

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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Inter-Mennonite Sunday School Convention



On this photo left to right are: Rev. J. J. Hostettler, convention speaker; Rev. H. T. Klassen, chairman of the S.S. Committee for this S.S. Convention; Rev. H. R. Baerg, assistant chairman of the S.S. Committee, and four students of the Canadian Mennonite Bible College, who served with musical numbers.

Winnipeg, Man. — The first Inter-Mennonite Sunday School Convention of Winnipeg was held in the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate auditorium from February 24 to 26 under the auspices of the Pastors' Fellowship of the Mennonite churches of Greater Winnipeg.

It was a historic occasion for all sixteen churches participating in this venture. It was a fruitful experience indeed for the Sunday school workers of all the churches to gather around God's Word and find directives for better teaching methods under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Chaired very ably by the Rev. H. T. Klassen, assisted enthusiastically by the various committees, the convention proved to be very stimulating to the large daily audience.

Usually the tone for the conven-

tion is set by the convention speaker. This convention was very fortunate in acquiring the services of a man of God whose heart is filled with Sunday school enthusiasm that is contagious. The Rev. J. J. Hostettler, pastor of the Old Mennonite Church, Peoria, Ill., spoke on various aspects of the Sunday school. Such themes as: "The Sunday School Worker, the Twentieth Century's Greatest Missionary," or "The Home, Primary Agency of Christian Education" revealed the speaker's deep insight in the field of religious education. The very practical emphasis of the lectures was greatly appreciated by the audience. A master at story telling, Rev. Hostettler once again pointed out that the Sunday school has the responsibility and the needed equipment to reach the community. Some

of us have only played Sunday school. Since Brother Hostettler is the field secretary of the (Old) Mennonites, the explanations he

gave in regard to the new Sunday school material were very helpful to the teachers concerned.

(Continued on page 12-1)

Large Audiences Hear Prophetic Messages

Winkler, Man — Rev. G. W. Peters, pastor of the Buhler M. B. Church, gave a series of prophetic messages during the week of February 5-10. The meetings were very well attended, as the audience grew larger from night to night. Rev. Peters always devoted some time to the boys and girls. They had a contest to see who would make the best fisherman. The children responded so well that there were over 100 present on the last evening. They received pins for prizes. The meetings proved to be a great blessing to all who attended.

The young people of the Winkler M. B. Church presented a program at the Carman M. B. Mission church on Sunday, February 19. It was a pleasure to visit a smaller church and cheer them up with songs, music and a message. Brother John Kuhl, leader of the "Jugendverein," led the meeting. Don Kroeker gave a message and Abe Siemens conducted the choir. The theme for the evening was "Selfless Living."

Mrs. Evelyn Dyck

Challenged by Five Missionary Speakers

Hepburn, Sask. — January 23 was a highlight at Bethany Bible Institute as classes began in the

new administration building. Students and staff were happy to move into the new building, despite its partially completed condition. We thank God for this material progress and pray that we may continue to progress spiritually as well.

Many blessings were enjoyed during the missionary conference on January 29 to February 1, held in the new chapel. Missionaries representing India were Rev. and Mrs. Roy Martens and Miss Emma Lepp. The Congo was represented by the Rev. H. Brucks and Colombia by the Rev. E. Friesen.

Rev. Brucks reported on the hardships endured by the missionaries during the last year of political upheaval and the evacuation in the Congo. Prayer was requested for the missionaries who are still within Congolese borders.

Rev. Ernest Friesen, on furlough from the Colombia mission field, presented the needs of the gospel there and the progress that has been made.

It was interesting to note the position of the Indian churches as the difficulties and progress of indigenization were reported by Rev. Roy Martens and Miss Emma Lepp.

We were really blessed during the conference, and our desire is to joyfully share the burden of leading the lost to Christ.

Grayce Megli

Ministers' Course at the M. B. B. College

Winnipeg, Man. — On Monday morning, February 6, the M. B. Bible College opened its doors to ministers from all across Canada and from the USA. The warm, friendly atmosphere of faculty, students, and kitchen staff soon made us feel quite at home. Thinking of the lectures we were privileged to hear, we were reminded of the verse of Scripture as recorded in Ruth 2:14: "And Boaz said unto her, at mealtime come thou hither, and eat of the bread, and dip thy morsel in the vinegar. And she sat beside the reapers: And he reached her parched corn, and she did eat, and was sufficed, and left."

As ministers of the gospel we are very grateful for the privilege of being in the field of our heavenly Boaz, to sit beside these reapers who have given us "handfuls of purpose." We have been sufficed, and for this we are deeply indebted to our heavenly Father. The regular College students were very kind and considerate as we made the necessary adjustments to college life. Taking meals at the dining hall made us feel as though we belonged here. But of prime importance were the lectures given to us by the instructors.

(Continued on page 3-1)

EDITORIAL

Christians and Reading

"Did ye never read?" The Gospel of Matthew records this question at least five times as asked by Jesus. He directed it to the Pharisees, scribes, and Sadducees. These Jewish leaders were literate men. What were they reading? Or perhaps, didn't they understand what they were reading? Perhaps they had hidden the sacred scrolls or had preserved them too well. At any rate, Jesus expected them to be faithful and understanding readers of God's Word, the law and the prophets.

We don't know what the percentage of literacy among the Jewish people was in Jesus' time. Perhaps not very high. We believe Matthew could read since he was a tax collector. Luke, the physician and historian, certainly could read. What about the Galilean fishermen, Peter, James, and John?

We can be certain of one thing. After these three fishermen became disciples of Jesus, they became readers of the law and the prophets. We number them now among the greatest writers the world has ever known. They had the benefit of learning from the Master Teacher and of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Reading and writing follow quickly in the wake of Christianity. Every tribe, nation, and people under the sun has a language but not all have it in written form. Millions cannot read.

Christians today must preserve the glorious heritage of reading, writing, and literature. We must continue to be known as a people who love to read, to encourage others to read, and to share our books and magazines with others who are literally starving for something good to read.

We are in danger of losing this heritage. Director Arthur Larson of the US Information Agency commented: "The fate of the world is in the hands of those who read books." He could well have added that the kind of fate depends upon the character of the books read.

Light and Life Evangel commented editorially that the writings of V. I. Lenin have been translated into more languages than the Bible. When Lenin became dictator, he replaced the old alphabet with a perfectly phonetic one. He taught the languages people spoke. There are 58 important languages in Russia (282, if all dialects are counted). Literacy has greatly increased in Russia in recent years.

A danger that is threatening Christians today is too much looking and listening and not enough reading. We are living in a picture age. Although a picture may portray thousands of words of meaning, most of us don't look at it long enough to get 10 words of meaning out of it. If the Apostle Paul were living today, he would likely call the tendency to "picture reading" a childhood trait and would recommend that we put off this thing as we come to maturity.

There is the habit of excessive listening to radio and phonographs, some of which is good listening. Wilbur Schramm, an outstanding authority on mass media communication, estimated that young people give about five hours a day, a third of their waking time, to radio, television, newspapers, magazines and paperbacks.

As a Christian people we must earnestly endeavor to preserve our heritage of reading. We ought to encourage our children to build their own little libraries of books which interest them. It is better for us to be known by the number of cases of good books in our homes than by the number of cars in our garages. We can give an effective spiritual witness through the books and magazines we have in our homes.

We ourselves should give more time to reading, the Bible first and Christian books and magazines second. We must learn to read, not to escape from ourselves, but to find ourselves as we are in Christ. We must expect our reading to make us think, build a stronger faith in Christ, and give us a better understanding of our fellow men.

Would Jesus have as much reason to ask us today, "Have ye never read?" Let us examine our daily reading program and see where we can improve it. If reading makes a full man, the opposite is likely also true.

Guest Editorial from Gospel Herald

DEVOTIONAL

Christ, the Lord of the Church

Rev. 3:14-22

(By the late Dr. A. H. Unruh upon special permission. Translated by the Rev. A. P. Dirks of North Kildonan, Man.)

Our time requires up-to-date sermons. What does it mean? In the letters sent to the churches through John, the apostle, the Lord gives them a timely word. The call to repentance was spread abroad.

We observe that Christianity may become indifferent under the influence of events of the time and various cults. With this lecture I wish to remind us of the exhortations of the Lord to the Church at Laodicea, because it concerns us too. I have a deep feeling that my lecture is not sufficiently serious and profound. However, I hope it will be stimulating to the reader so that he will undertake a thorough reading of the letter to the Church at Laodicea and meditate on Rev. 3:14-22, where we read as follows: "I know thy works that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

Before the Apostle John received the Revelation of Jesus Christ and the events connected with His second coming, he experienced that the Lord had a profound effect on him. His view of the Lord was distinctly clarified. He saw the Lord from two aspects: 1) as the Lord of the churches, 2) as the King of kings, Who judges the world and changes the constitution of the world. On reading the first three chapters of Revelation, one sees Jesus as the High Priest and as the Lord of the church, Who speaks the final word in the church.

Let us behold Jesus as the Lord of the church until he grips our hearts, so that we may deeply bow before Him.

I wish to briefly stress the revelation of Jesus as found in the previous verses. In the first chapter we see the Lord as the High Priest walking in the midst of the churches, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girt about the breast with a golden girdle. His head and hair were white like wool, white as snow, and His eyes were as a flame of fire, His feet like unto fine brass, as if they burnt in a furnace and His voice as the sound of many waters. And He had in His right hand seven stars, and out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was as the sun shining forth in strength. Because of His appearance

the apostle collapsed and this impression of the Lord was continually prevailing as John wrote the Revelation. May this sublime portrait be imprinted deeply on our spirits, so that we may take the words of the Lord very seriously.

In the succeeding chapters Jesus appears before the church in person. In this last book Jesus says of Himself: "These things says the Amen, the faithful and the true witness, the beginning of the creation of God." Thus Jesus introduces Himself. Before we behold the image in the book, we must be sure who the introduced person is. Many members of the church criticize their minister. Others insist that the congregation respect the minister as an unimpeachable person. Thus people are concerned about their responsibility toward others and toward life. But here we are dealing with the Lord of the church, to Whom both ministers and members are responsible. He sees our hearts and touches our consciences. Dear reader, you are not dealing here with a poor sinful man who is preaching you the gospel, but with the glorious Lord of the church, the searcher of the heart, with the Saviour Who gives both repentance and forgiveness.

He is called "Amen." Our Lord Jesus is the Word of God, but He is also the Amen of the Word of God. He is the Amen in person, the fulfilled prophecy of God.

In the first chapter He calls Himself the Alpha and Omega. The meaning of Amen is "So be it." Everything came into being through Jesus Christ, the Son of God, that is, everything that God had deter-

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CHURCH NEWS

An Impressive Missionary Conference

Virgil, Ont. — The presence of the Lord was felt at our missionary conference, which was held on February 10-12. Willie Baerg, missionary from the Congo, A. E. Janzen from Hillsboro, and M. B. John, a native minister of India, visited us.

Rev. M. B. John spoke on I John 5:11,12: "Why the Lord Jesus Came Into This World." He closed with the words, "Jesus Christ is my Saviour."

Rev. W. Baerg, the next speaker, spoke on "The Inner Attitude Towards the Things of God," basing his talk on I Chron. 4:10. He said that there is no closed door in Christian service. God has called us to go and tell others, and not to come back.

On Saturday afternoon, Rev. Janzen was the first speaker. He presented a message on "The Founda-

tion of Missions." Rev. Baerg then spoke on "Why Did the Son of Man Have Not?" based on Luke 9:57,58. He renounced position and wealth so that He could: 1) make contacts with people, 2) do the task, 3) obtain results, 4) please God.

On Saturday evening, Rev. John gave a report on the M. B. Church in India, after reading Matt. 16:18, which speaks of God's promise to build His church. He quoted the verse, I Cor. 15:58, and sang "The Church's One Foundation" in Telegu. Rev. Janzen then gave a survey of our mission work in the various countries.

On Sunday morning, Rev. John spoke on "The Two-Fold Purpose of Man's Life." Our aim must be to: 1) serve our Lord, Joshua 24:15, 2) live for Christ, Phil. 1:21, 3) glorify God in our life, I Cor. 6:20, 4) witness for our Lord, Acts 1:8, 5) win souls for Christ, I Cor. 9:22. Rev. Baerg spoke on "The Need of Our Times," according to Nehemiah 2:2,3; 11-15.

Sunday afternoon Rev. Baerg read I Cor. 16:9 and Col. 4:3. "Joys and Difficulties in the Life of a Missionary," was his topic. Rev. Janzen spoke on "The Threefold Call of God," based on Titus 2:11-14. God has called us: 1) unto Salvation, 2) unto Separation, 3) unto Service.

The evening service was held at Eden Christian College and the auditorium was filled to capacity. Rev. John read John 15:16 and gave us his personal testimony. He has found that Jesus Christ saves, satisfies and sanctifies. He sang in Telegu: "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross." Rev. Baerg gave us a report on "The Developments that Led to the Congo Crisis" and showed slides about the Congo illustrating the theme, "Darkness and Light." This was followed by a film about Asuncion, Paraguay, called "Fishers of Men." We had a film on the missionary life each evening, the other two being, "The Miracles of Grace" and "Choco Mission Frontiers."

Various groups provided music at the services. Truly God was with us and everyone there was challenged to do his or her task.

Linda Willms

Home and Foreign Missionary Work Presented

Glenbush, Sask. — Rev. Henry Thielman, city missionary in Calgary, Alta., visited our church and brought us a report of the work in Calgary. He also presented God's Word to us in four morning and evening services. God spoke to us in a special way as Brother Thielman broke the bread of life. It was interesting to hear of the work done among the less fortunate in Calgary. These people, who have not had the gospel preached to them clearly, or whose lives have been warped by the use of liquor, need our help and intercession. We were encouraged to pray more for this important work.

On February 15, Dr. George Froese, missionary to India, presented the needs of the country where he has served. The medical needs of the people bring them to the hospital, which gives the missionaries an opportunity to present the gospel to them. The patients usually bring their families with them. Dr. Froese requested prayer for the native Christians that they might learn to assume more responsibility in the church.

Mrs. Henry Barger

Ministers' Course

(Continued from page 1-2)

An introduction to pastoral counselling emphasized the importance of gaining insight into the dynamics of human adjustment, becoming acquainted with counselling techniques, and relating our ministry to areas of conflict.

In Homiletics the concepts of preaching were defined. The intim-

ate relation of the preacher to his message was made clear. This course was a real asset to our future ministry.

The Pastoral Epistles were also introduced to us. Titus was approached from the exegetical standpoint. The minister and his responsibilities were shown to us from II Corinthians. A topic of concern and importance to all of us was the mid-week church school. In our

discussion of this question we considered the methods of other denominations. In the study of Soteriology (doctrine of salvation) we saw the preparation of salvation in eternity. The lectures by the librarian on Sermon Illustrations, and by the music teachers on the Importance of Good Church Music were most inspiring. Always the inevitable bell closed the lecture and another class had passed.

We are grateful for these days of rich blessing. The courses have inspired each one of us and given us greater courage to continue to serve the Lord. Our stay here has helped our ministers to get acquainted with our college, its personnel, student body, and curriculum.

On behalf of the ministers
W. E. Thiessen



Front row, instructors at the M. B. Bible College, left to right: Herb Giesbrecht, Victor Martens, Peter Klassen, Frank C. Peters, J. A. Toews, president, J. J. Toews, C. Wall, David Ewert, H. R. Baerg.
Second row, left to right: H. Regehr, Steinbach; P. Doerksen, Calgary; John Unger, Hamilton; John Klassen, Oliver, B.C.; Jacob Bergen, Hepburn, Sask.; Jacob Kroeker, Elm Creek; Ernie Isaac, Swift Current; George Reimer, Pierceland, Sask.; Art Martens, Hepburn.
Third row, left to right: Isaak Block, Borden, Sask.; H. P. Toews, Winnipeg; Peter Reimer, Port Rowan, Ont.; G. Dirks, Namaka, Alta.; Peter C. Penner, Abbotsford; David Duerksen, Pincher Creek, Alta.; William Schroeder, Steinbach; A. A. Loewen, Winnipeg; Peter Dueck, Springstein, Man.
Fourth row, left to right: Jacob G. Klassen, Manitou, Man.; J. J. Nikkel, Newton Siding; David Thiessen, Arnaud; Herman Voth, Aldergrove; J. H. Kehler, Hague, Sask.; William Thiessen, Linden, Alta.; Abe Quiring, Carman, Man.; Aaron Schmidt, Kitimat, B.C.; and Abe Esau, Yarrow, B.C.
Many brethren who registered for the ministers' course and who were present in class are not shown on this photo.

Church Work at Portage la Prairie

Portage la Prairie, Man. — Sunday, February 19, was a day of blessing for a number of families who have been worshipping together for about a year and a half in Portage la Prairie. This was the day when they organized as an Evangelical Mennonite Church.

The Evangelical Mennonite Church has conducted services here since May, 1959. The first meetings were held in the Orange Hall. Later, when a resident minister moved in, services were conducted in the minister's home as well.

As the existing quarters were inadequate, the construction of a church was begun in the summer of 1960. By November, 1960, the basement of the 40'x60' structure was ready for the conducting of services. The upper part is still unfinished except for a suite for the pastor and his family.

Regular worship services and Sunday school are conducted every Sunday. The average Sunday school attendance for the new year stands at 56. In addition there are mid-week and young people's services. The ladies take part in a Ladies' Mission Group.

The first members of this church come from three different Mennonite denominations. Fourteen members from seven families have united to form this first fellowship. Pastor of the group is D. K. Schellenberg, formerly of Steinbach.

Portage and District Ministerial Association Activities

"The Law and Polity of the Mennonite Church" was the topic of discussion at the February meeting of the Portage and District Ministerial Association. The two Mennonite pastors in the city, representing the Mennonite Brethren and the Evangelical Mennonite churches, cooperated in the preparation of the paper to be presented.

Among the churches represented by the ministerial association are the Church of England, United Church including RCAF Southport, and Presbyterian, just to name a few. In all there are about 15 churches, five of which are United Church.

For some time now, the monthly meetings have been allotted to single denominations to present their own beliefs. February was allotted to the Mennonite Church. After the paper had been presented, a question period followed. As can be expected, there was no shortage of questions. In fact, the chairman had to close the meeting because the time was up.

Among the questions asked were: "Do all Mennonite churches believe the same about war?" "Where does

Live only for today and you ruin tomorrow.

the name come from?" There were questions about baptism, feet washing, academic qualifications of ministers, taking of oaths, and many others too numerous to mention. All were intelligent questions and the entire meeting was carried on in the spirit of love. Several ministers expressed their appreciation for a very informative meeting.

D. K. Schellenberg

India Pastor Conference Speaker

Virgil, Ont. — Rev. M. B. John, pastor of the Mahbubnagar M. B. Church, India, was the conference speaker at the Niagara, Ont., M. B. church on February 17-19. Missionary W. G. Baerg, Africa, and Rev. A. E. Janzen, Hillsboro, Kans., served with stirring messages and mission reports. The films, "M. B. Missions" (Colombia, South America) and "Building for God" (Brazil, South America), were shown. May these days have caused us to see the needs and rewards of missions.

Holdina Voth

God's Word and Work Presented

Leamington, Ont. — On January 2, our church had the privilege of being host to the first service of the annual "Week of Prayer." Rev. W. Kennedy, Paris, Ont., was the guest speaker. After the service he met with the young people for an informal discussion. Approximately 50 young people, representing various denominations in Leamington, were present.

The week of January 22 to 26 was one of particular blessing for us as Rev. Henry Regehr, Winnipeg, ministered to us each evening. Prior to Brother Regehr's ministry our members had held special prayer meetings at the church and in homes, and God answered our prayers and gave His abundant blessing to the preaching of the Word. Rev. Regehr spoke on "The Christian's Growth and Prayer Life." The Holy Spirit spoke earnestly to many hearts, as was evident in our testimony meetings in the past few weeks.

Rev. Regehr continued ministering on January 27 to 29 as the ministers and deacons of Ontario gathered for their annual conference. (See report in Feb. 10 issue.) We, the host church, enjoyed entertaining the guest ministers and deacons in our homes and having fellowship with them.

On Wednesday evening, February 15, we had the pleasure of having Missionary Wm. Baerg, recently returned from the Congo, in our midst. By means of a report and slides he shared with us the joys and problems of the work which they have been forced to leave, and

laid upon our hearts a real burden for the native workers carrying on the work in their strife-torn country. God grant that we may continue in daily prayer for our brethren in Christ in the Congo.

Mrs. Gertrude D. Wiens

Revival Meetings at Arnold

Arnold, B.C. — Rev. P. R. Toews from the Fraserview M. B. Church, Vancouver, was the speaker at the revival campaign. The services were conducted in the German language, except for two, which were held in English for the benefit of English-speaking people living in the area. Music was supplied by the church choir, the young people's choir, and various young people's groups of the church. Rev. Toews had a special feature for the children every night. The meetings were held from Sunday, February 12, to Saturday, February 18.

Revival Services at Greendale

Greendale, B. C. — "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21). This was the testimony of the Rev. H. H. Epp, conference evangelist, as he ministered in the M. B. church at Greendale, February 12-19.

In the initial messages believers were exhorted in the light of God's Word to be reconciled to God and to one another. God's abiding faithfulness was manifest as Christians confessed and were restored to their first love. Praise God, He also gave grace for unsaved to step forward and accept Christ as personal Saviour.

The prayer seasons during the day and for one-half hour preceding the evening services were times of waiting upon God for the blessings which only He can give.

In the services, the Rev. Epp was assisted by choirs and groups of singers who presented the good news of salvation and invitation in song. The testimonies of Christians were an encouragement and blessing to many. The children were encouraged to attend the services and to search the Scriptures, as directed by the evangelist.

May we remain spiritually alert so that we may not some day awake from our sleep, as did Samson, to find that the Lord has departed from us.

Mrs. Elsie Dyck

Future Subscribers

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Loewen of Justice, Man., a daughter, Judith Fay, on February 17, 1961, at the Brandon General Hospital. Judy is a sister for Marlene and Laura Jane.

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Anna Bergmann †

Mrs. Anna Bergmann, 80, of Glenlea, Man., died at the Concordia Hospital, Winnipeg, on February 24, 1961. She was a resident of the province for 36 years. She is survived by two sons, Alfred and Henry of Glenlea; four daughters, Miss Hedwig of Glenlea, Mrs. John Wiewler of St. Catharines, Ont., Mrs. John Wiebe of Niverville, Man., Mrs. Albert Foth of Winnipeg; 21 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. She was a member of the Niverville Mennonite Brethren Church since 1929. Funeral services were held on Monday in the Niverville Mennonite Brethren church. The Rev. David Dick officiated.

Mrs. Abram Born †

Funeral services were held in the Winkler Bergthaler church on Monday, February 20, for Mrs. Abram Born, (nee Penner) who passed away in the Salem Home for the Aged, Winkler, on February 16 at the age of 74 years. Rev. D. J. Hildebrand conducted the service and Rev. Abram Born of Morden gave the sermon.

Mrs. Born leaves to mourn her husband, two daughters, Mrs. Corny Klassen of Winnipeg, and Betty, Mrs. Arnold Rietze of Toronto, five sons: John, Ben and Harry of Val Caren, Ont., Donald of Toronto, Ont., and Jack of Winnipeg, Man.

Elizabeth Hiebert †

Elizabeth Hiebert, Gem, Alberta, died in a Vancouver hospital after a heart operation on February 10. She was 27 years of age. Funeral services were held at the Gem M. B. church on February 15.

Buried Alive

Mission, B.C. — Rescuers worked hard recently searching through a massive mudslide for a missing, 32-year-old chicken farmer.

Wolfgang Fischer disappeared earlier in the day as he fed his chickens. The slide, 250 feet long and 12 feet deep, rolled down a hill and buried Fischer, the rambling coop and hundreds of screeching chickens. His farm is about 30 miles east of Vancouver.

Mrs. Fischer, crying, said, "There was no chance for Wolfgang to get away in time." Mrs. Fischer was in the family's nearby house with her three young children as the slide oozed down.

Using bulldozers, shovels and their bare hands, workers tried frantically to locate the missing man. They could not hear any sound from him above the cries of the trapped chickens.



The Cause of Foreign Missions

Board of Missions Report

India

Anne L. Ediger is devoting full time to Bible instruction and work among the students, particularly among the young women, at the various church centers in India. She spends a week at each place as she makes a round of the various centers. In her instruction she is also training some of the women teachers in Christian counselling and supervisory administration.

The Mahbubnagar Church in India is a good example of the indigenous effort. Mahbubnagar is now fully supporting two national pastors and contributing a sizeable amount to the evangelistic program of the Mahbubnagar field association.

The fine relationship that exists on the Kalvakurty field in India between the older people and leaders and the young people and potential leaders is cause for commendation and gratitude to God. Ministers and churches on the Kalvakurty field are showing a wonderful response to the Bible training offered in the elementary Bible school on that field and to the course given at Bethany Bible Institute at Shamshabad.



Rev. and Mrs. James P. Wiebe and daughter Ruth Ellen, 1.

Brother and Sister James P. Wiebe are under appointment for missionary service in India and are scheduled to sail early this summer. Their ministry is planned to assist the India church in the field of evangelism. Our prayers in behalf of permits for them to enter India, their final preparations and period of language study will be appreciated. Brother Wiebe is a son of the late H. D. Wiebe, a well-known worker in our conference. Sister Wiebe is the daughter of P. C. Epps of Reedley.

The Wiebes have been serving the new Valley Church in Pacoima, Calif. (part of Greater Los Angeles), since 1956. Brother and Sis-

ter Wiebe also have experience in Sunday school work, daily vacation Bible school, youth, choir and music work. They have attended Immanuel Academy in Reedley. Sister Wiebe received her Bible and Liberal Arts education at Pacific, Reedley and Fresno State Colleges. Brother Wiebe received his Liberal Arts education at Reedley, College, University of California in Los Angeles, and Fresno State College. He further studied at Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, Calif., where he received the bachelor of divinity and master of religious education degrees.

Evangelistic services are being held in the Hughstown school in India this week (March 6 to 12) with N. P. James, teacher in the Bethany Bible School, as evangelist.

Brazil

Walter Pastres in Brazil are transferring from Campinas, where they have been in Portuguese language study, to Palmas, where they will be opening an evangelistic center. Palmas is a city in southern Brazil in an expanding lumber industry area. Pray for the Pastres and that many souls may be won to the Lord and that a national church may soon be established.

Europe

The acquiring of property for the work in Wels, Austria, is a special concern at this time. The Lord's blessing was evident in the work in Wels. However, it has not been possible to rent a property which would be adequate for the growing church program. Workers in Europe have been praying about the possibility of purchasing a suitable property which is now available. It would provide living quarters for the workers in Wels, Lawrence Warkentins, and an auditorium with a seating capacity for 150 persons. The Board of Missions is now looking to the Lord for means to purchase this property, which is available for \$14,800.00.

A union evangelistic campaign is to begin in Linz, Austria, this coming Sunday, March 12, and run until March 26. The campaign is being conducted by the Janz brothers with our churches in Austria as the main sponsoring group. Special prayer is requested in behalf of these services inasmuch as forces unfriendly to the evangelical cause have prepared strong opposition. Sixty trained men are to be stationed in the Linz area during that time to prevent people from attending the services. Only God is able to

overrule. The spiritual welfare of thousands is under consideration. By faith let us claim the salvation of many.

Colombia

The Colombia Bible School began its 1961 term on January 17 with an encouraging enrollment of 12 students—eight young men and four young ladies. Six of them are second-year students and the other six, first-year students. A wonderful spirit of devotion and prayer is prevailing in the school. Teachers are Sister Annie Dyck, Brother and Sister Wilmer Quiring and Brother Vernon Reimer, assisted by Sister Maria de Duque, wife of the local pastor. Pray for each teacher and student during the school term which runs until June 30.

The work of the Bible school has been a great encouragement to the churches in the Valle in Colombia, according to Brother Quiring. The regional committee of the Valle is planning to make a schedule for second-year Bible school students to visit the towns of Dagua and Yumbo to establish new church centers.

The work in the Choco is also enjoying the blessings of the Lord. At Istmina a special short course has been conducted for lay workers to help them strengthen congregations along the river in their weekly services. The dispensary in the Choco was re-opened by Herta Voth during the latter part of January. Plans were for Esther Wiens to join Sister Voth shortly in the medical work.

An annual conference of Colombia young people is to be held in La Cumbre March 25 to 28. These young believers face many difficult problems in a country of many pressures and even persecutions. Pray that God will do a special work of grace in and through the young people participating in the conference.

Paraguay

The school for ...Paraguayan young people at Yalve-Sanga was scheduled to begin its new term yesterday, March 6, with Hans Wiens serving as principal. An enrollment of 70 students was anticipated. Pray for teachers and students to the end that souls may be saved and young Christians established.

Christ, the Lord of the Church

(Continued from page 2-4)

mined to create. The story of creation informs us that God commanded things to be and in response thereof we read, "And it was so." Through the Son of God salvation was obtained. On the cross Jesus accomplished our salvation saying, "It is finished." There the Son was the Amen of God's love. And in the story of the new crea-

tion we read the following: "And He who sat on the throne said, 'It is done.'" There we hear the Amen of Jesus in the consummation.

Here the Lord Jesus is presented to us as the Lord over all in heaven and on earth. It is He with Whom we shall be in contact. All prophecy is fulfilled in Him. The church is the creation to which He gave His basic principles, and no deviation from them will ever take place. He will leave nothing unfulfilled which He has predicted in His holy Word. In order that His name may impress us more forcibly, let us search for more self-characterization of Jesus as found in the Scriptures.

In heaven, Jesus is called the Amen. When the whole creation was standing and worshipping, the four living beings said Amen (Rev. 5:14). In the glorified Lord they saw the great accomplisher of God's orders in regard to those who had been saved by the blood of the Lamb. In chapter 19, verse 4, we hear the 24 elders and the four living beings say Amen. There Jesus stands as the great accomplisher of the judgments before the multitudes of worshippers in heaven. All heaven is beholding the Son of God with reverence and deep adoration as He Who has all power in heaven and on earth. In the midst of the church Christ is also called the Amen. In II Cor. 1:20 we read: "For all promises of God in Him are yea and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us." That is our blessed experience on earth. When we close our prayer with Amen, that does not mean that we have finished, but that we are steadfastly looking to our Lord Jesus, Who will grant everything we have prayed for.

On earth Jesus always appeared as the Amen. His whole earthly life was the expression of Amen to the will of God and His Word. He usually made His Amen to God's Word effective with the words, "verily I say."

In Matt. 5:18, Jesus confirms the authenticity of the Old Testament as the eternal Word of God. At the time of Jesus, the Jewish society taught the eternity of the law. The scribes and Pharisees went too far, in their teaching, raising the traditions of the elders to the level of the Word of God, even holding them higher. As the Lord began to remove the rubbish of men's traditions, some thought that He had come to destroy the law. This caused the Lord to say Amen to the Word of God, proclaiming, "For verily I say unto you: Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law till all be fulfilled." The New Testament makes no claims to the verbal inspiration of the Bible. The Word of the Lord suffices for all ages, the criticism of great scholars notwithstanding. His Amen to the Word of God should also be our Amen.

(Continuation in next issue)



Young Observers



Hello, Girls and Boys

Today we want to learn more about the verse we had last week. Do you still remember it? "A friend loveth at all times." We like to have friends around us when we are happy and gay. However, when we are sad or sick we especially need to feel love and friendship.

One day a sick man heard that Jesus was in a neighbor's house. He wanted to see Jesus very much, but he could not go alone. But he had four friends who were ready to help him. "You shall see Jesus," they promised. "Just lie still on your bed and we will carry you."

The sick man's bed was like a mattress. It was not very heavy. Each of the four friends took a corner, and away they went, carrying the sick man to see Jesus. They wanted very much to help the sick friend, but when they reached the house they saw a great crowd, and could not get near to the door. So the four friends used the outside stairway leading to the flat rooftop. They carried him up and slowly and carefully let the bed down through a trap-door in the roof into the room where Jesus was talking.

Jesus smiled kindly at the sick man. "Arise, take up your bed and go home," He said. The man stood up. How good it felt to be strong again! He rolled up his bed and left the house.

"We have never seen anything like this before," the people said. The man who had been sick thought it was wonderful too. His four friends had helped him at the right time. And Jesus had made him well.

Can you find this story in the Bible? It is in Mark 2,
Love, Aunt Helen.

A Whole Dollar



"Oh Daddy, guess what? Mother just gave me a whole dollar all for my own!" Gary jumped up and down in delight.

"Me too, Daddy! Mother said she had earned some money of her own, and she wanted to give us some because she loves us so much," Beth explained.

"All of you?" Daddy asked. "You mean even Rosie?"

"Yes, Daddy," Rosie explained. "Do you know what I'm going to do with it? I'm going to buy a doll." "Rosie loves dolls so much," Beth said, "but I'm going to put all of mine in for Sunday school."

Mother came into the room in time to hear the children say what they wanted to buy, so she said, "Gary, tell Daddy what you plan to do with your dollar."

"Oh, I want to spend mine on a present for grandpa's birthday. It is just two weeks away," Gary told Daddy.

The children were almost too excited to eat their supper, and right afterwards Beth asked Daddy if he had change for her dollar. "I want to pay my tithe right away," she explained.

"Oh, that's right," sighed Gary. "I almost forgot about the tithe. But I still have ninety cents left."

"Will that leave me enough to buy a doll, Mother?" asked Rosie. "I want one that sleeps, cries and has real hair," she continued.

"No," Mother answered, "you cannot buy a doll like that with only ninety cents."

"But what will I spend my money on, then?" she questioned.

"Well, Gary said that he was going to buy Grandpa a birthday present," Mother said. "Don't you think it would be nice for all of you to put a little of your money together and get a larger present?"

"That would be fine. Then I would have some left to buy myself a glider plane," Gary stated.

"Say, Gary," questioned Daddy, "didn't I hear you wish for a new pair of blue socks the other day?"

"Yes, you did," answered Beth for her brother, "and I need a pair of anklets, too."

"I'll tell you what," Mother planned. "I saw what I think you would like when I was up town the other day. I could get them for you

with your money, and you would still have some left."

"Let's see," figured Beth. "There would be ten cents tithe, twenty-five cents for the Sunday school offering, twenty-five cents for Grandpa's birthday present, twenty-five cents for anklets. Why, I still have fifteen cents left. Do you think it would be selfish if I bought a toy for myself?"

"No, I don't think so. I gave you the money for yourself, you know." In her heart Mother was pleased that they had planned to do other things besides buying things for themselves.

"That is budgeting your money," Daddy said. "First you pay your tithe, give something to Jesus because you love Him, then do something for others, and get something for yourself. Then it is all right to get yourself a pleasure toy."

"Oh, I can do all of that and still get myself some crayons and a colouring book," Rosie added gleefully.

Later Mother confided to Daddy, "The money I earned seemed to go farther because I did that, too. I paid my tithe first, and then budgeted like the children did. I hope our children will always keep in

mind that the way to be happy is to remember Jesus first, others second, and self last."

By Martha Clark
Reprint from "The Young Soldier"

• • •

"Never Perish"—Who?

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish" (John 10:27,28).

Listen—"They shall never perish!" Who shall never perish, who? We would learn to whom it speaketh,

Who and whence they are, would know.

Listen—'tis the words of Jesus, And 'tis spoken of His sheep— In His hand in perfect safety, He has promised each to keep.

Born they were as sons of Adam, Sinful, fallen, of the earth, They have heard the word of Jesus, And now have a heavenly birth.

Now from Satan's power delivered, Jesus takes them in His love; They shall "never, never perish," He will bear them safe above.

A Welcome

Rachel, a young woman who was an orphan and homeless, was about to visit a small cottage in the country where she had never been before. She wondered what sort of a welcome she would receive.

God, Who is the Father of the fatherless, had inclined a Christian lady to invite Rachel to spend a few weeks with her while Rachel was looking for another place to go. Rachel was very thankful for this temporary home. Still, she was wondering what sort of a welcome she would receive.

The cottage and its surroundings were pretty enough. Virginia creeper and climbing roses covered the little cottage, giving it an air of sweetness and comfort.

When Rachel arrived, she found that peace and happiness reigned inside the house just as it appeared from the outside. Even before she had taken off her hat and cloak, a bright girl brought her a cup of hot tea, which Rachel found most refreshing after her long journey. Then, while taking off her things, she heard someone at the piano playing and singing—

"There is a home, 'tis better far Than any earthly home can be."

This took Rachel's thoughts away from the earth and all its troubles to the bright home in heaven, where her dear friends had gone, and where she expected to follow in God's own time.

A very happy evening it was for

Rachel, the first of many spent at the cottage. Before going to rest, her friend, Mrs. A, read from the Bible: "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27). Then followed an earnest prayer for God's blessing to rest upon them all.

The welcome that Rachel received was a hearty one, and it made her feel happy. I have told you about her that you may understand the welcome that is awaiting all boys and girls who come to the Lord Jesus. You will remember that He said when He was on earth,



"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not," and though He has gone back to heaven, He has still left us those words. He still invites us to come to Him. There is only one thing that keeps us away from so loving a Saviour, and that is our sins. But the very reason why we should go to Him is because He can forgive our sins. He can make us happy, He will give us a hearty welcome, for He says,

"Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

Strait is the Gate

By MARJORIE BUCKINGHAM

(26th Installment)

Nancy hesitated a moment before she replied. She didn't want to say anything that might further prejudice the Pastor in her parents' eyes...

"He says that I really haven't any alternative, dad—"

"What does he mean by that?" demanded Charles, suspiciously.

Nancy drew a deep breath. "Mr. Brandon says that when God calls you to any kind of service for Him, you really haven't any alternative but to obey."

The corners of his mouth twisted into a cynical smile. "Does he mean by that, that you have no alternative but to accept Mr. Findlay's offer—?"

"No, dad! He thinks that I'm making a wise decision."

"In refusing?" Charles Norwood's eyes narrowed.

"Yes, dad."

"Do you mean to say that Mr. Brandon is siding with you in your obstinate refusal to have anything to do with the Regal Opera Company?"

There was a strange expression on her father's face that made her feel uneasy. "It isn't that, dad. It's just that he seems to understand—"

"Understand what will happen if he doesn't advise you to accept Mr. Findlay's offer, I left him in no illusion about that!" he interposed grimly.

"I—I don't know what you mean, dad." Nancy looked at her father apprehensively.

"You don't know that I paid Mr. Brandon a visit?"

"No," Nancy confessed in surprise.

"Well, I did, and as a result we know exactly where we stand, Mr. Brandon and I. We discussed Mr. Findlay's offer from all angles. I told him frankly that if he took my side in this argument he could count on my support in the future. But if he didn't, I'd set myself to ruin his ministry at Southdown Grove and drive him and his family out of the church altogether."

Charles uttered the fateful words without the flicker of an eyelid and Nancy stared at him in consternation.

"Oh, dad!" she cried in dismay. "You didn't say that!"

He gave a smug smile. "Yes, Nancy, I did, and I meant it. If Mr. Brandon advises you to act contrary to my wishes, he'll regret it."

"But dad, you couldn't—you wouldn't do anything like that!" Nancy protested vehemently.

"Wouldn't I?" He smiled grimly.

"Just say 'No' to Mr. Findlay tonight, Nancy, and see what happens to Pastor Brandon!"

The girl made a helpless gesture. "But dad, don't you see that whatever I say to Mr. Findlay has nothing to do with Mr. Brandon?"

Her father shook his head. "I have my own views about that, my dear. In my own mind, I shall always hold Mr. Brandon responsible for whatever decision you make tonight. I know what an influence he has over you, and you admit that you have talked this over with him and he has advised you against it."

"What else could he do, dad? After all, he has to be true to his own conscience, and if he believes—"

"He can't believe that I am a man of my word or he would think twice before he went against me. He'll find out his mistake!"

Nancy listened to her father with growing uneasiness. In spite of all the care she had taken not to involve Mr. Brandon, it was becoming increasingly clear that the pastor was involved and far more deeply than she had thought possible.

"I don't think you're being fair to Mr. Brandon, dad," she protested.

Her protest did not evoke the response she intended, for her father swung round on her with a triumphant gleam in his eyes.

"If you are so concerned about Mr. Brandon, Nancy, you will take care to make the right decision tonight!"

A chill gripped Nancy's heart as the full significance of her father's words began to dawn on her. He intended to make the issue revolve around Mr. Brandon. He had always been opposed to the pastor, and now he saw an opportunity to make a planned attack against him and his work, at the same time putting the responsibility on her shoulders.

"But my decision tonight has nothing to do with Mr. Brandon!" she protested again.

"Your decision," her father emphasized every word, "will determine not only your own future, but Mr. Brandon's as well. If you persist in acting against my wishes in regard to Mr. Findlay's offer, I shall hold Pastor Brandon responsible, and I'll set myself against him. I'll make things so difficult for him that he'll be glad to resign!"

Nancy opened her mouth to make another protest, but before she could speak he went on again. "On the other hand, my dear, if you accept Mr. Findlay's proposal, then all will be well and Pastor Brandon will find a staunch supporter in Charles Norwood! So you'd better think it over well before Mr. Findlay arrives."

Nancy realized that there was very little time left to think anything over, for Mr. Findlay was due to arrive any minute. That was all part of her father's plan. He had deliberately reserved this announcement until now, so that she would have no opportunity to discuss it with Mr. Brandon or anybody else. Her father had planned this in a final bid to gain his end, confronting her with a crisis in which she would be forced to choose between her loyalty to Pastor Brandon on the one hand and submission to the dictates of her father on the other.

What was she to do? If she continued to hold to her resolve to do what she believed to be the Lord's will for her life, she would be giving her father the opportunity he was looking for to carry out his scheme. She would be instrumental in bringing trouble and perhaps even hardship to the Brandon family, and they were the last people in the world she wanted to hurt! They had done so much for her, they had come to mean so much to her. Of course, she tried to persuade herself, her father might only be bluffing, he might not actually carry out his threat. But a glance at his face with its resolute, almost ruthless expression convinced her that this was only wishful thinking.

Supposing she did accept Mr. Findlay's offer, what then? She would certainly be safeguarding Mr. Brandon's future, at least for the time being, for her father had promised to withdraw his opposition to Mr. Brandon if she fell in with his wishes. Yes, her parents would be happy if she decided that way, and so would all her many friends and well-wishers. She would be pleasing them. But would she be pleasing the Lord? Would she be doing what He wanted her to do?

In the few minutes which still remained to her, Nancy sought the quietness of her own room, and there she faced the new crisis alone. And yet she was not alone! Her father had succeeded in separating her from all the human contacts to whom she might have looked for guidance and help, but no one could ever separate her from the One in Whose great love she had learned to trust—the One whose presence was very real to her now as she fell on her knees in prayer, seeking a deeper knowledge of His will and the strength and courage to follow His leading whatever the cost.

So when her mother called a little later, Nancy responded with a deep peace and serenity in her heart. Her mother called anxiously, "Come along, Nancy, what are you doing? Mr. Findlay is here and waiting for you!"

"I'm coming, mother," replied the girl serenely, as she stepped into the passage quickly. She had heard the visitor arrive, but had decided to wait for the summons before putting in an appearance.

And now, in spite of herself, her

heart beat a little faster and her hands tensed nervously as she followed her mother into the lounge, where her father and the representative of the Regal Opera Company were already seated in the big lounge chairs by the fireplace.

"Good evening, Miss Norwood!" Lionel Findlay rose to his feet and advanced with outstretched hand. "How are you tonight?"

Nancy flushed with embarrassment at his concentrated gaze, for she saw a light in his eyes which showed more than professional interest.

"I'm very well, thank you, Mr. Findlay," she replied with marked reserve.

Mr. Findlay waited until the ladies were settled on the couch before resuming his seat. Then he began speaking again, his attention still directed at Nancy. "We have been discussing the question of your career again, Miss Norwood, and I find that your father and mother are still of the same opinion."

"Indeed, we are!" Mrs. Norwood reiterated emphatically. "We have tried to talk sense to her all week, but with very little success, I'm afraid!"

Lionel Findlay nodded understandingly. "May I suggest that perhaps your daughter does not realize fully the value of the offer my Company is making—"

"Indeed, I do, Mr. Findlay!" Nancy interrupted him quickly. "And I don't want you to think that I'm ungrateful or that I don't appreciate your kindness."

"Then you have given the matter very careful thought, Miss Norwood?" Mr. Findlay was uncertain how to handle the situation.

"Yes, Mr. Findlay," Nancy spoke resolutely now, with courage and decisiveness. She wondered whether this enigmatical stranger was really concerned about her career, or whether he had personal motives.

"Yes, Mr. Findlay," she repeated firmly. "I have thought about it, and prayed about it, and my mind is quite made up. I'm sorry to disappoint you—and my parents—but I cannot accept your offer."

Her words were received in silence, and Lionel Findlay looked from one to the other before he ventured a reply. As for Mrs. Norwood, she appeared to be past speaking altogether, and Charles showed no immediate intention of expressing the dark thoughts that made his face look like a thundercloud. So Mr. Findlay was left with no alternative but to try to press the point a little further.

Surely this is not your final decision, Miss Norwood!" he protested vigorously. "Why, think of all you would gain!"

Nancy shook her head. "I've been thinking of all I would lose, Mr. Findlay, and the losses far outweigh the so-called gains."

(To be continued)

MCC News & Notes

From the Diary of Archie Graber

(CPRA, Kasai)

(The following are excerpts from the daily record kept by Archie Graber, CIM missionary now with Congo Protestant Relief Agency in the Bakwanga area.)

Dear co-workers from afar:

Greetings with the words of the Apostle Paul to the church at Colossae: "That in all things he might have the preeminence" (Col. 1:18). Again we bring day by day news from CPRA Bakwanga.

Dec. 19. — Ernest Lehman, who is here for a few days, made a trip to the lake region. Many children there are dying from lack of food. Abe (Suderman) has a broken spring in the truck he drives, so the Pa xfellows went to Bibanga to look for a spring.

Dec. 20. — Rented a truck to take the place of one with the broken spring.

Dec. 21. — The two CPRA trucks were the first to distribute food flown in by the UN planes. They left this morning with 100 sacks of

rice, 75 cartons of milk, 75 cases of sardines. CPRA was asked to distribute food to all the hospitals and dispensaries. We will also continue to help with the distribution for the refugees. With the exception of some milk and food given by the Red Cross, we have been the only ones to get food out to the hungry people.

Dec. 22. — Since the Ghanian soldiers are not liked by the government nor the Baluba people, they have a hard time working together. In order to get some food out to needy places, the CPRA was asked to go ahead of the Ghanian truck and the Red Cross was to follow. The Ghanians said that the people know the CPRA trucks. We made the trip without any trouble.

Dec. 25. — "The Unchanging Star" was the theme of the African pastor's Christmas sermon this morning. When I returned from church I expected to make a cup of coffee and enjoy a quiet Christmas, for I was alone. But I found a note on the door asking me to go to the UN headquarters as soon as possible. I went at 10:30 and the captain asked me to drive a CPRA

truck out to Miabi with a load of palm oil. He said that a Red Cross and a UN truck were loaded and ready to go. I went to the airport to get the palm oil. A special plane was due at 11 a.m. with news reporters from all over the world. They wished to see how we distribute the food and to report on the condition of the people, all in three hours time and on Christmas Sunday. CPRA received a lot of publicity in a short time today.

Dec. 26-27. — We are helping, with one of our trucks, to transport food from the airport to the central building, where all the food is stored, including that which is being supplied by the CPRA. They are flying in from 30 to 50 tons a day.

Dec. 28. — I was asked by one of the UN doctors and one of the UN officers to go to Leopoldville and see about tents which were on order, also about some trucks for transport and medical help. I received word at noon and left at 2 p.m. Just before I left, Glen (Rocke) returned from Leopoldville. I was glad to see him. He changed into working clothes and helped unload food from the truck.

Dec. 29. — Bob (Bontrager) and I spent a busy day going from place to place. We, or I should say the CPRA, brought the CIM Mercedes truck to be shipped to Mweni Ditu as soon as possible. CPRA also gave me the green light to purchase a truck in Bakwanga.

Jan. 1, 1961. — May the words of the Apostle Paul be yours and mine for the New Year before us: "Brethren, I count not myself to

have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things that are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:13-14). Let us not forget to thank God for His loving care and protection, also for providing for our needs and many answers to prayer. Wishing one and all rich blessings from day to day throughout the coming year.

Jan. 2. — We delivered seed corn today. This is planting time in this part of the Congo. It is very encouraging to see the seven truck loads of manioc sticks, which we delivered some weeks ago, now growing.

Jan. 3. — The Belgian people gave 2000 crates of potatoes to the refugees—four plane loads. Today we delivered 200 cases for planting and eating.

Jan. 6. — Today 25 planes brought in over 100 tons of food. I just came back from the lake region. The conditions are very bad; many are at the point of death.

Jan. 10. — CPRA delivered 480 cases of potatoes today. I returned with a woman and child, both very sick. I brought them to the hospital, but I am afraid they are too far gone to survive.

Jan. 15. — This morning Glen Rocke spoke to the Ghanian soldiers. We had a good meeting. Please continue to remember the hungry, suffering and dying in prayer. Also that we may have wisdom and patience these days. There is much tension and unrest about everywhere one goes.



Mennonite Central Committee is channeling all its Congo relief effort into Congo Protestant Relief Agency. Contributions designated for Congo relief may be sent through conference relief boards or directly to MCC, Akron, Pa. MCC personnel in the Congo are: Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Lehman, Goshen Ind., Donald Hedrick, Lansdale, Iowa, Ora Mast, Lovington, Ill., Abe Suderman, Haskett, Man., Gordon Walters, Etna Green, Ind. The last five are Paxmen.

Congo Protestant Relief Agency work on behalf of Baluba Refugees in the area of Bakwanga, Kasai Province, Republic of Congo.

Photo to your right: Glen Rocke (missionary of the Congo Inland Mission) serving now as a CPRA relief worker. Here he is helping to unload bags of rice at one of the Baluba refugee villages, a short distance north of Bakwanga.

Photo to your left: A general view as refugees await a distribution of food.

NEWS from HERE and THERE

Helping Neighbours

It took only one day to prune a 20-acre vineyard when some 40 men of the Zion Mennonite Brethren Church of Dinuba, Calif., did the job for Ben Peters, who was burned in an explosion several months ago.

Journalist Dies

Journalist Stanley High, a senior editor of Reader's Digest, former speech writer for President Franklin D. Roosevelt and author of a biography of Evangelist Billy Graham, died February 3 at the age of 65. High has also written an article pertaining to Mennonites.

Lumumba Proclaimed a Saint

London — Patrice Lumumba was proclaimed a saint by an African sect here. This action by Ghana's 18-month-old Church of Africa Christian sect was one of several posthumous honors for the former Congo premier slain early in February.

The Soviet government announced that Moscow's friendship university, which operates for foreign students, will be renamed Patrice Lumumba friendship university.

Communist Poland's council for the peaceful utilization of atomic energy founded the Patrice Lumumba scholarships to enable African students to study atomic science there.

Peace Walk to Moscow

A group of pacifists, sponsored by the Committee for Non-Violent Action, are presently engaged in a "peace walk" from San Francisco to Moscow. A prominent member of the group is Dr. John Beecher, professor at Arizona State University in Tucson. Individual team members have already walked over 1,000 miles.

Still Dangers in Congo

Late reports indicate that serious dangers still confront foreigners and missionaries in parts of the African Congo, especially in Oriental and Kivu Provinces. At one point pro-Lumumba troops stopped a convoy of Belgian refugees escorted by UN Ethiopian troops and confiscated all the vehicles. Mennonite mission work at Nyanga station in Kasai Province has so far continued unhindered.

Kennedy's Presidential Prayer

"The guiding principle of this nation has ever been, is now, and shall ever be: 'In God We Trust'," said President Kennedy in a brief address at the presidential prayer breakfast sponsored early this month by International Christian Leadership. Brief messages were also given by Vice-President Lyn-

don B. Johnson and Evangelist Billy Graham.

Alcoholics in Manitoba

Mr. M. Ross Mounce, executive director of the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba points out that there are at least 10,000 alcoholics in the province of Manitoba, and probably 20,000 people in the province who have a drinking problem.

Radar Lab Blaze Costs \$1,400,000

Prince Albert — Damage estimated at \$1,400,000 was caused when fire struck the Prince Albert radar laboratory January 31, the Defence Research announced recently.

A board of inquiry found that the fire apparently was caused by an oxy-acetylene torch during construction of a wing connected to the main laboratory.

Accidents in Carpentry

About 115,000 Americans, attempting to do their own carpenter work and home repairing, suffer some kind of disabling accidents each year.

Record Snowfall in Winnipeg

Winnipeg's precipitation this February has set a 40-year-record. The Winnipeg weather office reported Feb. 27 that 3.1 inches of snow fell during the weekend, bringing the total snowfall for the month to 18.6 inches. It was the greatest amount of snow for February since 1921, when 22.5 inches fell. Average precipitation for the month is 8 inches.

12-Inch Snowfall

The city of Calgary recently staggered under its heaviest snowfall in 65 years. Almost 12 inches fell in 15 hours.

16 Inches of Snow in Iowa

Northwest Iowa had 16 inches of snow. Ice and sleet which accompanied the snowstorm put 10,000 telephones out of commission and a number of cities were left without power or electricity.

Jet Crash in Belgium

The crash of an American-built Boeing-707 jet Wednesday, Feb. 15, at Brussels, Belgium, took 74 lives, one of the dead being an on-the-ground witness of the disaster.

The \$5-million Sabina Belgian Airlines plane had made an un-

eventful flight over the Atlantic and was preparing to land in bright sunshine when it fell with a thunderous roar only about three miles from the Brussels airport.

Among the victims were 18 members of a skating team, a honeymooning couple just married that day, a young mother and her unborn child.

ON THE HORIZON

March 3-5 — Annual Bible and Missionary Conference, Mennonite Brethren Bible College.

March 5-8. — Annual Missionary Conference of the Winkler Bible School.

March 5-12 — Evangelistic meetings in the Carman Gospel Light Mission.

March 19-26. — Evangelistic Meetings will be held in Oliver Gospel Chapel. Rev. Elmer Warkentin is the evangelist.

April 2. — Easter, Resurrection Day Commemoration.

March 10-12 — Annual Saskatchewan Mennonite Youth Conference at Drake, Sask.

April 7-9. — Canadian M.B. Sunday School Convention in British Columbia.

April 16. — Graduation Exercises at Winkler Bible School, Winkler, Man.

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Christmas and other Experiences in Palestine in Retrospect

By John and Alfreda Krahn

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the New Year, 1961! How time flies! It seems only a short time ago when we celebrated Christmas with our parents in Kitchen, and now a whole year has gone by, and Christmas is by and gone once more. Of course, this Christmas was a very special one for us in that we were privileged to spend it in the exact place where the first Christmas took place. No doubt, many of you would have liked to join us as we stood on the Shepherds' Fields on Christmas Eve, wondering, "Will there be an angel too?" our little boy had asked us a day or two before. No, there was no angel, but there were shepherds and sheep, and hundreds of singing people, who had come to see and worship at the place where the Good Tidings were first told.

"And the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which the Lord has made known unto us.'" And so we too made our way to Bethlehem, the birthplace of our Saviour. There, at the Church of the Nativity many met to sing carols and attend the midnight mass of the Latin Church (not including us). That night we slept in Bethlehem in the simple home of a very congenial family, and as we retired, our thoughts turned to the masses roaming the streets. Had they the real Christmas joy in their hearts? But everyone was happy, and so we felt: let Christmas continue forever.

Breakfast on Christmas morning was served on the patio of Karim's house, overlooking Shepherds' Fields. Part of the day was spent at home in Hebron, where we as a family enjoyed our gifts and the greetings we had received from our families back home. The rest of the time we were in Jerusalem at the Mennonite House with all the MCC workers. Out here a turkey dinner with all the trimmings is a real luxury, and we assure you we relished every bite of it. After an afternoon of music and merry-making we returned to Hebron.

During the following week we had over seventy people, neighbors and friends, enter our home, wishing us well and getting to know more about us and our work. A real opportunity!

In retrospect, what have we accomplished by the grace of God in the past year? Have we fulfilled our obligations? When you last heard from us, John was sick with hepatitis in hospital. Now we are all in good health again. "Hum di Allah" (Thanks be to God). Since then a new baby clinic has been opened, seven new MCC workers have arrived, we have received a visit by the present and past secretaries of MCC (Wm. Snyder and Orie Miller), an American nurse

has come to our rescue under ICC, we have met the Archbishop of Canterbury, had a lovely week of vacation in Jericho, and saw a number of interesting places here in the Holy Land.

The holiday in Jericho was a simple but pleasant one. To go swimming on or about December 5 would be no mean feat for you back home. But at the Dead Sea it was so warm that we had to look for shade at noon. A picnic at the Jordan River, climbing the Mt. of Temptation, a trip to Jerash and Ajloun, the land of Gilead, and seeing the new Palestine Hospital in Amman, all added to the enjoyment of the holiday, and we felt refreshed as we returned to work. It was also good to see the work others are doing in Jericho: MCC clothing distribution to Ein Sultan Camp, sewing centres, a model home in the camp, etc. It proved a means of encouragement in our own work. On top of it all we are waiting for an addition to the family in April. Life is full and overflowing!

In the clinics, a new Tamarshi (male nurse) has been trained and has taken over his work in Beit Awwa since September. In the same village the new Baby Clinic was opened in July. The Baby Clinic work has now been taken over by Miss Sarah Archer, our new American nurse, who has come out under ICC for one year. We feel the work is in capable hands now and soon expect to open another clinic in Idna, where the need may be the greatest. Regarding the Medical Clinic, John still has his hands full. Measles are common now, and due to complications, many babies die from measles. One interesting project was the physical examination of all the children at the Mennonite Orphanage here in Hebron. It is good to help look after these boys who live just a little way up the street from our house. There are 66 of them from all over Jordan.

And so we have begun another year of service in the Middle East. What will it bring? Will we be able to do our duty and carry out our responsibility as our Lord would have us? Pray for the people of Jordan who are in real spiritual darkness, without the Light that came to them and all mankind on that Holy Night, who have rejected Jesus Christ, Who lived and moved among them.

Several projects are planned for the New Year. A model home is to set up in each of the villages where we conduct clinics, thus trying to teach the people how to keep clean and prevent illness. An experiment with the babies is to be undertaken to see what influence oral vitamins have on their general health over a two-year period. Then too, we have received money from different ladies' organizations back home for

the purchase of shoes for the many children who run around barefoot all winter. As far as I know, they are now in the process of being made and should soon be warming many little feet in the villages. They will be distributed through the baby clinics.

We are deeply grateful for your interest and help in 1960. For the New Year we look to Christ our King and you, as we continue to bring badly needed medicine and healing to the people of this hill country of Judea. Please write and let us know specifically what you are interested in—people, places, projects, refugees, Bedouins, or souvenirs. If possible, we will be guided by your wishes and suggestions.

In conclusion, I wish to relate an

incident which happened just recently. In Idna, one of the villages where we work, some twenty kilometers west of Hebron, people still die of starvation (Kwashiorkor). One day we brought back dead from the hospital in Jerusalem the only child of a couple living in a cold stone house in Idna. The baby had been brought to the clinic too late for us to save its life. It was a sad experience. Think about this incident before you eat your supper tonight and retire to bed. They have no stove, only about twenty pounds of flour in the house, and now a dead child. How can we help in such a desperate situation? What a cold and miserable life is theirs! It is when we bring help and comfort to such people that we feel our coming to Jordan is justified.

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EDUCATION

SCHOOLS and COLLEGES

Bethel Bible Institute

Abbotsford, B.C. — The second term of Bethel Bible Institute has begun, and the student body has increased from 50 to 53.

Another teacher has joined the staff to replace Rev. H. H. Neufeld, who left to resume duties at the East Chilliwack Mennonite church. Miss Sadie Dyck, missionary from the Congo, is now serving full time.

Missionary Herbert Harms from the Congo gave an illustrated lecture on the field some time ago and challenged us to pray for the missionaries in the Congo.

The students have toured the different churches in the valley, presenting their first program in the Greendale Mennonite church. Menno Epp served the congregation with an English message.

Each Monday noon a group of students go to the Upper Sumas school to teach the boys and girls.

Most of our students attended the annual meeting of the B.C. Mennonite Youth Organization, which was held in Mission, B.C. Mr. M. Epp, the principal, was chairman of this meeting.

The Bible school choir sang at the Mission Conference which was held in Vancouver, B.C.

Ontario M. B. Bible School Visits Eden

The students and faculty of the Mennonite Brethren Bible School of Ontario visited Eden Christian College at Niagara-on-the-Lake on February 3. The purpose of the visit was to interest high school students in Bible training. Many of the visiting Bible school students were graduates of Eden, so the occasion was a homecoming for them.

Mr. R. Bartel, principal of Eden, welcomed the visitors, and Rev. Wilmer Kornelson, principal of the Bible School, chaired the program. The essence of the program was a testimony to the meaning of attending Bible school. The school choir, under the direction of Mr. Ed Boldt, and other ensembles rendered musical items.

The highlight of the program was a skit, "Shattered Concepts," written by students and Mr. Kornelson especially for this occasion. It portrayed misconceptions and prejudices which students have before they come to Bible school, which are then shattered after a few weeks of school.

Rev. Walter Wiebe, instructor at the Bible School, led in a brief devotional period. With the help of charts Mr. Kornelson presented the curriculum and program of work of the Bible School.

After the program, the grade 11 girls of Eden served a lunch to the

visitors and the grade 12 students of Eden. The visit was brought to a close by a basketball game between the two schools. The superior skill of the high school boys was demonstrated by a clear victory for Eden.

We have experienced God's blessing in Bible school this year. We believe that this visit to Eden has been helpful in interesting others in attending Bible school next year.

K. Joyce Schimpky

A missionary conference sponsored jointly by the Mennonite Brethren Bible School of Ontario and the Kitchener M. B. Church is to be held in Kitchener March 12-15. Missionary speakers for the occasion are Rev. Henry Brucks, Congo; Rev. Ernest Friesen, Colombia; Dr. G. Froese, India; and Rev. Herman Kroeker, Coldwater, Ont.

Sunday services and all evening services will be conducted in the main church auditorium. Other services of the conference will be held on the main floor of the educational building. Everyone is welcome to attend all the services. During extended chapel services of the Bible school each morning it is hoped to present the challenge of missions to the Bible students. The fervent prayers of God's children are solicited for divine blessing upon speakers and visitors at the conference.

W. Wiebe

M. B. Bible College

Instructor to Serve as Examiner

Dean Frank C. Peters will serve on a committee of examiners appointed by the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges to re-examine St. Paul Bible College in St. Paul, Minnesota. The College is one of several institutions maintained by the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church. Working with Mr. Peters will be the Rev. Cyril Eicher, Dean of Students at Fort Wayne Bible College, and Dr. John Mostert of Moody Bible Institute. The areas of curriculum, library and instruction will be reviewed by Mr. Peters.

Immediately following the St. Paul examination, Rev. Eicher and Dr. Mostert will examine the Mennonite Brethren Bible College. The examination of the finances and business procedure was completed earlier by Mr. L. E. Johnson of Moody Bible Institute.

Preparations for Missionary Conference

Special preparations for the Annual Missionary Conference are presently being made by students and faculty. The students will present a special program on the evening of March 2. Displays and other items of interest will be featured. The special speakers for the four-

day conference include Dr. Merrill C. Tenney of Wheaton College, Rev. Willy Baerg of Africa, Rev. Ernie Dyck of Africa, Rev. Peter Martens of Horndean, Man., and Rev. David Ewert of the College.

Instructors to Serve at Easter Conferences

Rev. J. J. Toews will accompany the College A Cappella Choir to British Columbia and will serve with messages in the various churches visited. Rev. David Ewert and Frank C. Peters will speak at the Annual Easter Bible Conference at St. Catharines. Rev. Henry Baerg will participate in the Canadian Sunday School Convention to be held in B.C.

President to Take Leave of Absence

President J. A. Toews was granted a sabbatical leave of absence to study at Minnesota University during the third quarter. Mr. Toews hopes to complete his residence work and his preliminary examinations for the Ph.D. in history by the end of the summer session.

News from the Steinbach Bible Institute

The music committee of the Steinbach Bible Institute presented "Music Panorama" in the auditorium on the evening of February 11. Glenn Loewen from Steinbach was the guest pianist.

The Gospel Mennonite Church in Winnipeg was the first church to be visited by the school choir this season.

On February 15 the students and staff enjoyed a mid-semester fellowship. The highlight of the evening was the showing of the film, "The Regions Beyond." Many students rededicated themselves to God after the film had been shown.

Arnold Wiebe, a missionary who works under the E.M.C. Mission, recently presented the need of that field—Sunday school and children's workers. The Melvin Koops, 1960 graduates of Steinbach Bible Institute, are also stationed there.

A number of decisions to follow Christ have been made through the practical work of the students. The tract work in Winnipeg has proved especially fruitful.

Ernest Funk

Tabor College

Twenty-Five New Students

The registrar's office at Tabor College reports that 25 new students have enrolled for the spring semester. The total enrollment for this semester stands at 335, 21.4 per cent higher than last year's figure of 276.

Expands Extension Work

The student Christian Fellowship Association of Tabor College has recently expanded its Christian service activities to three new areas.

On February 1 the group began weekly services at the McPherson,

Kans., County Jail. The group serves with selections of music, a short sermon, and testimonies by members of the group. Similar services were begun on the same date in the Dickinson County Jail at Abilene, Kans. These will be continued once a month.

In addition to the jail services, the Missions Committee of the CFA is sponsoring Released Time Bible School teaching in Wichita. Approximately 60-70 students, ranging from the third to the sixth grades, come to the Open Bible Mennonite Brethren church for religious instruction every Thursday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Rev. John Block, pastor of the church, supervises the group of four Tabor students who regularly assist in teaching.

13th Cultural Conference to Meet at Tabor

The 13th annual Conference on Mennonite Cultural Problems will be held June 8 and 9, 1961, at Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kans.

The first cultural problems conference was held in 1941 to provide an opportunity to discuss common problems on an inter-Mennonite basis. The conference is now held biennially and is sponsored by the Council of Mennonite and Affiliated Colleges. This summer's conference will include several papers on the relation of research to Mennonite faith and culture. The program follows.

Thursday, June 8

Morning—"The Question of Attrition in Our Colleges" by Dr. P. E. Schellenberg, Dean of Bethel College, North Newton, Kans.

Afternoon—"Mennonite Students in Non-Mennonite Schools" by Dr. Albert Meyer, Professor of Physics, Bethel College.

Evening—"The Relation of Research to the Sectarian Self-Image" by Calvin Redekop, Professor of Sociology, Hesston College, Hesston, Kans.

Friday, June 9

Morning—"The Implications of Research for Mennonite Faith and Culture" by Dr. Erwin Hiebert, Professor of Philosophy of Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.; "The Role of Research among Mennonite College Faculty Members" by Dr. Carl Kreider, Dean of Goshen College, Goshen, Ind.

Afternoon—"Research on Communicating Our Faith Through Public Worship" by Dr. Paul Miller, Professor of Practical Theology, Goshen College Biblical Seminary, Goshen, Ind.; "Research on Cross-Cultural Communication of Our Faith" by Dr. Jacob Loewen, Professor of Modern Languages, Missions, and Anthropology, Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kans.

Evening—"The Meaning of the Mission of Mennonites on New Frontiers" by Dr. Paul Peachey, Associate Professor of Church History and Sociology, Eastern Mennonite College, Harrisonburg, Virginia (on leave).



Here are the many Sunday school workers enjoying a delicious meal in the basement of the M.B.C.I. Their enthusiasm in the work and their renewed inspiration received at the S.S. Convention causes them to carry on a happy conversation during meal time.



This photo shows the audience in the spacious auditorium of the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute as the Rev. J. J. Hostettler addresses the many Sunday school teachers and friends at the Inter-Mennonite S.S. Convention.

S. S. Convention

(Continued from page 1-4)

Another feature of the convention were the well planned workshops. After each lecture the convention broke up into smaller groups and met in the classrooms of the Collegiate Institute. There were from six to nine groups. The workers gathered according to workshop topic as outlined in the handbook and participated in the discussion stimulated by the group leader. An effort had been made to cover every department and phase of Sunday school work. To accommodate those who were handicapped in the use

of the English language, one workshop at every session was conducted in German. Usually the three-quarters of an hour given to this phase of the program ended much too quickly. The large attendance at these sessions would indicate that definite needs of our Sunday school were being met here.

Very stimulating were the many posters and display tables situated along the sides of the spacious auditorium. They were designed to widen the horizon of the worker in respect of materials, methods and motivation in the classroom, mid-week services and camp work. A

few Mennonite book stores had been invited to display Christian literature that would be of help to the home and the teacher.

The social aspect of the convention also proved to be an enriching experience. During intermission the teachers were served with a fine lunch by the ladies of the various churches. Not only did the Sunday school workers of our city churches learn to know each other, but many of the visitors who had come from some twenty-four country points also learned to know a number of fine co-workers and exchanged teaching experiences.

dedicated that a future convention would be in order. The Sunday school superintendents of the churches felt that this convention has meant much to their workers. Sunday school workers have been revived and have again dedicated themselves wholeheartedly to the cause of teaching the Word of God to people of all ages.

What are the results of the convention? How is its influence felt? A pebble has been dropped into the pool. The circular ripples are expanding and some day they will reach the other shore.

Wendelin Mann

That the banquet held on Saturday night was a success needs no verification. The optimistic number of five hundred was exceeded, so that additional arrangements had to be made for all the eager participants. Mennonite economy once again demonstrated that for very little one can get very much in terms of delicious turkey. In this setting of fellowship the address by Dr. Dave Schroeder dealing with "An Enthusiastic Sunday School Worker," was well received. Special numbers in song, rendered by different church groups, helped to enrich each session.

At the final Sunday night gathering, the large audience expressed its appreciation for the inspirational nature of the convention and in-

Invitation:

The annual missionary conference of the Winkler Bible School will be held from March 5-8. Rev. Henry Brucks, missionary to Africa, and Rev. Ernest Friesen, missionary to Colombia, will be the guest speakers. The Sunday morning and all evening sessions will take place in the Winkler M. B. church at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. respectively. Week-day sessions will be held in the Winkler Bible school commencing at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. respectively.

A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend this conference and share the blessings the Lord has in store for us.

J. H. Goossen

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