

Mennonite Observer

"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." I Cor. 2:8.

★
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These men constitute the interim committee elected by the delegates at the peace conference, held in Winnipeg on May 3 and 4. See report below. Members of the committee are: Bishop J. B. Martin, Stirling Ave. Mennonite Church, Kitchener; Mr. Elven Shantz, (Old) Mennonite Church; Bishop E. J. Swalm, Brethren in Christ; Bishop J. J. Wichert, Conference of Mennonites in Canada; and Mr. C. J. Rempel, Mennonite Brethren Church.

Recommend National Peace Committee

Inter-Mennonite Peace Conference Successful

Winnipeg, Man. — Nearly 50 representatives of 11 historic peace churches in five provinces met in Winnipeg on May 3 and 4 for the first national peace conference of such a nature in Canadian Mennonite history.

Bishop E. J. Swalm, moderator of the Conference of Historic Peace Churches in Ontario, served as general chairman at the peace conference held in the Canadian Mennonite Bible College on Friday and the Mennonite Brethren Bible College on Saturday. The conference had been called upon the suggestion of the Board of Christian Service of the Conference of Mennonites in Canada and was sponsored by the Ontario Conference of Historic Peace Churches. Present were the peace and Christian service committees of the major Mennonite groups and other representatives.

Those present represented the Mennonite Brethren Church, the Conference of Mennonites, the Brethren in Christ, the Evangelical

Mennonite Church, the Rudnerweide Mennonite Church, Old Colony Mennonites, the (Old) Mennonite conferences of Ontario and the western prairies, the Evangelical Mennonite Brethren Church, and the Hutterites (who were there as observers).

Wide Area of Discussion

Discussion at the conference centered around lessons learned during the Second World War, how to improve our teaching program for non-resistance, our relationship to civil defence, alternative service developments, and a united Mennonite representation at governmental levels.

Ample testimony corroborated the contention that we have failed to teach the non-resistant position as effectively as necessary to produce firm conviction in war-time. In the words of one delegate, "We have slipped on this point in many areas. Not that we have abandoned it, but we have not taught it."

(Continued on page 11—2)

U. S. Loan for Paraguayan Colonies

Akron, Pa. (MCC) A loan of \$1 million is available from the United States government to the government of Paraguay for the economic development of Mennonite colonies in the Paraguay Chaco.

Paraguay ambassador Don Osvaldo Chaves on April 29 signed an agreement with the U.S. government whereby Paraguay receives this loan for reloaning to the colonies.

C. L. Graber (Goshen, Ind.) of MCC is in Paraguay helping negotiate the agreement between the colonies and the Paraguayan government.

The agreement states the loan will be made to the colonies over a period of five years with payment by the colonies over a period of 20 years.

Details of this economic development opportunity will be given later when Graber returns and MCC acts upon them. The trans-Chaco road is related to this development.

Mennonites in Paraguay have long desired long-term credit for the economic development of their colonies. MCC has assisted in exploring the possibilities of securing long-term credit in developing agriculture and industry.

The matter was taken up with the U.S. technical assistance program (formerly known as Point Four) and the loan was made available.

The population of the Chaco colonies (Menno, Fernheim and Neuland) is more than 8000. They are immigrants from Europe and Canada. Most are presently engaged in agriculture and small industry.

Influence of Teacher Stressed

By Frank Froese

Springstein, Man. — Sunday school teachers and workers of the M. B. churches at Springstein, Newton Siding, Elm Creek, Domain, Sperling, Marquette and La Salle were represented at the Sunday School Teachers' Conference held on May 4 and 5 in the Springstein M. B. church. Principal speakers were Dr. G. D. Huebert and Rev. D. K. Duerksen.

Dr. G. D. Huebert spoke first, ad-

ressing the workers on the topic, "The Influence of the Sunday School Teacher". He stated that the teacher's influence, either good or bad, exerted through doing and not doing, speaking and not speaking, and through the attitudes of the teacher, is tremendous, ineradicable and eternal. Some day it will be judged by God.

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North Kildonan Man Leaves for Africa

Winnipeg, Man. — Siegfried Epp, resident of North Kildonan and member of the North Kildonan M. B. Church, left for Hillsboro, Kans., on May 8. From there he will leave for the Belgian Congo, Africa, under the auspices of the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions.



A large construction program on the mission field in the Belgian Congo will be carried out by the mission board. Mr. Epp is to be active in this work, as well as serve as mechanic, truck-driver and assist in evangelistic work.

In his home church Mr. Epp has been active in choir work, young people's work and Sunday school work. He has also been active in the Sunday school at the Union Gospel Mission sponsored by the Gospel Light Mission. For the past two years he has been studying at the M. B. Bible College in Winnipeg.

Mr. Epp is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Epp, long-time residents of North Kildonan.

EDITORIAL

Unity of Purpose Fostered

Mennonites in Canada have become more conscious of common national interests during the last year. We have begun to see beyond the concerns of the local church, the provincial conference, and the specific Mennonite denomination that we are a part of, and realized that in some areas we have a common interest. Recent national conferences and conventions have proved that exchanges between east and west and between Mennonite groups can be fruitful and inspiring.

The most outstanding development in this field is without a doubt the peace conference held May 3 and 4 in Winnipeg. For the first time in Canadian Mennonite history the peace and Christian service committees and other representatives of a dozen Mennonite groups met to discuss common concerns in the area of peace and non-resistance. Those present represented all five provinces. They went home with new ideas, a greater burden for more adequate peace teaching, and a better understanding for each other.

Two facts impressed themselves upon those present in a special way. One is that in the area of peace and non-resistance Mennonites can reach a remarkable degree of harmony and unity. The other truth is that there must be unity of purpose and unity of representation if we as Mennonites want to achieve our goal in representations to the federal government. As individual groups we have very little influence, but as a united Mennonite brotherhood we can gain the audience and the respect of government officials.

A remarkable spirit of brotherly love and consideration characterized the sessions of the conference. At no point was this amicable and charitable spirit in danger. All realized that suspicion and mistrust could have seriously hampered the exchange of experiences and ideas—they could have effectively wrecked the ultimate purpose of the conference. But this did not happen, in itself a significant fact.

The sobering realization that as Mennonites we were inwardly and organizationally unprepared to meet the emergency resulting from the outbreak of World War II led to a strong emphasis upon improving our peace teaching in the homes, schools and churches. It also gave impetus to the movement for a national representative Mennonite committee that could iron out the differences among the various groups in areas of national Mennonite concerns. The conference felt that this was basic to a united representation at governmental levels if such became necessary.

It is to be hoped that the various Mennonite conferences will support the recommendation of the peace conference that a consultative and advisory body representing all Mennonite groups be formed. This should in no way impair conference independence, for the recommendation clearly states that the proposed committee is to have no legislative authority. The necessity for such a committee was amply demonstrated in the many illustrations cited from experiences during the Second World War.

Practical aspects that concerned the conference were in the areas of disaster service, civil defence and alternative service. A report on these discussions is given elsewhere in this paper.

The spirit of amity and love at this conference, and the resultant optimism, augur well for future inter-Mennonite conferences of this kind. The close to 50 people present agreed that they are invaluable.

Medal of Honor

By Dorothy C. Haskin

Carefully CHRISTINA unpinned her corsage and placed it on the lower shelf of the refrigerator. She hoped it would last several days. She smiled ruefully, realizing that Mother's Day was the only time during the year when she was given a corsage by the family. So this was a special treat. Indeed it was, and

"When I am tempted to repine
That such a humble lot is mine,
Within I hear a voice, which saith—
'Mine was the streets of Nazareth.'"

The trivial round and the common task are ennobled when accomplished, not for their own sakes

(Continued on page 5-2)

DEVOTIONAL

"She Worketh Willingly With Her Hands"

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her. . . She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. . . She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household. . . She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. . . her candle goeth not out by night. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. . . She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. . . Her children rise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. . . Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised" (Proverbs 31:10-30).

By Dr. Herbert Lockyer

If when Rome was mistress of the world there were saints in Caesar's household, there are certainly hundreds of saints today scattered over the homes of the nation. Nobly they spend the major part of their time at the sink, washing clothes and dishes, and around the house tackling daily innumerable chores.

Has anyone ever counted up how many pieces of clothing and dishes a woman washes in a year, how many floors she sweeps, how many socks and stockings she darns, how many meals she prepares, how many errands she runs?

One Monday morning, traveling by train to London, I was impressed by row after row of newly washed clothes suspended on lines, stretched from windows or from garden poles. That mass of washing revealed that scores upon scores of women had risen early and spent a hard hour or two at the sink or washtub, and at night would have to spend further time ironing the wash—if dry.

These daily toilers, who have little freedom from the monotony of housework, cannot join the army of male workers whose ignoble slogan is "the same wage for a shorter work week". Faithful mothers and housewives cannot strike for a forty-hour week. While modern gadgets may help to reduce mother's task (if she can afford an automatic washer and dryer), it is still true that "woman's work is never done." A quaint fifteenth century writer said:

"Some respite to husbands the weather may bring,
But housewives' affairs have never an end."

These saints of the pots and pipkins are no time-servers. They have to be first up in the morning and last to bed at night. After the rest have retired, these "noble housekeepers who need no doors" toil on at numerous duties.

Why are so many household saints able to transform a sink into a sanctuary? How is it they can see the glory in the commonplace and honor God in the plain path of duty? Without doubt, they personify the one old George Herbert wrote of:

"A servant with this clause
Makes drudgery divine;
Who sweeps a room, as for Thy laws,
Makes that and th' action fine."

Theirs is the nobility of labor, for many of them believe with St. Theresa, reformer of the Carmelites, that "God walks among the pots and pipkins"—a phrase Miss Cicely Hallack based her brief but beautiful poem on:

"Lord of the pots and pipkins,
Since I have no time to be
A saint by doing lovely things
And vigiling with Thee,
By watching in the twilight dawn,
And storming heaven's gates,
Make me a saint by getting meals,
And washing up the plates."

House-saints, believing with Browning that "all service ranks the same with God" and that "the path of duty is the way of glory", are ever inspired by the example of Jesus, who knew all about housework and doubtless, as a boy, helped His mother with her tasks. How effectively He could draw spiritual lessons from ordinary home life!

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for Mennonites of All Age-groups

LESLIE STOBBE — Editor

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

Mennonite Concert Committee Formed

Enthusiasm Noted at Course

By Abe Konrad

Matsqui, B.C. — Choir conductors of the Mennonite Brethren churches in Canada were welcomed to the first Canadian conductors' course by Mr. Corny Balzer on behalf of the conductors of the Manitoba M. B. conference and the administration of the M. B. Bible College. More than 50 conductors attended the course given from April 22 to 26 in the M. B. Bible College at Winnipeg.

Rev. C. D. Toews, chairman of the Music Committee of the M. B. Conference of Canada, also extended a warm welcome to all conductors who had been enabled to attend the course. The theme of the course was: "Serve the Lord with gladness, come before his presence with singing" (Psalm 100:2).

Rev. J. P. Neufeld, Rev. I. W. Redekopp, Rev. Peter J. Dyck, Rev. C. D. Toews and Rev. Clarence Hiebert spoke at the devotional sessions held each morning in conjunction with the college chapel service. The sanctified life of the church musician, the dedication of the choir members to their task, and the importance of the ministry of song were stressed in the messages from God's Word.

Lecturers for the week were Mr. Ben Horch, Analysis of the "Messiah"; Mr. Peter Klassen, History of Church Music; and Mr. Corny Balzer, Conducting.

Music Has Missionary Purpose

At various times during the conference Mr. Horch expounded his philosophy of the role of music in the church. He maintained that the great missionary injunction of Christ in Matthew 28:19-20 includes

evangelization by music. Many cannot be reached today except through the medium of good music, and Mennonites are especially suited to do this because of their musical tradition and the musical advances of the last decades.

In his lectures Mr. Horch said that the cathedral adequately symbolized the music of the last three centuries. The Baroque Period (Bach, Handel) was characterized by the detail of its parts; the Classical Period (Mozart, Haydn) was appreciated for its beauty of form; and the Romantic Period (Strauss,

(Continued on page 8-3)

Host Young People From Chilliwack

Rosedale, B.C. — During the Easter holidays all the young people's groups of the B.C. Mennonite Brethren churches enjoyed special youth meetings. On Wednesday, April 24, East Chilliwack was host to the group from Chilliwack M. B. church.

A hearty singsong introduced the meeting and set the joyous mood of the evening. Several special numbers rendered by a mixed double quartet were enjoyed. There were three visiting speakers engaged for the main feature—a panel discussion. Henry Dyck, of Chilliwack, spoke on keeping the Lord's Day completely holy and God-honouring. Rev. Wm. Neufeld, teacher at the MEI, showed us what true Christian recreation was. Mr. John Ratzlaff, also a member of the MEI teaching staff, challenged us to become more useful for God by becoming refined

and cultured. A brief question period followed the panel.

Later, in the basement of the church, a light lunch was served. The whole evening was enjoyable and proved to be a blessing.

Spring Concert By Children's Choir

Winnipeg, Man. — The children's choir of the Elmwood M. B. Church, directed by Mrs. Albert Litz and accompanied by Bertha Pauls, gave its spring concert in the lower auditorium of the church on Thursday, May 2.

A large group of parents and interested listeners immensely enjoyed the 45-minute program of children's singing. Instrumental numbers were also performed by members of the choir.

Songs of the choir, which won first place in the classes it entered in the Manitoba Musical Festival, included: God Is My Song; All Things Bright and Beautiful; For the Beauty of the Earth; All in the April Evening; Easter Hymn—Robert Peery; Seek Ye the Lord—G. M. Hardy; God So Loved the World—Peery; Heidenroeslein, and Sommerfreude.

Piano solos were played by Dianne Shier and Elaine Martens, who played "Falling Waters" and "To the Moon" respectively. Wanda Konrad played "Adoration" on the violin. Erna DeFehr sang, "The Lamb", while Elaine Martens and Elfrieda Horch joined voices to sing, "More Like Him".

Mennonite Gets United College Post

Winnipeg, Man. — United College has announced the appointment of John H. Warkentin as head of the

geography department and as assistant professor of the department.

Once a student at United College, Mr. Warkentin is a graduate of the University of Manitoba, taking his diploma in education in 1949. He served two years as assistant principal at Brickburn Collegiate Institute, Gilbert Plains, and in 1951 entered the school of graduate studies at the University of Toronto, majoring in geography.

Mr. Warkentin is completing work on his Ph.D., a special historical geographical study of Mennonite settlements in the Dauphin area.

He is currently instructor in geography in the North Atlantic program of the University of Maryland, teaching physical and economic geography and modern European history at the American base at Thule, Greenland.

First Mennonite Church Hit By Fire

Winnipeg, Man. — Fire swept through the basement auditorium and kitchen of the First Mennonite church before firemen were able to halt its progress. The fire was first noticed at 3 a.m., May 2, by a taxi driver, who called the fire department.

Flames were eating at the ceiling of the basement when firemen from five stations arrived. They were able to contain the fire before it damaged the main church auditorium.

Estimates of damage vary. However, the interior of the basement of the large church, as well as the kitchen and the furniture were damaged so seriously that the basement will have to be rebuilt and the furniture replaced. The church carried insurance on the building, but not on the furniture.

A Cappella Choir to Tour Alberta and Saskatchewan



This is the A Cappella Choir of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College at Winnipeg. It will make a quick tour of the prairie provinces during the May 19 long weekend, travelling as far west as Coaldale, Alta. Rev. J. A. Toews, president of the college, will accompany the choir, which is directed by Mr. Henry Voth, director of music at the college.

The itinerary of the choir is: May 17, evening, Herbert, Sask.; May 18, evening, Coaldale, Alta.; May 19, morning, Gem, Alta., and for the evening, Linden, Alta.; May 20, evening, Hepburn, Sask.; and May 21, Saskatoon, Sask. Programs will be in the respective M. B. churches, except at Herbert and Hepburn, where the choir will sing in the M. B. Auditorium.

Members of the choir are: First row, left to right, Anna Janzen, Lilian Konrad, Mr. Henry Voth (conductor), Katie Froese, Hildegard Hein, Rita Baerg, Anne Wiens, Hulda Nickel, Laura Sawatzky, Mrs. J. Pauls, Marie Ratzlaff, Tena Isaak, Mary Lenzman, Elfrieda Suderman, Mrs. H. Esau, Erika Dyck, Erna Mueller, Susan Funk, June Enns. Second row, left to right, George Schroeder, Roland Sawatzky, Walter Fast, Gordon Lautermilch, George Block, Jake Dueck, Rudy Wiebe, Rudy Baerg, Jake Schmidt, Henry Regehr, Henry Esau, Erwin Klassen, Ernie Block, Arthur Kliewer.

Ten Years of Community Service



At left are this year's students at the East Chilliwack Bible School, which recently celebrated the tenth year of operation. At right is the school building, formerly East Chilliwack M.B. church.

By Marlene Penner

Chilliwack, B.C. — The year 1957 is the tenth year that the East Chilliwack Mennonite Brethren Bible School is operating. For ten years, God has blessed this community through the school and used it to speak to His children.

The M. B. Church at East Chilliwack had been organized in January of 1945. Soon afterward it was felt that something special had to be done for the young people. They needed extra help to ground them in the faith and to stabilize them in their spiritual life. The perfect answer to this problem seemed to be a local Bible school.

Committees were elected in 1946 and organizational work began. Fervent prayer, great faith in God and much discussion characterized the first efforts. Soon, however, the ideas became concrete and the plans were finalized. An old building located near the church was purchased and renovated to accommodate the first class, which entered in October of 1947.

Good Enrollment First Year

Fifty-six students enrolled the first year. The teachers were Rev.

George Thielmann, Mr. Victor Toews, Mr. J. K. Brandt, and Rev. J. J. Boldt. The Lord showered his blessings upon the school and the faith of the believers was greatly rewarded.

In 1955, after the new church building had been built in East Chilliwack, the former building was converted into a school. Two classrooms, a library, an office, a prayer-room, and a small chapel were constructed. The building was a marked improvement over the first and aided remarkably in effective studying.

The school has for the past ten years been under the capable principalship of Rev. George Thielmann. Just recently Mr. Jake Friesen has taken over this important position. There have been thirteen other teachers who have taught at the school at one time or another. The total number of students who have attended the school is 176. The total enrollment is 321.

Students From Five Churches

At present the school has 23 students. They are from East Chilliwack, Chilliwack, Greendale, and Kelowna. Mr. Hans Kasdorf, Mr. Jake Friesen, and Rev. George

Thielmann are the instructors and Mr. Henry Wiebe is in charge of the choir. Since Mr. Kasdorf expects to return to Brazil, it is expected that Mr. Peter Penner, Lindal, Man., will join the teaching staff next year.

The East Chilliwack M. B. Church has supported the school since its inception. In the past year the Chilliwack M. B. Church has also aided in the maintenance of the work.

On April 22 of this year the school celebrated its tenth anniversary. The former students gathered in the afternoon to praise and thank God for what the Bible school had meant to them. Old school pals met and reminisced about the seemingly long past "good ol' school days".

Special Thanksgiving Service

In the evening a special thanksgiving service was held in honour of the ten years of Bible school work. The history which was given, showed that God can do "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or even think" if we only have faith.

The church is thankful that God has entrusted such a school to them. They feel that Bible training is necessary in building useful lives.

MORE ABOUT Influence of Teacher Stressed

(Continued from page 1-4)

In his message Rev. D. K. Duerksen encouraged the approximately 30 workers present to keep on doing their work faithfully and well, for great awards await the faithful teacher. We should not be discouraged, Rev. Duerksen stated, for the work is Christ's, and we are His assistants. He also pointed out that Sunday school work is a great work, with 30 million children attending classes. Because of this we should regard teaching as a privilege.

After an enlightening discussion an appetizing dinner was enjoyed by all in the church basement.

Active, enthusiastic and overflowing Christian love is the key to

success in teaching, Rev. Duerksen maintained at the afternoon service, when he spoke on, "How Can I Instruct Profitably?" Dr. Huebert brought the first day to a close by speaking on, "The Sunday School Teacher As a Shepherd". A good shepherd is one who is a disciple of Christ. He will serve, guide and lead (not drive), protect and feed his lambs, Dr. Huebert stated.

Approximately 50 people attended the Sunday afternoon session, where Dr. Huebert spoke on the topic, "Child Conversion", and Rev. Duerksen discussed, "Obedience of Children". Dr. Huebert, who had spoken to the local congregation on "What We Can Learn From Children" in the forenoon, pointed out that although there are some problems involved in child conversions, they are nevertheless justified. He

declared that statistics prove that they are the most permanent and that they are safe. Most of the Christian workers have been converted as children.

After the discussion a good lunch was served and the congregation scattered, each one no doubt inspired to be more than ever Christ's "faithful and obedient servant".

Child Safety Emphasis Given

Swift Current, Sask. — Upon the request of the department of public health, a brief period was devoted to child safety discussion at the Southside Mission on the first Sunday in May. A local physician delivered a brief lecture to highlight child safety.

Dr. Little stated that in the past

year 102 children under 15 were killed in Saskatchewan accidents. Since about one-third of the child's playing time is spent around the house, it is there where most accidents occur, the doctor announced. Then he enumerated the dangers that exist in each room of the house and told the children what precautions should be taken.

The kitchen is the place where a goodly number of children are injured, Dr. Little asserted. Sharp utensils should be kept out of a child's reach and the handles of pots should always be turned inwards when on the stove. Children should be kept away from washing machines, power tools and guns, he warned. Neither should they be permitted to be alone in the bathroom, for they might easily scald themselves or drown if left in the tub by themselves.

It is hoped that this talk will help prevent many needless accidents

Good Attendance Marks Oratorio Performance

Coaldale, Alta. — The large Mennonite Brethren church here was filled to the last seat on Sunday, April 28, for the Oratorio Choir presentation of the "Messiah" by Handel. On the following evening, the Oratorio Choir sang the "Messiah" in the Southminster church, Lethbridge.

Like last year, the performance was again a great success. Directed by Rev. Peter J. Dick, the choir demonstrated again that diligent practising and enthusiastic singing can lift a choir above the technicalities of oratorio singing and help to transmit the message of the words. Writing in the Coaldale Flyer, A. L. Hartwig states that the interpretation of the oratorio by the choir was "imaginative and gripping".

She continues, "The wonderful blend of voices and good performance of the choir, and the exceptionally fine rendition of the solo parts, made the oratorio delightful to listen to."

Tenor solos were sung by John Pauls and Rudy Wiebe, former members of the choir now studying at Winnipeg. David Falk of Winnipeg sang the bass solo parts and Mrs. Falk sang the contralto solos. Miss Holda Reimer of Yarrow sang the soprano solo parts.

Future Subscribers

A son, John Edward Toby, was born to Dr. and Mrs. John Krahn, Winnipeg, on April 29. Both mother and child are doing well.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Giesbrecht of Coaldale, Alta., are rejoicing over the birth of a son, Clarence, on April 28.

Light in the East

Revival Evident Among Mennonites

By H. S. Bender and David B. Wiens

(This is the third in a series of four articles reporting the official visit to Russia by Mennonite Central Committee.)

A growing spiritual awakening is now in process among Mennonites in Russia, we learned on our official visit to Russia last October and November as commissioners of Mennonite Central Committee.

This revitalizing process apparently began in 1954 and 1955 and continues to spread. It is only in the last three years that sufficient freedom has been enjoyed by German-speaking Mennonites so that church life could exist.

Even now religious meetings are restricted on paper to registered groups which must have a pastor, an approved meetinghouse and at least 20 regular members.

We learned that one elder has been conducting regular Mennonite services in German with communion and baptism in one small unorganized congregation since 1948. This is probably an exception.

Only since last year have German services been possible in larger cities and it is doubtful if many German services were resumed before late 1954. These are only meetings of unorganized groups where local officials have no objections.

Few Mennonites have ventured to think of organization, many being only recently released from forced labor camps or from life in difficult, restricted or remote areas.

For 20 to 25 years no meetings, baptisms, ordinations, communion or church marriages were conducted. Organized Mennonite church life had ceased.

In considering an awakening, the lack of men in some areas has been so serious that women have taken the lead in arranging meetings, reading scripture, instructing and speaking. Very few preachers have survived the tribulations of the past 30 years, and scarcely more than one or two are active elders.

'Famine' for Bible

Bible and hymnals have been lacking, not only in German but also in Russian languages. Because of this there has been a "famine" for the Bible and a great unmet need for religious instruction and fellowship.

We were greatly encouraged by the strong and vital character of the spiritual life and attitudes manifested by the two Mennonite ministers we met. One of them said it is his life goal (he is now 69) to re-

build the Mennonite church in Russia.

These two ministers are hopeful, aggressive, devout and consecrated and working with all their strength. They both reported the same general spirit among the people in the communities they visit.

Not all Mennonites in Russia are so spiritually alert today. Some youth lack basic Bible knowledge and religious instruction. Some older people are indifferent. There was some indication that a few former ministers may have given up active faith.

However, the present wave of revitalization can be a mighty force for the reconstitution of the spiritual life of the Mennonite brotherhood in Russia.

Language Problem

There is evidence that the problem of the Russian versus the German language in church life is becoming a serious one.

There have been no German schools or German literature in Russia for 25 or more years. This means the present generation has grown up with Russian schooling only and learns German only at home where usually Low German is spoken.

With mothers working (most women in Russia are gainfully employed and widows must work to live and support their children) the influence of the German language on most youth under 20 is small, except in the old established settle-

ments where the entire community speaks German.

A mother in Karaganda reported her 18-year-old son is having serious difficulty reading the German Bible and understanding German preaching. We gave her a Russian New Testament for him.

It is clear that the next generation of Mennonites in Russia will inevitably have Russian as their primary language, even should there be some relaxation by the government on the language issue.

Failure of the older generation to recognize this may well mean the loss of the youth to the church. Mennonites of Russia will need translations of good Mennonite and Christian literature into Russian.

There is a great need for Bibles and hymnals now, both in German and Russian languages. Ways to systematically meet this need now are being studied.

Conscientious Objectors

We were told the Lenin Law of 1922 still stands, recognizing conscientious objectors to military service and permitting alternative service. However it is apparently much more narrowly applied now than formerly.

The two Mennonite ministers to whom we talked are aware of the historic Mennonite position, but scarcely know what to do about it, so the matter is left to individual discretion. Some Mennonites, they said, are now in the Russian army. We met one such young man in Moscow.

Yearly visits to Russia to continue fellowship with Mennonites and Baptists would be desirable if permission can be secured.

Next: Fellowship With Russian Baptists

MORE ABOUT**Medal of Honor**

(Continued from page 2-2)

she caught her breath at the thought that she had been given a medal of honor!

Slowly she closed the door; and leaning against the sink, she wondered, "Do I deserve it?" Her thoughts turned to her favorite Bible passage, "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her" (Proverbs 31:19,11). And her musings might well be the musings of any mother.

The most important realization that can come to any woman is that Mother's Day is founded on her relationship to her husband. That relationship is the foundation upon which the home is built. However, it is not always easy for the two to become one in spirit.

Mothers

Mothers who've borne a child in pain,
We salute you on this morn;
Mothers who've counted not the cost
For joy that a man was born.

Mothers who rear a child with care,
Who bake and wash and sew,
That the little limbs may be straight and strong
And the little body grow!

But the mothers who gird a child with prayer,
Who arm him with the Word,
Who set his feet on the narrow path
And turn his heart to the Lord,

These are the mothers approved of God,
The mothers who serve Him most,
For what doth it profit a woman to bear
A child if his soul be lost?

By Martha Snell Nicholson.

nothing to him, but she made plenty of remarks to her friends about how penurious he was. She forgot that it was part of her job as wife to help build up the respect of others for her husband, so that he might be "known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land" (Proverbs 31:23).

Her children acquired their mother's contemptuous attitude toward their father. Her Mother's Day badge of honor was worn as falsely as a medal of honor worn by a soldier who had not been loyal to his country.

* * *

EDNA'S husband died when her three children were still small. So if he had faults, she wasn't tempted to complain to others about them. Instead, she was always telling her children about the fine things he had done and what a splendid man he had been. One of her friends, who had known Harry, remarked, "Edna, you have nothing but praise for him. You know that he was far from being a paragon of virtue."

"My dear," Edna replied earnestly, "I have to bring up the children without him, but there's no need to tell them of his faults. They will be better children if they respect their father."

When Edna received her Mother's Day corsage, she knew that she earned it. Not only had she been a mother to her children, but she had also given them a father. Her conception of motherhood was not easy to fulfill—but medals are given, not for an easy life, but for faithfulness in a hard one. Have you earned your Mother's Day medal of honor?

(Copr. ERA, 1957)



Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

This Sunday is a special day for mother. On this day we want to thank God for our wonderful mothers.

A little girl came running into the kitchen on Mother's Day and threw her arms around her mother and said, "Mother, I love you very much, but I love God best for giving you to me."

Do we feel like this girl? I hope you do. Let us not be thankful only this Sunday, but at all times.

Mother, father, Tommy and Billy were sitting around the breakfast table. It was the morning of Mother's Day. After breakfast Tommy jumped up, gave his mother a kiss and said, "I love you very much, Mother." Then he ran outside to play. Billy jumped up too, and said, "I love you, Mother." Then Billy took a dish towel to help mother with the dishes. Later he went upstairs to clean up his room.

Which boy do you think meant it more when he said, "I love you, Mother.?"

Let us remember to say thank you to Mother for all the good things she has done for us. Let us also show by our deeds that we mean what we say.

Aunt Selma.

Seized by the Giant

The little pilgrims left the Valley of Peace early in the morning, and travelled along the Way of the King all the day. Late in the afternoon they came to a place where a stile led into a broad green meadow. It was called By-path, Meadow, and it belonged to a cruel and powerful giant named Despair. He was one of the most famous soldiers in the Wicked Prince's army, and he lived in a strong castle beyond the meadow, which could not be seen from the Way of the King. This was all written in Christian's Book, but he did not think of looking at it just then.

The boys were both feeling very tired. They had found the path leading from the river rough and stony, and their feet were sore and aching.

Christian stopped when he saw the stile, and leaned over it. A fence divided the meadow from the Way of the King, but a smooth grassy path ran close to it.

"Could we not walk along this path for a little way?" he said, turning to Hopeful. "The stones are so hard, and my feet ache dreadfully."

"So do mine," answered Hopeful; "but would it be safe?" Then he came to the stile also, and looked over.

"Oh, I think it must be," said Christian, "See, it runs close to the fence. We could climb back again anywhere in a minute."

Hopeful did not feel quite sure that they were doing right; but as he thought that Christian knew more about the King's laws than he did, he followed his companion into the meadow. The grass was soft and pleasant to their feet, and not

far before them another boy was walking along near the fence.

Christian called to him, saying, "Can you tell us where this path leads to?"

The boy, whose name was Vain-Confidence, turned round and replied, "To the Celestial City."

"You see," said Christian, "I was right. We shall be quite safe. We can keep behind that boy, and then, if there is any danger, we shall know of it in time to escape."

But Hopeful was not satisfied, and when the night came on and the shadows grew so thick that the figure of Vain-Confidence could no longer be seen, he felt frightened. Suddenly a cry was heard, and a sound of falling. Hopeful seized Christian's arm, and clung to him in great fear; and Christian too lost his courage, and began to tremble from head to foot.

"What can have happened?" he said, and he called again to Vain-Confidence; but he received no answer, only, through the darkness, the boys could hear that someone was groaning as if in terrible pain.

"I am sure we are not in the right way," said Hopeful, "and it is so dark."

Christian did not answer. He knew now that he had done wrong in climbing over the stile, and he wondered how he could have been so foolish as to think that any path could be safe which led him out of the straight road.

But before he could speak again he felt some heavy drops of rain upon his face. Then a bright flash of lightning darted across the sky, and a roar of thunder followed. The rain poured in torrents, and the thunder and lightning were more

fearful than any which they had heard or seen before.

Christian began to cry and to wish that he had not been so careless. "It was all my fault," he said. "Oh, Hopeful, I am sorry. I deserve to be killed, but you would never have come if I had not persuaded you."

"I might have," said Hopeful, not liking to hear poor Christian's sobs. "Don't cry, Christian; it was my fault, too, because I didn't try to prevent your coming."

"Let us turn back," said Christian. "Perhaps we can find our way."

By this time the heavy rain had filled the little streams which ran through the meadow, and the path by the fence was flooded. The water was so deep that the boys could scarcely keep their footing, and they began to fear that they would never get back into the Way of the King.

The storm lasted for many hours, and although Christian and Hopeful struggled on bravely they soon found that it would not be possible to make their way to the stile in the darkness. So at last they crouched down together in a little sheltered corner close to the fence, meaning to watch for the first gleam of daylight, and then hasten on their way. But they were both worn out with fright and weariness, and before the morning came they fell asleep.

The storm passed away before daybreak, and the sun rose in a clear sky, and shone brightly over the Way of the King. Christian and Hopeful were lying under the shadow of the fence, and did not feel the warmth of the sunbeams, so, instead of making their way back to the stile in the early morning, as they had intended to do, they slept soundly, and knew nothing of the danger which was close at hand.

Giant Despair had heard the storm raging, and he came down from his castle soon after sunrise, and walked through his fields and meadows, to see if any harm had been done by the wind and rain. Last of all, he crossed By-path Meadow, and on his way home passed by the very spot where the little pilgrims were sleeping.

Hopeful's dress, which had once been white and new, had become soiled and shabby while he stayed in Vanity Fair; but Christian's armor still looked bright, although it was sadly splashed with the mud through which he had walked the night before. The Giant caught sight of his shining helmet among the bushes by the fence, and he turned at once to see who was lying there.

"They are pilgrims of the King," he said to himself, and he smiled to think that they were in his power.

A loud voice roused Christian from his dreams, and when he opened his eyes he saw the Giant stooping over him. Despair was a

terrible-looking man, with shaggy hair and beard, and clothes made of the rough skins of wild beasts. Christian cried out with fear when he saw him, and this roused Hopeful, who sprang up trembling.

"What are you doing here?" said the Giant.

"We are pilgrims," answered Christian, whose lips were quivering so that he could scarcely speak; "and we have lost our way."

"You have no right to sleep in my meadow," said the Giant, and his voice was so harsh and deep that the boys were more frightened by it than they had been by the storm. "I shall take you back with me to my castle."

The poor little pilgrims knew that they were quite helpless. If they had tried to run away this great strong man would have overtaken them in a moment. He drove them before him across the fields to his house, which was called Doubting Castle, and put them into a dark dungeon, locking the door behind him.

All day and all night they lay there, upon the bare ground, without either food or water, and not even able to see each other. Hopeful crept close to Christian, and they clung together, wondering whether the Giant would soon come and put them to death. Christian's heart was very full of grief, because he felt that he had caused all this trouble; and now he feared that the Giant would kill them both, and that they would never reach the Celestial City.

Would you like to read about the many other experiences of Christian and Hopeful? If you do, then get the book, *Little Pilgrim's Progress*, which is Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* rewritten for children by Helen L. Taylor. This fine book can be had in a pocket-book edition for 70c from

Growing Up to Love

By H. Clair Amstutz, M.D.
101 pp.

Every parent who wants his child to have wholesome attitudes about sex will profit immensely from *Growing Up to Love*. For this book puts sex education in the context of love in the family. Giving children facts about sex at the proper time is important. This book treats the problems parents face as they guide their children from the cradle to maturity.

The book speaks redemptively to our modern/secular world by showing us the confusion we face during adolescence, courtship, and marriage. It will restore your confidence in God and in His creation, man \$2.50

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FROM HERE TO THE PINNACLES

By Elizabeth Schroeter

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(9th Installment)

Liesbeth stopped frequently to enjoy the fragrant odors of the woods and to gaze in wonderment at the color-drenched woodland. Occasionally she stopped to scoop up a small mushroom or to look at a gray fungus growth on a tree trunk. In front of one birch tree she stopped for a long time. Patches of its white bark had peeled off in such a way as to form the profile of a bird's head. A little later she discovered a small willow tree that was actually two trees linked together with a cross twig near the ground in a perfectly natural way. She would have liked to take the twin tree home, but it did not belong to her.

Interest and pleasure reached their climax when the three strollers stopped for a brief rest in the famed aspen grove. In Liesbeth's estimation those tall, slender aspen were just about the most heavenly plants she could imagine. They were picturesque. Their graceful, straight, snow-white trunks pointed right up to heaven.

Franz, with a number of grass plants in his hands, seated himself on a low trunk facing the grove. Vater sat down in the grass leaning against an aspen. Everyone was silently enjoying the cool fragrance of the woods.

Liesbeth's mind was more active than it had been in many days. Her heart was always searching for something. Through the branches of her favorite aspen trees she could see a part of the man in the moon with his bundle of sticks, looking down upon her. She had heard that science and religion were opposed to each other. She knew little about science, but nature certainly was not opposed to God. It was pointing straight up to Him. Through the trees, plants and animals she was drawn closer to God. At least she admired Him for His wonderful production—the whole earth and everything on it and in it. No scientist could possibly produce anything as superb as that forest, not even in a million years, not without God's rain, sunshine and earth to assist Him. For a few moments she seemed puzzled. How could God, from a little bit of loose black earth, sunlight, water and air make a sturdy tree about sixty feet high with a strong silvery-white trunk and countless green fluttering leaves? That must have taken a miracle, she decided.

While in deep thought, her atten-

tion was drawn to another starling. That one was a musician. Perhaps he was the same one that had performed so nonchalantly in the drama of the forest. He was sitting still on a branch of an aspen tree. Evidently he was showing off, because one moment he cawed like a crow, the next moment he sang like a lark and then he twittered like a nightingale. When his performance was ended, he flew in high spirits out of the aspen grove and disappeared in the woods.

"Shall we go home?" Vater asked unexpectedly.

"We have not yet gone to the grade," Franz remonstrated.

Liesbeth was not nearly finished, but she had an idea. She had found only three leaves and two flowers to add to her collection. She was several places away from the Abrahams forest and she had hoped to get close enough to the storks to see them build their nest. Slowly she expressed her notion. "It would be good exercise for the black mare to come to this forest some time. Don't you think it would be a good idea if tomorrow afternoon she and I came here for exercise and a whiff of the spring air? That would give me a chance to finish what I wanted to do and, at the same time, it would be a good tonic for the old horse." Liesbeth said.

Vater smiled. "It might be possible to arrange it, provided there is no work at home for you to do."

For Liesbeth, that statement was as good as a promise.

Monday afternoon she brushed the black mare, put the saddle on her back and was off to the woods before Vater had time to change his mind. Briefly, she stopped at the aspen grove. Whenever she was there, her troubles seemed to vanish and she felt free from inward and outward tensions. Then she rode on to the forest back of the Abrahams place. The storks were her main objects of attention.

She alighted from the black mare beside a big log and tied her to a tree stump nearby. Then she sat down on the log and looked toward the barn top where the storks were reported to be. In the forget-me-nots-blue western sky she noticed a few large clouds and speculated as to whether it might rain later in the day. One of the clouds resembled an elephant. Another looked like a little poodle dog.

"There she is!" she said to herself, when she saw a stork in what appeared to be a completed nest of twigs. They looked like heavy branches. Liesbeth looked up and stood on the log for a moment. "How in the world could birds carry such big things up there?" she mused. Then she noticed that the stork's bill was strong and pointed and almost twice as long as its head.

When Liesbeth sat down again, the stork became restless as if she were trying to get up and were unable to do so. At that moment another stork appeared high in the air, then descended almost perpendicularly toward the nest. In his bill he was carrying something stringy. It might be roots, or even worms. When he reached the nest, he deposited whatever he had been carrying in front of the nest and took a standing position facing his mate. "If he were able to talk," Liesbeth conjectured, "he would most likely be telling his wife about his latest adventures; but since storks cannot talk, there is nothing to tell except by sign language. Possibly he is just resting," she thought, as he stood up and then immediately sat down again on another part of the log. To most people those birds might have seemed like any other birds, but to Liesbeth they represented an unusual manifestation of nature. Her eyes seemed glued to the long-legged creatures. She noticed that their plumage, with the exception of a black streak along the lower part of the wings, was snow-white, and that the legs and bill were of a yellowish-red color.

Once or twice Liesbeth had noted that the air felt cooler than before, but she brushed it off as being due to clouds getting in the path of the sun. She was planning to go home before it got too chilly for her. She wished the stork would tuck his bill under his long chest feathers or stand on one leg. She also wanted to find out what they would do next; whether they would change places or continue to sit and stand.

She received no answer to those queries. While she was seated on her log waiting for something interesting to happen in the stork home, a bolt of lightning flashed all around, as if the sun itself had descended upon her. It was accompanied by deafening thunder. A lone tree in the beet field about thirty feet to her right crashed to earth, tearing a hole in the ground. Bits of earth were splattered over her and the horse, and a black dust cloud engulfed them, causing her to hold her hands over her eyes and nose.

A part of the tree that was struck smashed to the ground with a big splatter and crackle and smoke rose from it. For a moment Liesbeth was horribly frightened and almost hysterical.

The black mare, thrown into a panic, tore a line that Liesbeth had tied around a stump, but in another moment she was on the back of the horse and on the way home. It wasn't even raining yet, she thought, but almost immediately she began to feel raindrops on her face and hands. "Suppose it had struck me!" she thought. Then she wondered, "Where would I be now?"

In the southern Ukraine lightning storms were serious things. When they occurred at night, everyone dressed and sat up until the danger had passed. Liesbeth was riding as fast as the black mare could go. A black-and-white magpie swooped toward the forest. It, too, was in a hurry. Its long tail almost touched the horse's ears. It began to rain harder and harder and the lightning and thunder increased in frequency and intensity. When Liesbeth reached a point opposite the meeting-house, she decided to cross the river-bed and wait in the Schultze's apartment until the storm was over. A fierce wind was blowing as Liesbeth left the forest and turned toward the meeting place. She got off the horse and ran beside her. She had heard that lightning struck high places and she had no desire to be one of those high spots. If it should strike the horse, that would be much better than death in a glue factory, which had been mentioned. Furthermore, the horse would be struck along with her, if she stayed on its back. "It's a good thing there are no fences in the back of the homes," she thought, as she entered the garden of the meetinghouse.

By the time she and the mare had crossed the riverbank and reached the front door of the meetinghouse, the downpour was turning into hail. Liesbeth tried to open the door, but it was latched from the inside. She pounded as hard as she could until Aunt Schultze opened the top half of the door. Liesbeth was hidden from her view by the lower door. When Aunt Schultze, through the upper door, saw a nervous and excited black horse staring at her, she screamed and called for her husband. He unlatched the door and opened it. "It's Liesbeth, the tailor's daughter," he said to his wife. "We had to latch the door because the wind was rattling it," Uncle Schultze said to Liesbeth apologetically. The doors of the homes in the Mennonite villages always were unlatched during the day. Neighbours entered without knocking. Liesbeth greeted Uncle Schultze with "good day", the customary greeting used by young and old, and said she was sorry that the mare had startled Aunt Schultze. Then she added that she had ridden to the forest and had been caught in the rain. Uncle Schultze fastened the horse to the driveway fence under a shade tree and then he and Liesbeth entered the house.

(To be continued)

Mennonite Brethren Mission Notes

House of Worship Needed

Further intercessory prayer in behalf of the evangelistic and Bible-teaching ministry of Brother H. H. Janzen in Austria and Germany will be appreciated. The Janzens arrived in Linz on March 30 for a week of meetings. Services were well attended even though it was necessary to shift to different places for almost every meeting. This points up the need for a place of worship in Linz. A Christian workers' conference was held in Salzburg during the week of April 8. Following that another week of services was planned for Linz. A series of meetings were to start in Neuwied April 28.

Memorial Services

From Brazil a recent letter brings the news that the Curitiba Mission joined our other missions and all the churches of the Conference in the memorial service held on March 31 in memory of the home-going of Brother and Sister John A. Dyck. The missionaries report that the services made a profound impression upon the members of the national Mennonite Brethren Church.

At LaCumbre, Colombia, an impressive memorial service was held on March 31 in memory of Brother and Sister John A. Dyck, whose home-going is being so vitally felt by all of the Colombia missionaries as well as all of the Colombia believers. We are looking unto the Lord to repair the loss in His infinite wisdom and to His glory.

Suggest Mission School

Paraguay missionaries suggest the opening of a school with a Bible-centred program for children of Paraguayan nationals. This would be the first venture in that direction by the Mennonite Brethren Mission. May we request the intercession of the homeland in behalf of this enterprise, and for wisdom from above to take the right procedure.

Eight at Japan Bible School

The Bible school in Japan has opened with eight students enrolled. This is an historic experience of our Mission in that land of many millions. It is our prayer that the small beginning of this institution in the Osaka area may set in motion a training program which will pay abundant dividends for eternity.

Progress at HCJB

From HCJB German broadcasting department, Quito, Ecuador, Brother Hugo Jantz writes that constant improvements are being made in the special broadcasts for young people. These broadcasts are under the direction of Sister Sally Schroeder who also has charge of

the preparation of the mail-bag program broadcast on Fridays and Tuesdays. During April a special offer of four inspirational books was made to German-speaking listeners. Each listener writing in during April received one of these books as a gift. In answering the letters of all Christian listeners who wrote in, Sister Schroeder asked them to pray especially for the salvation of unsaved listeners.

Visitors to HCJB, missionary radio station, Quito, Ecuador, on April 10 and 11 were Jacob Dyck and George Letkeman, both of Vancouver, British Columbia. Rev. Abe Dyck, missionary in Guayaquil, Ecuador, was a visitor at HCJB at the same time. All three were enroute from Colombia, where they had attended to the tragic duty of taking charge of the affairs of the deceased missionaries, John and Mary Dyck. Jacob and Abe are the brothers of John Dyck, and George Letkeman is the brother of Mary Dyck. Before they left Quito for a brief stay in Guayaquil, they attended a radio memorial service in German for John and Mary Dyck. To the entire staff of HCJB they also gave a detailed account of the accident that claimed the lives of these warriors for Christ in Colombia.

Lohrenzes Home in May

On the India field the next missionaries to come home on furlough are Brother and Sister John H. Lohrenz. The Lord willing, they should be arriving in New York some time during May.

Acquiring Church Building

The Mennonite Brethren congregation at Nuevo Ideal, Mexico, is now in the process of acquiring a building for worship services. It is encouraging to read that this group of new believers in their devotion to their Lord is making every effort also from the financial angle to provide a place of worship within the center of the city of Nuevo Ideal so that many people can freely come to the services and hear the Gospel from that point of witness.

Mason Work Complete

At Indianahoma, Oklahoma, the mason work on the new Post Oak Mennonite Brethren Mission Church building has been completed and most of the steel is in place. At present the plumbers are in the process of putting in the plumbing and heating. It is possible that within a number of weeks the United States Government will begin with the moving of the Post Oak Mission Cemetery to the new location near Indianahoma, right west of the present Post Oak Mission School compound.

Lawton View Mennonite Brethren Church reports that the work

among the young people is encouraging. Recently one soul was saved at the meetings and six came to the Lord for rededication. Plans are now being made for a spring revival service and for summer vacation Bible School for the many children in that area. The missionaries request prayer for the work on that field.

MORE ABOUT Enthusiasm Noted At Course

(Continued from page 3-2)

Beethoven) was appealing because of the emotional impact of its content. The Baroque style of following detail should not, however, detract from the emphasis given to the natural musical line.

Mr. Horch's key word to correct singing of the "Messiah" is "Zwerg-fell". At the rehearsal he re-emphasized that the difficult music must be conquered and the music performed in such a way that it radiates the message of the Word of God. Mr. Horch declared that the "Messiah" presents a synoptic view of the message of God's Word. For inspiration, he suggested that the conductors take the time to read through the text of the "Messiah" without reference to the music.

Reviews History of Church Music

In his introduction to the history of church music, Mr. Peter Klassen referred to the maxim: "The past cannot be altered, but the present is ours." Reviewing the progress of music, he stated that the origin of church music goes back to the modal music of the early Greeks and Hebrews. It served to "augment the words" and the song became "an efficient agent to carry messages to the heart" of man. The Council of Trent was largely responsible for the standard of music in the Catholic Church, even to the present time.

Mr. Klassen maintained that the Reformation of Luther's day was largely a result of the impact of Luther's songs. Since the reformation's prime concern was the individual, the music of the Protestant church has largely been congregational.

In more recent years the impact of instrumental music has heightened interest for "pure music" within the church. It seems, however, that when the vocal line becomes subservient to the instrumental score, the purpose of church music has been thwarted, Mr. Klassen said. He defined good taste in music as the "best use of the best music at the appropriate time in the best manner".

Mr. Balzer outlined a course for the choir trainer. He spoke of the high aims of one training a choir, procedure in organizing a choir, the approach, method and procedure of

essential voice training, the expediency of accomplished sight reading, and methods of attaining good diction in the choir.

Conscious Effort by Singers Needed

Emphasizing the need of a conscious effort on the part of singers, in the mastering of basic skills and to aid the choir trainer in his effort to raise the standard of the singing of the choir, Mr. Balzer quoted I Corinthians 14:15b: "I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."

In her lecture on Hymnology Mrs. Ben Horch revealed that the "Gesangbuch" of the M. B. churches is being translated into the English language. The translation is to foster the preservation of the "Kernlied" of the Mennonite people and hence it would serve to establish an important "bond of unity during the transitional period in Mennonite circles". Mrs. Horch reported that there were still approximately 160 of the 555 songs to be re-written in English.

The evening sessions included a program of delightful music by children's choirs, a vocal lecture recital by Mrs. G. Whitehead, featuring Mr. Peter Koslowsky, a piano lecture recital by Miss Wanda Dyck, and a rehearsal of the "Messiah" with Mr. Horch.

To Study Feasibility of Mennonite Concerts

In keeping with the advance of Mennonites in the field of professional music, a committee was formed which is to have the responsibility of studying the feasibility of arranging for concerts in Mennonite circles that will feature Mennonite musicians.

Rev. J. A. Toews, president of the M. B. Bible College, asserted, "Your enthusiasm has kindled ours here." In closing, Rev. C. D. Toews also referred to the enthusiastic response of choir conductors from all provinces. He was convinced upon the evidence of the "representation of many churches of the conference, participation in discussion and question periods, and the strong desire expressed, to continue such sessions" that this had been a successful all-Canadian Conductors' Course.

SHE WORKETH WILLINGLY

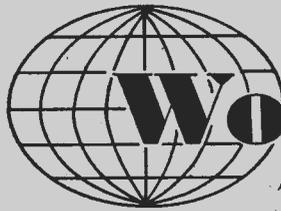
(Continued from page 2-4)

merely, but for the sake of Him "who doeth all things beautiful". Monotonous drudgery and ungenial work take on a different hue when Christ is recognized as Head of the house. When "prayer-gleams fall upon our cares and crosses", then the lowliest deeds become transfigured. Alexander Pope has the encouraging word for all saints of the sink:

"Honour and shame from no condition rise.

Act well your part; there all the honour lies."

Alliance Weekly.



Round-Up of World-Wide

RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

Picket Lines to Discourage Patronage of Bars

A prominent Negro minister in Philadelphia has organized members of his congregation to form picket lines to discourage patronage of the many taprooms near the church. Dr. E. Luther Cunningham, pastor of St. Paul's Baptist Church, said "the neighborhood is drowning in a sea of liquor. We have to awaken the residents to the fact that they are becoming a prey to the mushrooming taprooms." Some 20 men of his church formed the pavement picket parade, bearing such signs as: "Why spend your food and rent money on whisky?" "Whisky and character don't mix." "Think of your children."

* * *

Physicians and Clergymen Called Co-Workers of God

Physicians and clergymen are co-workers of God as a healing team. This was the consensus of a panel discussion on "The Impact of Religion on the Surgeon", at the 25th annual assembly of the Southeastern Surgical Congress in St. Petersburg, Florida. Stressing the close relationship between body and mind, surgeons and ministers agreed on the beneficial influence of religious faith on patients. Such faith, they said, often lessens post-operative shock and generally speeds up recovery.

Two surgeons, Dr. R. L. Saunders of Memphis and Dr. Gilbert F. Douglas of Birmingham, admitted the need for the guiding hand of God when performing serious operations. "There can be no doubt," Dr. Saunders said, "that the impact of religion on the surgeon himself has a great influence on the patient." He added that "God is the One who can help the patient most."

Dr. Douglas stressed the need for establishing a chaplaincy in every hospital and institution of higher training. The panelists agreed that more than two thirds of those who are ill today have emotional or spiritual problems which are the cause or the complicating factor of their physical illness. Therefore, it is no longer the option of the physician and the minister to work together, but it has now become a necessity, they said.

* * *

Sixty Camp Meetings

The Assemblies of God, in the tradition of the revival movements of bygone days, will sponsor camp meetings this summer at 60 differ-

ent sites from coast to coast. These camp meetings will not be identical with the old-time variety. In bygone days church people would bring their tents, blankets, cookstoves and camp outdoors on the old camp-meetin' grounds for a week or two—but today they have comfortable cabins to sleep in and screened dining halls to eat in. Most of the camp grounds are equipped with electric lights, gas stoves, plumbing and every modern convenience. Even the auditoriums are equipped with public address systems, and the grounds are sprayed to get rid of the bugs. But the spiritual atmosphere is likely to be much the same as it was in the camp meetings of the frontier days. From morning to night and from day to day the campers will spend their time singing hymns, praying, listening to sermons and worshiping the Lord in their own uninhibited way.

Most of the Assemblies of God camps will be for English-speaking people, but five will be for foreign-language groups and five will be for Indians.

CANADASCOPE

Doukhobors Seek to Return to Russia.

Sons of Freedom Doukhobors at Nelson, B.C., are waiting for a reply to their request for permission to return to Russia. One of their members confirmed a report that the radical sect has asked permission to return to Soviet Union. The request was made a little over two weeks ago to Dmitri Chuvahin, Soviet ambassador at Ottawa.

If the Soviet Union gives permission, a delegation of five Doukhobors will go back to investigate conditions in their homeland. Some 2,500 members of the radical sect are ready to go to Russia any time.

* * *

Ukrainians Honor Religious Leader

Dr. Ilarion Ohienko, metropolitan of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church of Canada, was honored for his religious, literary and educational work at a public reception in Winnipeg on May 4 and at a dinner-concert meeting Sunday afternoon, May 5.

The events marked his 75th birthday and the 60th anniversary of his literary career. During his lifetime Dr. Ohienko has been a teacher, a university professor and founder of a university in the Ukraine, minister of education and religious af-

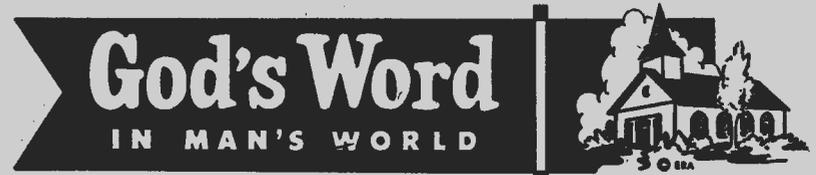
fairs in the short-lived Ukraine republic after the First World War, master philologist, and translator of the whole Bible into Ukrainian.

On display at the reception were the metropolitan's works, including a large series of books in which every word in the Bible is given its equivalent in Ukrainian, and his 22 volumes of typewritten manuscripts of the Holy Bible, which the prime had translated into the Ukrainian from old Hebrew and Greek (a task that took him more than 20 years and was accomplished in spite of frequent flight to escape from the Russians during the Second World War).

Large Coal Mine Closes

About 250 men were thrown out of work when the West Canadian Collieries Greenhill coal mine in the Crows Nest pass was closed.

Premier E. C. Manning said it is a "regrettable thing, but it is one of the consequences general in the coal industry as a result of progress of other types of fuel." The provincial government's rehabilitation committee will attempt to find new employment for as many of the miners thrown out of work as possible. The province will give financial assistance in moving families to other locales and getting them established in other employment.



"Thinklessness"

By Edwin Raymond Anderson

The recent death of the noted Polar explorer, Admiral Richard E. Byrd, recalls a graphic sentence in describing one of the situations encountered on a south-ward expedition:—"Months of darkness with nothing to do but think. . ."

It would be interesting to conjecture, in such a distant, far-removed setting, the scope and sum of his thoughts. Interesting because we probably find ourselves asking what would be the realm of our thoughts if placed in such a situation. For Admiral Byrd, it was the subject, the problem of . . . man. As he stated it, "man's problem in the last analysis, is man himself." For the period of seven long months in that complete isolation, he pondered, thought, weighed, considered . . . Man.

There is something intensely significant about that, for such a day as the present. If one were to fit apt coin to our times, he might call it, "the think-less times", and as one has well said, "there is a gigantic conspiracy abroad to keep us from thinking." Another has suggested that, "over half our problems would disappear if we would only get away and think them through." One has but to observe the array of things round and about, the so-called amusements and pleasures of the times, to see that they squeeze "with all might and main" to keep man so thrilled and tickled that thought is thrust aside.

There is fragic consequence underscoring every reach of "thinklessness" and never more apparent than in the realm of eternal verities. These are times crying aloud for tremendous thinking on higher ground. Significant therefore that question of the Lord Jesus Christ, "what think ye of Christ?" (Matthew 22:42) for the average man appears to be doing anything and

everything else with the Great God. The problem of man is the Person of Jesus Christ as the Answer for the deliverance which is so desperately needed. Of a sure truth, "the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). Man must meet the Master and thus find all things new!

(Copr. ERA, 1957)

Evangelism in Vauxhall

By Abe Reimer

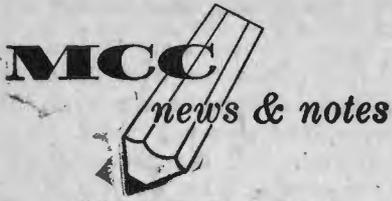
Vauxhall, Alta. — Successful evangelistic meetings were held at the Vauxhall M. B. church during the Easter week. Rev. H. C. Classen, city missionary in Vancouver, served as speaker.

Four services in the German language and four in the English language were held. Good attendance was experienced every evening. God richly blessed the forceful messages and many were won for Christ, while others took a renewed stand for Christ.

Often Rev. Classen's comments were directed to the Christians as he spoke of obedience and consecration. At one time he stated, "The Bible keeps us from sin and sin keeps us from the Bible." At another time he declared, "If we want to win the Christian battle we must stop sniping at one another."

Many resolutions were made. We are confident that this will have a lasting effect upon the Vauxhall community. We are thankful to God and Rev. Classen for this week of blessing.

The cornerstone of the first Mormon Tempel to be erected in England has been laid at Newchapel, Surrey. This will be the 14th Mormon temple in the world and the second in Europe.



New MCC Relief Centre in Japan

Relief headquarters for MCC in Japan have moved to a new location in Tokyo.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Wingert, relief workers in Tokyo, moved to a house within a new student housing project at the invitation of a Christian Japanese philanthropist, Kisaku Mayekawa.

Mayekawa in inviting MCC to occupy this residence said, "We want you to live on the grounds for the cultural and spiritual associations you will have with the students, and please use the chapel every Sunday."

Mayekawa began to receive counsel from the Wingerts some time ago and this generous gesture expresses his gratefulness. The Wingerts report he recently became a Christian and soon expects to give testimony of his faith by baptism.

Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Gingerich, MCC Peace Section representatives, will continue to occupy the center which MCC used the past nine years.

Russian Baptists Decline Invitation to World Conference

Russian Baptists sent word that they will be unable to accept an invitation to attend the Sixth Mennonite World Conference August 10-16 in Germany due to a large youth convention in Moscow scheduled at the same time.

They also will not be present at an interchurch peace conference scheduled to precede the World Conference. Some Russian Mennonites had been expected to be included in the Baptist delegation.

The invitation was extended by World Conference chairman and MCC representative H. S. Bender (Goshen, Ind.) when in Russia last autumn and again formally by letter in March.

Mennonites Visit Troubled South

Representatives of Eastern American Mennonite churches spent a week in the South becoming acquainted with persons and situations in areas where racial problems are acute.

The group includes David Habegger of Allentown, Pa.; John Hostetter of Clarence Center, N.Y.; Clarence Lutz of Mount Joy, Va.; Paul Peachy of Harrisonburg, Va.; J. Harold Sherk of Akron, Pa.; and Burton Yost of Greenville, Pa.

They were scheduled to visit Koi-

nonia Farm in Georgia; Tallassee, Florida; Birmingham, Alabama; Atlanta, Georgia; and points enroute.

The visit is a result of a concern expressed by conference peace committees and a recommendation at the annual meeting of the MCC Peace Section to discover if Mennonites can be helpful in this problem.

A similar delegation representing Midwest Mennonites is planned for the end of May.

Mexico Tour Scheduled

Inquiries are being received for the third annual MCC-sponsored tour to Mexico August 4-21.

Dr. and Mrs. Willard Smith, professors at Goshen College, will again direct the tour. The inter-Mennonite tour group will assemble August 4 at El Paso, Texas, and proceed to Cuauhtemoc.

At Cuauhtemoc they will observe the MCC community and medical project and visit several Mennonite villages. They will be joined there by a workcamp group to continue the tour to Mexico City and many other points of historical and cultural interest.

Cost of the tour is \$185. Inquiries are invited by MCC, Akron, Pa.

The Bible Today

"The Spark, the Light that for hundreds of years has kindled, awakened and strengthened moral consciousness and character is the Holy Bible. It has been an ever-available, ever-reliable source of guidance."

So starts a letter from Mr. Lowell Thomas. He continues, "Here is the Wonder of the ages . . . in every land . . . in every language into which it is translated . . . men find in this Book help for their deepest needs, as did Pedro, who in picturesque, in fact rather lurid language tells us:

"My house was a hell. I gambled all my money on cockfights. People feared and hated me. One day a book fell into my hands; it was a New Testament. First I read with indifference, then with interest—and soon I had fallen upon my knees. Today peace and the glory of Jesus Christ reign in my house."

"The Bible open to all—everywhere—anytime—should be the heritage of everyone who seeks spiritual assistance and leadership. And millions throughout the world are ready for just that—for a copy of the Holy Bible. In far-flung places—at home—behind the Iron Curtain, people are turning eager faces to this light which lifts men's souls. The Bible Society is an efficient organization and is striving valiantly to meet mounting demands for Bibles in many languages."

The letter is signed in the familiar green ink which Mr. Thomas uses.

Another widely known figure, Dr.

Frank C. Laubach, writes: "The work of the Bible Society in getting Bibles to new literates is the world's top investment in God's sight."

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale said recently: "Many people have found courage through daily Bible reading. Some living in distant parts of the world have been freed from fear of evil spirits and other imaginary enemies when the Bible has come to them in their own language."

Weddings

Friesen—Spenst

Martha Spenst, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Spenst of Clearbrook, B.C., and David Friesen, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Friesen, were married on April 21 in the Clearbrook M. B. church. Rev. A. H. Wieler officiated.

Messages were delivered by Rev. A. H. Konrad and Rev. A. H. Wieler. The choir also served, while Miss Susan Enns was soloist.

Penner—Klassen



Nettie Klassen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Klassen, Black Creek, B.C., and Neil Penner, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Penner, Yarrow, B.C., were married on April 22 in the Black Creek M. B. church. Rev. H. Lenzman of Yarrow officiated.

Dyck—Wall

Luise Wall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abram Wall, Winnipeg, and Cornelius Dyck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Dyck of Vauxhall, Alta., were married on April 27 in the North Kildonan M. B. church. Rev. Wm. Falk, pastor, officiated at the wedding.

Thoughts in Blossom

By Martha Snell Nicholson

These volumes of verse were lived before they were written. Each poem is the product of years of suffering, of searching for the meaning and purpose of life, of patient waiting for the fulfillment of dreams, of seeking—and finding, God!

Bishop Ken defined poetry as "thought in blossom". And so it is. But the perfume of some blossoms is sweeter than others. The famed poet, Shelley, once said: "They learn in suffering what they teach in song." And it has even been so with the author of these verses. For many years, as a "shut-in" she has suffered. Verily, what she has taught in song, she has learned through pain.

Many of Martha Snell Nicholson's poems have been read on "The Haven of Rest" broadcast by First Mate Bob. They have won many friends—and are still doing so in book form. Titles are:

Wings and Sky

Ivory Palaces

Heart Held High

Threshold of Heaven

In Heaven's Gardens

The Glory Forever

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By Annie Johnson Flint

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Contains 35 delightful poems about our Saviour.

Songs of Grace and Glory

Thirty-seven poems for those having difficult times.

Songs of the Blessed Hope

Those who are looking forward to seeing Christ coming, or going Home to meet Him face to face, will enjoy these thirty-one poems.

By the Way

Here are 57 travellogues of Cheer for the wayfarer to heaven.

Out of Doors

Thirty-six nature songs for those who love God's creation.

Songs of Faith and Comfort

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COLLEGES

Canadian Mennonite Bible College

Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Raman, our new students from Bombay, India, arrived in Winnipeg on April 23. Prior to his coming here, Mr. Raman studied one year at Bethel College, but they both wish to continue their studies at CMBC. Mr. Raman, a former Hindu, feels the necessity of adequate preparation before he returns to India to spread the gospel to his people. We feel that our school will benefit by the presence of our new students and will receive a deeper insight into the needs of our mission fields.

During his stay in Canada, Rev. Raman will be available as speaker in our various churches.

Anne Neufeld.

Goshen College

The Seminary Graduating Class Program is scheduled for Sunday, May 19, in the Goshen College Union Auditorium with Paul Erb, Scottsdale, Pa., as guest speaker. Dean Harold S. Bender will be chairman of the program and Wayne King, Arcola, Ill., chorister.

The 16-voice Seminary Men's Chorus spent the weekend of April 25 to 28 in Ohio and western Pennsylvania. Their itinerary included programs at Pleasant Hill, Smithville, Ohio; Mennonite Publishing House Chapel; Kingview, Scottsdale, Pa.; Springs, Pa., and Martins Creek, Millersburg, Ohio.

Ida Arnone, a Goshen College senior from Cannanore, India, won second place in the women's division of the National Oratorical Contest held Friday, April 26, at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

In her speech entitled, "The Proud and the Sane" Miss Arnone asserted the necessity of India's neutrality in international affairs because of the economic, social and political problems the country currently faces.

A senior education student at Goshen this semester, she will return to India in late summer.

TABOR COLLEGE

Board of Education Meets

The regular spring meeting of the Board of Education of the Mennonite Brethren Conference convened on the campus of Tabor College May 1 and 2. Members of the board studied the status of the budgeted-giving program adopted by the conference in 1955, and outlined the building plans for the campuses of the conference schools, Tabor College at Hillsboro, and Pacific Bible Institute and the Menno-

nite Brethren Biblical Seminary of Fresno, California.

In line with a resolution adopted by the delegates of the conference in 1955, stipulating that construction financed by budgeted giving shall proceed on both campuses at approximately the same pace, the board approved the start of a dormitory building on the Fresno campus this fall. The original plan called for a new administration building as the first structure on the new Fresno campus, but the board indicated that this is contingent on the sale of the present administration building in Fresno.

At Tabor College, the library building begun last July is nearing completion, and will be dedicated in September. After some remodeling of the administration building during summer and early fall, work is to begin on the new student center building, to be financed entirely from money collected by the student body through special fees and work projects. A gymnasium-auditorium, part of this same building, is to be built from special gifts to the college by Hillsboro businessmen, alumni not covered by the budgeted-giving plan, and friends.

Thirty-One to Receive Degrees May 39

Thirty-one seniors will receive the degree bachelor of arts at the forty-ninth commencement exercises at Tabor College on Thursday morning, May 30. This year's commencement address will be given by Dr. Lowell E. Roberts, interim president of Friends University of Wichita.

Dr. Lando Hiebert, chairman of the department of Bible at Tabor, will deliver this year's baccalaureate sermon at exercises in the Hillsboro Mennonite Brethren Church Sunday evening, May 26.

MORE ABOUT

Inter-Mennonite Peace Conference

(Continued from page 1-2)

It was generally expressed that many conscientious objectors during the Second World War would have found alternative service a more satisfying experience if they had been taught to regard war as sin and anything, no matter how useless, preferable to participation in the crime of shooting and bombing. As Christians we need to learn that anything "done for Jesus" is worthwhile.

Better Organization Needed

Another lesson learned from experiences during the Second World War, as illuminated by Bishop E. J. Swalm, Bishop J. J. Thiessen and Mr. C. J. Rempel, was that better organization to present a united front is needed. It was reiterated that the Canadian government respected Mennonite groups and that frequently Mennonite suggestions

had been incorporated in government policy—but this is true only when there is a united representation. In this respect it was also stated that because of Second World War experiences historic peace churches had learned to work together much better than before.

Our missionary responsibility in the field of peace teaching was also emphasized. Several declared emphatically, "Peace teaching is not a Mennonite teaching, but a Biblical teaching." It is true here, too, that we are either a missionary church or a mission field.

No Direct Affiliation With Civil Defence

The conference showed a strong concern that we do not affiliate directly with civil defence, but that Mennonite disaster services be organized in every province on a church-related basis. These could then utilize the government facilities available for training in preparation for disaster. The area of welfare services was cited as an example where Mennonite disaster units could make an effective contribution in case civil defence was initiated in an emergency.

Rev. D. D. Klassen of Homewood spoke on the alternative service program of the future. The talks and the discussion that followed revealed that on the whole the alternative service program of the last war had proved successful. Although there were many weaknesses it had been a testimony, especially on governmental levels. All reports of officials that were seen in research on alternative service reveal no general criticism of the last war's program.

No Complete Exemption Envisaged

It was pointed out that future government policy on alternative service will be determined partly by the experience of the government during the last war. Based upon observation and a study of government reaction to the Second World War program, it was predicted that in event of a future war, there would be no complete exemption for Mennonite conscientious objectors. Neither can the government be expected to again initiate a camp system. There will probably be strong pressure exerted to enter non-combatant service. There are also strong indications that in the future there will be a strong tendency not to give recognition to a religious group as corporately entitled to conscientious objection, but that each person will have to prove that he is a true conscientious objector.

Another determinant in respect to future alternative service policy is the positive leadership that the historic peace churches will give. There was adequate testimony that the offer of services by Mennonites during the last war was appreciated and that some of the proposals made were incorporated in gov-

ernment policy. The conviction was expressed that the peacetime activities in the field of disaster service, voluntary service, and other sacrificial work will be of great importance in determining government policy.

All Must Prepare to Suffer

Again and again it was emphasized that the peace witness must not be restricted to younger men. Now and in the future, it is a challenge to the church as a whole to give this witness. In this respect it was stressed that the fathers and mothers, the wives and fiancées of conscientious objectors during the last war played a very important part in the decisions made by the younger men. Thus the whole church must be convinced that peace and non-resistance is the only tenable Biblical position. In the future, we must all be prepared to suffer. In general, all were agreed that, "It is better to have a spiritually prepared group of young men and women than to be organizationally well prepared."

Recommend All-Canada Council

The findings committee recommended the forming of an all-Canada, inter-Mennonite council to serve in an advisory and consultative capacity on main national Mennonite concerns. An interim committee consisting of Bishop E. J. Swalm, Bishop J. B. Martin, C. J. Rempel, Bishop J. J. Wichert, and Elven Shantz was asked to contact all Mennonite groups in Canada for their action in this respect. They will be asked to appoint one representative to serve on this council and discuss the nature of such a national body. It is hoped to unify Canadian Mennonite peace action and representation on governmental levels in this way.

The Bible and Modern Medicine

By A. Rendle Short, M.D.,

F.R.C.S., 140 pp.

This book received a tremendous welcome when it first appeared. It is the first of a lifetime's love and study, both of Medicine and the Bible. Intensely fascinating reading, it is simple and clear throughout and will be enjoyed even by those who have little medical knowledge. Chapter headings include: Medical Ideas in Primitive Times; Priests and Physicians; The Sanitary Code; Diseases of the Bible; Medical Folklore in the Bible; Luke the Physician; The Miracles of Healing; Demon Possession; Faith Healing; and The Biblical Conception of Sickness.

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First National S.S. Convention

Capacity attendance at the final session of the first National Sunday School Convention of the M. B. Church of Canada indicated the great local interest in the sessions, reports Mr. Jake Friesen in the Sunday School Instructor.

In addition to the local people at the convention, held April 26 to 28 at Herbert, Sask., there were 20 Sunday school workers from Alberta, 8 from B.C., 6 from Saskatchewan, 5 from Manitoba, and 2 from Ontario. Comments given at the convention showed how much participants enjoyed it. One person said, "Had it been even for just this one day, we would have been amply rewarded for coming all the way from Alberta."

The convention opened at 10 a.m. on April 26. After a few days of rain and even snow, the Lord sent beautiful weather for the conference. The land was too wet to work and the roads dried up so much that the local people could come out to the meetings. After Rev. Rudy Janzen had welcomed the convention delegates in the name of the South Saskatchewan M. B. Conference, Rev. Abe Regier, chairman of the Canadian Sunday School Committee, presided over the sessions. In introducing the theme of the convention, "Building the

Church Through the Sunday School", Rev. Regier read Psalm 127:1, stressing that to build successfully we must build together.

Special Features in Evening

The morning and afternoon sessions of the convention were characterized by a number of workshops held simultaneously after the main message had been delivered. Special features at evening services included a film, "Faith of Our Families", questions answered by a panel, and a testimony meeting, in addition to the evening's message. At each session special musical items were presented by groups and choirs of the district.

The two visiting speakers were Dr. Paul Lederach, field secretary of the Mennonite Commission for Christian Education, Scottdale, Pa., and Rev. Arthur Flaming, chairman of the M. B. General Conference Sunday School Committee, and pastor of the Bakersfield, Calif., M. B. Church.

In his first message, Dr. Lederach declared that it was Jesus who had said, "I will build my church," and that the Sunday school is one of the tools Jesus uses for building. To build adequately, every member of the church must be interested in the Sunday school.

Challenged to See Needy

Speaking on "Building the Church Through Sound Principles of Curriculum" on the morning of April 27, Dr. Lederach stated that the lesson ought to be neither child-centered nor Bible-centered, but

controlled by the dynamic process of bringing Biblical truth to the child. In his afternoon message Dr. Lederach spoke on "Stable Principles for Mennonites in an Unstable World". He declared that one of the important principles was discipleship, which is a matter of obedience and not of discussion. In a very impressive appeal at the evening session, Dr. Lederach urged the workers to look with the eyes of Jesus upon the needy world around them.

Other special messages were delivered by Rev. A. A. Kroeker and Rev. A. Flaming, who spoke to a large Sunday afternoon congregation on the vital importance of attending church fellowship services.

Sets Up Standards

The Canadian M. B. Sunday School Committee also held its annual meeting at the time of the national convention. According to a report in the Sunday School Instructor, they agreed upon standards for Mennonite Brethren Sunday schools. These are to be submitted to the Canadian M. B. Conference in July.

Standards set up by the committee are:

1. Departmental organization in all Sunday schools.
2. Sunday school instruction for all age groups.
3. Qualified Sunday school workers for all Sunday schools.
4. Missionary education and mission projects in all Sunday schools.
5. Temperance education in all Sunday schools.
6. Through thorough teaching, each pupil is to be brought into a personal decision for Christ. Then the new life should be nurtured.
7. Regular Sunday school workers' conferences are to aid the workers in a better preparation.
8. Consider denominational needs and strengthen the loyalty to the church.
9. The Sunday school should reach its constituency with the gospel.
10. Every Sunday school should achieve definite results as measured by the aims for a certain period.

The committee recognizes that this standard could not be reached immediately, but it feels that a conscious effort should be made to reach an objective. Aims for the next year, as announced by the committee, are to be:

1. A cradle roll department for every Sunday school.
2. Increase in the adult department attendance to not less than 60% of respective church membership.
3. Teacher training courses to be given in the local church.
4. The fostering of missions through teaching and projects in all our Sunday schools.
5. Personal counselling for every pupil by the respective teacher.

Announce Evangelistic Meetings

Hepburn, Sask. — Evangelistic meetings have been announced for the Hepburn area beginning May 26, with Rev. John M. Schmidt of the M. B. City Mission in Winnipeg as evangelist.

Rev. John Schmidt is well known for his work in the Gospel Light Mission during the past five years. He is also director of the Gospel Light Hour, heard over Manitoba radio stations as well as over HCJB, Quito, Ecuador.

All meetings will be held in the Hepburn M. B. church. Prayer meetings have already been organized in preparation for the campaign and prayer in personal devotions, at the family altar, and in lesser groups on the part of all Christians is being encouraged.

On the Horizon

May 5-19 — Greater Winnipeg Crusade for Christ in the Civic Auditorium. Rev. J. B. Toews and G. Christian Weiss will speak the first week and Dr. Theodore Epp the second week.

May 26. — The Peace Conference of the Mennonite Brethren churches in Ontario is to be held in the Leamington M. B. church. Rev. E. J. Swalm will speak.

May 26. — Schulfest and graduation at Mennonite Collegiate Institute, Gretna, Man.

May 26. — The Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute, Winnipeg, will have its closing program in the afternoon at South End M. B. church. In the evening 31 graduates will receive their diplomas at the graduation service in the Elmwood M. B. church.

May 26. — The organizational service of the newly-formed M. B. Church at 20th Street and W. Avenue in Saskatoon, Sask., will be held at 2 p.m., DST. This church will be known as the Saskatoon West Side M. B. Church.

June 7. — Northern Saskatchewan Mennonite Brethren churches will have their provincial conference on Friday, June 7, in the Hepburn, Sask., M. B. church. The mission workers of the M. B. Mission of Saskatchewan will present a missionary program that evening at 7:30 p.m.

June 7 and 8. — The Mennonite Brethren Church in Manitoba will have its annual conference in the Winkler M. B. church.

June 8. — Graduating class program of the M. B. Bible College in Winnipeg in the college auditorium.

June 9. — Twenty graduates of the M. B. Bible College in Winnipeg will receive their degrees at graduation exercises in the Elmwood M. B. church at 7 p.m.

July 6-10. — The Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church will meet in Herbert, Sask., for its annual sessions.

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