

# Mennonite Observer

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

I Cor. 2:2.

★  
YOUR CHRISTIAN  
FAMILY WEEKLY

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## To Build Studio

### Conference Approves Mission Expansion

Elm Creek, Man. — An optimistic spirit prevailed at the annual conference of the Manitoba M. B. churches, held in the M. B. church here on June 6 and 7. Lively discussion featured the business sessions, while inspirational sessions proved to be a rich blessing.

Two hundred and twenty-three delegates and visitors had appeared from the 23 churches in the province.

Major decisions concerning the mission work were approval of a new studio and office for the Gospel Light Hour, approval of a \$5,000 loan to the Carman Gospel Light Mission so they can finish construction of a chapel, appointment of another worker in Winnipeg, and approval of the application of the indigenous mission principle over a five-year period on the home mission stations. The conference also asked the directors to sell the Lindal farm and supported the mission committee's objective to promote evangelism in southern Manitoba more aggressively.

#### Three To Be Ordained

The conference also approved local congregations' requests to ordain Lawrence Warkentin, Brandon, Abe Quiring, Horndean, and John Wiebe, Grossweide, for the ministry.

Rev. J. G. Wiens, pastor of the local M. B. Church, welcomed the delegates and delivered a short inspirational message. Rev. J. A. Toews, conference moderator, then assumed the chairmanship of the sessions, assisted by Rev. I. W. Redekopp, assistant moderator. Rev. D. K. Duerksen served as conference secretary.

Proceeding to the first points of discussion, the conference voted to continue the co-ordinating committee of the Manitoba M. B. Conference, since it had proved valuable in its trial year.

The treasurer of the conference, J. J. Riediger of Morden, reported that a total of \$207,704.00 had passed through the provincial treasury, of which \$67,269.00 went to foreign missions, \$1,568 for the Manitoba Youth Project, \$4,360 for the MCC, \$3,576 for the provincial relief committee, \$8,000 for the Winkler Bible School, \$30,250 for the home mis-

sions committee, \$17,880 for the Canadian M. B. Conference levy, \$15,870 for various Canadian conference projects, and over \$2,000 for a mission car for Africa. Next year's provincial budget alone is \$63,000, plus \$27,000 to be extended in the form of interest-free loans.

(Continued on page 4-1)

### Plan Merger of Relief Boards

Saskatoon, Sask. — The executive committees of the Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization and the Mennonite Central Relief Committee met here on June 4 to make plans for the merging of the two organizations.

Preliminary discussion at the annual meeting of these two organizations prepared the way for this move. The next step will be presentation of the plan to the Canadian M. B. Conference and the Conference of Mennonites in Canada.

It is hoped to form an all-Mennonite relief organization for the whole of Canada—the equivalent of an MCC for Canada.

At this session of the executive committees it was also agreed to send Mr. C. A. DeFehr, secretary-treasurer of the Mennonite Central Relief Committee of western Canada, to Paraguay to make a study of the economic situation there today.

Mr. DeFehr expects to leave for Paraguay during the first week of August and expects to be in South America for about two months. He requests the prayers of the churches for this undertaking.

### Ordain Couple for Missionary Service

Hepburn, Sask. — Sunday, June 1, was a grand day for the M. B. Church here, as well as for the entire North Saskatchewan District M. B. churches. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Schmidt, missionary candidates for the Belgian Congo, were ordained for missionary service.

The Schmidts, both members of the Hepburn M. B. Church, gave their personal testimonies at the

morning worship service. They told of the Lord's direct leading in their life. Rev. J. B. Toews, deputation secretary of the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions, delivered the morning message. He spoke of the tremendous importance of being there where God wants to use us.

The afternoon service proved to be a challenge not only to the outgoing missionaries, but also to all who attended the service. Rev. J. H. Epp, member of the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions, delivered the first message, in which he spoke of the relationship and responsibility of the home church to the work of mis-

sions. Rev. Toews then challenged the missionaries with the Apostle Paul's declaration of his readiness to serve Christ. Paul announced, "I am ready to preach. . . I am ready to suffer. . . I am ready to die. . ."

Rev. J. B. Toews officiated at the ordination ceremony, with Rev. W. Wiebe, the pastor of the Hepburn M. B. Church, Rev. H. A. Willems, assistant pastor, and Rev. J. H. Epp assisting.

The Schmidts, together with Rodney, will be leaving in July for Belgium, from where they will go to missionary service in the Belgian Congo.

## Appoint Two Couples

### B.C. Conference Accepts New Fields

Matsqui, B.C. — Acceptance of a mission church into the provincial conference and approval of new mission fields highlighted the semi-annual provincial conference of the M. B. churches in British Columbia. Conference sessions were held in the Matsqui M. B. church on June 7.

A major share of the time was devoted to hearing reports and discussing expansion of the home mission program, both the West Coast Children's Mission and the Pacific Grace Mission.

Mr. H. H. Neufeld, church leader of the M. B. Church here, welcomed the delegates to the conference and

led in an active prayer session. Rev. P. R. Toews, conference moderator, then assumed the chairmanship of the business sessions. The elections returned Rev. Toews as moderator, David Friesen as secretary, and N. H. Hamm as treasurer. Rev. H. Lenzmann of Yarrow is assistant moderator.

#### Evangelism Reaps Harvest of Souls

The blessing of the Lord has rested on the work of the West Coast Children's Mission, Rev. P. P. Neufeldt, chairman, reported. Evangelistic services on the fields have been

(Continued on page 12-1)



THE WILLOWDALE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP was organized last year in a new residential section north of Toronto. Here is a recent picture of the group worshipping together there. From the left are Niel Rempel, Ernest Penner, Doris Barber, Archie Heide, Jake Koop, Mrs. Koop, Mrs. Heide, Mrs. Jack Derksen, Mrs. Ben Doell, Jack Derksen, Ben Doell, Miss Taylor, Mrs. H. Block, Jake Wiens, Mr. Henry Block, Elaine Voth, Rev. Henry Voth, the pastor, Mrs. H. Voth, Elisabeth Voth. The children in the front row are Peter Doell and Beverley, Niel and Ernie Block. Dr. Block and family returned to Saskatoon recently. The Home Mission Committee of the M. B. churches in Ontario assisted in organizing the Fellowship.

## EDITORIAL

### Laying Spiritual Foundations for Married Life

"All those planning a wedding for this summer are asked to contact the pastor now so that the church can be reserved for that date."

Some of the churchgoers smiled indulgently, others chuckled delightedly as they read this announcement in the weekly church bulletin. The pastor, however, found open dates taken very quickly by couples planning to found a home.

Setting the date and reserving the church for the wedding are important preparations for marriage, but of far greater importance are spiritual preparations. It is easy to lose sight of the spiritual preparation in the multitude of details that today must be looked after in preparation for a wedding. And as the wedding day draws near the increasing tempo of physical preparation can over-shadow and all but eliminate all spiritual preparation.

The basic spiritual preparation at all times is prayer, by which we establish contact and enjoy fellowship with the almighty God and our Lord Jesus Christ. This is especially necessary when approaching an occasion that can to a large measure determine the success or failure of one's life. Prayer is essential when seeking to determine God's choice for a life's partner. United prayer is absolutely necessary as a couple considers entering marriage and discusses the many matters that need discussion during courtship days. It will also be a thrilling and blessed experience if the couple will take off time during the last-minute preparations to become quiet before God and jointly ask the Lord's blessing for the wedding.

A spiritual preparation often overlooked during the days of courtship is a prayerful study of the principles for married life as recorded in God's Word. Problems arising in many marriages, even in Christian ones, can be avoided altogether if the couple is willing to study the Word of God during the days of courtship and humbly submit to God's teaching concerning the Christian home. At such times the couple can agree on the position of both husband and wife in the home, the place of children in the home, the question of authority, and the priority Christian service in the church and community will receive.

Too often young couples think of their pastor only as the officiating minister at the wedding ceremony. They fail to realize that he can give much valuable advice and information based on his years of experience in counselling others. He can also make the wedding and family-life more meaningful through explaining their nature and significance, by giving hints for the wedding ceremony itself, and by suggesting valuable literature on the subject. That is why part of the spiritual preparation for marriage should include a visit to the pastor (naturally both bridegroom and bride have discussed these matters with their parents and a Christian doctor, if possible).

Seasons of spiritual blessing will also be experienced if the couple makes a conscious effort to make the whole wedding ceremony Christ-centred (a Christian wedding should always be Christ-centred, and not bride-centred!). The motto for the wedding, if any, and the songs to be used at various stages in the wedding ceremony should be chosen with a view to making the occasion not only a glad moment but also a worship experience.

If such spiritual preparations have been made, the habit of putting Christ first and of seeking His will in all things will have been established. It will carry over into married life and rest like a benediction upon the home.

### The Bible Today

"Three thousand copies of the Scriptures for university graduates." The Bible Society presented the three thousand Scriptures to the graduating students at the Convocation of the Andhra University, India, this year. Perhaps this is the first time in India that such a large-scale distribution of Scriptures has ever been made on a single occasion.

Several Canadian missionaries were present at the Convocation, and were thrilled to witness this great distribution of the Word of God.

"The wonderful thing about it all," writes Rev. John Hart, "is that when asked if presentation might be made to the Christian graduates the University Authority asked, 'Why not all the graduates?' So to all the three thousand graduates this year, a copy of the New Testament was given."

## DEVOTIONAL

### Love to Christ

By C. Braun \*

It is not the orthodoxy of our faith, nor the outward conformity to a strict moral code that determines whether we are accepted with God or not. Jesus always made it plain that our love to him is the determining factor in our relationship to God.

When Simon, the Pharisee, in whose house Jesus dined, looked down upon the woman who came to kiss and to anoint the feet of Jesus and criticized the Master for paying attention to her, Jesus revealed that the great difference between Simon and the woman lay in the difference of their love to him. Simon had failed to show the Lord even the common courtesies shown to guests in his day. Instead of indulging in sharp criticism of Simon, we do well to examine our own personal relationship to our Lord and Master and pray that our love to him might be increased.

Jesus made it clear that our love to him is not something that we can achieve in our own strength. It is based on our experience of divine forgiveness. John writes, "We love him because he first loved us." The two debtors of whom Jesus speaks to Simon did not love their creditor until the creditor cancelled their debts and frankly forgave them both. This act of love and grace kindled a love in their own hearts toward their benefactor. Paul explains what takes place at the time we accept God's forgiveness and writes: "... the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost." Thus our love to Christ finds its origin in God.

It is important to note that the intensity of our love to Christ is determined by our sense of our sinfulness. Jesus did not teach that some men love Christ more because they have sinned more prior to their experience of salvation. Rather, he is revealing the heart of Simon who as devout Pharisee lacked a consciousness of sin. Certainly he felt that he was in a category above this poor woman whom he labelled as a "sinner." If he needed forgiveness at all it was for comparatively few sins. Simon's self-righteous emphasis on morality kept him from seeing himself as God sees unregenerate man. Because of a lack of sin-consciousness in his life, he, of course, never experienced the riches of the grace and the love of God and consequently he lacked love to Christ.

When I think of the fine moral background of our many Mennonite young people, I feel that there is a real danger of trusting in self and never coming to a deep consciousness of sin. Having been spared a life of sinful excesses they often do not feel the deep need for divine grace in their lives. Their salvation experience is shallow and the

result is a cold, indifferent, passive form of Christianity. This is often accompanied by cruel criticism of others who manifest a zeal for Christ.

A clearer view of God's holiness and his demands upon the lives of men is needed in order to dispel such illusions about ourselves. We further need a deeper realization of the awful tendencies of sin within us and a closer look at the terrible punishment it incurs. A serious appraisal of the tremendous cost of our redemption should further help to give us a consciousness of sin and increase our love to Christ.

The woman at the feet of Jesus shows us how true love to Christ expresses itself. As in her case, so in us it creates a deep desire to be in the presence of Christ. It led this woman to walk into the house of a critical Pharisee in order to give public expression of her love to Christ.

It is the love of Christ that constrains us to give a bold testimony for him. Where the love of Christ reigns the fear of man must retreat.

Her love further manifested itself in her deep humility. At the feet of Jesus she was willing to perform the lowly service that Simon had neglected to perform. There she made a sacrifice that only her Master could understand. In short, the love to Christ led this woman to a complete committal of herself to Him. This is the inevitable result of loving Christ with our whole heart. Does love to Christ dominate and control our lives?

\* Teacher at the M. B. Bible Institute, Kitchener, Ont., during the past school year.

## Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly for Mennonites of All Age-groups

LESLIE STOBBE — Editor

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## Inter-Mennonite Church Workers Conference

**Steinbach, Man.** — Approximately 40 brethren from six different church conferences represented in the churches of the area about Steinbach met on May 24 in the Steinbach Mennonite church for a conference of ministers and deacons.

The six churches represented were: Evangelical Mennonite, the Emmanuel Mission, the Evangelical Mennonite Brethren, the Mennonite Brethren, the Berghaler and the Mennonite.

Presenting messages were: Rev. F. D. Reimer of Prairie Rose, who spoke on "The Pastor and Church discipline"; Rev. Is. Toews of Arnaud, whose theme was, "The Pastor and His Personal Walk"; and Rev. H. G. Rempel of Steinbach, who delivered a message on "The Pastor and the Doctrine."

Discussion periods followed each message. Leading the discussions were Rev. H. P. Friesen of Steinbach, Rev. Arnold Kist of Kleefeld, and Rev. C. Friesen of Grunthal.

Rev. Davis, representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society, spoke for about half an hour on the work of the Bible society.

Members of the six churches named above gathered on Monday evening, May 27, for a united prayer meeting in the Steinbach Mennonite church. Rev. H. A. Regehr, pastor of the M. B. Church here, spoke on "The Power of Prayer."

These united prayer meetings are held monthly in any one of the participating churches. The next meeting will be held in the Evangelical Mennonite church at Kleefeld.

## Six Graduate From Springstein School

**Springstein, Man.** — Six students officially graduated from the Springstein School at graduation exercises held Friday night, June 6. Of these, the first three have attended all eleven years at Springstein School.

The highlight of the program obviously was the graduation ceremony. However, the younger folk almost "stole the show." Their program, presented prior to the graduation exercises, was highlighted by their free, uninhibited, spontaneous, and in some cases, almost professional, acting. The picturesque and colorful costumes added vitality and vigour to the enjoyable and well-received performance. The person behind the scene was Mrs. H. Wiebe, the teacher.

The valedictory address was given by Jake Froese and Helene Bock representing grade XI, and Irmgard Dyck representing grade X, replied to the valedictory. There followed three addresses: by Mr. W. Loewen, trustee; Mr. H. D. Wiebe, principal; and Rev. W. Enns, pastor.

The appetites of the eager photographers being quenched, and the round of congratulations having largely ended, the parents of the graduates, the graduates, teachers and ex-teachers of the school, and other guests assembled for a banquet dinner. Various after-dinner speeches ended the eventful evening.

Graduates are Ernest Isaak, Selma Isaak, Eddie Harder, Edith Epp, Mary Wiebe, and Jake Froese.

## Expansion at Salem Home Envisaged

**Winkler, Man.** — About 150 church leaders met recently to discuss future expansion of the Salem Home for the Aged, since the demand for accommodation for senior citizens is so great that an addition is necessary.

The \$122,206.00 home has been almost paid for. A proposed expansion would give the home a capacity of 84 beds and adequate staff quarters. A counter proposal suggested construction of a home at Altona.

A number of delegates felt that there would be a demand for both extension at Winkler and a second home at Altona. A further meeting for final decision will be called shortly.

## Churches Join for Centennial Program

**Abbotsford, B.C.** — Churches in the Abbotsford area joined in a Centennial program at the Junior High Auditorium on a recent Sunday.

Government officials were also present to join in the observance of British Columbia's 100-year anniversary (not as a province, but as a British colony that later became a province in the Dominion of Canada).

Mennonite representatives on the program were Rev. H. H. Nikkel, pastor of the Abbotsford M. B. Church, and Rev. P. J. Froese, newly-elected pastor of the West Abbotsford Mennonite Church.

Also participating were the Bethel Choir, directed by Menno Neufeld, the Concert Choir of the MEL, directed by Rev. C. D. Toews, and a mass choir directed by Menno Neufeld.

The offering went to the British and Foreign Bible Society.

## Mennonite Undergrads Receive Awards

**Winnipeg, Man.** — Mennonite undergraduates at the University of Manitoba received a proportionately large share of the awards announced by the university last week.

Big winners were John C. Peters, second year medical student, with

## Sponsors Own German Broadcast



**Shafter, Calif.** — A unique German 15-minute weekly devotional broadcast that asks for no money is sponsored here by a retired Mennonite farmer.

G. J. Siemens, a pioneer farmer of this district, is in his fourth year of broadcasting the Sunday morning German devotional. "Guten Morgen" began the first broadcast on March 6, 1955, and continues to welcome the thousands of listeners spread over a large area surrounding Shafter and listening to KWSO, Wasco.

The program includes two hymns or chorale sung by groups from various localities and a five-minute gospel message delivered by Mr. Siemens. Thirty pastors and 15 guest preachers from all over the

United States and Canada have spoken on the program.

Mr. Siemens reports that he has received more than 800 letters and postcards of appreciation from listeners over a wide area.

The German program is unique in that no requests for money are made on it. Several years ago Mr. Siemens had a heart attack which forced him to discontinue active participation in church committee work. It was then he started this Sunday morning broadcast, devoting his time and money to it. It has now been established that there are thousands of people in this area who love to hear the gospel and the songs of their childhood in the German language.

a total of \$1,350 in scholarships; Waldemar Lehn, with \$625 in awards; Harry M. Janzen, with a \$575 research fellowship; and Miss Ingrid Neufeld, with three awards totalling \$600.

Others receiving awards worth from \$25 to several hundred dollars were: Miss Irmgard Wieler, John R. Peters, Miss Helen Epp, Miss Janet Harder, John Peters, Audrey A. Friesen, John I. Friesen, James A. Friesen, Patricia Penner, Irene M. Hildebrand, Ronald E. Sawatzky, and Abram Petkau.

## Piano Students in Recital

**Morden, Man.** — Pupils of Olga Friesen performed at a public piano recital on Tuesday evening, June 3, in the Morden Collegiate Auditorium. The 20 performers, ranging from Grade I to Grade XI (AMM, Diploma for Solo Performer), showed excellent technical ability as well as fine musicianship.

The appreciative audience was delighted with the development of musical talent in this area. Many of the pupils had participated in the 1958 festival, winning in most of their classes.

Guest performers of the evening were violinist Louise Dyck, double trophy winner of the 1958 Music Festival, and a vocal team, Abe Siemens and Alan Janzen.

Following the program, refreshments were served to approximately 175 people.

## Alumni Sponsors Vocational Guidance

**Clearbrook, B.C.** — The second annual Vocations Day at the Mennonite Educational Institute here again proved fruitful.

Graduates especially benefitted from the alumni-sponsored program on May 22, since it gave them an opportunity to become better acquainted with various vocations.

Speakers sponsored by the alumni of the school shared convictions and experiences with the students. Participating were: W. Grant, teaching; Menno Neufeld, music; Dr. I. M. Fast, medicine; Herb Klassen, choosing a vocation; Dan Nickel, engineering; Mrs. John Suderman, nursing; Rev. John Reimer, missions; Art Block, commerce; Alfred Siemens, journalism.

## Express Appreciation For Rev. P. Goertz

Lindbrook, Alta. — The people of the Lindbrook M. B. Church gathered on the afternoon of May 18 to show Rev. Peter Goertz their appreciation for his service in the church during the past years.

Rev. Peter Goertz has been serving the Lord for 46 years, twenty years as minister of the Gospel here in Lindbrook.

Between the speakers at the program the choir and a men's quartet sang. Two members of the congregation then presented Rev. and Mrs. Goertz with an easy chair and a double-shade floor lamp. In his talk Rev. Goertz related some of the incidents occurring during his life and expressed his thanks for the afternoon to the congregation. Lunch was then served to those present.

Two years ago Rev. Goertz's first wife passed away. On May 4, 1958, Rev. Goertz was married to Miss Anna Dueck of Pincher Creek, Alta., who will help him in his further service.

Rev. and Mrs. Goertz are now residing in Edmonton.

## Manitoba M. B. Conference

(Continued from page 1-2)

### To Apply Indigenous Principle

The mission committee chairman, Rev. J. H. Quiring of Winkler, reported that they believed the time had come to implement the principle of progressive indigenization of the work on the home mission stations. If possible, local mission groups are to be self-supporting in five years, so that funds now channeled into these stations may be applied in opening new mission fields. He also intimated that the committee plans to promote a more aggressive program of evangelism among spiritually needy Mennonites in southern Manitoba. The committee's recommendation that another mission worker be appointed in Winnipeg was approved by the conference. The next year's budget is \$31,500.

Donations received for the Gospel Light Hour during the past year totalled \$21,122, Rev. John Schmidt reported. This increase in donations, coupled with the increase in programs from one to six (in three languages) necessitated the appointment of a full-time secretary, Miss Anne Heier. It also made present recording facilities and office space inadequate, especially since recordings are made in the Gospel Light M. B. church and interfere with that church's program of activities.

### \$27,000 Studio Approved

The conference approved construction of a \$27,000 studio and

office building on Kelvin St., near Hespeler Ave., Winnipeg. The conference voted to apply \$5,000 from the sale of the Lindal farm to this project and to lend the Gospel Light Hour \$17,000 interest-free, to be repaid over a period of nine years. An immediate need is \$5,000 in donations and pledges so that construction can start. Individuals and church groups are asked to send their donations and pledges to The Gospel Light Hour, Box 2, Station F, Winnipeg.

Today the original program, the Gospel Light Hour, is broadcast in English over CKY, Winnipeg, CFAM, Altona, and HCJB, Quito, Ecuador. The German program, "Licht des Evangeliums", is heard on CFAM and around the world (including Russia) on HCJB. Programs broadcast only in Manitoba are 15-minute daily devotionals in both German and English and a weekly Gospel Light Children's Hour. A more recent program is the Russian Gospel Light Hour, heard on CFAM, HCJB, and HLKX, Inchon, Korea (only 36 miles from the Russian border). Under consideration for Manitoba are programs in Low German and Ukrainian (Manitoba has many Ukrainian-speaking people).

The conference postponed the sale of the Mary Martha Home until the time when it will be necessary to do so.

### Recommend More Evangelism

The ministers' and deacons' committee reported on the annual conference of ministers and deacons, gave a statistical report on special services in Manitoba churches, and recommended more evangelism on the local church level.

Winkler Bible School had 74 students during the past year, Dr. G. D. Huebert, principal, reported. The majority of them were in Class II and Class III. Five teachers gave instruction, but Rev. Wm. Baerg will be returning to Africa shortly. The school committee recommended that the dormitories be connected to Winkler's sewage disposal system. This was approved by the conference, which also voted to give the school a \$9,000 grant for 1958-59.

The provincial youth leader, Leslie Stobbe, reported that \$1568 had been received toward the youth project during the past year. Together with last year's balance of \$308, the project money totalled \$1876.00. Next year's project was set at \$1,800, with \$750 designated for the operating fund of the Gospel Light Hour, \$250 for the building fund, \$500 for evangelistic work in southern Manitoba, \$100 for a bursary to a Bible college student, \$50 for a bursary to a Winkler Bible School student, and \$150 to assist needy children so that they can attend the Gospel Light Mission Camp at Clear Lake.

The committee also recommended

that, when possible, churches should organize weekly youth Bible study and prayer meetings, that churches send the youth leader to the Manitoba and Canadian conferences, and that local youth leaders support the youth camps in their area. The provincial youth rally was set for November 8 and 9, while the provincial youth workers conference is to be held the last Sunday of April, 1959.

### Fall Youth Rally in November

Mr. C. Balzer, chairman of the provincial music committee, reported that, with one exception, district song festivals had been held during the past conference year. He also reported that Peter Klassen, Winnipeg, had taken over the responsibility for the music library of the provincial conference. Since Mr. Balzer will be going to Detmold, Germany, to study music next winter, he resigned as chairman and Mr. John Boldt was elected in his place.

Major recommendations of the Sunday school committee were that a cradle roll be established in each church, that extension Sunday schools be organized, that each district send a car full of workers to the Canadian Sunday School Conference, and that local churches financially assist Sunday school workers attending the provincial Sunday school workers' conference at Arnes, Man. The dates are August 1 to 3.

The committee for relief and public relations recommended a more intensive study of the principles of non-resistance in the church and in youth groups. It also asked churches to promote the Voluntary Service program of the church and MCC more aggressively. Young people should be encouraged to enter this service.

### Building Committee Established

In addition to its recommendations concerning conference property, previously mentioned as approved, the Board of Trustees recommended establishment of a conference building committee. The conference approved the naming of Walter Voth, Victor Willms, and Jake Krahn, all of Winnipeg, to this committee, which is to supervise all conference building projects.

Rev. J. H. Quiring was elected conference moderator for next year, Rev. A. J. Froese of Boissevain was elected assistant moderator, and Rev. Henry Regehr will be secretary. The treasurer remains J. J. Riediger.

Inspirational sessions included a Friday evening program sponsored by the missions committee, with Lawrence Warkentin of Brandon and Rev. Henry Born, recently of South America, as speakers. Frank Peters, mission worker at Winnipegosis, and Ben Doerksen, worker at Ashern, testified of the Lord's lead-

ing and provision. A quartet and trio sang.

The Friday afternoon session was opened with a short devotional by Abe Quiring, mission worker at Horndean and ministerial candidate, and the Saturday afternoon session by John Wiebe, ministerial candidate from Grossweide. Rev. H. Regehr served at the observance of the Lord's Supper Saturday morning.

Next year's conference will be held in the South End M. B. church, Winnipeg.

## Future Subscribers

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Loeven of Thornhill, Man., a daughter, Karen Ruth, on May 23.

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Born to Peter and Lillian Klassen of Boissevain, Man., a daughter, Cheryl Ann, on May 5.

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Born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Warkentin of Tofield, Alta., a son, Arnold James, on May 21. He was welcomed by his sister Evelyn and brother Bobby.

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Mr. and Mrs. Dick Thiessen of Lindbrook are happy to announce the arrival of their son, Elmer William, who was born on May 30. He will be a brother for Charles and Joyce.

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Born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Friesen of Winnipeg, Man., a daughter, Jennie Lynn, on July 8.

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## Ladies' Mission Group Presents Program

St. Catharines, Ont. — Ladies' mission groups in our churches have done much to promote the missionary spirit and also giving.

In years gone by much material has been sewn by these groups for specific projects and also for missionary sales in the local churches to raise funds. In St. Catharines M. B. Church there are three groups: the elderly ladies, middle-aged ones, and also the young married ones.

The latter group has been following a slightly different procedure, devoting their bi-weekly evenings to fellowship, talks and reports. Then, not to be forgotten by the rest of us, they prepared a program largely devoted to music. The ladies formed a choir under the able direction of Mrs. John Duerksen and sang several songs. A short skit pointed out how rushed one is at times in the home and how easily it is to neglect the time for personal and family devotions.

They asked those present to give as liberally for the offering as so often is done at a sale. The proceeds went to missions. The congregation responded with a sum of \$1,108.98.

## Venkatrathnam Was One of the Students

By P. V. Balzers

Venkatrathnam came from the beggar caste. His people not only live by begging, they also do much divining for all classes of people. They roam about like gypsies.

Venkatrathnam was thus unstable as water, by birth. But he had yet another influence to make him a real problem student. He was also a Communist. Yet his being a Communist made him that much more a trophy of grace.

Assigned a horrible deed, Venkatrathnam lost heart, fled and took refuge in a Baptist mission. Eventually he landed in our Bethany Bible School at Shamshabad.

Suffice it to say here, that he finally finished the three-year course. On the closing program on the evening of February 19 he gave his oration in great style, if not altogether in the power of God.

Attending the graduation were his pastor and the lady in charge of the mission at Jangoan from which Venkatrathnam came. They were much impressed with what Bethany had done for him inasmuch as he was an exception to the rule.

Only the best students could be selected to appear on the program which concluded eight months of study. Examinations were completed at 4 p.m. and graduates delivered their essays in the evening.

We thought David from the Narayanpet field did the best with his oration. His last appeal was that we should pray for his church in Lankala. Knowing that there is a church there of some 30 families and knowing the quality of his work, we appreciate this appeal. David also pled with us to let his wife continue her studies until she, too, had finished the course. She started as an illiterate while yet in Narayanpet, but now reads the Bible quite well. "Could she come with the three children and study all alone? There is so much work among the women and if she studies, she will be able to help me so much."

To be sure there were those students whose whole intention it was to procure a certificate or further mission help. And in the case of some girls, an interim before getting married is very desirable. There are also those who want to be preachers without really studying hard. We mention all of these conditions so you may pray the better for them and us.

Until now we have accepted all persons who came to attend Bethany. We have always felt that among them were those who would be Christian workers, even though their potentialities weren't too evident. For the future, however, we must be more selective and raise the requirements for admission into the

regular course. We shall try to have a two-year course for such as are not recommended as prospective Christian workers.

A report of the Bible school would not be complete without mentioning the little folks the young parents bring with them. In the classroom they would like to be, unequally dividing their mothers' attention. But to that we as teachers would not agree.

We employed a kindergarten teacher and erected a grass hut for the nearly three dozen little ones. Together with a mother from the elementary class, they looked after the youngsters during class hours—babies in baskets, the toddlers on the sand pile and about seven in a class. They learned songs, Bible stories and verses and wrote letters of the alphabet. Of the playthings only their drinking mugs remained. Not even the rope for their swing was left at the end of the term. Morning and afternoon snacks consisted of milk powder and syrup from Church World Service.

The teaching staff this year consisted of eight nationals and the two of us. We are grateful for the consecrated services of these people. Most of them are either experienced church workers or have completed training for Christian service.

Canadian Mennonite Brethren young people support this Bible school with \$1,500 annually from their Canadian Youth Project.

### Farewell for Wm. Baergs Planned

**Morden, Man.** — The Mennonite Brethren Church here has extended an invitation to all friends of the Wm. Baergs to join in a farewell service for the missionary family.

Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Baerg and family will return to Africa next month to begin their third term of service in the Belgian Congo under the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions.

The farewell service will be held June 22 at 2:00 p.m. (CST) in the Morden M. B. church.

The Baergs will be leaving Manitoba the following week and are scheduled to embark at New York on July 17.

### Ordination at St. Catharines

**St. Catharines, Ont.** — Four couples were ordained for service in the church at an ordination service on May 25 in the Mennonite Brethren church here.

Rev. J. J. Toews, pastor of the Kitchener M. B. Church, served as guest speaker, emphasizing the import-

ance of the ministry and the service of the deacons.

John Unger, M. B. mission worker at Hamilton, Ont., was ordained to the ministry. Ordained for service as deacons were: Mr. and Mrs. John Andres, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Martens, and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Eckert.

After the laying on of hands, Rev. John Unger gave a brief testimony.

### Voluntary Service Workcamp and Retreat

**Asuncion, Paraguay** — The first Voluntary Service workers retreat and workcamp, held May 7 to 11 at the Leper Mission station, proved fruitful indeed.

Present were workers from the mental home here, and the leper station. At the present time six young people are serving at these places under the Voluntary Service program directed by Rev. Martin

Duerksen. Also present was Rev. Martin August, director of the Voluntary Service work at Fernheim.

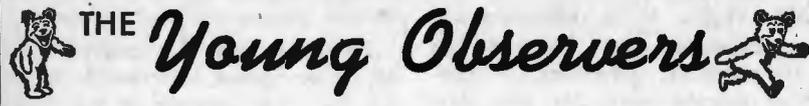
Two new Voluntary Service units are to be opened this month, bringing the total number of Voluntary Service workers to ten. The two new units will be located in the tuberculosis clinic and the children's home.

In addition to inspirational sessions the retreat provided workcamp conditions in that half the day was spent in building a house for one of the patients, a German who can speak both Spanish and Guarani and serves in a supervisory capacity. He is a believer and is serving the Lord unselfishly among the other patients.

Saturday night the workers gathered about a bonfire to testify of their experiences with the Lord. Sunday night the group served in Spanish at a program for the neighbors about the leper mission.



Here are the participants in the retreat for Voluntary Service workers in South America, held at the leper mission near Asuncion, Paraguay. The top picture shows, from left in the front row, Dr. J. Schmidt, Miss Elisabeth Janzen, Miss Evelina Reimer, Rev. M. August, David Penner, Peter Hein and Rev. Martin Duerksen (Buenos Aires). In the second row are, from left, Rev. H. Regier, Hans Wiens, Peter Eitzen, and Henry Unger. The bottom picture shows some of them at work on the house for the leper patient.



## THE Young Observers

### Let's Visit a Minute

Hello, Boys and Girls!

Last week we visited the nursery to see how carefully the gardener had braced the young seedlings to make them grow up tall and straight. Have you tried to be a good seedling this week? Have you heard and obeyed your father each time he spoke to you? I hope you have, and don't forget to thank God for your father on Father's Day.

Now we must be gone out of the garden and down the road. Let's take this country road winding through the meadows. I think we'll meet more birds here than on the busy highway. The birds begin to sing early in the morning and stop only at sunset. Have you ever wondered what they are trying to say?

Someone was listening to the trilling of a bird one day and asked:

Little bird on yonder tree, tell me your song,  
Why you sing so merrily all the day long!

The little bird answered in its sweetest tones:

I sing the love of God to me,  
His wondrous care so rich and free!  
That's why I sing so merrily all the day long.

This little bird was thankful for God's love and care which was rich and free. God gave the bird a tree for a home, seeds for food, and feathers for clothing. It was perfectly happy and content. It never thought about tomorrow—just sang about the lovely things today.

What has God given you for a home? What kind of food do you eat? What clothes do you wear? All are much richer than the bird's, aren't they? And on top of all the good things on earth, God has given you a heavenly home, heavenly food (the Bible), and heavenly clothes (the robe of righteousness).

Now tell me, what kind of songs do you sing? Do you sing all day long about the love of God and his wondrous care? God says we shall "come before His presence with singing", not grumbling. Each time this week when you feel like grumbling about food, clothes or anything else, just think of the little bird and say: I'll sing the love of God to me.

Love, Aunt Selma

## Traded for a Horse

It happened on a bitter, cold moonlight night. A sign which he had seen in the village had disturbed him considerably. The sign said:

"Keep a careful watch on your slaves! Night riders have crossed the borders!"

That night people all over Diamond Grove were bolting their doors and locking their gates with caution. Stealing slaves was more profitable than horse-thieving or rustling cattle.

When Moses Carver reached home his wife Susan had already heard the news and was worried. But Carver spoke lightly of the whole matter to his wife.

"But, still, don't you think we ought to bring Mary and the children into the house tonight?" Mrs. Carver suggested.

"Naw, they'll be all right. The slave thieves are looking for men, not women."

But he had been mistaken. . . . Late that night he heard a scream. "Help!—Help!"

"What was that?" asked Mrs. Carver as she jumped out of bed.

"Mary!" shouted Farmer Carver as he grabbed his gun and ran out into the yard. The only thing he could hear was the galloping of horses and the slave woman's muffled cries as he rushed to her cabin.

Sure enough, when he reached the cabin, it was empty, but for the bleeding form of a little girl, Mary's daughter, lying on the floor. Mother and baby were gone!

Jumping on his horse, Farmer Carver dashed off to the village to round up help. In the village he found that he was not alone in his trouble, for several slaves had been stolen from various farms. Soon a posse was formed to round up the slave raiders.

Before the posse started out, one of the men asked Farmer Carver, "What will we do if we catch up with them? They won't give up your slaves easily."

"Make a bargain with them," answered Farmer Carver. "We must have Mary back. I'm not a rich man, but I'll pay anything within reason."

"Did you bring any money with you?" asked one of them.

Farmer Carver frowned. "No, if you need money, let me see. . ." He reasoned for a moment. "Oh yes, give them the horse, that is, if it is necessary—but only if it's necessary. If they'll return, let them come back, and I'll pay them for the slaves."

Thus it was that the men went out searching for the slave raiders. It was nearly a week before they got back. Arriving at Farmer Carver's home, they told him what had happened.

The night riders had slipped away from them and thrown them off the track. Waiting at the border, the posse had caught them trying to slip across. But the thieves had agreed, however, to take the horse in exchange for the mother and the baby. The bandits had instructed the posse:

"Tie him to a tree and retire out of sight. We'll examine the horse, and when you hear the blow of a horn, come and get your slave and baby."

So the men tied the horse to a tree. After that they went 600 feet beyond the bend of the river and waited. When they heard the horn, it was far away, and they knew that the night riders had already gone a mile or two.

Dashing forward, they found the baby soaking wet and shaking with cold on the ground by the tree, but the mother was not around. The night riders had tricked them. They had taken the slave woman with them.

When Mrs. Carver heard the story, tears ran down her cheeks. She took the dirty, soggy bundle in which lay the still form of a Negro child.

It was hard for Mrs. Carver to take this little bundle. She had already laid away the little girl in a grave, and now it looked as though she would have to put another one away, too.

"Moses! It's alive!" she said, as she untied the bundle.

Investigating the bundle, they found the little form of a child very sick. Immediately she began to try to bring warmth into the chilled body. But for days and weeks a rasping cough choked the breath until it almost seemed that the baby would not live. Every day and every hour seemed to be the last one. Still Mrs. Carver would not be discouraged.

Struggling with the life of this little baby, she would say over and over again, "Mary's child must live—he will live!"

"Well, dear, do you think George Washington was worth that horse we traded for him?" Mr. Carver asked.

"I don't know, Moses, the little fellow certainly seems gifted in many ways."

"He surely is; he's the smartest little pickaninny we ever had. Why, just think, he isn't ten years old yet, and he can cook like a grown-up!"

"Yes, I know," replied Mrs. Carver, "and he can sew and mend clothes and tend the fire in an amazing way. You know, Moses, isn't it strange? We don't know his father, and now his mother is dead. He's a fine lad, but he had neither brother nor sister. Sometimes I wonder . . . what hope is there for a young lad like George to get very far in life."

Little George grew up with a great fondness for the out-of-doors. He seemed to be interested in everything. He loved birds, trees, flowers, and such horrible looking creatures as scorpions, spiders, and the like. Besides that, he used to collect different kinds of rocks and stones, and different kinds of moss and ferns that covered the hillside. Like many boys, he wanted to bring all these things into the house, but the Carvers wouldn't allow such a thing.

But little George was not discouraged. Just a little way from the house he built a garden for himself and filled it with insects and plant life which he loved. There he could experiment with them. Everything he touched grew strong and beautiful under his care.

When he was only six years old he had his first answer to prayer. Little George was always a whittler, and while just a little lad he had a special love for knives. He'd always wanted one of his own. Then one night before he crawled into bed, he prayed for a knife. During the night he dreamed of a watermelon in the field. It was split open, and in it was a long black knife. He even remembered where the watermelon was, and the next morning he raced across the field to the exact spot where the watermelon was, and sure enough, sticking in the watermelon was the knife he had seen in his dream. Rejoicing in answered prayer he returned to the house.

So it was, that while other boys romped in the fields playing games, little George was walking in the garden, alone. Still, he was not alone, not exactly. For walking with him was the Lord, who had opened his eyes to see the secrets of nature.

What became of little George Washington Carver? I can't tell you the whole story, but he became a great man who discovered 300 ways of using a peanut and over 100 ways of using sweet potatoes. He was awarded many honors by the people and the government. If you want to read the whole story of his very interesting life, then send \$1.25 and a note asking for THE PEANUT MAN to:

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

# FROM HERE TO THE PINNACLES

By Elizabeth Schroeter

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(64th Installment)

Three babies had died of whooping cough and an old woman had, during the past four months, succumbed to tuberculosis, giving the reservation a death rate of fifty deaths per one thousand people in less than a year. The Taches needed sympathetic help along several lines, and it would take many persons a long time to achieve results.

Fortunately, there were groups of people who were interested in helping the Indians. One of these was the Lemoore Woman's Club. The members had been assisting them for some time, but that year they were making the enterprise one of their major projects. Upon invitation, one afternoon, Liesbeth attended their meeting and suggested several areas in which the club might help the Indians. To her surprise and amazement, the members of the Lemoore club did far more than she had expected! They helped supply the school with a cooking stove, utensils, a cupboard and ingredients necessary for teaching simple cooking, thereby enabling the school to teach the older girls a few fundamentals of nutrition and cooking. In co-operation with the county superintendent of schools, the Lemoore club was instrumental in getting a set of tools for manual training for the boys. Once a week a shop teacher from Lemoore visited Ramona, teaching the older boys woodwork while the girls were learning to prepare hot cereals, biscuits or meat loaf.

On the reservation many other beneficial features were instituted by the women of the Lemoore club. At funerals they usually furnished one or two cars to convey the bereaved persons to the little burial plot several miles from the colony. One day during the cold weather they sent the school several bales of much-needed used clothing and several dozen pairs of shoes. In their handsome, warm shirts and good shoes the younger boys in particular displayed an expression of pride on their faces and showed more enthusiasm in their schoolwork. At Easter an egg hunt was arranged for the smaller children, after which lemonade and cake were served. In their compositions the following week the egg hunt was the subject most frequently chosen to write about. In the spring the club gave the school children tomato plants and seeds for their spring gardens. The children planted them on plots which they had readied on their

home grounds. One of the girls was so enthusiastic about a garden of her own that she dug up and readied a half acre of ground for her project. Unfortunately, even with seeds received from the county school department, it was impossible to satisfy all of the would-be gardeners. Later in the spring, when the Lemoore Sanitorium closed its doors, the Woman's Club turned over to Liesbeth useful medical supplies. The school children came to look upon the club members as people who were concerned about their welfare, willing to assist wherever help was needed and wanted. For busy Liesbeth the club was a godsend.

The Kink's County health department likewise did all it could for the Indian sick. Periodically county health authorities stopped at the school, examining the children and leaving supplies, mostly bandages, quinine, vaseline, germicidal soaps, ointments and castor oil, to be administered by the school. The county supervisors furnished the children with toothbrushes and toothpaste. The high point of the efforts to help the underprivileged Indians came at the end of the year when county nurses checked the children's height, weight and skin, and found that only two were still underweight. All malnutrition or deficiency sores had disappeared from their hands, legs and faces.

There was one person who in an unobtrusive way did far more for the Indian children than they or perhaps anyone except Liesbeth realized. She was the King's County superintendent of schools. She cooperated closely with the Lemoore Woman's Club, and at no time did she turn down a request for needed funds. She accepted the Ramona students' meager academic accomplishments for what they were and worked quietly behind the scenes for a much-needed new school.

At first Liesbeth was as aloof in relation to the Indians as she felt they wished her to be. In the second year on many occasions she was one of them. She attended their funerals at the church and accompanied them to the cemetery to bury their dead. Twice she was present at their tribal rituals. One of these was a series of mournings. The other was a spring festival dance.

Only women participated in the mourning ritual. While the dead still reposed in the house, most of

the women of the tribe gathered at the home of the bereaved family to weep. They cried in the house and in the yard. Some wept while sitting on boxes or tree stumps. Others folded their arms, moving them as if in great agony; but all cried.

The weeping lasted from the time the person died until the funeral director moved the body away. That was the signal for the mourners to go to work on the premises of the deceased. They burned the bedding and most of the furniture. Then they cleaned the house, burning the refuse. As soon as the toil was ended, the Indian women sat down and looked sad. They said nothing, but just sat, keeping their bereaved friends company in their time of sorrow. After a few hours of sitting they went home.

The more interesting phase of the mourning, from Liesbeth's point of view, came the day after the demise. The married daughter of the deceased, dressed in black and surrounded by other women, placed herself in front of the house in which her mother had died, her back touching the house. In a peculiar fashion she raised her arms over her eyes and periodically turned her face in a semi-circle, as if she were looking for someone far away. She was. She was trying to detect the ghost of her mother. The Taches believed that when a person died his spirit returned to the house in which the death occurred. If the belongings of the deceased were burned, the ghost had more difficulty recognizing the place and was not so apt to find his way back. Consequently, those who could afford it burned their homes after death. Occasionally, they uprooted and destroyed trees in the yard, as the spectre at night enjoyed whispering in the dark of the trees. They believed that the reason for the ghost's return was his desire to change to spirits all people whom he could touch.

The ghost was a smart fellow. He plucked some of his hair and put it under trees or in other places where people were apt to walk or sit. If anyone touched the ghost or his hair, that person immediately became a spectre—he died. That, in the Taches' opinion, was the reason why so many old people died—they failed to see the ghost's hair or were too slow to escape him. The older the deceased, the more vicious was his spirit. In this particular case the dead person was an elderly woman. Therefore, her daughter must be especially careful to sight the ghost before he could touch anyone or scatter his plucked hair.

To help their friend to see the approaching ghost and to encourage her not to tire of her vigil, five of her neighbor women with hands on their backs were standing guard in a semi-circle in front of the mourning daughter. No one said a word. Occasionally one of them wept. After

an hour's watch the five women in the semi-circle seated themselves on chairs. Then the woman in black also took a chair in the place where she had stood for two hours. A small table was placed directly in front of her. One of the five visiting mourners manipulated her hands on top of the table, but Liesbeth was unable to find out just what she was doing with her fingers. Evidently it was the concluding phase of the ritual that had lasted for many hours, because a few minutes later the mourners and other friends, young and old, were seen crossing the fields and heading for the funeral services at the little chapel nearby. In two more days they would be safe, because on the third day after burial the ghost of the deceased lost his wicked nature and turned into a kindly spirit. He left the earth, flying over the rainbow, and entered the Indian paradise famed for good hunting and agreeable, well-behaved ghosts.

The first of March was the time of that spring festival. Days before that important annual event Tache Indians could be seen coming down the mountains heading toward Lemoore. On the morning of the spring dance, fellow Indians from Friant, Woodlake and Clovis were seen going in the direction of Lemoore. Some of the visitors were special singers, others were just guests. The medicine man planned two big feasts, one at noon and another at six o'clock that night. At eight-thirty the dance ceremony began. Liesbeth had invited Katja and Mascha to witness the rites. They, too, like the Indians, headed for Lemoore.

The night of the dance around a big bonfire in the medicine man's yard was gathered a crowd of Indians and white people. The chief was a little late appearing in the yard. Some of the young people told Liesbeth that they had seen him practising his dance steps. They said that he must have forgotten them, because he was almost a hundred years old.

Dressed in the costume of an Indian chief, the old medicine man presented a strange and colorful figure in war paint, with feathers in his hair, ears and on his hands. Four mountain Indians and another older local Indian sang the Coyote Song and other Indian melodies. They chanted, shouted, whooped and made queer noises of various kinds, while the medicine man danced and kept step with split stick rattles. On and on he danced until the small hours. Liesbeth and her sisters went home before the dancing was over, but from their house they could hear the Coyote song, the chanting, the whoops and the weird accompaniment of the spring festival dance. It was supposed to entertain the chief's tribesmen and to incur favor from the Great Spirit.

(To be continued)

# Wanted: A Christian Philosophy of Weddings

By Waldo Hiebert \*

One April evening two fine young people knocked at our door. After we were seated and somewhat "relaxed" the young man began to speak: "We plan to get married, but we want a Christian wedding. We don't mind being different, but we do want Christ to be the center of our service. How can we have that kind of a wedding? Can you help us? Where do we begin?"

I began to think, and to think fast. It only confirmed what had lingered as a deep conviction in my own soul for a very long time. I knew then that it was high time to rethink carefully the entire concept of Christian weddings and Christian marriage. Frankly, the church wedding has become the most secularized of all church functions. And young people are beginning to react to it! A new movement is afoot to restore the Christian element in today's weddings. This is not to be mistaken as a move to recreate the old-fashioned wedding. This is a fresh conviction born out of dedicated young hearts. There is awakening today a desire to put Christ back into the center of the wedding service. And this is wonderful!

## Not Only Rules

I also knew, as these young people sat before me, that I had to think of more than church rules. They weren't interested primarily in church rules. We, together, were interested in a basic philosophy of life, a Christian approach to one of life's greatest experiences. A door had opened to a complete reorientation concerning the church wedding. The time had come for us to seek a basic Christian philosophy that underlies a divine service—the wedding.

But how to help? First we must dispel the idea that mere rules will solve the problem. This question is one which neither form, regimentation, nor rule can answer. We must go back, way back. We must seek a philosophy, an approach. We must go back to the basic principles of Christianity itself. I ask myself as a Christian, what does marriage mean to me? What is a Christian home and how is it established? The question is not, what will my church allow me to have at the wedding, but the question is, what does life, marriage, and a new home mean to me: In that light I review my spiritual concepts of the wedding itself.

Now, with open minds and seeking hearts let's begin to build our concepts from the bottom on up. First in our approach to a Christian wedding is the philosophy which lies behind it.

The philosophy of Christian weddings is based on the conviction that the wedding is a service of worship and not only a ceremony. Isn't it

strange that as evangelicals (those who once broke away from Catholicism and Statism) we can greatly and unconsciously slip into sheer ceremonialism and dead form? Ere we know it the wedding service has become a "short and snappy" 10-minute ceremony.

## A Worship Service

If we want to reconstruct the philosophy of the Christian wedding, then the contention must be that a wedding for the Christian is more than ceremony, it is worship. It is that experience, once in our lives (God giving grace), when time is set aside to unite two into one, and to establish a Christian home. To a Christian this means dedication "in the Lord". It means a mutual pledge taken and a vow made with God to build this home as an institution for Him to use in His vast and wonderful kingdom. This means more than a pledge to each other. It means a united dedication to a cause higher than either of them. And this is the strength of Christian marriage. So, then, the first statement in a philosophy for the wedding is: The Christian wedding service is a service of worship as well as a ceremony.

The philosophy of the Christian wedding is based, furthermore, on the conviction that wedding service is Christ-centred, rather than bride-centred. It is generally held that the center and central attraction of a wedding is the bride. It is "her wedding." Yes, is it really?

## Not Bride-Centred

One afternoon there sat in my study a fine young Christian girl, active in the church, with strong Christian convictions, and a fine testimony. While planning the long-awaited occasion of the wedding service we came to talk about various aspects, some upon which we could not completely agree. Finally, I said to her, "The center, my friend, of this wedding is not you, but Christ the Lord!" There followed some silent moments, then tender, warm, but understanding tears!

At the wedding I stood at the church altar and saw her come down the aisle. I knew then, and knew it surely, that her heart was fixed, deeply and firmly fixed, not only in the man she was about to marry, but her heart was fixed on Christ, her Lord! This I knew because she had been willing to surrender the central place to Him.

That is the philosophy of the Christian wedding. No rule can bring that about, it is a love, devotion and a joy no man can give nor take away. So then, the second statement of a Christian philosophy for weddings is: The Christian wedding is Christ-centred, not bride-centred.

## Implications

Let's see how the above stated concepts might help us in planning the wedding service.

First, this will mean that the invitation to the wedding will have a "Christian" connotation. In the old and familiar type of wedding invitation there is really nothing that would indicate that this is going to be a Christian wedding—aside from the mention of the place where it might be held, the church. Therefore we might insert such phrases as "To invoke God's blessings upon them" or, "The Lord willing," or "under the Providence of God," or "for this occasion your prayers are requested." In recent years several such "Christian forms" have appeared. The reason for this is, that through the invitation we can tell our guests that they are coming to a wedding which will be under God and where an atmosphere of prayer will prevail for those now embarking on a life's dedication.

## The Music

This philosophy will imply that the music, whether prelude, postlude or vocal numbers, will have a Christian content. Some Catholic music is beautiful in itself, but why praise "Maria" in a Christ-centred wedding? Lohengrin's "Here Comes the Bride" makes everything sound like a wedding, of course, but how refreshing it is when Christ-honoring selections such as "Praise to the Lord the Almighty," "Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead Us," or "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee," are used as the processional. The recessional may also be planned to emphasize the sacredness and the blessedness of a dignified worship service. And then there are the special numbers! Love songs like "Always," "I Love You Truly," "Liebestraum," "Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life," and similar ones might well give way to something much more appropriate and fitting for a Christ-honoring service. For example, "Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts," "O Perfect Love," "O Happy Home Where Thou Art Loved," "Oh God of Love to Thee We Bow," "Unto the Hills," and a host of others can be used.

The philosophy of the Christian wedding will imply that a place be given in the service for the Word of God and prayer. Many noble words have been recorded in The Book especially appropriate for wedding occasions. There is a message in God's Word for marriage services. Moreover, this message finds its way into the hearts best when we are at ease and relaxed during the worship service and during the presentation of the meditation. Therefore it is appropriate for the couple to be seated for this part of the service. Psychologically, there can be little relaxation and therefore no

real meditation and worship as people stand all the while. The minister must refrain from preaching lengthy sermons. Let him see to that!

## Time For Prayer

The philosophy of Christian marriage implies that time be given for prayer. A deeper spiritual meaning is given to the wedding when the bride and groom participate in prayer, and if desired, arrangement can also be made for some prayer participation by parents.

A philosophy for the Christian wedding implies that the physical arrangements be beautiful, in keeping with Christian modesty and simplicity and becoming of a dignified Christian occasion. Too many gates built, too many remodeling jobs at the altar, too many exterior "decorations" may distract from the meaning and purpose of the occasion. There is no satisfactory rule about the physical arrangements, but the principle is: all that there is in, around, and about the wedding service points to the Lord God! Whatever detracts from our concentration on Him and the sanctity of the occasion would be out of order and unbecoming.

A philosophy of Christian weddings also implies that apparel worn by the bride, groom, and other participants, be not such as to draw attention to self and bring embarrassment upon the divine service. "Marriage, especially the church marriage, has so interwoven the fashionable with the spiritual that the former is always close to the surface. The temptation is to be so concerned with the details of fashionable correctness that inner meaning is lost. People whose major attendance is given to the neckties for the ushers and flowers for the bridesmaids have little mind left for a proper consideration of the significance of the primary act." (Elton Trueblood, *Common Ventures of Life*, p.45) The goal to keep in mind is that all present will be led to put their affections on things above!

## Education Needed

But we are still waiting for the "perfect wedding." The philosophy here set forth and the dedication implied are not born in the human mind over night. If we would be willing to think this through, and to accept a new philosophy for weddings, then we must be willing to give ourselves to a program of education. Parents will have to speak about these principles to their children in the homes, youth leaders will have to teach these ideals to boys and girls, and the pastor will need to give guidance to youth. This philosophy must be born out of conviction, it must be loved! Not all young people today, good young people though they may be, will see this. Because of the lack of these

(Continued on page 11-4)

\* Pastor of the Hillsboro Kans., Mennonite Brethren Church.



## Round-Up of World-Wide

### RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

#### Congo Converts To Sing in Brussels

Among those representing Protestant work at the Brussels Exposition will be a men's octet from the Congo Inland Mission. This group will be at the world's fair in Belgium from July 15 through August 15.

The group includes two Bible Institute students and six students from the teacher-training school at Nyanga where Brother George Faul, Mennonite Brethren Church missionary, serves as instructor. (The Nyanga teacher training school is a joint project of the Congo Inland Mission and the M. B. Board of Foreign Missions.) In fact, the six prospective teachers are students of Brother Faul, and the director of the octet, Ngandu Leon, is a fellow teacher with Brother Faul.

Mennonites attending the Brussels Exposition are encouraged to meet and become acquainted with these brethren who are products of Christianity in the Congo. (Congo Inland Mission is an inter-Mennonite mission board, including such groups as Evangelical Mennonite, Evangelical Mennonite Brethren and General Conference.) Accompanying the octet will be Miss Lodema Short, CIM missionary who teaches at Nyanga.

Four members of the octet will be graduated from the teacher training school in June. Brother Faul writes that it will be necessary for two Mennonite Brethren members to withdraw from Nyanga for a year to assist in the work at Kipungu and Matende. Prayer in behalf of these students in their studies and in their testimony at the world's fair are solicited.

#### Oswald J. Smith Golden Jubilee Celebrated

His golden jubilee as a Gospel minister was celebrated by Dr. Oswald J. Smith of Toronto, Canada, Sunday night, May 18. The meeting was held in the 6,000-seat Varsity arena instead of in the People's Church, of which Dr. Smith has been the pastor for the last 30 years. During his fifty years in the ministry, Dr. Smith has written 24 books and about 500 hymns, poems and songs. He has held evangelistic campaigns throughout the world. His church is world-famous as a center of missionary and evangelistic work.

#### Huffman Crashes in Mexico

Dr. Niles Huffman, director of Air Mail from God Mission, crashed to his death on April 5 while distributing Gospels from a plane 50 miles east of Toluca, Mexico. In nine

years Huffman's group had distributed 7,000,000 Gospels in his unique air drop. A mission spokesman said that over 1,000 churches had been organized through such work.

#### Canadian Church Telecasting French-English Gospel Program

The first bilingual Gospel program ever seen on Canadian television is being produced by the Noranda Baptist church, Noranda, Ontario. CKRN-TV, a newly completed station, has been designed to reach a potential audience of 51,000 homes in northwest Quebec and northeast Ontario, even though there are now only 12,000 sets in use in the area. The church program hopes to be able to grow with the station as additional viewers are added.

## CANADASCOPE

#### Final Wheat Payment

Final payment on the 1956-57 wheat pool account is 6.941 cents a bushel, Hon. Gordon Churchill, minister of trade and commerce has announced.

Producers delivered 361.4 million bushels of wheat to the pool account. Cheques covering final payment will be issued by the wheat board following the distribution of the final payment of the 1956-57 barley account, now under way.

#### Trades Pulpit With Negro Cleric

With the aim of promoting good race relations, Rev. A. I. Avery of St. Aidan's United Church in Victoria, B.C., will exchange pulpits with a Negro minister from Los Angeles during July.

The visiting minister will be Rev. Nelson B. Higgins, 38, of Normandy Methodist Church, former star half-back on the Notre Dame football team.

"Our congregation is absolutely thrilled about it," said Mr. Avery.

#### Open New Winnipeg Post Office

Winnipeg's new \$11,500,000 post office building was formally opened on June 6 by the Postmaster General Hon. William Hamilton and George A. Foord, Winnipeg postmaster.

#### Board Recommends Higher Wool Tariffs

Canadians will pay more for their suits and overcoats—about \$1 more for a suit and \$1.50 for a heavy overcoat—if the federal government decides to accept the recommendations of the tariff board.

The board in its report on wool fabrics has recommended moderate increases in the Canadian tariff against British woollens.

#### Crop Good Despite Drought

Western Canada's wheat crop is fighting, and winning, a survival battle in one of the driest springs of recent years. Drawing heavily

on subsoil moisture reserves, and making utmost use of limited rainfall, it has entered the growing month of June in good shape. However, many districts will require heavy rainfall in the next week or two to maintain crop conditions. In other areas heavy showers of the past week have removed immediate need for moisture to sustain the crop.



#### The Pertinent Population Pivot

By Edwin Raymond Anderson

The whimper of a single new-born baby is a tiny, but pleasant sound . . . but when it is multiplied by some 45 million, it becomes a deafening roar, and the pleasantries are mingled with perplexities.

The problem of population has been pointed up from every particular, save that the pertinent pivot has oft been by-passed. Basically it may appear a problem of more of bodies occupying less of the space of this sphere. According to the Population Research Bureau, the world's population is now pushing outward at the fastest rate in history. Nearly 45 million were added to the setting last year, and the number of folks aboard "good ship Earth" is now more than 2.7 billion.

2.7 billion—what? Some would say, "of people" and others would think of mouths to feed, the requirements of furnishing food; yet others, again, would be thinking in terms of space available on this girdled globe. Some others, would be thinking in terms of . . . everything save that pertinent pivot. These 2.7 billion represent the countless multitudes of souls! living souls! eternal souls! souls that bear eternal destiny beyond this sphere, when the body shall have finished this business of present living. This is the basic element in terms of a situation which bears solemn, eternal consequence.

The billions must be blueprinted against the background of "the place called Calvary" (Luke 23:33), and visioned against that immeasurable sight of holy arms stretched wide, not alone to be spiked to cruel stake, but also to encompass the every soul with the presentation of blood (I Peter 1:19) which avails for the every stain of sin, the grind

of guilt, the curse of condemnation. "Christ died for our sins" (I Corinthians 15:3) is the pertinent pivot which must be pointed up in population's pressing problem. The Christian church must arouse and bestir itself to a fuller, more realistic facing of this foundation facet; it shall be held responsible accordingly.

The problem is personal as well; the crowd is composed of single souls and Calvary must be claimed upon the personal basis of definite acceptance of the One Saviour.

(Copr. ERA, 1958)

#### Mennonite Mission Representatives Tour S.A.

Newton, Kans. — Rev. P. K. Regier, executive secretary of the General Conference Mennonite Church, and Rev. Orlando Waltner, India missionary now home on furlough, left last week for South America by Braniff International Airways.

Purpose of their trip is to visit General Conference mission stations in South America, especially in Colombia, where missionaries have requested first-hand study of the work, its needs and opportunities, by conference representatives.

Rev. Waltner will return home from Colombia after several weeks, while Rev. Regier will fly directly to Asuncion, Paraguay. The length of his stay in South America has not yet been determined, but he hopes to be back sometime in August.

A growing congregation of General Conference Mennonites has been organized in Asuncion, and is presently under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Dueck. Rev. Dueck was formerly a teacher at the Bethel Bible School, Abbotsford.

A new and completely modern home and Mennonite youth centre have been built by the conference in Asuncion. Construction of a church is now under consideration.

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## Arab Bedouins Suffer Drought

Drought conditions in desert and border regions of Jordan have prompted MCC and other American voluntary agencies to step up the program of relief distribution to families of those regions.

The distributions will aid some 120,000 persons. These are the Bedouins, nomadic Arab people of the desert, and the Arab villagers (sometimes called economic refugees) of the Israel-Jordan border who do not qualify as United Nations refugees because they live in their own homes; however, they cannot farm their land which lies on the Israel side of the demarcation line made in 1948.

Sixteen million pounds of surplus foods are being shipped from the United States. The distribution, beginning in June, will include ten pounds of white flour per person. It is sponsored by the Jordan Ministry of Social Welfare in cooperation with the voluntary agencies.

The food will be given to the head of each family who must receive the rations in person. Heads of tribes will receive the ration in case the heads of families are unable to be present.

Participating American organizations besides MCC are Church World Service, Lutheran World Federation and the Pontifical Mission. MCC's share of the total is ten per cent.

## Workers Visit Bishop Ordass

Miss Irene Bishop (Perkasie, Pa.), MCC director in Vienna, Austria, and her assistant Andre Wenger (Switzerland) in April visited Budapest, Hungary, to speak to recipients of material aid parcels and to confer with Christian leaders about future distributions.

The highlight of their two-day trip to Budapest was their visit with Bishop Jajos Ordass, former primate of the Hungarian Lutheran Church who for several years has been at odds with the Hungarian government.

Miss Bishop writes the following of their visit with Bishop Ordass:

"We found Bishop Ordass at home on the third floor of a rather shot-up building, an apartment not at all worthy of a bishop for the whole of Hungary.

"Later I learned that when he was imprisoned in 1951-3 (for refusing to sign an agreement with the State permitting government appointees to fill certain church positions) he

had to leave the bishop's apartment. His family was given this temporary dwelling where he remains until now because the State nominated another bishop who occupies the former bishop's apartment.

"He thanked MCC for its relief assistance and said that had it not been for such assistance by people outside Hungary after the rebellion that the results would have been even graver.

"We attended a service in the church he services and were amazed to see so many people present—more than 1,500. There are three services each Sunday (9 and 11 a.m., 6 p.m.) which are followed by communion for convenience of members who work in different shifts (most of the women work too).

"Bishop Ordass, who is a very stately man, spoke from John 14. Communion was served to 100 persons. After dismissal I snapped a few pictures in the church yard, then the bishop took us upstairs to his study where we visited a half hour.

"We spoke of many things, but most of all we were touched by his complete faith and trust in God when he said he was expecting to be arrested any day and is willing to go to jail, for since 1948 he has had complete peace with God.

"Near the end of our interview when asked what we could do for him he said 'only pray for me.' He had no other wish."

(On May 19 the National Lutheran Council reported: "The Hungarian government seems to be systematically laying groundwork for the removal of Bishop Ordass as head of the southern district of the Lutheran Church in Hungary . . . he was deposed last February as primate under pressure of the communist government for his 'policy of non-co-operation' . . .")

## Better Meals for Vietnamese Youth

Canned meats from North American Mennonites and surplus foods from the U.S. government are being distributed in 11 more institutions in Vietnam.

All in the Saigon area, they include six orphanages, a re-education center for girls, a camp for deaf-mute guests, two leprosaria and a school for interior tribes-people.

The food is helping supply more than 2,000 children between the ages of 2 and 20. Glenn Stoltzfus (Aurora, O.) is in charge of the distributions.

"Everyone wants more MCC canned meat," Mr. Stoltzfus writes, "but the milk and cornmeal are not liked so well yet because they do not know how to prepare them properly. So we have mimeographed some materials giving instructions on how to make better use of these foods."

## Sponsor Youthful Peace Team Tour

Winnipeg, Man. — A youthful two-man peace team will visit Alberta and British Columbia Mennonite churches during the month of July, it has been announced by the Canadian Board of Christian Service of the Conference of Mennonites in Canada.

Peter Letkeman and Menno Wiebe will spend three weeks presenting the challenge of a positive Christian peace and service witness in a nuclear age immediately following the Canadian Conference of Mennonites sessions in Saskatoon.

Duet singing by the team, displays of peace literature and color slides will be special features of the presentations.

Mr. Letkeman is a graduate of the Canadian Mennonite Bible College and at present is on the staff of the Swift Current Bible Institute. He is serving as interim youth worker for the Young People's Union during the summer months and succeeds Bill Gering, who left the office to continue graduate studies.

Menno Wiebe is a former MCC Pax worker in Paraguay, where he assisted in the Chaco road-building project and the Volendam experimental farm. At present he is a student at the Canadian Mennonite Bible College.

Mr. Letkeman will present the Biblical basis of the Christian peace witness and Mr. Wiebe will testify of experiences in Voluntary Service.

## Vocational Evangelism Effort Bears Fruit

Teulon, Man. — A district with a problem in juvenile delinquency has served as a demonstration field for the application of what is sometimes called vocational evangelism or colonization evangelism.

Four years ago John Bergen, school principal at Rosenfeld, Man., took up duties as teacher in this town (population 700). Looking about him for an opportunity to increase his witness, he decided to serve in the United Church (Catholics and Pentecostals also have a church here). He became instructor of the young people's Sunday school class.

One year ago Henry Hildebrand, M.D., began practising medicine here while anticipating medical service in the Belgian Congo under the Congo Inland Mission. He was named one of the youth directors of the United Church and very soon assumed a major role in directing and assisting in youth activities, bringing a vital Christian youth program to the youth of Teulon.

Youth activities for the year culminated in a youth rally on May 25, with the theme "Christ for Youth." Dr. Frank C. Peters, instructor at (Continued on page 11-4)

## Fiction with a Purpose

### Least of All Saints

By Grace Irwin

This prize-winning novel brings into vital focus the kind of religious conflict that anyone concerned with both reason and faith cannot long avoid. The author's main concern is with a human being — Andrew Connington — and the human problem—belief und und belief. Set in the 1920's, this novel may be read as a story of the tensions between an arid and doctrinaire orthodoxy and a weak and false modernism.

Price: \$3.50

### The Torchbearer

By Sallie Lee Bell

On the one hand are Barry and Cicily, wrapped up in the world and themselves; on the other hand are Dale and David, whose love for each other is only eclipsed by their love for their Saviour. An ironic and realistic twist of Fate takes one of the foursome out of the world—and all but destroys two of the others. It is Dale, with her serene Christian spirit, who proves to be the hub around which the heedless lives of Barry and Cicily are whirling in mad irresponsibility.

Price: \$2.50

### Together We'll Do It

By Dorothy Haskin

You will be caught up in this fast-moving story of two young people who wanted God's best for their lives—and found it after a heart-breaking search. Is material success an adequate goal for life? Tim thought it was—but Anne knew differently.

Price: \$2.50

### Tomorrow I'll Be Happy

By Dorothy C. Haskin

Where can happiness be found? In social activity? In having a gay time? Jessie Lee found it came only when she gave her heart to the Lord and learned to say truthfully, "All things work together for good to them that love God . . ."

Price: \$2.00

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## COLLEGES

### Mennonite Brethren Bible College

Graduation exercises of the M. B. Bible College consisted of four services—Baccalaureate, banquet, graduate class program, and graduation ceremonies.

The Baccalaureate service was held on May 29. After the solemn processional of faculty and graduates, the service began with Scripture reading and prayer. Then followed a song from the A Cappella Choir, a violin solo and a trio selection. The message, brought by the president, Rev. J. A. Toews, was based on John 20:21: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." Mr. Toews said that three imperatives, Come! Tarry! and Go! were given to the disciples. The "come" was for preparation; the "tarry" was for enduement; and the "go" was for service. These three great imperatives apply to college students, especially graduates. They came to college, they tarried to be endued with power and now they have come to the third imperative—go! Mr. Toews went on to say that there was an analogy between the sending of Christ and the sending of His disciples. There was the same passion, the same pattern, the same power and the same purpose.

The disciples as well as Christ were motivated by the love of God. They had a love for the physically suffering, a love for the religiously ignorant and a love for the lost and indifferent. The apostles saw in Christ the perfect pattern: a self-emptying, a self-humbling and a self-sacrifice. The disciples also received the same Spirit of Christ, the Holy Spirit, who gave them power for service. Finally, the purpose of Christ and the purpose of the disciples was the same—that the world through Him might be saved and that God might be glorified.

The motto for the banquet held in honor of the graduating class was, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5).

Many parents and friends of the grads were present to honor and congratulate them. A violin solo by Erich Mierau started the program. This was followed by a characterization of the graduates, in a somewhat lighter vein. A reading, "The Seeker", brought back to mind some of the activities of college. It portrayed a man who comes to know Christ through the preaching of the Word. As he goes along life's journey he meets sentinels along the way to guide him. Later, he testifies to others and finally leads another to Christ.

Harvey Gossen delivered the charge to the graduates, which was answered by Rudy Heidebrecht.

The graduates presented a "New Twentieth Century Dictionary" and

a Schaff "History of the Christian Church" to the school. Mr. H. Dick, chairman of the school board, accepted them on behalf of the college.

On Saturday, May 31, the graduating class presented a program. They had chosen as their motto Phil 4:9: "As ye have learned, heard, received and seen . . . do." The program consisted of four testimonies, each taking one aspect of the motto—"learned", "heard", "received", and "seen", and the message by Henry Regehr, which stressed the last aspect, "do." He spoke on "Responsible Christianity." A duet by Rudy Baerg and Roland Sawatzky, a trio by Mrs. Lora Sawatzky, Mary Lenzmann and Laura Sawatzky, and song by the class, provided the musical numbers for the program.

The graduation ceremony was held in the Southend M. B. church.

Thirteen students received the Bachelor of Theology degree, nine received the Bachelor of Religious Education degree, one received the General Bible diploma, and two received the Sacred Music degree.

The graduates have had an influence upon the rest of the students. They have inspired and encouraged us, they have been an example to us and they have left us with a determination to follow them into service.

Abe Koop.

### Tabor College

#### Ground Broken For New Construction

In an impressive ceremony on Sunday afternoon, May 25, approximately 500 people witnessed the ground-breaking for the new gymnasium-student center building on the Tabor campus.

Guests attending the ceremony heard brief addresses by Kenneth B. Bruce, president of the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce, and Rev. Orlando Harms, vice-chairman of the Midwest Area Committee of the Board of Education.

"We are together today," said Mr. Bruce, "to embark on another step forward and upward, to what we believe will lead to one of the finest higher educational institutions in this area."

Rev. Harms, in speaking for the concept of the church-related liberal arts college, quoted statistical studies to show that the small private church colleges have a favorable influence upon society far greater than numerical size or financial condition would indicate.

He listed three things which challenge the small church-related college—the increase in the number of young people who will be entering college in the next decades, the Sputniks of our day which have awakened us to our educational shortcomings, and the great increase in religious interest.

Construction is expected to get underway in late summer, with a

concerted drive for funds already started which seeks support from alumni, business, and citizens of this area.

#### Study Scholarships

Two members of the Tabor College family will be engaged in graduate studies on special scholarship grants this summer. Clarence Harms, instructor in biology, will study marine invertebrate zoology and algae on a National Science Foundation fellowship at Friday Harbor, Washington. The 10-weeks course is sponsored by the University of Washington, and the fellowship covers the expenses of travel, room, board, and tuition.

Dr. Vernon R. Wiebe, professor of physical education and dean of students, will participate in a three-week seminar on the campus of the State University of Iowa June 23 through July 11. The seminar and the accompanying stipend, which covers room, board, and tuition, is sponsored by the Danforth Foundation. "Religious Perspective for College Teachers" is the title of the faculty seminar.

## BIBLE INSTITUTES

### East Chilliwack Bible School

We have arrived at a destination! And yet, we have never succeeded in reaching our final aim and goal until the Lord calls us home. For us, the graduates of the East Chilliwack Bible School, a new life has begun.

Words fail to express the feelings which welled up in our hearts as graduation day, June 1, arrived. The Lord was good in giving us, a sunny day—and in shedding much sunshine into our hearts by the messages we heard.

The week preceding graduation was a very busy one, for we wrote exams the better part of three and a half days. Exams are never a pleasure, but somehow we didn't mind studying for them, for we knew that never again could we do better in Bible school. The teachers certainly worked as hard or harder than we did for these exams.

Thursday evening, May 29, we had a wonderful banquet, prepared by Class I, who had decorated the room beautifully and prepared a delicious meal.

Friday morning, May 30, we had morning devotions, but the usual atmosphere was lacking. It was different, for this was the last chapel service for the graduates. After chapel we saw a film and had choir practise.

The closing conference began on the evening of May 30. Rev. Abe Regier of Coaldale was the guest speaker at all the sessions. He also delivered the address at the graduation service. After the graduation ceremony on Sunday, the graduates,

their parents, and the members of the Bible school committee were invited to a lawn tea, which was thoroughly enjoyed as a last "family gathering."

With the receiving of the diplomas we realized anew the great privilege which has been ours these past two years. We thank God for His Word and guidance and love that He has given us in such a large measure. We thank our parents, our teachers and all friends who have helped and prayed for us.

The motto given us was: "Ye are the light of the world." May God help us to be lights for Him.

Eva Rogalsky.

### Vocation Evangelism

(Continued from page 10-3)

the M. B. Bible College, served as the guest speaker, while a quartet from the South End M. B. Church provided special music, serving at two of the meetings.

Both Dr. Hildebrand and Principal Bergen are leaving the community this summer. The Hildebrands will sail for Belgium in August and Mr. Bergen will become principal of the collegiate at Winkler.

Both Dr. Hildebrand and Mr. Bergen were well-liked and exerted a tremendous influence. They have helped to demonstrate that Christian laymen in specific vocations can fill gaps and do much to make Christianity more vital in communities lacking leadership in that area.

### Christian Philosophy For Weddings

(Continued from page 8-4)

convictions, not all weddings can be worked out today on the presented philosophy. Pastor, parent, youth leader, and youth, all must work together in order to achieve these goals—then, only the future will tell how beautiful and meaningful the wedding can be. No longer will it be secularized, but it will be the expression of that which the Lord meant it to be. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Col. 3:23).

### Girls' Choir Presents Program

Morden, Man. — A delightful spring program was presented by the Morden M. B. Girls Choir here on Thursday evening, June 5.

A variety of songs was heard, including "Frühlingslieder", Negro spirituals, sacred English songs and German hymns. Other items on the program were a violin solo, two poems and a skit. Speaker for the evening was Rev. W. G. Baerg, missionary to Africa.

The choir is comprised of 16 girls, and is under the direction of Mrs. J. Pauls, accompanied by Mrs. F. Friesen.

## Baptismal Service At Carrot River

Carrot River, Sask. — A baptismal service was held from the Gospel Mission (M.B.) at the Carrot River on Sunday afternoon, June 1. Six candidates followed the Lord in this step.

The testimonies of the candidates were heard on the morning of the same day. Each had a clear-cut testimony of how the Lord had sought and found them and expressed their desire to go on with their Saviour.

Rev. Henry Baerg of Dalmeny delivered a timely message on the Ethiopian eunuch, according to Acts 8:26-40. The candidates then went down into the water and Rev. Victor Nickel baptized them upon the confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

After the baptism we again gathered at the Gospel Mission, where the candidates were received into the church and the Lord's supper was observed.

Those baptized were: Mr. Gordon Miller, Mrs. Gordon Miller, Mr. Doug Little, Victoria Stuckert, Elfrieda Maier, and Lois Brooks.

## B.C. Conference Meets

(Continued from page 1-4)

fruitful, especially at Vanderhoof, where Rev. H. Unrau served during evangelistic meetings and many were won for Christ, even a minister of the Sommerfelder Church (who is now proclaiming the Gospel in his church). Expansion of facilities is necessary at Otter Road, he reported, and a parsonage is to be completed at Harrison Hot Springs.

Rev. Neufeldt reported that a group of Christians at Ocean Falls have asked for assistance and the conference confirmed the appointment of the Jake Gedderts to this field. Kitimat is also in need of a worker, but none has been found as yet. The Frank Koops are leaving Queensboro to continue studies and a couple is needed there.

Of historical significance was the

acceptance of the proposal to organize the believers at County Line as a church of the British Columbia M. B. Conference, under the name, County Line Gospel Chapel. The organization is to be carried out next Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Rev. John Esau is serving at County Line.

In addition to the work at nine fields, the West Coast Children's Mission will again operate daily vacation Bible schools, with a total enrollment of 3,000 children expected. Two hundred teachers will be needed this summer—a major increase over last year. During the interim between the summer Bible schools the mission corresponds with and sends Bible lessons to between 3,500 and 5,000 children every month. Kindergarten is held at Oliver, Queensboro and Lillooet. Miss Adeline Sawatzky is the office secretary, while Rev. John Reimer is field director.

### Camp Work

Terrace and Port Edward workers join to promote a camp near Terrace, with three camps planned between June 16 and July 24. Three Fraser Valley mission stations will hold a camp this summer at Point Roberts, Blaine, Wash.

The mission directors recommended the establishment of a revolving building fund. Accepted by the conference, the society will admit members upon payment of \$10.00 annually and apply this money to construction on mission stations.

A total budget of \$34,760.00 was accepted for the West Coast Children's Mission, with about one-fourth coming from offerings in the churches. Peter Neufeldt, Allan Brandt, and Rev. Peter Penner were elected to the WCCM committee.

The Pacific Grace Mission has been the city mission arm of the M. B. churches in British Columbia for eight years, Rev. H. Classen reported. At the present time Rev. Classen, Miss Susie Neufeld and Miss Isaac (Mary Martha Home) have done the work in the city. The committee's recommendation that Henry Regehr, a graduate of the M. B. Bible College, Winnipeg, be appointed worker among Mennonite youth in Vancouver was accepted.

The committee also recommended a revision of the sphere of influence of the Mary Martha Home. Next year's budget was set at \$10,000 for the mission.

### Nineteen Mission Sunday Schools

There are 19 mission Sunday schools in British Columbia, Rev. P. D. Loewen, Sunday school committee chairman, reported. These registered an increase of 255 pupils, while the Sunday schools in the churches had an attendance decrease of 191 pupils over the past year. There are 355 teachers active in B.C. churches, assisted by 281 other church members in various capacities. The committee again plans a Sunday school workers' conference for the period between Christmas and the New Year.

Henry Unger, youth committee chairman, reported that the youth retreat last summer was an outstanding success. He also announced that the committee has prepared helps in the field of non-resistance for youth work in the churches. For the coming year, the semi-annual youth workers' conference will again be held, as well as the youth conference at Easter. The youth retreats this year will be August 25 to 29 for those 13 to 16 years old, and August 29 to 31 for those above 16. Rev. F. C. Peters will speak. The youth budget again will contribute to the support of the Gospel Hour, broadcast on CHWK, Chilliwack, KJNO, Juno, and KAVI, Ketchikan. British Columbia young people also contributed \$2,150 toward the Canadian Youth Project.

John Neumann was elected provincial youth leader for the coming year. The committee recommended that those holding this position be freed from local church work because of the many duties in this work.

Ordination of Jacob H. Friesen of East Chilliwack to the ministry and Jacob Esau of East Aldergrove as deacon was confirmed at the conference. They will be ordained later this summer.

The treasurer reported that total receipts during the past fiscal year were \$228,336.84. Of this, \$121,903.95 went to foreign missions, \$30,000 to the West Coast Children's Mission, \$8,842 to Pacific Grace Mission, \$1,884 to radio work, \$10,215 to the M. B. Bible College (building and operating fund), \$2,264 to the Canada Inland Mission, and various other sums to a variety of projects.

### Female Domestic Help Wanted

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## On the Horizon

June 22 — Presentation of the Bach Cantata No. 82 in the North Kildonan M. B. church at 7:00 p.m., with bass soloist David Falk and special songs by the choir, directed by Corny Balzer.

June 28 to July 1 — Teenage camp at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp, Arnes, Manitoba. Rev. Walter Wiebe, Hepburn, will speak.

June 27 to July 2 — Fifty-sixth conference of Mennonites in Canada, to be held in Saskatoon, Sask.

July 1 to 9 — Children's camp at the Winkler Bible Camp, Burwalde.

July 4 to 9 — The forty-eighth sessions of the Canadian Mennonite Brethren Conference will be held in the North Kildonan M. B. church, Winnipeg, Man.

July 4 to 13 — Ten-day children's camp at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp, Arnes, Man.

July 11 to 13 — Youth Retreat at the Winkler Bible Camp.

July 13 to 20. — Bible Camp for boys up to the age of 13 at Redberry Bible Camp, Saskatchewan.

July 15 to 23 — Second children's camp at the Winkler Bible Camp.

July 15 to 27 — One 13-day children's camp at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp, Arnes, Man.

July 20 to 27. — Bible camp for girls up to the age of 13 at Redberry Bible Camp, Saskatchewan.

July 26 to August 3 — Mission children's camp at the Winkler Bible Camp, Burwalde.

July 27 to Aug. 2. — Bible camp for youth, age 14 and up, at Redberry Bible Camp, Saskatchewan.

July 27 to 31 — Family camp at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp. Dr. F. C. Peters will speak.

August 1 to 3 — The Youth Missionary Conference of the Alberta Mennonite Brethren churches will be held at Vauxhall, Alta. Rev. J. B. Toews will speak.

August 1 to 3 — The annual Sunday school workers' conference of the M. B. churches in Manitoba will convene at Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp, Arnes, Man.

August 1 to 4 — Youth Camp at the Gospel Light Bible Camp, Clear Lake, Man. Address inquiries to 834 Lorne Ave. East, Brandon, Man.

August 5 to 14 — Children's Camp at the Gospel Light Bible Camp, Clear Lake, Man. This camp is sponsored by the Gospel Light Mission at Brandon.

August 6 to 15 — Mission children's camp at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp.

August 15 to 17 — Manitoba-wide youth camp at the Lake Winnipeg Mission Camp. Dr. F. C. Peters will speak.

### LORNE A. WOLCH

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