

Mennonite Observer

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

★
YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

July 5, 1957

The Christian Press, Ltd., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Vol. III, No. 27



FARMERS ALL: Farmers are not partial as to where they work in the Mennonite Disaster Service program, the city folks of Fargo, N.D., found out. Most of the volunteers from Manitoba were farmers from the Morris, Grunthal, and Steinbach areas. Several, like Jake Loewen, the co-ordinator, were businessmen. Here some of the men who responded to the call to serve "in the name of Christ" in the emergency caused by the tornado that struck Fargo on Tuesday afternoon, June 25, following the coffee break. (More photos on page 3)

Eighty-five at Youth Retreat

By Otto Funk

Brandon, Man. — About eighty-five young people from points in Western Manitoba gathered on the shore of Clear Lake on the morning of July 1 for a time of recreation and devotion.

The retreat was planned under the direction of Lawrence Warken-tin and Harry Loewen and it was the first one of its kind held in Western Manitoba. The weather was very favorable for the occasion. A heavy rain the night before insured us that the young farmers would be unable to work on the land and the weatherman forecast a sunny day so that many people were enticed to venture out. A large group came from Winnipegosis and Lena. Other centres represented were: Alexander, Brandon, Boissevain, Justice, and Homefield.

As soon as the young people arrived at the MFAC Camp, they were able to stretch their legs and limbs during some sports activities. The team rotated in games of softball, volleyball, and dodgeball.

A devotional program followed in the afternoon. Frank Sawatsky led the group in a lively sing-song and Rev. Abe Klassen, who has returned home from his scholastic pursuits in the U.S.A., delivered the message. He challenged us with Phil. 1:21: "For to me to live is Christ." He stressed the fact that we should have no secondary aims

in serving Christ but Christ should be our very life.

After the devotion the group dispersed for more recreative activities and later assembled for a final lunch. Everyone had enjoyed himself heartily and it was felt that this experience should be repeated next year. Some had journeyed as far as 160 miles to attend the retreat.

Mennonite Brethren Meet at Herbert

Herbert, Sask. — Approximately 300 delegates are expected here for the 47th annual session of the Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church. Business sessions begin Saturday morning, July 6, and carry through until Wednesday, July 10.

The overall theme of the devotional sessions has been set as, "The Word of God as the Guide in the Church's Service". The Sunday morning messages on the theme, "The Word of God as Guide in Home Missions", will be delivered by Rev. I. W. Redekopp and Rev. B. P. Epp, of Winnipeg and Vauxhall respectively. The Sunday afternoon messages, with emphasis on foreign missions, will be delivered by missionaries now on furlough.

The Monday morning message on "The Word of God as Guide in the Discipline of the Church" will be given by Dr. A. H. Unruh. Dr. G. D. Huebert will address the conference on Tuesday morning on the theme, "The Word of God as Guide for the Inner Growth of the Church". Wednesday's address on "The Word of God as Guide for the Hope of the Church" will be delivered by Rev. J. A. Harder.

Saturday night the M. B. Bible College will present a program, while on Sunday night there will be a song and youth program. Monday night's service has been given over to the foreign missions program of the M. B. Church. On Tuesday night the Canada Inland Mission will report. Relief work and the mental hospital at Vineland are preparing the program for Wednesday night.

The conference message will be delivered by Rev. D. J. Pankratz, the conference moderator. Assisting him at the business sessions will be Rev. J. A. Toews, assistant moderator, and Rev. D. K. Duerksen, secretary.

Four-Day Missionary Conference Held

By Myrl Neufeld

Waldheim, Sask. — The annual missionary conference sponsored by the inter-church committee was held here from June 26 to 30.

The program consisted of missionary reports, special music and Bible messages. On four evenings films were shown preceding the messages. A large curio display was also a special feature.

Special speakers were: Russel Hughes, missionary to South Africa; Rev. Sylvester Dirks, missionary to Peru; Ron Winstonly of Bolivia; Henry Werner of the Windward Islands; Miss Hazel Page of the Philippine Islands, and Mrs. Myrtle Wipf, who served in French West Africa.

Local missionaries who reported were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Neudorf, on furlough from French West Africa, and the Misses Alma Epp, Ella Heppner and Martha Heppner, missionaries to the Indians in northern Canada. Rev. Maloff, founder of the Russian Bible Society, gave his personal testimony.

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On the final evening Mr. Henry Flumbaum, representing the American Association for Jewish Evangelism, showed an interesting film on "The Jewish Passover".

Once again we were made aware of the tremendous need and of our responsibility to the lost.

Walls to Leave in July

Hillsboro, Kans. — Rev. and Mrs. John Wall of Kitchener, Ont., are scheduled to leave Toronto by plane on July 22 for Asuncion, Paraguay, the M. B. Board of Welfare announces.

After a brief visit in the Paraguayan Chaco to become acquainted with the M. B. churches and workers there, they will proceed to their first assignment in Montevideo, Uruguay, where they will minister to the Mennonite Brethren constituency in the city through the Mennonite Brethren "Missionsheim".

Rev. Wall is a graduate of the M. B. Bible College and has taught Bible school in East Chilliwack and Kitchener.

Accident Victim in Poor Condition

Horndean, Man. — Andrew Heinrichs, 11, is in poor condition in Winkler hospital with severe internal injuries after an accident with a tractor.

RCMP said he was driving a tractor along a municipal road when it rolled over into the ditch about two miles south of Horndean, Man., on Tuesday, July 2. He was rushed to Winkler hospital immediately

EDITORIAL

Encouragement for Parents and Children's Workers

Statistics may be lifeless and uninteresting when read casually. If, however, their implications are studied they can become more fascinating than fiction. This is true of the statistics presented by Dr. G. D. Huebert to the recent conference of the M. B. Church in Manitoba.

A total of 20 M. B. churches returned the questionnaire sent out by a committee of ministers and deacons. The 16 questions were not answered on all of the questionnaires, but of those who answered 368 were between the ages 9 and 14, while 952 were between 15 and 85. The average age of those filling in the questionnaire was 27.2. Most of them completed the questionnaire under the supervision of Sunday school teachers.

The returns confirmed that children in the Junior and Intermediate departments in the Sunday school were most easily led to a decision to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Of the 1401 stating their age at the time of conversion, 575 were between 10 and 14 years old, 219 were between 7 and 9, while 307 were between 15 and 19 years old when they accepted Christ. Only 11.5 per cent were won for Christ after they were 20 years old. The challenge to parents, children's workers and youth workers is thus tremendous. Theirs is the opportunity and responsibility of reaching those in this age group with the claims of Christ and pressing them home in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Parents who doubt the value of Biblical instruction and counselling in the home, and those who have neglected this, should note that of the 1554 persons who stated where they made their decision for Christ, 722 made it in the home. Returns also revealed that 33 per cent of those who accepted Christ testified that their parents were of most help to them in deciding for Christ. What blessed opportunities parents have to lead their children to trust in the Saviour!

Those who are skeptical as to the value of camp will be surprised to note that nearly 16 per cent declared that they had been converted in camp. Considering that only a minority of those who filled in the questionnaire ever were at camp, this is a significant figure. It should encourage all counsellors and directors at children's and youth camps to make a special effort to win campers for Christ.

Brothers and sisters also play a significant role in the salvation of sinners. Out of 1472 people who stated who was most helpful to them at the time of conversion, 79 put down a brother or sister. Sunday school teachers led 58 out of 1472 to Christ, camp workers and daily vacation Bible school teachers 239, and others 175. The role of ministers and evangelists is also a big one, for 407 of the 1472 stated that they had received the greatest help at conversion from them. Apparently the total of those led to Christ by youth workers was not a significant enough figure to merit mention. In view of these facts all of us should search our hearts whether we have done our part to lead sinners to a knowledge of the Saviour.

About one year ago an editorial in this paper commented upon the surprising number of testimonies to backsliding heard from baptismal candidates. This questionnaire reveals that more than half of all those who made decisions for Christ testified to backsliding at some stage in their life. We doubt whether it is all the fault of the evangelist or the personal worker. A greater reason for this phenomenon is likely a lack of nurture in the spiritual life, both in the home and in the church.

The answer to the above problem may also be the statistical fact that only 443 of the 1541 people who answered questionnaires participate in twice daily family devotions, while 752 participate in family devotions once every day. Of 1463 persons, 1324 have personal devotions (whether regular or irregular is not indicated). Another factor may be that only 883 regularly attend Sunday evening services and 527 people go only occasionally.

Each one of us needs to prayerfully examine himself in the light of these facts, even though the statistic is only from one province. It does give an indication of the state of affairs in the other provinces.

DEVOTIONAL

"Pursue After Holiness"

By Henry Warkentin *

"Follow . . . holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14).

We have all seen an animal or bird pursue its prey; we have heard of soldiers pursuing their enemies; policemen pursuing a fleeing criminal, but we as Christians are also exhorted to pursue, not only follow after holiness, or rather sanctification. This pursuit is not to be on Sunday only, nor is it to be merely occasional or optional, but it is to be continuous while we are here on earth, until we see the Lord. While it is a strenuous pursuit in some respects, it brings with it, even here already, a rich reward.

Holiness, in its essence, is conformity to the whole revealed will of God. We are soon ready to acknowledge the goodness of the will of God, but we hesitate to regard it as perfect and acceptable for us in every circumstance. In the back of our mind we are inclined to make reservations. Yet where holiness is really pursued, there is complete mental assent to the will of God as it is revealed to us.

There is also a heartfelt appreciation of the will of God if holiness is pursued. While the mind may be convinced of the perfectness of the will of God, there may still be antagonistic feelings deep down in the heart. We wish that God's will were a trifle different in certain instances. Holiness rules such feelings out. Instead there is a deep love of God's will in its entirety. There is a will to do the will of God. Such a heart will pray thus: "Grant me a quickened eye to pierce the path and find Thee through the throng,

Grant me an ear attuned to choose God-tones
From out the Babel song;
Grant me a fearless faith that right
And justice rule eternally,
A daring will to do God's will,
Yea—though the cost be Calvary!"

Where a heart is pursuing after holiness, mind, heart and will will be bent on being conformed to God's will.

Holiness also is the essential key to the enjoyment of the presence of God. Do we not at times sigh over the time spent in prayer? Have we not wondered at times why devotions seemed so dry and uninteresting? Have we not at times even dreaded coming into the presence of God? If so, was it not because we had failed to pursue after holiness?

As we grow more and more into the image of God we will find increasing pleasure in His presence. With sin in our heart we could not feel comfortable before Him. A dying man once said, when asked whether he would not want to take

some sin with him to heaven if it were possible: "I would be like a pig in a parlor." Do we want greater pleasure in meeting God? Let us pursue diligently after holiness.

Holiness will express itself in a poise and power that will frighten the enemy and encourage the saints. When Moody once entered a strange barber shop the hitherto noisy conversation suddenly died down, though he said no word. Something about Mr. Moody awed the patrons. He was pursuing after holiness. It is not our loud speech or our much activity, but our holy life that counts.

Many may say, "That is all well and good, we should all strive after holiness, but how may we attain to it?" They have worked hard, have lived under a harsh regime of the Law, or have sought other ways to attain that which cost them great sacrifice, without gaining what they looked for.

No, it is not in us to attain holiness. We must let go and let God through the Holy Spirit indwell us. Where God is, there is holiness. Let us surrender ourselves without reservation to Him, therefore, to attain holiness. While we will not attain perfection here, we will be transformed more and more into His blessed image. May God give us grace to thus pursue after holiness.

* Former field director of the West Coast Children's Mission now studying at Waterloo College, Waterloo, Ont.

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Our Christian Family Weekly
for Mennonites of All Age-groups

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The MENNONITE OBSERVER
is being published every Friday by
The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5,
Manitoba, Canada.

Address all correspondence to
the above address.

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

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

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

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

New Feature at Youth Retreat

Arnes, Man. — The testimony of the pastors and many of the campers reveals that the new personal counselling service inaugurated during the annual Youth Retreat at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp here has proved to be very helpful.

Steadily increasing attendance marked the four-day retreat, held from June 28 to July 1. Young people present came from as far away as the Winkler-Morden area to partake of the blessings. Emphasis throughout was on "A Closer Walk With Jesus".

The counselling program was made possible through the cooperation of several pastors, who came out to the retreat for a day or two to serve as counsellors. As the campers signed up at the administration office they were given appointments with the pastors present, with 15 minutes reserved for each counselling session. Not only did the pastors come into closer contact with young people and gain an insight into their more basic needs, but the young people gained spiritually through the discussion of their problems.

Each morning those present divided into discussion groups, led by several of the counsellors. A portion of Scripture was discussed, with the secretary taking down significant points to be reported to the general assembly later. The general subject was the same for all the groups, but each group had a different portion of Scripture. In this way the secretaries' reports provided a panoramic view of the theme.

Six messages were given during the retreat sessions on the general theme, "A Closer Walk With Jesus". Rev. H. Baerg, camp director, spoke on Friday night and Monday morning. Saturday messages were delivered by Rev. I. W. Redekopp and Sunday messages by Leslie Stobbe.

Other features at the retreat included the films, "Angel in Ebony" and "Assassin of Youth", a wiener roast and a faggot service. A well-coordinated sports program was led by Toby Voth, while the music was directed by Peter Dyck, assistant director at camp.

Young People Baptized at Winkler

Winkler, Man. — A large congregation gathered at the M. B. church here on June 23 to witness the baptism of three young people. The candidates for baptism had previously testified on Wednesday, June 21, of how Christ had saved them in answer to their prayers.

Rev. H. P. Harder used Romans 6:1-13 as the basis for his message. He showed how vital a personal experience with the living Christ is, and how we are to be dead to sin,

even though God's grace is abundant. Following the sermon Rev. J. H. Quiring baptized the three candidates, who were later received into the church.

The candidates for baptism were: Ronald Thiessen, Altona, and Rita and Rosella Matthies of Winkler.

Coaldale Teacher to Ontario

Coaldale, Alta. — Rev. and Mrs. Peter J. Dick and family left here for Ontario on June 28. They are on their way to St. Catharines, Ont.

After a three-day stop-over in Winnipeg to visit friends and relatives and to attend the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Horch, the Dicks proceeded to their destination, leaving Winnipeg on July 2.

Rev. Dick came to Coaldale in 1927, acquiring a farm in this district. From 1945 to 1946 the family lived in Winnipeg while Rev. Dick attended the M. B. Bible College, where he graduated with the Sacred Music Degree. They returned to Coaldale thereafter and Rev. Dick accepted a position at the Alberta Mennonite High School as music director and teacher. During his stay here he has been choir director of the M. B. Church for many years. He also organized the Oratorio Choir, which has presented oratorios in Coaldale, in Lethbridge and in other centres.

Next year Rev. Dick will be studying at Waterloo College in an effort to gain the B.A. degree. At the same time he will be music director at the Eden Christian College. He will be taking Mr. John Thiessen's place, who is leaving to attend the M. B. Bible College in Winnipeg.

Baptismal Service at Waldheim

Waldheim, Sask. — A baptismal service was held here on June 23 for four believers, who were later received into the Waldheim M. B. Church. Rev. Nick Janz, pastor of the Laird M. B. Church, officiated, while Rev. Henry Baerg of Dalmeny delivered the baptismal message.

Mennonite Towns Near Top in Red Cross Returns

Winnipeg, Man. — Two areas where Mennonites reside were at the top of the list of smaller towns when the Red Cross released its figures for the 1957 campaign in Manitoba.

Only Flin Flon and Portage la Prairie, which rank much higher in the population list, gave more than Boissevain, Altona and Morden to the Red Cross in the campaign. Figures are up to May 31. People in and around Boissevain gave \$2,310; Altona came next with \$2,099 and Morden was a close third with \$2,000. Other Mennonite centres



FIRST TEST: Mennonite Disaster Service received its first test at Fargo, N.D., where a tornado caused millions of dollars worth of damage. In this picture are five of the forty men on the job in clean-up operations last week. Seen at work among the ruins of a house that was completely demolished are: Jacob D. Klassen, Grunthal; Levi Schellenberg, Kleefeld; Jake Kliever, Kleefeld; Frank Derksen, Grunthal; and John Martens, Spencer.



WILL BE HELPED: Mennonite Disaster Service of Manitoba is helping the Spiker family, as one of its projects in the Fargo tornado area. The Spikers fled when they saw the tornado coming and thus escaped injury. Returning to their home they found only two and a half walls (seen above) remaining. Although the kitchen had been completely demolished, a dozen of eggs in a carton remained intact and were found among the rubble. MDS co-ordinator Jake L. Loewen here gives assurance of help to the Spikers. (Photo, Frank Epp, MDS publicity director)

did not do so well, with Steinbach contributing \$1,250 up until May 31 and Winkler sending in \$137 (which appears to be an incomplete figure, surely). Gretna's total was \$246.

Farewell Held for D. B. Wiens Family

Saskatoon, Sask. — A farewell service for Rev. and Mrs. D. B. Wiens and family was held in the M. B. Church here on June 27.

Rev. Wiens has served the M. B. conference in various ways as Bible school teacher, pastor, missionary, and representative to Russia. During the past three years while residing in Saskatoon, he has presented many inspiring messages here as well as to the congregations in neighboring districts.

Rev. Wiens will be missed by the assembly in Saskatoon. However, they wish him God's blessing in his new pastoral responsibilities in Vancouver, B.C.



DIRECTING OPERATIONS: Jake L. Loewen, co-ordinator, and Dave L. Friesen, fieldman, both of Morris, Man., directed Mennonite Disaster Service operations at Fargo, N.D., during the first week of operations. This week Wilbert Loewen, vice-chairman of MDS in Manitoba, replaced Jake L. Loewen on the scene at Fargo.

Mennonite Brethren Mission Notes

In Viet Nam

The brethren J. B. Toews, J. P. Kliewer and C. A. DeFehr should be in Vietnam the first days of July. Scheduled to arrive in Calcutta July 3, the mission will be in India until August 6. According to the first report to the office by Brother Toews, their flight across the Pacific was a good one.

Many Letters at HCJB

HCJB German department, Quito, Ecuador, received 110 letters in May which are more letters received than in any previous month in 1957. Many of the letters were from Germany. Brother Hugo W. Jantz comments: "Especially encouraging are the reports of much blessing experienced through the broadcasts as well as much heart-searching on the part of the unsaved. One letter from Stuttgart, Germany, reflects the need of reaching that land by Gospel radio: "We are thrilled to find a Gospel program on the radio in Germany. Radio here is controlled by interests which do not provide opportunity for Gospel broadcasts. Dear prayer partners at home, pray that God will give us a wider entrance into Germany."

Church in Indonesia

While little news comes through the Bamboo Curtain, there are indications that the Church of Jesus Christ is going on in China and that the number of believers is increasing. Since there are many Chinese on the islands of the Pacific Ocean on the Asiatic side, the spread of the Gospel is continuing among them. Many of the Chinese have gone to Indonesia where thriving, indigenous churches have been raised up by the Lord, which are served by Chinese pastors. The presence of a growing evangelical witness among the Chinese was again evidenced by the united fellowship of various Chinese churches at the occasion of the dedication of a new house of worship on the island of Java.

Itinerary of Daniel Wirsche

Brother Daniel Wirsche, missionary on furlough from Colombia who has been teaching in Mexico the past school year, is visiting churches in Canada. Beginning in Hepburn, Sask., on June 20, Brother Wirsche was in Manitoba from June 25 to July 5, will attend the Canadian Conference at Herbert, Sask., the week of July 7, then visit Alberta churches July 14 to 28.

Arrive Home

Belgian Congo missionaries, Brother and Sister Henry D. Derksen (Kipungu) and Brother and Sister Ernest H. Dyck (Matende) have arrived home on furlough. They passed through Winnipeg on July 3.

Post Oak Church Dismantled

Dismantling of the Post Oak Church building near Indianola, Oklahoma, was begun the second week in June. Several brethren from Hillsboro, Enid and Corn helped with the razing and contributed the use of their trucks.

News Shorts

The Colombia field Missionary Council met at LaCumbre the second week in June,

Mexico missionaries, Sister Mary Esther Martens and Marie Schultz, have left Nuevo Ideal for a period to attend a Spanish-language school in Saltillo.

Brethren A. E. Janzen, J. G. Baerg, G. W. Peters and H. K. Warkentin visited Mexico for a brief period in June in the interests of M. B. mission work in that country.

A baptism of five souls was held at Neuwied, Germany, on June 2, Brother J. W. Vogt reports.

Ruth Wiens Returns

Sister Ruth Wiens is scheduled to sail for Japan from San Francisco on July 7 and arrive at Yokohama on July 23. Our first missionary to Japan, Sister Wiens re-

turned for her second term of service. God willing, she will arrive in time to participate in the summer Bible school and camp programs of our church in Japan. During furlough the past year, Sister Wiens



visited many of our churches and attended classes at Biblical Seminary, Fresno. Pray with her that "with all boldness Christ shall be magnified" through her life and ministry. A member of the Mountain Lake Church, Sister Wiens is the daughter of Brother and Sister John H. Wiens, Backus, Minnesota.

Kitchen Cathedral

Your Fight For Freedom

By Dorothy C. Haskin

William L. Hull, a missionary, had the privilege of interviewing David Ben-Gurion, the Prime Minister of Israel before he retired. Mr. Hull brought the conversation around to the Bible. Mr. Ben-Gurion mentioned having read the New Testament and then said, "The New Testament teaching and standards are wonderful but where are those who live up to it? Are there any in the world? Are there any living the Christian life? Can this book really produce that which it sets forth?"

Mr. Hull assured the Prime Minister that the Lord had saved him and made him a new creature in Christ.

"But are there others like you?" "Yes, millions," he answered.

"Where are they then? Why do they let conditions exist as are in the world at this time? Why do the nations act as they do at the present time?"

Mr. Hull went on to explain that there were Christians who tried to change world conditions. For an illustration he spoke of Lord Balfour, one-time Prime Minister of England, who when he was Foreign Secretary influenced the British Cabinet to issue the Balfour Declaration which was the beginning of the State of Israel. Then Mr. Hull stated that there were others who practiced Christian principles in their daily lives.

But Mr. Ben-Gurion's question is a challenge to all Christians. It is one we must take to heart as again, this July, we celebrate our declaration of independence. If we are to continue celebrating independence we must practice Christian principles that we may secure continued freedom. Freedom is so valuable a possession that it must be defended anew by each generation.

Many different efforts are made to fight Communism. One is to better the economic condition of people around the world. Much of this effort is helpful. However, it is made with a false assumption. It is done with the belief that people turn to Communism because they are "have-nots".

This is only a half truth. The inference is that people turn to Communism because they do not have material possessions. Actually they turn to Communism because they are "have-nots" spiritually. The leaders of the communistic countries have the best their countries can offer in material comforts, yet they remain communists. Those who have been accused of being communists in our country, such as Alger Hiss, or those who admittedly were communists, such as Elizabeth Bentley, were not "have-nots" as far as money was concerned, but they were spiritually poor. They did not know the living Christ.

We must fight active Communism with active Christianity and your personal battle begins in the home. The future of the world lies in your children. The finest present you can give your country is a child or a family of children, whose Christian ideals make them upright citizens.

Seldom, however, does a child rise higher than the home which nurtured him. You cannot introduce your child to Christ as personal Saviour unless He is your personal Saviour and Friend. The wise eyes of children see so much more than you say. If you worry about material possessions, why should your son trust the Lord for spiritual treasure? If you grudge paying your taxes, why should your son serve as police-man or mayor?

The presidents of whom we can be proud came from Christian homes. For instance, James A. Garfield's mother was an earnest Christian who taught her children that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." She was a widow with four children who managed her own farm and with her own hands built a log cabin which was also used as a church. Garfield's training for the presidency began with his mother's piety.

The freedom of the world rests in the children mothers are training today.

(Copr. ERA, 1957)

Teachers in Northern Manitoba Mission Field

There are at least 30 Christian Mennonite young people active as teachers in the Indian and half-breed schools of northern Manitoba, writes Larry Klippenstein in a recent issue of *The Canadian Mennonite*.

He writes that one of these teachers wrote to him recently, "I believe there are places where a Christian teacher can accomplish more than a missionary. The teacher can do a lot by doing a good job in the classroom—showing love, and living so that his life is an attractive testimony. If the teacher has been successful, the time is ripe for the missionary to do the big job."

The great majority of these school teachers are also teaching Sunday school. In the vicinity of the mission station where the Klippensteins are active there are two quite up-to-date high schools. A teacher from one of these schools was able to lead 30 seeking souls to the Saviour.

Mr. Klippenstein writes that in addition to the opportunities already present, there will be numerous new industrial developments, such as that in the Thompson-Moak Lake area. The town there is to ultimately contain 8,000 people.

PILGRIMS IN PARAGUAY BECOME ESTABLISHED

By C. L. GRABER, MCC Paraguay



A 250-mile Trans-Chaco highway is under construction in Paraguay through the co-operation of the Point Four program of the U.S., the Paraguay government, MCC and the colonies. At extreme left is seen one of the better trails over which the Trans-Chaco roadway is being built. The Trans-Chaco roadway will also in some places follow an old ox-cart trail (centre) which winds between ditches and gullies. At right is a scene that will become part of the Trans-Chaco traveller's experiences. A ferry will be used to cross the big Paraguay River as one of the links in the 250-mile roadway that will connect Chaco Mennonite colonies with the capital city of Asuncion. (MCC Photos)

Five years ago an illuminating book, *Pilgrims in Paraguay*, was written by Dr. J. Winfield Fretz of North Newton, Kans. The "pilgrims" were the Mennonites who went to Paraguay between 1930-47 and "tabernacled" in colonies both east and west of the Paraguay River.

They were indeed pilgrims and strangers because they were for the most part stateless and settled in a strange land. They were pilgrims also in the sense that quite a number "folded their tents" after a few years in Paraguay and took to the road again—some to Germany, others to America, a few to Brazil and a larger number to Canada.

Significant developments have affected these Paraguay "pilgrims" in the last few years. The colonies have matured and are becoming better established. There are some conditions peculiar to Paraguay which they cannot alleviate or even modify. But there are many things which they can improve.

Tedious Journey

All five colonies in Paraguay were founded in isolated areas. Transportation had to be provided to market. The first attempt at roadbuilding was merely trailbuilding, passable only in dry weather.

The road from Filadelfia in Fernheim Colony to End Station was 70 miles long. The trip required 12 additional hours on the Casado railroad and then several days more down the river to Asuncion, capital and only market city in Paraguay.

The return route up the river was the same, only more difficult. This was the only access to the outside world for the colonies. A solution to this problem was sought by colonists and Mennonite Central Committee.

Flights Begin

In 1954 the Paraguayan government acquired one rebuilt DC-3 airplane from the United States and almost immediately one flight

a week went into operation between Filadelfia and Asuncion.

This was a great step forward. Passengers and their baggage as well as butter, cheese and eggs could now make this 250-mile trip in 90 minutes. Traffic has been increasing on these flights.

The government purchased more DC-3 planes and opened flights to other parts of Paraguay. Today there are flights to Filadelfia every Tuesday and Friday. Planes are usually loaded to capacity with passengers and freight.

Graded Road

In spite of the great help this air route brought to passengers and shipment of light freight, it still left heavy freight to be moved to Asuncion by the old direct route taking about five days or more.

So in 1954 the colonies decided to grade a good earth road, linking the three colony capitals and joining them to the Casado railroad which in turn took the freight to the river for reshipment. This roadbuilding required technical skill and machinery beyond that which had been developed in the colonies.

Paraguay roadbuilding was presented in various ways and places in the United States and Canada. At a meeting of the northern district conference of the General Conference of Mennonites in 1953 the need for men and machines was presented.

Roads Take Form

Vern Buller of Richey, Mont., volunteered to donate heavy road machinery and to accompany it to Paraguay with his family to build the wished-for road and also to train more colony operators.

In Paraguay Vern Buller teamed with five Paxmen and several colony operators. Through contributions of fuel and repair parts by the three Chaco colonies and by the Casado company, a 100-mile road was built and today appears on official road maps of the country.



This picture shows some of the machinery being used in construction of the Trans-Chaco roadway. MCC Paxmen operate and maintain this equipment and train Paraguayans to operate it.

This roadway is only the beginning of much more to come. A road was needed from Filadelfia to Asuncion.

Resources Offered

During 1955-56 enthusiasm mounted. A Trans-Chaco construction program was set up by the Ministry of Public Works. The International Cooperation Administration of the United States government appropriated \$200,000 for a program of training, experimentation and demonstration for roadway construction in Paraguay.

The colonies and MCC agreed to furnish operators. Ranchers living along the proposed route pledged funds for fuel and repairs. With all these resources the project is now underway.

Already the road at the Asuncion end toward Filadelfia has progressed more than 20 miles. At the same time machines have been taken to Filadelfia and construction will also start at that end. Three bridges are to be built across small rivers.

Well-Known Link

This likely will be a five-year program, and plans look good for its completion within that period.

Today another factor has come

into the picture that gives this particular road a big boost. It has now been determined that the Pan American Highway will extend from La Paz, Bolivia, to Asuncion over this route.

The official name will be "The Pan American Trans-Chaco Highway." This will add the interest and support of many more persons, as the Pan American Highway begins to take a more completed form through Mexico and Central America.

Right Direction

We would like to think that a new day is dawning for Paraguay. There is evidence to support such a dream. The government appears more stable today than in previous years. Inflation seems to have been brought under control.

However, any experienced judgment in this regard needs to be offered with reservations. But at least the pointers are in the right direction.

Paraguay recently had two visitors whose observations are of real interest and significance. The first was a young man visiting Paraguay for the first time from a Mennonite settlement in Brazil. To one of the colonists he described in de-

(Continued on page 8-4)

THE *Young Observers*

Let's Visit a Minute

Dear Boys and Girls,

What do you think of when the weather report announces that there are going to be thunderstorms? Do you look forward to seeing the jagged lightning flash across the sky and lighting up the whole countryside? Or are you frightened at the thought of the rolling thunderclaps, that sometimes even shake the house?

We need not be frightened, you know. God controls the weather too, and when He controls something it always works out to our best. If Satan were in control of the weather we would really have to be afraid, for he only wants to harm us, but God seeks to help us.

Have you ever read the story in the Bible relating how God helped Israel fight against its enemies by sending down hailstones from heaven? If not, you should turn in your Bible to Joshua chapter 15 and read verses one to fourteen. Not only did God send hailstones that were so large that they killed the enemies of Israel, he made the sun and moon stand still when Joshua asked Him to. We certainly have a wonderful God, don't we?

Of course, if you have not accepted the Lord Jesus as Saviour and let Him into your heart you have good reason to be afraid. God sometimes uses nature to punish and judge us. At one time a man who did not believe God challenged God to strike him dead with a bolt of lightning. He had not even walked one block after he said that, when there was a flash of lightning—the one who scoffed at God was dead.

Right now you can get rid of your fear that God might punish you. All you need to do is to tell God that you are a sinner, believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross to save you from your sins, and let Him into your heart. If you really are sorry for your sin and confess it, if you really believe that Jesus died for you, and if you really want to let Him into your heart, He will come in and give you a new heart. Then you need fear no more, even in a thunderstorm.

Aunt Selma.

Scrap Iron

The innocent-looking piece of scrap iron lying in the back yard had often led to some serious thinking by Gerry. He couldn't imagine what anyone would ever do with it; it seemed so useless. If, however, it would be sold to the scrap iron dealer, he would give some money for it. Just think what he could do with that money: buy chocolates or candies, or even get a toy.

What would mother and father say, however, if they heard of his plan? He was quite sure that they would say no. And yet the piece of scrap iron had been lying in the back yard for so long without being of any use to anyone! Gerry just couldn't understand grown-ups! They did such strange things sometimes.

Finally the sight of that useless piece of iron was too much of a temptation for Gerry. One day his mother went to town on a shopping expedition, leaving Gerry at home. This was his chance! He got out his wagon and took it to where the scrap iron lay. It was heavier than he had thought it would be, and it took all the strength he had to lift it from the ground onto the wagon. Exerting himself to the lim-

it of his strength, he finally managed to push it onto the wagon. Off he went to the scrap iron dealer.

When he came to the scrap iron dealer, this good man looked over the piece of iron very carefully. He also looked Gerry up and down as though he were wondering which was the piece of scrap.

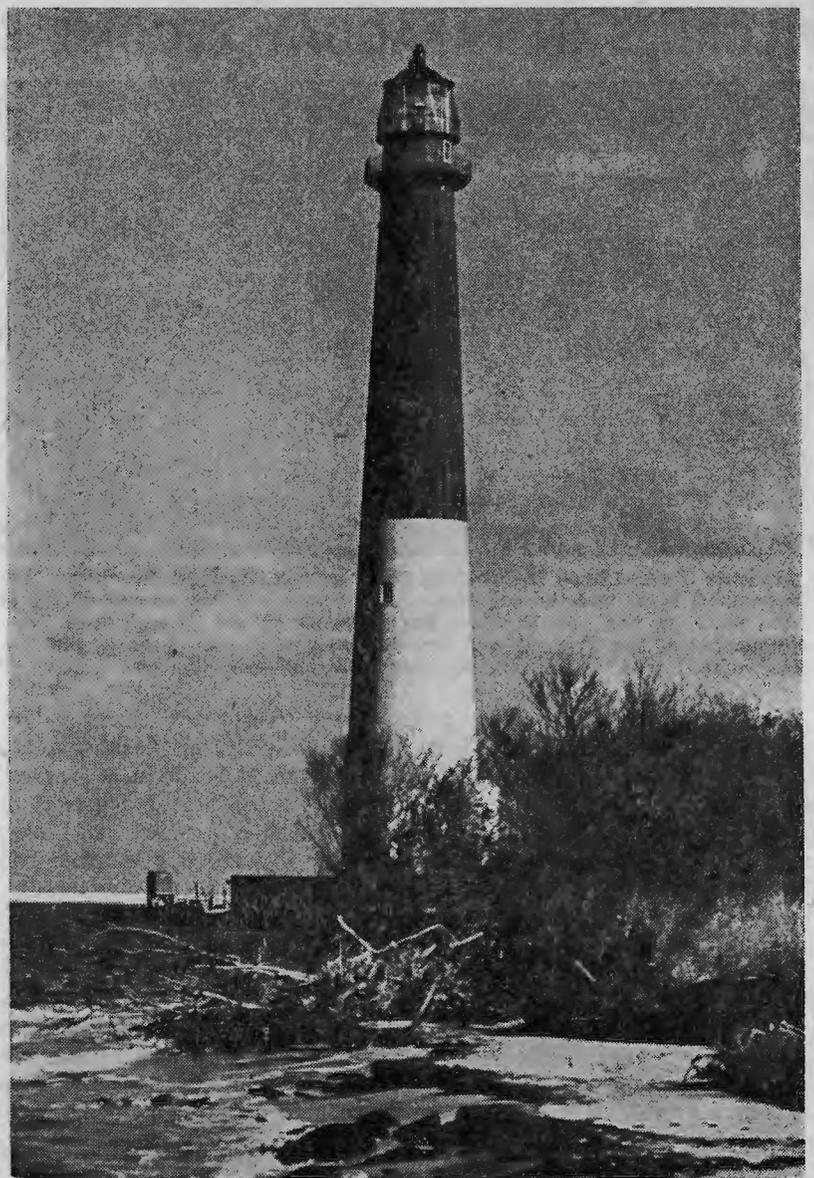
"What is your name, Sonny?" he asked.

"Gerry Mueller," the boy said. He did not like telling the man his name.

"Does your mother know that you have brought this piece of scrap iron here?" the man asked.

"Yes," Gerry answered uncertainly, wondering in his heart whether the dealer believed him. At any rate, this man said, "Bring me your mother's signature to this. Then come again and I will give you the money." He handed the boy a card. He also showed Gerry where his mother was to sign.

Despondently Gerry set out on the homeward journey. He left the scrap iron at the dealer's, mentally figuring out how much he could possibly get for the scrap. He thought that he might get 50 cents out of the deal. Suddenly something occurred to him. Not far away lived the unmarried sister of his father. Aunt Anna was his fav-



Many songs have been written about the "lights along the shore". Lighthouses, such as the one on the picture, help to warn ships of dangerous spots and to guide them past treacherous rocks. There are many stories of ships that stranded because a lighthouse either went out or the lighthousekeeper forgot to light the beacon.

As Christians Jesus said we are to shine as lights in a dark world. "Ye are the lights of the world", he told those following Him. Unless, however, we have Jesus Christ, who is the Light of life, in our hearts, we can impossibly shine for Him. Our lights become dim and dirty, too, when we do not confess sin. So let's "polish up" our light by confessing our sin and letting Jesus shine through us, so that others may be warned and led safely into the heavenly harbour. (EP Photo)

orite aunt—and he was her favorite nephew. He would ask her to sign the card and the dealer would never know the difference.

"Aunt Anna, would you please sign this card?" he asked her a short while later, showing her the card the dealer had given to him.

Aunt Anna looked at the card for a while and shook her head energetically. "Why don't you go to your mother?" she asked.

Gerry had an excuse ready: "Oh, she's gone to town for the day and won't be back until the evening."

But the excuse didn't help matters any. With a heavy heart eight-year-old Gerry trudged homeward. At home he said nothing about what he had done. And the piece of scrap iron stayed where he had left it.

Several days later Aunt Anna came for a visit. She wanted to see Gerry's parents. Gerry disappeared as soon as she came, for he didn't want her to be reminded

by his presence of what he had done. He didn't want the conversation to centre on the piece of scrap iron.

That evening, however, when he had gone to bed his mother sat down beside the bed. "Gerry," she said, "I am very sad that you have done something behind our back."

Gerry swallowed hard and was going to lie again, but his mother didn't give him a chance to do that and asked, "Gerry, didn't you think of the Lord Jesus when you left home with that piece of scrap iron?"

"No," the boy whispered. Mother was right. He should have thought of Him.

That very evening Gerry asked the Lord Jesus to forgive him his sin and to help him to remember in the future that Jesus saw everything he did. He told his mother that he would bring the piece of scrap iron home the very next day.

(Continued on page 10-4)

FROM HERE TO THE PINNACLES

By Elizabeth Schroeter

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(17th Installment)

"As I remember, it happened this way. While they were journeying toward the Molotschna, the Russian Czar Alexander II met them and welcomed them to his domain. The leader of that group appreciated the gesture and decided to name their village in honor of him. One of those leaders was a man by the name of Peter Wedel. He helped his group to organize and build a church. For fifty years he was their elder. It is the church that you can see from that clearing over there," David said, as he arose and pointed to it. "A peculiar thing happened in 1874 or 1875," he went on. "With only a few exceptions the whole village of Alexanderwohl emigrated to America. That included Mr. Wedel and all of the other leaders. They settled in Goessel, Kansas. There they formed a community by the name of New Alexanderwohl and built a church that was a duplicate of that gray church over there to your left." David again pointed to a large structure not far away.

Liesbeth and Franz stood up and looked in the direction of the church.

"Did those books tell you why they quit the Molotschna and departed for America?" Liesbeth inquired.

"They left because they believed that an attempt of Czar Alexander II to Russianize his minority groups would make it impossible for Mennonites to serve God according to their conscience."

"So they pulled up the stakes again and emigrated," Liesbeth said, disgruntled.

"Yes," admitted David. "They carried with them, to America, a culture that was richer than ever, because, in the meantime, they had adopted some useful items from the Russian people."

"What, for instance?" Liesbeth demanded.

"They took with them to America Russia's red winter wheat. A little later it was adopted by the Dominion of Canada as the best frost and disease resistant wheat for the prairie provinces. The Russian Mennonites also took to America a variety of apricot pits, mulberry trees and blackberry plants, timothy grass, wheat grass and, of course, Dutch and Prussian customs which they had previously absorbed and retained." David halted and listened when he heard footsteps in the leaves nearby.

All three children arose when they saw an old man enter the clearing.

"Good day, children," he said warmly.

They responded with a quiet "good day".

"It looks like we have some visitors, eh?"

David spoke up. "Yes, we are from Margenau. We were just resting and taking nourishment."

"That's quite a long walk for that little fellow over there."

"He's doing all right. He just fortified himself with cookies and Zwieback."

"I have come through this way almost every day for the past year but this is the first time I have met anyone," the old-timer said happily. Then he pointed in the northwesterly direction toward the gray church and said, "I live over there, not far from the Halbstadt-Tokmak road. I sold my property to my son. Now my wife and I dwell in the little bunkhouse in their foregarden."

When the man stopped talking, David said, "We heard that there is a kurgan here in Alexanderwohl. We came to explore it; but we don't know exactly where to find it."

The man smiled and scratched his head. Then he asked, "Mind if I come along?"

"Not at all. Let's go right now," David said.

"I would advise you to take a big stick along."

"Are there snakes or dogs out there?"

"No," the old-timer said with a grin. Then, as they walked out of the forest, he continued, "I have lived here in Alexanderwohl all of my life, and you are the first I ever heard express a desire to explore the kurgan."

David asked, "Are you one of those few people who stayed behind in 1874?"

"Right you are, my boy," the man said interestedly. "Some friends, my neighbors, wanted me to go, too, but I had no desire to see America. Everyone I knew always wanted to come back after he had moved away; I decided I might as well stay where I was in the first place."

David asked, "Do you know anything about that kurgan we are going to see?"

The old-timer smiled and scratched his head again.

"Just exactly what is a kurgan?" David asked.

Liesbeth and Franz perked their ears. They had been wondering all along exactly what they were going to see.

The old-timer smiled and explained, "Kurgans are low hills. They are like big kettles turned upside down and about twenty feet high. They are the tombs of Scythian princes. They were buried there about twenty-six hundred years ago with their weapons, horses and other possessions; occasionally with their wives and servants. The kurgans go back to the time when the Scythians occupied all of this region. Many of the kurgans have been tampered with and the underground rooms have been rearranged. A most interesting kurgan was unearthed near Ohrloff recently. In it the explorers found seven or eight skeletons, all neatly arranged like a star." He suggested that when possible the children should go south to Sparrau, Rudnerweide or Großweide to see a whole chain of kurgans running all the way from the Black Sea to central Russia.

Suddenly, in a field surrounded by tall grain, the old-timer stopped and examined the ground with David's big stick. "This is it," he said, grinning broadly.

David shrugged his shoulders, as if to say, "I see nothing."

Liesbeth, too, was puzzled, because they were standing in the middle of a low plain and there was no upturned, kettle-shaped hill in sight.

"This is it," the old-timer said a second time, as he uprooted a number of plants. Then he poked deeply into the fertile ground with the stick and loosened the soil. "You might remove some of that dirt with your hands," he said to David, who had not the least idea of what it was about. "There it is!" the man exclaimed as David's stick scraped something hard. "I thought this was the place." With the help of the strong stick and David's hands the old-timer uncovered a part of a rock. "This big rock is covering the entrance to the tomb underneath it," he said. "Through the years the dirt over the kurgan has accumulated gradually, and the rock has been pushed down. So far as I know, no one has tried to uncover the steps or the underground rooms of the tomb during the past thirty or forty years."

"That's very interesting," David said, and thanked the old man for his help in finding the kurgan. "If you had not come along, we never would have found it." He put the dirt over the rock and straightened some of the bent plants.

"It's all so exciting!" exclaimed Liesbeth. "I just love to hear about those ancient things and to visit places that made history." The man then went back to Alexanderwohl and his home. Franz was no longer

interested in a mill. The explorers stopped briefly at a farmer's well for a drink of water, then quiet and deep in thought turned south toward home. When they reached the top of the hill between Margenau and Alexanderwohl, Liesbeth asked, "Why do you suppose the Alexanderwohlers let the kurgan be obliterated like that? First they permitted the elements to remove the hill. Now they are letting the rock that holds the key to the interior tomb disappear from sight."

David said, "Oh, Mennonites are not concerned about history. They lack the background or education to be interested in kurgans. They are more concerned about the crops they can raise on that little patch than in the historical significance of the ancient tomb."

"If I owned that kurgan," Liesbeth philosophized, "I would uncover it, steps, rooms and all. I would preserve it and let everyone who wanted to walk in and look around. It's funny that not even the young people of Alexanderwohl and neighboring villages have shown sufficient interest to save such an extraordinary monument of ancient history. Evidently during all of those years the Mennonites have withdrawn from such phases of life and have carried their families away with them."

Liesbeth stopped her philosophizing when she climbed the riverbank of the Penners and felt a ticking sensation in what she thought was her head. When she stood still, the ticking stopped. When she took a step, there was a clicking sound. When she took two steps, there were two ticks. She could not explain the ticking and brushed it aside because she had some wonderful stories to tell her family and she had to do some thinking.

For one thing, she was happy to have learned that the original Mennonites were educated people. Consequently, it would be perfectly proper to do all in her power to become educated. Those traditions which the Mennonites had picked up since their faith began, perhaps centuries after they had formed their group, would not be binding, Liesbeth reasoned. "The trip was very profitable, even if it did loosen a screw in my head," she said, as she and the boys entered the double front door of their home.

(To be continued)

1,500,000 Newcomers Since War

Canada has received more than 1,500,000 newcomers through immigration since the Second World War. In terms of provinces this means that the post-war immigration figure exceeds by 100,000 the combined population figure of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Some People LIFE Didn't Meet

By George Burnham, News Editor,
Christianity Today Magazine

NEW YORK CITY. — LIFE can be beautiful, with all its pretty pictures, but the big magazine, like anyone else, can be dead wrong.

The magazine, in the July 1 issue, said the bulk of Billy Graham's nightly audiences at Madison Square

Garden came from the hinterlands of America. Special delegations have come from such states as Tennessee, Oklahoma and Virginia, but they comprise only a small portion of the Garden attendance.

Several nights ago, after publication of the LIFE article, Graham asked all residents of the New York area to stand. "I want to see for myself where you are from," he

said. An estimated 85 per cent stood.

People who made decisions for Christ already belong to a church. In the counseling room, where the people themselves are the source of information, 58.3 per cent of the first 22,646 said the decision was their first overt commitment to Christ. This is the highest percentage of first-time decisions for Christ during any campaign in America.

The magazine writer didn't talk to the wife of a Foreign Ambassador to the United Nations. She said the decision for Christ had transformed the life of her family.

He didn't talk to the Long Island social leader, who has more swimming pools than most folks have bedrooms. After making her decision, she began bringing all her friends. Three of them walked forward together at one service.

He didn't talk to the Religion Editor of a syndicated column, who made his decision while talking with workers in the crusade office. He then made it publicly at Madison Square Garden in hopes that it would influence a competitor to do the same. As the saying goes in religious circles, "Brother, that's revival."

The magazine writer didn't talk to the son and daughter of a famous American minister, both of whom walked forward at the Garden in the same service. He didn't talk to the television comedian, who listened like a hungry child as Graham talked to him for an hour and a half about God.

He didn't talk to the young gang leader in Harlem who is making a stand for Christ despite all the threats and taunts of his teen-age friends.

Nor did he talk with the doctors, lawyers, housewives, construction workers, prostitutes, college students, show people and truck drivers, who know that something has happened in their lives and want to tell all their friends about it.

Future Plans of Billy Graham

"We plan to spend next January and February holding meetings in principal cities of the Caribbean area. In the spring we will hold a Crusade at the Cow Palace in San Francisco and that fall we will be in Charlotte, N.C. Plans are now being studied for Crusades during 1959 in Birmingham, England, and Australia. Also, I would like to spend several months in Africa."

MORE ABOUT

Pilgrims in Paraguay

(Continued from page 5-4)

tail how an ice cream freezer works. He thought that a Chaco colonist could never have heard of an ice cream freezer.

A few days later he was taken on a tour of the industries in the colonies and was quite surprised to see a modern creamery where ice cream was being made.

Youth Choose Paraguay

The second word comes from a minister who was once a refugee and who has traveled to all the South American settlements. After spending some time in the Chaco he decided to buy a tract of land where his sons and sons-in-law could settle with their families.

It might be that in the next 25 years groups of young people may choose Paraguay for varying reasons as their future home. Paraguay is not crowded. Thousands of square miles are uninhabited.

The recent loan from the United States government to the Paraguay government for the increase of production is a big step forward. Mennonite colonists have wanted such loan funds for a long time, but no way could be found to bring this desire to fruition.

Now through the generous cooperation of friendly governments a long-term loan has been arranged. More can be said about this when details are finished, but the economic benefit of this loan appears great.

MCC and Mennonite churches of North America are participating in a most interesting and worthwhile project in Paraguay. It has great possibilities. Some day we shall "reap" if we faint not.

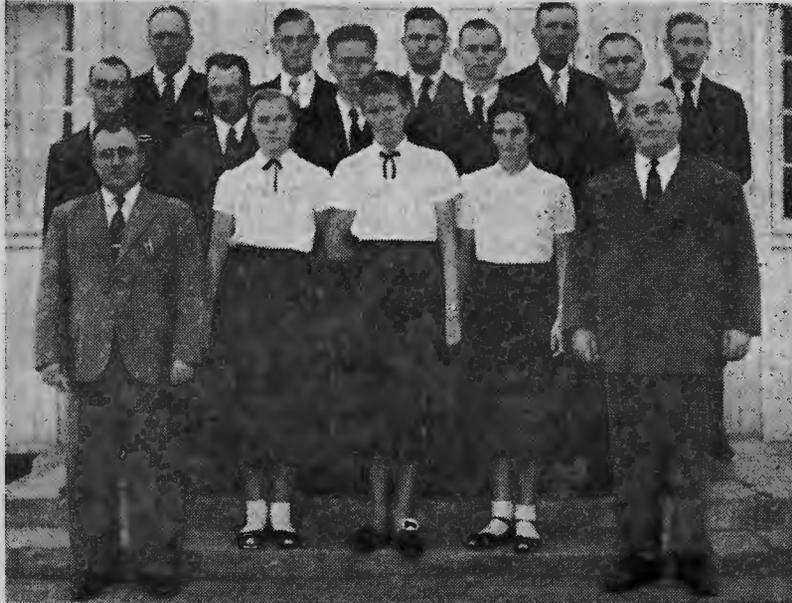
Eden Christian College Virgil, Ontario

Another school term has drawn to a close. The last two months have been quite eventful here.

The annual auction sale was held on May 26, with the items for the sale contributed by the students. On May 24 the field day was held at Queenston Park. After various sports events the day was climaxed by ball games.

School officers for next year were formally installed on May 27. Elect- (Concluded on page 11-3)

Education Avances at Bage, Brazil



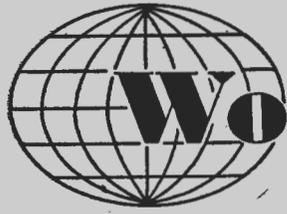
Operated in conjunction with the Bible school at Bage was the Bible Institute of the Mennonite Brethren Churches of South America. Shown here are most of the 17 institute students with instructors Sukkau (left) and Peters (right), Board of Welfare workers in South America. The Bible Institute program was offered at Bage for the first semester this year to accommodate the largest number yet of prospective church workers in South America. With its advanced Bible subjects and theological courses, the institute trains such workers as ministers, Sunday school and youth leaders and missionaries.



At left is the new building erected for this year's Bible school session by the Bage Mennonite Brethren Church. The congregation has contributed substantially for the operation of the school. North American assistance to the school came via teacher support through "Dienst am Evangelium".



To the left, above, can be seen the student bodies of the past year at the elementary and high schools at Bage, Brazil. The school building is shown at the left. This Mennonite settlement 25 miles southeast of Bage is about 40 miles north of the Uruguayan border and approximately 150 miles inland from the coast. The picture at top right is of the 51 regular and three night-time students attending the Bible school conducted from February to May. This Mennonite Brethren school provides Bible instruction and Christian training to build up the spiritual life and testimony of the church. Seated in the front row are the teachers: Gerhard Wall, Victor Arndt, C. C. Peters, G. H. Sukkau, Peter Klassen Sr., and Lydia Peters.



Round-Up of World-Wide RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

On New York Crusade

Evangelist Billy Graham, at the half way mark in his New York Crusade, took time out for a press conference. Scores of reporters and correspondents took notes as he confidently reported that he was sure of attaining all crusade objectives in "the greatest evangelistic effort in the history of the church".

Graham told the reporters that the crusade would wind up on July 20 with a huge meeting in Yankee Stadium. However, a door-to-door campaign by 1,500 Protestant churches in the New York metropolitan area from October 20 to 24 will culminate in a mass meeting at the Polo Grounds on October 27.

Graham reported that total attendance for the six weeks that the crusade had run was estimated at 707,600. He also reported that 22,646 persons had made decisions for Christ, 94 per cent of them being New Yorkers.

A breakdown of age groups disclosed that 22.3 per cent of those making decisions have been 19 to 29 years of age, the highest for this group in any crusade in North America to date. Other statistics were: 12-14, 19.8 per cent; 15-18, 17.6; 30-49, 23.4 and 50 or over, 11.6.

* * *

Celebrating 500th Anniversary

Dr. Dale Gramley, president of Salem College, North Carolina, told a gathering of laymen that Moravians are "too conservative, too timid, too complacent and too afraid to move ahead." He said it's time for them to "start competing" with other Protestant denominations and to overcome a shortage of ministers. The Moravian Church is celebrating its 500th anniversary this year.

* * *

Russian Pilgrim's Progress

Ivan Magal, a former Mennonite missionary among the Slavic peoples of Eastern Europe, and editor of *The New Way*, has been working for some years on the project of having Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* reprinted in the Russian language. The Mennonite Publishing House, Scottdale, Pennsylvania, have completed half of a 3,000 edition and copies are being distributed to Russian-speaking people in 27 countries, including some behind the Iron Curtain.

* * *

Evangelism in Indonesia

David Morken has been holding successful evangelistic meetings on the island of Java. He reports: "Al-

though most of the millions in this most densely populated area of the world are Mohammedan, an unprecedented response was seen both in attendance and in recorded decisions for Christ. At Djakarta, Java's capital city of two and one-half million people, hundreds were turned away as the meetings overflowed the largest auditorium in the city. Two hundred and fifty two decided for Christ on the opening night of the campaign. Held over for three days, meetings were conducted in the largest football stadium in Djakarta." Throughout June, Morken held united crusades in Soerabaja, Solo and Bandoeng.

CANADASCOPE

Big Wheat Carryover

Unless there is a drastic change before the end of the month, Canada will close the crop year on July 31 with the heaviest wheat surplus in history. The total wheat carryover may amount to a record 640,000,000 bushels or more. This would be 100,000,000 bushels over last year's carryover.

Meanwhile the Progressive Conservative government is considering the possibility of introducing a two-price system. There would be one price for the domestic market and another for export. The price of flour would probably rise then, too.

* * *

Arnaud Farmers Flooded Out

Hundreds of farmers in south-eastern Manitoba face partial or total destruction of their 1957 crops due to heavy rains that have submerged wide areas of seeded land.

Heaviest damage is in the Arnaud district, where both pasture land and seeded land is submerged under water. Lack of adequate drainage is blamed by farmers of the stricken area for their plight. About six inches of rain fell in the area in the space of a week, with 2½ inches coming within an hour once and 3½ inches during the night a week later.

* * *

Youth, Not Russians, Our Danger

"An army of boys and girls is growing up to invade the highest offices of our countries, and only half of that army is Christian. The other half is pagan," Dr. Kenneth L. Cober, executive director of Christian education for the American Baptist convention told the annual convention of the Baptist Union of Western Canada. He ad-

ed: "I am more afraid of that army than I am of the Russians. It could take only as long as the next generation to make Canada a pagan nation."

Dr. Cober blamed the "inactivity" of church-going parents as tian teaching for spreading juvenile delinquency and lack of morals.

Hurricane Whip-Lash Hits Toronto

The tail-end of Hurricane Audrey, which caused hundreds of deaths in Louisiana, sent a lashing, seven-hour rain on Ontario on June 28,

causing highway washouts and several accidents. Several inches of rain fell, causing much flooding. The Toronto-Hamilton area was the hardest hit.

* * *

Steel Price Up \$5

Price of steel in Canada has been increased by \$5 a ton by at least one manufacturer and others are expected to follow suit within one week. The price hike comes on the heels of an announcement by U.S. steel companies that their prices would be increased by about \$6 a ton.

God's Word IN MAN'S WORLD



The Need For Tension

By Edwin Raymond Anderson

A considerable number of books related to "Nervous Tension" have come from the press lately. With advice and warning, we are being told how to "get rid of" and how to "overcome" the pounding of these inner pressures.

However a reliable medical report recently released indicates another approach to this top topic of today: Tension is a good thing! A certain amount of tension is necessary, and the report illustrates as follows: that which keeps your driving sharp, that which sharpens your judgment in the face of decision—such tensions are to be taken as tools for life's tempering.

Set the heart of that report against the manifest religious status of many, and the cause of their failure becomes evident. There is lack of "tension", no sense of sharp judgment nor accurate discernment, where religious teaching is concerned. Such makes for the bliss of modern blasphemies, for any scribble which tacks the name of God within a pious framework, is accounted as acceptable. The false-front is accepted full value. This nature of "tension-lessness" is the spiritual tragedy of the times.

People seem to bear greater sense of judgment in securing a stove, for example, than in saving their souls. They will search carefully for manufacturer's guarantee, but "anything goes" where religious merchandise is being offered. The Lord has such in mind when he warns, "beware of false prophets which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matthew 7:15). The right attitude is likewise clearly indicated, "Search the Scriptures" (Jude 5:39). Jude, in his letter pictures these religious rascals who feed upon dulled discernment as, "clouds . . . without water" (v. 12); full promise but empty performance.

"Prove all things" (1 Thessalonians 5:21) may well be indicated as "top text for today" for the religious condition of many. Such proving is pertinent, for here are issues which but heighten and deepen before the gate of eternity, forming decisive data for destiny beyond.

(Copr. ERA, 1957)

Indigenous Pastor Ordained

By Robert C. Kroeker

Recently the Mennonite Brethren Church at Kajiji, Belgian Congo, had the privilege of ordaining a new pastor. Following two weeks of special meetings by a native pastor from Panzi, we met together on a Sunday morning to ordain our brother, Isaac Mwachemika, to the ministry.

Missionary Frank Buschman brought an appropriate and challenging message. Four missionary brethren and two African brethren performed the "laying on of hands" and committed our brother to the ministry. There was a quiet hush over the large audience as the prayers were offered and the Lord's presence was realized.

Isaac has grown up on the mission station. Although he was a lively and mischievous boy, the missionaries saw great possibilities in him and encouraged him in the Lord. He was the foreman of the workmen on the station for years, and has proved himself faithful in whatever work has been assigned to him.

We have noticed in this man a spiritual depth and insight and a great burden for souls which qualify him for the ministry. At present he spends afternoons in the surrounding villages dealing with individuals, and often he arrives home long after dark.

His wife, Rebecca, is also a wonderful asset, being a spiritual leader among the women in her quiet, persuasive way. They have five lovely children.

Weddings

Rempel—Timmer

Doreen Timmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jan Timmer, Blue Bell, Sask., and Robert Rempel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Rempel, Meadow Lake, Sask., were married on June 23 in the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, Meadow Lake, Sask. Rev. Grant Hastie officiated.

Wiens—Lennea

Anne Lennea, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lennea, Compass, Sask., and Larry Wiens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wiens, Meadow Lake, Sask., were married on June 16 in the Emmanuel Church at Compass, Sask. Rev. Jacob Esau officiated.

Ellergodt—Heppner

The little white Methodist church in Raub, Malaya, filled with guests and friends on May 8, 1957, for the marriage of Anne Heppner and Ron Ellergodt. The theme of the wedding was, "Let us exalt His name together," with Mr. Glasser, the Assisting Home Director, officiating.

Anne is a member of the Laird, Sask., M. B. Church. She is out for her second term of missionary service. Her first term was spent with the boat people of Hong Kong.

Ron, who is out on the field for his first term of service, comes from Alberta.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ellergodt are graduates of the Prairie Bible Institute at Three Hills, Alta.

Maier—Kornelson

Helga Kornelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodor Kornelson of Coaldale, Alta., and Walter Maier, son of Mrs. Fredricka Maier and the late Mr. John Maier of Medicine Hat, Alta., were married on June 22 in the Mennonite Brethren church at Coaldale. Rev. David Pankratz officiated, assisted by Mr. Abram Konrad.

Soloist at the wedding was Miss Mary Wall, while Miss Agnes Dick was pianist.

The couple travelled to Glacier Park and Great Falls on their wedding trip. They will make their home at Schuler, Alta.

Betsch—Loewen

Elsie Loewen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Loewen of Saskatoon, Sask., and Vernon Betsch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Al Betsch, North Hollywood, Calif., were married on June 29 in the M. B. church at Saskatoon, Sask. Rev. Wes Klassen of Caronport, Sask., officiated.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Betsch are graduates of Briercrest Bible Institute, Caronport, Sask. They have been working with the Nav-

igators at their headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Upon their return after their wedding they will be placed in service somewhere in the United States.

Schmidt—Janz

Malinda Janz, daughter of Mrs. Justina Janz of Saskatoon, Sask., and Hugo Schmidt, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Willms of Dundurn, Sask., were married on June 22 in the M. B. church at Saskatoon, Sask. Rev. Nick Janz officiated.

Mr and Mrs. Schmidt will make their home in Regina, Sask.

Obituaries

Mrs. Jacob Thiessen

Funeral services for Mrs. Jacob Thiessen were held in the M. B. church, Vineland, Ont., on June 22. Her death occurred June 18 in the St. Catharines hospital.

Mrs. Thiessen was born in Schoenfeld, South Russia, in the year 1882. In her youth she received Christ as her Saviour and became a member of the M. B. Church. She married John Toews in the year 1917, but after only two years the young husband died. Two years later, on June 22, 1911, she was married to Mr. Jacob Thiessen.

When they first came to Canada they lived in Alberta. Then they moved to Ontario, where they have lived for many years. The husband, four sons and four daughters survive Mrs. Thiessen, also 26 grandchildren. Most of her family live in the Vineland-St. Catharines area: Jake, John, Pete, Abe, Agatha, Justina (Mrs. Aaron Willms), and Mary (Mrs. Dick Lepp). One daughter, Susie lives in Alberta with her family.



Peace Conference Cancelled

The continuation committee of the Brethren, Friends and Mennonites announced the cancellation of a peace conference which was to be held prior to the Mennonite World Conference in August.

Representatives of the Evangelical Christian Baptists in Russia had been invited to the World Conference and the proposed peace conference, but they declined the invitation due to the World Youth Festival being held in Moscow at the same time.

Nine at Hastings Hospital

Nine persons are working as psychiatric aides in the State Hos-

pital at Hastings, Minn., with the MCC summer service program.

The Hastings hospital is 20 miles southeast of the twin cities and serves more than 1000 patients. Two Mennonite 1-W men are employed by the hospital and this is the first time MCC has sponsored a summer unit there.

Laura Conrad of Sterling, Ill., member of Science Ridge Mennonite Church, is leader of the group. She has served with MCC in Ethiopia, Hong Kong, the Philippines and with a mission in India.

Participants include Selamawit Emmanuel of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Coptic Church of Ethiopia; Isaac Qutub of Ramallah, Jordan, Moslem and graduate of Bluffton College; Helen Schroeder of Halstead, Kans., First Mennonite Church of Halstead;

Grace Schweitzer of Julesburg, Colo., Chappel (Nebr.) Mennonite Church; Lois Ann Shutt of Baltic, Ohio, Fiat St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church; Lois Jean Sommerfeld of Halstead, Kans., First Mennonite Church of Moundridge; Alma Stolz of Atglen, Pa., Millwood Mennonite Church; and Mrs. Mary Young of Charleston, W. Va., Baptist and teacher in Wales last year.

Fergus Falls Unit

Seven persons have begun service as psychiatric aides in the 1500-patient State Hospital at Fergus Falls, Minn., with the MCC summer service program which has its first unit at Fergus Falls.

Adella Nikkel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Nikkel of Canton, Kans., a member of Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church at Goessel, Kans., is leader of the unit. In 1955 she served in an MCC summer unit at Camp Paivika, Calif.

Other participants include Marilyn Jean Hiebert of Mountain Lake, Minn., Bethel Mennonite Church; Janice Anne James of Nashville, Tenn., Waverly Place Methodist Church;

Norman Klassen and Edwin Reimer, both of Carman, Man., Mennonite Brethren Church; Johnnie Mae Rogers of Nashville, Tenn., West End Methodist Church; and Nancy Wismer of Hilltown, Pa., Deep Run Mennonite Church.

Mexico Workcamps

The 12 persons participating in the annual MCC workcamp at Cuauhtemoc, Mexico, will do everything from painting houses to teaching Bible this summer. The camp begins July 4.

Oswald Goering, dean of men and a professor at Bethel College in North Newton, is leader of the workcamp.

Participants include Colene Aschliman of Toledo, West Bancroft Mennonite Church; Grace S. Bergey of Hatfield, Pa., Salem Mennonite Church; Marilyn Brier of Brookville, Ind., Bath Methodist Church;

Barbara Eberly of Lititz, Pa., Metzler's Mennonite Church; Rod Huebert of North Lima, Ohio, Midway Mennonite Church; Mrs. Anna Mary Martin of New Holland, Pa., Groffdale Mennonite Church; Arleta Miller of Archbold, Ohio, Tedrow Mennonite Church;

Ruth Moyer of Souderton, Pa., Souderton Mennonite Church; Betty Safstrom of Forman, N.D., Congregational Church; William P. Weidanz of Clifton, N.J., of the University of Rhode Island; and Martha Kraft of Birmingham, Mich., First Presbyterian Church.

Canadian at Akron Headquarters

Erwin Baergen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul D. Baergen of Newport, Wash., has begun voluntary service as a maintenance worker at Akron headquarters. He is a member of Spring Valley Mennonite Church.

Aron N. Enns, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aron Enns of Steinbach, Man., has entered voluntary service as a trucker for the relief section. He teams with Gordon Nussbaum (Kidron, Ohio) in making periodic runs with the semi-truck to docks on the Atlantic coast and from Akron to Newton to collect clothing and food contributed for overseas shipments. He is a member of Steinbach Mennonite Church.

David E. Gerber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gerber of Dalton, Ohio, joined the voluntary service program as a worker in the clothing depot at Ephrata, Pa. He is a member of Kidron Mennonite Church.

Vera Mae Miller of Goshen, Ind., is a member of the kitchen staff in Akron for a short time. She is a member of Brenneman Memorial United Missionary Church in Goshen.

Miriam Pellman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Pellman of Richfield, Pa., joined the staff of Information Service. She will work with promotional and visual materials and edit Women's Activities Letter and Letter to Boys and Girls. She was graduated from Eastern Mennonite College this year and is a member of Crossroads Mennonite Church.

Future Subscribers

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Warkentin, city missionaries at Brandon, Man., a son, Richard David, on Saturday, June 29.

Scrap Iron

(Continued from page 6-4)

To his surprise his mother said, "I'm going to sign that card today. Father does not need that piece any more. With the money that we get from it we are going to buy some scribbles for you for school."

Gerry was happy. Sure, he would rather have bought some candy with the money, but he was also satisfied this way.

Proposed S.School Materials Reviewed

By the Editor

Winnipeg, Man. — Why are the major Mennonite groups planning the publication of new Sunday school material when so many publishers have already entered this field? This is the question some readers probably asked themselves after reading last week's news item about the joint production of Sunday school material.

There is no doubt that Sunday school materials published by some of the publishing houses are evangelical and Christ-centred. However, for a denomination that has for many years maintained distinctive emphases there are many weaknesses in these interdenominational publications. In order to acquaint our readers with the objectives of Christian education curriculum materials and the outlines of the proposed Sunday school materials, as set up by the committee, we will review them.

Three Themes

The graded Sunday school curriculum has been set up under three themes: Redemption, Church and Discipleship. Each department follows these three themes in a "unified" type of curriculum in which all departments study a similar passage, a similar concept or doctrine, or a similar period in Bible history. In this way the growing child is given a continuously deeper understanding of the Bible and its application in life as he proceeds from department to department. Since these materials will not be rewritten every three years, the teacher's manual can be used over and over again.

The Bible forms the basic content of the lessons. Subject-matter is to be related to present-day life in such a way that the individual is led into following Jesus to the fullest extent of his ability, whatever his age group. In all this the purpose is to transmit God's revelation, rather than relying on individual discovery. Throughout there is a realization that we are dealing with a supernatural experience, a supernatural message and that we must be dependent upon supernatural power.

Helpful Manuals Planned

The teacher's manuals are designed to help the teacher in every way possible. The Junior Teacher's manuals are to include, for instance: unit title, lesson number, Bible basis, purpose of lesson, pupil's book (assignment on how to use), materials needed, getting ready to teach Bible background, special preparation, lesson plan, steps in getting ready, knowing pupils (needs and experiences), a way to begin, Bible lesson, notebook work, discussion, pictures, worship, home work. Sup-

plementary materials are: additional activities, closing moments, teacher's prayer, your lesson plan.

The pupil's lesson books are equally complete. The Primary and possibly Junior lesson books will contain coloured pictures and a variety of projects for the children. They will contain a Bible printed portion for efficient use of class time.

Evangelistic Aim

In Scripture memorization there will also be emphasis on longer passages, with hymns and religious poetry occasionally included. It is suggested that the worship period precede the lesson and that direction should also be given for home worship. The evangelistic aim will be to bring the child to a knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour through a gradual understanding of personal sinfulness, conviction of sin and trust in Christ. The curriculum is to bring the child to understand that salvation is the free gift of God through faith in Christ, and that his power to live the Christian life comes from the indwelling of God's Spirit.

In the transmission of the Mennonite heritage no effort is to be made to glory in it or trust in it. The safest procedure is to develop the meaning of discipleship and distinctive emphasis from the Bible itself, and to use materials from our heritage for purposes of illustration, the committee declares.

Objectives Set Out

The objectives for Christian education curriculum materials, as set forth by the joint committee, have been written out in full for each department. In Bible knowledge and use, the general objective is to lead persons to know the Bible, to accept its divine authority, to experience its message, and to use it as the revealed Word of God.

In respect to salvation the Intermediates are "to understand the essentials of salvation and to accept Jesus Christ as personal Saviour" after understanding that "good deeds cannot merit salvation and forgiveness of sins."

Deity of Christ Emphasized

Christian beliefs about God include the recognition of God's sovereignty and the awakening of a desire to do His will in the Senior department. The young people are also to "have a mature understanding of the deity of Jesus Christ", among other insights. In respect to the Holy Spirit, the Juniors are "to learn about the person, work, and power of the Holy Spirit as revealed in the Word."

Discipleship objectives include leading the Seniors "to grasp more fully the meaning of the heavenly citizenship, to see the Christian life as a pilgrimage, and to guide life in the light of these principles." Young people are to "broaden the

M. B. Missionaries at Kipungu, Belgian Congo



These two pictures were taken at the Kipungu station of the Mennonite Brethren mission field in the Belgian Congo. At the top you see the missionaries on the field until the end of May. Since then Sister Susie Brucks and the Henry Derksens have left on furlough. On the picture are, from left, Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Martens and children, Rev. and Mrs. Ben Klassen and children, Miss Susie Brucks, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Derksen and children, and Miss Anna Goertzen.

understanding of following Jesus through prayer, Bible study, and Christian fellowship; and to regard commitment to Christ as decisive, yet continuous."

Church Fellowship

In studying church fellowship Intermediates are "to study Mennonite and general church history in order to develop a sense of continuity, fellowship, and identification with Christians of all ages; and to resist unchristian pressure groups courageously."

Worship objectives include leading Seniors "to maintain daily devotional periods and to understand the techniques of private worship, Bible study, and prayer." Seniors are also to be taught to "use the best methods of personal witnessing for Christ", in witnessing objectives.

Other objectives set forth in detail for each department include those in respect to stewardship, the Christian home, Christian social relations, nonconformity and Christian citizenship.

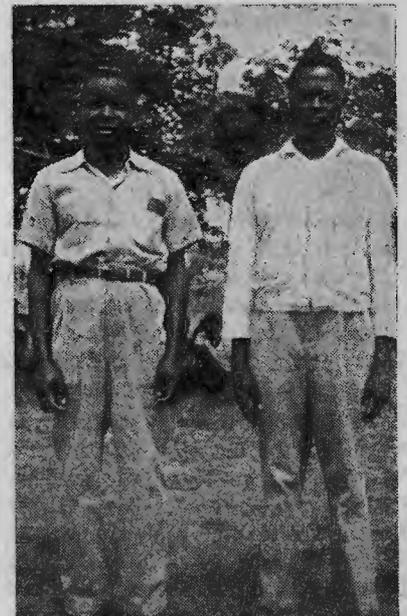
By now the reader will have realized the magnitude of the project undertaken. He will also agree that the objectives are Biblical, Christ-centred and geared for each age group. Methods for study are modern, yet always designed to avoid the flamboyant and spectacular. Publication is due to begin in time for the 1959 Sunday school year.

Eden Christian College

(Continued from page 8-4)

ed to the Students' Council were: Hugo Dyck, president; Henry Klassen, literary representative; and John Fast, sports representative.

The Junior-Senior banquet was



These are two of the native Mennonite Brethren evangelists on the Kipungu field. Eli and Antoin are bringing the Gospel to their own people after having experienced the grace of God in their own lives.

held on June 7, with the grade eleven class presenting an interesting program. The highlight of the program was the drama, "Faith versus Reason".

Commencement exercises were held on June 9. Rev. John Wall served as guest speaker. He challenged the 34 graduates to join the ranks of "Good soldiers of Jesus Christ" basing his message on II Tim. 2: 1-5. The school choir, directed by Mr. J. M. Thiessen, sang several songs.

As school we regret that Mr. Thiessen is leaving the teaching staff this year. We wish him every success in his future field of service. Mr. Peter J. Dick, Coaldale, Alta., will take his place as music director next year.

Hold Annual Conference

Steinbach, Man. — The seventh annual conference of the Evangelical Mennonite churches of Manitoba was held in the Prairie Rose (Lorette) church on June 29 and 30 this year.

The conference theme was "Faith, Hope and Charity". Rev. P. L. Friesen of the Morris church was chairman, while Abe R. Reimer of the Blumenort congregation served as secretary.

The main item on the conference was the development of the main topics. Minor topics also discussed were: German, public schools, a mental institution, missions, sports, and colonization.

Rev. Benny Eidse delivered one of the mission reports. In the course of his message he told of a number of "firsts" that they had experienced when they went to Africa in 1953. Among them were the first storm on the sea, the first sight of Africa (the Congo), the first service where idols were burned and the first baptism. "Today," he said, "the Congo is turning to the Lord."

The first main topic, "Faith", was developed by Rev. A. P. Unger from the Prairie Rose church. The second topic, "The Expression of Faith", was discussed by Rev. P. P. Friesen of Blumenort. He declared that our faith must find expression in works, for in the eyes of man our faith is revealed by works.

Rev. B. D. Reimer of the Steinbach Bible Institute spoke on "Hope", the third main topic.

On Sunday three sessions were held. At the morning session Rev. Arnold Fast spoke on the subject, "The Love of God". Rev. Elmer Hamm spoke on "Nächstenliebe". In the evening, Rev. D. P. Reimer took the three themes together and preached the last message of the

conference on the subject, "Faith, Hope and Love".

On Sunday night two missionary topics were touched upon briefly. One was in the form of a message from Rev. Frank Kroeker of Morris, and the other a challenging missionary report from Mr. Henry Loewen, missionary on furlough from Brazil.

Special numbers in song were brought by the choirs of the various churches represented. Offerings went to missions, general fund, Invalid Home and missionary traveling expenses.

Closing remarks were made by one of the local ministers, Rev. A. P. Unger.

Missionary Speaks at Springstein

By Frank Froese

Springstein, Man. - "Africa today is experiencing a tremendous Renaissance period; Africa is awake! Are we Christians awake to the tremendous opportunities, the tremendous challenge that Africa is presenting today?" This was the keynote of the message delivered humbly, but powerfully, by Rev. Wm. G. Baerg, missionary at the Panzi mission station in Belgian Congo now on furlough, in the Springstein M. B. church on Sunday, June 30.

Besides Rev. and Mrs. Baerg, there are four other missionaries on the Panzi field, which at present has a very active native church, completely autonomous, with a membership of 1,200. Two pastors, 9 evangelists and 5 deacons care for the flock and evangelize in surrounding areas. A school at the station has an enrollment of 350, while 70 of the 300 villages are represented at the 6 organized out-post schools to bring the total enrollment to about 4,000. Seventy teachers are providing the instruction. The tremendous growth of this field in spite of seemingly insurmountable obstacles is one example of what the power of God

can do—and of what united prayer can do.

As Rev. Baerg told about the simple, steadfast faith of the native Christians, about their surrender and sacrifice, their burning missionary zeal, many in the congregation no doubt felt ashamed. Could it be that some day native African missionaries will be evangelizing in North America? How missionary-minded are we?

M.B.B.C. Grad Engaged



M. B. Bible College students of the early 1950's will vividly remember Miss Kikuko (Terry) Tsuda, who was the first post-war Japanese student to enter Canada. On this picture she is seen with her fiancée, Hideki Imamura of Osaka, Japan. He is a member of the Southern Baptist Church in Japan and is working as personal counselor in the same hospital in which Miss Tsuda is active.

After their marriage they intend to come to the United States, where Hideki Imamura will study medicine. Upon completion of his studies, they plan to enter Brazil as medical missionaries. There are many Japanese in Brazil.

On the Horizon

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

July 25 to August 11. — Tent meetings by Brunk Revivals, Inc., at Altona, Man.

August 3 to 5. — Christian Business Men's Committee Retreat at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp, Arnes, Manitoba.

August 10 to 16. — Mennonite World Conference, Karlsruhe, Germany.

August 18 to September 1. — Evangelistic meetings in a tent by Brunk Revivals, Inc., at Winnipeg.

October 13 — The 25th anniversary of the founding of the Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches in Ontario will be held in the auditorium of the Eden Christian College.

October 19. — The General Conference of the M. B. Church in North America will begin its tri-

ennial sessions in British Columbia.

Announcement For Readers

So that the editor can give you complete coverage of events and developments at the Canadian M. B. conference at Herbert, we will not be publishing the Mennonite Observer next week. The July 19 issue will give you on-the-spot reports and commentaries to keep you informed about any new developments. THE CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd., 159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5, Man.

Prayer Intercession Requested

Dear Fellow-Laborers for Christ, We take this occasion to share a prayer burden with you.

Less than a year ago, the Lord definitely led us to testify to a man who had recently opened a candy store in our street. We invited him to our services. To our great joy, he promptly responded and has faithfully attended services since that time. He soon came to believe in Jesus Christ as God, making open confession of this faith with the public burying of his idol.

His new position was to be tested soon. Since his wife and six children did not take any positive stand for Christ, he became estranged from his own family. One reason for this was that he closed his shop on Sundays. Then his aged mother died, and he was faced with the question as to whether she should have a Christian or a Buddhist funeral. The Lord graciously undertook and the relatives yielded to his will.

After the national church and your missionaries built a mausoleum, it came to the putting away of the ashes of the deceased. He was severely tempted to seek to appease his relatives who asked that the ashes be divided, one portion to be put with those of the ancestors. This would facilitate marriage arrangements for his oldest son. Again the victory was on the Lord's side.

Recently, another severe test of his faith has struck in the ailing of his wife, who is so indispensable in the home. All this happening within the period of nine months, you will well see that Ueda San's path has been a thorny one.

Our prayer in his behalf is that these thorns may produce in Ueda San's life the fragrance of a sweeter assurance of sins forgiven through faith in Christ's atonement and of joy in suffering for Christ's sake. Pray with us that he may actually become the light of his community, and that this may become the beginning of a preaching point in his village.

Yours for His Kingdom,
David and Mary Balzer
Osaka, Japan.

LORNE A. WOLCH

B.S., R.O., O.D.

Optometrist and Optician
Eyes Examined

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