momentous personal experience. Jesus had spoken to them! They refused to be satisfied with the woman's account of her meeting with Jesus at Jacob's well. They could not find rest until they had personally seen Jesus. They had come to Jesus with believing hearts because of the woman's report of what Jesus had told her and now finally they exclaimed: "Now we believe . . . for we have heard him ourselves. . . ." Jesus had become a reality to them.

What is the basis of OUR belief in Jesus? From early childhood we have heard glowing reports concerning Jesus. Our parents, friends, our church declared Him to be the Christ. Were we satisfied to base our beliefs on the reports given by other people? Do we merely believe what the church believes? Is our source of spiritual nurture and strength the writings and testimonies of previous generations? Have we nourished our souls on secondhand experiences?

What a privilege to have heard

### Spiritual Crutches

By Mont Hurst

Blessed and full of Christian joy is the individual who determinedly follows Christ in the face of any kind of circumstances and without having to resort to any human or material aid or encouragement. One of the severest tests of consecration and love for God and His Son is to derive joy in simply knowing that one's sins have been forgiven, the wicked past blotted out by the blood of Christ, that the Holy Spirit dwells within, and that God must certainly have His approval upon one's life and service.

It is sad to say that there are some Christians who must constantly have some kind of regular aids in order to stand fast and walk circumspectly in the sight of God. They cannot walk very well without the aid of "spiritual crutches". These are illustrated in many forms. Some people must be members of the church board, some must be teachers or officers in a most important way; another person feels that the minister must rely upon him to lead off with the 'Amens' and testimonies. These are all good evidences of Christian

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the Gospel since early childhood. Yet nothing is so dangerous as a general and superficial knowledge of spiritual things. Many of the people of Nazareth had known Jesus all their life, but they refused to listen to Him personally. They refused to acknowledge Him as "the Christ, the Saviour of the world". Even so Christ has been worshipped in our home and church. We have used His name in our prayers and in discussions pertaining to spiritual matters. But we need to ask ourselves if our Christian faith is based on general familiarity with the doctrines of our church, or do we believe because "we have heard Him ourselves".

Faith that is based on the "sayings" or reports of others will not endure in a time of crisis. The disciples that were journeying to Emmaus found little comfort in the reports of the women that Jesus was alive (Luke 24:22). Jesus only became a living reality to them when He Himself opened their eyes (Luke 24:31). Moreover, Christ realized that only as He revealed Himself to them through the Scriptures would they truly believe in Him as their risen Lord (Luke 24:31-45).

Let us ask ourselves: Has Christ spoken to us? Is my faith based on Christ's own Word, revealed to us by His Spirit?

"Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the World."

## Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

LESLIE STOBBE — Editor

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## Bible Institute Visits Aldergrove

**Aldergrove, B.C.** — The East Aldergrove Mennonite Brethren Church was privileged to receive a visit from the M. B. Bible Institute of North Clearbrook on Sunday evening, Jan. 27. Sixty-five of the 69 students and three of the five teachers were present.

After the school choir had entered, Bill Klassen, a student from the fourth class, led the congregation in the singing of a hymn. Then a male quartet, consisting of Ervin Klassen, Bill Klassen, Ferd Toews and Leonard Doerksen, sang "O Listen to the Wondrous Story". Rev. H. Voth, the pastor of the church and an instructor in the Bible Institute, extended a welcome to the school. Leonard Doerksen led in the invocation.

The school choir under the direction of Mr. H. P. Neufeld then sang "O Come Let Us Sing Unto the Lord". Thereupon another male quartet consisting of Albert Warkentin, Dave Esau, Bill Toews, and George Warkentin sang. After a recitation by Dave Esau, a ladies' trio consisting of Kay Neufeld, Amanda Born, and Betty Funk, sang "All for Jesus". Dave Friesen, a third class student, gave a testimony, after which the male choir sang. Another testimony was

given by Esther Kroeker, a fourth year student. The school choir sang the anthem, "Fairest Lord Jesus", Agnes Koehn singing the solo obligato. A second recitation was rendered by Walter Unger, after which Elsie Isaak told the children an interesting story. Before Tommy Loewen, a third year student, gave his testimony, the school choir sang the German song, "Lobe den Herrn", based on part of Psalm 103. Lillian Hooze, Katie Mueller, Ann Klassen and Evelyn Klassen then sang, "Keiner wird zu schanden".

Rev. Wieler, the principal of the Institute as well as chairman of the meeting, delivered the message. He spoke on the theme, "Beständigkeit im Glauben", basing his message on Psalm 62:1-8. He stressed the fact that in order to be stable in our faith we must base our beliefs on the Bible and believe in the verbal inspiration of the Scriptures.

In closing, the choir sang "When Jesus Whispers Peace", and the meeting was again turned over to Rev. Voth. After the service the school joined the East Aldergrove young people in a fellowship lunch.

## KITCHENER GIRL AT INTERNATIONAL CAMP

**Kitchener, Ont.** — Carol Rempel, 11-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Rempel, Kitchener, Ontario, has the distinction of being one of the four Ontario children who will represent Canada at the 1957 Children's International Summer Village near Cincinnati, Ohio, where children from various countries of the world will meet for one month from May 25 to June 22.

These camps are an experiment in human relations and understanding on the level of 11-year-olds. The first of such Children's Camps was organized six years ago, and will continue annually under the strict supervision of trained leaders, psychologists and other mature persons interested in international good will and understanding. The experiment is to continue annually until 1961 when the findings are to be published. The camp is approved by Dag Hammarskjöld, United Nations Secretary-General and Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

This is the first year in which Canadian children have been invited, and Carol together with three other children from the Kitchener-Waterloo-Preston District will be Canadian representatives. They will travel to and from the camp in the company of a chaperon who will supervise them during the trip and have close contact and fellow-

ship with them while attending the camp. Carol was chosen upon the recommendation of the principal of her school and the inspector of public schools for the city of Kitchener.

## FIRE DESTROYS BARN

**Coaldale, Alta.** — Fire destroyed a barn on the Bernhard J. Dick farm on January 30. The Coaldale Volunteer Fire Brigade helped to prevent the fire from spreading.

Destroyed in the fire were the barn, the milking machine, and all the hay. Neighbours helped to get the cattle out of the barn. Mr. Dick sustained minor injuries to his right hand while fighting the fire.

## BARGEN HEADS EDMONTON STUDENTS

**Edmonton, Alta.** — Mr. Peter Barga, former principal of the Alberta Mennonite High School, was elected president of the Mennonite student association organized in the Mennonite church here on January 27. Mr. Barga, an M. B., is studying for his doctorate in the field of education.

Chairman of the organizational meeting was Dr. John Unrau, professor at the university. He also delivered an inspiring talk to the group of 21 students, representing (Old) Mennonite, Mennonite

Brethren and General Conference Mennonite groups.

A constitution for the group is to be drawn up by the executive for the next meeting. Serving as guides will be the AMUS constitution from the University of Manitoba and a tentative constitution drawn up by Dr. Unrau.

Other members of the executive are: Paul Voegtlein, (Old) Mennonite, vice-president; Anne Kornelson, Mennonite Brethren, secretary-treasurer; Dan Peters and G. Neufeld, General Conference, executive members.

## Tackle Problem of Definition

**Toronto, Ont.** — Being a Mennonite does not necessarily mean that one is a Christian, it was stated at the January 25 meeting of the Toronto Association of Mennonite Students, held in the Danforth Mennonite church in Toronto.

Up for discussion was the topic, "What is a Mennonite?" An introductory talk was given by Rev. Emerson MacDowell, the minister of the Danforth Old Mennonite Church. This was followed by a lively discussion. Although no definite conclusion was reached, the discussion threw light on the need to emphasize that the New Testament principles of the new birth and baptism upon faith still were basic for a believers' church, even to "born" Mennonites.

Participating in the public speaking contest were Bill Dyck of the School of Optometry and Jake Hildebrand from the Ontario College of Education. Judges were Bill Dick and Professor John Sawatzky.

The topic for the next meeting is "The Basis of Christian Morality."

## New Home for Aged Slated for Dalmeny

**Dalmeny, Sask.** — Almost unanimous approval was given the plan for a new building presented at the meeting of the Home for the Aged supporting constituency.

Meeting in the Evangelical Mennonite church, the group heard John H. Voth, the chairman, report that the provincial department of social welfare had agreed to allow the present boarding house to operate for one year only.

Saskatoon and Dalmeny were suggested as possible sites for the new home. A straw vote indicated that the majority favoured Dalmeny.

It was also reported that the home has been given five acres of land and five buildings by the Tabor Bible School, when that institution dissolved a year ago.

A general meeting for further discussion will be called in the

near future. The board was enlarged to a membership of 12 for the purpose of interesting more of the outlying districts in the project.

## BIBLE SCHOOL VISITS CITY CHURCH

**Winkler, Man.** — Students and teachers of the Winkler Bible School made their annual trip to Winnipeg on January 26 and 27 to present programs in the three M. B. churches there.

Three cars and a bus transported the 64 students and the teachers. They left on Saturday, January 26, presenting a program that same evening in the North Kildonan M. B. church. The next morning they were at the Elmwood M. B. church and for the evening service at the South End M. B. church.

The program consisted of songs by the choir, led by John Boldt, trios and a quartet, a story for the children, testimonies by various students, and a message by one of the teachers. The theme for the program was "Christ for All".

Accommodation for the night was provided by the host churches. For Sunday afternoon the students were received into the homes of the church members.

Teachers participating were Dr. G. D. Huebert, Mr. John Boldt, and Rev. D. K. Duerksen. The fourth teacher at the school is Mr. John Goossen.

## MENNONITE CONTRIBUTION DISCUSSED

**Montreal, Que.** — People know that Mennonites are good farmers, but few know much about their faith, maintained Rev. Merle Schantz from the Hespeler Mennonite Church in his address to the 12 Mennonite students and ex-students meeting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Driedger on January 18.

Speaking on "What Have the Mennonites Contributed to the World?", Rev. Schantz stated that it seemed as though Mennonite influence had been more economic than religious. Mennonites seem to have forgotten their objectives and seek to separate themselves to such an extent that it is a strange phenomenon when a non-Mennonite attends a church service in a Mennonite church. An active discussion followed the talk by Rev. Schantz.

As yet the Mennonite students in Montreal have no name for their group or any formal membership. President of the group is Otto Driedger.

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Following the line of least resistance is what makes rivers, and men's tongues, crooked.

## New Projects Begun at Horndean

By Cleopatra Heinrichs

**Horndean, Man.** — In every community there are opportunities to challenge the Christians. These opportunities lead to new ways of winning the children to Christ, while their hearts are still tender to the Gospel.

During the past month two new clubs have been formed. Mrs. Quiring is a seamstress and she is using her skill to train the young girls in that art. The purpose of the class is to teach the girls a useful art and to give them the spiritual help that is so necessary. The class has increased numerically, which is a sign of interest. Mrs. Hardy Kehler, also a deft seamstress, is now the assistant instructor.

The second club, Boy's Hobby Club, registers only one class period, but the purpose is like unto the first: to win the boys for Christ. Pastor Quiring takes over here, and he instructs the fellows in woodwork. We are thankful

for these new outreaches, and we would like the Christians to pray for this work.

These two clubs fall in the same week, and are conducted alternately with the Youth Service. Our last Thursday night Youth Service was the beginning of a new study. The young people took part in the singing and the special numbers, after which Pastor Quiring showed part one of the story, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. We certainly can learn many lessons through the study of this book. Then followed the Bible study, which is based on 1 Peter. We finished chapter one.

For the Sunday evening service, a neighboring church visited us. The program consisted of songs by the choir, poems, readings, and music, which were all woven around the story of Jacob and his flight from home. Rev. Frank Zacharias, the pastor of the Plum Coulee Rudnerweide church, delivered the message. The service was well attended.

## Mennonite Brethren Mission Notes

### Missionary Speaker at Youth Congress

Colombia Missionary John A. Dyck was special speaker and advisor to a meeting of Latin American Christian young people held at Barranquilla, Colombia. Delegates were present from various Latin American countries as well as from the United States, Canada, Switzerland, France and India. The young man from India was from the same state where our missionaries work and was acquainted with our church. He is now studying in the United States. This conference studied the problems of young people and how they may be enlisted for Christ and His work. Brother Dyck found a good spirit in the group. He observed that several of these Latin young people were well-prepared for Christian service and that quite a number were young people's workers.

### News from the Mission Office

#### Hunger for Word in Austria

Maria Foth, Linz, Austria, writes of the hunger for the Word of God which Hungarian refugees in that country manifest. She suggests God had a purpose in allowing these people to escape into Austria. For several years it has not been their privilege to read the Scriptures. When Hungarian refugees were placed in the camp where Sister Foth had classes, the rooms were occupied and she moved to private rooms. One of these places belonged to a Mrs. Schmidt who had come from Hungary. She was so grateful she could be of assistance to the Hungarian

people. When the children began to sing, a group of Hungarians asked to attend the meeting. After the class, a husband and wife remained and Sister Foth read the Word and prayed with them. This couple then asked for a copy of a Hungarian Bible. Next morning the lady told Sister Foth they read the Scriptures until 11 o'clock at night.

### Christmas Blessings

Elizabeth Wiebe reports many blessings experienced at Neustadt, Germany, during the Christmas activities. Several separate Christmas programs and services were held for women, children and adults. Two different children's programs were presented on the afternoon of December 15. The small chapel in Neustadt seats about 140 persons and it was filled twice on that afternoon with children, parents and other visitors.

### Prayer Needed

January and February are important months regarding the property of our work in Mexico. Prayer is invited so that all papers necessary to clear this property with the government may be forthcoming.

### 54 Students at Nyanga

Fifty-four students are attending the Nyanga teacher training school in Belgian Congo. This school is a cooperative project with the Congo Inland Mission and is where George Faul instructs. Two of the second-year students and six first-year students are from our mission. This school offers one of the highest levels of instruction in

the Congo and so its students are in great demand. A temptation of the students is to seek economic advancement through their jobs. About 90 students are expected to attend Nyanga next year.

### Baptism at Matende

Matende mission station, in Belgian Congo, looked forward to a baptism of 20 believers on Sunday, January 13. These candidates were from a larger group who were examined but not all of whom were considered ready for baptism. In reporting this experience, Ernest P. Dyck urges us to pray that these Christians may not become slack, but may grow in their Christian life and witness.

The new primary school building at Matende, Belgian Congo, was to have been dedicated on January 11 instead of early December as previously reported.

### Redivision of States in India

The redivision of states in India is of interest to our mission work in that country. Hyderabad, the state containing our mission area, has been divided into three parts, each going to another larger state or province. All our mission stations are now in the larger Andhra Pradesh (Telugu State). The city of Hyderabad is the capital of this new state. Many officials from the other parts of the former Andhra State have come to take up residence in Hyderabad City. The new state was inaugurated on November 1.

### MORE ABOUT

#### Transfer to Different Field

(Continued from page 1-4)

from our field, so one must be prepared for quite a drive. We took our belongings along so that we could help ourselves there, setting up light house-keeping. We are very thankful to the Lord for the gift of the little girl.

Now we are back again on the Kafumba station. This however will not be for long. Many of you might know that Sister W. Baerg from the Panzi station has had to return to the homeland on account of their ill daughter. Brother Baerg has stayed on until a replacement can be found. It is a rather large work there with an energetic church. The Field Council has asked us to transfer to this field to replace Brother and Sister Baerg. Inwardly we feel very inadequate for this task and yet at the same time the Lord has given us inward peace about the matter. Yesterday as I read my Bible the verses of Acts 18:10-11 stood out as it were in bold print: "I am with thee. . . I have much people in this city." So committing ourselves firstly to the Lord and then to your prayers which have meant so very much to us in the past, we venture

out to this new work. We trust that it will please the Lord to use us, earthen vessels though we be.

The Lord willing, we expect to move within the next two weeks, putting our belongings on a truck and hauling them across country about 300 miles. We hope that you will there meet us with a letter. Our new address will be:

Henry Brucks,  
Panzi par Inkisi,  
Congo Belge, Africa.

### MORE ABOUT

#### New Campus Development Planned

(Continued from page 1-2)

The board of education is also responsible for expansion at Tabor College. Rev. J. J. Toews, the secretary, reported that it was decided to follow the precedent of the past two years by allotting approximately 60 per cent of the total subsidy to Tabor College and approximately 40 per cent to the Pacific Bible Institute and Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary.

The treasurer, J. W. Warkentin, reported to the board that in the budgeted giving plan the following amounts have already been subscribed for the following year:

1955-56 —	\$95,220.62
1956-57 —	85,430.61
1957-58 —	87,475.69
1958-59 —	88,742.94
1959-60 —	49,209.64

(Sept.-Dec.)

The board envisions that the solicitations for the budgeted giving plan are to continue.

President B. J. Braun announces that the board has approved the appointment of Mr. Joel Wiebe as Dean of the Pacific Bible Institute and College, effective Aug. 1, 1957. Mr. Wiebe is well known in the Mennonite Brethren conference as the representative of the Board of Education in promoting the educational program of the school for the past two years. Under his direction the churches have given more than \$400,000 in pledges and donations toward this project. At present Mr. Wiebe is doing graduate work at the University of Southern California toward a doctorate in Philosophy in the field of education.

### FOUNDATION DONATES \$25,000 TO EDUCATION

The Maple Leaf Foundation, Wasco, California, donated \$25,000 to the Unified Educational System of the Mennonite Brethren and Krimmer Mennonite Brethren Church Conferences. Included in the Unified Educational System are Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, and Pacific Bible Institute of Fresno, California. The gift was announced to the Board of Education in session at the Biblical Seminary, Fresno, California.

## Biographical Sketch

# Peter Dirksen: A Man Who Trusted God

By Martha Janzen

"Shall we rise for prayer," said one who was leading the worship service that Sunday morning. He prayed first, then someone else, and another. Then we heard a voice which had been absent for a long time. The voice was firm, steady and unhurried, yet from time to time we could detect a slight emotional trembling. He chose his words well. Clear and distinctly he continued praising God, and when he spoke his amen, the whole church echoed it as, unfortunately, it has not been able to do since.

The conversation at most dinner tables that day went something like this: "Did you see Mr. Dirksen in church? He looks well, doesn't he? And to think the doctor said . . ." It was Mr. Peter Dirksen of Vine-land, Ont., who had attended church again after a lengthy illness, from which he had not been expected to recover. Many and earnest were the prayers that had gone up in his behalf, for Mr. Dirksen is well liked by young and old. The young people of our church feel kindly toward this elderly man—in spirit he seems young—and the older people know him as a true friend. They came to know him during the time he was the church leader a number of years ago.

### Marked By Humbleness of Spirit

In Mr. Dirksen's own words, a church leader must have these two qualifications: he must have a sturdy backbone, and not be a respecter of persons. He possessed them, besides having remarkable reasoning powers and a desire to be used in God's service.

His Christian traits and personality have had a profound influence on all who have learned to know him, but in his own evaluation of his life, he insists that it is only through God's grace and power that he has been of any use. His earnest desire has ever been to walk humbly before God and man (1 Peter 5:5).

### Born at M. B. Birthplace

Peter Dirksen was born 1885 in Elizabethtal, Molotschna, South Russia, of pious Mennonite parents, Julius and Elizabeth Dirksen. He grew up with his brothers and sisters in a typical Mennonite home, attended school for the required seven years, and helped at home as all other young boys did.

He does not remember anything particularly outstanding about his teachers. Nor does he recall any real weak tendencies on his own part. He never received a strapping nor did he have to remain after four.

He did have to help at home; he helped his father in the "Wirtschaft" and his mother in the kitchen. Four boys and two girls constituted the family, but when the nineteen-year-old sister died, it was up to Peter to become his mother's right hand. The other sister was very much younger. Who would have known that this period, when young Peter was instructed in the art of breadmaking and in the accomplishments of the culinary arts in general, would some day become of great value to him?

### Entered "Forsteidienst" and Found Christ

At the age of 22 the young man was called upon to fulfill his duty toward his country—he entered "Forsteidienst". He served for three years. It was here that he came face to face with the age-old and important question: "What shall I do with Jesus?"

His conversion was a time of stormy battles, doubts and fears. The parent-child relationship in his home was such that he could confide all these agonies of soul and also the ultimate triumph to his parents. As a result his godly parents became real Christians also. However, they could never agree to re-baptism. Mr. Dirksen became a member of the M. B. Church in 1923. His marriage had taken place in 1910.

### War Years Difficult

Dark storm clouds were gathering on the horizon, and the next ten years appear to have been the most difficult of his whole life. The oldest son, John, was not quite three years old when he died. "Mama," he said, "I don't want to get well, I want to go to Jesus." And he did. The second son died at the age of five weeks. The war broke out in 1914 in which the young Mennonite men also had a part.

Peter Dirksen was first of all called upon to work in the trains and then in a hospital in Moscow, where he served as cook. Here his early training at home became of use to him and to many others also. We realize the importance of good food for a healthy outlook on life under normal circumstances, but during times of social upheaval it is just as necessary. The patients and government officials often attributed their well-being to the good cooking of the young "expert", as they called him.

### Cook for the General

A young general, reduced to a nervous wreck and paralyzed also, was brought in. Nothing seemed to

have any beneficial effect on him until the cook was consulted.

"How would you like some Borscht?" said Peter Dirksen to him.

"With meat?" countered the other, and soon he was smacking his lips over a steaming bowlful.

Many spoke appreciatively of the services of the young Mennonites. Mr. Dirksen in recollection says, "I've cooked many an oxen in my day." His work there was of two years duration. The spiritual aspect was not forgotten, however, for the five young men of like faith never neglected evening devotions.

The time came when they began to long for a glimpse of their loved ones back home. It seemed no preparation for leave was made for the young Mennonites, so they prayed about it earnestly until permission was granted. Mr. Dirksen could spend Christmas, 1915, at home.

### Death in the Family

Who could have foretold the agony and suffering that awaited the Dirksens in the following year? That year, they feel, was the darkest of all. At the departure he had said these prophetic words, "I will return," little realizing that he would soon have cause to do so. After being four days in Moscow the telegram arrived notifying him of his wife's mother's death. He had to return immediately, but how? The thing seemed impossible.

Laying the telegram before the Lord, as in every other difficult situation of his life, he committed himself to the Lord. He wrote a petition to the officer in charge. Taking courage, he went to see the man personally, even having the audacity to enter via the "No admittance" door. His request was granted.

When he again left his home, it was with a very heavy heart indeed, for their third child, Julius, aged two, was ill with pneumonia. Later it died.

### Sickness Provides Interlude

The government demanded him back at work, this time in another hospital in Moscow, which was under complete control of the Russians. The work was difficult and sickness came to make life miserable. They entreated him to remain and at least supervise the kitchen, but because of the nature of his illness, he was at last granted one month sick leave, which was then extended to two months.

### Revolution

In the meantime the actual war had come to an end, but the 1917 Revolution began. The year 1917 found him in Moscow active in the "Evangelische Soldatenverein", wherein he acted as librarian. Other men connected with this work were Jacob Dyck, Heinrich Sukkau and Johann Toews.

Through preaching, tract and Bible distribution, the Mennonites witnessed to the Russian soldiers, and many were won for the Lord.

In 1918 Mr. Dirksen appealed for and received his military release and was once more a free man in a country which was utter chaos and turmoil. His parents had died during the war, so he and his wife bought a small farm. The Lord blessed them materially. But when the hordes of bandits scoured the country, to escape with one's bare life was of greater importance than the amassing of possessions.

(To be concluded)

## Mennonite Brethren Board of Welfare

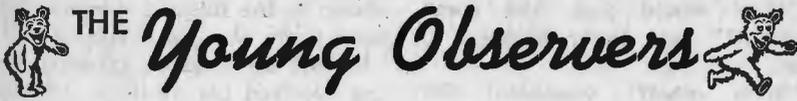
— Henry C. Born, (Chilliwack, British Columbia), Board worker in Volendam Colony, Paraguay, has begun a six-week preaching ministry among Mennonite Brethren churches in Brazil and Uruguay. On January 15 he expected to begin this evangelistic work in Curitiba. From there he goes to Clevelandia, Blumenau, Bage, Montevideo, El Ombu and Gartental. Brother Born will conclude his ministry in time to return for the opening of the new school year in Volendam around March 1.

— A gift from a party in the United States has made it possible to purchase a short-wave radio set for the Mennonite Brethren Mission Home in Montevideo, Uruguay. This gift is a special blessing to Sister C. C. Peters whose sight is failing and who has much bodily pain. German Christian programs can be heard via this radio set.

— A three-day young people's retreat in eastern Paraguay under the leadership of Henry C. Born and Willy Janz was held early in January. Theme of the retreat was "For to me to live is Christ." "It was quite a challenge," Brother Born wrote, "but also a job to entertain and guide 60 young people. The Lord blessed the work."

— Brother and Sister P. Loewen from Friesland, Paraguay, have been called to Montevideo, Uruguay, to manage the Mennonite Brethren Mission Home in that city. They will serve during the interim while a search continues for longer-term workers.

— Frank J. Wiens of our Reedley Church spent January 19 in the Conference Building in Hillsboro reporting to the office of the Board of General Welfare and Board of Foreign Missions regarding their respective interests in South America. On February 2 Brother Wiens and his family expect to be back in Asuncion, Paraguay, to continue the directorship of the MCC program in South America.



## THE Young Observers

### Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

Centuries ago in the time of Daniel there lived a great king in Babylon. He was always building great and wonderful things to show how great he was. This king's name was Nebuchadnezzar.

At one time he decided to build a great idol. He had it covered with gold from top to bottom. After it was finished he called all the people together to come and see this great golden idol and worship it. At the sound of the trumpet all were to fall down and worship it. Among these crowds there were the three friends of Daniel. When the trumpet sounded all fell down except for these three friends. The king was filled with fury because they would not obey him. He said, "I will give you one more chance and if you will not obey me you will be thrown into a fiery furnace."

"O King," the three men said, "we can and will worship the Lord God only." These young boys were not afraid even of death because they knew God would take care of them.

All three were thrown into the furnace, but they were not hurt. God had taken care of them. He had not allowed one hair on them to be burned.

These friends were not afraid to stand up for God. What about us, boys and girls? Are we standing up for our God or are we afraid that someone might laugh or make fun of us? Later the friends were honored, and God will honor us too if we stay true to Him.

Aunt Selma

## The Monkey Who Didn't Believe in Crocodiles

"No!" screeched Titu, the nephew of Nyani the monkey, "no! no! NO! I don't believe it."

He swung from the limb of the buyu tree by his tail and made rude gestures at his uncle, Nyani, who scratched elaborately and successfully. He was suitably aloof from such insults.

Titu went on. "When I was young, O Nyani, you and others thought to frighten me by saying if I did this or did not do that, a ferocious crocodile with beady eyes would eat me. This dragon of your terrifying words was a creature huge as a fallen tree, with skin like drying mud, teeth sharper and longer than those of Simba the lion and a tail as strong as the nose of Nhembo the elephant."

"Titu, you are a small monkey of small wisdom," said Nyani coldly.

"Crocodiles are even as you describe them. They live in the still waters beside the river and they regard monkey, especially small monkey, as a choice morsel of diet."

"Yes, yes," chattered Titu, a sneer coming round his monkey lips, "tell me the rest. He has teeth that tear more than the claws of Chewi the leopard, skin thicker than Kifaru the rhinoceros, a mouth larger than Kiboko the hippo."

A gleam of anger came into Nyani's eyes. He leant forward and made a wild smack at the smaller monkey. Titu swung out of range, laughing monkey laughter.

"Yes, yes, I know, but now I am grown. I know better than to fear the words of middle-aged monkeys."

In his rage Nyani ceased to scratch for a moment. Words failed him, so he swung high and far through the limbs of the Kikuyu trees to the great grey rocks where he could sit and meditate on the rudeness of the rising generation and especially of small monkeys who didn't believe in crocodiles.

Seeing Twiga the giraffe eating green shoots from the top of an umbrella-shaped thorn tree, Titu climbed to the level of Twiga's head and greeted him respectfully.

"Twiga, have you heard of a creature of thick skin, of strong tail, of huge mouth, of beady eyes, that walks on land and swims in water?"

Twiga's long black tongue swept out, collecting some shoots, then he said, "Truly you speak of crocodile, a creature of small charity and large appetite, that inhabits the pools and the swamps and the great river. I had an aunt once who . . ."

But Titu was chattering rudely, holding his hand in front of his nose in an unseemly way.

"Yoh, you have been talking to my uncle Nyani and he has told you to tell me this yarn. Kah, I do not believe in crocodiles."

He swung to the ground, ran nimbly to a flame tree where he noisily cracked the great pods and

displayed his small knowledge of table manners. On a nearby bush was Ndudumizi the rainbird.

"Tell me, O bird of wide knowledge," Titu said, "have you heard of a creature large as a tree trunk, with a tail as strong as the nose of Nhembo the elephant, with claws sharper than those of Chewi the leopard, who has an appetite for small monkeys and lives by the waterside?"

Ndudumizi balanced his long black tail with care and said,

"O small monkey, the creature you speak of is undoubtedly crocodile," but before he could say another word, Titu threw the bean pod at him and scampered away to a pile of rocks where Mbisi the hyena was accustomed to sleep in the daytime.

Now Mbisi had ugly habits and an ugly mind. In evil ways he was outshone only by the vulture in the whole width of the jungle.

"Mbisi," said Titu, "you are a traveller. You have seen many of the things that go on at night. Your nose is keen, your eyes are keener still. Have you heard of a creature large as a tree trunk, with skin thicker than that of rhino and looking like dried mud in the sun, a creature with beady eyes, a strong tail, a mouth of great size which particularly desires to eat small monkeys? I'm told and told and told that he lives beside the water."

Hyena laughed his ugly laugh.

"Titu," he said, "you are a monkey of wisdom. The old ones tell you stories to keep you from looking at your beauty in the calm of the water. What a creature you would look by moonlight in the still waters of the drinking hole beside the great river."

Titu giggled to himself shrilly and moved as gracefully as he was able, to impress hyena still further.

Seeing this, Mbisi said (and there was a sneer close behind his words),

"Prove they're wrong, O small monkey of great wisdom. Tonight the moon is at the full. Go to the place of smooth water and search for this fierce creature with huge mouth and fierce tail and skin beyond all comprehension."

With that, Mbisi crept slyly under the rock and went to sleep.

Titu could hardly wait for sunset, and then the moon rose. Slowly, with his monkey heart beating at a great rate, he went towards the placid water where the animals drank. He saw the pug mark of Simba the lion and almost lost himself in the footprint of rhino, and then he saw the water, silver and still.

He stood close to it and looked at his monkey face. Entranced, he stared and suddenly remembering his purpose, he said in a voice not quite as strong as he would have liked,

"There are no such creatures as crocodiles, nor ever were."

Behind him came a deep chuckle which made his hair stand on end, but he explained to himself that it was only Kwale the quail singing goodnight to those of his tribe.

Titu watched a log floating on the smooth water, a log that had dried mud upon it. It passed over to the bank beyond him and disappeared in the shadows and then he heard the rustle of the grass beside him.

"It must be the wind," he thought, although the water was unruffled.

Again he heard that deep chuckle.

"There are no crocodiles," screamed Titu, in sudden fear.

"True, O little monkey," said a deep voice, "how usefully true."

Terrified, Titu turned. There was a huge dark moving object, two bright gleaming eyes set wide apart. Suddenly a huge mouth appeared, gaped at him, showing teeth larger than those of Simba the lion. They moved sickly closer. He felt a hot breath that smelled of swamps and stale meat.

"Ha!" roared a great voice. "I don't exist, eh?"

The great teeth moved forward a yard and the mouth closed. From between great teeth came the terrified chattering of a small monkey and a deep voice that said,

"I don't exist—no more shall you, little monkey."

\* \* \*

The night sounds went on uninterrupted for a full minute. Daudi said, "Well?"

A voice came from the shadows. "Truly, crocodiles exist."

"And Titu?" went on Daudi.

"It was too late. He believed, but too late." M'gogo spoke huskily.

"Listen," said Daudi, "is it a word of wisdom to say, 'If we say there are no crocodiles, we deceive ourselves?'"

M'gogo nodded firmly.

Daudi's voice went on. "In the Book, it says, 'If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves (behold, ourselves and nobody else) and the truth is not in us.' Beware that you do not follow the wisdom of Titu the small monkey."

M'gogo smiled quietly. He was beginning to grasp it all.

\* \* \*

(This is but one of the 10 fables told by Daudi, the African dispenser, and recorded by Dr. Paul White in *Jungle Doctor's Fables*. Each story has a telling application and is vividly illustrated with sketches of the animals that come alive in the fables. This book will fascinate children from 7 to 70. It may be purchased for 75 cents from the Christian Press, Ltd., 159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.)

## The School of God *By Peggy Arbogast*

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(27th Installment)

Keith heaved a sigh of relief. The two friends were about to leave together when the telephone rang sharply. Both men looked grave. The pastor darted towards it, trembling as he went. "Who would be calling at this hour? Had something happened to Bob? Was there more trouble in store for Ruth?" These thoughts ran rapidly through his mind as he lifted the receiver.

"Yes," Ted heard him answer. "At the Wilson? I'll be right there."

Ted was surprised at Keith's calm appearance as the latter turned to him. He knew that the "Wilson" was one of the nearby hospitals. Keith read his thoughts and hastened to reassure him as well as Aunt Sally who had come to the head of the stairs.

"I had put in a call that I had forgotten about. It was for me," he explained.

However, once outside the house, he cried to Ted, "Run me into that hospital, will you, Ted?" The doctor nodded, without question, knowing that he would receive an explanation on the way.

As the car started, Keith began to speak slowly and thoughtfully. Ted, although curious to learn the details, knew it was no use trying to break into his friend's story. He would receive the details eventually, after the minister had expressed his thoughts.

"Ted, do you ever stop to think how strangely things happen?"

Ted nodded. "Of course," he replied. "The unsaved would call it chance or coincidence, but we know that it is God."

"Have you ever thought of the way the Arnolds have come into our lives? Both of us had been separated for a long time. Each one of us had our own difficulties in the School of God. Suddenly while on the train coming here, I was touched by the sadness in the eyes of a young girl whose suitcase bore a sticker from the Institute. As the train sped on, I prayed for her, never dreaming that her destination was the same as mine—never dreaming that she was to be my next door neighbor."

Ted could not help mischievously adding a phrase at this point, "Neyer dreaming that you'd fall in love with her."

Keith laughed, but then continued seriously, "How amazed I was to learn that not only were we from the same Bible Institute but that we were schoolmates in that far greater school, the School of God. Then through this family the

two of us were brought together again. Through the trouble that has come to Ruth, we've both learned many beautiful truths about the School of God. All of this is wonderful to think of and can only be attributed to the working of our great God. But now listen to this further development. It seems that just as some people are brought into our lives as a great blessing, so others come as a curse. You remember Stan Greene, my sister's husband?" Ted nodded as Keith paused.

"Well, you know that I've always felt he was responsible for my mother's death. I'm sure mother would have lived longer if it had not been for her grief over Virginia's marriage out of the Lord. In the same way I feel that he is responsible for the wasted years and then the early death of Ginny. And now, he's come to bother Ruth."

Ted gasped. "What do you mean, man? What has Stan Greene to do with Ruth Arnold?"

"I wish I knew," responded Keith. "But it was he who attacked her tonight. Oh, when I saw him standing there holding that gun before her, I was almost crazy. I didn't recognize him then, but when he came out of the house and I saw his face, it was only surprise and shock that kept me from thrashing him."

"Surprise, shock, and the Lord," added Ted quietly. "You should be thankful that the Lord brought you there at that time for Ruth's sake. Our God will see to it that Stan is punished. That is not your job."

"I know it," returned the pastor meekly. "The Lord has already punished him. I phoned the police after I called you, and told them all that I knew. I gave them a description of Stan's car and the licence number. Stan is the one we are on our way to see at the Wilson Hospital. They found him lying on the road unconscious beside his overturned, smashed car. He evidently took a curve too fast."

They pulled up before the hospital as Keith finished speaking. A moment later they were informed that the patient they had come to see had entered eternity about five minutes previous to their arrival. Ted accompanied Keith as he went to identify the body.

Later as they left the hospital, Keith was visibly shaken. "Ted, I'm so glad that I did not touch him. If I had, I'd have always felt responsible for his death. Even if he had still had the accident and the doctors claimed his death was

from that, I'd have thought, 'maybe he could have recovered if I hadn't hurt him first.' Oh, for a while I was sorry I didn't get my hands upon him. When I found Ruth lying there bleeding and unconscious, I was so angry. But, oh, how thankful I am now that the Lord kept me from touching him. I'm so glad that I'm not responsible for sending him into a Christless eternity. Little did I think he'd be there this soon."

"It was all a part of the plan for your life, Keith. The Lord sent you there tonight just in time to help the girl you love. He's had some purpose in all this trouble Stan has caused you. Not a bit of it could have come to you or to Ruth except our God so ordained. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Keith nodded. "You are right, Ted. As students in the School of God we should not question our Teacher's Methods. They are often not the ones we should use if it were left to us to choose but in the end we can always see, that His methods of instruction are best."

### CHAPTER XXI

Early the next morning Bob returned from his first night of work. He was tired, but very happy and as he entered the house, he was whistling one of the choruses which Keith had taught the young people. He stopped in amazement when he beheld Aunt Sally coming toward him with her finger upon her lips, motioning him to silence.

"Whatever is she doing over here this early?" the boy wondered as he stopped his whistling abruptly.

Aunt Sally was not long in explaining. She led him to the kitchen where a hot breakfast was awaiting him. The kind lady bade him sit down, and as he began to eat she related to him the events of the night.

Bob listened to her, alarm growing in his heart, as she proceeded.

"Aunt Sally, what do you think I should do? I'd hate to quit my job. I believe the Lord gave it to me."

"I believe so too, lad," replied his neighbor. "No, I do not believe that will be necessary. But I think that when Betty returns we had better talk to her and convince her that she will have to stay home at nights, or else I could come over. Probably there is no more danger. Whoever it was who attacked her, he was thoroughly frightened. However, it will be best to take no chances. Then too, the girl has had a severe shock. Her nerves might

not be able to stand the strain of being left alone again very soon."

Before Bob had a chance to respond, Keith appeared at the back door. Aunt Sally hastened to let him in.

"How's Ruth?" he cried anxiously before he was inside the room.

"Sleeping very soundly," was the reply.

"I'm certainly thankful that you arrived when you did last night, Pastor," said Bob as he swallowed some oatmeal.

Keith dropped into a chair. "So am I," he breathed heartily. "I'll never forget how frightened I was when I saw her standing there at the point of that gun. And then when I found her lying on the floor, unconscious. I hadn't heard the report of the gun, but for a few minutes I was sure she was dead."

"That scoundrel. I'd love to get my hands on him," grunted Bob.

"That won't be necessary, Boy," said the Preacher solemnly. "The Lord has already taken care of him."

"What do you mean?" questioned Aunt Sally for she as yet did not know of the trip to the hospital and its results.

Keith hastened to inform them of Stan's sudden death. Bob whistled. "Phew—it makes you glad you're saved when you hear of something like that happening," he ejaculated.

The others nodded in agreement as Bob finished his breakfast. The boy peeped in at his sister when he went up to his room. "Poor kid," he muttered as he saw the bandages upon her head and wrist. "What she hasn't been through since she has been home!"

Connie awakened a little later, and started downstairs to find her sister. Ruth's door was open, and as she passed, Connie saw that she was still in bed. Then she too noticed the bandages and the whiteness of Ruth's face. Aunt Sally had started toward the stairs when she and Keith heard the child's footsteps. When Connie saw her, she ran sobbing into her arms.

There was a light moan from Ruth. By this time Keith too, had arrived at the foot of the stairs. He gently lifted the little girl into his strong arms, leaving the woman free to go to her patient.

"There, there, Connie. Ruth's going to be all right. She just had a little fall last night. Aunt Sally stayed here with her. Doctor Ted said that there's nothing at all to worry about."

Connie let him dry her eyes with his big handkerchief, then she looked up into his face and smiled.

"I was so frightened when I saw her all bandaged like that," she whispered. "But if Doctor Ted says she'll be all right, I won't cry any more."

(To be continued)

## 1956 in Review for MCC

### January

Relief workers in Jordan move headquarters from Jericho to Jerusalem following riots when warehouse is burned. — Mennonite Disaster Service goes into action at Yuba City, Calif., in wake of disastrous floods. — Flood victims in northern India aided with food, clothing and rehabilitation projects.

### February

Relief team in Java of Indonesia carries on intensive anti-trachoma (eye disease) campaign among public school children. — A new unit on Timor of Indonesia begins in cooperation with Church World Service to help improve agricultural conditions and strengthen the large Christian communion there. — Portable canner completes 1955-56 season processing 99,870 cans of meats and fats.

### March

Delegation commissioned to visit Mennonites in Russia. — Food and clothing sent to the island of Ullung near Korea. — First class of Korean boys graduate at the Mennonite Vocational School at Kyong San, Korea. — Medical clinic established in primitive tribes area at Banmethuot, Vietnam, serving victims of Hansen's disease and doing general clinic work. — Mennonite Disaster Service agrees on principles governing working arrangements with Red Cross and Civil Defense.

### April

Plans begin for a mental health facility in the Ohio-Michigan-Indiana-Illinois area. — New headquarters for MCC Europe dedicated in Frankfurt-Main, Germany. — European Pax personnel make pilgrimage to Holy Land.

### May

Mennonites meet with delegation of Russian Baptists in Chicago. — I-W coordinating committee instigates conferences aimed at promoting the peace concept and church-related service for draft-age men. — New buildings under construction in the medical service unit at Taipei, Taiwan. — Twenty Brown Swiss heifers arrive in northern Greece for Paxmen to give to farmers.

### June

Harry Martens of Newton, Kans., travels to help coordinate Mennonite Disaster Service organizations. — Mental health facility planned for Chaco of Paraguay. — Paxmen begin service with Red Cross in Berlin refugee camps. — House reconstructed by Paxmen for use as community cannery at Tsakones, Greece. — Larry K. Kauf-

man of Windom, Kans., drowns in river in African Congo.

### July

Experimental farm at Filadelfia, Paraguay, reports good crop outlook for coming year. — Three mental hospitals receive first half of Ford Foundation grant. — Nurses Maria Dueck and Gertrud Unruh of Paraguay giving needed ministry in Uruguay. — Forty sets of twins receive milk and vitamins at Pusan, Korea, served by MCC workers. — Summer service programs go into full swing with 165 participants serving in health, recreational and educational positions. — Representatives of the Church of the Brethren, Society of Friends and Mennonite churches meet for sharing and fellowship at Manchester, Ind. — Relief workers in Jordan provide summer camp experience for Jericho and Jerusalem youngsters.

### August

European Pax Services sponsors Peace Conference at Backnang, Germany, addressed by two prominent Christian leaders from France. — School for Boys at Hebron, Jordan, moves into different building under leadership of Ada and Ida Stoltzfus. — New community center building at Kaiserslautern, Germany, dedicated. — More teachers and nurses join voluntary service program in Newfoundland. — Volunteers become counselors in new and relocated Junior Village in Washington, D.C., caring for more than 200 dependent children. — Berlin relief workers conduct vacation Bible school for Mennonite children from East Zone. — Nurses Katherine Dyck of Rosethorn, Sask., and Bertha Kornelson of Abbotsford, B.C., drown in Korea. — Summer service volunteers at National Institutes of Health participate in nationally important cancer study. — Voluntary service workers Sara Ann Jantzen of Plymouth, Nebr., and Ethel Krehbiel of McPherson, Kans., die in auto accident. — Relief workers in Taiwan make food distributions on Kinmen island, near Taiwan.

### September

Project providing housing for 100 refugees completed at Backnang, Germany, by Paxmen. — Dr. John R. Schmidt engaged in deputational work in interests of medical mission at Barrio Grande, Paraguay. — Rudolph Friesen, relief worker in India, transfers to Nepal to help construct hospitals. — More than 28,000 colorful goodwill Christmas bundles shipped to Korea, Jordan, Austria, Germany, Vietnam, Taiwan, Japan, France, Algeria, Hongkong and England. —

1955-56 vocational trainees depart for Europe. — Assistance in cattle marketing given to Christians on Timor of Indonesia. — Community youth center for use as voluntary service unit house dedicated in Denver, Colo. — North German youth participate in camps and Bible schools during past summer; project becoming indigenous.

### October

H. S. Bender and D. B. Wiens represent North American Mennonites in a visit to Russia. — Kindergarten begins at Kaiserslautern, Germany, community center. — Mennonite Church of France assumes full operation of Mont des Oiseaux home for children in France. — Alternative service for conscientious objectors provided in new conscription law of West Germany. — Medical program in Taiwan becomes responsibility of General Conference Mennonites. — United States government officials pay tribute to church agencies for good handling of I-W program. — Projects of Christian literature, a religious library and classes for children added as services to patients at Colorado Medical Center in Denver under leadership of Chaplain Glenn Martin. — Portable canner begins 1956-57 season. — Ailsa Craig Boys Farm in Ontario receives building allocation from Ontario Department of Child Welfare. — Milton Harder becomes acting director of the European program succeeding D. C. Kauffman. — Sister Theodosia Harms of Bethel Deaconess Hospital at Newton, Kans., goes to Paraguay to inaugurate service organization for women. — Workers in Europe gather for annual conference in historic Friesland, Netherlands. — Relief workers in Jordan go temporarily to Beirut, Lebanon, because of Middle East crisis.

### November

Vienna, Austria, relief unit under direction of Irene Bishop mobilizes to meet emergency refugee situation created by Hungarian-Russian war; transit camps established and other assistance given. — European Mennonite Bible School begins seventh year. — MCC finances heifer in shipment of livestock to Russia by Heifer Project. — Initial work begins on 250-mile Trans-Chaco road in Paraguay. — Voluntary service worker Ruth Hartzler named matron of Notre Dame Hospital in Newfoundland. — First I-W Mission begins at Ypsilanti State Hospital in Michigan with wages given to the I-W's conference mission board. — Mobile medical clinic begins operation in Vietnam in area untouched with medical help. — Jordan relief workers return to posts. — D. C. Kauffman becomes director of East-central area mental health program and assists temporarily with Ailsa Craig Boys Farm administration. — MCC peace center at Heerewegen, Netherlands, houses groups of Hungarian refugee students.

### December

Six-month emergency program for Hungarian refugees in Austria underway as North American Mennonites make financial contributions and offer to sponsor immigrants. — Delegation to Russia reports Mennonite Church in Russia experiencing renaissance. — First Paxmen enter Indonesia and Nepal. — Goodwill Christmas bundles distributed in relief areas. — California voluntary service unit among migrants moves from Coal- inga to Huron.

## Please Give Our Hymns a Better Chance

By Audrey Harper

My fingers idly flipped through the pages of my copy of Gospel Hymnal. "Let me see," I thought, "I'll try number 61. Looks easy."

Arise, my soul, arise,  
Shake off thy guilty fears.  
The bleeding sacrifice  
On my behalf appears.

Before the throne my surety  
stands,

Before the throne my surety  
stands,

My name is written on His  
hands.

Five minutes later I was still staring at the page. In mind and heart I was seeing again, the scene of Calvary, the risen Christ at the right hand of God, my surety indeed, my intercessor. I began to leaf through the book again.

Suddenly an uncomfortable thought intruded upon my pleasure. Why didn't we ever sing

songs like this in our young people's group? I thought about what we did sing: "Heavenly Sunshine" . . . "Hallelu, Hallelu" . . . "Rolled Away, Rolled Away." Somehow, now it made me a bit embarrassed. Each chorus did contain something good, but I began to think about the implications of our jingly religious songs to our Lord. Maybe we've been cheating our young charges in this matter of music. We know we can't build football players exclusively on marshmallows, but we expect to see spiritual muscle developing on our young people while keeping them on a diet of pop-corn and bubble-gum music-wise. We want them to know Christ but we fail to acquaint them with many of the songs in which they can best glimpse Him.

Careless, characterless music can spoil our testimony to many in the

(Continued on page 12-1)

## THE RELIGIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE

### POLE-VAULTING MINISTER BOB RICHARDS HONORED

The Rev. Robert Eugene Richards, La Verne, California, was named by the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of 1956. The Jaycees announced that as minister, amateur athlete and teacher Richards "exemplifies youth with a purpose for the benefit of all mankind". Mr. Richards, 30-year-old 1956 Olympic pole-vault champion, is former pastor of the First Church of the Brethren, Long Beach, California. He resigned his pastorate in 1955 to devote more time to evangelistic work and to prepare himself for the 1956 Olympic Games.

### Priest Declares American Catholics Are Different

Roman Catholics in the U.S. are "quite different" from those in Europe or South America, a Jesuit priest declared recently. Through their long struggle for "acceptance" by a predominantly Protestant culture, U.S. Catholics have "taken on the color and habits of American life," said the Rev. Gustave Weigel, professor at Maryland's Woodstock College. He emphasized that the "differences" of American Catholics do not involve doctrine.

"The American Catholic has explicitly chosen to be a Catholic," the priest wrote. "And religion was not thrust on him by culture." Unlike Roman Catholics in Ireland, Italy, Spain, France and other lands, U.S. Roman Catholics are under no "pressure to retain a thin, nominal allegiance to Catholicism."

Specific differences cited by the Rev. Mr. Weigel were the U.S. Catholic's "tolerance of non-Catholic religions. It is impossible for him to entertain fantastic notions concerning Protestants; he knows too many." Other differences from countries where Roman Catholics are a dominant majority are the attitude toward religion as "something to do rather than something to think about" and the absence of suspicion and hostility toward the clergy. The American priest finds his office no bar to warm, friendly relations with parishioners and "the people are glad to have him around." (CIN)

### Taylor on World Tour

Kenneth N. Taylor, director of Moody Literature Mission (formerly called the Colportage Division of Moody Press), is currently on a ten week world tour to aid in the distribution of gospel literature. Taylor will study the literature needs of the Near East and South

East Asia to determine the best use of funds for a growing program of literature distribution. He will seek to aid in the production of gospel literature by advising leaders on problems of editing and distribution. Literature conferences with Christian leaders have been scheduled for Rome, Delhi, Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Karachi. "Gospel literature is the great need of the hour for the many newly literate. The urgency and the magnitude of the task yet to be done demand that this work have the prayer support of the Christian public in this country if it is to be successful," he said before his departure. (ERA)

### Belgium Conscientious Objectors in Prison

In Belgium, 44 young men are in prisons because of their conscientious objections against military service. A pacifist group in Luik, citing the practice in the United States, England, Netherlands, and Scandinavian countries of recognizing conscientious objection and providing alternative service, has petitioned the Belgian government to take similar action. (ERA)

## CANADASCOPE

### Big Birthday Celebration for Prime Minister

Over 1,450 Liberals from all parts of Canada gathered in the Chateau Frontenac in Quebec, Que., to pay tribute to their political leader on his 75th birthday. They heard him sound a stirring plea for national unity throughout the address: "National unity means internal peace; it will never cease to be the basic condition of our existence and our progress as a nation."

### CPR to Accept Commission Finding

The Canadian Pacific Railway has said that it will accept the findings of a royal commission investigating its dispute with locomotive firemen. CPR President N. R. Crump has said that, "We will present all the facts to the commission. We will abide by its decision."

The union has not indicated any advance acceptance of the commission report on whether firemen are necessary on diesel freights and yard engines.

### Commission Opposes Sugar Company Merger

The report of the Restrictive Trade Practices commission tabled in the Commons by Mr. Garson

concluded that the proposed merger between the Manitoba Sugar Co. and British Columbia Sugar Refining Co. would tend to eliminate beneficial competition in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

### Interim Wheat Payment

A long awaited interim wheat payment of 10 cents a bushel, made possible in part by a federal subsidy, is to be distributed in mid-February to Prairie farmers who participated in the 1955-56 pool. The \$37,300,000 distribution, a sort of on-account payment until the pool is closed out, was announced by Trade Minister Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe.

## THE WORLD TODAY

### Another Attempt to Clean Up Unions

The AFL-CIO hurled a "clean up or be thrown out" ultimatum at three of its national union affiliates which it regards as racketeered and "ethically undesirable".

The three unions facing suspension or expulsion from the AFL-CIO are the 73,000-member Laundry Workers International Union; the 25,000-member Distillery, Rectifying, and Wine Workers International Union of America; and the 75,000-member Allied Industrial Workers of America. Most of the charges are for welfare fund abuses, involving millions of dollars in graft and embezzlement.

### India Refuses Own Medicine

What's good for stopping fighting in the Suez Canal zone just wouldn't work in Kashmir. That's the attitude India's Prime Minister Nehru revealed in a Feb. 3 comment on Pakistani's move in the United Nations to have UN troops replace Indian and Pakistani troops in disputed Kashmir as a first step to a plebiscite on the future of the territory.

Nehru, one of the foremost figures in efforts at making peace in other parts of the world, has consistently refused to let the United Nations resolve the border dispute between India and Pakistan. While protesting strongly against Israel's refusal to obey the UN order to withdraw from Sinai, he himself refused to obey a UN order to let the United Nations have a plebiscite in Kashmir. In regard to the UN troops proposal for Kashmir he said, "We have had enough experience of foreign troops and we will not permit its recurrence anywhere within Indian territory under any pretext."

### King Saud Enlightened

King Saud of Saudi Arabia has spent some time in the United States to confer with U.S. officials on government policy and to gain help for his crippled boy. According to a report by Marguerite Higgins he has stated that the Eisenhower Mid-East Doctrine would be acceptable to the Arab world if "the points I raised here could be clarified to them as they have been to me."

The King's favorable impression of the President's Mid-East program is of great importance; for he was delegated by the Arab nations to find out first-hand what President Eisenhower had in mind. It is probable that the three other nations—Egypt, Syria, and Jordan—will be influenced by the king's views.

### Five Air Crashes in Two Days

Five fatal air crashes of United States aircraft in two days last week took the lives of 44 people—and started a chain reaction that should result in greater safety. The Civil Aeronautics Administration of the U.S. Federal government has ordered its field staff to get voluntary agreements among all concerned to prohibit testing of aircraft except over isolated areas.

### EVANGELISM AT SARDIS

Sardis, B.C. — Evangelistic services were held in the Greendale Mennonite Brethren church from January 27 to February 2. Rev. J. J. Toews, pastor of the Kitchen M. B. Church, spoke at the services.

The morning meetings began at 10:30 and ended at 11:30. They were held in the German language, with "Sanctification" the theme. The evening meetings were in English and began at 8:00 p.m. Over-all topic was "Nothing Between My Soul and My Saviour."

### FORMER TABOR PRESIDENT NAMED DEAN AT BETHEL

North Newton, Kans. — Dr. P. E. Schellenberg, former president of Tabor College and presently professor at the Reedley Junior College, has been named dean of Bethel College. He will also lecture in psychology.

### NEW CHURCH LEADER AT GRASSY LAKE

Grassy Lake, Alta. — The Mennonite Brethren Church here has elected Rev. Alexander Neumann as church leader. He replaces Mr. D. Penner, Sr., who resigned after being church leader for many years. The M. B. church here has a membership of 49.



**MENNONITE  
DISASTER SERVICE**

Forty-six representatives of Mennonite Disaster Service from 15 areas met at Chicago January 23-24 to share impressions and aspirations of this ministry of Christian compassion by laymen.

Guest speaker was Colonel Charles Dodd of San Francisco, field secretary of the western territory of the Salvation Army. He reviewed the history and concept of the Salvation Army and explained that it moves into an area at the time disaster strikes and does not engage in rehabilitation work.

MDS makes its contribution in the rehabilitation phase of a disaster. Thus it was noted the two organizations complement each other.

Regarding relationship to Civil Defense, it was agreed that MDS "should keep alert to any approaches CD might make on the state or national level so MDS can provide a constructive alternative."

The MDS representatives asked for intensive sharing among area organizations in techniques of coordination, field direction and relationships with other agencies. Developing significant types of service for women in MDS will also be explored.

Area organizations represented at the meeting were Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana-Michigan, Iowa-Missouri, Kansas, Manitoba, Minnesota, Nebraska, Eastern and Western Ohio, Ontario, Eastern Pennsylvania, Lancaster and Western Pennsylvania. Other areas are being organized.

**NEPAL**

Medical needs in the kingdom of Nepal (between India and Tibet) are very great, according to three workers who have begun service in the country.

Otho Horst (Clear Spring, Md.), Earl Schmidt (Rosthern, Sask.) and Rudolph Friesen (Marquette, Man.) are helping construct new hospitals as workers with the newly-organized United Christian Mission to Nepal. Opportunities for Christian missionary work in Nepal opened two years ago.

Friesen works in the capital city of Katmandu. Horst and Schmidt are serving at Tansen, an isolated town 45 miles west of the capital city.

Their trip from Katmandu to Tansen took three and a half days by horse—wading across rivers, crossing high mountains and using sleeping bags.

Construction of the hospital building is being done mostly by

Nepali workmen, who make bricks of clay and dry them in the sun. Walls are two feet thick. Clay is used for mortar. The MCC men do supervisory and mechanical work.

They report there are very few hospitals in Nepal. The ones which are in operation are in poor condition. The people suffer from many diseases.

The workers said many European and American authorities say the only solution to the problems of Nepal is the propagation of Christianity with medical assistance.

**JAPAN**

Unseasonably cold temperatures last summer in Hokkaido, the northernmost Japanese island, destroyed from 50 to 90 per cent of the crops.

Nearly 30,000 families were affected by the freeze. Two carloads of rice totaling 40,000 pounds were sent by MCC and distributed by Mennonite missionaries.

A Hokkaido mother wrote the following to the *Japan Times*: "When my children saw the rice they softly touched it in fear that it might disappear. Everybody in the family smiled for a long time.

"We do not know how we can express our gratitude to the American people who live far away across the ocean. When we think of their generosity we feel we must work harder to make a success of our pioneer work here (rehabilitating unproductive volcanic soil)."

**BROOK LANE FARM**

Two registered nurses have begun service at Brook Lane Farm. Kathryn Tschetter is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Tschetter of Neville, Sask., and a member of Emmaus Mennonite Church. Annabelle Yoder is from Minot, N.D., and a member of Fairview Mennonite Church.

**Weddings**

**SEMINARIAN JOHN KLASSEN MARRIES**

John Klassen, second year seminary student at the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary in Fresno, was married to Patricia Ann Moore in the First Baptist Church in Batavia, New York, on Dec. 26, 1956. A graduate in liberal arts from a Tennessee College, the former Miss Moore was enrolled in the Carver School of Missions, Louisville, Kentucky.

Mr. Klassen, whose parents reside in Matsqui, B.C., is a graduate of the University of British Columbia. Last year he attended the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Mr. and Mrs. Klassen have taken up residence in Fresno, California. The Klassens are preparing for a

full time missionary work. The Seminary faculty and students honored the newly-weds with a grocery shower recently.

**Obituaries**

**ISAAK H. WALL**

Mr. Isaak H. Wall, 54, of Starbuck, Man., passed away on Wednesday, January 30, in the Concordia Hospital, Winnipeg. The funeral services were held from the Elmwood M. B. church, Winnipeg, on Feb. 2, with interment in the family plot at the Domain Mennonite Cemetery.

Mr. Wall was born in 1902 at Menlertchik, Crimea, South Russia. He emigrated from Russia in 1925, settling with his parents in Sanford, Man. He moved to Starbuck, Man., in 1948.

He was a faithful, praying member of the M. B. Church at Domain, Man., and greatly concerned for the spiritual welfare of his friends, relatives, and the church. He will be greatly missed by the ministers and members of the church because of his intercessory prayers.

He is survived by six brothers, Nicholas, Gerhard, Abraham, Cornelius, Benjamin and John; and four sisters, Mrs. H. Toews, Mrs. M. Krohn, Mrs. P. Enns, and Elizabeth. Mr. Wall was unmarried.

**MORE ABOUT**

**Spiritual Crutches**

(Continued from page 2-3)

stewardship at work. But they must be carried out under the leading and prompting of the Holy Spirit and not from a standpoint of personal importance and Phariseism. The love of God and activation of His truths must be the dominating reason for special service. Spiritual crutches must be laid aside.

It is also sad to note that there are too many people who become miffed at the slightest display of seeming indifference to them and their abilities, talents, work, or importance. Humility is absent from their make-up. They desire the eyes of others to be upon them at certain times. For instance, in a building program they want to be prominently in the limelight and take some credit when the edifice is finished. They seek a bit of glory for themselves and their ardent work in the success of the project. They use spiritual crutches. And such people bring to God's church and themselves no credit. They keep their spiritual crutches shining and in good repair for regular use!

Spiritual crutches certainly must grieve the heart of God. They mean that self has moved to the forefront and that vainglory is the

objective. The Christian who requires something apart from glory only to God as he renders a service or lends his time and talents, needs to set aside his spiritual crutches, get down before God and empty himself. Then he will be filled with the glorious power and presence of the Holy Spirit which will lead and guide into all truth at the sacrifice of self and vainglory. He needs a refilling. God doesn't want any part of His work on earth to become tainted with the vanity of self-seeking opportunists who would exploit their own activities. When our way and ambition and plans fully give way to those of God, as revealed in the power of the Holy Spirit we will see spiritual crutches laid aside never to be used again.

Gospel Herald

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## COLLEGES

### TABOR COLLEGE

#### Canadians Among Honor Students

Forty-six students have been cited for honors on the Dean's Honor Roll at Tabor College. Honor points are awarded on the basis of 3 points for an A, 2 for a B, and 1 for a C. Those with a point-average of 2.25 or higher are placed on the honor roll.

One of the three to head the Honor Roll with a straight A average is John B. Toews of Coaldale, Alta., senior. Among those with a 2.75-2.99 average is Jake Geddert of Chilliwack, B.C., while Mary Geddert is on the list of students with averages from 2.25 to 2.49.

#### Gift by Students

Money toward a new electric dryer for the laundry at the girls' residence quadrangle at Tabor College was recently donated by the approximately 70 girls living at the quadrangle. The gift was made through the girls' inter-dorm council, under the sponsorship of Mrs. Esther Ebel, dean of women.

Girls collected the major portion of funds for the 269-dollar Maytag domestic-style dryer furnished at cost by Wesley Loewen, Hillsboro merchant. The gifts, averaging three to four dollars per student, were made directly by the girls or by mission societies in their home churches in some cases.

"The dryer represents another improvement in facilities at the quadrangle," indicated Ray Wiebe, business manager, "and is a part of the long-range program of improvement in this housing area." Complete remodeling of North Hall and parts of the other three halls in the residence complex was begun last summer, and the board of education has announced plans to complete this project this summer.

## BIBLE INSTITUTES

### EAST CHILLIWACK BIBLE SCHOOL

Rev. J. J. Toews, who has been conducting evangelistic services in Greendale M. B. Church, visited us in chapel on Tuesday, January 31. He challenged us with the steadfastness, unselfishness and humility of John the Baptist, according to Matthew 11:7-12 and John 5:35.

January 28 to 31 were exam days, bringing the first semester to a close. Friday afternoon, preceding our joint prayer-meeting, Rev. Thielman announced his resignation as principal of the school. He read Joshua 1:5b as an encouragement to Mr. Jacob Friesen, the new principal, and encouraged the student body to pray for the school and Mr. Friesen. Rev. Thielman has been principal of the school

throughout the ten years of its existence.

Friday evening, February 1, almost the entire student body, together with Mr. and Mrs. Friesen and Mr. and Mrs. Kasdorf, visited the Jewish synagogue in Vancouver. We all enjoyed a Chinese dinner before attending the regular worship service. We received a cordial welcome and a ready answer to our many questions at the synagogue.

Mary Janzen.

### BIBLE CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR COALDALE

Coaldale, Alta. — The Coaldale Bible School is planning to hold their annual Bible and Missionary Conference in the M. B. church here from March 1 to 3. Services

will be three times daily.

It is expected that missionaries now on furlough will speak at the conference and also show slides from the work on the field.

Everyone is welcome for these three days. Accommodation will be provided for guests who come from a distance.

Immediately after the conference the second semester of the Bible school will begin. The school reminds prospective students that these terms are being offered alternately, so that it is not necessary to have attended the first term to be able to attend the second one. Thus students can still enroll for the second term. Registration is scheduled for March 4. All enquiries should be sent to the Coaldale Bible School, Box 331, Coaldale, Alta.

## Hungarians: Who Are They?

By Dr. Watson Kirkconnell

Historic Hungary is a great interior plain-country of East Central Europe, with a population of ten millions and a total area about equal to that of the three Maritime provinces of Canada. It was bounded for over a thousand years by the Carpathians on the north and east and by the Alps (Eastern, Dinaric and Transylvanian) on the west and south. The predominant language—Magyar or Hungarian—was brought in by a conquering minority under Arpad in A.D. 896. Christianity was embraced in the reign (972-997) of Duke Geza and was defended again and again with resolute courage against the attacks of pagan enemies—the Tartars in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and the Turks in the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Christendom was repeatedly saved as the Hungarians absorbed the first fury of the alien attack. The events of November 1956 epitomize the age-old story of Magyar martyrdom, while the well-fed West has contented itself with pious resolutions regarding the Soviet aggressors and their Red puppet, Kadar ("Cooper").

Magyar, the Turanian language of the state indicates little as to the racial composition of the nation. In the course of a thousand years, every man or woman has several billions of ancestors, and the Slavic and Germanic ingredients poured into the Magyar melting-pot have swallowed up everything except the imperial tints of the conqueror's language. According to a learned study of *The Races of Central Europe* (1939), written by Dr. G. M. Morant of the University of London, the population of Hungary (in statistical terms of such really racial characteristics as height, skull-shape, pigmentation and blood-group) is identical with that in Slovakia and almost indis-

tinguishable from that of Austria and Poland. Until comparatively recent times, minority consciousness based on languages scarcely existed. Sandor Petrofi (1823-49), the chief lyric and patriotic poet of Hungary, was the son of a Serb father and a Slovak mother at a time when both could be passionately loyal to a multinational state.

Hungary's civilization has been linked with that of Western Europe since the days of Ethelred the Unready. The University of Budapest goes back to 1634 and is therefore older than Harvard (1638). Its scholarship, until the Russian conquest of 1945, was beyond reproach. The Moscow slave-masters, however, then sought to cut off all contact with the West and to restrict language instruction in the schools and colleges to Russian and Magyar. This helps to explain the linguistic predicament of nearly all the young refugees in 1956.

Denominationally, the population of Hungary consists of some seven million Roman Catholics, chiefly in the centre, south and west, and some three million Presbyterians, chiefly gathered in the northeast around Debrecen, "the Calvinist Rome".

When I lectured at the university in Debrecen in 1938, I was informed that most of their theologians had taken advanced work at Leiden or Geneva. Hungary also has a few Lutherans in the north and some 16,000 Baptists, mostly in Budapest. As the highest concentration of the Catholic majority is next to the Austrian frontier, it is probable that more than four-fifths of the refugees will belong to that church.

In August 1938, my wife and I worshipped with the Budapest Baptist Church and its pastor, Rev. Imre Somogyi. We also called on Rev. Bela Udvarnoki, principal of

the Hungarian Baptist Seminary, and on Rev. Dr. Gill, the European representative of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Southern Baptists had been very active in Hungary before World War I and had helped to build up a denomination of some 80,000 Magyar Baptists, chiefly in the Hungarian province of Transsylvania. The seizure of this region by the Roumanians in 1919 placed four-fifths of the Magyar Baptists under alien rule, where they still remain. Both Dr. Gill and Dr. Rushbrooke told me lurid tales of the persecutions inflicted on them by the Roumanians. All of this, however, has been dwarfed into insignificance by the Soviet butcheries.

Canadians must not judge Hungarians by the Communist group that settled in Southern Ontario in the early 1920's after an unsuccessful conspiracy on Moscow's behalf against their native land. The overwhelming majority of those who are coming in 1956-57 will have no sympathy for the Great Slave State and its world program. They will bring to Canada long traditions of civilization and love of freedom and will help to make us more aware of the facts of life in these critical times. They should make very good Canadians indeed.

A word of compassionate caution is in order. These people have passed almost incredible tribulations at Communist hands and their nerves are not yet quietened. They have seen their peaceful homes systematically blown to pieces, street by street, by Soviet tanks and artillery; their mothers machine-gunned as they stood in queue in the streets to buy bread; their fathers hanged from lamp-posts; their brothers nailed into box-cars to freeze to death en route to Siberian slave-camps; and their sisters murdered by bullet and wolf-hound as they sought to cross the frontiers to safety. If every refugee does not always from the beginning behave with the demure sedateness of a Toronto deacon, let us say of him as the Florentines said of the elderly Dante: "There is a man who has been in hell!"

The Canadian Baptist

### Ideas for Young People's Program

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MORE ABOUT

Hymns

(Continued from page 8-4)

world, too. I remember the time before I was a Christian. I remember how I could never figure out the people who, looking as chance at our dancing, tapped their feet to the same beat, and in the house of God.

And what of the God whom we worship with our songs? We ought to cringe at the thought of some of the saucy songs we have audacity to sing to Him and about Him. The Israelites were condemned for offering on the altar anything which was sick, bruised or broken. Do we then dare insult Him with, as our "sacrifice of praise", the meaningless doggerel, the froth that blares from juke boxes as well as "livens up" Sunday school rooms?

Of course I don't want to condemn all choruses. A balanced diet will include some that are Scriptural, melodic and well written. That standard gives some of them a good long rest, however, I'm tired of meals with six kinds of pie and no vegetables.

If you're a Sunday school teacher, a youth group leader, or someone who puts up his hand and suggests a favorite song, why not join me in getting some of our neglect-

ed hymns out of mothballs? Instead of bounding up to our Savior with rhythmic demand, "Do, Lord, oh Do Lord," let's try the dignity of this:

Help me, dear Saviour, Thee to own  
And ever faithful be,  
And when Thou sittest on Thy throne  
O Lord, remember me.

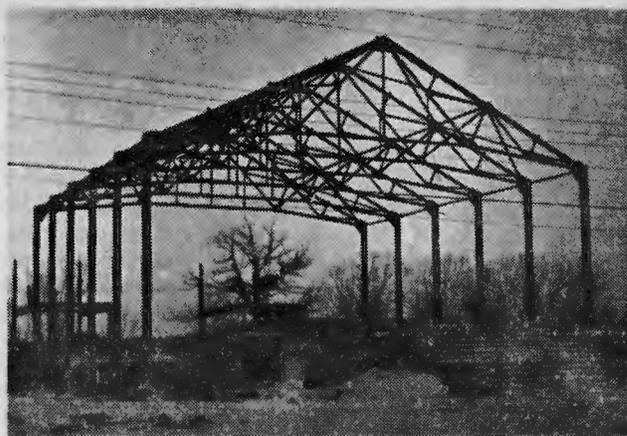
Sometimes let's just meditate on our Lord as we sing quietly and thoughtfully the whole song, "Majestic Sweetness Sits Enthroned" or "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy". There are some majestic militant hymns too. Let's give all our great hymns a chance. Our churches, our young people, the entire cause of Christ will be richer. —Gospel Banner

REV. H. H. EPP AT YARROW

Yarrow, B.C. — Rev. H. H. Epp, pastor of the Mennonite Brethren Church at Blaine, Wash., was the guest speaker at a week of evangelistic services in the Mennonite Brethren church here. He also led in Bible studies during the morning and afternoon.

BIBLE SOCIETY FILM SHOWN IN M.B. CHURCH

Saskatoon, Sask. — The film, "Our Bible—How It Came to Us", was shown at the M. B. church in Saskatoon, Sask., on January 27 by Rev. Leonard Schnell of the British and Foreign Bible Society. From the writings of the ancient



Construction is going ahead on the new North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren church in Winnipeg. Located between Kingsford and Edison Avenues, the new structure will be 60 by 100 feet, with a 32 by 78 foot educational annex. At the present time the overcrowding at the church is being alleviated by having Sunday school and junior church in the residence purchased with the property for the new church. Rev. Wm. Falk is the pastor of the nearly 500-member church.

Hebrews to the canonization, from the beginning of translations to the King James Version, the film depicted the inspired Book, with-standing persecutions and burnings—a priceless treasure.

Rev. Schnell presented the work of the British and Foreign Bible Society. He told of the painstaking effort and enormous cost involved in producing each translation. It takes from 10 to 40 years to provide a single translation. The new Union Swahili Version for East Africa—by the time the first 100,000 copies were delivered—had cost the Society \$135,000. Still 1500 languages and dialects lack a single line of the Bible in writing.

VICTIM OF FISHING ACCIDENT

Sardis, B.C. — Peter Toews, 41, drowned when he slipped into the Vedder Canal while on a fishing expedition. The accident happened on January 29. His body was found the next day.

Mr. Toews is survived by his wife and a child.

MENNONITE NAMED JUDGE

Swift Current, Sask. — A longtime resident of this city has been named a judge of the circuit court. He is John E. Friesen, who has been practising law here since 1919. He came from Altona, Manitoba, originally.

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Modern Miracles at St. Laurant

Ashern, Man. — "Come over and help us" was not only the cry of the Macedonian, but it also came from a family living near St. Laurant, about 75 miles from the M. B. mission station here.

God led us to this family, with our first meeting scheduled in their home last fall. The Holy Spirit was at work at that time, pleading with souls to surrender to God. We went home after the service, but there was no sleep for that family. George had to tell his parents that they should help him get right with God. While they were praying, Peter joined them on his knees, confessing his need of a Saviour. The other two brothers that were home from work couldn't sleep, so they also arose and joined the others on their knees. At midnight tears of joy were shed for the victory. Later they told us that their sleep had never been sweeter than that night after they found peace.

That was the beginning. God continued to work. This winter I sent the singers that had accompanied me home on the bus and stayed on a few days to visit the homes. It was bitterly cold. My

car froze up, but I felt that I should visit one more home that day. After thawing out the car in a barn, I and another brother from the district visited an elderly couple. We were received cordially.

At 10 p.m. we debated whether we should visit the young couple living on the same yard. The Lord said, "Go." In that home we found that the young father had a great longing for salvation. On the basis of Revelation 3:20, he opened his heart to the Saviour and in a very short time the dark face lit up with joy and assurance. This young man told us that he had joined the church and had hoped that some minister would help him to find Christ.

Others in that district re-dedicated their lives to the Lord at that time. I went home tired in body, but rejoicing in spirit.

When I visited Manitoba churches last fall in the interest of the mission I requested prayer for this district. God has answered prayer! Continue to pray, for God is able.

Yours for the lost in Interlake,  
Joe and Marie Wiebe.