

Mennonite Observer

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

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YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

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This is the junior choir of the Elmwood Mennonite Brethren Church, Winnipeg, which won the Picardy Shield (held by Viola and Irene Redekopp, daughters of Rev. and Mrs. I. W. Redekopp) at the Manitoba Music Festival and was asked to sing at the final concert of the festival. Mrs. Albert Litz, second from the right, third row, directs the choir. Miss Bertha Pauls, extreme left, accompanied it.

Both Brother and Sister Wall have attended Mennonite Brethren Bible College, Winnipeg. Brother Wall is the son of Brother Aaron Wall, interim leader of the Vineland Mennonite Brethren Church. Originally from the Vineland Church, the Walls are now members of the Kitchener Mennonite Brethren Church.

To Tour Far East Missions

Winnipeg, Man. — Rev. J. B. Toews, deputation secretary of the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions, and C. A. DeFehr, treasurer of the Canadian Conference of the M. B. Church, will leave on May 29 for an extended tour of the Mennonite Brethren mission fields in the Far East. Their trip will also include the 6th Mennonite World Conference in Germany.

Previous tours have taken Rev. Toews to the mission fields in South America and Africa. This trip will include stopovers at Seoul, Korea; Osaka and other centres in Japan; Viet Nam, Formosa, Hong Kong, India, Lebanon, Greece, Austria and Germany.

The Mennonite Brethren mission field in India has grown steadily since it was opened shortly before the turn of the century. Japan received its first Mennonite Brethren missionaries shortly after World War II in the person of MCC personnel. At the present time the Gospel is proclaimed in several centres and an indigenous church is growing.

Black Creek Minister Passes

Black Creek, B.C. — Rev. Johann Goerz, pioneer minister and long-time pastor of the Mennonite Brethren Church here, passed away on May 10 at home after months of suffering.

Rev. Goerz was widely known in Russia as a teacher. In Canada he was known as Bible school teacher and for his work on German Sunday school manuals. One of his sons, Rev. Abe Goerz, is pastor of the Mennonite Brethren Church at Main Centre, Sask.

Crusade Gaining Momentum

Winnipeg, Man. — The Greater Winnipeg Crusade for Christ is daily gaining momentum and is expected to reach a grand climax at the weekend services. The Lord has already blessed the ministry of His servants with the salvation of souls and the restoration of backsliders.

The two-week crusade began on Sunday night, May 5, in the Civic Auditorium of this prairie metropolis. Approximately 3,000 gathered to hear Rev. J. B. Toews' first of four messages designed to bring Christians into a deeper spiritual life. At the last service in this series, on Wednesday, May 8, about 150 came forward to rededicate themselves to Christ, with about 20 staying for counselling.

The last three services of the first week were taken by Rev. G. Christian Weiss, assistant director of the Back to the Bible Broadcast. He delivered three messages on witnessing, challenging all Christians to get out and testify of their Lord to their friends, neighbors and those working with them.

Dr. Theodore Epp began his week of evangelistic services on Sunday night, May 12, with another crowd of more than 3,000 on hand. There have been several decisions for Christ each night, with Christians praying for a real break-through by the weekend.

The mass choir for the services is led by Mr. Corny Balzer. Mr. Wall of the Back to the Bible Broadcast sang and led the congregational singing during the first week, while Mr. Norman Voth, also of the same broadcast, took over on Sunday night for the last week. He also plays the trumpet. Pianist has been David Affleck, while Peter Friesen has served as organist.

General chairman at the services is Rev. G. Splinter, chairman of the steering committee, composed of representatives from the Pastors' Evangelical Fellowship, the Christian Business Men's Committee, and Youth for Christ.

The Saturday night service in the auditorium begins at 8 p.m., daylight saving time, while Sunday services begin at 2:45 and 8:45 p.m. The Back to the Bible Hour quartet will join Dr. Epp for these services.

New Hospital Approved

Medical Work Leads to Conversions

By Dr. Ernie Schmidt, M.D.

Kajiji, Belgian Congo. — In reviewing the medical work during the last two years, we can see a marked improvement since relief funds were made available to us. During the first year, all we could give the patients was a limited amount of medicines, and no food at all. During 1956 we were able to supply the people with the much-needed food and the results are gratifying. At least one half of our hospital patients are suffering from some form of malnutrition. The possibility of supplying food has gone a long way in gaining the confidence of the people, and in making their hearts and minds open to the Gospel. We are grateful for the backing we have received.

During 1956, we have registered 44 definite decisions to accept Christ as Saviour. Many more have heard the Gospel and we are assured "His Word will not return . . . void". Throughout the year, we have averaged 87 in-patients and 130 out-patients daily, with 140 deliveries, 177 major surgeries and 299 minor surgeries for the year.

Large Number Hear Gospel

The months of February to July are always associated with an in-

flux of patients. One morning last week I counted 320 patients and helpers at the morning service. We are grateful for this opportunity to present the Gospel to such a number each day.

(Continued on page 4-2)

John Walls to South America

Hillsboro, Kans. — Brother and Sister John Wall of Kitchener, Ontario, have accepted a call to serve Mennonite Brethren Churches in South America under the Board of General Welfare and Public Relations.

Their departure is planned as early this summer as possible. While their final assignment remains to be worked out, their ministry will be such services as preaching, teaching and personal work. Their first location may be in Uruguay or Brazil.

Brother Wall has been a Bible school teacher. During this year he taught in the Bible school in Kitchener operated by the Mennonite Brethren Churches of Ontario. Previously he taught for two years in the East Chilliwack Bible School in British Columbia.

EDITORIAL

Labels Can Ruin Lives

All of us decry the prevalent tendency in the social and political world to label anything suspicious, radical or unsympathetic as "communistic". We believe that such a sweeping generalization applied as a label to something or someone that we know little about, yet think dangerous, is harmful and uncalled for. Yet as Christians we are often guilty of the same offence.

One term often used to label people or actions is "worldly". Even though we ourselves are rather hazy as to the exact Biblical definition of the term, we apply it rather indiscriminately to whatever we do not like because it clashes with our traditions or upbringing. In this way we can label a person for life. If our snap judgment should be questioned we marshal supposedly strong arguments to support our action—arguments that often seem reasonable only to ourselves. Or we somehow try to make the questioner also suspect to the same "worldly" deviations. This is easily done by telling our friends, "I wonder if he hasn't been affected by so and so."

The self-righteousness underlying such action is seen in our further attitude toward this "worldly" person. Instead of revealing the love of Christ and trying to help the "worldly" one by winning his confidence and showing him the truth from the Word of God, we conspicuously avoid him. We may even apply a social boycott—and that to a brother or a sister in the church.

Another term we use to label people or institutions is that they are "a bad influence". For many years higher education was suspected as "a bad influence". Even today many believe that universities are "a bad influence". Simply because they attend university, young people are suspected by many of being "a bad influence". Where such an attitude prevails these young people feel unwanted. Instead of being integrated into the church program they stand on the side and criticize, or they go elsewhere where their talents are appreciated. But where thinking young people are given a sympathetic understanding for their problems, where their great potentialities for Christian service are harnessed in church work, very few go astray.

Young people in a church or community that do not conform to the standard norm of behaviour, or who manifest an independent spirit, are also often labeled as "a bad influence". Many are more confused than bad because of their mental and spiritual difficulties during the "growing up" period. Although they would like to be known as adults, they sometimes revert to childish behaviour to gain their ends (even some adults do this) and they become known as "a bad influence".

Instead of trying to understand these people and patiently helping them over their spiritual difficulties (often reflected in social rebellion), we close our doors to them and forbid our children to associate with them. In applying this social boycott we awaken resentment and antagonism—and drive them away from Christ and the church, who alone can really help them. The cold shoulder of a Sunday school class, a choir, or former friends can do more damage to a soul desiring understanding and help than we ever imagine possible. If we want to manifest the mind of Christ we will not turn away from young people who we think are "a bad influence", but we will open our heart's door to their problems (and our homes to their needs). We will love these people into His arms through our genuine interest, sympathetic understanding, open hearts and Biblical counsel.

Labels such as "worldly" and "a bad influence"—and the resulting social and spiritual boycott—can alienate those we are trying to win for Christ. It can send them to a Christless eternity—because we didn't care. Labels can ruin lives, not only for this life but also for eternity.

Jesus said, "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

DEVOTIONAL

"These Were More Noble"

By Peter Penner *

"(The Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily; whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few" (Acts 17:11,12).

Who is a noble Christian? May we assume for today that you have an experiential knowledge of the answer to that question. The reasons why the Bereans were more noble than the Thessalonians in their reception of the Word of God reveals another answer to that question. As G. Campbell Morgan has pointed out, the Thessalonians were either weakly receptive or wilfully antagonistic, whereas the Bereans were intelligently questioning in their attitude.

Transferring the marks of nobility which characterized the Bereans to our attitude upon hearing the Word, we find that a noble Christian is one who receives the Word open-mindedly.

What is your attitude to the spoken Word? The Bereans said: "If these men have the truth, let's hear them to the end, then study the Scriptures for comprehension and verification and so come to a firm conviction ourselves." They were not traditionalists of such strong prejudices that these could not be overcome and that, after presentation of a new truth and personal study to see whether it was right, they would not accept it. This was not true in Christ's day, when the willful opposition of the Pharisees to the new truths presented by Jesus led them ultimately to crucify Him. Our generation requires the emphasis of neglected truths, the use of new methods, and in some instances the departure from revered traditions. Let us not be blindly or even wilfully opposed to such changes, but let us learn from the Bereans how to go about accepting or rejecting them.

Again, a noble Christian is one who searches the Scriptures daily. Does the Bible ask too much when it asks each believer to study his Bible and "meditate on its laws day and night"? Think of all that God has done to give us the Word: He called prophets and apostles to write His message under inspiration; He prepared scribes who copied it faithfully; He called scholars to translate its message for us; and He gave us publishers as well as distributors. What is more, the Bible has been printed in our language, a language easily understood. The Bible can also be cheaply purchased, yet many Christians persist in attending Church without carrying a Bible!

—Why should you search the Scriptures daily? The answer lies in our text—to see "whether those things

were so!" You no doubt hear many great truths propounded to you week by week. Do you still know all the answers—or have your preachers become authorities for you? You should certainly take the portion used by your minister on a Sunday morning, study it for yourself, and then discuss with him any part that may still puzzle you. Need it be said here that you should read your Bible daily in family worship and for your personal and private devotions?

Finally, a noble Christian is one who believes the Gospel approvingly. "Therefore many of them believed." The Bereans mentioned above were people of means and prestige, probably the busiest people in Berea, who nevertheless believingly approved what they had heard on the basis of a personal perusal of the Scriptures, whereas the Thessalonians "were persuaded" by Paul's argumentation. A church was founded in Thessalonica, an exemplary church, it is true, but they followed Paul's exposition and were only weakly receptive in contrast to the Bereans who intelligently appropriated to themselves the truths heard and studied.

The Bereans were noble also in that they were willing to hear Silas
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* M. B. Mission of Manitoba home missionary at Lindal, Manitoba.

Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

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MISSION HOLDS FIELD CONFERENCE

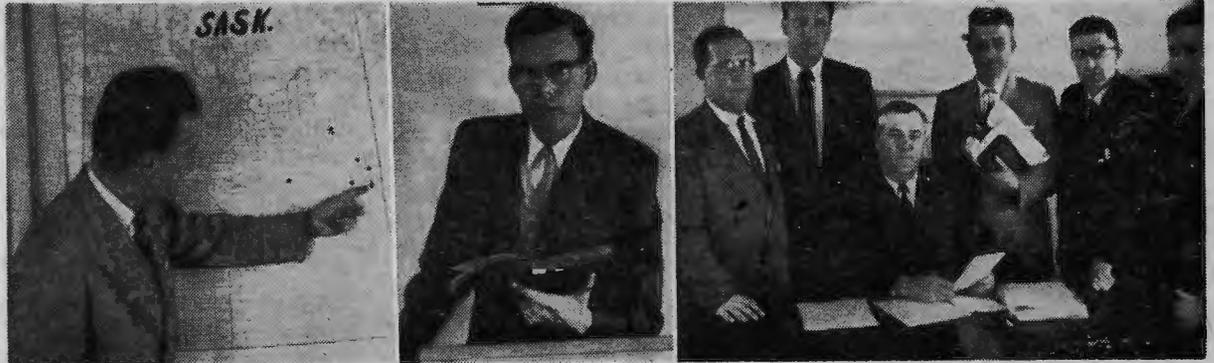
By D. K. Schellenberg

Steinbach, Man. — Pelly, Sask., was the site chosen for this year's field conference of the Western Gospel Mission, which has its headquarters at Steinbach, Man. A short evangelistic campaign was held in connection with the conference.

This mission is a comparatively new venture, having been founded about 10 years ago. It began when one man saw the need for bringing the Gospel to those in the neglected areas of Canada. His enthusiasm sparked the interest of others and today the mission has some eight stations in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

One of the highlights at the field conference was the presence of Rev. Benny Eidse, who has served three and a half years on the mission field in the Belgian Congo. Rev. Eidse was the first mission worker at the Pelly station and began his service for the Lord there. During his visit at this station now he showed pictures and also preached at the evening evangelistic services. Sinners were brought to the Saviour as a result of these meetings.

Business pertaining to the welfare of the Western Gospel Mission was discussed during the day. The program was definitely such that we had the assurance that the mis-



These are some of the participants at the field conference at Pelly, Sask., of the Western Gospel Mission. At left is H. Barkman, pointing to his field of labor, Kamsack, Sask. In the centre is Benny Eidse, who pioneered the work at Pelly, Sask., and is now on furlough after one term in the Belgian Congo. At right can be seen several members of the mission executive and the workers. Left to right, Edwin Wright, Ben Friesen, Rev. B. D. Reimer (seated), chairman, H. Barkman, Rev. John Reimer, member of executive, and H. Klassen.

sionary cause was going forward. A special emphasis in the work of the mission is the holding of Bible classes in rural schools.

Other phases of work engaging the attention of the local missionary are: hospital visitation, house calls, Sundays schools, good news clubs, evangelistic services, and street meetings. The need for more workers came to the fore in a special way at the conference. The doors are open, the fields are white unto harvest, it was reported, but "the laborers are few". It is hoped that one result of the conference will be an increase in the field staff.

Present also for the evangelistic services was the Klassen family

with their musical instruments. As the Klassen group had been there before, they served as an added attraction to the meetings, which were very well attended.

Missionaries present for the field conference came from the Pelly, Kamsack, Canora and Wynyard stations, all in Saskatchewan. Chairman of the mission is Rev. B. D. Reimer, well-known Bible teacher and evangelist in the Steinbach area.

The Western Gospel Mission, although founded by the Evangelical Mennonite Church, is interdenominational in its outreach. Their goal is to bring the Gospel to those in neglected areas.

contributed greatly to the success of the campaign.

On four of the evenings films were shown prior to the messages. On Sunday evening, May 5, Rev. G. G. Buhler of the Billy Graham Films Inc. showed the inspiring film, "Fire on the Heather". On that occasion the church was filled to capacity.

At the last meeting a testimony period revealed the effects of the services upon the audience. Many related of the great blessings received during the week. One brother testified: "I have enjoyed the campaign tremendously. There is only one thing wrong with it—it is too short."

Prior to the campaign a week of special prayer meetings was held. Marvelously the Lord answered our prayers. We are grateful to our God and Brother Warkentin for the showers of blessings from above.

J. H. Epp At Gem For Evangelism

By Nick Dueck

Gem. Atla. — The Mennonite Brethren Church here had a blessed week of services from April 19 to 26, when Rev. J. H. Epp, principal of the Bethany Bible Institute, served as evangelist.

The services were held in the English language. They began with congregational singing and a short prayer service. Rev. Epp then addressed the children, after which he spoke to the congregation as a whole.

The soul-searching messages were filled with power from above and several young people were able to find peace with God during the course of the week. Christians were blessed and strengthened as they saw their prayers being answered. The Lord truly was with us during the week. Our prayer is that the blessings and encouragements received would continue to inspire us as we continue in the Christian life . . . "until we see Christ".

Ladies' Aid Has Mission Evening

North Surrey, B.C. — The Ladies' Aid of the Strawberry Hill M. B. Church had their annual missionary evening on May 10.

There were some special numbers and the film, "Mother and the Home". It was the story of how a wayward daughter brought sorrow to her mother and caused her to die of a broken heart. Only then did the daughter let Christ into her heart. The film spoke to all our hearts, particularly to those of us who have loving, Christian mothers.

There was a missionary offering. Pie and coffee were served later in the church basement.

Accepts Invitation to Attend Conference

Hillsboro, Kans. — Brother Gerhard Balzer, chairman of the South American Conference of Mennonite Churches, has accepted an invitation to attend the General Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America.

The invitation to Brother Balzer was extended by the North American Conference leadership and the Board of General Welfare and Public Relations. Brother Balzer will arrive in time to attend the Canad-

ian Conference to be held at Herbert, Sask., July 6 to 10.

The General Conference meets in British Columbia in October. During the interim he will visit churches and other points of interest in the United States and Canada.

Brother Balzer is also leading minister of the Mennonite Brethren Church in Fernheim Colony, Paraguay.

Five Baptized By Mission Church

Winnipeg, Man. — Five believers were baptized and received into the Gospel Light Mission Church on Sunday, May 12, for the third baptismal service in two years. Membership now stands at 38.

The baptismal service was held at the South End M. B. church, so that the indoor font could be used. Rev. J. M. Schmidt, city missionary of the M. B. Church (of which the Gospel Light Mission Church is an extension), served as chairman at the service and performed the baptism. Rev. J. P. Neufeld, pastor of the South End M. B. Church and chairman of the city mission committee, led in the invocation, welcoming the members of the mission church and the visitors.

Rev. Victor Toews, instructor at the M. B. Bible College, delivered

the baptismal message. He spoke on Matt. 28:18-20 and Mk. 16:14-16, emphasizing the importance of baptism and discussing the significance of this step of obedience.

Music was provided by the Gospel Light Mission Church choir, directed by Mr. George Schroeder, and an M. B. Bible College quartet.

Candidates for baptism were: Mr. Jacob Schapansky, Mr. Edmond Burwood, Mrs. Geraldine Harper, Mrs. George Schroeder, and Miss Elaine Penner.

Several Conversions at Winnipegosis

By Harry Loewen

Winnipegosis, Man. — Mr. Lawrence Warkentin, M. B. city missionary at Brandon, Man., served at evangelistic meetings held at the Winnipegosis M. B. Mission Church during the first week in May.

In spite of the spring work on the farms, the services were well attended. The Lord richly blessed the evangelistic endeavor and some were won for the Lord, while Christians resolved to follow Christ more closely.

The songs by the local choir, a ladies' trio, and individual singers

Mexico Mennonites Negotiating for Land

Timmins, Ont. — Mennonites from Mexico are "talking prices" with farmers in the Matheson district of Ontario and are negotiating to purchase crown land in the district, according to a Canadian Press news release.

According to lands and forests department officials approximately 500 Mennonites are involved. They are part of the 3,000 who left Manitoba and Saskatchewan in 1821 and 1922 because they objected to Canada's educational laws. Because of an extreme land shortage in Mexico they have been trying to purchase land elsewhere.

Before they took any steps towards purchasing the land, Menno-

nite representatives discussed the prospects of farming in the region with officials at the Dominion experimental farm at Kapuskasing. They were planning, the representatives said, to establish beef and dairy farms and raise wheat, oats, barley and potatoes. Projects planned include the building of a cheese factory.

Most of the 200-odd families that moved to Mexico in the 1920's were from the Old Colony Mennonites. They were augmented by a group of 8,000 who left western Canada for Mexico in the 1930's. At the present time there are about 15,000 of them in the northern Mexico states of Durango and Chihuahua.

Male Voice Choir "Best Choir"

St. Catharines, Ont. — Winning four awards, the male voice choir of the St. Catharines Mennonite Brethren Church was named as "the best choir participating" in the Lincoln County Music Festival, April 29.

The 40-voice choir is directed by Jacob Pauls, teacher at St. Catharines, and can be heard during the church's radio broadcast Sundays over CKTB, St. Catharines.

Mr. Clifford McAree of Toronto, adjudicator, commended the choir for its "beautiful sound, splendid balance, good diction, color, full rich tone" and the manner in which the melody remained dominant to the proper extent. He considered it "most promising work".

Minister's Daughter Wins At Festival

St. Catharines, Ont. — Playing music from six composers, Miss Joyce Redekop proved that she was the best in her classes at the Lincoln County Music Festival. The 17-year-old daughter of Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Redekop won in six piano classes, with marks of 88, 88, 88, 92, 88, 92, playing Mozart, Chopin, Beethoven, Copeland, Bach, and Bela Bartok. In all but one class she played in open competition.

Joyce is a member of the St. Catharines Mennonite Brethren Church and a student at Eden Christian College.

Dicks Arrive Home

Hillsboro, Kans. — Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Dick and family, Mennonite Brethren Church missionaries in India, were scheduled to arrive in New York aboard the Queen Elizabeth Tuesday, May 14, and arrive in Hillsboro around Thursday, May 23. The Dicks return home for furlough following their third term of

missionary service in India. Originally from Russia, the Dicks have resided in Canada while on furloughs. During 1949 and 1950 they lived in Winnipeg.

Eight Chaco Indians Baptized

Fernheim, Paraguay — After a lengthy period of instruction, eight Chaco Indians have received baptism by Rev. Gerhard Giesbrecht, missionary. Many visitors came from the Mennonite colonies to attend the baptismal service.

Trip to Russia Off

Winnipeg, Man. — Word has been received that the planned tour of Mennonite settlements in Russia by a delegation due to leave immediately after the Mennonite World Conference has been called off because the preparatory trip to Moscow by Dr. H. S. Bender cannot be made.

Dr. Bender intended to visit Moscow this month to prepare the way for the delegation's tour, but his visa was not received in time.

MORE ABOUT

Medical Work Leads to Conversions

(Continued from page 1-2)

This year again, we have had to enlarge the accommodation for our patients, building two grass wards to provide space for another 30 "beds". We were able to put cement floors into one of our semi-permanent wards to accommodate our surgical patients for their first week of post-operative care, after which quite a few are ready to be moved to dirt floor wards. However, the future is brighter now that the state has approved our application for a new hospital, to be built by our mission in 1957-'58. It is to be a State hospital staffed by mission

personnel. Please join us in praising God for His gracious provision.

This past month we had the joy of seeing a witch doctor accept Christ as Saviour. Though he is about 40 years of age, he is learning to read, and we hope will eventually be able to read the Bible for himself. Pray for him, as he will meet much opposition in his own village.

Many Tuberculosis Patients

A growing need is the care of tuberculosis patients. Among the under-nourished, this disease takes a heavy toll. A few months ago, while making ward rounds in the T.B. camp, I stopped at the hut of Itela, a woman just recently admitted. She was the nearest to skin and bones that I had ever seen, and had not enough strength to sit up. Her first question was whether she was going to die. This opened the way for a word of testimony. Several weeks later, the national nurse was able to lead her to the Lord.

God has heard our prayers and she is able to walk around and is rapidly improving. Her ready smile is a witness to her gratitude. There are many other trophies of God's grace which makes our work worthwhile and so enjoyable.

We would like, however, to remind you that this is not a mere philanthropic work. As you pray and as God gives grace, we want above all to make known the matchless love and grace of our Heavenly Father. The need of these people is so great and we are so inadequate for the task.

Future Subscribers

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jake Wiebe of Holmfild, Man., on April 28, a daughter, Carol Joan, a sister for Ronnie and Larry.

Tabor College

Baerg Will Address Alumni

Commencement week activities at Tabor College will be concluded with the traditional alumni banquet at 6:30 p.m. on May 30, commencement day. The banquet this year will be held in the reading room of the new college library building. Speaker for the occasion will be Rev. Rueben M. Baerg, pastor of the Buhler, Kansas, Mennonite Brethren Church.

Present Scientific Papers

Two Tabor College graduates engaged in graduate study and research at state schools read scientific papers at recent meetings in Manhattan of the Kansas Academy of Science and the Kansas Entomological Society.

At the May 3 meeting of the Academy of Science, Clarence Harms, who received his A.B. at

Tabor in 1955, read a paper entitled "Parasites of some catfishes from northeastern Kansas." Harms is at present a graduate student and assistant instructor in the department of biology at the University of Kansas, and will receive the master of arts degree in that field this spring.

"A measurement of greenbug (*Toxotera graminum*) damage to the root systems and other plant parts of several varieties of wheat" is the title of a study read to the Entomological Society on May 4 by Eldon Ortman, 1955 graduate of Tabor. Ortman, who was president of the student council in his senior year at Tabor, is a graduate research assistant and student in the department of entomology at Kansas State College, where he has completed requirements for the degree of master of science.

Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary

Dr. Whiting to Speak at Seminary Commencement

The first commencement exercises in the history of the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary will be held on May 29, with Dr. Arthur B. Whiting of Talbot Theological Seminary giving the commencement address. Dr. Whiting was Dean and Vice-President of the Bible Institute of Pennsylvania before joining the Biola Bible College and Talbot Theological Seminary faculty as chairman of the department of English Bible. He is well-known as a Bible Conference speaker, having given the Bible Studies at the Mid-America Keswick Convention for two years. In 1956 he gave the commencement address at Dallas Theological Seminary.

Six to Graduate

Of the six candidates to graduate, four are applicants for the degree of Master of Arts in Missions. They are: Floyd Born, Frazer, Montana; Arlo Heinrichs, Fresno, Calif.; Walter Friesen, Yarrow, B.C.; and Paul Hiebert, Minneapolis, Minnesota (graduating in absentia). Two have completed the three-year Bachelor of Divinity course, each having done post-graduate work before entry into the Seminary. Alfred Schmidt, Hepburn, Sask., and Peter C. Martens, Fairview, Oklahoma, are candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Divinity.

Spring Missionary Conference

Rev. B. H. Pearson, executive secretary of the World Gospel Crusade will be the chapel speaker in a three-day missionary emphasis at the Seminary.

Rev. John Wiens, father of missionary Ruth Wiens, spoke to the students in chapel on church pioneering in northern Minnesota. Of interest was the considerable number from those small congregations who are in full-time missionary work today.

Two Congo Baptisms Cause Great Joy

By Theodor C. Martens

(Brother Martens is a missionary under the Mennonite Brethren Church Board of Foreign Missions serving on the Kipungu field in the Belgian Congo. Brother and Sister Martens are from the Niverville Mennonite Brethren Church in Manitoba.)

Greetings with Isaiah 9:3: "Thou hast multiplied the nation, and to him increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil." This verse fittingly describes the feelings of our Kipungu Church in the Belgian Congo during the past month (written March 27). When the Church increases in numerical strength, there is joy. There is also joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. Baptism is the visible evidence of that repentance. Who has not rejoiced when there was an abundant harvest? Our brethren in the Congo also rejoice when souls are added to the Church.

It has been our privilege to conduct the two baptisms that had to be postponed last October and November because of illness. The long time of waiting has been a time of testing for many. Some have proven themselves to be unworthy.

Natives in Area Resettled

One baptism was at Kibunda, which is about 25 miles northeast of Kipungu among the Basuku people. It is the approximate center of a group of 15 Basuku villages. These people are not natives of this area. They have been settled here by the state to overcome the food shortage in their own area and to populate a productive but under-populated strip of land along the Kwenge River. Although they have been there for a number of years, the state is still supplying some food to them. Many are employed by the state in the upkeep of the roads. Others cut palm nuts. The "unemployed" are making a coffee plantation under the supervision of a state overseer.

Our present evangelist at Kibunda is Manuel Masita who was graduated from Kafumba Bible School in 1954. He and his family have been there about six months now. Previously the district was worked by Joseph Lubiengi, a native of the Panzi area. He worked for the companies in our area for many years, but the Lord gave him a burden for His work. Consequently, he gave up seeking for wealth and sought souls instead.

Nine Baptized at Kibunda

We had the joy of baptizing nine souls at Kibunda on March 3. Some of these heard the Gospel through Joseph in the days when he still worked for the company. Most of

the baptismal candidates had never witnessed a Protestant baptism. Two years ago the priest went through all the villages selling holy water. Now he is repeating with the sacred heart of Jesus. They know his teachings, but they had never witnessed a Biblical baptism.

At the water the church secretary, Isaac Kilabi, brought the message. He pointed out to the people what the Bible taught about baptism and how the practices of the Catholic Church disagreed with Scripture. After the baptism the people said: "Now we know we have been deceived." The two chiefs of Kibunda told me: "That is the thing we are in need of." They certainly are, but prior to that must come the cleansing of heart and life of which baptism is the outward sign. One of the chiefs has two wives and the other, three. Satan has ensnared his adherents very effectively and many of them experience great difficulty in straightening out their entangled lives.

Rejoicing in the Harvest

After the baptism, the newly baptized were received into the fellowship of the church. The message before the Lord's Supper was brought by Joseph Lubiengi. During the days that we spent at Kibunda, this was his only message. He was just recuperating from an attack of pneumonia which he contracted when out in the rains too often while going from village to village proclaiming the Gospel. We took him along, not for the sake of working, but for the sake of rejoicing in the harvest—the fruit of his labors.

At Kilembe, 42 miles from Kipungu, we had the privilege of baptizing 89. Many tribes and age groups were represented. Besides a former policeman, there was the emotionally ill young man who heard the Gospel in prison. They have the soldiers guard such ill ones and take them to the hospital for treatment. His village has had the Gospel for many years, but the Lord had to lock him up so he would stop and hear the Word of God from the lips of a soldier.

Chiefs Baptized

There were a few important men in the group. The old chief from one of the villages as well as the former medal chief of that entire area were baptized. He had climbed the social ladder as high as it is possible for a man to go, but found satisfaction only in Christ. Both of these have white hair. The younger men were saying: "Those two will not work together with us because of their chieftaincy." But they took their knives and went to the forest with the rest. I witnessed them coming back. Because

of their chieftaincy, I am sure, it was a long time since they had been to the forest to get poles, but within the ranks of the Church they are brothers with the rest.

Here as elsewhere, it is true that not many wise men, nor many mighty have been called. Most of them were ordinary people as we find them in the average village. Most of the baptismal candidates were women. Many of them can understand the Kituba, but the older ladies have not learned to speak it. These gave their testimonies in their tribal tongues. I was surprised at the joy of salvation expressed on the faces of some of these old people. The clearest testimonies were given by them. Our evangelist's explanation was that they have tasted to the full the things that the world has to offer and found them unsatisfactory; now they have yielded completely to the Lord and found the peace that their hearts desired.

A Saint Went Home

One old lady we were not privileged to baptize because the Lord took her to be with Him. About a week before her home-going, the evangelist came to see her and in spite of her illness, she got up to give her offering. When her last hour on earth had come, the Christians of that village were together at her deathbed. At death there is much wailing and mourning among these people. Here there was joy, for this was not the death of a village heathen; this was the home-going of a saint. Only Christ has such transforming power.

Where there is sunshine, there are also shadows. Not all those whose testimonies we heard were accepted. In fact, not all those that we originally approved were baptized. There were two that made a lot of noise when they found that they were not included.

One lady, originally approved, was later dropped when it was learned she helped a man conceal the fact that he kept a second wife. Was she dropped at my insistence? I would never have found out about it if they had not informed me. In spite of many shortcomings, it is a joy to see our African brethren take responsibility in a way that they have never done before. They are no longer serving the white man in a white man's church. They are awakening to the fact that they are responsible to God and it is up to them to keep discipline within the church.

Indigenous Spirit Evident

The little chapel at Kilembe was enlarged in 1954, but it is much too small now. Since then the church has more than doubled in membership. They have already collected \$66.10 towards building a new church of stone with a metal roof. For some time they have been

carrying rock, too, but the rock is quite a distance down at the river. Three trips are a day's work. It will take much more work and sacrifice until they will have a new church. Formerly they looked to the white man to provide those things that were needed. We are happy to note their spiritual growth to the point where they no longer beg, but rather work to accomplish things. In the meantime, we had our services in a palm-leaf shelter. The poles will later be used for the construction of houses. In spite of many disturbances on the part of the onlookers, we felt the Lord's presence in our midst.

Pray for our new church members. They are still subject to all the wiles of the devil. The forces of old habit are still strong. Relatives and friends have little understanding for a new way of life. There is much room for spiritual growth. May the Lord keep them in His ways.

Manitoba Theologian To Mennonite Seminary

Chicago, Ill. — William Klassen, son of Rev. and Mrs. D. D. Klassen, Homewood, Man., has been appointed to the faculty of the Mennonite Biblical Seminary, it was recently announced by President S. F. Pannabecker and president-elect Erland Waltner.

He will teach in the Biblical field, with special reference to the New Testament, at the new Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries to be established at Elkhart, Ind., in September, 1958.

Mr. Klassen is a graduate of Mennonite Collegiate Institute, Gretna, Man., Goshen College (1952) and Goshen College Biblical Seminary (B.D., 1954). At present he is completing his residence requirements for the doctor's degree at Princeton Seminary. During part of his stay at Princeton he was Teaching Fellow in New Testament. He is also writing the historical background section in the English and German adult quarterly of the General Conference of Mennonites Sunday school lesson series.

Choirs Combine To Sing Cantata

Gem, Alta. — The choirs of the Rosemary Mennonite Church and the Gem M. B. Church presented the cantata "Immortality", by Stulz, in the respective churches on April 14. The choir was directed by the brethren G. Harder and H. Peters.

Soloists for the performances were: Miss Elsie Rempel and Miss Linda Boschman, soprano; Miss L. Braul and Miss Mary Wiens, contralto; Henry Peters and Henry Lepp, tenor; and Peter Nickel and Leonard Harder, bass.

THE *Young Observers*

Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

"Why are you cutting branches and twigs off our tree, Mr. Smith?" asked Max.

"Your father told me to prune the trees," answered Mr. Smith. "That will help the trees to grow better. It will also make the fruit larger and easier to reach."

Max thought it strange that his father should have parts of the tree cut off in order to make it grow. He thought it was rather a silly thing to do. Was his father right, or was Max right? If Max had asked Mr. Smith why cutting off some branches made the tree grow better, he would have been told that when there are less branches they can get more food from the ground and grow faster. In the same way the less fruit there is, the bigger it will grow and the tastier it will be.

Boys and girls, we are like trees, too. If we want to grow stronger in our Christian life we need pruning, too. As the branches and twigs had to be cut off, so the sin in our life has to be taken out. God does this in different ways. Sometimes the ways God uses are not pleasant, for He may ask us to do something we do not want to do, or He may send sickness. Yet remember, boys and girls, all the ways which God uses are such that you and I may become better and stronger Christians.

God says that His ways are better and higher than our ways—not by just a little bit, but by a whole lot. He says in his Word, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than yours."

Even though we cannot always understand God's ways, they are the best for you and me—they help to prune us so that we can grow better and bear more fruit in our Christian life.

Aunt Selma.

HOMework

It was Saturday afternoon. In the kitchen mother was making preparations for Sunday. Marlies, the 13-year-old daughter, sat on one of the chairs munching an apple.

"Come and help me a little," her mother said to Marlies. "I'm sure you have a little spare time."

Marlies replied quickly, "But we've got just terribly much homework. On top of that the teacher assigned a paragraph that must be done by Monday. Honestly, Mom, I just don't have time to help you."

Her mother sighed and said, "If that's true, I suppose I will have to get along without you."

Marlies got out her books. Just as she was getting ready to start on them, the doorbell rang. Annette and Susan, her two classmates, were standing at the door. Their bicycles were set against the picket fence in front.

"Are you coming with us, Marlies? We want to go for a ride on our bicycles. You can take off an hour in this wonderful weather," Annette said.

Marlies hesitated, thinking of her mother's need for help. She asked the girls, "Have you done your homework already?"

"Oh no, we've got all day tomorrow to do it. Go ask your mother, Marlies, so we can leave soon," the girls said.

Meekly Marlies went to her mother and asked, "Mom, may I go for a ride on the bicycle with Annette and Susan?"

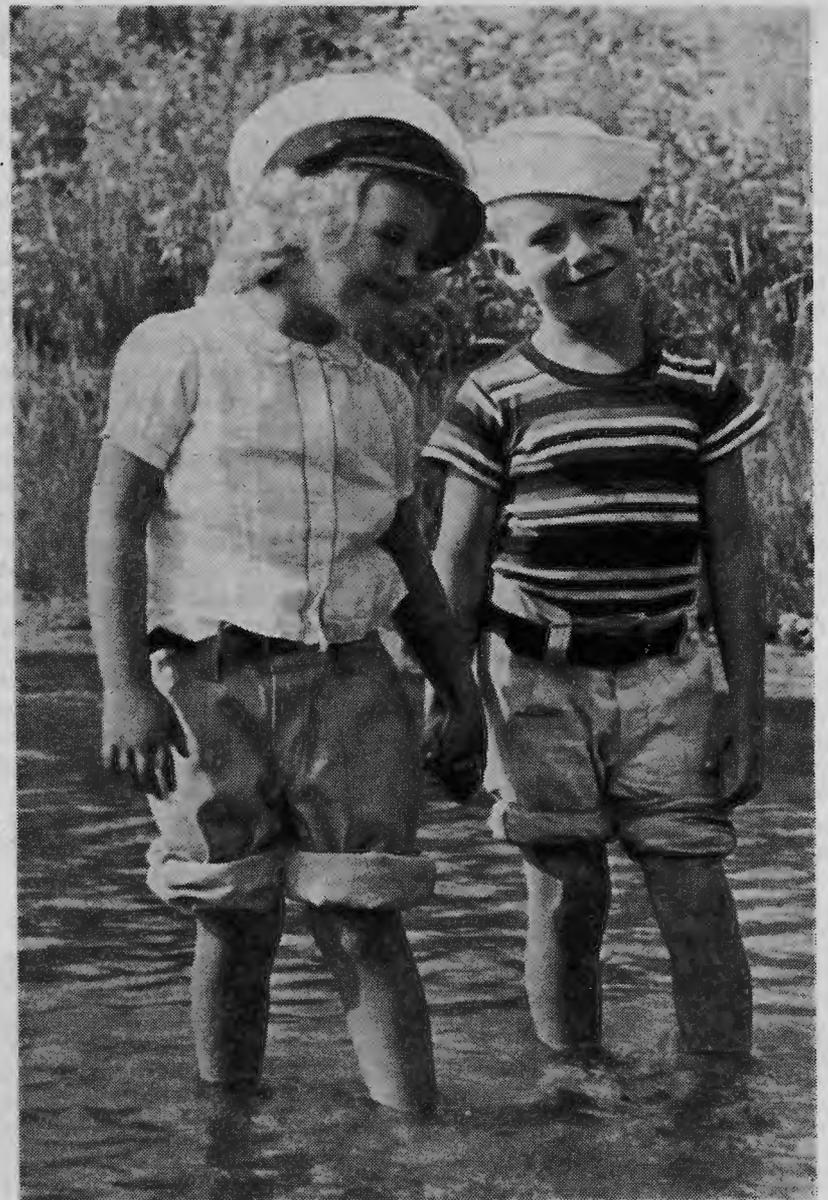
Her mother straightened up in surprise. "You have time to do that?" she asked.

"We'll be back right away," Marlies replied.

"Make sure that you get your homework done today. You know that at our house no one does anything on Sunday that could have been done on Saturday. If you go for only an hour you may go."

Not waiting until her mother would change her mind, Marlies dashed out of the house with the other two girls. They had a wonderful time riding their bicycles—for three whole hours. Quietly Marlies came into the house upon her return—and to appease her mother she set the table for supper without being asked to do so.

Immediately after supper she sat down to do her homework. But now she didn't seem to get anywhere. Suddenly Marlies was very tired. She yawned sleepily. Her eyelids became so heavy that they just didn't want to stay open anymore. It was no use trying to study at this rate. She decided that she would rise early Sunday morning and do her homework before her father arrived from work on the



Some children like playing in puddles, but this brother and sister team are obviously enjoying wading through a shallow stream. Isn't it a beautiful picture of harmony and love for one another as they together enjoy the cool water? Do you love your brother or sister this much?

grave-yard shift. But not even that resolution was kept. That left only the afternoon.

Marlies was busily doing her homework when her father looked into her room that afternoon, after having taken his nap.

"What are you doing?"

"I'm doing my homework," Marlies stammered, not even daring to look up at her father.

"I should think that you would know the third commandment. Sunday belongs to God. You can stop doing your homework right now," he declared firmly.

"But Daddy, how can I get my homework done then?" Marlies pleaded and started to cry.

"Stop that immediately! You had enough time to do your homework yesterday."

There was no getting around it. She knew that when her father spoke that firmly he meant it. But the next morning she was up early to finish her homework. Naturally, the paragraph didn't get all the attention it deserved, nor was her arithmetic done very neatly. The teacher saw that too, and gave her a mark of 50% instead of her usual

90 or more.

Marlies was really sorry now that she had gone for the bicycle ride on Saturday and stayed so much longer than her mother had given her permission. Next time she would listen to her mother.

Egermeier's Bible Story Book

By Elsie E. Egermeyer 630 pp.

The stories of the Bible form the most fascinating book in the world. In this book these stories are told in simple, direct language, so that the true message of the Bible will slip into the child's mind and heart and become a part of his life—never to be forgotten. This book is a family favorite—over one million copies have been sold.

There are 312 stories in this book, 64 pictures in full colour and 115 lithographed in black and white, and four beautiful animated maps. \$3.95

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

FROM HERE TO THE PINNACLES

By Elizabeth Schroeter

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(10th Installment)

The Schultzes were having Vesper and asked Liesbeth to sit down and join them. On the table she saw Aprikosenkuchen, her favorite apricot pastry. She accepted their invitation. Aunt Schultze was an expert cook, and this pastry of biscuit dough covered with a layer of stewed apricots was delightful. During the meal Liesbeth apologized to Aunt Schultze for having given her such a fright.

"Never mind my screaming; that's the way I always shriek when unexpectedly a black horse surprises me in the doorway," she said good-naturedly. By that time it was hailing hard. All three went to the window to look at the hail.

When the storm seemed to be over, Liesbeth decided to go home. "Everyone will be worried about me at home," she explained. Uncle Schultze helped her get on the wet saddle of the black mare, and Liesbeth rode off in a trot. Although the rain had stopped, the lightning and thunder continued in the direction of Gnadental.

When Liesbeth entered her yard, she heard a buzzing noise like that of a swarm of bees. The Kasdorfs and their servants rushed out of their house and ran toward the river. Vater, Mutter, David and Franz also ran into the yard. Mutter was so joyous to see Liesbeth home safe and sound that tears trickled down her cheeks. "You should have come home before it started to rain!" Vater said reprovingly.

"The river is overflowing!" shouted one of the neighbors.

Vater took the horse, and David and Liesbeth went to the river north of the Kasdorfs to see the sight. She had never seen more than just a few puddles of water in the river before. When they neared it, the noise of the big stream became plainer and plainer. All along the riverbank people were gathered. Men and boys were fortifying the embankment in weak places. Something that looked like part of a bridge drifted past them, noisily struggling with an uprooted tree. A small shack appeared in the murky waters. "It's the shepherd's shack!" someone shouted, as he tried to lasso it to shore.

"That water is from a big cloudburst between Margenau and Gnadental," yelled someone else.

The river soon overran its north bank and partially inundated the

beet, potato and pumpkin fields beyond the river. In some places the water had reached the road near the forest. A terrified cow, a panic-stricken calf and dozens of excited chickens were carried along by the swift stream. Villagers with ropes tried to lasso the cattle, but the current was too swift for them.

In the past the river had been so insignificant that few villagers knew its name Kuruschan. Suddenly it had become a powerful, roaring, overflowing and death-dealing monster!

When Liesbeth went home, she was wondering why she had not been struck by the horrible lightning, and why she had crossed the river before the awe-inspiring flood waters had appeared. Then she smiled and reflected, "I know. It was the finger of the One to whom the aspens are pointing; there is no doubt about that. He is on my side."

That night, before she could go to sleep, she speculated as to whether her gruesome experiences of the day might be reminders from above to stick closer to her parents' fence. Far into the night she sorted out values and searched for clarity on matters that deeply concerned her. For the present she would cling to her home, she decided, just before she dropped off to sleep.

CHAPTER IV

THEY WERE ELEVEN

Vater was right; at home there were many opportunities for learning and broadening experiences that gave every promise of helping Liesbeth make wiser decisions as she grew older. Moreover, those contacts were enjoyable. As she expressed it, her parents were more than just Mennonites. Twenty-six years before—in 1877, to be specific—Vater, then a seventeen-year-old Catholic boy from Elbing in East Prussia, had gone to Ladekopp on the Molotschna River, to be apprenticed to an experienced tailor of that Mennonite village. His father had died when Vater was five. His mother, according to Vater, had been sick since bewitchment by a Bohemian gypsy and had died of diabetes when Vater was sixteen. After two years of training, he had moved to Margenau to be the village tailor.

In Ladekopp, Vater became acquainted with a slender, young, dark-eyed Catholic girl five years

younger than he and an inch shorter. Her name was Anna Vogt, the daughter of a felt-boot cobbler, Franz Vogt of Tockmak, a large Russian settlement on the outskirts of the Mennonite colony. After practising his trade for two years, Vater had asked Anna to marry him. At that time she was working for the Ladekopp village teacher and his wife. They were deeply religious Mennonite Brethren folk who were considerate and generous with Anna. Since she, like Vater, was cut off from her own church, she had no objections to settling in the Mennonite village of Margenau after they were married.

After a year a baby boy was born. The young parents were delighted until it was learned, several months later, that he was abnormal. Hydrocephalus the doctors called it, which meant that his heart was filled with water and was much larger than it should be, and that his bones were soft, and neither condition had been found curable. Everything possible was done for him, but without avail. After a year and a half of helplessness and suffering he died. Mutter considered his death to be a voice from God telling her and Vater that they must accept the faith of their friendly Mennonite neighbors. Vater agreed with her, and they were baptized in the outdoor reservoir near Rueckenau. Thus, Liesbeth's parents actually were adopted Mennonites with a Catholic background.

Furthermore, unlike the other villagers who owed allegiance to Czarist Russia, Liesbeth's parents were citizens of Germany. In some respects they seemed to her to be more logical than their neighbors. Although Vater and Mutter had no more schooling than the other villagers, they appeared to live on a higher plane. They encouraged nature walks, art and hobbies. Vater was as curious about everything as Liesbeth was. On the Easter holiday, when her oldest brother Johann had come home from Landskrona and had made a box kite, Vater had forgotten all about his afternoon nap and had watched his son concoct the kite. Then he had offered the boy a good suggestion on the cattle road when Johann had flown the kite. All the neighborhood children were there, but Vater was the only adult to see the big boxlike contraption sail through the air. As long as neither Liesbeth nor the other children were perpetrating anything contrary to the law, the Bible or his faith, Vater at no time hindered them. Frequently he helped them in their creative endeavors.

Another thing about Vater that Liesbeth admired was his excellent memory. It was absolutely reliable. He knew most of the Bible by heart. He could sing, without a book, almost every song in the *Choralbuch*, *Heimatklänge*, *Glaubenstimme*, *Lie-*

derperlen or *Gesangbuch*. Those were the songbooks that were used by the ministers of the Mennonite Brethren and the Church Mennonites. With such a memory it was no wonder that without preparation he was able to give Liesbeth information on the history of the Molotschna Mennonites. He had no doubt read it some place years before and had remembered it. He even knew the specific date on which the Russian count had signed the charter of Mennonite privileges.

Liesbeth liked Vater's sense of humor too. In that respect, he outdistanced all men in Margenau. He was constantly using humorous expressions and attempting to inculcate a cheerful atmosphere in the home. She smiled when she thought of what had happened the night before. The children were in the *Kleine Stube* playing Bible cards. In the *Grosze Stube*, Mutter and Vater were patiently waiting for the children to join them in the evening devotions. Gradually Vater grew impatient. Unexpectedly, in a loud voice and in a conversational tone he said, "Come, now, let us reason together!"

Instantly the children dropped their cards and rushed into the *Grosze Stube* to see why Vater wanted to reason with them. Before him was the large family Bible. On his face was a broad smile, as he continued to read the rest of the first chapter of Isaiah. Everyone quietly sat down for the remainder of the devotions. Vater had chosen that particular passage for his selection in order to call the children from their game to the family worship without using force. He always was tactful. He never lost his temper.

There was one thing about Vater, however, that irritated Liesbeth. That was his attitude toward Mutter. Although he did not demand it in so many words, he required too much work of Mutter. Furthermore, he never showed that he appreciated it. Many times he criticized her. Sometimes he even made fun of her! Vater worked hard and did his best to clothe and feed the family and to pay for the home which he had bought on credit; but Mutter was not well, and the twins, barely two months old, had to have constant attention. She took care of the children, cooked practically all of the meals, did most of the baking and had charge of everything except tending to the animals and to Vater's orchard on the upper half of the place. Besides, she gathered and cut, on shares, the fruit of various neighbors, preserved fruits and vegetables, raised silkworms, spun silk and wool yarn, made soap and cheese, knitted her family's socks and mittens and did the family washing and ironing. Vater paid little attention to her.

(To be continued)

Light in the East

Fellowship With Russian Baptists

By H. S. Bender and David B. Wiens

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

One of the purposes of the official visit of the Mennonite Central Committee delegation to Russia last October and November was to fellowship with the Baptists (their full name is the Evangelical Christian Baptists).

The Baptists received us royally in the finest degree of Christian fellowship. We were much impressed by the evident spirituality and the growth of the Baptist Church in Russia. We heard some ten sermons preached, which seemed to us biblically sound and evangelical.

There appeared to be a deep interest and a devout spirit. Well-trained choirs sang. High standards of Christian living are maintained by members.

Churches Crowded

Churches were crowded. In one church, which has a membership of around 5000 persons, the pastor making an announcement told the congregation of about 2500 persons that at the next service they should accept it as their Christian duty not to attend so there would be room for other members to be present.

We were entertained twice at dinner at the large Moscow church and invited to eat with the presidium (executive board). A farewell dinner at the home of president Jacob Zhidkhov near Moscow was very fine and was capped with the presentation of a gift box to each of us.

On our first day in Moscow the Baptists gave each of us money to buy souvenirs. The personal attitudes in Moscow were wholehearted, sincere and warm. We had discussions with pastors in all the cities where we visited churches, and we found them helpful to us in many ways.

We preached by invitation in Moscow three times and once in Alma Ata. Lack of invitations to preach in Kiev and Tashkent were due to explainable local circumstances and did not reflect ill will.

It was common to receive notes from worshipers during the service. One note said: "You are quite welcome! We shall not forget your visit and your preceptorial talk in the name of Christ. Remember our best respects to all Christians in America. The hour has struck for the unity of all Christianity. God be with you."

Baptist Christians of Russia are loyal to their country, but they of course are not members of the communist party, as no communist can be a member of the Baptist church.

Baptist-Mennonite Relations

Baptist churches are the only organized and registered Protestant congregations in most of the communities where Mennonites live. The forms of worship, church organization and qualifications for membership in the Baptist Church are similar to the prevailing customs among Mennonites.

Baptists welcome attendance of Mennonites. Many Baptist churches have closed communion, which means Mennonites who are not members of the church are not admitted to communion; but in some places the rule is not applied strictly. Some Mennonites, who do prefer immersion as a mode of baptism, do not have opportunity for baptism.

Apparently in some places some Mennonites have joined the Baptist church. At least one Mennonite Brethren minister is reported to have become a Baptist minister.

The All-Union Council of Evangelical Baptists is willing to extend

the courtesy of membership to German-speaking Mennonite congregations assuring full autonomy. A Mennonite Brethren congregation near Talas in the Kirghiz republic has done this.

After some consideration we were convinced that the Baptist attitude on this point is sincere. They are willing to help Mennonites get registered recognition in this way and they do not mean in any way to take advantage of the Mennonites.

We believe the North American Mennonites should maintain close relationship to the Baptist church in Russia—both as a matter of Christian fellowship and encouragement in Russia and as a channel of association with Mennonites there.

We have been assured of the continued goodwill and brotherly assistance of the Baptist leadership to this end. In turn we invited the Baptists to send delegates to the Sixth Mennonite World Conference at Karlsruhe, Germany, in August, 1957, as well as to the Christian Peace Conference planned to meet in the Netherlands preceding it. (This invitation was recently declined by the Baptists because of a youth meeting in Moscow at that time.—Editor.)

Missionary on May Day Program

By Mrs. Peter Derksen

"Me— De—"

What could this strange word be? Why, it is pronounced exactly as in English—May Day! Many who have been using this word here this very day do not even know it is translated from the English language.

But why should I, a missionary, be writing anything about May Day? What have we to do with a day on which massive rallies are held throughout Japan by the labourers, and which in past years have often been sparked into Communist demonstrations? About 2 weeks ago Peter was asked to speak at the May Day rally of Nichinan City. He felt that it was an open door, and accepted the invitation.

The first of May dawned dreary, and as we hastened to the city hall it began to rain. We watched the different groups of workers gather in front of the modern city hall—office workers, nurses and doctors, factory workers, (30 different groups were represented)—each group waving bright banners and slogans (the only one I could read said, "Help us, Americans!") and chanting "Wasshoi, wasshoi!" The rain didn't seem to dampen spirits any.

Finally all became quiet as the meeting was to begin. Umbrellas formed almost a solid roof above the crowd. The prefectural representative spoke first, then the mayor of Nichinan, and then it was Peter's turn. My heart swelled in thanks-

giving to God for the opportunity we had of witnessing to such a large crowd. Peter gave them a short message on freedom—freedom from sin and the one and only way of salvation through Jesus Christ.

As I looked over the crowd, I thought of the compassion Christ had on the multitude, and His words, "—they are as sheep without a shepherd." A few more speeches would be omitted because of time and the rain. One of those omitted was to have been given by the representative of the Communist party. The message of the Christian Gospel had been given preference to the message of Communism, and it is marvellous in our eyes! May God be glorified!

* Rev. and Mrs. Peter Derksen are General Conference of Mennonites missionaries in Nichinan, Kyushu, Japan.

The address: 3777-1 Sonoda, Aburatsu-Machi, Nichinan-Shi, Miyazaki-Ken, Kyushu, Japan.

One Dead As Car Leaves Road

Gem, Alta. — Mr. Corny Penner of here was killed when his car left the road at a curve. His father, Mr. John Penner, is in hospital with broken ribs and shock. Funeral services for Mr. Penner were held on Friday, May 10, in the M. B. church, Gem, Alta.

Helpful Moody Books

Each 35c

The Perfect Will of God
By G. Christian Weiss

This book by the missionary director of the Back to the Bible Broadcast is certainly timely and very helpful. In the Foreword, W. S. Hottel states that, "There is no quesswork here, nor are there any strange and fanatical utterances. He has developed his theme constructively and intelligently. His points are scripturally treated and effectively emphasized. . . Mr. Weiss repeatedly calls attention to truths which are almost altogether overlooked and neglected in these days of watered down preaching and teaching."

* * *

On Being a Real Christian
By G. Christian Weiss

When a baby comes to bless a home the parents take precautions to protect him from disease and accident—and see that he receives a properly balanced diet. But so often even mature Christians fail to see that this is needed for newborn babes in Christ. In this book G. Christian Weiss helps young Christians to get a proper start in their Christian life.

* * *

Now That I Believe
By Robert Cook

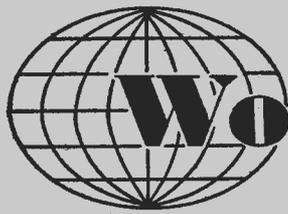
This book presupposes the new birth. It is written for those who have just begun the Christian life and is designed to lower the spiritual mortality rate among "babes in Christ". Cedric Sears writes: "I believe that the use of this book by pastors and Christian workers dealing with young Christians will result in a diminishing number of confused, frustrated, backsliding, emaciated beginners in the Christian life, and an increase in spiritual stalwarts."

* * *

Purpose In Prayer
By E. M. Bounds

Because Rev. E. M. Bounds was himself a mighty man of prayer, who used to spend many hours in prayer for the lost of the world, he could write this classic on prayer. It has helped many thousands into a more fruitful prayer life. This man believed that, "Man is looking for better methods, God is looking for better men. Man is God's method." You will be a better man of God after reading this book and applying its truths.

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



Round-Up of World-Wide RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

Pray For Graham's Crusade

The Billy Graham New York Crusade Inc., said Sunday that it had already arranged 250,000 reservations for church groups all over the country to attend the six-week crusade in Madison Square Garden which began Wednesday night.

Most of the reservations have been made by churches in the Metropolitan area who will bring their congregations and their "unchurched" neighbors to Manhattan in chartered buses.

In addition, however, arrangements have been made to accommodate trainloads of visitors from Washington; Nashville and Louisville, Kentucky; Detroit; Toronto, Ontario; Richmond, Virginia, and Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Special planes will be flown here for the meeting from Oklahoma City, and Houston, Texas.

Tuesday night, in what Crusade spokesmen believe to be "a unique event in New York", 10 churches in the area participated in an all-night prayer meeting to ask the success of the Crusade.

'Church-Related Vocations' For Baptist Youth

A "Church-Related Vocations Day" will be observed by congregations of the Southern Baptist Convention on Sunday, June 14. During worship services on that day, Southern Baptists will seek 30,800 young people to dedicate themselves to life service in church-related vocations. This goal represents an average of one young person in each church affiliated with the Convention.

Japanese Churches Ask Britain To Cancel Bomb Tests

The National Christian Council of Japan has asked the British Council of Churches to urge the British government to cancel its plans to carry out nuclear tests at Christmas Island. The Prime Minister of Japan sent a personal representative to London, also, to appeal to Britain to stop the atomic and hydrogen bomb experiments in Asiatic waters.

"No wonder the Japanese are alarmed," the Bishop of Chichester said. "The bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were mere child's play compared with the hydrogen bombs of today." He urged the British Council of Churches to take a strong stand against the bomb tests in Asia, saying, "The whole attitude of millions of Asia-

tic people towards Christian missions and Christian churches might be affected by what we do." But the British church leaders were divided over the issue. They passed a resolution to deplore the nuclear tests by a vote of 39 to 32.

Abandon Plans For Annual Rally

Plans for holding the great annual congress that was to have been in the Soviet Zone this year have been cancelled, the head of the German Protestant lay movement announced. He said that lack of time would prevent shifting the great Evangelical Church Day congress to West Germany.

The 1957 meeting was to have been held in Erfurt, Thuringia, but East German authorities laid down conditions that the church leaders would not meet. One condition for holding the rally in the communist-ruled area was that Protestant members of the East German government be given a place on the agenda to talk about East Germany's so-called "peace" policy. Another condition was that the church officials forbid anything at the rally that would be tantamount to supporting NATO policy. A third was that public apologies be made for anti-Soviet Zone developments at the 1956 congress held at Frankfurt in West Germany. But the church council refused to let policies be injected into the affair.

CANADASCOPE

Find Lost Plane Wreckage

The wreckage of a Trans-Canada Air Lines plane which crashed with 62 persons aboard last December has been found during last weekend near the top of 8,200-foot Mount Slesse, 20 miles southeast of Chilliwack and about 70 miles east of Vancouver.

The wreckage was found by a man and woman climber who were not quite sure where they were because they were climbing in thick cloud.

Union Officers Must Pay

The Supreme Court of Canada has upheld the lower court judgments awarding \$5,000 to a Winnipeg milkman for wrongful dismissal from the Winnipeg branch of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America union. He accused the union of discrepancies

and was dismissed from the union, which resulted in the loss of his job.

The Supreme Court varied the judgment in that it ordered the damages to be paid by the defendant officers of the union and not the whole union membership.

Start Drinking in Their Teens

Most alcoholics begin drinking in their teens. They are often misled by advertising and vested interest, but they do not know the facts about alcohol, said Raymond Lewis of Washington, D.C., executive director of Allied Youth at a meeting in Winnipeg.

"What does the young person say when he's urged, threatened, cajoled or implored into taking that first drink?" Mr. Lewis asked. He said the pressure was especially hard when a teenager was being urged to drink by an adult. "It perplexes me no end the number of cocktail parties thrown by large manufacturing firms to induce young engineering students into

their companies," he continued. Later on it is not surprising that an employee's faculties are impaired even on the job.

Mr. Lewis urged a stronger educational program on a high school level to inform young people of the effects of drunken driving and the motives that lead to drinking.

(Although we concede that education may help some, we still believe that Christ is the only complete answer to the drinking problem. —Ed.)

Supreme Court Rules Against Paper Companies

By a unanimous decision, the Supreme Court of Canada rejected the appeal of seven fine paper mills and 21 paper merchants and upheld their conviction of operating a price-fixing combine between 1933 and 1952.

The decision confirms the present enforcement of the law and also opens the way for action on beer and sugar in western Canada.



God Has Spoken

By Edwin Raymond Anderson
America appears to be worshipping before the altar of aspirin. A great deal of faith must be placed in its properties for the National Institute has reported that the annual consumption is some 12 billion, the equivalent of 6000 tons of the drug.

Blind faith? At least, when this report is considered against the background of spiritual verities, it sharply points up a tragedy in the realm of speculation and mystery, as if the hidden were honored with some form of holiness. Thinking in terms of religion, he takes on the "dream world" approach. How tragic in the clear and positive light of the Gospel! There are no shadows, no mystic clouds eddying about the Cross of Calvary whereupon the Lamb of God (John 1:29) bore our sins in His own body on the tree" (I Peter 2:24). Even it is clearly written, "none of these things are hidden . . . for this thing was not done in a corner" (Acts 26:26).

Men know so very little, after all, in the physical realm. We are quite conscious of that these days. New revelations only reveal deeper mysteries. But it is folly when men transfer the pattern over to spiritual affairs, desiring a religion which is vague and nebulous, without clear lines. God however, will not stay in the shadows, and the clear

searchlight of Calvary would search out the sin and drag the sinner to the healing fount (I Peter 1:19), and into the fullness of life indeed (John 17:3). "So great salvation" is a glory, not a ghost!

God has spoken and none need miss nor misunderstand. There is no uncertain tone in the healing of heaven for the wounds of earth: "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:9). How disastrous to place faith in earthly mystery and thus miss the heavenly miracle (II Corinthians 5:17)!

(Copr. ERA, 1957)

Reprieve Call Arrives Too Late

It was two minutes too late. Two minutes too late to stop the execution of kidnap-killer Burton Abbott in San Quentin, Calif.

While the Governor's office was on the telephone asking urgently, "Can it be stopped?" Abbott was already breathing the first lethal fumes of the gas chamber. A previous one-hour stay had expired when the state supreme court refused to intervene.

The man who murdered a Berkeley school girl is now facing an eternity without God. Of how many others must it be said, "Too late." Before the message of salvation reaches them they have slipped into eternity.

Announce Engagement

North Surrey, B.C. — Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Baerg of New Westminster, B.C., announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, Janice Elizabeth, to Mr. John Paul Goertz. The wedding will take place on May 24 at the Strawberry Hill M. B. church. Rev. Henry Nikkel will officiate.

Weddings

Bergen—Sawatzky

Adeline Sawatzky, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. B. W. Sawatzky of Coaldale, Alta., and Henry Bergen of Calgary were united in marriage on April 27 in the Mennonite Brethren church at Coaldale, Rev. J. J. Siemens performed the ceremony.

At the wedding Rev. D. J. Pankrat spoke in German and Rev. Peter J. Dick spoke in English. Following the ceremony a program of musical numbers by friends of the young couple was given. Miss Evelyn Sawatzky, a sister of the bride, also recited a poem.

The happy couple will make their home in Calgary, Alta.

Schellenberg—Fast



Pauline Fast, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fast, East Chilliwack, B.C., and Henry Schellenberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Schellenberg, Vancouver, B.C., were married on April 26 in the East Chilliwack M. B. church. Rev. P. S. Thiessen officiated.

Obituaries

Mr. P. H. C. Penner

Mr. P. H. C. Penner of Winkler passed away in the Bethel Hospital at Winkler, Man., on April 23. Funeral services were held from the Mennonite Brethren church at Winkler.

Mr. Penner was born on Nov. 30, 1894, in South Russia. He was won for Christ in early youth and baptized and received into the M. B. Church in 1911. He came to Canada

in 1930 and lived in Saskatchewan for four years, moving to Winkler in 1934. In 1941 he was ordained as a deacon and has served faithfully in this capacity. On April 17 he submitted to a gall bladder operation and seemed well on the way to recovery when he passed away suddenly. Death is attributed to a blood clot.

He is survived by his wife; three brothers; three children, Anne (Mrs. I. R. Dyck), Peter and Ben; one son-in-law, one daughter-in-law, and eight grandchildren.



Over 1,400 in I-W Service

Approximately 1400 men of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches are in I-W service, according to the the last statistical report from the MCC I-W office.

This number represents a small decrease from two months ago. The office explained this is chiefly due to decreased draft quotas. Also some men are waiting until they are older, which creates a temporary lull in the number of inductees.

Twenty-three per cent of the I-Ws are in church-related service. This is a slightly higher percentage than a year ago. The (Old) Mennonite Church has the largest number of men in service with 594. The General Conference and the Old Order Amish Mennonites follow with 179 and 144. There are 76 Mennonite Brethren men; 62 from the Church of God in Christ (Mennonite); 54 from the Conservative Mennonite conference and 48 members of the Brethren in Christ.

The largest concentration of I-Ws is in Ohio with 170. Next are Pennsylvania 156; Colorado 154; Indiana 120; Michigan 85; Kansas 72; Illinois 61; and California 42. More than 100 I-W men serve overseas.

The I-W office also announces the appointment of Edgar Stoesz (Mountain Lake, Minn.) as assistant director of the voluntary service and I-W section. He has been associated with the department since last autumn.

Ray Bair (Louisville, Ohio) is director. Assistants in the I-W office are Ray Kauffman (Lebanon, Ore.) and Gerhard Reimer (Giroux, Man.)

Paxmen at Easter Retreat

The challenge to perform effective peace work while in Europe was considered by 40 Paxmen and their 15 guests at an Easter retreat near Bingen, Germany, in the Rhine Valley.

Speakers included Paul Bender (Goshen, Ind.) of the peace cen-

ter at Heerewegen, Netherlands; Ernst Harder (Newton, Kans.) of MCC Frankfurt; Clarence Bauman, an American student at Bonn; and Pax pastor John P. Duerksen (Hesston, Kans.).

Information was presented on the state of conscientious objection in Germany. Recreational features of the retreat included a boat excursion on the Rhine River and visits to castles.

European Voluntary Service

The first of 11 international and interfaith workcamps sponsored by Mennonite Voluntary Service in Europe has begun.

The initial camp at Waiern, Austria, has volunteers from Germany, the Netherlands, England, France, America, Finland, Japan, Denmark, Sweden and Ghana. They are helping build a home for the aged for Yugoslavian refugees now in their 12th year of "transient" living.

Other camps scheduled from a few weeks to three months duration this summer in Europe include two projects with the Red Cross in Berlin. One group will assist in building a kindergarten and the other group will redecorate a refugee camp.

The island of Sylt off the coast of northern Germany near Denmark will be the scene of a small group of MVSers who will be counselors for some of the 60 children from many parts of Germany who spend the summer there.

At Salzgitter, Germany, campers will renovate an old building into a youth center. In France MVS workcampers will paint buildings and landscape a children's camp at Fontette where campers last summer built a new camp house.

In addition to Waiern three more MVS camps are scheduled for Austria. A second camp at Waiern will help build a school for girls. In Vienna campers will refresh and clean outside walls of the Protestant school (where Brethren and Mennonite I-Ws work). A group will help with a construction project for Rumanian refugees now in their 12th year at Elixhausen.

A camp group will help prepare buildings and grounds for the coming school year at Bienenberg, Switzerland, new home of European Mennonite Bible School. A small church is to be constructed by campers at Buitenpost, Netherlands, where there has been no Mennonite church for 75 years.

Three Easter camps were conducted in France and Netherlands. LaMar Kopp (Ephrata, Pa.) directs European MVS which is headquartered at Kaiserslautern, Germany, and administered by European Mennonites.

Paxman James Besse (Uniontown, Ohio) assists Kopp. Anneliese Dyck of Erpolzheim-Pfalz, Germany, is office secretary.

The Knot of Prayer

By Dorothy C. Haskin

"Pastor, I cannot pray for my husband any longer. I must give him up. I have tried so many times but he always breaks his promise. He is drunk again," a wife decided regretfully.

"Don't stop praying for your husband," the pastor urged. "Keep on praying. Do your best and have faith in God."

"Very well," she agreed reluctantly. "I'll do my best, but my heart is heavy and my faith is weak."

She kept on praying, and within two weeks her husband was converted. He stopped drinking and joined the church. Suppose she had stopped praying!

Mighty things have been done by prayer. Elijah prayed and God withheld the rain. Elijah prayed again and rain fell. Daniel prayed and the lions' mouths were closed. Believers prayed and Peter's prison doors were opened.

People have done mighty things by prayer and so can you. Dr. Alexis Carrel was a doctor and a noted man of science. He won the Nobel Prize and the Nordhoff-Jung medal. He said that the more he knew about medicine the more he realized that prayer could cure when medicine could not. He declared, "Prayer is the most powerful form of energy that one can generate."

Too many of us, though we nod in agreement when someone says that prayer is powerful, don't make the effort to spend time in prayer. When Adolph Saphir, the well-known Hebrew teacher, was nearing the end of his days on earth, he said, "If I were to live my life over again I would spend less time in service and more time in prayer."

If you pray in private, it will be easy to pray in public. During World War II a British soldier was caught creeping stealthily from a nearby woods to his quarters. He was immediately taken before his commanding officer and charged with communicating with the enemy. His only defense was that he had been praying.

The officer demanded, "Are you in the habit of praying?"

"Yes, sir," the soldier replied.

"Then get down on your knees and pray."

Expecting to be quickly executed, the soldier knelt and poured out his soul in prayer. When he finished, the officer said, "You may go. I believe your story. If you hadn't drilled often, you couldn't have done so well in review."

Live your prayer life daily before your children. Teach them the security of speaking with their heavenly Father in prayer.

If ever you feel you have reached the end of your rope, tie it with a knot of prayer.

(Copr. ERA, 1957)

COLLEGES

Mennonite Brethren Bible College

The deeper life and evangelistic crusade in Winnipeg is giving college students an opportunity for personal work. Over half of the students will go out to help at one evening service, or more. This is an invaluable experience for all. In addition, the messages have been stirring. Special prayer meetings are being held in several dorms.

Dr. G. Christian Weiss, assistant director of the Back to the Bible Broadcast, was with us one morning with Mr. Wall, bass soloist. Besides two well-known songs, we heard a message on, "What is a Christian?" We found that he was first of all a son of God, then a saint of God, a servant of God, and finally a steward of God. Each step is dependent upon the other—you cannot begin in the middle.

Other recent speakers were: Siegfried Epp, who gave his personal testimony before leaving for Africa; Mr. Ori Miller, executive secretary of MCC, who spoke on discipleship; and Rev. Walter Gomez of the Mexican Militant Mission. The latter showed us many slides of the great work being done by this active mission, which supports 60 workers. Our prayers will follow this work.

Monday, May 13, the college family descended on West Kildonan Park for the annual school picnic. Various novelty races between four "houses" and a softball game between married and single men provided a real uplift. Hearts were gay and joints already turning stiff when we left for home. And just to show that marriage adds little to sports ability, the single men defeated the married men 2-1 in 7 innings.

Rudy Wiebe.

Canadian Mennonite Bible College

A considerable number of CMBC students took part in the MCC Workshop in Altona on Wednesday, May 1.

On the following day Mr. E. Bohn, acting director at the Ailsa Craig Boys' Farm in Ontario, gave us a challenging glimpse into the life and needs of the boys on this farm.

On May 3 representatives from various branches of the Mennonite church throughout Canada met here to discuss the basic principles of our peace position.

A number of our students are acting as counselors and personal workers during the two weeks of spiritual revival services which are being conducted in the Civic Auditorium in the city of Winnipeg from May 5 to 19. Dr. Theodore Epp of the "Back to the Bible Broadcast"

and Rev. J. B. Toews are the main speakers.

Rev. J. Christian Weiss also connected with the above campaign visited our college on May 7. He spoke at our chapel service on the three things necessary for determining the will of God as based on Rom. 12:1,2. These were 1) Surrender, 2) Separation, 3) Spiritual-mindedness.

Mr. S. Wall, baritone soloist, was also present and sang as opening and closing numbers "Christ is All" and "Thine Lord Would I Be".

Goshen College

Dr. Edward L. R. Elson, Washington, D.C., is scheduled to give the commencement address at the fifty-ninth annual Goshen College commencement exercises to be held Monday, June 3, at 8 p.m., at Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana. 178 persons are candidates for degrees at this year's graduation.

Dr. Elson is pastor of the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., the church attended by President and Mrs. Eisenhower.

Commencement Weekend Activities Slated

Sunday, June 2, activities include a 4:30 p.m. President's Reception for graduates and their Parents, in the Union Lounge, and the Baccalaureate Service at 8 p.m. in the Union Auditorium. Harold S. Bender, Dean of the Goshen College Biblical Seminary will speak at this service.

Haydn's Creation will be sung Sunday at 3 p.m. by a 150-voice chorus, under the direction of Ralph E. Wade.

Following the final chapel service and college luncheon Monday, the Senior Class will give its class program on the campus and in the Union Auditorium at 2:30 p.m.

The traditional Alumni Banquet will be held Saturday, June 1, at 6 p.m., in the Alumni Memorial Dining Hall. Classes honored this year are 1917, 1932, and 1947.

Pacific Bible Institute, Fresno, Calif.

Martin Canavan, P.B.I. alumnus, will address the students and guests at the spring banquet on May 10. The banquet honors the graduates, who have chosen for their theme, "Out Into the Highways and Byways".

The annual P.B.I. spring formal concert will be held on May 24 in the school auditorium. Senior students of the music department will present a variety of piano, organ and vocal selections to an audience of students and many visitors from the city. Zoe Anne Janzen, soprano from Shafter, will sing her graduate recital at this occasion.

The twelfth annual commencement of Pacific Bible Institute is to

be held on May 29 at the Fresno M. B. Church. Dr. Arthur B. Whiting, chairman of the Department of English Bible in Biola Bible College and Talbot Theological Seminary, will deliver the commencement address.

Purchase of a movie projector was the goal set by the student council when they arranged for a student work day this spring. All students holding regular jobs are donating the earnings of one day, and those not working are finding employment for one day and donating their wages. In this way about \$400.00 is expected to be raised toward the purchase of a 16 mm movie projector.

Three one-act plays presented by the dramatics class on April 26 met with enthusiastic approval as some of the best work done by that department in the three years it has existed.

Mission Rally and Chapels

The work of the Sudan Interior Mission was reviewed by Rev. Jacob Eitzen and by the film "Speed the Light" in a Pacific Bible Institute mission rally May 3. The same field was represented in the morning chapel by Miss Katherine Dick, worker in Nigeria with a special interest in the publication of *The African Challenge*.

Dr. B. H. Pearson, Executive Secretary of World Missionary Crusade and author of *The Monk Who Lived Again*, is to be present for a series of three chapel lectures on missions, May 14-16. The cumulative emphasis of these chapels and rallies will, it is hoped, bring about the dedication of students for the Lord's work abroad.

Mr. Donald Braun, of Reedley, California, has joined the P.B.I. faculty to teach in the field of natural science next year. He holds the M. A. degree in chemistry (Fresno State College) as well as a secondary teacher's credential. Mr. Braun has just completed two years of I-W service in the mid-West. He attended Tabor College 1948-1950, and is a graduate of Immanuel Academy, Reedley.

Mr. Carl Wohlgemuth of Fresno will teach in the field of business and will also serve as business manager of the school. Mr. Wohlgemuth is at present doing post-graduate work in Fresno State College. Previously he attended the Corn Bible Academy and also, for two years, Tabor College.

"THESE WERE MORE NOBLE"

(Continued from page 2-4)

and Timothy after Paul had departed for Athens. How many people would continue to flock to Billy Graham's meetings if Grady Wilson were suddenly to take Billy's place? There is an unhealthy tendency to

day to follow certain preachers as final authorities on all questions theological, ethical and practical. And unless such and such a man is preaching, many do not care to attend worship services. If we are like the Bereans it will not make too much difference who is dividing the Word to us. It is, according to I Corinthians 1-3, a mark of immaturity to follow slavishly the opinions of human personalities!

The Bereans were noble in that they came to a firm faith, concrete convictions and a consistent Christianity by personal research in addition to hearing the Word. Who is a noble Christian? He is a Bible-carrying, Bible reading, Bible-studying, Bible-believing and Bible-doing Christian.

Do you have these marks of nobility? Do you wish some day to win the "Noble Peace Prize" for practical exemplification in your Christian life of the greatest literature of all, the inspired Word of God?

Annual Drama Presented at MEI

By Hilda Janzen

Abbotsford, B.C. — The annual Grade XIII drama entitled "Die Meistergeige", was staged May 2, 3, and 4, in the auditorium of the Mennonite Educational Institute at Clearbrook.

The German drama, adapted for presentation from the novel by Ernest Schreiner, was directed by Mrs. Neustaedter, teacher at the institute.

The drama in twelve scenes portrayed the fourteenth century struggle of the Christian Church. The church's emphasis on form and beauty, rather than on true spiritual sincerity, was attacked by some of its devout members who were brave enough to preach against such false doctrine. One of these preachers was Savonarola, who had to die for his faith. Against his preaching was the Archbishop of a large church in Florence, Italy.

Parallel to this church struggle was depicted the struggle in the families. Some family members would side with Savonarola and his teaching, while the others would remain true to the church and its teachings. This caused much grief and even the breaking up of the families.

Playing well the leading roles of the 34-cast drama were: Peter Braun, Karl and Ed Janzen, Charlotte Janzen, Peter Neudorf, Lorina Friesen, Arthur Hein and Elsie Toews.

Miss Braun was in charge of the costuming, while Peter Rahn supervised the stage settings. Other faculty members who assisted were: Mr. V. Thiessen, Rev. Wm. Neufeld and Rev. C. D. Toews.

Effective Play Portrayal at College

By Arthur Bartsch

Winnipeg, Man. — Hardly anyone can afford to have missed the outstanding presentation of the play, "The Triumph of Job", last Friday night, May 10. Many of those who were there admitted that they had gained a brief glimpse into the subject of suffering, or the solution to the "problem of pain". Those who missed that presentation can make up for it, however, by attending its second portrayal on Saturday, May 25, at 8 p.m.

The dialogue of the hour-long play was taken directly out of the Bible and posed the fundamental question: How can you explain the fact of human suffering when there is

a benevolent and almighty God in the heavens? In treating this difficult subject, the artists at MBBC presented the play in a classical Greek fashion, where the awe-inspiring biblical dialogue of Job and his friends was eloquently nestled between the prose Prologue and Epilogue written by the director, Rudy Wiebe.

I think the acting was superb. What surprised me was the fact that in spite of the limited emphasis given to the dramatic element in this play, the latent dramatic qualities can easily be aroused.

Much could be said about the technical aspects, such as dress,

speech and action, but each one there will have his own opinion. In brief, we must say that the Literary Committee of the M. B. Bible College did a heroic job in presenting the problem of pain. What arrested my attention is that we as a people living in a land of peace and plenty are dangerously inclined to misunderstand the feeling of suffering and its solution, as it is portrayed in the Book of Job. May God make us sensitive to the spirit of the times.

Alumni Plans Rally

Hepburn, Sask. — Rev. Victor Toews of the Mennonite Brethren Bible College will be the speaker at the annual "May Day Youth Rally" sponsored by the Bethany Bible Institute Alumni Association on May 26. The theme for the rally is, "Christian Education for Today".

Included on the evening's program will be Rev. John M. Schmidt, of the city mission in Winnipeg and evangelist for revival meetings scheduled in the Hepburn M. B. Church beginning May 26.

The meetings of the rally will be in the M. B. Auditorium in Hepburn, which has proved itself as the only building in the area able to accommodate the crowds that attend such gatherings. Music will be provided by choirs and singing groups of the churches in the surrounding area.

Offerings will be taken at these meetings to aid the Special 30th Anniversary project of the Alumni Association, the purchase of an organ for the Bethany Bible Institute.

At present on the teaching staff at MBBC, Rev. Toews is an alumnus of the Bethany Bible Institute and has had wide experience in the teaching ministry and as youth counsellor.

He has served for some years under the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions in Paraguay as a teacher in the Bible school, in youth work, and a Bible ministry to the churches. Previous to that he taught in the East Chilliwack Bible School. He is a graduate of MBBC and obtained the B.A. degree from U.B.C.

Expansion at Korean Vocational School

More boys and more buildings are being added at the Mennonite vocational school for homeless boys at Taegu directed by the Kenneth Brunks (Denbigh, Va.).

The 140 boys at the school were recently joined by 30 more. Living quarters for even more boys are being planned. A greenhouse and a new classroom building have been built. The school offers training in many trades.

On the Horizon

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.

October 19. — The General Conference of the M. B. Church in North America will begin its triennial sessions in British Columbia.

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