

# THE BAPTIST HERALD



Courtesy of John Rudin and Co., Chicago, Ill.

## CHRIST AND THE RICH YOUNG RULER BY HOFMANN

March 15, 1935

## What's Happening

The Rev. J. A. H. Wuttke of Los Angeles, Cal., was incapacitated for several weeks late in January and during the month of February. During his illness several retired ministers, who are members of the church, conducted the services. Among them was the Rev. Max Leuschner.

The Rev. Paul Gebauer spent Sunday, Feb. 24, in North Freedom, Wis. From March 3 to 13 he visited our churches in Iowa. From 14 to 24 he will speak in our churches of South Dakota. He hopes to be back in Forest Park, Ill., early in April in time for the sessions of the General Missionary Committee.

The Rev. John Leypoldt, pastor of the Erin Ave. Church, Cleveland, Ohio, since the first of February, reports that he found "The Baptist Herald" in the church periodical section in the public library of Cleveland. This parallels the news about "The Baptist Herald" in the public library of New York City on West 124th Street.

The Rev. H. C. Baum, evangelist of our denomination, conducted revival services for two weeks in February in Wishek, North Dakota, for several weeks in February and March in Lehr, North Dakota, and for the same period of time in Chancellor, South Dakota. From March 31st to April 12th he will be in Gotebo, Oklahoma.

Miss Margaret Lang, missionary of the Sudan field in Africa, now at home on furlough, addressed congregations in the First churches of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn., on successive Sundays, February 24th and March 3rd. One of her brothers and family are members of the Minneapolis Church, of which the Rev. H. Hirsch is minister.

The Rev. C. A. Daniel is spending the months of March and April in our churches of New York City and vicinity. He will conduct evangelistic services in the Harlem and Third German Baptist churches, of which the Rev. Frank Orthner and J. F. Niebuhr are pastors respectively, as well as in other nearby churches of our denomination.

The First Church of Saint Joseph, Mich., will celebrate its 75th anniversary from April 7 to 9. All former members are cordially invited to participate in these festivities or, if that is not possible, to send letters of greeting to the church clerk, Mr. Edward S. Doescher, residing at 318 Lake Court, Saint Joseph, Mich. The minister of the church is the Rev. E. Umbach.

The Rev. William Kuhn preached at both services on Sunday, Feb. 10, at our church in Jamestown, North Dakota. Last summer this church transferred its affiliation from the English State convention to our German Baptist Confer-

ence, a most unusual occurrence in this day of change from German to English. The Rev. W. A. Weyrauch is minister of the church.

Mr. Adolph Herbst, a charter member for 62 years of the First German Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minn., died on Feb. 20 after a lingering illness. He was 85 years of age. At his death he was senior deacon of the church, having served as deacon for many decades. The minister of the church, the Rev. A. G. Schlesinger, officiated at the memorial service on the following Saturday.

The Rev. H. R. Schroeder of the River-view Church, St. Paul, Minn., was called to Dallas, Oregon, after the unexpected announcement of the death of his mother, Mrs. Henrietta Schroeder, reached him. She passed away on Feb. 20th at the age of 68 years. Her clear faith and beautiful Christian life had long been an inspiration to all who knew her. She was a member of our church in Salt Creek, Oregon.

The Rev. Emil D. Gruen, superintendent of the Bethel Jewish Mission in Philadelphia, Pa., was the guest of the Diocesan Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Pennsylvania at a tea given in Germantown, Pa., on Thursday, Feb. 14. Mr. Gruen, president of the Philadelphia branch of the Hebrew-Christian Alliance, was a speaker along with Bishop Taft of the Pennsylvania diocese.

The First German Baptist Church, Union City, N. J., of which the Rev. John Schmidt is minister, was privileged recently to see official moving pictures of the Congress of the Baptist World Alliance held last August in Germany and to hear the Rev. William A. Mueller, Ph. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y. The Messrs. Rudolf Mbrandt and Richard Schielke participated in recent services of worship of the church.

The Rev. Charles W. Koller spent two weeks in February at the Oak Street Church, Burlington, Iowa, conducting evangelistic services. The Rev. Charles F. Zummach, pastor of the church, reports that in spite of the unfavorable weather and terrible roads, the meetings were well attended. Mr. Koller brought heart-searching messages and the results were very gratifying. About fifty persons took the first step in the Christian life, of which a number were adults.

On Feb. 11 the Calvary Baptist Church of Pekin, Ill., observed a "Lincoln Night" for the men and boys of the church. Fifty one were present for the varied program of music, games, refreshments, and an address on "Permanent Attributes of Abraham Lincoln." Beginning with Feb. 26 two weeks of evangelistic services, conducted by the Rev. Harold E. Garner of Oglesby, Ill., were held

with the pastor of the local church, the Rev. Ralph P. Blatt, leading the musical program.

Professor Jacob Heinrichs of Canton, Ohio, celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on March 2 in Alberta, Canada, where he has been teaching a Young People's Bible School since the first of the year. For almost 30 years he was missionary and missionary teacher in India and from 1918 until his retirement in 1933 professor and dean in the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill. He is one of the most esteemed men of our denomination, whose life has been an inspiration and benediction to innumerable hosts of people, young and old alike.

Several Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Unions are publishing unique monthly or quarterly bulletins. The "Texas G. B. Y. P. News," edited by Mr. Walter Schaible of Waco, Texas, is in its sixth volume. The Minnesota Union recently began publishing an interesting monthly paper called "The Messenger," edited by Mrs. R. B. Glewwe. The Atlantic Conference Union will begin publishing a quarterly news magazine within a few weeks. If any other German Baptist Unions are carrying on similar public ventures, the editor would like to receive copies of such papers.

The Sunday School of the Park Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., has been making inspiring and encouraging progress since the first of the year. The average attendance during the Sundays in January was almost 300. Mr. F. H. Wittneben is superintendent. The young people's society has undergone a complete reorganization with considerable success. Its meetings continue throughout the entire year. The 85th anniversary of the church was held last fall with an address by the Rev. O. Johnson, D. D., formerly president of the Northern Baptist Convention. The Rev. Thomas Stoeri is minister of the Park Baptist Church.

The sixth annual institute of the Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union of Minnesota was held at our church in Minneapolis from Feb. 22 to 24. The theme was "Go Ye—Lo, I am With You." A large attendance of enthusiastic young people was evidenced in all of the sessions with the Sunday services taxing the seating capacity of the church. The Rev. Reuben Nelson of the Bethel Institute, the Rev. Edwin Dahlberg, D. D., pastor of the First Baptist Church, St. Paul, the Rev. George Fedder, D. D., pastor of the University Baptist Church, Minneapolis, and the Rev. Martin L. Leuschner, editor of "The Baptist Herald," participated in the program with addresses and forum discussions.

# The Baptist Herald

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## EDITORIAL

### The Observance of Lent

THE season of the year in the church's calendar, called "Lent," is the possession of all bodies of Christian people. We need extended seasons for meditation and study and prayer, and the weeks before the joyous festival of Easter with its triumphant message of victory and the resurrection of Christ are well adapted for the quiet contemplation of God's truths and the intensive disciplining of life.

"Lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word, "Lenc-ten," or spring season. It designates the time of fasting before Easter. The actual length of Lent is forty days with the Sundays not reckoned in the period of fasting. The dates of the Lenten season this year are, therefore, from March sixth to April twentieth.

Some churches emphasize the outward, ritualistic demands of these weeks. Lent for communicants of such churches means the abstaining from certain foods, the attendance at special services, the temporary self-denial of amusements, and the meticulous observance of prescribed practises. That picture of Lent is utterly foreign to us, as Baptists, and makes no winsome appeal in our lives.

Our observance of Lent should stress the spiritual message of this season. We, too, should be deeply conscious of those closing days in Jesus' life before his crucifixion as "he set his face steadfastly to go to Jerusalem." We, too, should hear and heed his words that "he who would come after me must deny himself and take up his cross daily." We, too, should watch and pray with him in the loneliness

of the Garden of Gethsemane with its bitter cup for his lips. We, too, should experience something of the agony and suffering which our Savior underwent as he hung upon the cross, bearing our sins and transgressions, so that we might know "the fellowship of his sufferings" and then "the power of his resurrection."

Lent may become a glorious religious experience in our lives if it becomes the channel through which Christ speaks and calls to us. Do you set aside some time each day for meditation and prayer, for an earnest study of God's Word? Does "the beauty of Jesus shine in you," reflecting the sweetness, patience and love of his spirit? Has your religion ever made any demands on you at great cost, involving tremendous sacrifices, for yourself? Is your body in truth "the temple of the living God," or are you addicted to physical practises and habits which are unbecoming to the Christian life? Is your worship in church the ministry of a humble, eager, happy child of God or are you critical and cantankerous in the fellowship of Christian folk? These are questions which bare the tragic weakness and the sinful attitudes which cling to us like barnacles to a ship, but the Lenten season is a time for spiritual inventory, for a frank facing of facts before Christ, our Savior, for a penitent humbling of ourselves before our God.

Let us observe Lent as those, for whom no sacrifice is too costly, no service too demanding, no shame too humiliating when these are experienced for the sake of Him, Jesus Christ, "whom having not seen, yet we love!"

# Johann Sebastian Bach

This article has been written in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Bach, whose musical genius is universally recognized and of whom it has been said that he has contributed more to religious music than any other person.

By PROFESSOR HERMAN VON BERGE

THE year 1685 gave to the world two of the greatest musicians of all time, possibly the two greatest. The birth of these two men may well be accepted as ushering in the era of modern music. One of the two was George Frederick Handel, born Feb. 23rd, known best as the composer of probably the world's most popular oratorio, "the Messiah." Its great "Hallelujah Chorus" is sung all over Europe and America, especially during the Christmas and Easter seasons. The other of the two giants in the field of music is Johann Sebastian Bach, the 250th anniversary of whose birth falls on March 21st of this year.

## The Immortal Greatness of Johann Sebastian Bach

The esteem in which Bach is held by our historians may be seen by a quotation or two. Dickinson says in his "Music in the History of the Western Church" that "the name Bach is the greatest in Protestant church music, and there are many who do not hesitate to say that it is the greatest in all history of music, religious or secular." And the well-known "Grove's Dictionary of Music" quotes Schumann as saying that "music owes Bach almost as great a debt as religion owes to its founder."

Johann Sebastian Bach is a scion of the most musical family known to history. In seven generations of them—Sebastian belongs to the fifth—out of sixty members of the family all but seven were organists, cantors, or town musicians. A number of them stood out with marked ability, several approaching genius. Sebastian was born in Eisenach, in the shadow of the Wartburg, where Luther had been prisoner. He was the sixth child of Johann Ambrosius. The Bach family, of wholesome Thuringian peasant stock, had the happy custom of holding annual reunions. They were devout Lutherans and zealous people and were held in high esteem by all who knew them because of their sterling qualities.

## A Brief Biography of Bach's Life

From the father Sebastian received lessons in violin and viola. But when he was only ten years old he lost both parents and went to live with his older brother, Johann Christoph, continued his schooling and by this brother was taught the clavier. An incident occurring in this period is a typical illustration of Bach's perseverance and untiring energy even while he was still a boy. Johann Christoph had a collection of manuscripts containing compositions of several masters, such as Pachelbel, with whom he had studied for three years, Froberger, and others. These he kept as sacred treasures and stubbornly refused his younger brother access to them in spite of the latter's earnest pleading. Young Se-

bastian, however, was not to be so easily denied. With his little hands he managed secretly to get the coveted copies through the lattice work of the closet in which they were kept, and he did not rest until, on moonlight nights, he had copied every note. Bach's eyes were never very strong, and his constant and severe use of them all through his life probably had much to do with his blindness in later years.

At the age of fifteen he went to Lüneburg to continue his education and there joined the church choir, which gave him access to its large library of vocal music. This he studied with the avid curiosity shown all through his life. Here he also learned to play the organ, and from then on developed the passion for this instrument and his marvelous technic. It was not possible for him to enter the university, for there were no funds available. He was glad, therefore, upon completion of his school work, to accept a call to Weimar as violinist in the ducal band. Shortly after that he became organist at Arnstadt, at the age of only eighteen. Bach made use of every possibly opportunity to hear the outstanding organists of his day, such as Reincken and Buxtehude, often walking many weary miles to have that privilege and to profit by their example.

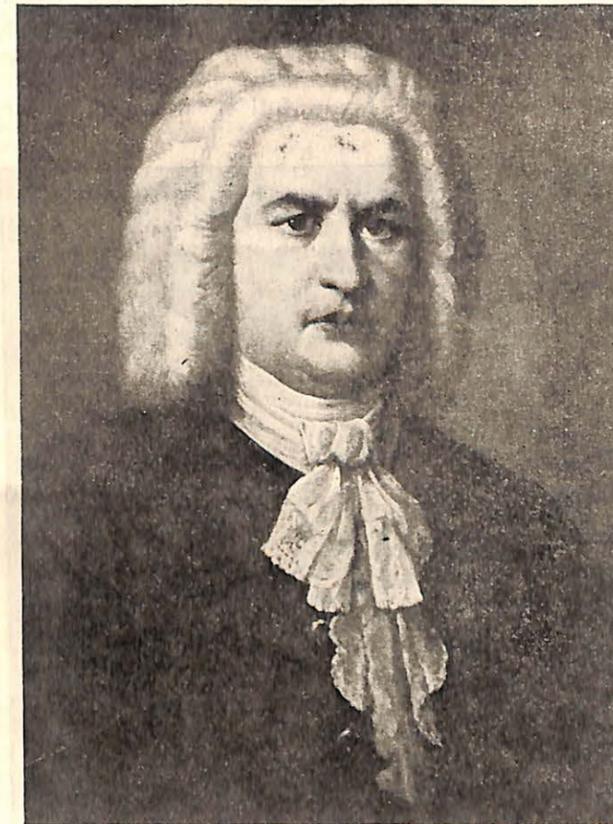
## Bach's Great Achievements in Music

After he had spent a number of years in various positions as organist, he accepted an appointment as Capellmeister to the Prince of Anhalt-Cöthen. In this position he applied himself for seven years almost exclusively to secular instrumental music, mainly of a domestic nature. The outcome was a perfect outpouring of compositions, solo sonatas for violin, flute, viola da gamba, and concertos for strings and various combinations of instruments.

The most notable of all, however, was the collection of twenty-four preludes and fugues in all keys. These latter were in support of his demand for the "Well-Tempered Clavichord." Up to Bach's time the tuning of keyed instruments caused much difficulty. It was found impossible to tune all intervals of the same time to true pitch. To tune the fifth true, made the octave sharp; to tune the octave true, made the fifth a trifle flat. In true tuning, F-sharp and G-flat were the same; and so one could never play in all the different keys on the same instruments. Anyone further interested in this problem can discuss it with any good piano tuner. He knows all about it, for he has to wrestle with it every time he is called upon for service. Through the influence of Bach and that of a Frenchman, named Rameau, the simple expedient was adopted of tuning the octaves true and dividing each octave into 12 equal half steps, thus putting individual tones slightly out of true pitch, though not enough

to offend the ear, thereby obviating all the difficulties mentioned above. All keyed instruments are now tuned on that principle.

To Bach also goes the credit for a new system of fingering, without which piano playing could never have reached a virtuoso stage. Raising the hand above the keys from its former flat position, he brought the thumb into play, and by inventing the scale fingering, afterwards universally adopted, he opened the way to the style of brilliant and smooth running passages which afterwards was so highly developed.



Johann Sebastian Bach

## A Musical Challenge and a New Epoch in Germany

On one of his many tours, which he made every year for the purpose of giving performances on the organ and clavier, Bach came to Dresden. Here he found a French player of great reputation, named Marchand, whose performance completely carried away his audiences. But he had also made many enemies by his arrogance and intolerant competition. Bach was persuaded by friends to send a written challenge to the Frenchman for a musical contest, offering to solve any problem which his opponent should set before him, on condition, of course, of being allowed to reciprocate. Marchand accepted, in his pride picturing to himself a glowing victory. Time and place were definitely arranged, and a large and brilliant audience assembled. Bach made his appearance, but there was no Marchand. It developed that he had suddenly disappeared that very morning, probably having found

an opportunity to hear his opponent and no longer feeling the courage to measure strength with him. Bach then performed alone and played brilliantly. With that incident a new day dawned for German art, which up to that time had been more or less under foreign domination. That had now come to its end in the realm of music for Germany.

It is to be regretted deeply that Bach and Handel never met each other. It almost seems as if Handel deliberately avoided meeting Bach. Three times Handel came from London to visit his birthplace, Halle, just a short distance from Bach's home. On the occasion of the first visit, Bach at once went to Halle to meet Handel, only to find that he had departed. On Handel's second visit Bach was confined to his home because of illness, but he sent his son to Halle to invite Handel to visit him. Handel declined the invitation. When he returned the third time, Bach was dead.

## Bach's Devotion to the Service of Religion

There is no department of music in which Bach was not thoroughly acquainted. But as an organ player and composer Bach stands at the summit of human achievement. He had an enormous hand. While spanning a twelfth, he would play intricate figurations with the middle finger. He could play for hours without tiring. His constant practise enabled him to execute runs on the pedals with absolute perfection and astounding nicety. He was a master in registration. Bach's art is evidenced in his fugues, preludes, fantasies, sonatas, and choral variations. In his fugues he shows, perhaps most convincingly, that supreme mastery of design and splendor of invention and fancy which have given him the place he holds by universal consent among the greatest artists of all time. There is no loftier example in the history of artistic genius devoted to the service of religion than that of Johann Sebastian Bach. He always felt that his life was consecrated to God, to the honor of the church, and the well-being of man.

## Bach as the Greatest Musical Genius of the World

Johann Sebastian Bach ended an epoch. In his own day he was neither understood, nor was the enormity of his accomplishments appreciated. Even his own sons regarded his work as old-fashioned. His compositions were neglected, and his name was threatened with oblivion. It was not until almost a century had gone by that the world awakened to the full recognition of the man's greatness. Robert Schumann and Chopin became ardent Bach admirers. In his music journal Schumann urged the projected publication of Bach's works to mark the centenary of his birth. Felix Mendelssohn studied Bach scores with his friends, and in 1829 he celebrated the centenary of the first performance of "The St. Matthew Passion" by presenting it in Berlin. In 1850 a Bach Society was established, its object being to issue annually a volume of Bach's publications to subscribers. The first volume was issued in 1851, the forty-sixth in 1900. Thus through the indefatigable work of a few the greatest musical genius, which the world has ever known, has been immortalized.

# Planning Your Summer Vacation

By **NORMAN J. BOEHM**

**W**HAT special activities or projects does your local society, group of societies or conference sponsor? You ask, what kind of activities? The answer can be brought in general that there are many things that can become successful additions to your program by intelligent, long-time planning. A few among these are banquets, mission conferences, week-end retreats, institutes, assemblies, rallies and other occasions that bring youth and Sunday School workers together in spiritual upbuilding, character strengthening and ventures developing physical, mental and social traits of life.

## A Full Measure of Happiness

To be more specific, these events provide that stimulus necessary to a fuller, richer, and more abundant enjoyment of our Christian life. Christ intends that we should be happy in our religion. How can we convince someone else that they should have what we have, if our own life is none too attractive and doesn't reveal that joy that should radiate from us? These are very practical things which we are discussing. Think them over.

As Christian young people, Sunday School workers and laymen we should learn "rightly to divide the word of truth" and "study to show ourselves approved of God." Our planning should take all of these things into consideration. It is not enough that we attend church services on Sunday, attend or teach a Sunday School class or meet with the young people's society. You will derive experiences from your Christian life in the same measure that you put something into life with liberal interest.

## Now Is the Time to Plan

A number of our young people's groups have winter institutes and summer assemblies. These are greatly to their advantage in studying, as a group, various phases of the Christian life, the Bible, Christian history, methods of teaching, the mechanics and personality of leadership and many other subjects. However, we must have a mind set to work, to learn and to act. If your group can come together this summer at some nature spot and worship and study in God's environment and in fellowship with each other, your spiritual life will be greatly enriched. But now is the time to lay the ground work and to do the planning.

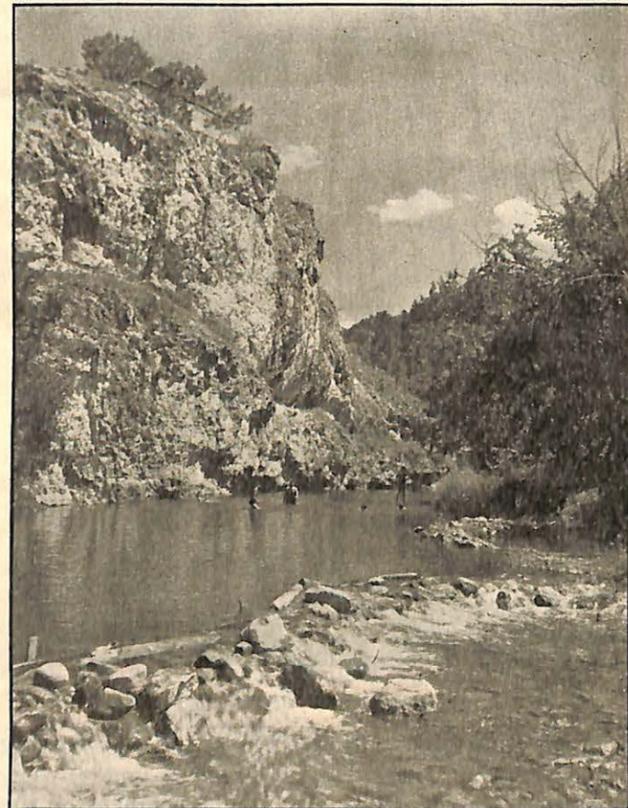
Secure speakers or teachers who can intelligently direct the thinking of the class or group to which they will minister. Utilize the natural facilities of a location, which is not too far removed from your community, so as not to make the travel cost prohibitive. Count on planned recreation and social events. They, too, have a place in an assembly. Your people should return refreshed in mind, spirit, and body, with a rich measure of enthusiasm, desires and capabilities awakened for greater and more efficient service for the Lord.

The aggressive president of the Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union suggests a planned program of summer activities for the youth of our churches, which will undoubtedly elicit enthusiastic response.

## The Benefits of Summer Assemblies

While a summer assembly or church conference is not stressed to provide the means for meeting life companions, the question still remains, under what finer circumstances the young people could develop such an important phase of their lives. And for the older folk, what better opportunity is there to make and to renew friendships which enable their passing through life?

Yes—look ahead for a full measure of God's



Courtesy, Chicago and Northwestern Railway.

## The Lure of God's "Great Out-of-Doors"

riches which he wants us to enjoy as his children! He came to us in Jesus Christ that we might have a more abundant life. It is ours to accept. Do your planning now for a pleasant time next summer. If you have suggestive or novel ideas, write them to your president or to your general secretary. If you need help or do not know how to proceed, write and ask. We are in this work to be mutually helpful. We wish for you a successful assembly next summer and spiritual experiences which will unfold God's truths to you in greater glory than ever before.

# Religious News of the World

## Barthianism in Holland and the Orient

Utrecht, Holland. Professor Karl Barth, Swiss theologian who was dismissed from his Bonn University chair by the Nazis, opened a series of lectures here early in February on "The Chief Problems of Dogmatics."

During the same week "The Christan Century" reported that "Karl Barth is exercising a growing influence upon the thought of the Japanese Christians, and his theology is one of the factors which will determine their attitudes and policies with reference to some of the practical problems which Oriental Christians are now facing. This is made clear by the report of a joint conference of Chinese and Japanese Christian leaders held in China several weeks ago."

## A Baptist Layman Honored

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 20. The Washington award for 1935, the highest honor of the various societies of engineers in America, was conferred upon one of the most famous of mechanics, Ambrose Swasey of Cleveland, Ohio, at a banquet in his honor at the La Salle Hotel. He is also a prominent Baptist layman. The Washington Award, named to honor George Washington for his contributions to human welfare, was founded in 1916 by John Watson Alford. It was awarded this year to Ambrose Swasey for "his distinguished contributions as a builder of instruments, institutions and men."

Among the many generous gifts of Mr. Swasey have been the following: the astronomical observatory and chapel of Dennison University; Christian Association building, Canton, China; Science building, University of Nanking; and the beautiful library building of the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, N. Y. At the time of the unveiling of Mr. Swasey's portrait in the hallway leading into the seminary library on Oct. 21, 1932, Dr. Albert W. Beaven said of him: "We honor Dr. Swasey today, not as a great engineer, nor another head of a great business concern, but because he has lived a Christian life that inspires us. Dr. Swasey, because of his personality, because of his Christian interest, because of his quiet modesty, because of the years that he has been spared, has been able to make the kind of record that we would crave to make, if we had the character. He is one of the men who make it easier to believe in God and to believe that God can live in our lives."

## The National Safe-A-Life League

New York, N. Y. The annual report of "The National Save-a-Life League" was recently made public and more detailed publicity was given it by Dr. Stanley High, radio commentator. During the past year it has saved the lives of 3400 people and since its beginning 28

years ago he has saved between 25,000 and 30,000 people from suicide, according to figures published after an independent investigation by "The New York Times."

The league was started in 1906 by the young assistant minister of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church by the name of Harry Marsh Warren. He was left a gift of \$50,000 by a wealthy member of the church for his personal use, but he took the money and founded the National Save-a-Life League. Today the best psychiatrists are on its consulting staff. It maintains a 24 hour a day connection with the New York City Police Department. Its work is not only confined to the prevention of suicide but it also aids the tragic business of readjusting the lives of families where suicides have occurred.

According to Dr. High, "the league's work doesn't stop when a man has been pulled out of the East River or persuaded to throw away his gun. After the life has been saved there's still the bigger job of helping to rebuild it. Here was a man, driven by desperation, who was caught stealing from his bank. The League stepped in between him and suicide, shipped him to another city, got him a job, and now, every week, receives a check which it forwards to the bank to amortize the theft. I suppose that if you were to ask Dr. Warren what the basis is for this success, he would undoubtedly put religion at the heart of the whole matter."

## U. S. Churches in Germany to Close

Berlin, Germany, Feb. 24. American churches and libraries connected with them in Berlin, Munich, and Dresden are in distress and warned their friends that they must close unless they are given financial aid. The fate of the famous American church in Berlin is uncertain. The keys to the church were delivered today to Douglas Jenkins, American consul general, by the governing board which has resigned. The church belongs to the Federal Council of Churches in America, but the Berlin American congregation is supposed to take care of its upkeep. With the smallness of Berlin's American colony, the drop in tourists, and the depression of the dollar, the church has been faring badly.

The church board, presided over by James Lee II, son of the late Ivy Lee, New York publicist, tried to keep the church going. A young student read the services in exchange for a small three-room flat beside the square church tower, which was donated by John D. Rockefeller. But the coal bill swallowed most of the current contributions. The Rev. Frederick Wissenbach in Munich warned that he will be forced to close up the American Church of the Ascension there on March 1 unless he receives funds.

## The Richest Church in the World

New York, N. Y. The famous New York City Church, "Old Trinity," located at the head of Wall Street, has the distinction of being the richest parish in the world, according to "The Baptist Evangel" in its February, 1935, issue. The annual report, published recently, shows assets of \$31,745,639.70. The site on which the present church, the third edifice to be erected, stands has been consecrated to religion since 1697. The Rev. Frederic S. Fleming, D. D., present rector, began his ministry there in 1933. The year-book takes 300 pages to tell the moving story of all of Trinity's activities in its eight chapels. The parish pays taxes to the City of New York amounting to over \$500,000 annually. The amount needed for the support of the churches and the cemetery was \$484,089. The parish belongs to the Protestant Episcopal Church.

## A Monthly Magazine for the Blind

New York, N. Y. Miss Margaret Applegarth has recently appealed to the Christian people of America to help support and maintain in our country the most unusual publications in our country. It is a religious magazine for the blind, whose actual production cost is \$4.00 a year, but which is made available for blind people through the benevolent gifts of friends through the John Milton Foundation, 210 Bible House, Astor Place, New York City. Miss Applegarth, who is one of the three volunteer editors, has described the work of the Foundation as follows:

"For many years the blind in this country have been appealing for a strong and wholesome Protestant religious periodical, with articles reflecting the best Christian thinking and trends of the religious world, together with inspirational material, hymns, and Sunday School lesson helps. It was to fill this need that "The John Milton Magazine for the Blind" was started two years ago by a board of managers, members of which were appointed by the International Council of Religious Education and the two interdenominational Councils on Home Missions. Each month since then the magazine has appeared in Braille, eighty pages, embossed on the usual heavy paper, 11x11 inches. There are at present 1,500 blind subscribers who pay an annual registration fee of only ten cents. They realize this is merely a nominal amount, and those who are able to send more do so; but the blind are rarely in good circumstances, so that the majority of the renewals are for ten cents. These renewals are accompanied, however, by notes of such enthusiasm and delight that there is no least doubt that the magazine is meeting their need."

# From Anarchist and Socialist to Christ

THE MARVELOUS STORY OF A TWICE-BORN CHARACTER IN MODERN GERMANY

By WILLIAM A. MUELLER

## Chapter Six

Days passed by. Fritz Binde's fiancée left town to enter a pension for a year. He felt free now to live his own life again. Again he delved into the materialistic books of philosophy. He became a member of a free thinker's reading circle. This step determined the course of his life for the next few months. Every Saturday evening he spent in the free thinker's circle. He read day and night, and within six months he had book debts equivalent to his salary for the next six months. He read practically everything he could get hold of. In this circle he became acquainted with Ludwig Büchner, who proved to him that outside of matter there is no other principle in the universe. God was eliminated from Fritz Binde's world view. God was nothing more than the self-idealization of man.

Fritz Binde did not feel quite easy under the shadows of this new, barren philosophy. It was so dreary, so utterly hopeless. The eternal law of nature of which he had been reading to suffocation, were too prosaic. He needed a dream and an ideal to fill his heart and soul.

Fritz Binde turned socialist in this crisis through the impetus received from one of his old pals who had written him that he was laboring in Switzerland for the deliverance of the proletariat. At first, in his thorough way, he studied diligently the works of Marx and Engels, joined a socialistic club, and having always been a friend of the poor and downtrodden, he quite naturally fitted into the new scheme of things. Once the socialistic ideals had captivated his mind and heart, he set to the task of realizing those ideals.

When his fiancée returned home from her stay in the pension, he read to her a poem by Vischer and through it confessed to her that he had thrown faith in God overboard. Anna Kortenhaus listened with much sadness in her heart to the recitation of this poem. She said to him: "God is not like that. Just because he is God, he does not beat upon mankind with thunderbolts. The evil in the world comes from the sin in our hearts. And Christ died for our sins. This I have learned, and I am going to abide by it."

Fritz Binde laughed. Then she turned to him again and said: "Then what Mother wrote me is true: that now instead of going to church you go to the circle of free-thinking friends?" He answered affirmatively. She wrung her hands and cried: "Oh, why don't you help me? It cannot be your desire to ruin my father. You love me, don't you, Fritz?"

He answered: "I cannot help it." "What? You cannot help it? Then I say unto you: Go, go, leave me! I do not want you! I don't want a man to be my husband who sends my father to an early grave."

While they thus spoke, Father Kortenhaus entered the room. He had overheard the heated conversation. He stepped over the threshold like a ghost. He was pale like death himself.

"My child, be quiet. The Lord will help." He raised his hands as though to assuage the conflict which was raging in the breast of the young people.

Fritz Binde, though baffled at first, retorted stubbornly: "I know no other Lord than truth."

"That is good, my son," replied the father-in-law, "But you ought to know that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the truth, and beside him no one else."

"Those are crazy ideas," cried Fritz Binde.

"Crazy ideas?" His eyes quivered. His bony hands as though paralyzed by an electric current were made into fists. "What, crazy ideas?" he repeated, as his agonized face with the deep blue eyes turned toward the one he loved so dearly, "you dare say such a thing within the four walls of my house; you have the audacity to vilify my religion in such a cruel manner? That is blasphemous. That is base, and even devilish. You deserve to be..." His right hand trembled, so that Fritz Binde stepped back.

"For God's sake, Father," cried his daughter. Father Kortenhaus' whole body trembled. Anna threw herself weeping on her father's neck. Then he said quietly: "Be still, Anna. Be still! The Lord will pardon me. He surely will pardon me. I was too rash, but — you know how I love Fritz. But think it over to whom you will stick. Are you not my child, and have I not brought you up in God's fear and love? I do not wish to see you unhappy, Anna..." He could not continue. His knees shook. Hastily he took out his big, red handkerchief, and buried his rugged face in it, sobbing convulsively.

When Anna saw her father weeping as he did she wailed: "Father, be quiet. Never, no, never, shall I marry an unbeliever," and turning toward her fiancé, she said to him: "Go, go!"

But no sooner had she said that, than she left her father and flew into Fritz Binde's arms.

The latter was frightfully upset and wanted to leave the home of Mr. Kortenhaus and forget his wife-to-be. But his fiancée did not let him. She said pleadingly to him: "I cannot leave you

now for your own self's sake. In your present condition you would surely perish in the world outside." Fritz Binde inwardly agreed with her, for many times he thought of ending his life in suicide.

Things were somewhat straightened out, and peace restored in the family. Father Kortenhaus had even the rare grace to establish his future son-in-law in Vohwinkel, near Elberfeld. Shortly after this, he took ill. He desired the young people to be married before he passed away. The wedding ceremony was performed at the dying father's bedside. Fritz Binde felt deeply ashamed, for his attitude had precipitated the untimely death of Father Kortenhaus. Years later he wrote these lines:

If thou shouldst rise up against me  
Though thoughtless, wicked deed,  
Thou deadly wound inflicted,  
Whither should I turn in my hour of need?

Fritz Binde openly confessed himself a socialist after leaving the freethinkers' circle to which he had belonged for some time. Being a born orator, as well as a gifted writer, Fritz Binde soon gained eminence in the socialistic party of Germany. He quickly captured the hearts of thousands of followers. Party leaders looked up to him as to a rising star in the political realm. He was asked to run for the German Reichstag, but he refused. Sensitive as he was he soon became disgusted with the dominating, selfish and revengeful spirit that controlled the party's life. As suddenly as he had espoused the socialistic cause he rejected it, and became an anarchist.

Fritz Binde became an anarchist of the intellectual sort largely through the study of Friedrich Nietzsche and of other radical writers. In these studies he once more discovered that man is more than matter, and that man liveth not by bread alone. He was not satisfied with merely negative criticism of existing conditions. His concern was to create a new manhood. And thus, from this time on till his conversion Binde preached the gospel of culture. He emphasized the need of developing the inner resources of the human soul. Naturally, such advanced ideas and ideals drove the titanic idealist out of the anarchist camp. But that did not mean that Binde gave up the struggle for truth. After having relinquished natural science, socialism, and anarchism he turned to art as the redeemer of man.

It is really remarkable how a watchmaker like Fritz Binde became so versatile that he truly mastered the knowl-

(Continued on Page 95)

# A UNIQUE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

The Evangel Baptist Church of Newark, N. J., held a unique and impressive missionary conference during the week, January 13 to 20. Representatives from various faith missions and our own German Baptist fields addressed the members and friends of the Evangel Church in afternoon and evening sessions and by means of personal illustrations and exhibits pictured to them the work of their respective societies. Its success has meant that this will be the first of a series of annual missionary conferences to be held under the auspices of the church and the aggressive leadership of the minister, the Rev. Vincent Brushwyler.

It was a venture for us to sponsor such a conference in view of the fact that so many people are not interested in missions. But we took God at his Word and challenge and "launched out into the deep."

The response of our people was most encouraging. The average attendance for the afternoon meetings was about 40. The evening attendance during the week was 100 and on Sunday evening 240 people were present. Best of all we feel that as a church our interest in foreign missions has been greatly stimulated and our vision enlarged.

A large map, prepared by Mr. Norman Drechsel of our church, was hung on the wall for our study. On this map the various fields were represented by different colors which enabled us to locate the stations of the missionary organizations.

Another feature which helped to enhance the interest of the conference was the variety of booths with missionary curios and pictures at the rear of the auditorium. The things of Africa were most prominent. India and the Orient were also represented. The posters were the center of attraction for many of the visitors.

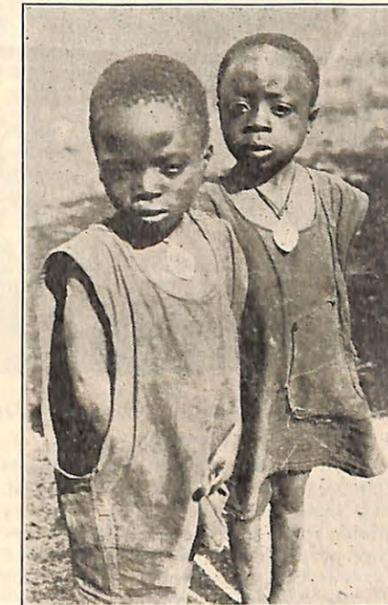
On Sunday morning, Jan. 13, the Rev. Robert J. Adams, returned missionary from the French West Africa, brought an opening inspirational message. He and his wife have been serving under the board of the Christian Mission Alliance. Mrs. Adams was formerly a member of our church. In the evening Rev. Henry D. Campbell, general secretary of the African Inland Mission, spoke on the passage recorded in Mark 7:24-30. These services gave promise of a conference to be blessed manifold of God.

On Tuesday evening, Jan. 15, we met again for the first week-day session of the conference. Mr. Cyrus Nelson, a student at the Princeton Theological Seminary, led the worship service in song. Dr. Robert H. Glover, Home Director of the China Inland Mission, in his address spoke of the story of the mission and its present service. He dwelt considerably upon the faith of J. Hudson Taylor, founder of the mission, whose beginning with \$50 has grown to more than 28 million dollars expended through the years for this purpose. From 15 small

stations along the coast the work has grown to 300 stations with 1313 missionaries and 4000 native workers.

On Wednesday afternoon we met for a time of prayer and fellowship. Mrs. Robert Adams of the French West Africa challenged us with the answer to the question, "Does it Pay to Pray?" The Rev. Emil Pearson, serving as a missionary in the Portuguese West Africa under the Africa General Mission, spoke of "Prayer and Missions," using illustrations from the lives of natives which had been born again by the spirit of God. The spiritual power of this afternoon of prayer was felt by all of us.

In the evening brief testimonies were brought by Mr. Adam and Mr. Pearson concerning the challenge of the millions unevangelized in the continents of the world. The address was given by Dr.



Boys of Africa

Arthur J. Bowen, general secretary of the South Africa General Mission, who has spent more than 25 years of pioneer work in Africa. Through his rich store of illustrations from the lives of missionaries, native Christians, and personal experiences, he has led us to love Africa.

Another period of prayer and fellowship was enjoyed on Thursday afternoon. Miss Ethel Rea, a returned missionary from India under the Ceylon and India General Mission, brought a brief message on "Prayer." The Rev. Joseph A. Davis, general secretary of the Inland South America Missionary Union, told us of its work among the tribal Indians of South America.

On Thursday evening the Rev. Paul Gebauer, our own missionary, pictured the work of the Cameroons, Africa, in his inimitable way. How our hearts rejoiced as we listened to the changes which have transpired among these peo-

ple because Christ has found entrance! The people who once believed in the power of the medicine man and the fetish and who howled their chants are now singing the songs of the gospel of Christ.

The Friday afternoon was a continuation of prayer and earnest petitions. The Rev. Emil Pearson and Dr. Arthur J. Bowen led us in a study of God's Word and the necessity of prayer in our lives and our churches. In the evening Miss Ethel Rea pictured for us in more graphic detail the mission work in India. Dr. Henry D. Campbell of the Africa Inland Mission told us of the story of its founding by Peter Cameron Scott in 1895. It has increased in scope until today there are 5 great fields, 50 main stations, 1100 out-stations, 200 missionaries and 1400 native evangelists and teachers.

The Rev. Paul Gebauer was the Sunday afternoon speaker. His message was a very practical one. His topic was "The Missionary's Equipment." In regard to material equipment, he said he could make no general suggestions since each field has its own particular needs. But the equipment which he considered most important was that which could not be bought with money, namely, the mental and spiritual equipment. These are the essentials in a missionary's equipment: a life surrendered to God and controlled by his Spirit, a specific call to a specific field and a definite people, a restful trust in God for the supply of all needs, a love for communion with God and the study of his Word, a willingness to play "the second fiddle" with humble spirit, tact in dealing with people, an abundance of common sense, adaptability to all circumstances, steadfastness and patience in service, and a passion for souls.

The closing message of the conference was brought by Dr. Robert H. Glover of the China Inland Mission. In his stirring message he appealed for lives willing to lay all on the altar of sacrifice and to go wherever God leads. Thoughtfully but deliberately 25 to 30 young people stood on their feet declaring their willingness to let God have his way with their lives. This act of consecration on the part of these young people crowned the success of our missionary conference. The influence of this group of consecrated young people is already being felt in our midst. We pray that God will give us wisdom that this enthusiasm might be conserved and expressed in preparation for actual service on the mission field.

The offering received on the closing day, designated entirely for missionary purposes, amounted to more than \$400. We praise God for this expression of sacrifice in the extension of his Kingdom. However, the true success of this conference was not determined by the gifts of money, but rather by the lives surrendered to the purpose of God. May the Lord inspire other churches to venture forth on his promises and likewise share in the spiritual blessings which are ours to receive by faith!

MISS GRACE KETTENBURG.

**Pacific Conference**

A NEWS LETTER FROM COLFAX, WASH.

Last October the Young People's Society of the German Baptist Church, Colfax, Washington, held its election of officers with these results: Victor Kroll, president; Asaph Krueger, vice-president; Margarete Krueger, secretary; and Merton Kroll, treasurer. The annual program was held on Nov. 4th with musical numbers, a playlet entitled, "The Anybody Family," several readings and installation of officers.

At present we are having Bible study on Sunday afternoons which take the place of the evening services because of the changeable weather and bad roads. A Junior Young People's Society is also active. On Nov. 18th they rendered a splendid musical concert. They have given numerous messages in song which have always been thoroughly enjoyed. There are 19 members in the Junior organization, who are saving their earnings in mite boxes which will be their gifts for the mission field.

Our Sunday School is glowing for Jesus and growing in numbers. We have an average attendance of 55 or 60. There are seven classes. On Dec. 24th the Sunday School presented a pageant, "The Three Wise Men," which was effectively rendered and enthusiastically received.

MARGARETE KRUEGER, Secretary.

**Northern Conference**

REPORT OF RECENT ACTIVITIES IN OUR CHURCH AT WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

On Sunday, the 17th of February, the Winnipeg church had the pleasure of having the Rev. William Kuhn, the General Missionary Secretary, in its midst. It is always a joy to have him with us, for he seldom comes our way. We were deeply grateful for his stirring and encouraging messages, which he brought us on that occasion.

The first Bible School to be held in Manitoba met in our church the past two weeks. The members of the faculty and their subjects were as follows: the Rev. A. Felberg, "The History of Our Bible;" the Rev. A. Reeh, "Church History;" the Rev. E. Bonikowsky, "Education and Sunday School Teachers;" the Rev. Edmund Mittelstedt, "Missions" and "A Course in Singing." Thirty scholars benefitted by these courses.

Our Sunday School is now under the leadership of Mr. O. Heide. Mr. F. Dojacek, who had been superintendent faithfully for 23 years, was led to resign because of occupation among the Czechs and Slovaks of the city.

We are happy to report that a new mission has been opened in Elmwood, one of the suburbs of Winnipeg. The attendance there has been very gratifying and under the guidance of our pastor, the Rev. A. Felberg, promises to become an important part of our work.

H. PENNER, Reporter.

**Dakota Conference**

EVANGELISTIC SERVICES AT OUR CHURCH IN ISABEL, SO. DAK.

Our church in Isabel, South Dakota, has recently experienced a spiritual awakening. It had been without a pastor for some time and felt the need of such an awakening. It sent a delegation to the Rev. Fred Trautner, pastor of our churches at Hettinger and Bison, South Dakota, to conduct evangelistic services for several weeks. Mr. Trautner, unable to leave his field for that length of time, recommended a visiting friend of his, the Rev. Philip Geiter of Reading, Pa. Brother Geiter, who is an evangelist of wide experience, felt this was a "Macedonian call" and consented to go.



Booster Choir at Isabel, South Dakota. The Rev. P. Geiter in Center

After the first week the church became too small to accommodate the crowds which flocked to hear the Word of God. Extra seats were secured to fill every available space in the church. Still numbers of people had to be turned away and the larger Congregational Church across the street generously opened its doors towards the close of the meetings. There were a number of conversions among young and old. Indifferent hearts were rekindled and a spirit of goodwill among the people of the various denominations who attended the services was noticeable.

One of the outstanding features of the revival services was "the Booster choir" of almost sixty boys and girls, organized and conducted by the evangelist, Mr. Geiter. A picture of the choir is reproduced on this page. They learned a variety of choruses and sang with such enthusiasm that many people came especially to hear the singing. Mr. Geiter also sang frequently in the services accompanied by his guitar. The Rev. and Mrs. Fred Trautner assisted in the services for a number of evenings in song and exhortation.

God be praised for the blessings received and for every victory of his power and grace!

Mr. Geiter has also spent several weeks in our church at McIntosh, where he led

a spiritual awakening in the church under the guiding spirit of God.

NEWS ITEMS FROM PLEASANT VALLEY, N. DAK.

The German Baptist Church of Pleasant Valley, North Dakota, held a service of special significance on New Year's Eve. The Rev. N. E. McCoy, our minister, brought the message, which touched the hearts of those present and led one person to Christ as Savior.

People come from far and near to our services, and we are convinced that the Lord is with us. The Rev. N. E. McCoy conducts our services every other week, spending the Sunday afternoon at Washti and the evening at Carrington. Towards the close of last year the young people of the church presented him with a

wrist watch as a token of their esteem and love.

Mr. McCoy is also serving as chaplain of the House of Representatives in the state legislature at Bismarck. We pray that God will bless us in the future as he has done in the past.

CHARLES SIEBOLD, Reporter.

**Central Conference**

HAPPY EXPERIENCES THROUGH CO-OPERATION IN BEAVER, BAY CITY, AND PINCONNING, MICH.

"When you count up those who forward press, count me." This song has been on the lips and in the hearts of all of our members in the churches of Beaver, Bay City, and Pinconning, Mich. With fervent prayer and inner conviction we have combined our forces to gain the victory assured of Christ's help. The several fields seemed hard and stony with difficulties, but we have attempted to till the soil to the glory of God.

In Bay City the Rev. Henry Pfeifer conducted a week of revival meetings in November. Our "Happy Singers," a number of talented young ladies, beautified every service by their hymns of praise. On Dec. 2 our pastor had the joy of baptizing two girls, who were re-

ceived into the church as we observed the Lord's Supper. As a result of the leading of God's Spirit the "Amty Cass" for girls was organized.

In Beaver Mr. Pfeifer also held a week of revival meetings and the Lord blessed the efforts of his children. The invitation was also extended to those in Pinconning as to their decision for Christ. In that small church one soul came to the realization of God's love for him in Christ. On Feb 10 the members of the three churches met in our church in Beaver and at the close of the service the Rev. Henry Pfeifer baptized four joyful believers amid the harmonious melody of our "Happy Singers." Each one of the converts was given a Bible in the name of the Beaver Baptist Church.

Everyone went home rejoicing with the spirit of Christ in his heart. As we continue to work for the Lord we earnestly seek the assistance of the prayers of our Christian brethren. "United we stand, divided we fall."

**A BIRTHDAY SURPRISE**

Feb. 14th, Valentine Day, marked a special day in the history of the Women's Missionary Circle of the Bethel Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich. After a short business session, our president, Mrs. S. A. Kose, told the story of a little girl who came to bring joy to her parents on Valentine Day. This little girl, now grown to adulthood, was none other than our pastors' wife, Mrs. Paul Wengel, who continues to bring joy to many.

Birthday greetings were sung and all adjourned to another room where tables were beautifully decorated with hearts, candles and flowers. A large birthday cake was placed before Mrs. Wengel, the birthday child. A shower of paper hearts preceded the shower of gifts which were given to her by the various groups of our women's organizations. Mrs. Otto Koppen presented the gift from the Women's Mission Circle, Mrs. J. Neumann represented the Onesiro group, Mrs. H. Williams, the Fides Filiae, Mrs. W. Edwards, the Puella Diligentiae, and Mrs. E. Keller, the Daughters of Bethel. Mrs. Wengler, deeply stirred by this expression of love and goodwill, found it hard to express her appreciation in words.

After a happy time of fellowship around the tables, enjoying coffee and cake, this beautiful birthday service came to a close.

MRS. H. E. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

**ANNUAL REPORT FROM OUR CHURCH IN INDIANAPOLIS, IND.**

Time passes quickly. It seems only a short time ago since our last annual report was sent to "The Baptist Herald." We have had to struggle through the financial difficulties of the past year as many other churches had to do. God has helped us by his grace and power to unite together in his service and has blessed our work with a small increase in our membership.

The work of the year was brought fittingly to a close with our usual supper

and annual meeting. We were happy to hear what the affiliated organizations have done in the service of the Master. Some reports were not so favorable as others, but is that not evidence of a time of trial? A time of testing of faith is for the purpose that we may not falter but be spurred on to greater success.

We want to acknowledge the faithful service of one of the oldest members of this church, Brother Charles Schaefer. He has been a member of the Bethel Church, Indianapolis, since May, 1895. For the past 39 years he has served as church treasurer. Such a service is certainly noteworthy.

Pray for us that we may grow in spirit and in strength, for we expect to work with our pastor, the Rev. Adolf Bredy, more earnestly during this coming year than ever before.

H. HOFFMAN.

**Atlantic Conference**

THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE EVANGEL CHURCH, NEWARK, N. J.

On Monday evening, Jan. 21, the members of the Evangel Baptist Church in Newark, N. J., met for a supper gathering and the annual business meeting. Some time was spent after the supper in the singing of choruses and in testimonies of praise and thanksgiving. The various organizations reported concerning their progress, and the financial report of the church was exceedingly encouraging. Not only have all the expenses been paid, but the spiritual blessings, which we consider much more important, have been manifold. Our church membership had a net increase of more than 50 during the past year, so that our present membership is 328.

Our Sunday School presented a glowing report. We find that our constituency is constantly changing, but our enrollment seems to be constantly going forward. At the present time the enrollment of the Sunday School is 575 with an average attendance during 1934 of 375.

The election of officers was as follows: Trustees, Messrs. Henry Lauterwasser, Sr., Norman Drechsel, and Ferdinand Dinger; Members elected at large to the church committee, Messrs. Edward Schantz, Karl Hofheinz, Harold Bishof; Mission Treasurer, Timothy Hoops; Mission Secretary, John Brueschwylter; Church Clerk, Miss Elsie Nitsche; members at large to serve on the Music Committee, Miss Edna Schieweck, Mrs. Vincent Brushwyler and Miss Grace Kettenburg.

At the close of the service everyone present received a souvenir booklet containing several poems, choruses, a summary of the changes of church membership, a chart showing the average attendance for the past five years at the Sunday services, Sunday School, Prayer Meetings and Junior Church. The Rev. Vincent Brushwyler is pastor and Miss Kettenburg, missionary of the church.

REPORTER.

**PRAYER HELPERS**

"Take it to the Lord in Prayer"

**Wits' End Corner**

Are you standing at "Wits' End Corner,"

Yearning for those you love,  
Longing and praying and watching,

Pleading their cause above;  
Trying to lead them to Jesus,  
Wondering if you've been true?  
He whispers, "At 'Wits' End Corner,  
I'll win them as I won you!"

No doubt to a brighter pathway  
Your footsteps will soon be moved,  
But only at "Wits' End Corner"  
Is "the God who is able" proved!

**First Baptist Church' Trenton, Ill.**

We, the undersigned (24 signatures) pledge our support both spiritual and material toward the welfare of our various denominational activities. You can be assured that both foreign and home missionary activities shall have our united support. Our prayers and our talents, as God gives us strength, shall be directed to the extension of his glorious Kingdom.

F. L. STROBEL, Pastor.  
HENRY GIESECKE, Deacon.

**A Prayer**

"Teach me, O Lord, thy holy way,  
And give me an obedient mind,  
That in thy service I may find  
My soul's delight from day to day."

**A Beautiful Summary**

Doctor S. D. Gordon, in his "Quiet Talks on Prayer," wonderfully summarizes our Lord's inspiring example of prayer: "How much prayer meant to Jesus! It was not only his regular habit, but his resort in every emergency, however slight or serious. When perplexed he prayed. When hard pressed at work he prayed. When hungry for fellowship he found it in prayer. He chose his associates and received his messages upon his knees. If tempted, he prayed. If criticized, he prayed. If fatigued in body or wearied in spirit, he had recourse to this unailing habit of prayer. Prayer brought him unmeasured power at the beginning, and kept the flow unbroken and undiminished. There was no emergency, no difficulty, no necessity, no temptation that would not yield to prayer, as he practiced it. Shall not we who have been tracing these steps in his prayer life, go back over them again and again until we breathe in his very spirit of prayer? And shall we not, too, ask him daily to teach us how to pray, and then plan to get alone with him regularly, that he may have opportunity to teach us, and we the opportunity to practice his teaching?"

PRAYER-HELPERS,  
P. O. Box 6,  
Forest Park, Ill.



# The Family Forum

Conducted by the REV. O. E. KRUEGER

WE do not want to do all the talking. When we do talk, we want to feel that some specified need is being met. We cannot promise to solve all problems. We shall submit to the constituency of our denomination some of these difficult questions and get the reactions from a larger group. There are those among our people who have worked out their difficulties in their own experiences. We shall ask them to share with us some of their convictions.

## Why Not Organize a Parent Class?

Without a doubt there are parents in every church whose greatest concern is the proper training of their children. Some definite guidance will be welcome to them. We have rarely put such a practical and necessary course into the educational program of our work. If it is not practical to conduct such a class in connection with the Sunday school, or if the church activity-program is too full for organizing another group, why not ask the Pastor to devote one prayer meeting evening a month to the interests of family life, having particularly the training of parents and of children in mind? The old fashioned prayer meeting, in many places, is dying out anyway. An interest of this kind will inject new life into it, and also will focalize prayer. The pastor will find splendid material to guide such a study group. It will interest not only the parents, but also the grandparents, as well as uncles and aunts who have no children. These will be able to give the last word upon every child-training problem! It will be a very fine thing for prospective parents and young people, too.

## Follow Some Definite Study-Course

If you cannot get group-study, then pursue some course by yourself. Undoubtedly you are unconsciously gathering hints from everywhere that bear upon your problem. Why not make it more definite by taking up with your partner in the process of character-moulding such a book as "Christian Parenthood in a Changing World," by J. H. Montgomery (50 cts.)? It seeks to help parents in the development of their own personality, and so to equip them for their task.

## The Religious Objective of the Family

It seems unnecessary to restate that which ought to be well known. It is not the amount of detailed religious knowledge, that we may impart to the children, which counts. It does matter, however, how firmly we place them into the grip of Christ. Our task is to "make Jesus Christ inescapable." Many of the children of today go out from a Christian home and thereupon neglect the church and allow the dust to accumulate upon the Bible presented to them by the Bible school. But if we have been successful in placing them into the captivity of Christ, it will be hard for them to kick against the pricks.

Stephen and the Christians whom Saul persecuted put something into his heart that had not been placed there by all the religious knowledge he possessed. That made it possible for Jesus to capture him and to make him a bond-servant. We too must make Christ inescapable.

## An Effective Family Altar

Are you still conducting a family altar? What method do you pursue? Does your family enter into it with joy and profit? Or did you give it up, and why? Is there no possibility of restoring family worship? What are your difficulties? Have you had helpful experiences? We invite your response to these questions. We are told that the complex set-up of modern life with all the diversified interests of the members of the family in which school, industrialism, and social contacts give a different time-table to every one in the home makes it impossible to get the family together for as much as five minutes a day for worship. "Where there is a will, there is a way." Is not the breakdown of the family altar an indication that we have lost much of our faith and more of our fervor? Or have we merely become discouraged because we did not know how to adjust our family worship to the change of time, and just gave it up because it did not seem to fit into present conditions?

## How Shall We Conduct Family Worship?

TIME.—Most families still have an evening meal together. That would be the ideal time for worship. Some farmers may still have the family around the table three times a day and may worship together at each meal.

MATERIAL.—The adult family will use the Bible in the preferred version and read according to some preferred system. It is good for each to have a copy and read in rotation. The use of hymns is a great help. Where there are children it is better to use "a Story Bible" which tells in simple language the Bible stories that are suited for children. There are such splendid "Story Bibles" available, and many of them have pictures to vivify the story to the child.

BREVITY.—Long prayers are for the closet, not for the prayer meeting nor for the family altar. We have long frowned upon prayer books. Some family altars have fallen into decay because of the monotony of the prayer which is offered daily in vain repetition. Possibly the use of prayer helps is not of the devil after all. Of course the Christian has petitions to bring to God that are not written in prayer books.

CONFERENCE.—The members of the family may find great help in a free discussion of their problems at the family altar and make them a topic of prayer.

## From Anachist and Socialist to Christ

(Continued from Page 88)

edge of his day. From 1897 he studied problems of art with the same passion with which he studied Marx, Engels and Nietzsche in previous years.

Through the influence of a certain Mr. Woltmann Fritz Binde began to study the Bible. He had searched all the systems of philosophy for an answer to his deepest questions, and had been left in the dark. He had tried socialism and found it wanting. He had reveled in anarchism, and had come out a philosophic wreck. It had been a desperate struggle for truth which did not lead anywhere. No wonder that slowly but surely the terrific studies began to exhaust the physical strength of this gifted young man. With intense passion he waded through the systems of the world thinking. He fought for them, he lived for them, and he died for them, only to become more disgusted and more desperate in the end. Wherever he turned he discovered flaws, mistakes, idolatry. God laid Binde very low, so that he could no longer study or work. He became perfectly helpless and lived through terrible years between 1900-1902. He, who had trusted in his own resources for his soul's redemption, came to despair in himself completely. He hardly could write a page a day. (To be concluded)

## Oak Park German Baptist Church

Harlem and Dixon,  
Forest Park, Ill.

THEODORE W. DONS, Pastor  
Sunday Worship, 10.30 A. M. and  
7.30 P. M.

Prayer Service, Wednesday 8 P. M.  
Visitors in Chicago, Welcome!

## Booklets

### Of Interest to Young People and Sunday School Workers

Topics for Young People's Societies  
Compiled by L. Helen Percy.

127 pages. 50 cts.

Topics for Young People's Societies,  
No. 2.

By the same author.  
127 pages. 50 cts.

Program for the Intermediate  
Society

By the same author.  
128 pages. 50 cts.

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German Baptist Publication Society  
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## A CHAT ABOUT BOOKS

By THE EDITOR

The Lenten season has begun. These days before Good Friday and Easter should awaken in us a spirit of devotion and meditation. They should lead us into "the garden where Christ walks with us and talks with us." An inquiry which has been made more frequently than any other at this season of the year has to do with devotional material in the nature of books or pamphlets for quiet meditation. Our chat will suggest a few of these.

One of the finest little books on the hymns and songs of the Christian Church is "Stories of Hymns We Love" by Cecilia Margaret Rudin, recently published by John Rudin and Company, Chicago, and retailing at one dollar. It is attractively bound in dark blue cover and artistically printed on heavy enamel paper. Forty hymns are considered in an entirely new and captivating treatment. Each hymn will mean vastly more to the reader after perusing Miss Rudin's study.

I learned many things from this book which held my attention with fascination. I never knew before that Martin Luther as a student "often used his beautiful voice to sing under the windows of wealthy citizens for alms to be given to the poor," that Isaac Watts wrote a delightful book of songs for children, among them being "Birds in Their Little Nests Agree," that Charles Wesley wrote the hymn "O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" to "commemorate the first anniversary of his spiritual awakening, that Philip P. Bliss sent his first effort at hymn writing to a publisher asking for a flute in return if the song was accepted, and that the hymn "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" was made popular by having been adopted by the Christian Endeavor societies of the world.

In this book by Miss Rudin you will find the most complete and picturesque story of the hymn we love so dearly. "Silent Night, Holy Night." You will find the stories of such hymns, whose background is little known, as "Savior, Breathe an Evening Blessing," "That Sweet Story of Old," "When Morning Gilds the Skies," "God Will Take Care of You," "This is My Father's World" and "I Would Be True."

The lovely reproduction of Saint Cecilia, the patron saint of music, and the story of her martyrdom in 230 A. D. are a meditation study in themselves. Use this book during the Lenten season to open spiritual vistas upon the lives of those who have given us the songs of the church, and you will find that you will return to it again and again for young people's programs and church services as well as for your private devotional meditations.

A small paper bound brochure is published annually by the Commission on Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches called "The Fellowship of

Prayer" to be used during the days of the Lenten season. This year's booklet is particularly outstanding and helpful because it is written by Dr. Gaius Glenn Atkins of Auburn, N. Y., whose pen is always lucid and whose Christian spirit is winsome. If you cannot secure a booklet from your pastor, the editor will be glad to send you a copy upon receipt of five cents in stamps.

For those who want something more elaborate and enduring, no finer recommendation could be given than suggesting the three quarterly booklets for daily devotion published by the Commission on Evangelism of Congregational Churches with offices at 287 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y. They cost fifteen cents each and are entitled, "The High Way," "Daily Devotions," and "The Valor of the Soul." They cover any quarter of the year, are attractively and well bound and are splendidly and suggestively compiled. When the fourth of the series is published in April, the four copies will furnish the finest devotional program for a year at sixty cents with which I am acquainted.

I am going to make a rather reckless recommendation for young people, ministers and leaders of our church organizations. The book on prayer which has meant most to me during the past years is the lovely white booklet entitled "Ways of Praying" by Murial Lester (Cokesbury Press—32 pages—35 cents). You will find this booklet worth ten times what it costs. It will elevate your prayer life, evoke new ways of praying, suggest prayer attitudes and habits for physical and spiritual health and portray a profound study of prayer. This is also a book which you will want to keep open on your desk or table near your bed.

If you ask me what books I shall use during the Lenten season, I can answer briefly. I am reading "The Evening Altar" by Carl Wallace Petty (Privately Printed—1932—\$1.00), a series of radio talks by the late Dr. Petty on the enduring virtues of the Christian life. There is more "food for thought" in those 187 small pages than in many books twice its size through which I have waded. I am rereading "Prayers of the Social Awakening" by Walter Rauschenbusch (Pilgrim Press—1925—75 cents) which has a glow of the spirit of the Eternal God for me. This book will undoubtedly become one of the religious classics for the twentieth century. I am reading for the first time the entire "Centenary Translation of the New Testament" by the late Helen Barrett Montgomery (American Baptist Publication Society—1924—\$1.00), a translation by one of the most gifted Baptist women. These three books together offer a program of meditation and reading which promises to be profoundly interesting and spiritually helpful.

# THE DANUBIAN GOSPEL MISSION

Is one of the Most Promising Missionary Enterprises of German Baptists of North America

## PERSONAL GLIMPSSES INTO OUR DANUBIAN MISSION

### From Missionary Johann Wahl in Jugoslavia

Recently in our mission station, Pedig, 28 persons gave their heart to Jesus Christ and will be baptized early in March. In our church at Vel Kikinda and in the mission station at Vojlovica there have been quite a number of earnest seekers who have announced their intention to serve the Lord. We are experiencing the truth of the Word.

### From Missionary Dimitroff in Bulgaria

Someone recently said to me, "Kazanlik is experiencing strong convulsions." He did not refer to an earthquake nor to civil war nor to the revolutionary speeches of a politician or some literary figure. He meant that the conscience of the Bulgarian people has been deeply

moved by the work and the prayers of humble evangelical preachers in this city. Such missionaries as the brethren, Fuellbrandt and Mischkoff, and others have softened hearts otherwise indifferent to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Posters with appropriate religious messages have been put on display throughout the entire city and draw the people to our services.

Such comments as these have been overheard: "Look, how this little group of evangelical Christians work with such abandon and eager enthusiasm!" "These people know how to work. That is genuine Christianity!" A great revival movement seems to be sweeping the people of this city which is evidenced in the profound interest in the gospel message.

### From Missionary Georgi Stefanoff Among the Gypsies

During the winter months there is a great deal of physical suffering among the gypsies. The needs are often appalling. One day I entered a gypsy home in which the members of the family were lying in bed because they had no fuel with which to keep their home warm. A few days ago I met an old gypsy woman, who

was more than 100 years of age. She was sitting in front of a cold stove shivering. In her hand she held a snow ball from which she was eating. She answered my query as to why she was eating the snow: "I am hungry and thirsty and I haven't anything else to eat." I brought wood for the stove, carried water from the well, and prepared a little warm food for her to eat. Then I asked her if she had ever heard of Jesus and of his love. "No," she answered, "but I would like to hear about him." She listened attentively to the simple story and asked me to return and to tell her more about this great love of his for her.

### From Missionary G. Teutsch in Roumania

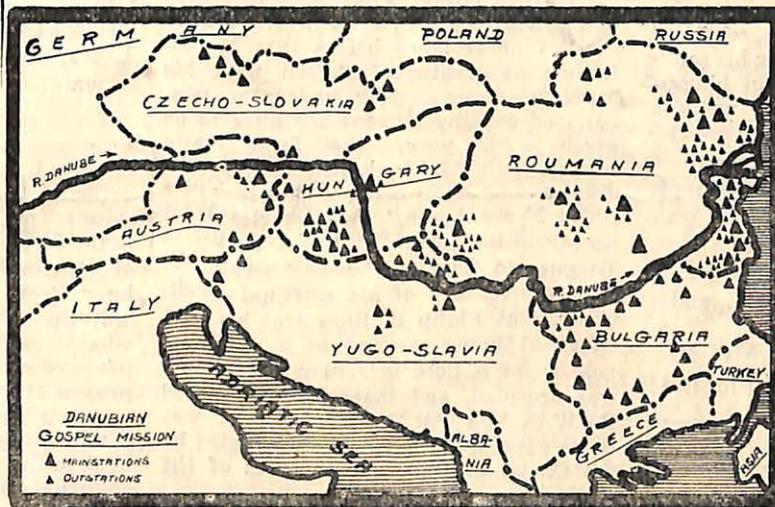
During the past quarter we were privileged to baptize nine persons in Sibiu-Hermannstadt.

The work is making definite progress, even though we have to overcome many difficulties. The government demands that the meeting places for our services be used only for that one purpose. At other times the physician of the town declares our building, in which we intend to hold our services, as unfit for such purposes because of lack of ventilation. It never occurs

to him that hygienic conditions are a great deal worse in taverns and public houses. One of our mission stations was recently closed because of a poem which was read in which the orthodox state church was mentioned, not in the least disparagingly, which was misinterpreted maliciously by our enemies. But these discouraging persecutions only serve to strengthen our faith.

### From Missionary Lukowitzky in Hungary

We have been happy to baptize 25 persons recently here in Bonyhad. A group of boys has been organized into "a Band of Gideons." These boys are the liveliest and most active young people's group in our church.



A Map of the Danubian Gospel Mission Showing the Various Mission Churches and Their Stations

OUR DANUBIAN WORK NEEDS PRAYER-HELPERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS