

Mennonite Observer

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

I Cor. 2:2

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YOUR CHRISTIAN
FAMILY WEEKLY

December 11, 1959

The Christian Press, Ltd., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Vol. V, No 50



Rev. J. J. Neufeld

Gospel Light Appointment

The appointment of Rev. J. J. Neufeld, 437 Mountain Avenue, as director of the Low German broadcast of the Gospel Light Hour was

announced in Winnipeg recently by Rev. John Schmidt, director of the Gospel Light Mission. Mr. Neufeld has served on the broadcast since September.

Born at Plum Coulee, Man., in 1913, Mr. Neufeld received his public school education at Horndean and high school at Winkler. He entered the Winkler Bible School in 1940, graduating from the institution four years later. Mr. Neufeld also attended the M. B. Bible College in Winnipeg for three semesters.

In 1944 Mr. Neufeld was ordained as a minister at Grossweide, Man., and served in that church for 15 years.

During the past summer, Rev. Neufeld was appointed field director of M. B. Home Missions, as well as part-time director of M. B. city missions.

Mr. and Mrs. Neufeld have two children, a daughter Martha, 10 years of age, and a son, John Alfred, 18. The couple celebrated their silver wedding anniversary this fall.

Happiness at Bethesda

Vineland, Ont. — Although there is a certain amount of misery and sorrow to be found in an institution such as ours, there is also another side to the picture, a bright sunny side. Most of us have always been under the impression that to associate with such a home, in particular with the patients, gives cause for depression, pessimism and a constant foreboding of ill. This is not necessarily so. Since my short time of employment here I have been surprised at the amount of laughter, joviality and true happiness to be found here, among the staff and also among the patients.

The day school started for the defectives was indeed a day of celebration. The fact that the teacher was another patient, and that the classroom was only across the lawn, in the other building, didn't matter. They were going to school, just like all other young people do! What

difference does it make if they can't add two and two, or if they can't write their own letters home? They are having a happy life. What did you learn in school today?" we say. Their faces alight with joy, they answer, "Reading." It takes so little to make these people happy. It is not unusual to be hugged and kissed by them for some small kindness shown to them.

Recently a new venture was begun. The project is new in the history of Bethesda, but already it has brought a great deal of happiness to the home, and also to those outside the home who participated. The women's groups of our Ontario M. B. churches have been made aware of the important part they can play in helping the patients. When the leaders of these groups met with Rev. and Mrs. Epp and the staff members at Bethesda on

(Concluded on page 9-1)

A Milestone in Edmonton

Sunday, November 29, 1959 marked a milestone in the history of the Mennonite Brethren church in Edmonton. For many months we were striving to reach that which we celebrated on this day, namely the formal organization of an M. B. missions group in Edmonton.

For this occasion, God sent us two guest speakers. Before the first message we were blessed with a duet, "It pays to serve Jesus!" Then we listened to the quickening words of Rev. J. A. Konrad, chairman of the Alberta Central Missions Committee. He spoke on the first apostolic church as described in Acts 2:41-47. He described the members, the worship and the witness of the church. In closing he said, "Oh that this day may see the beginning of the Mennonite Brethren church in Edmonton as a lighthouse so that many will be added!" This seemed to be the prayer of us all.

God sent us also Rev. J. J. Sie-

mens to minister unto us. Rev. Siemens, moderator of the Alberta M. B. Conference, spoke to us on the church of Philadelphia. After reading Rev. 3:7 he likened us unto this church. He described to us the church: as God revealed it, as seen by God, as praised of God, as rewarded by God, and as receiving a promise of God. In closing he said: "Oh that you would be dedicated to God! Oh that you would go through the open door of service! If you will, then you shall have the name of God upon you. The Lord give you grace to serve Him with your little strength!" (Translated from German).

In conclusion four brethren invoked the blessing of God upon this church through prayer. We felt the presence of the Holy Spirit right in our midst.

For the glory of God, we beseech all of you who are Christians, to remember us in your prayers!

Waldo Sawatzky.

STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

The year 1960 will be a memorable one for the Mennonite Brethren Conference. It was one hundred years ago that our forefathers felt constrained of God to begin a new movement in which they might give full expression to their new-found life and faith in Jesus Christ. Though Mennonite in their religious and cultural background, they were derisively called "brethren." Both names have remained, and the church has become known as that of the Mennonite Brethren.

The General Conference, Board of Reference and Counsel is declaring 1960 as Centennial Year. January 10, the nearest Sunday to our actual birthdate, January 6, 1860, has been set aside as Centennial Sunday.

It is strongly urged that our churches use the Prayer Week* in early January for a study of the history and background of our brotherhood with special emphasis upon spiritual implications. Material is being prepared for use during this week, and will be published shortly.

The sincere prayer of the Board is that Centennial Sunday, Prayer Week, and the entire Centennial Year might be a time of introspection, repentance and humbling before God. It is thus that we may expect God's further blessing upon our brotherhood. It is only thus that we will gain the spiritual strength, wisdom and courage needed as we face the many challenges of the future. May God grant us a large share in the proclaiming of the Gospel throughout the world.

Board of Reference and Counsel, General Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America

Dan Friesen, Chairman

D. J. Pankratz, Vice Chairman

Joel A. Wiebe, Secretary

*See Prayer Week Program on page 4.

EDITORIAL

Giving and Receiving

Countless gifts are being purchased and parcels prepared for mailing at this time of the year. Parents are getting ready to give presents to their children and children to their parents. Friends are mindful of those whom they appreciate and admire and they carefully wrap the parcels so that the recipients would gladly receive them. Uncles and aunts send gifts to their nephews and nieces or to other close relatives. But what about the poor forsaken stranger? Are we also mindful of him? He needs clothes for himself and for the family, and his children like to have and play with beautiful toys just like ours.

It is not the size of the gift, nor the amount of money we paid for it which determines the real value of the gift, but rather the love that is expressing itself in such a way.

God presents many gifts to us. We receive of His abundance every day and at this time we are reminded of the greatest of all gifts which He has bestowed upon mankind. This gift is His own Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. And God presents this gift to us with a loving heart.

It requires some careful thinking and planning before the right gift is found for the right person. Carelessness in the choice of the gift has sometimes resulted in grief instead of joy, and in tears, instead of laughter.

Our heavenly Father has not made a mistake in the choice of His gift. He has chosen the most appropriate gift for all mankind.

No doubt there will be many people at Christmas, who will receive no gift from anyone, even though they might be in dire need of material as well as spiritual assistance. Probably there is no one of their acquaintances or neighbors who is in a position to help or who cares for them. The aged, the sick, the forsaken, the oppressed, and the poverty-stricken should be the special objects of our compassion and love and they should receive something of that which the Lord in His mercy has bestowed upon us.

Giving usually (though not always) creates joy. It makes at least two people happy, the one who receives and the one who gives. But it is true that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." The one who gives does not need to feel sorry for draining his pocket book a little more, because it flows into the home of someone who is more in need of it than the giver, because he must buy clothes for his children and cover other bare necessities of life.

It is important for all who give and for all who receive, to do it in the right spirit, so that there might be an abundance of joy.

G. D. H.

It's Not the House

(This little song recounts a story with a moral that is always timely and true.)

Some children were playing one day in the street;
A poor little girl stood by.
They laughed at her clothes and the home she lived in,
And a tear slowly came to her eye.
One boy roughly said, "We won't play with you
Because you're too poor, you see.
And besides, you don't live in a mansion like ours."
But the maiden replied tenderly:
"It's not the house that makes the home,

My mamma teaches me;
And in our humble little cot

We're as happy as can be.
I know we have no mansion grand,
Bedecked with wealth and pride,
But it's not the house that makes the home,
It's the love that is inside."

Years passed away, and the boy is a man,
He is riding upon the foam
To some foreign strand where his heart yearns to find
The love that he longed for at home.
At twilight he sits and thinks of the past,
When everything seemed aglow,
And cries out, "Alas, how true were the words
That the maid spoke to me long ago!"

DEVOTIONAL

The Prince of Peace

In Isaiah 9:7 the Lord Jesus is called the Prince of Peace. The prophet sees Him as the One Who will establish a kingdom of peace upon the earth. When He came to earth in God's appointed time the angels sang "Peace on earth."

Today, although the word peace is heard again and again at the council tables of world leaders, we are farther away than ever from true peace on earth. Although Christ has come the first time, His rule of peace is not yet established, and therefore waits for a future time.

In the meantime, what about peace on earth? Can it be realized at this present time? We are happy to be able to answer that on the assurance of God's Word, peace, peace with God, and the peace of God can be the possession and daily experience of the human heart.

The word peace itself indicates that some form of strife has ceased. But is that all that peace is? Is it only an end to strife? Then we could say that there is peace in a graveyard. Surely that is not the whole meaning of peace. Is it not much rather a state in which the human being, having achieved an inner harmony of heart and desire, and an outward harmony with his fellow men, is free to work and achieve? Surely peace is an active state, not merely a passive one. I need peace of heart if I am to serve God and man to the full extent of my capacity. How do we attain to this peace? The Bible has the answer.

We are told in Romans 5:1 that "being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Notice that this is peace with God. Here we have the first great answer to the question of how to receive peace in heart and life. It is first of all to have peace with God. Plain Bible truth tells us that man has sinned and rebelled against his Creator. He is at enmity with God, and that is the cause of all man's strife, both within himself and with his neighbor.

I must have peace with God first of all. How wonderful it is that God Himself has found a way for us to be at peace with Him. He has reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ. God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them. He hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin. The soul that now trusts in Christ is justified immediately, and receives the precious peace with God. Friend, do you have peace with God? It is yours if you will trust the One Who died for you.

But perhaps you have been justified by faith in Christ and you

still discover strife and disharmony within yourself. Even God's people are in danger of having their inward peace disturbed. There are many enemies of peace and they are powerful. Jacob of old lost peace of heart when he allowed his desire for the birthright to become the ruling force of his life, and to dethrone the will of God. He was not willing to wait for God, so he took matters into his own hands. What was the result? He had to leave home, an enemy of his brother Esau. In the same way today the Christian can lose the peace of God by letting his own desires rule him. When this is the case, dissatisfaction, discontent, and discouragement are sure to set in, and peace goes out the door. Then it is also possible for cares and anxieties to rob us of the peace that should be ours. Perhaps you have lost your health, or your job, or you have suffered some great disappointment, and you are allowing your anxiety to drive out peace. Is there help for us in such situations? Yes, there is, and again the Bible has the answer.

We are told in Philippians 4:6, 7, "Be careful (or anxious) for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." This is where we receive our help. Let your requests be made known to God. Anxiety leaves God cut. Prayer puts Him on the throne. Pour out your heart to Him, and do not forget to thank Him. What will be the result? "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, will keep (or guard) your hearts and minds (or thoughts) through Christ Jesus."

It is necessary to keep this peace because of the stress and strain of

Mennonite Observer

Our Christian Family Weekly
for Mennonites of All Age-groups

Telephone LE 3-1487

The MENNONITE OBSERVER
is published every Friday by

The CHRISTIAN PRESS, Ltd.
159 Kelvin St., Winnipeg 5,
Manitoba, Canada

Address all correspondence to
the above address.

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

Subscription rate: \$2.25 a year;
payable in advance.

Authorized as Second Class Mail,
Post Office Department, Ottawa

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

Dedication Service



Upper: New Swift Current M. B. Church
Lower: Auditorium of the New Church

Swift Current, Sask. — Our pastor, the building committee, and several other ministers gathered on the steps of the new M. B. church at Swift Current on October 18, 1959, at 10 p.m. to officially open the building. A brief service was held outside. Mr. D. Block then unlocked the doors and the congregation filed in to fill the entire church.

Mr. P. Peters led in the opening of the service. Our Sunday school superintendent made a few remarks regarding the new classes. The choir rendered several numbers as well. Rev. F. J. Peters and Rev.

the times in which we live. Tranquillizing pills will not do. We need to take God's way, and the hindrances to peace will be removed. We must do this every day. Yesterday's portion of peace will not do for today. Let us appropriate what we need for each day. Then we, too, can enter into the peace that our Lord had in the face of all the terrible sufferings that He was to endure at the hands of men. On the night before He was betrayed He could speak of peace, and He could comfort His sorrowing disciples. He could say: "These things have I spoken unto you that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Have you the peace of God? Remember, it can be yours in Him, Who is the Prince of Peace.

John Boldt

I. H. Epp of Saskatoon were the speakers at the morning worship service.

After the ladies had served a delicious meal, the congregation gathered for the afternoon service. Speakers were Rev. E. J. Lautermlich, Rev. H. F. Klassen and H. H. Epp. This was followed by the dedicatory prayers.

Our desire is that we may always serve the Lord faithfully and win many precious souls to Him.

An Outstanding Evening Service

Kitchener, Ont. — November 29 marked a special day for the Kitchener M. B. Church. The young people presented a program. One of the main features was the newly-formed youth choir of 25 voices under the direction of Jake Dueck. Many friends and parents had made a special effort to be present and to hear the choir perform "Now the Day is over" and "All hail the Power of Jesus' Name." For variety a trio also sang.

Since a service is never complete unless the children have been considered, they were told the life story of Sadhu Sundar Singh. Brother Arnold Berg, the young people's leader, who was in charge of the service, gave a few words of explanation of the young people's work and presented the young people's executive to the church. He also introduced the speaker, Brother Herbert Swartz. Before Br. Swartz left Kitchener for stu-

dies in the U.S., he had been active in young people's work. At present he and his wife are our missionaries in the city of Toronto. It was thrilling to hear that their Sunday school roster holds over 70 names already. Br. Swartz showed a few slides of the new location where the services are now being held and pointed out the advantages of this move.

His message was based on Matth. 16:21-28. Well did he show us the Christ Who "had to go to Jerusalem, suffer, be killed and raised" and Who rebuked Peter for not seeking the things of God, but those of men. Br. Swartz closed with a very practical application—that of true discipleship. He challenged the assembly with the mission held in Toronto. Perhaps someone would feel compelled to go to Toronto, take up a residence and job and join forces in the work for the Lord. May this challenge be met with a God-pleasing response!

Erica Janzen.

Old Colony Church Elects Bishop

Winkler, Man. — Members of the Old Mennonite Church met at the Chortitz church near here on Thursday, November 19, to elect an additional bishop. Rev. Jacob Froese, the only bishop in Manitoba of that church, had for some time urged the churches of the area to take this step, which would relieve him of much of his work. Failing health made the election of an additional bishop necessary. Rev. Froese felt.

Rev. Jacob Penner, Morden, was the choice of the 700 member Manitoba church, as the man called to minister in that capacity. Ordination followed in a Sunday afternoon service, November 22.

In Manitoba for the ordination service were several Saskatchewan brethren, including Bishop Abram Loewen of Osler, Sask., who came especially for the occasion.

The Old Colony Church has a heavy concentration of members in several Canadian areas. Among others there are Winkler, Man., Warman-Osler, Sask., LaCrete, Alta., and Takysie Lake, B.C.

Foam Lake Report

Farewell for the Pankratz Family

A farewell gathering for Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pankratz, Lydia and Ronnie, who are leaving for B.C., was held recently in the M. B. church of Foam Lake. The program opened with Scripture reading (Acts 21:14) and prayer by Mr. G. Petkau. Congregational singing, trios, quartets and choir numbers made up the remainder of the program with a poem by Linda Pankratz.

A farewell message was given by Rev. J. H. Kehler. He spoke on

I Samuel 20:41,42, about the parting of friends, saying that while it is not our desire to see them leave us, our best wishes for a happy future with God's blessings go with them. They will be greatly missed here, especially by the Sunday school, where Mrs. Pankratz ably served as teacher for a number of years.

A brief time was allowed for their many friends to quote or read suitable Bible verses to the departing family. The gift of a combination waffle iron and sandwich grill was presented to them, for which they graciously thanked everyone. All those present then gathered in the basement for a fellowship and lunch provided by the ladies.

* * *

Herb Jantzen's Visit

It was our privilege and a real blessing to have Rev. Herb Jantzen, missionary from Germany, in the M. B. church, Foam Lake, Sask., for three services on Sunday, Nov. 29 and Monday evening, Nov. 30.

His theme throughout these meetings was "The Conflict of the Ages," saying that we are living in the last days and the conflict is getting fiercer as Satan realizes his time is short.

Beginning with Gen. 25 he showed the difference between Jacob, who was quiet and meditative like his father Isaac, and Esau, who was active, more like his mother Rebecca. Jacob did his duty, was faithful, desired the blessing, while Esau spent his time in carnal pleasures, despised his birthright and was unrepentant of his deed. The struggle continues in Edom and Israel, sometimes one gaining the upper hand and then the other.

Monday we heard from the book of Esther how the conflict continued between Haman and Mordecai (3:2). Here a descendant of Jacob (Mordecai) refused to bow to a descendant of Esau (Haman), with Israel winning, because Esther was willing to give her life to save her people. We are put in our appointed places, as Esther was, to do God's will to win others. Are we doing it? We must give an account of this on some future day (II Cor. 5:10).

Rev. Jantzen showed slides of the work in Germany, of his wife Carol, and their two boys and two girls. He also gave a report of their work, saying that the words of Jeremiah, "We looked for peace, but no good came, and for a time of health, and behold trouble" (Jer. 8:15), could be the words of many Germans today. Ninety-six per cent of the West Germans belong to churches that have hid the gospel of Christ. About 20 per cent belong to the Evangelical churches. Rev. Jantzen was in Holland one year and found the people very friendly, but mostly heathen and many pastors don't believe in Christ the Saviour.

(Continued on page 5-4)

Prayer Week Program

For Use in M. B. Churches January 3—9, 1960

First Week OUR HISTORIC CONCEPT OF SALVATION

Introduction:

The early Mennonite Brethren placed a special emphasis on the Biblical concepts of salvation. They insisted on more than intellectual understanding of scriptural truths, requiring experimental knowledge.

"The new emphasis upon a strong personal experience of the grace of God, with its accompanying assurance of salvation, produced a sturdy and active type of Christians and led to the development of an almost unbelievable zeal for the witnessing for the Gospel in home and foreign missions." (C. Krahn, quoted by G. W. Peters, in his *The Growth of Foreign Missions*, page 39).

This experimental knowledge was based on clearly defined scriptural concepts. Such were constantly in the foreground of all their preaching, teaching and witnessing ministry.

Praise and Thanksgiving

1. Let us thank God for the wonderful provision of salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Our founding Brethren praised God that "through the death of Christ, (*Document of Secession*, 1860), salvation was full and free." (John 3: 16; Romans 5:6 and 8; II Cor. 5:21; I Timothy 2:6; Titus 2:11; I John 2: 1 and 2; Galatians 2:20).

2. Let us thank God for the simple way of appropriating salvation "by faith". Again, our founding Brethren stressed a "living faith", "true believers", and often quoted John 3:3 in setting forth regeneration as the entrance experience into the Christian life. (John 7:37-39; Hebrews 11:1-6; James 2:14-20; and I John 5:1,4,5). The roots of such an emphasis can be found in the words of Pastor Wuest, who strongly influenced the Brethren of 1860.

Christ is an enemy of all half-heartedness. He gave himself unto him. A whole Saviour for a whole sinner—that is the great exchange which we invite you to make. And, with this sharp "either—or" of our beloved Saviour, I stand in your midst with my motto "either—or"! Nothing more! "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned", the Saviour says in Mark 16:16, and divides with these words the entire humanity into two classes: believers and unbelievers. Curses upon everyone who endeavors to add a third class to these!

Even so, my beloved, "either—or" I say unto you, even today in my inaugural message: either believing or unbelieving; either con-

verted or unconverted, either a natural man or a born again man, either a sheep or a goat, either to the right or to the left, either the narrow way and the strait gate, or the broad way and the wide gate, either flesh or spirit, either God or mammon, either Christ or Belial, either blessing or curses, either life or death, either salvation or perdition, either heaven or hell. Nothing less! This choice I want to place before you constantly . . .

3. Let us thank God for the explicit teachings of Scripture regarding personal responsibility in the matter of salvation. To our founding Brethren, the individual was responsible for the acceptance of this divinely-provided salvation. They recognized that unbelievers were outside of the covenant of grace and consequently must reckon with the "inevitable judgment of God." Such truth gave birth to the compassion for the lost and the missionary zeal which they manifested. (Mark 16:16; II Thess. 1:8-10; II Thess. 2:12).

Reorientation

In this centennial prayer week, let us, in retrospect, examine ourselves "whether we be in the faith."

1. Have we retained the clear concept of salvation by grace without attributing any merit to our "way of life"? Is our social and cultural heritage, although valuable in itself; totally divested of any meritorious quality unto salvation, and is redemption today still exclusively the gift of God through Jesus Christ, our Lord?

2. Have we retained the clear concept of a "living faith" and "true believers" over against an intellectual faith (James 2:19) or a memorized belief? Could it be that we have learned the use of a theological language and terminology but lack the genuine substance?

3. Have we retained the clear line of demarkation between believers and unbelievers, or has religious conformity robbed us of the vision of a lost world?

Rededication

We must not stop with reorientation but must "fix our hearts" on future direction. Therefore, let us rededicate ourselves:

1. To the first love to Him, who through His suffering and death provided for a full and free redemption. (Matth. 24:12; Rev. 2:1-7).

2. To a renewed emphasis upon a true and living faith, "as the Scripture hath said". (John 7:28).

3. To bring in clear relief the line of demarkation between him that "believeth" and him "that believeth not". (Mark 16:16).

Second Evening

OUR HISTORIC CONCEPT OF THE CHURCH

Introduction:

The religious awakening which resulted from the evangelistic preaching of Pfarrer Wuest in the 1850's eventually gave rise to a new concept of the church among the "Brethren". Basically, it was a rediscovery of the Anabaptist concept of the Church. The Brethren obtained their new orientation with regard to the nature of the church, first of all, from the Scriptures, and, secondly, from the writings of Menno Simons. This is evident from the "Document of Secession" and from other public statements of theirs. In the "Document of Secession" the Brethren reaffirm their complete agreement with Menno, at least five times, in connection with important Church principles. In their letter of explanation to the "Gebietsamt" on January 23, 1860, they clearly state their intention to organize their "own Church as Mennonites." In their desire to establish a church according to the New Testament pattern, they returned to the original Anabaptist vision.

Praise and Thanksgiving

In the deep realization that a proper salvation concept can be preserved in a new lift movement only if it is anchored to a proper church concept. Our hearts are filled with praise and gratitude to our heavenly Father for giving to our forefathers a scriptural view of the church, and that He has preserved this concept within our Brotherhood in its main aspects unto this day. What constitutes a true church according to our early Brethren?

1. A Fellowship of Believers.

The early Brethren stressed the importance of a "true living faith, wrought through the Spirit of God" as a condition for baptism and Church Membership. (P. M. Friesen, p. 190). The Lord's Supper is also for believers only. Their earliest protest was against participation of unbelievers in the Communion service. In this emphasis, they returned to the New Testament concept of a believer's Church. (Acts 2:41-42; 5:13-14; II Cor. 6:14-18).

2. A Fellowship of Brethren.

The "Brethren" were known by that name prior to 1860. They revived the Brotherhood concept of the church as taught in the Scriptures. This found practical expression in their congregational church polity, and in their renewed emphasis on the priesthood of all believers. The ministers of the Word were respected and loved, but were not regarded as "clergy" in contrast to the "laity". We are grate-

ful to God for preserving the "Brotherhood" concept in our Conference. (Matth. 23:8; I Peter 5:2-3; James 2:1-9).

3. A Fellowship of Saints

Our fathers strove earnestly to establish a pure church. They insisted that discipleship, as taught by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, was the evidence for a true salvation experience. That is why they practised Church discipline. In the "Document of Secession" they state that "all carnally-minded and wilful sinners must be excommunicated from the fellowship of the saints, according to II Thess. 3:14-15" (See also Matth. 18:15-17).

Reorientation

1. Are we deeply concerned to receive into the Church true believers only, who give evidence of their Christian experience by a newness of life?

2. Are we endeavoring to strengthen the spirit of the brotherhood in our congregations? Or do social, economic, and educational differences receive primary consideration when it comes to such matters as election of officers or even Church discipline?

3. Do we still have a passion for a pure church in which sin is being dealt within a scriptural manner, or are we suffering from a spirit of "tolerance unto death"?

Rededication

1. Humbly we acknowledge before God our many short comings and failures in the work of our local churches as well as in the work of our conference. We confess that we have often lacked the spirit of spiritual discernment, of brotherly love, and of proper concern for all members of the church.

2. Prayerfully we seek God's face and plead with the prophet of old: "O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years" (Hab. 3:2). As we rededicate ourselves to the great task of building the Church according to the teaching of the New Testament, may we experience a deep spiritual renewal and a gracious endowment for a more effective ministry in the future.

(Continued in next issue)

Church Destroyed by Fire

Minot, N.D. — The Fairview Mennonite Church burned to the ground in the early morning hours on Sunday, Nov. 15.

Firemen were called to the scene but were unable to save the building because of the limited water supply. Help in fighting the flames also was limited since a number of the church members had gone to Castleton to attend a mission meeting.

The church building was erected soon after the turn of the century and was a landmark in the community.

FOREIGN MISSION NEWS

India Girls' Camp

"Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually" (Heb. 13:15). This was the theme of the girls' camp at Himayatsagar, Andhra Pradesh, India, October 17 to 21. One-hundred-eighty-three campers had the privilege of gathering in this beautiful place near the lake to fellowship together and to learn more of him who alone is worthy to receive praise and honor and glory.

Every day was begun with a quiet time where each group with its leader waited before the Lord in prayer to seek His blessing for the day. After the morning duties were finished, we gathered for a song service which was usually climaxed by the singing of our theme song of praise based on Psalms 135: 1-2. Later we listened as various speakers, with the use of visual aids, brought us the message God had put upon their hearts for this time.

After the chapel service the girls divided into 11 classes for two periods of Bible study around the theme of praise. Nationals and missionaries joined in teaching these classes. From God's Word we learned the answers to such questions as: What is praising? Who should praise God? Why should we praise? How should we praise? and, What are the results of praising?

In the afternoons there was time for Bible quizzes and contests. The roving cup, given for reciting Bible verses, was won by Wanaparty this year. In this contest 20 girls consisting of two from each field recited a total of 277 verses. The time of sports which followed after this was also enjoyed.

The evening messages, given by Sister Ted Fast, were used of the Lord to speak to many hearts. Opportunities were given to God's children and to non-believers to examine themselves before God. Again and again the way of salvation and victory in Christ Jesus was shown. We praise the Lord for the souls who experienced salvation during these days. Let us continue to pray for them that they may live victoriously. We were greatly encouraged to see some of those campers who took Christ as Savior at camp last year come back again this year bringing others with them.

Sunday was a special day at camp. In the morning we gathered for a worship service at which time an Indian sister witnessed to God's faithfulness to His promise as found in Jeremiah 33:3. In the afternoon we all enjoyed a C. E. program in the shade of the trees near the lake. In song and message

we were reminded of the soon coming of our precious Savior. Will we all be ready? Will we all be found occupying until He comes?

It was a special joy this year that we could have our meetings under a "shamayana" (tent) which by God's grace the women's and girls' camps together have been able to procure. We praise the Lord for making this possible. He made many willing to contribute to this cause.

During the final meeting on October 21 we stopped to remember some of the blessings which the Lord had given us during these days. Many rose to testify about what the Lord had done for them. In eternity we shall see the full result of these days spent under the Word of God. We thank those of you, dear readers and friends, who through your gifts and prayers have supported this effort. Continue to pray that through the lives and witness of many the Lord will truly receive the sacrifice of praise. Katie Siemens.

Ladies' Mission Circle Program

Regina, Sask. — The Ladies' Mission Circle of the Regina M. B. Church, presented a very interesting and challenging program on Sunday evening, November 22, 1959.

Mrs. Ruth Sapinsky led in opening singing. Then Mrs. Martha Suderman, the president, welcomed the congregation. Mrs. Mary Friesen then led the congregation in responsive reading based on the Great Commission.

Musical selections were presented by the entire ladies' group as well as a duet by Mrs. Ruth Sapinsky and Mrs. Malinda Schmidt.

The feature of the evening was a play written by Mrs. Elmer Martins who as the daughter of a missionary has spent much of her life in India. In "Bought Blessing" she tells of a girl who was purchased by a missionary and later becomes the blessing that brings the gospel to her own village. In the cast were: Mrs. Laura Klassen, the missionary; Janie Friesen, the little girl; Victor Friesen, the master from whom she fled; Mrs. Iona Wiebe, "Blessing" grown up; Alice Schroeder, a student; Mrs. Bertha Schroeder, the woman who pleads for a Bible teacher in her village.

Mrs. Martha Suderman then told of the work of the Mission Circle since the ladies of the Southern Conference had organized in the fall of this year. She said, "Now when we hear of the work in Kafumba, we feel as though it is our work, for we are raising funds for the dormitory for married students there." The usherettes, Lois Klassen and Darlene Schroeder then took up the offering which

was to go toward this worthwhile cause.

Congo Nurses Aides Graduate

October 1 was a momentous day for the 5 students who graduated from our school of nursing here at Kajiji in the Belgian Congo. For 3 years they had worked, studied and prayed for this day—the day of state examinations which would determine if they would become licensed Aide-Infirmiers (nurse aides).

During these three years they met with many obstacles. One student was taking the senior year over, having failed the state examinations last year. Having come this far, they were very hopeful until it was rumored that the state was no longer interested in graduating Aide-Infirmiers. But the blow fell when our district medical director said he didn't intend to give the examinations this year. The students were ready to give up everything right then. However, they learned that prayer changes things. Many prayers were made by them and for them with much exhortation to trust and not to doubt.

A letter from the state director assured us the examinations would be given late in August. But the date of the examinations was delayed and then set for October 1 at Gungu. So on September 30 we were on the way to Gungu, rejoicing in this first answer to prayer. The students' trust in the Lord was reflected in the songs they sang while driving, "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" and "Where He Leads Me I Will Follow." They were still apprehensive about their encounter with the new examiner but that turned out all right.

When the final results showed that four out of five had passed, there was rejoicing indeed! One of them had a grade of 93, second highest of all students examined, which included students from several other schools. The boys were all humbly grateful to the Lord for His wonderful undertaking. We also realize that it was by His enabling that these boys could learn the material of the course (which includes far more than a nurse aide course in the United States) since they have had only five to seven years of previous schooling.

We also want to thank you who have remembered the medical work at Kajiji in prayer. What was to these native Christians an unforgettable answer to prayer was to us another token of your faithful prayers. Continue to pray for these nurses as they fill positions of responsibility that they may not neglect the opportunities for a spiritual witness to their patients. Pray also for the 16 students in the school at present that they, too, will learn to depend upon the Lord in everything.

Vernon W. Vogt.

Annual Bible Conference

The regular annual Bible Conference is again to be held in the Elmwood M. B. church, December 27, 28 and 29 (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, 1959).

The brethren, J. A. Toews, D. Ewert and F. C. Peters will give an exposition of the First Letter to the Thessalonians, the subject being, "The Church of Jesus Christ in the Light of the End-times."

Rev. H. H. Janzen will serve in the evenings. His theme will be, "The Missionary Responsibility of the Church in the Light of the End-times."

The invitation to come and to receive the blessings of the conference is extended to members of all denominations as well as to those who do not belong to any particular denomination.

With regard to meals and lodging it shall be done as in previous years.

I. W. Redekopp, Minister.

Herb Jantzen's Visit

(Continued from page 3-4)

Germany has made rapid progress since the war. Farming is on a small scale compared to that in Canada. People are thrifty and they work hard. The northern part is about 80% Protestant while the south is about 75% Catholic. East Germany was mostly Protestant and evangelical before the war, while the west was not. Many pastors of Lutheran churches are unsaved and don't believe that the Bible is the Word of God. They are not of much help in evangelical campaigns as they do not know how to deal with seeking souls. Many people have never heard the gospel and most of them are without Bibles, although many Lutherans have the Word. Two hundred million Catholics are without the Bible and don't know what it is or what God is.

Brother Jantzen usually preached in tents in summer, and this work was fruitful. Many workers are needed. There is a great need for workers in France, Holland, Austria, and neighbouring countries, where he preached occasionally. A real need is a Christian radio station for Europe and plans are going ahead for one. Prayers are needed for this project.

He also showed slides of the Janz Brothers' Crusades in Germany and Switzerland. Thousands attended and many accepted Christ. Much advertising has to be done beforehand or people will not come.

Rev. Jantzen will be working with the Janz Team full-time when he returns to Germany next year. The Jantzens make their home at Waldheim while here on furlough. Campaigns are planned with the Janz Team in Saskatoon, Abbotsford and Manitoba in the coming year. May God continue to bless this ministry.



THE Young Observers

Let's Visit a Minute

Hello Everybody,

May I pop in for a minute? How is school these days? Are you doing well in your exams? I hope you are not forgetting that sloppy work and laziness are NOT an honour to your great God! Then, too, perhaps your neat work and your kind, alert attitude may be the only kind of witnessing you can do for a long time towards teachers and pupils alike. Well, boys and girls, I dare say that's enough "preaching" for tonight, right?

Say, are you having grand times reading the many lovely books around these days? I can't get over what wonderful stories you can choose from just wherever you go. Are you reading a lot? What a delightful way to spend the time between chores and supper, or the time after lessons are over; or the Sundays when you are not going anywhere special. Just lately I was looking over the lists that many of our Christian book stores sell, and, my, what a treasure can be yours. Well, I know you are all very busy doing your best for the Christmas program, besides studying hard for those exams. But then, maybe these story books will just be the thing for your long Christmas holidays. (But don't just settle for any kind of a book. Be choosy! You can't afford to feed your souls on anything but the best!)

Here's a bit of a lovely Christmas Carol I want to share with those who love "beautiful pieces":

Beautiful Starry Night!

*Beautiful night in the dim long ago
Golden thy radiant light;
Night long foretold by the sages of old
Beautiful starry night.*

*Beautiful night when the Saviour was born,
Hope shed its golden light.
Over a world that by sin had been torn
Beautiful starry night.*

*Beautiful night that has come once again
Night of our Saviour's birth;
Down through the ages we hear the refrain:
"Peace and Good-will on earth!"*

'Bye for now. Remember Jesus loves you!

Love,

Aunt Anne.

Are You a Witness?

"I really cannot stand it any longer. I feel I must give up and be like other people." The speaker looked very sad and unhappy. She was only a girl in a factory, who had been trying to live a Christ-like life among a rough lot of young people who laughed at her, or left her severely alone.

At last she thought she would speak to a preacher who had been a great help to her, and he listened quietly as she poured out all her trouble. Then he said, "Do you know, God has been looking for someone to witness for Him. He looked in North London, and East, and West, and then He saw you. Are you going to let Him down?"

"Oh," said the young Christian, "I never thought of it like that. I will keep on."

Back she went to the factory, with its lonely life and jeering, and after a time something happened. Another girl had been watching her gentle, Christ-like spirit, so different to the swearing and rough talk of the other workers, and thought

there must be "something in it." So she too sought Christ, and found His service a worthwhile life.

After that, one by one, others were led to trust the Saviour, and their behaviour too was changed. So this dear young servant of His was no longer lonely or sad. How dreadful it would have been had she turned her back upon the Lord who died for her.

Young believer, if you find yourself left lonely amongst unsympathetic people, just think, "Perhaps God wants me to be His witness—just here." And you, unsaved boy or girl, the Lord is calling you to trust Him at this moment, because He has work for you, too. Do not turn a deaf ear to Him.

The most virtuous of all men, says Plato, is he that contents himself with being virtuous without seeking to appear so. —Fenelon

* * *

All experience is an arch to build up. —Henry Adams

Fine Books for Christmas

For Personal, Church or Sunday School Library

Some of the finest writings on a variety of subjects have been written. They are interesting and helpful and greatly desired by many. If you buy some of the volumes listed below, read them for your own enjoyment and growth, and share the contents with others who need the Christian message. Purchase additional copies for friends and neighbors. Your church, too, can enlarge its influence by using them in its reading library or book corner. Here are the titles of the books and the names of the authors:

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 The Bully of Stony Lonesome — Charles S. Knight
 White Water on the Yukon — Bernard Palmer
 The Fighting Parson — Bernard Palmer
 Treasures for Sylvia — Dorothy C. Haskin
 A Missionary Penny — L. C. W.
 Calling Doctor Lundeen — Harriet Heine
 Forty-Eight Bernard Street — Mrs. S. R. Graham Clark
 Joy Sparton of Parsonage Hill — Ruth I. Johnson
 Nobody Loves Me — Mrs. O. F. Walton
 A Peep Behind the Scenes — Mrs. O. F. Walton
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But Not Forsaken ☆

by Helen Good Brenneman

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(38th Installment)

"For though our homes may seem so far away,
And though there's sorrow in our lives each day,
The peace of Christmastime is here to stay."

Then he bowed his head and wept, cried like the women on the row behind him who were moved by the sentiment of the poem. Perhaps they thought it strange that a man should be so touched by the verse, but they were too engrossed in their own thoughts to pay much attention to him.

Hans began looking for Maria, at the same time trying to relocate the boy he had thought sounded like his Hansie. He could see only anonymous heads in the dim candlelight, and felt he would go mad if he didn't find them. Rosie had sat down on the very front row and going to her would have completely upset the program. She would have fainted or screamed, he was sure.

His search, however, was suddenly interrupted by a change in the program; apparently the school children had finished their part of the evening's worship. Two men walked soberly to the platform, Bibles in hand. Hans's heart raced within him as the older minister read a portion of Scripture and as the younger called for some moments of silent prayer. The choir sang one more selection, beautiful but seemingly never-ending. Hans bounded for the door, unmindful that a benediction was being pronounced.

He stood just outside the entrance, his heart beating wildly. Then the door flew open and dozens of children poured forth from the building, some of them waiting for their mothers, some walking in groups toward the MCC house. For a moment he thought he was going to be lost in the push of the crowd. But he could not allow that to happen. He stood his ground, scanning every face that came out of the building.

And then he saw them, coming on the opposite side of the entrance from where he stood. He cut through the crowd and stationed himself several feet ahead of them. Hansie and Rosie went by, but Maria walked into his arms.

"Oh, excuse me," she apologized, her face crimson. Then she looked at him again. He drew her closer and kissed her, right there in full sight of everyone, unconscious that anyone else was around.

"You came, you really came!" Maria cried when she could talk.

"I wanted so much to believe it."

It was then that the children missed their mother and retraced their steps to find her. And the crying, exclamations, and kissing began all over again, with no one ashamed of his tears.

The walk back to camp which the four of them made together, hand in hand, everyone talking at once, would have been quite a spectacle had they not chosen a long, out-of-the-way route. Only after they sat whispering in their little room, long after all others had gone to bed, did everything really begin to make sense.

"You see," Big Hans was saying, as he tried to embrace them all at once, "first I found God, and then I found you. I had given you up altogether, after what Frau Schmidt told me. I had gotten to the end of myself when I began to read that Testament which was really meant for you, Maria."

"Do you mean, Dear, that if you had never lost us, you probably would never have found God?"

"I'm afraid I wouldn't have. I guess it wasn't that I couldn't believe, but I really was too stubborn to want to believe. But how I deserved to find you again, that I can't understand. I guess I never will."

They talked on and on, Hans describing his life in Berlin, his frightening border crossing, his wearisome experiences at Kassel. He told of the Martens and the beginning of his new life in God. Then Maria, Hansie, and Rosie interrupted each other in bringing Hans up to date on their adventures along the way. They ended by telling about Maria's recent physical examination and the disappointing news that Canada had refused them entrance again on the basis of her ill health.

But going to Paraguay would no longer be a disappointment now that Big Hans was here. For where one lived was really unimportant, when people could be together, happy in each other's love. What joy it would be to pioneer with a partner like Hans!

Rosie had finally dropped off to sleep, her long braids buried in her father's lap. Maria, seated between the two Hanses, was once more startled at the striking resemblance of strong facial lines and stubborn expression, visible against the low flicker of candlelight. But now both faces wore a new expression, the evidence of an enduring peace, the kind of peace on earth that begins in the hearts of men.

Indeed, it was the only kind of peace Maria's battered world would ever know.

THE END

* * *
Another interesting item with continuation will follow. Be sure not to miss it.

What Movies Did For Me?

I was quite young when I saw my first movie—only about eight. A picture of the initial scaling of Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, had come to town, and my schoolteacher had written to my parents urging them to let me attend a special after-school showing of this educational picture at the theater. Reluctantly they agreed, and I went.

It proved, however, that the Mount Everest picture was only one item on the program. The main feature was the story of a freckle-faced boy who broke his father's heart by running away from home and then had his own heart nearly broken when his father died. I remember how strongly I was moved by that picture. It made a far greater impression on my mind than the educational picture. I cried over it and decided that, as for me, I would never do anything to hurt my father or mother.

The thought came, "Movies can't be so bad, after all, when they give me feelings of this kind." Many have used the same argument. "There are some really good pictures," they say. "Some films are very religious." And this leads me to mention my first criticism of the movies, which is that they are

Anti-Christian in Their Effect

Why is that? Because the goodness they teach is human goodness. They give the impression that any young person can be good if he tries hard enough, whereas the Bible teaches that the only righteousness acceptable to God is that which is produced in one's life through the redeeming work of Christ. No one can be good enough to enter heaven; each one must be "born again," the Bible says. But you will not find that Gospel message in the movies.

Besides, there is always a mixture. I have attended the theater hundreds of times and have seen some of the so-called "good" films, and I cannot remember a single program which did not have something which violates a Christian's standards of purity, piety, and modesty.

My second criticism of the movies is that they are

Worldly in Their Influence

It was through movies that I learned the ways of the world. I had been brought up in a Christian home and a good Sunday school, but when I reached my teens and started going to the movies regularly I fell in with very worldly companions and started to smoke,

to dance, to keep late hours, and so on. My sister had the same experience. She had been genuinely saved and filled with the Spirit, and never had tasted the pleasures of sin until she began going to the movies; but it wasn't long until she was backslidden and deep in the things of the world—and now she is married to an unbeliever.

We read: "All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." When I read that verse after I was saved, I thought at once of the movies. In them are combined all three of these elements of that forbidden realm called "the world." Don't movies cater to the lust of the flesh—that is, to the desires of our carnal nature? Obviously they do. Do they cater to the lust of the eyes? Yes, they portray before the eye nearly everything an unsaved person desires to see. Do they foster the pride of life (ostentation, vain boasting or glory)? Surely they do; the gorgeous clothing, the luxurious homes, the deeds of heroism that are shown in the movies create a love of display.

Of all things that can be considered worldly, I am convinced that the movies come first. And God says: "Young men, love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

The third thing I would mention about movies is that

They Bring You Under Bondage

I was in bondage to the movies for several years, until I was converted. I was in my teens when they got their grip on me. I worked at a grocery store after school and on Saturdays. This gave me my own spending money, and it seemed I could not go to the show often enough. Sometimes I neglected my job in order to go. Often I skipped school. When Mother asked where all my money was going, I lied. Then I stole money so that I could go to the show without digging so deeply into my earnings. I hated to lie and steal, but I did it for the sake of the movies. That shows how they fascinated me!

It is easy to slip into a movie, sit down in comfort, and quit thinking. For two hours the movies will do your thinking for you. It is a complete escape from reality. It appeals both to the laziness of the human mind and the unwillingness of human nature to face the grim realities of life here and hereafter.

I loved the movies. When I was saved they were the hardest thing I had to give up, but I knew beyond a shadow of doubt that I could not go on living for Christ and at the same time feed upon the carrion of the movies. So I quit the movies—for the sake of my example, yes, but primarily for my own soul's sake. As I went on to know the joy, the victory, the thrill of a life sur-

(Continued on page 8-3)

"Dienst am Evangelium"**The Cornelius Unruhs Return
From MCC Service**

Jordan, Palestine. — Brother and Sister Cornelius Unruh and son Philip should have returned to Winnipeg by this time after a period of service in Jordan under MCC. The Unruhs are members of the North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church. During their last months in Jordan they served in a 40-bed Southern Baptist Hospital at Ajloun set in the mountains of Gilead. "Medically, there is much work to be done," they wrote before leaving Jordan. "Spiritually, the ground here seems rather stony and hard. We have met some wonderful Arab believers with whom it has been a joy to have fellowship. Generally the 'Christian' population (about five per cent) is steeped in tradition and strong family ties which Satan uses to keep hold of

them. There have been conversions, nevertheless, and the body of believers is slowly growing. We will be leaving Jordan within about 10 days to continue some postgraduate study in medicine in Winnipeg."

The William Voths

Calcutta, India. — Brother and Sister William Voth, members of the East Chilliwack, B.C., Mennonite Brethren Church, who are MCC relief workers among the refugee colony around Calcutta, India, describe their work in a recent letter to the Board of General Welfare office. "The recent monsoon showers have been so heavy that thousands of people have been left homeless. People are taking dwelling places in tress, others are just out on the streets joining the thousands already there and others have tied together stray sticks and burlap pieces to serve as shelter.

(Continued on page 10-3)

What Movies Did For Me

(Continued from page 7-4)

rendered to the Lord, I lost all desire for the movies. The new life crowded out the old.

Though the Lord delivered me from the fascination of the movies, the effect left upon my mind and heart was not undone immediately, for the movies

Corrupt the Mind and Heart

It is here I make my strongest criticism. The movies did more to corrupt my thinking and provoke temptation than any other influence upon my life. I do not believe any teen-age young person can sit through hundreds of Hollywood's lust-laden dramas, as I did, and fail to get a perverted outlook along sexual lines.

My life was in the formative stage: and by going to the movies I exposed it to the devil, who laid hold upon those natural instincts which God has put in every young

person and did his worst to pervert them. It was only through the mercy of God that I was saved before I got too deeply in sin or married an unsaved girl.

I know the effect the movies had on me. I know how I had to battle against wrong thoughts, because of them. I know how hard it was, after I was saved, to think only on "whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely"—things in which there is "any virtue," as the Bible says we must do. I know how worldly-wise they made me, how they crowded Christ out, how they brought me under bondage, how they led me to lie, to steal, to harbor wrong thoughts in my heart.

But the past cannot be undone. Only the future can be changed, and I hope that by writing these lines I may help spare other teen-agers from having to learn by bitter experience the harmful effects of the movies. A Teen-Ager.

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Child Run Over By Car

Neubergthal, Man. — Lynn Hoepfner, 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hoepfner, of Neubergthal, was admitted to Altona hospital in guarded condition on Sunday, after being struck by a car driven by Joyce Kehler, also of Neubergthal.

According to police, Lynn was being brought home from Sunday school at about 10 a.m. When the car stopped he ran across the road into the path of the car being driven by Miss Kehler. The road conditions were such that Miss Kehler had no chance to stop in time to avoid hitting the lad.

In hospital Lynn was given a blood transfusion and treated for shock and other injuries.

His condition on Monday was still guarded, although generally improved. The car is reported to have passed over the child's body, causing severe injuries to his head and abdomen.

Happiness at Bethesda

(Continued from page 1-4)

November 17, their attitude was one of "we are willing to help if you only say what to do." The opportunity came shortly. A group of eight or nine young women from the St. Catharines, M. B. Mission group came to give a number of

patients Tonis. How pleased these people felt!

The warm glow of happiness from this episode had not disappeared when another group of young women, the Willing Helpers of the Vineland M. B. church, came to give their assistance. They expressed grave doubts and misgivings at first. They needn't have worried, for this venture too, was a great success.

Nine excited patients were ready to go and do Christmas shopping. Several of the patients had to be cajoled and prodded to go, "I've never handled money in my whole life," wailed one. At last they were on their way. I can still remember the send-off given them by Miss Gertrude Harder. "Have fun," she said, as all waved goodbye. They had fun. When they returned after several hours, Mrs. Epp was there to welcome them. It was like a group of happy children coming home. How happy they were to show us some of the gifts they had bought — mostly small inexpensive items, but they had chosen these things themselves and had personally handed the money to the clerks.

One girl was pleased with her choice—wool socks for her dad and gloves for mom. Another patient couldn't stop laughing at the little

trinket she had bought; she held it up for all of us to see — a funny little clown. Her laugh was so infectious, we were soon gaily laughing with her. The contact with the Willing Helpers group was very beneficial to the patients. They were so nice to us," said one of the patients. They treasure these experiences and we feel sure the young women of the mission groups do too. We, who are associated with the work, have rejoiced great-

ly that the patients could be helped in this way.

Does this give you an insight into the happiness and joy found in work such as ours? Would you not also like a share in it?

Martha Janzen.

The greatest truths are the simplest, and so are the greatest men.

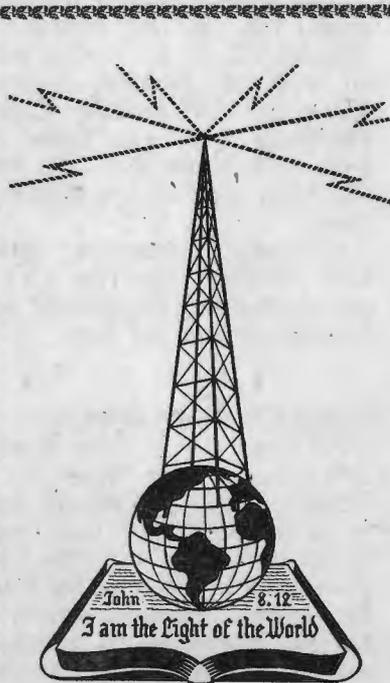
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O Worship the King
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Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory
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OBITUARIES

Rev. A. P. Willms

Coaldale, Alta. — Rev. A. P. Willms was born in Rueckenau, South Russia, on March 17, 1882. His childhood was spent in Fuerstenwerder. The talents which he had, enabled him to become the secretary of his father, who was "Schulze" in the village where he resided. Later on he was asked to do the secretarial work for the outstanding M. B. Church at Rueckenau. This position he has filled for many years.



Prior to his conversion he was tempted to doubt even the very existence of God, but the Lord changed his heart and he accepted Christ as his Savior. He based his salvation on Isa. 44:22, "I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee." In May of 1908 he was baptized and accepted as a member in the M. B. Church.

He united in marriage with Anna Reimer in Fuerstenwerder in the year 1903. Their wedded life was blessed with 4 sons and six daughters. Two of their children died as infants and one married son, Peter, had a fatal accident at the age of 39. The mother of the home died when she was 63 years old, in the year 1946. In July of 1947 he re-married. Mrs. Helena Funk united with him in his second marriage.

Rev. Willms received a call from the Lord through the church to proclaim the gospel. This occurred in 1909 and four years later he was ordained. For 46 years he has faithfully ministered the Word. His sermons were both, heart-touch-

ing and heart-searching. He was a lover of God, of God's Word, of God's people, of the lost and of nature. His many poems are giving strong evidence of this.

On November 19 Brother Willms went home to be with the Lord. While visiting at Namaka, Alta., he had a heart attack. He was rushed to a Calgary hospital and there he died.

The funeral service was held from the M. B. church of Coaldale. Rev. H. Nickel served with an English message (Dan. 12: 2,3) and Rev. David Pankratz with one based on Gen. 6: 1-5 and 25: 7-11. May the Lord comfort the bereaved ones!

Someone remarked about Rev. Willms that he was a pious, sincere, thoughtful and humble servant of God.

* * *

Froese's Son Dies

The small son of India missionaries Brother and Sister G. J. Froese went to be with the Lord on November 20. He was Daniel George born May 31, 1958. The Froeses are members of the South End Church, Winnipeg, serving as medical missionaries at Jadcherla medical center where Brother Froese is one of our two missionary doctors.

A memorial service was conducted at the Jadcherla center in the evening of November 20 which was attended by local Christians and patients. Then later, a service was held at Shamshahbad where most of the missionaries gathered and expressed their love and sympathy. Brethren P. V. Balzer and Benjamin spoke. Burial was in a cemetery in Hyderabad City where many other friends had also gathered and where Brother A. A. Unruh spoke at the graveside.

Further details regarding the young life and his departure are taken from a recent letter from the Froeses: "Although Danny was somewhat weak from his birth, we thought he was gaining more strength recently. At his present age of one-and-half-years he was able to sit and also stand in the crib if he were put in that position. He was a happy boy and required little attention. With his infectious smile, he won many friends.

"On the morning of November 13, he did not seem to eat like he usually did. Shortly after breakfast he tipped over in his little stroller and bumped his head. He became ill, but we did not think it serious until the night of November 19-20 when he became very weak in spite of all that we did for him. In the morning he seemed somewhat better and we were hopeful again. However, towards noon he became much worse and the Lord took this little flower home at 2:30 p.m. We are sorrowing but as

those with an eternal hope. We know that Danny is now 'safe in the arms of Jesus.' It is our prayer that through this bereavement we may be drawn closer to our Lord and Saviour."

Minister's Daughter Killed in Accident

Lancaster, Pa. — A two-car accident recently claimed the life of two-year-old Charlene Keener, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Walter Keener, Mount Joy.

Funeral services were held at the Elizabethtown Mennonite church, where her father is minister.

Rev. Keener was holding revival meetings at York's Corners Mennonite church in New York and took his wife and child along to New York on Sunday. On Monday Mrs. Keener and daughter were returning home with Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Miller of Mount Joy, when the Miller car collided with another auto. Although neither car was traveling fast, the back door of the Miller car flew open and Charlene was thrown from her mother's lap onto the highway.

Mrs. Keener, the former Martha Hernley, was taken to the hospital, suffering shoulder injuries and shock.

Surviving in addition to the parents are seven brothers and sisters.

WEDDINGS

Peters' Silver Wedding

Swift Current, Sask. — The Swift Current M. B. church was the scene of a silver wedding anniversary celebrated on Sunday, November 15, 1959, for Rev. and Mrs. F. J. Peters.

The Peters have served the home church for many years and still are active in it. Rev. F. J. Peters also serves surrounding churches at the present time.

Their oldest son, Frank, was chairman and a fine program of songs, recitations and duets was given by the family. Rev. H. F. Klassen from McMahan and our pastor, Rev. E. J. Lautermilch, served with messages. Rev. F. J. Peters briefly related of the Lord's guiding in their lives.

Before the delicious lunch was served in the church basement the couple was presented with a gift from the church members.

The William Voths

(Continued from page 8-2)

Diseases such as cholera, various dysenteries and smallpox have broken out as a result of the floods. Just this morning we went with a medical team to give inoculations in an area about 25 miles from here.

"Unemployment is already great among these people, and now the flood has really accentuated the

problem. We are taking milk, rice and wheat to various areas around the city. Clothing is badly needed, but heavy import restrictions do not allow us to ship in such commodities. As soon as the waters recede, we expect to introduce poultry projects in the refugee colonies to help the people earn their own living. The colony with which we are mainly concerned has a population of more than 5,000. Most of them live on from \$5 to \$15 per month per family. It is hard to think oneself into such a situation. Our great concern is how to help these poor people to a healthier standard of living. The physical needs are so great that we often have to check ourselves that we do not put spiritual needs second to the material. We were thrilled when the leader of the Communists in the refugee colony asked for a Bible; he says he reads it. Others are taking Bible correspondence courses in Bengali."

* * *

Blessings and Help in Paraguay

Baptisms have been held in two Mennonite Brethren churches in Paraguay recently. The Fernheim Church was to baptize 35 persons on November 1. Volendam baptized eight persons on October 11.

The shipment of more than 100 telephones and several switchboards to our Mennonite colonies in Paraguay has recently been completed. Brother O. B. Reimer, Reedley, Calif., reports that this telephone equipment was made available by two companies. The contributions of the Pacific Telephone Company and the General Telephone Company of California are hereby gratefully acknowledged. Part of the shipment was made to Fernheim two years ago. The remainder of the shipment was recently completed to Neuland. In connection with their contribution, the Pacific Telephone Company asked Brother Reimer for information regarding the Mennonite colonies in Paraguay for use in their employee magazine.

* * *

A. Funk's Leper Work

A missionary ministry to leprosy victims is being undertaken by the Friesland Mennonite Brethren Church in eastern Paraguay with assistance from the Board of General Welfare. The worker is Brother Arend Funk of the Friesland Church, who is supported by the Board, which also provides funds for medicine and Gospel literature. Brother Funk has received official approval from the government for this service to leprosy patients in the vicinity of Friesland. Previously he served for two years at the Kilometer 81 leprosy mission. As he travels from place to place in his ministry, he is directed to leprosy patients in rural areas by local authorities.

COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

M. B. Bible College

College Graduate Speaks to Students

Rev. Lawrence Warkentine of Brandon, Man., addressed the students of the Bible College and challenged them to consider the home field as their primary task. Rev. Warkentine, a B.R.E. graduate of the college, has been instrumental in developing a work in Brandon which presently promises to become a self-supporting Mennonite Brethren Church. He challenged the students to become soul winners and not to be satisfied with being ushers or members of choirs. All these tasks, important as they are, must serve the higher goal of the church.

Students Sponsor Debate

Four students will participate in a debate on the topic: "Resolved that the abolition of capital punishment would be beneficial for our society." Albert Hiebert of St. Catharines and Nick Kaethler of Kitchener have chosen to defend the affirmative, whereas Leonard Neufeld of Yarrow and Abe Dueck of Coaldale the negative. These debates sponsored by the literary committee of the college are designed to aid students in developing techniques of communication and to help them towards more effective public speaking.

Former President to Address Faculty

Rev. H. H. Janzen of Basel, Switzerland, will speak to the faculty and staff at their Christmas banquet. Rev. Janzen served the college as instructor and later as president. After his resignation as Mrs. Janzen and he took on the task of conducting Bible conferences in Europe. The work is sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions of the Mennonite Brethren Conference. As former pastor, Rev. Janzen has enjoyed a wide pastoral and preaching experience and has travelled extensively in America and Europe. He will serve at the Annual Bible Conference held at the Elmwood Mennonite Brethren Church during the Christmas holidays.

College Instruction on CBC

Mr. Victor Martens of the college music department will be featured by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in a vocal recital. The program known as "Song Album" features promising Canadian talent. Mr. Martens appeared recently on CBC, being interviewed by Sir Ernest MacMillan.

Instructors Serve at Annual Bible Conference

The Elmwood Mennonite Brethren Church has sponsored an annual Bible conference for more than 25 years. The sessions are visited by ministers and members of almost all Mennonite churches of Manitoba. In the past such men as Jacob W. Reimer, A. H. Unruh, H. H. Janzen, J. B. Toews, C. C. Peters, and others, have served as speakers. This year the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians will be used as the basis of the Bible lectures. The speakers are J. A. Toews, David Ewert, and F. C. Peters. Rev. H. H. Janzen will serve with a series of special lectures in the evenings.

Summer School to be Continued

President Toews announced that the executive of the college board had gone on record, favouring a continuation of the summer school program. Last year's school marked the beginning of such efforts by the college and the interest shown encouraged the board to continue such offerings. The time and the offerings are to be announced later.

Mennonite Educational Institute

Clearbrook, B.C. — The students were fortunate in having Rev. J. Baerg in their chapel service on Monday, November 23. Rev. Baerg, who is at present conducting evangelistic meetings at East Aldergrove Church, is quite well-known to most of the students. He conducted meetings at the MEI during Religious Emphasis Week in 1958.

Henry Dueck, a graduate of the MEI, who has been serving in Paraguay, spoke to the senior students on Wednesday morning.

Guest speaker on November 26 was Rev. C. N. Hiebert, who gave a challenging message on being a real man. He showed the great need of real men and women in our world today.

The film, "My Friend Flicka," was shown to the student body at noon hour on December 1. Proceeds of the film are to be used to cover expenses of the annual Christmas banquet. On the same night students put on a German program under the direction of Mr. C. C. Peters and Mr. E. Ratzlaff. The first play under the direction of Mr. Ratzlaff was "Wovon die Menschen leben," by the Russian author, Leo Tolstoy. The second item on the program was a poem recited by a grade XII student. In a skit by four boys we learned how to pay debts without money. Lastly, we heard the play, "Die Umkehr," written by Mr. Peters. It was the story of a Christian girl, who despite her mother's pleadings, left home and went to the city. After a short while she fell into deep sin. She had

the opportunity of hearing God's Word and was finally persuaded by a missionary to go back to her mother. The concert choir provided the musical background for the play.

George Schmidt of Grade XIII made the announcements throughout the program and Mr. C. C. Peters made closing remarks. Proceeds of the evening are to be used to purchase material needed for the religious training in the school.

Mrs. Peter Doerksen spoke to the girls' joint prayer group on Wednesday. She related some of the difficulties in the work that they have been doing in Japan.

Miss Maria Foth, formerly a missionary in Austria and now on the teaching staff of the MEI, on Friday showed slides to the senior students of the work that she has done in Austria.

Examination schedules have been posted and students are busy preparing for the first term examinations to be written from December 8 to 11.

E. Schroeder

Eden Christian College

School has been in progress for several months. The enrollment this year is 137. Of the six teachers at Eden, four have remained from previous years: Rev. D. Neumann, principal; Mr. R. Bartel; Mr. G. Wichert; and Rev. P. Dick. The two new teachers, whom we have learned to appreciate, are Rev. H. Voth and Mr. M. Harms.

School activities are many and varied but the one which is perhaps most enjoyed is the Friday devotional period. There an opportunity is given for testimonies from the students. These are readily given and are a source of great blessing. On several occasions we have been privileged to hear guest speakers, among them Rev. H. E. Epp, Canadian Conference Evangelist, who will be our Bible Emphasis Week speaker in January, and Mr. Purvis from Bluffton College.

We are very thankful to God for the increase in attendance at the weekly prayer meetings this year. These prayer meetings are held every Wednesday at noon, with boys and girls meeting separately except for one joint meeting every month. The motto for these meetings is "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:-).

On November 14, the first literary was presented. The theme, "Tribute to the Deep South," was presented in a moving pantomime written by Beatrice Runions. It was interspersed with a number of Negro Spirituals sung by a special choir under the direction of Rev. P. Dick. Unlike other years, there will be no drama this year. However, another literary will be held in the spring term.

Exams are nearly upon us again and we ask you to remember, es-

pecially during this time, teachers and students alike before the throne of God.

As Christmas draws near, we are also reminded, especially through the songs and carols being practiced for this occasion, of the great unspeakable gift of God, His Son Jesus Christ.

Anne Wiebe

Inspirational Service at Bethany

The Bethany Bible Institute had the privilege of being in charge of the Sunday night fellowship service in the Hepburn Mennonite Brethren church. The band was present to add to the enjoyment of the evening. The school choir, quartets and trios sang and there were also other items on the program. Rev. Corny Braun brought the message of the evening in which he considered II Timothy 2:21.

Also during the course of the week we had a missionary friend, Miss Flora Dixon, with us. Miss Dixon is a representative of the Sudan Interior Mission. She attended the regular Monday night prayer meeting. In the morning chapel she presented a short speech. She challenged us to be certain of God's appointed place in our lives. We cherish these missionary visits from time to time. It always challenges us to think of those who have never heard, and stimulates us to be faithful.

Lois Berg

Swift Current Bible Institute

During the past few weeks things have been moving at a rapid pace. No sooner has the term begun and the talk switches to exams. Yet despite the many classes, the hurry and scurry of activity, and the regular study hours, time has been found to exercise the body as well as the mind.

Of late our skating rink has been receiving more than its share of attention. Together with the general abuse which it is asked to bear, it only too frequently must stop the downward plunge of a rapidly falling force. Beginners and professionals alike succumb to bumps and bruises while exploring their hidden talents.

Our weekly testimony and prayer meetings play a vital role in our school life. Here the discouraged and the homesick, the joyful and the troubled, the student, wife, and teacher are again inspired to enter joyfully into the daily tasks that confront them.

J. Bergen

There's no defeat, in truth, save from within. Unless you're beaten there, you're bound to win!

—Henry Austin

Mennonites in Waterloo College

Waterloo, Ont. — At the invitation of Dr. and Mrs. Dyck, 25 of the 52 Mennonite students presently registered at the University of Waterloo gathered for an informal evening in the Dyck home. Dr. Dyck is professor of German at Waterloo College. Students took part in games and informal discussions of topics of common interest around the fireside.

The students represented several Mennonite groups and came from Manitoba, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario. Some of the students attended one of the Bible colleges in Winnipeg before enrolling at Waterloo. For the first time several Mennonite students are taking the engineering

course in which Waterloo University is specializing. Other courses represented were arts and theology.

One of the favorite topics of conversation and interest was the establishment of an inter-Mennonite residential College now under study by an inter-Conference Committee representing the various Mennonite and Brethren in Christ groups in Ontario.

The number of Mennonite students at Waterloo has doubled in this academic year. All major groups are represented. There was some discussion about the possibility of organizing a Mennonite students' organization on the campus similar to the Association of Mennonite University Students now in operation on the campuses of the Universities of Manitoba and Alberta.

H. W. Taves

The actions of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts.

—Locke

Talent is nurtured in solitude, but character mid the tempest of the world.

—Goethe

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Theme: "The Missionary Responsibility of the Church in the Light of the End-times."

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Mr. and Mrs. Albert Falk of Herbert, Sask., were blessed with a daughter on November 14, 1959. They named her Patricia Lois.

On the Horizon

GERMAN CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS of the Manitoba Mennonite Schools shall be heard over radio station CFAM every Sunday from 6:30 — 7:00 p.m. in December of 1959.

December 12. — Oratorio Choir of the M.B. Bible College will present the "Elijah".

December 18. — Christmas Program by the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute in the South End M. B. church, corner of William and Juno, Winnipeg, at 7 p.m.

December 17. — A Christmas Carol Program in the M.B. Bible College auditorium.

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