

THE BAPTIST HERALD

December 15,
1939

Gypsies at Their
Christmas Celebration

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in Mambila, Africa

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"The Fulness of Time"
(Editorial)

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Softly!

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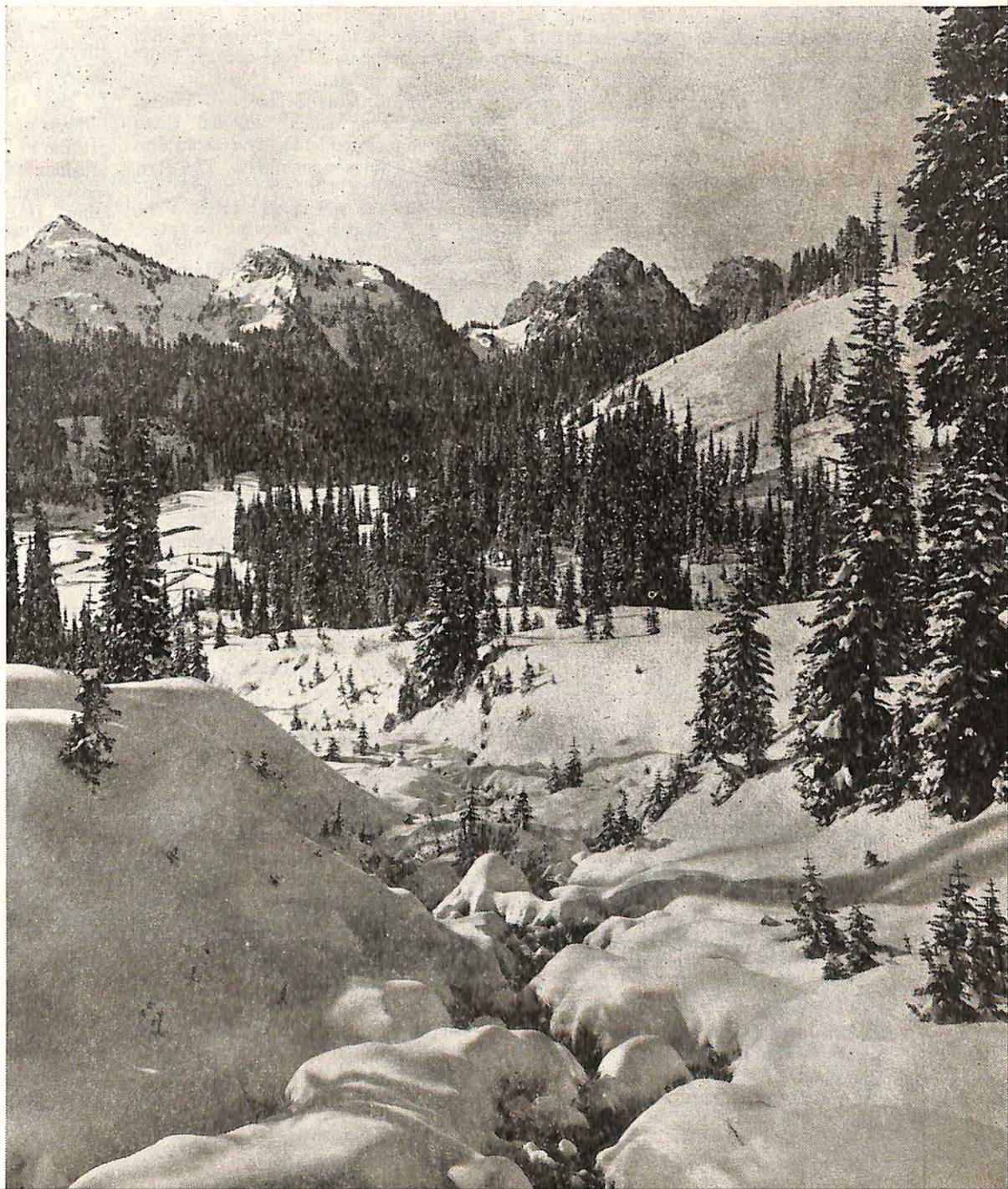
●
General Conference to
Meet in Burlington, Iowa,
in 1940

●
The Story of "Silent
Night, Holy Night"



"But now the snow
touched all the earth
with silence,
so that all noiseful
sounds seemed
muffled,
away, unreal!"

●
—Juanita McDonald



What's Happening

● The B. Y. P. U. of the Andrews Street Church of Rochester, N. Y., served as host to the young people from the Baptist Church at Folsomdale, N. Y., on Sunday evening, November 12, at a supper meeting. The group from Folsomdale had charge of the program, which was featured by several musical numbers. Miss Helen Thayer, secretary of the Rochester B. Y. P. U., submitted the news item.

● On Sunday morning, November 19, the Rev. Henry Pfeifer, pastor of the Central Baptist Church of Erie, Pa., baptized 4 persons on confession of their faith in Christ. These were received into the church's fellowship on Sunday, December 3. On November 25 Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Hetzel of Erie celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary. The church bulletin recently paid warm tribute to the honored couple.

● The resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Windish as superintendent and matron of the German Baptist Home for the Aged in Philadelphia, Pa., was presented to the board of directors at its November meeting and accepted. Mr. and Mrs. Windish have ably served the Home in their respective capacities since the close of 1937, succeeding the Rev. and Mrs. Albert Linder. The resignation will take effect on December 31, 1939, according to the report sent to the editorial offices.

● The Rev. G. F. Ehrhorn recently resigned as pastor of the German Baptist Church of Bessie, Okla., because of ill health, and with his wife he has moved to Vickery, Texas, where he will retire from the active pastorate. On Monday evening, October 22, a farewell reception was held for the Ehrhorns with the Rev. J. J. Reimer of Gotebo bringing the principal address. Several representatives also expressed the appreciation of the church. On Wednesday evening, the Rev. G. F. Ehrhorn spoke at a service in the Gotebo Church on his way to Texas.

● The German Baptist Church of Avon, So. Dak., held evangelistic meetings from November 6 to 19 with the Rev. Arthur Ittermann of Cathay, No. Dak., serving as evangelist. The attendance at the services was unusually large and the entire church was deeply stirred and blessed. God answered the prayers of the church for a revival with the result that there were 18 conversions and 8 restorations. The pastor of the church, the Rev. F. W. Bartel, wrote: "There is great joy in Avon with much gratitude and humility."

● Evangelistic meetings were held in the German Baptist Church of Ellinwood, Kans., from October 25 to November 9 with evangelist Pat Malone of Anoka, Minn., bringing the messages. Large crowds gathered each night to hear the truth of God's word brought in a unique and powerful way. About 10 persons came forward during the meetings, who accepted Christ as their Savior or who reconsecrated their lives to the Lord. The pastor of the church, the Rev. W. Helwig, wrote that "the entire church was revived and has taken on new life and interest."

● On Sunday, November 3, the Humboldt Park Church of Chicago, Ill., held its annual "Homecoming Day" with a large attendance at all the services. The Sunday School had 148 as its attendance, which included three former superintendents. The choir also included 15 former members. The Rev. Henry Koch of Chicago brought the message at the morning service. The Rev. W. S. Argow is serving as interim pastor of the church for an indefinite period. On Wednesday evening, November 22, a Thanksgiving service was held, at which the Rev. William Kuhn, general mission secretary, showed moving pictures of our mission fields.

● The Ebenezer Baptist Church of Vancouver, B. C., Can., formerly the First German Church, held evangelistic meetings from Sunday, October 29, to Sunday, November 12, with the Rev. G. Eichler of Missoula, Mont., serving as evangelist. The services were very well attended, and five persons responded to the invitation and accepted Christ as Savior. The Rev. E. S. Fenske, pastor of the church, is continuing the meetings with special evangelistic messages at the Sunday evening services. On Monday, Nov. 6, Mr. Fenske, addressed the Vancouver Ministerial Association on "The Prayer Life of Christ as an Example to Ministers."

● The Rev. Milton R. Schroeder, pastor of the Fleischmann Memorial Church of Philadelphia, Pa., taught a class on "How to Teach Religion" in the Central District School of Christian Leadership held on consecutive Tuesday evenings from October 23 to November 27. This was one of five schools held simultaneously by the Baptists of the city. "The Men's Brotherhood" of the Fleischmann Memorial Church, composed of the former Baraca Class and Ushers' Association is under the leadership of Mr. Wesley Mercener and is functioning splendidly.

● The German Baptist Church of Tacoma, Wash., is holding a profitable Scofield Bible Course on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 P. M., beginning with October 18. About 25 members of the church are enrolled in the course which will continue for several years. The course is being taught by Mrs. O. Loughlin of the Westminster Presbyterian Church of the city. Simultaneous German and English prayer meetings are held at 7:30 P. M. on the Wednesday evenings, and the pastor, the Rev. W. C. Damrau speaks at both. Approximately 20 to 45 persons attend the English services and 20 to 25 the German services. The highest total attendance on a Wednesday evening was 93.

● On Wednesday evening, November 1, the Oak Park German Baptist Church of Forest Park, Ill., came together in a well attended service to consider ways and means of erasing the church debt. Messages on "Mobilizing Our Spiritual Forces" were brought by the Rev. Theo. W. Dons on "Sizing Up the Situation," by Mr. Walter Grosser on "An Immediate Need," by Mr. Roy Anderson on "A United Front," and by Mr. Harold Johns on "Victory Assured." A total of \$520 was brought together that evening by the church, leaving only a few hundred dollars remaining. It is virtually assured that the entire debt will be erased before the observance of the church's fiftieth jubilee to be celebrated from Sunday, January 21, to Wednesday, January 24.

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EDITORIAL

"BUT WHEN THE FULNESS of the time was come, God sent forth his Son." That was the heavenly glory of the first Christmas.

In the Fulness of Time.

That embodied the dazzling light of divine revelation. At the hour of greatest darkness, suddenly "the morning stars sang together" and it became dawn on this earth. Christ was born in Bethlehem, and "God spoke unto us by his Son."

For this reason Christmas for us is much more than a festival with a feasting on good things and the exchange of merry wishes. It cannot even be called an anniversary to be observed with clock-work regularity whenever the calendar calls for it. It is supremely an experience, which grows more real and precious with every renewed remembrance and observance. God's revelation of his grace and love in his Son burst forth upon the earth in the fulness of time. In the midst of great need, God always manifests himself with unmistakable glory.

The Mediterranean world at the time of the birth of Jesus was one of moral decay and disintegration. Vice was rampant in select circles of society. Sin had been clothed with the outer garments of respectability. Darkness had settled upon the Graeco-Roman world. Spiritual light was sorely needed, and distressed hearts were seeking after it.

But "the fulness of time" also represented a definite preparation in the Graeco-Roman world for the coming of Christ. How wondrously God had planned for every contingency! History was the unfolding of "His story." Politically the world of that day had been drawn closely together by the Roman reign. That rule of the Caesars, even though tyrannical at times, provided a world unity as a single setting for the ministry of Christ and his followers. The marvelous Roman roads provided avenues of transportation

for the spread of Christianity. The ever increasing use of the Greek language provided a single sounding board for the dissemination of Christ's gospel. Even the Jews, as the chosen people of God, had gone through much tribulation and suffering in preparation for the heralded appearance of the Messiah.

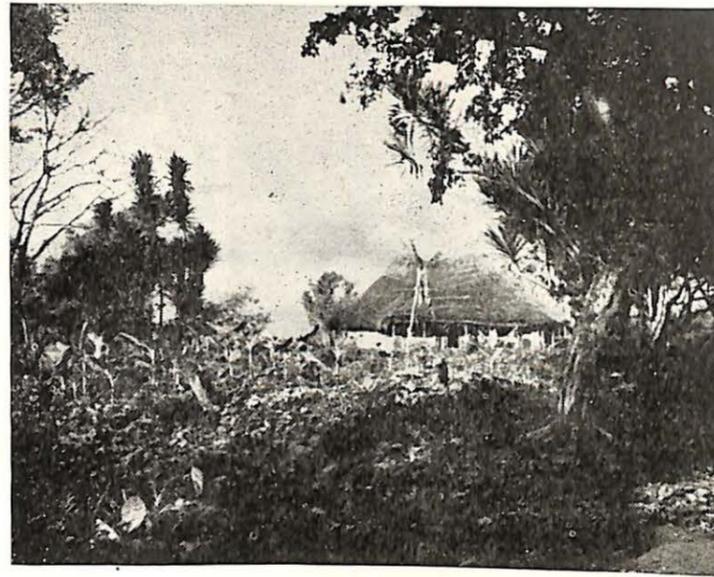
These are only a few of the many unique characteristics of that Graeco-Roman world which contributed to the fulness of the time for the birth of the Christ-child. God in his plan of salvation and chart of human history had provided the world setting for the greatest event that the light of day has ever seen, namely, the incarnation in Christ Jesus.

The blessings of Christ's coming into the world will be recounted in song and sermon and story during the Christmas season. This world has become a far different kind of human habitation since Christ spent his short span of years upon the globe, and our lives witness to a new power and spirit within us since he entered our hearts. That is the secret of the evergreen foliage of the Christmas festival and of the divine power of the Christmas message.

We have every reason to believe that God always speaks and reveals himself to his children in the darkest hours of life. God prepares for every spiritual revival and for every monumental event in his Kingdom by setting the stage in the arena of mankind. There are signs on the horizon that such a time has come, when God may lead his people into triumphant and victorious service for his Kingdom. As never before in many centuries our war-torn, sin-sick, madhouse world needs the ministry of the Prince of peace, the Counsellor of God, the Savior of mankind. In the fulness of every era, God appears with grace and power. "O Lord, send out thy light into the pitch-black darkness of this day!"

First Christmas Tidings Heard by the Natives of Mambila, Africa

By
REV. GEORGE A. DUNGER,
Our Missionary at Warwar
in the Cameroons



The Newly Completed Home of the Dungers in Warwar, Surrounded by the African Jungle, Where They Will Celebrate Their First Christmas With Daphne, Their Six Month Old Daughter.

This year we shall celebrate our first Christmas at Warwar in the Adamawa province of Africa. It will be one of the first Christmas celebrations that the natives of Mambila will have seen. It is our prayer that God will bless his Word and our ministry so that "the tidings of great joy," which the angels proclaimed at the first Christmas in Judea, will lead many from this province to the Savior.

The readers of "The Baptist Herald" will, undoubtedly, be interested in our experiences of the past year, all of which have prepared us for the real missionary work still to be done upon this field. We are happy to review these events and to ask for the continued prayers of our friends at home.

Beginning Our Task

We arrived at Warwar, Mambila, on Saturday, January 7. The trek from Mbem to our point of destination was accomplished without difficulties worth mentioning.

Since the plot for which Paul Gebauer had applied for a Certificate of Right of Occupancy was entirely uninhabitable, we used the Government Rest Camp temporarily. From here all work in regard to the station was directed, until our shelter on the plot was available.

Frequent, long, and sometimes rather trying conferences with the village head and quarter heads had to be made, followed by daily trips to and inspections of the grounds. Suitable places to survey the grounds were cleaned of underbrush to make trees accessible for more thorough apprehension. Outlying quarters and other villages sufficiently near to assist in the work were contacted. Meanwhile meetings were held wherever the op-

portunity arose, besides the daily gatherings with the male members of workers from Kaka.

Actual work by the natives on our house was delayed for a number of weeks, since the guinea corn harvest had to be completed. However, the plot was freed of grass and dense undergrowth during rest periods in the harvest. At the close of January the boundaries and the plot were clean, a temporary center line was layed out for the determination of accurate measurements, and the people of Warwar as well as of its distant quarters were storing building material for the houses.

The Missionary's Supervision

In the beginning of February several large trees were felled, and the location for the bush-house and the kitchen was found and leveled, their ground dimensions outlined, the quarters of the members of the native staff were determined, and several of their houses outlined. After more deliberation with "the Big Men," the natives finally started to build. On February 9th I started on a forced trek to Mbem in order to transport provisions to Warwar. On February 10th these provisions were packed. On the next day I returned to Warwar.

The bush-house and the kitchen were erected during the middle of February. The thatching of the roof took place a little later. The progress of the work was hindered by native festivals, labor on farms, and severe thunder storms. Toward the end of February natives undertook the building of some of the houses for the staff-cook, station laborers, etc.

In order to have instructions carried out to reasonable satisfaction I super-

vised all work, besides going over adjacent grounds and setting markers for the possibility of expanding in the future. At the beginning of March the mission station had changed the features of that uninhabitable hill. During the first half of the month of March attempts were made to render the house and kitchen rain and storm proof with questionable results.

Mission Hill!

Natives of the distant quarters began to erect the two remaining houses for the members of the native staff, and other villages were visited by me again for the purpose of cooperation. Some more trees were felled to make room for the Nurses' houses, sites were cleaned, leveled, and dimensions staked out. The people of a near village began to collect building material. Actual building could not take place because of farm work, the summoning of the acting village head to court and general dissension among the people.

Surveying of the plot for boundaries, paths connecting paths, the location of houses, kitchens, future houses as dispensary, isolation huts, school, permanent buildings, etc., was made difficult by the general shape of the hill, but it is the most suitable place for many miles around! Abandoned farms, ruins of houses, extensive depressions, large trees (to be saved), the run of water courses, the approach from the valley are all features important in regard to our future economy and the use of the Mission Hill.

In the meantime Christian activity and missionary work consisted of personal contacts, speaking to large "assemblies" of people when gathered for work, and the teaching of a small num-

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Gypsies at Their Christmas Celebration

The Story of an Exciting Christmas Observance on One of Our Mission Fields



The Deaconess, Sister Emma, With Gypsy Girls in a Sewing Circle, as They Eagerly Finish Their Christmas Gifts for Members of Their Respective Families.

Picture to yourself a small, unkempt room, one corner of which is occupied by a small Christmas tree which sparkles with brightly colored ornaments. Place into another corner of the room a few rustic chairs and a carpet in the center. Then imagine a human commotion and the noise of laughter and shouting in that room until with your eyes you can see limbs and bodies flying in all directions and dark-skinned children having the time of their lives. That is the setting for a typical Christmas celebration among the Gypsy children of our mission station.

A Birthday Celebration

These brown-skinned children of Romany had come together to celebrate Christmas. The eyes of the little ones sparkled with glee. The older ones were impatient for things to begin. Then suddenly "the Paya," who is their Sunday School teacher, clapped his hands. He, too, is a full-blooded Gypsy and he speaks their language. He put his finger to his mouth and for a while the room was bathed in silence. How was the Christmas program to begin?

"Why did you ever come to church today?" the Paya asked. Everybody shouted the same answer until one could hardly make out the words for the din—"Because it's Christmas!" After some further questioning, the better answer was found—"Because it's the birthday of the Lord Jesus." "Yes," replied the Paya, "but how old is the Lord Jesus?" Everyone of the Gypsies made a guess. One of them shouted, "Five years!" because he was of that same age. The older children were smarter, and after some talking back and forth they decided that he was about 1938 years old. They showed

great pride over their achievement in arithmetic. After the Paya had spoken to them about the birth of the Lord Jesus, he asked, "And when you are invited to a birthday celebration, what do you expect?" Again the Gypsies shouted in one loud chorus, "Coffee and cake!"

With large, eager eyes the children followed the round platter which was



A Gypsy Girl of Sofia, Bulgaria, With a Colorful Gypsy Costume

brought into the room. Everyone was cautioned to remain seated upon a chair or the carpet until he or she had been satisfied, just like a Gypsy child can do to perfection. They always manage to eat a little bit more, after they have had all that they can hold.

Gypsy Rhythm and Song

Close to my feet was a little Gypsy boy. In his hand he was clutching a package covered with a white cloth, which seemed to grow larger all the time. I tried to persuade him to leave

the thing on a chair, but he didn't want to trust us. How embarrassed he became as I looked into his package and saw there some of the cookies and bits of cake which he wanted to take home. God bless the boy! I wondered how many were waiting for this in his Gypsy hut with greedy eyes, which tell their own story of hunger.

But the program—on with the program! "We want to give our piece!", a few were shouting, who were so eager to recite that they could not wait for the program to begin. How proud these children were to tell their pieces!

Now the Christmas songs began! The girls were given tamborines and the boys accompanied them with their mouth harmonicas. All of this might not have sounded very melodious to a musical ear. But the Gypsy children find their enjoyment in any kind of noise, especially when it is accompanied with rhythm. The Gypsy ear for fine music probably develops in later years. They sang the Christmas carols but only the familiar melody and the recurring words of "Jesus Christ" would let anyone know that these were Christian songs that were being sung and shouted.

The Christmas Story

Later the Gypsy children began to tell the Christmas story in their own words. A boy named Wack, who was ten years of age, volunteered to recite. What a sight he was! A long ragged coat, that used to belong to an adult, hung loosely upon his thin, bony body. His unkempt, thick hair was as black as the night. His face looked much older than that of a ten year old. He was as brown as bronze.

Now he started: "Once upon a time

(Continued on Page 474)

General Conference to Meet in Burlington

First Announcement About the Conference to be Held from August 19 to 25, 1940, by DR. WM. KUHN, Secretary of the General Conference

Upon invitation of the Winnipeg Church, I attended the celebration of its 50th anniversary on November 11 and 12. On that Saturday evening I had opportunity to discuss with the church board the advisability and possibility of having the General Conference meet in Winnipeg in July, 1940. The church board was very well represented and this matter was discussed at length.

As Canada is one of the belligerent countries in the War, the church board was unanimously of the opinion that it would be inadvisable and very likely impossible to have the General Conference meet in Winnipeg in July, 1940. The church board decided to make a recommendation to this effect to the church on Sunday, November 19.

However, it was definitely understood that the church would ratify this action of the church board and that I was at liberty to make any other contacts for the entertaining of the General Conference in 1940. The church at Winnipeg withdrew its invitation with sincere reluctance and at the same time expressed the hope that they would be privileged to entertain the General Conference in the near future.

Our church at Burlington, Iowa, has now decided to invite the General Conference to meet in Burlington. Our Oak Street Church of Burlington is at this time our numerically strongest



Rev. Alfred R. Bernadt and Mr. Arthur Schwerin of Burlington, Iowa, Pastor of the Oak Street Church and Chairman of the General Conference Entertainment Committee, Respectively

Below — The Magnificent New Auditorium of Burlington, Iowa, Which Will Serve as the Ideal Meeting Place of Our General Conference in August, 1940



church and can offer a maximum assistance in the entertaining of delegates and visitors. Burlington is centrally located on the main line of the Burlington Railroad and is accessible to our membership from all parts of the United States and Canada.

The city of Burlington has put at our disposal for the meetings of the General Conference from August 19 to 25, 1940, the new and very complete auditorium with a seating capacity of 2400. This auditorium has been erected on the shore of the Mississippi River. With its complete appointments, it offers an ideal meeting place for our General Conference. This complete auditorium will be placed at our service without charge.

Mr. Arthur Schwerin, chairman of the Finance Committee of our General Council, has rendered us a fine service in securing the free use of this auditorium. Because of his contacts and because of his experience Mr. Schwerin has already rendered us invaluable service. With the hotels and restaurants and the church itself we are assured of having ample entertainment facilities for a large attendance at Burlington. With Mr. Arthur Schwerin at the head of the entertainment committee, we can be assured of having every detail of the entertainment taken care of satisfactorily.

Burlington is a city with a population of 40,000. For its size, this city offers exceptional facilities in the way of parks. The Saturday evening banquet, which has become a fixture at our General Conferences, can be very satisfactorily taken care of.

As we cannot go to Winnipeg, we are most fortunate in receiving an invitation from the church at Burlington. Since having been at Milwaukee and at Portland, we have been accustomed to receiving entertainment of a high type. In Burlington we will not be obliged to adjust ourselves to poorer conditions.

Other announcements about the General Conference will appear from time to time. The program committee, of which Professor Arthur A. Schade is chairman, will hold its meeting in Forest Park, Ill., on January 3rd. Publicity material in additional information and pictures will be presented in all of our papers. It is to be hoped that a great host of our people will soon make their plans to attend this greatest of all our general conferences.

The Glory of the Christmas Festival

By Miss Mayme Van Gerpen of Avon, South Dakota

To me, Christmas is more than a holiday to be spent in merry-making, in consuming candy and in the opening of brightly wrapped gifts. I sometimes feel that the true meaning and significance of the season—and it is so significant—is gradually becoming lost in the haze of conviviality and commercialism that have come to attend the occasion. Though it may be quite truly stated by some that criticism is freer than suggestion, yet I do not feel that such a mental reservation should be allowed to prohibit an observation that is timely as the holiday season approaches.

Living in busy America, where even the most observant of this holiday can hardly be termed more than casual when we consider them in the light of many in other parts of the Christian world, we are inclined, in the main, to view Christmas as an extra day or two of vacation from the daily routine of life. And, indeed, among the vast and growing number of non-Christians and non-church goers, it is almost a pagan holiday.

To me, Christmas and the glorious story which gave it its origin, typify all that is beautiful and tender. In a world that is growing progressively more callous as a result of the increas-

ing exigency of life for millions, I look forward to Christmas with zealous anticipation. The story that never decreases in its exemplary vigor, will serve again as a personal inspiration. Again I shall be mindful of Christ's coming and example, to the end that my own course and duties to society may be made more clear, and that his sacrifice shall not have been in vain.

May the message, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men," sung by the heavenly host, make and have a lasting impression upon all mankind!

CHRISTMAS CANDLES

In the light of the Christmas candles
Let us remember Him
Who was the Life and the Light of
mankind.

Let us open our hearts to that Light
That there may be no darkness within.

Let us live like children of that Light
Which leads to perfect goodness
And uprightness and truth.

Let us give thanks that the Light
Is still shining in the darkness —
And that the darkness
Cannot put it out.

—Courtesy, "The Epworth Herald"

NEWS FROM AFRICA

(Continued from Page 464)

ber of Kaka laborers and Mambila visitors, the Mambilas being rather shy but attentive.

The Rainy Season

Mambila is wet and cold during the rainy season. During one of the nights in August approximately 180 cubic centimetres of rain fell on an area of 39 square centimetres! The following morning the valley presented the picture of a large Chinese rice field that had been inundated. The Warwar River had left its banks and had flooded the corn fields, ready for the harvest. The "Chief's" face expressed grave concern, for a large amount of the crop had been swept away by the muddy, swirling waters. Whatever the nature of our trials and testings may be—spiritual or material—we trust in the eternal God, our heavenly Father.

It is with humble and grateful hearts that we mention also the willingness and readiness of native leaders to join us in prayer, however "primitive" and sincere that may be. God knows the hearts of these benighted people.

May it please God to prosper his work at home and in these lands of Africa! We include Daphne, our darling daughter, born on June 27th, in our signature because she already has provided many a worthwhile contact with native men, women and children.

Let Us Keep Christmas Softly

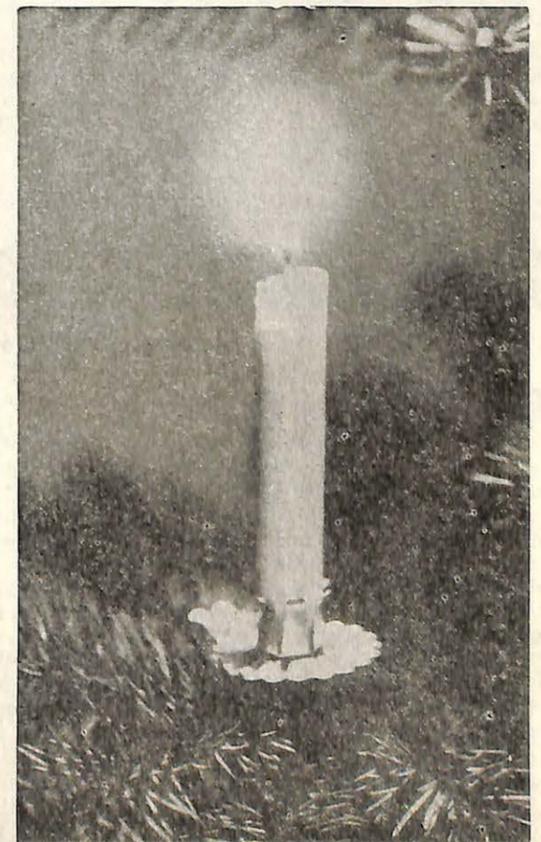
By Lillian I. Robinson
of Boston, Massachusetts

Let us keep Christmas softly,
Apart from crowds and noise and vain display.
Let us hang garlands fresh of prayer and praise,
All love-entwined, in glad array
In the deep chambers of the heart, where He,
The Holy Child, alone may see
And gladdened be.

Let us in silence wait
Before His altars till we see the face
Of the Most High,
That we may worship truly in the secret place.
He will give peace and joy, and as we sing
Our carols let us give ourselves, an offering
Of love to Him, our Saviour-King.

Oh, let us seek the lonely and the sad,
And make them glad
That Christ is born this day,
That He in yielded lives holds sway.
So shall we keep the day of days all softly, and know well
His coming to our hearts anew to dwell:
Our glorious Lord Emmanuel, Emmanuel!

—Poem and Picture by Courtesy of "Moody Monthly"



Children's Page

Edited by MISS LORRAINE FLEISHMAN of Anaheim, California

The Popcorn Man

By Martha Miller

We shelled a little popcorn
One cold December day,
And put it in the popper
To pop it right away.

And after it had popped so nice
Inside that popping pan,
We poured molasses over it
To make a popcorn man.

His eyes were two black raisins,
His hat a china cup,
We made him fat and funny,
And then we ate him up.

—Courtesy of "Storytime"



A Little Mistress Gives "Pussy" a Generous Portion of Milk for Christmas!

The Christmas Doll

One night, a week before Christmas, not so very long ago, the toyshop had been closed for the night, and the toys began to jump and skip and talk as fast as they could. No wonder they talked and jumped around so fast! They had been standing still all day, while everyone looked at them and admired them. Now, with no one to watch, they could do what they pleased.

Over in the corner the dolls were chattering gaily about everyone who had looked at them that day. All except one of them! She was a shy little doll who sat in a corner by herself. She was not pretty or cute like the other dolls. She was just a plain little

doll who longed for a home and a dear little mother who would love her. She had no real hair like most of the dolls, and her dress was just a plain print, not a fancy organdy or a pretty silk or what she longed for most of all, a shiny pink satin, like the beautiful queen doll who sat on a throne in the toyshop window.

Oh, how she longed for lovely, golden curls like Gwendolyn's, the queen doll! She even had a fur cape to go with her pink satin dress. Dorothy, which was the name of this plain little doll, had nothing outstanding about her. If she couldn't have anything else, she thought, she wished she could

after them, riding on roller skates. Only Dorothy did not ride. She sat in the corner and watched. A great big tear splashed down on her dress because she was so lonely. "Oh!" she thought, "not even the dolls will talk to me. How I wish that that little girl that looked at us dolls this morning would buy me. She had such a motherly face. But, of course, she would buy Gwendolyn. She's pretty and everyone wants her. But, oh, I wish I would go to her for Christmas!" With that she burst into tears and cried herself to sleep.

The next morning Dorothy woke up early and sat wishing that she could go to the little girl, who had such a motherly face, for Christmas. Suddenly she said to herself, "I won't act like this, I won't. Someone will buy me. Even if I don't go for Christmas, I may go for some little girl's birthday after Christmas."

All day she sat there and watched the people go by. Just before the shop closed, a great big fat man walked up to the window where the dolls were. Suddenly Dorothy realized that he was looking at her. "Oh, how wonderful," thought Dorothy, "maybe he will buy me." Her thoughts whirled happily on as the man walked in to talk to the shop keeper. "They are talking about me. I know they are," Dorothy said. "Now they are coming over here. Oh, maybe he is going to buy me." Sure enough, Dorothy was picked up and put in a box all wrapped in brown paper. Then the man took her home with him.

On Christmas Eve she was put into a little girl's stocking. Oh, how excited she was. Her eyes were shining and her face really looked pretty. That night she didn't sleep at all. She kept imagining what her new mother's face would be like and wondering if she would love her.

After the first crack of dawn Dorothy kept her eyes on the door. All of a sudden the door opened a crack and then a little girl came running into the room. Dorothy gave one look at her and nearly jumped out of the stocking for she was so surprised. For, who do you suppose it was? It was the little girl that Dorothy had longed to go to but thought that Gwendolyn would go instead. With a cry the little girl pulled Dorothy out of the stocking and hugged her to herself. And after that Dorothy was never lonely or unhappy again, for she had the best mother in the world.

at least have something that would make people look at her, like Martha, the Negro doll. She had pigtailed all over her head and people thought she was funny. Everyone laughed at Martha and admired Gwendolyn, but they passed her up as if she were a bump on a log.

Just then the roll of the tin soldier's drums interrupted her dreary thoughts. The toys were getting ready for the march that they had every evening around the room. Each one was happy and gay hoping that he might go to some sweet child's home the next day.

The tin soldiers marched proudly along with the balls bouncing gaily along behind them. After them came the woolly teddy bears riding in the bright red trucks. All the dolls came

The Greatest Christmas Song

By CECILIA MARGARET RUDIN, M. A.

High up in the Austrian Alps, in the region known as the Tyrol—"the land in the mountains"—we find the birthplace of "Silent Night, Holy Night." Here, the Tyrolean peaks, world-famed for their snow-capped grandeur, rise in lofty simplicity into the cool clear air, guarding little smiling, peaceful valleys.

Far up in these Alpine mountains, where a love of music is nature's gift to every child, nestles the remote town of Oberndorf, Austria. Here in 1818 lived a devout young Austrian priest, Joseph Mohr, and his friend the village schoolmaster and church organist, Franz Gruber, who were together destined to give to the world this beautiful Christmas hymn. The two men, both great lovers of music, had often talked of the fact that "the perfect Christmas song had not yet been found."

Meditating on this thought, Mohr sat in his church study on Christmas Eve, 1818. Outside the hushed stillness of the night heightened the snow-clad beauty of the mountain scene. The pure spirit of those high peaks filled his heart with a vision of the radiant peace and joy of the first Christmas tidings, "Jesus, the Saviour is born." The thoughts which had been long forming in his mind suddenly found clear, musical expression that night in the song which we have come to know and love as "Silent Night, Holy Night."

We are giving the first stanza in German, just as Joseph Mohr wrote it that night:

*"Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!
Alles schlaeft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, heilige Paar
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf' in himmlischer Ruh!"*

The next morning, Christmas day, Mohr hurried to his friend's home with the manuscript of his precious song. Gruber read it intently, and exclaimed with uncontrolled enthusiasm, "Friend Mohr, you have found it—the right song—God be praised!"

Gruber, thrilled with the spirit of his friend's verses, at once set to work to compose a perfect melody for "the perfect song." Finally the soft, flowing air we now use came to him. "It sings itself, your song," he cried to the delighted priest. Gruber's real contribution to music lies in the beauty and simplicity of the tune, in its perfect

blending in spirit with Mohr's verses. The two men then sang the hymn over together, to have it ready for the church service that night.

Later in the same evening, when the villagers were gathered in the gray little mountain church, Mohr and Gruber sang their new Christmas song before its first audience. It touched these listeners deeply, and after the service, they thanked the two friends with tears of joy in their eyes.

The story of how the song spread from its mountain home in the Tyrol, to become one of the Christmas favorites in all parts of the world is full of interest. Only very slowly did it come into fame. For nearly a year after its first appearance the song lay al-

From one music-lover to another the hymn in 1854, when the full choir of out a name, and was known simply as "The Tyrolean Song," because it had first come from the Tyrolean Alps. With that title it was printed in 1842 for the first time, twenty-four years after it had been composed.

Still further honor came to the hymn in 1854, when the full choir of the Imperial church in Berlin, Germany, sang it before the Emperor Frederick Wilhelm IV. So enthusiastic was he that "Silent Night" was ordered by him to be given first place in all religious Christmas programs. From that time on, the song has been put into other languages and carried all over the world. It touches a heart-felt need, and brings calm and peace to all who hear its strains.

Perhaps you will want to learn by heart the stanzas which follow:

*Silent Night, Holy Night!
All is calm, all is bright,
'Round yon virgin mother
and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and
mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent Night, Holy Night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven
afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alle-
luia;
Christ, the Saviour is born.*

*Silent Night, Holy Night!
Son of God, Love's pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy
face,
With the dawn of redeeming
grace
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

*Silent Night, Holy Night!
Guiding star, lend thy light,
See the eastern wise men
bring,
Gifts and homage to our
King,
Jesus, the Saviour is born.*



"The Nativity"

most forgotten in Gruber's desk. Then, in November, 1819, the church organ had to be repaired, and the repair man, when he had finished, asked Gruber to play something to test the organ. The beautiful melody of "Silent Night" came back to Gruber's mind, and he played it. So entranced was the organ-builder that he begged to take a copy of the song home with him, to his little town across the mountains.

In this new village four sisters by the name of Strasser, known for their well-trained voices, learned it, and "Silent Night" became the favorite of the "Strasser Quartette." One day the girls were invited to sing the hymn in the great cathedral of Leipzig, in Germany, and so this beautiful Christmas song was brought to this large city.

At this Christmas season this song will literally encircle the globe. Its familiar strains will be carried on the ether waves of radio. It will be sung by soldiers on the battlefield. It will be the favorite song of carollers in department stores and on snow-covered streets of our cities. It will be heard at many a family hearth. Indeed it is the world's greatest Christmas song!

(Editor's Note: This beautiful account of the familiar and beloved Christmas carol appears as a chapter in Miss Rudin's book, "Stories of Hymns We Love," and is copyrighted by John Rudin and Company, Inc., of Chicago, Ill. This unusually fine book in its attractive blue binding relates the stories of 25 hymns with dramatic and graphic effectiveness. It is priced reasonably at \$1.00 and may be ordered through the German Baptist Publication Society in Cleveland, Ohio. Printed by permission.)

Blaze Star

By Paul Hutchens

SYNOPSIS

With an indulgent smile Dale Mars threw the letter into the wastebasket. Who was this Maria Louverne who wished him to call on her? It must be one of the foolish women who had fallen in love with his "perfect" radio voice.

The second letter followed the first into the wastebasket, but when the third one came Dale determined to find out just who Maria was. Was she small and violet-eyed, as he dreamed? What was the important thing she had to say to him? That night at eight o'clock Dale presented himself at the address given in the letter. To his utter amazement he was led into an adjoining sickroom to be introduced to an invalid.

CHAPTER TWO

It was like a walk from the death cell to the gallows—from the living room of Maria Louverne's apartment into the adjoining room—not in its emotional effect upon Dale Mars, for there was no thought of terror in his mind, but in its consequences. In that soft-lighted and friendly room whose atmosphere seemed charged with a mysterious power, something happened to Dale Mars. He was finding it at last, being tuned to the wave length of a new Transmitting Station, and he was responding to its waves.

The hour he spent there was an hour such as he had never before experienced. He would never forget it, would always be influenced by it. It poured into the river of his thoughts a new pure stream, clear as crystal. It filled his heart's banks full, even to overflowing. For in that room he met the most charming, the most astonishing personality.

He started back in dismay when he first saw and was introduced to her by the young woman in nurse's garb, who promptly made her exit. He found himself alone in the room with the one who had invited him to come. Maria Louverne herself! His first reaction was one of anger and disappointment. This—this was not Maria Louverne! Not, not—!

She was a wizened little lady with snowy white hair, soft and fine like masses of curled silk. Her powder blue eyes were half hidden behind double-lensed glasses. In contrast to the deeply-seamed cheeks, her forehead was as smooth as polished marble. Her

hands were twisted and gnarled with rheumatism.

In his first moment of vacant and foolish staring at her, he saw her face twitch in a quick, convulsive movement as if somewhere in her body a stab of pain had caught her off guard and made her wince. In another second she was smiling.

"Dale Mars!" she crooned slowly. There was fondness in the evenly modulated voice, a motherly sort of fondness; a motherly sort of pity also, he thought. It was an invalid's room. There was a bed lamp and table, a wheel chair, a small, modern, streamlined radio with touch tuning close beside her bed—a comfortable hospital bed with spotlessly clean linen.

He seated himself in a chair which she indicated. He had never enjoyed visiting with the sick. It was going to be especially hard tonight, with so many memories . . .

"I do so appreciate your coming, Mr. Mars. You cannot know how I have enjoyed your ten o'clock programs."

That! Sometimes he had enjoyed them himself. Since last week they had begun to take hold upon him, to come to grips with him like a wrestler dead in earnest and knowing no mercy. The studio management had selected him for that program because of his voice.

"I liked your reading today especially. It was so meaningful and you read with such feeling." She sighed and waited while again there moved across her face that fleeting flash of pain. "I wonder—would you . . .?"

He knew what was coming, knew it and dreaded it, hated it almost. Yet he could not help but expand at the compliment that was about to be bestowed upon him.

". . . and read it for me just as you do it at the studio?"

He had not wanted to conduct that fifteen minute period in the first place. Neither had any of the other studio announcers. Jerry had flatly refused, and he, Dale Mars, because of his "sympathetic" voice, had been drafted. Consequently each week-day morning at ten, the time being paid for by the Arlinger Mortuaries, he read without comment, to the accompaniment of soft strains of organ music, fifteen minutes from the Bible. Each day the passage was selected for him by the studio with the assistance of a local pas-

tor, and his copy presented to him in manuscript form—typewritten, double-spaced. Everything he was to say throughout that whole period was in that manuscript.

Her gray-blue eyes were resting yearningly upon a copy of the Bible on the radio table. It was evident that she was expecting him to read the passage of the morning. He hadn't the slightest idea where to find it, nor was he at all sure whether it had been one continuous passage or a number of verses thrown together from many parts of the Bible.

He could ask her to turn to it for him, perhaps. Perhaps! No, not even perhaps. He looked at her wrinkled and gnarled fingers, like old brown ropes knotted and twisted together.

He took the Bible in his hands. He would have to brave it through. "Do you wish the passage I read this morning, or the one yesterday morning?" he asked, stalling for time to think.

"This morning. The one about the Father's House, and the—" her voice choked off for a second. In the interval, he knew she had felt stinging pain. Suddenly he forgot to feel sorry for himself. He could not help but admire the brave little sufferer.

Where was the passage about the Father's House? It would hurt Maria Louverne to discover that he did not know. He dare not ask her. He thought quickly, lifted his wrist-watch, frowned. "If you can wait until I make a very important call . . ."

"Certainly. The telephone is in the next room just around the corner."

In the next room, he glanced about, spied the telephone and hurried over to it, noticing enroute that the nurse with the deep violet eyes was sitting in a chair on the other side, near the oriel window. Enroute, also, he suffered that same quickening of his pulse which had attacked him when he first saw her ten minutes ago.

He gave the number of the Brownstone Waring residence, hoping vaguely that Maria Louverne's hearing was in keeping with her age. But evidently it was not, for when he gave the number, he heard a little gasp from the room behind him—or had it come from the chair near the window. Out of the corner of his eyes he saw the girl's face bend low over her reading.

Adalene's voice was far from business-like as she chirped into the receiver, "The Brownstone Waring resi-

dence!" with a little question mark inflection on that last word.

"Adalene?" His voice was low, in confidential tone.

"Oh!" There was plenty of inflection on that one word, which was a cross between a groan and a protest.

"Listen, Adalene, you typed the manuscript for my program this morning. Do you remember where that Bible passage was located?"

"So you're on the spot, are you? I'm afraid I can't help you." Crisply.

"You mean you don't know where I can find it?"

A tormenting silence.

"You might call the studio. Perhaps Mr. Grayson will know."

Mr. Grayson was an unbeliever. He wouldn't know anything about the Bible, nor would he be at the studio at this hour. But of course the studio had kept a copy.

"If you can wait a minute, I'll find out for you," Adalene said and hung up.

Dale sat glaring into the mouth-piece, his thoughts at a standstill. There had been curt finality in Adalene's tone and in the way the receiver had clicked. How could she call him back unless she knew where he was? He frowned again, momentarily aware of how that frown would look in a mirror. Aware also that the girl across the room was not reading, her eyes were merely focused on her book.

He turned restlessly. There was something almost uncanny about this apartment. If not uncanny, then at least strangely different. The music on the piano, for instance! Was that a hymn book? He might have guessed it would be because the little old lady seemed very religious.

The phone rang ominously.

"Hello, Dale? You will find it in the fourteenth chapter of John—the entire chapter."

Adalene was all right, he decided. She wouldn't let him down. "And John," she said ironically, "is in the New Testament. I hope you get home safely. Shall I drive over for you, say in about an hour?"

Was she trying to tease him?

"I'm sorry," she said, "I have an important engagement." Click!

He turned from the phone and went back into Maria Louverne's room. Had the nurse smiled to herself? Something humorous in her book, perhaps.

His hostess looked up at him eagerly. "The fourteenth chapter of John is my favorite passage," she announced simply.

He found it without any embarrassed searching, held the book easily and prepared to read.

Maria Louverne leaned back happily and closed her eyes. Closed, they seemed to drop back into deep brown sockets.

"Please," she murmured softly, "just the way you read it this morning."

And so he read:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me.

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. . . .

"I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by Me. . . ."

And while he read, his thoughts were like quick rapier thrusts, stabbing his conscience wide awake. The serene old face before him faded from his vision and in its stead there came another; and a voice spoke warningly, saying, "Unless you are born again, we shall never meet again."

"I am the way, the truth and the life. . . ."

Once during the reading, only once, the patient moved, her eyes opened, then shut tightly, her false teeth clicked sharply together and her face was contorted in a paroxysm of agony. But only for a second, and the forehead was smooth again and she was at peace.

"Oh thank you, thank you!" She lifted her gnarled hands in a noble little gesture of appreciation. He reached out impulsively, hesitated, then took them in his own, felt them like hardened lifeless knobs of wax.

The faded blue eyes lit up with appreciation, tears gleamed there and made them almost beautiful. "They weren't always like—like this," she said apologetically. "Once they were smooth and white and alive. I used to play, years ago" — Her voice became wistful—"on the concert stage. In Paris, in Vienna, in London. Once I played for Franz Liszt when he was director of the Hungarian Academy of Music. And when his daughter married Richard Wagner, I. . . ." Again she winced and struggled with pain, this time a little longer than before. "I have an autographed copy of Wagner's last creation, 'Parsifal,' in my music library. What Beethoven was to symphony, Wagner was to the music drama."

Again the wistful sigh. "But now I am old, too old to care about those things any more. Once they were my very life, now they are only memories—the fame, the applause, the curtain calls." She studied her hands, and then, her eyes brimming, she smiled up at Dale and said, "Some day I shall be like Him, when there shall be no more sighing, no more pain, no more sin nor sorrow nor unfulfilled longings. For we that are in this tabernacle, do groan. . . . But we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

There was the rustling of a starched uniform and the nurse was there. He arose quickly. It was a dramatic moment for him, as if he were again in his little booth at the studio, listening, not to a carefully rehearsed program, but to life itself; as if also his booth were a prison cell, and those who acted in the program now being broadcast held the key with which to unlock and set him free, and that key was the key also to Life. He, the operator, could if he would, by a single movement, fade out that program by merely a remote key, and instantly a foreign program would go cycling over the air.

He knew there was still another reason why he had been asked to come here and that in another moment he would discover it. He stood waiting, thinking, dialing; for he was now the receiver, not the broadcaster. He fixed his eyes questioningly upon those of Maria Louverne.

"I have not introduced you to my daughter. Nova, this is Dale Mars."

He bowed, felt the color rising in his face, saw the color rising in hers. She hesitated, then her hand shot out to him and he took it, felt its warm softness, its character.

"It is time for your rest, Mother," the daughter said.

"My rest? Ah yes, and my medicine, too, I'm afraid. I—" Her words died in her throat while Dale turned his eyes away that he might not see her suffer.

"Quickly, Nova!"

"Yes, Mother." The nurse's movements were careful, skilful. He waited outside the room, not wanting to go home, desiring with almost insatiable desire to stay. And why? he asked himself. Because he had almost found his Station? Or because of Nova Louverne? His honesty compelled him to answer, "Both."

It was ten o'clock before he left. He had been right in his conjecture—there was another and a very important reason why he had been invited here. Maria Louverne had let it be known soon after the nurse had ministered to her needs.

He soon found himself sitting in the chair beside her bed, her Bible in his hands, his eyes following every changing expression in the faded blue ones on the pillow. Her voice was trembling now, not because it was old but because of the fervency of her spirit. In all his life no one had ever talked to him like this, not even his mother. No one had seemed to care enough.

Like a surgeon performing an emergency operation, Maria Louverne probed deep, laid bare his soul, cut, dissected, removed; her gentle, motherly attitude and her tear-dimmed eyes, the sedative; the hot burning truths from her Bible, quoted verbatim, the dissecting scalpel. Skilfully, also, she sewed up the wound and smiled away the after-pain.

When she finished he knew why he had not been able before to tune in on station LIFE. It was not because there was no such station, for waves of that frequency were all about him everywhere, covering the earth as the waters cover the sea; but it was himself that had been at fault. He had not been tuned to the wave length of that Transmitting Station. His currents had been adjusted to receive waves only from this world.

"You need the Lord Jesus Christ," she told him pointedly. "For 'as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his Name.' When you truly receive Him, that very moment you are born again."

He sat with her open Bible in his hands, found the passages she indicated, read them in obedience to her quiet request. He asked child-like questions and received satisfying answers. All the while he was dialing, dialing. He could hear the sound being broadcast, but still he could not tell whence it came.

When he arose to go, he had not yet found it, not so he could turn to it at will, but he had caught snatches of its program and it was more wonderful than anything in the world.

In the living room with the oleander and the ferns and the potted narcissus, the gorgeous-flowered nasturtium, he hesitated, loath to go. "You must come to see her again," Nova Louverne told him. There was a look, almost, of holiness in her eyes—and there were tears. Tears! Why?

"I hope I have not excited her too much," he said anxiously. "Will she be able to sleep?"

"Like a child. Wait, I will show you."

It was nine-thirty. There was no reason why he should hurry away, no reason in the world when there was one supreme reason why he wanted to stay.

She disappeared into the adjoining room. When she came back again a few minutes later she said, "Good night, Mother," at the door, and left the door slightly ajar so that a tiny crack of light shone in. Then she went straight to the piano, seated herself, placed her foot carefully as from long experience on the loud pedal. Her hands fell softly on the keys and moved with grace over the keyboard.

Dale thought he had never heard such playing. He recognized the selection as a creation of Franz Liszt, played, he decided, in a style superior even to that of the dazzling virtuoso himself. It was a symphonic poem in the form of a sonata. He watched her fingers flying over the keys while music poured forth like the waters of a mountain stream, now soft and rippling, now dashing in rhythmic wildness down the mountain side, crashing with a hiss and a roar against bare

and jagged canyon walls. And then before he was aware of it, he was listening to the melody of an old hymn. It breathed across his spirit like a perfume-laden south wind. It touched him gently like a child's fingers stroking the soft fur of a kitten.

She finished slowly, lingering over the keys as if she could not bear to play the final cadence. And while his spirit waited, as the spirit of a music lover will, for the final striking of the home tone, again and yet again she wandered off to some other theme and kept on playing. Finally when it seemed she had wandered far enough, she slid smoothly into the original melody and finished it triumphantly:

*Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we
are . . .*

She arose and came to where he sat, soft emotions mirrored in her eyes. She allowed him to look deep into them without embarrassment. Was she reading his also? he wondered.

She tiptoed to Maria Louverne's room, opened it a little farther, listened and motioned for him to come. From within there came the sound of rhythmic breathing as of one in deep sleep. "It is like this every night," she said, and gently closed the door.

She went again to the piano and returned with an illustrated folder which she extended to him saying, "Mother asked me to give you this before you left. It is something to think about."

He accepted it, glanced at it fleetingly and stowed it away in his coat pocket.

And now he knew it was time for him to go. He turned toward the hall tree, turned back, caught her eyes off guard, read something in them that made his pulse leap in glad response.

"May I come again—to see her?" he asked.

Her answer was hesitant at first. "She will be glad to have you."

He wanted to ask, "And you?" But he could not bring himself to say it; and somehow, as he closed the door behind him and went out and down to his car, he felt that to have asked that question would have been entirely unnecessary. He knew it would not be long until he should come again to see—Maria Louverne.

Alone in her room with only the tiny shaft of light coming in through the doorway, Maria Louverne turned restlessly on her pillow, struggling awkwardly with the top sheet on her bed, drawing it more closely about her chin. In the other room the music was like warm sunshine, carrying her back to sunny afternoons in France, in Italy many years ago. Once she had been young and beautiful and sought after by many noble young men. Lover's eyes had looked again and again into hers, only to see in them no lover's

response. Her music, her career, her success must come first; and it had. Always when love had come to claim her heart and to divide her affections, she had shrunk away from it and clung desperately to her music, like a vine clinging to a wall, clinging and clinging and reaching up and up. There had been no time for love . . .

She clasped her gnarled fingers together clumsily, lifted them to the lips that had never known a lover's kiss. She had sought for fame and had found fame; and tonight, what was she? A lonely old woman awaiting the death knell. She might have used her talent for a higher purpose than for fame or to entertain or merely to interpret men's passing moods. If only she had known Him sooner!

Her eyes were accustomed to the darkness now and she could see dimly the objects in the room: radio, table, the Bible, the vase of fresh roses, the antique clock on the mantelpiece, ticking slowly, ticking away the moments, the hours until—until, UNTIL . . .

Would they hear her if she prayed aloud? Ah, but that was sweet music! Did Nova know how well she played? The clouds were gathering now for the storm. The mountain stream would swell higher and higher, and go roaring down the canyon. Playing like that before an understanding audience would win immediate acclaim.

She sighed. But it was not fame that counted. "The world passeth away and the lusts thereof, but he that doeth the will of God, abideth for ever." All those gay young years! And now that she was old and knew at last the true meaning of life . . .

The rain was falling now, the stream was rising, tumbling and leaping down its marble-walled trail. She must not fail with only a little while to live. She—!

There was that pain ag—again! Dr. Rogers had not said what caused it. Perhaps he did not know. But did it matter so much any way? Take his young and beautiful voice—save his soul . . . Ah, but that was precious music! One, two, three, four, five—there were five letters in the mail now, each one written in Nova's dainty hand, each one signed Maria Louverne. She was too old and feeble, her body bound in unbreakable chains, to go with the gospel. Her fingers could no longer create sweet music for a love-starved world; but no chains could bind her spirit! She still had hands, soft and white and lovely, and, guided by the Master's hand, they could touch the souls of men and bring forth music that would awaken echoes in the heavenly choir—"Rejoice, rejoice!" "Rejoicing among the angels in heaven over one sinner that repenteth." No, she could not go with the gospel, but she could invite the lost ones to come to her—and then to Him.

(To be continued)

B. Y. P. U. Topics and Programs

Edited by MRS. WILLIAM WIRTH of Vesper, Kansas

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Sunday, January 21, 1940

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Songs: "Stepping in the Light," "O Love, That Wilt Not Let Me Go," and "Jesus is All the World to Me."

(Suggestions for Leader—We are going to do some different things in tonight's lesson, so you must study it well yourself and then go through it carefully with your helpers so that you can make the audience understand the truths you are trying to teach. Because the Scripture lesson is taken from many portions of the Bible, you will get someone to read it with you in dialogue style, one asking the question and the other answering with the the Scripture passage.

How about illustrating this lesson? Could you make a cardboard lighthouse [15 or 18 inches high] with cellophane windows at the top? Hide a light in it and turn the light on just before the talk on "How to Let Our Light Shine." Set your lighthouse on a large rock and use a talk on "Christ, the True Foundation." This is more work for you but your lesson is remembered much longer if it can be seen as well as heard. Or again you might use Holman Hunt's picture, "The Light of the World," as an illustration.)

Introduction by Leader
Thus far in our study of evangelism, (preceding two Sundays), we have learned

1. Scripture verses helpful in personal work;
2. Difficulties and how to overcome them; and
3. The need of inner spirituality.

Knowing these we still need the desire and the power to go out and win others. How may we get this desire to win others? Do we care that many are in darkness and do not know Christ? We are often told to let our lights shine or we speak of missionaries carrying "the Light" into dark countries. Our scripture lesson will tell us what this light is and how important it is for us to have it. . . . will help me read.

Scripture

Question—Was there prophecy that light should come?

Answer—Isaiah 9:2.

Q.—Did Jesus ever call himself the Light?

A.—Yes, in John 8:12 we read . . . Just before healing the blind man at the pool of Siloam, he said . . . (John 9:5). Again, just two days before his crucifixion, he said . . . (John 12:35, 36, 46).

An Announcement

Beginning with this issue of "The Baptist Herald," the selection of topics will differ somewhat from the usual "Christian Endeavor" topics. They will be selected more in keeping with the denominational program and churches' needs.

The treatment of the topics will also be modified. Every attempt will be made to give an exhaustive presentation, but the editors of these pages will emphasize suggestions for further thought and preparatory work. Young people are urged to write to the editor of "The Herald" for further material if such is desired.

Q.—I thought Jesus called us the light of the world?

A.—He does. You noticed in John 9:5, which I just read, Christ said, "As long as I am in the world . . ." Then in praying to the Father about his disciples Jesus says in John 17:18 And so in Matthew 5:14, 15, 16 we read

Q.—How do we receive the light?

A.—Only light can give light. In Psalm 18:28 we read . . . , and in Ephesians 5:14

Q.—What if we do not choose to become light?

A.—Isaiah 5:20 and John 3:19, 20, 36.

Leader—We should be very proud to be permitted to carry the light given us by Christ. We have illustrated this by a lighthouse that throws its light out over dark waters in all kinds of weather, bringing the ships safely to harbor. A lighthouse that floated away or blew over wouldn't be much help so it must be built on a strong foundation. . . . will tell us what this represents.

Speaker I

(You are the first speaker and your talk is on "Christ, the True Foundation." If we are going to do personal work we must be quite sure of where we stand or we will be "blown over" by the first opposition we receive. Tell us what Christ says about it in Matthew 7:24-27.)

The foundation is the most important part.

A beautiful superstructure is of little advantage when testing time comes unless there is a good foundation.

What our foundation should be and how to build thereon is found in 1. Corinthians 3:11-14.

Leader—If we have our light from Christ and if we are securely resting on him, we will want to do personal work and we will be successful in doing it. (Turn on light in lighthouse). . . . will tell us ways of letting our light shine.

Speaker II

(You are our last speaker and you are to tell us about ways that we can let our light shine before others so that they may learn to know Christ.)

Suggestions:

1. The way we use our talents and possessions.

2. Our prayers (James 5:16).

3. By going and telling (Matthew 28:19-20). Perhaps, if our group obeys this, we will be scattered in many parts of the world.

4. By the way we live every day. This is probably one of the hardest but one of the best. Read Philippians 2:13-15.

Leader—In Matthew 5:16 where Jesus told us to let our lights shine, he also told us the reason—"That men may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Do you suppose we are guilty of letting our light shine for just the first part of the reason—that men may see our good works? Are we ever borrowing Christ's light for our own advantage? Is that why our good living has no results in souls for Christ?

Let us not forget the last part, that our light is to glorify the Father. Let us forget ourselves and put Christ forward, glorify him. Then we will desire to win souls and then we will succeed.

(You might close with the song "The Light of the World is Jesus." This lesson suggests many songs that the chorister can use.)

Sunday, January 28, 1940

SUFFERING FOR TRUTH

Scripture Lesson: John 16:1-4, 32, 33.

Leader—In our "Baptist Herald" and other papers we have read about the persecution which our fellow-Baptists and other Christians in Rumania are enduring. Even worse has been the condition in Russia where the government is determined to build a nation of unbelievers. Spain, Germany and other countries are not far behind. But through it all there have been those who were so firm in their faith in God that they were willing to endure torture, starvation, imprisonment and even death for him.

We cannot imagine the extent of their sufferings and we are likely to say "Isn't it terrible," and then settle back smugly and comfortably and think we are nice and safe in the United States. Most of us would be horrified if we knew how Communism was gaining hold in our country, not only among the unemployed but in our colleges and universities, and how large organizations are contributing money and influence.

Perhaps we do not have the violent persecution of Europe, but we do have subtle suggestions and propaganda that are slowly undermining our fundamental faith. Young people are sure to meet these influences and we wonder whether we have the strength and knowledge to uphold our beliefs.

One suggestion which we meet is that Jesus was just a good man, a fine example but not the Son of God. How will we answer this challenge.

(To the Speakers—These are not easy topics you have to prepare this week but so important that all the time you give in preparation will be well spent. There are some suggestions for each talk, but as much as possible use your own beliefs and ideas! Perhaps the leader would like to use a blackboard and ask the group for answers to these questions. Then the speakers could finish the discussions.

First Speaker

"Why I Believe Jesus Is the Son of God."

1. Because he fulfills Old Testament prophecy. Micah 5:2; Jer. 23:5; Mal. 3:1; Isaiah 53.

2. He claimed to be the Son of God. John 8:42; John 9:35-37 (A good man wouldn't lie, would he?); John 10:36.

3. He satisfies all races and classes of people. There are believers of all colors, classes and positions.

4. His sinlessness. Through the centuries no flaw can be found in him. He alone dared to ask, "Which of you convinceth me of sin?" (John 8:46.)

5. His words live after 2000 years. Yet he taught self denial and humility which are not popular. (See John 8:28 and John 7:46.)

6. His power. His miracles. His resurrection. What about his influence in your life?

Leader—Another truth we shall have to uphold is that the Bible is the inspired word of God. Few read it intelligently and prayerfully, but many are willing to criticize and tear it apart. Why do we believe the Bible?

Second Speaker

"Why I Believe the Bible is the Inspired Word of God."

1. Bible claims to be inspired. (2 Peter 1:21.) Jesus Claims it to be. (Mark 7:13 and Luke 24:44.) Human writers acknowledge God's direction. (Ex. 35:1; Jer. 1-9; Ez. 1:3; 1 Cor. 2:13.)

2. Fulfilled prophecies.

3. Unity of thought. 36 writers of

various rank and occupation 1600 years in writing.

4. Its power, for it changes men's lives, and those who study it grow in knowledge and holiness.

5. Science and archeology are constantly proving its truth.

6. Impartiality of Bible,—shows sin as well as strength.

7. No human being could think out such a plan of salvation.

8. The Bible remains in spite of all attempts to destroy it.

Leader—Another of the truths we might need to defend is that Christ died for us. Many tell us that it was only a martyr death for a good cause and, if we do good and live right, we will be saved. We may be tempted to accept this view because our sinful nature does not like the humiliation of admitting our sin and accepting his sacrifice. What does Christ's death mean to us?

Third Speaker

"What I Believe About Christ's Vicarious Death?"

Accepting the proof of the other speakers that Jesus is the Son of God and the Bible the Word of God, we will turn to the Scriptures to see what Christ did for us.

1. All are sinners. (Romans 3:23, 9.)

2. Salvation by the blood. (Hebrews 9:22; 1 Peter 1:18, 19; and Ephesians 1:7.)

3. It is a gift to us. (Ephesians 2:8, 9 and Titus 3:5.)

4. We must receive the gift, (John 1:12); to have Christ in us, (1 John 4:15); to have eternal life, (John 3:16); and not to die in sin. (John 8:24.)

Leader—We need to study our Bible for knowledge and pray for strength to meet these problems. God answers the prayers of his children.

How wonderful if every Christian in the world would say with Paul—Quote Romans 8:35-39!

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Issued under the auspices of the One by One Band which stands for winning men one by one.

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Convicting and helpful.

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German Baptist Publication Society
3734 Payne Ave., Cleveland, O.

A GYPSY CHRISTMAS

(Continued from Page 465)

Augustus wanted—"But who was this Augustus," asked the Paya. "Once upon a time King Augustus wanted to know how many people lived in his country, so he had them counted. Everyone had to go where he was born. So it happened that Joseph and Mary came from Egypt, no . . ." "From Galilee," corrected the Paya. "Yes, from Galilee to Bethlehem. They met a lot of people going in the same direction. Some were riding in a carriage, others in an auto, and still others who had a lot of money," and here little Wack showed by means of gestures what he meant by rich people, "these flew by aeroplane."

Then he laughed. "But Joseph only had a donkey, just like the Gypsies. He tried to go into a hotel. But that was full. The inn was also crowded. But Joseph had a good friend who sent him out into the pasture. There he found a barn. But it was so cold. The wind blew through the cracks of the barn. There in a manger the Christ-child was born."

Sausages for Good Appetites

"Now what's next on the program?" the teacher asked. A mysterious question! "Guess?" "Sausages!" someone shouted as the door was thrown open and hot sizzling sausages were brought in. Every Gypsy child was allowed to have two of them. To be sure, a number of extra sausages were stuck into the roomy, ragged trousers of some of the boys or disappeared into some other hiding place. But how good they tasted, especially when the shiny white teeth of a little five year old boy clamped down on two little sausages at the same time!

But the real fun was still to begin! Sacks and packages were brought into the room and Christmas presents were distributed. What a heaven of glory was suddenly revealed! Dolls, little horses, shoes, toys, coats and dresses! But the harmonicas were the best treasures of all! There was no stopping the children in their unrestrained joy and fun. The celebration was now at its close. The children couldn't be kept quiet any longer. The door was opened and out they went, back to their huts with the Christmas songs and recitations and joy echoing in their hearts.

These are typical Gypsy children of any mission station. Christmas for them is a time when they can really know the joys of life, when they can receive presents from others instead of stealing, when they can really get enough to eat and be filled. Inwardly and outwardly they are pilgrims here on earth without any real abiding place. But still they are brothers and sisters of One, for whom there was no room in the inn. They, too, bring their gifts to the Christ child.

Reports from the Field

Northwestern Conference

Enthusiastic Sunday School in the German Baptist Church of Minneapolis

The old German song, "The Sunday School is our delight, we love it more and more," is the enthusiasm with which we carry on our work at the German Baptist Church at Minneapolis, Minn.

We are proud to be able to have our Sunday School under the able leadership of Mr. Alfred E. Brachlow, superintendent. We aim to have every church member in the Sunday School as well as to make every moment of the time interesting and inspirational for young and old.

Our printed programs, leaflets, the special lesson story, the memory scripture period, and the new choruses all help to enliven the interest. Our memory scripture period helps all of us to hide the word of God in our hearts. All members of the Sunday School feel that the Sunday School offers us some of the most precious moments of our lives.

ALBERT LANG, JR., Secretary.

Baileyville's Reception For Its Pastor, Rev. H. Renkema, and Family

On Tuesday evening, October 17, the members and friends of the Baptist Church of Baileyville, Ill., gathered to welcome their new pastor, the Rev. H. Renkema, and family.

The program was in charge of Mr. Herman Zimmerman, one of the deacons, who spoke words of welcome in behalf of the church as a whole. The Sunday School was represented by Mr. Albert Birkholz, the Ladies Missionary Society by Mrs. A. Butzer, and the King's Daughters Society by Mrs. Albert Birkholz. All extended their best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Renkema and welcomed them into each organization. These talks were interspersed with musical numbers.

The guest speaker of the evening was the Rev. A. P. White, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Freeport, Ill. Mr. Renkema responded with words of appreciation to the church. The pastor and family were recipients of many donations for the pantry shower.

Our prayer is that the Lord may use our pastor's youthful ambition, together with his deep inspiring messages for the edification of God's children and the salvation of sinners.

LOUISA ZIMMERMAN, Reporter.



Mr. Alfred E. Brachlow of Minneapolis, Minn., Superintendent of the Local Sunday School

Northern Conference

Thanksgiving Blessings and Bible School Days in the Morris Church

In his recent Thanksgiving message to us in the German Baptist Church of Morris, Manitoba, Canada, the Rev. Edmund Mittelstedt, our pastor, made us feel how near our God had been to us and how much we have for which to be thankful. Both the mixed and male choirs served to enhance the festive morning service. In the afternoon a program, in which the little Sunday School scholars voiced their thanks to God in their beautiful manner, was given. Our Thanksgiving offering of \$121 which was raised on this occasion, went to our foreign mission enterprise.

From October 22 to 28, the Rev. E. P. Wahl, our Canadian Bible School director, was with us. Forty-four students and visitors attended the Bible School here during that time. All thoroughly enjoyed the enriching lectures by the Rev. E. P. Wahl and the Rev. E. Mittelstedt. Topics for study were: "The Part Which the Sunday School Plays in the Church Program," "Historic Books of the Old Testament," "Guidance of the Holy Spirit" and "History of the Baptists."

Mr. Wahl also gave us the story of the Edmonton Bible School at our mid-week evening service and on Friday evening, October 27, he again gave an inspiring address on "Our Part in the Kingdom of God." We shall try to put into practice what we have learned and pray that God may bless the efforts to bring forth further fruit.

IDA J. HOFFMAN, Reporter.

Annual Report of the Women's Missionary Society in East Ebenezer, Saskatchewan

The Women's Mission Society of the German Baptist Church of East Ebenezer, Sask., Can., looks back to a year of rich blessings. Many opportunities have opened to us, where we as workers in God's Kingdom could render service.

Our society has 25 members and functions under the able leadership of our officers who are as follows: president, Mrs. A. Zimmer; vice-president, Mrs. A. Sontag; treasurer, Mrs. A. McNichol; and secretary, Mrs. G. Falkowsky.

In the past year it has been our privilege to visit 63 sick friends and present small gifts of flowers and fruit to them. Our society has been able to support foreign mission work and to aid the needy as well as to donate to our church.

On Friday, October 20, our society sponsored "a fowl supper" in the parsonage. In spite of the rainy weather we had a large attendance. After the supper we gathered at the church for our annual program, which consisted of musical numbers and a dialogue, "The Unfruitful Tree." Mr. Joseph Muth gave an interesting talk on "Red Cross Work." Our total income for the evening was \$52. We donated \$26 of this to the Red Cross Society. May the Lord bless these efforts to the furtherance of his Kingdom!

MRS. A. McNICHOL, Reporter.

Dakota Conference

Fall Activities in the Spring Valley and Unityville Churches

Conditions permitting, we try to carry out identical programs in both of our churches of Spring Valley and Unityville, So. Dak. This Fall, through various activities, our main emphasis was on the great foreign mission enterprises of the churches, and each Christian's share of responsibility for the evangelisation of the world.

The Rev. A. J. Fischer of our Ebenezer Church at Wessington Springs was the guest preacher at our Harvest and Mission Festival in Unityville. His hearty messages were channels of God's blessing for his people. Some of our folk had brought of the best fruits of their fields and gardens to the house of God. These gifts were sold the following day at the occasion of a festival supper in the church basement, and the proceeds added to the mission offering.

On Sunday, October 22, our young people's secretary, the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, spoke to both groups. His enthusiastic and vivid reports of the work among the Gypsies and his inspiring plea for consecrated Christian lives left an indelible interest and sense of responsibility in our mission enterprises. As a concluding climax to this Fall mission program came our "Bender Memorial Trek" project. A full Sunday was again devoted to the occasion. A morning mission message, stories about children in the Camerons during the Sunday School hour, and a young people's evening program on the life and ministry of Laura Reddig made the day a memorable one, and helped to impress the truth of Jesus' last commandment: "Ye shall be my witnesses."

In the Spring Valley Sunday School we have introduced several stimulating projects. Everyone enjoys to cooperate with our young aggressive superintendent, J. W. Buseman, in the Sunday School building program.

The elimination of a small debt on the recently acquired parsonage in Unityville demands our wholehearted efforts. In the Spring of the year a special service was dedicated under the name of "God's Acre Project." Each of our brethren dedicated the proceeds of one acre of different grains from their farms to this special cause. Others promised to keep a record of all the eggs produced on their farms on Sundays and give the proceeds to this cause. At a special fellowship service held on Wednesday, November 22, the harvest of "God's Acre" and the "Sunday Egg Money" were brought to the Lord with joy and thanksgiving.

WM. STURHAHN, Pastor.

South Dakota Young People in Fellowship and United Action for Christ

While European nations are once more being welded close together into two military camps by an effective use of hate, fear, and the rule of the fist, Christian youth in our denomination is following suit by strengthening its lines through Christian fellowship and united action. Never before has there been such a united effort on the part of these young people to promote those values which, ultimately, must destroy the evils of sinful and selfish men.

It was an inspiration to see with what enthusiasm the South Dakota young people voted for the Bender Memorial Trek at Madison last summer, and how willing they were to assume the financial and spiritual support of Miss Laura Reddig.

Another tie, that is to create a closer relationship between the individual groups, is the semi-annual "Rally Day" of the South Dakota young people and Sunday School workers. The first of these was held at Parkston on October 13. After an hour of fellow-

Oak Park Church Will Celebrate Its 50th Anniversary from January 21-24, 1940

The Oak Park German Baptist Church of Illinois has planned and, God willing, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding as an independent church from Sunday, January 21, 1940, to Wednesday, January 24, 1940.

The early beginnings of our work here date back into the years between 1860 to 1870.

All former members as well as all friends of our church are cordially invited to participate in our celebrations.

Correspondence regarding this occasion should be addressed to Mr. Henry Vogt, 315 Marengo Ave., Forest Park, Illinois.

ship, songs, and fun around well spread tables in the basement of the church, the group assembled in the church auditorium for the evening program. This consisted of reports from the different groups, solos, musical renditions, and readings. For the main speaker of the evening we were fortunate to have the Rev. Martin L. Leuschner of Forest Park, Ill., with us who spoke on "Streamlining Our Faith." His persuasive message left an indelible impression on the minds of those who worshiped with us, and everyone left the meeting with a new conviction that Christianity challenges the best there is in man and deserves our full allegiance.

O. BONIKOWSKY, Reporter.

Revival Meetings and Baptismal Service at Ashley, No. Dakota

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." These words are especially fitting for our situation in the German Baptist Church of Ashley, No. Dak., and its mission stations during the year 1939. God has given us a fair-sized harvest after all the years of drought. We are thankful for his mercy.

In the spiritual life God has blessed us wonderfully, too. Due to his assistance our church has grown more and more. On November 5 we had another impressive baptismal service, at which 15 believers were baptized and given the hand of fellowship at the following communion service.

These new members are the fruit of our latest revival meetings which lasted 6 weeks. Neighborly pastors helped us to draw the net for which we are thankful. They are the Reverends G. Rutsch of Gackle, J. Kepl of Martin, and A. Ittermann of Wishek. As the last mentioned pastor could only stay with us a few days, the Rev. E. Broeckel was willing to continue his work. Revival meetings are necessary

for everybody, and they give the church the necessary equipoise if the work is done in a spiritual way.

We are also glad to mention that we had two great workers in the vineyard of our Lord with us in recent months. Prof. O. E. Krueger of Rochester, N. Y., served us in connection with our Central Association in June. We were very pleased to hear his message. The second visitor was our esteemed editor of "The Baptist Herald," the Rev. M. Leuschner, who spoke at our three places successively. We thank those two brethren heartily for their services.

W. LUEBECK, Pastor.

Pacific Conference

Oregon Young People Adopt a Mission Project at Their Recent Conference

On Sunday, October 29, the Oregon Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union gave its annual program in connection with the Oregon Conference, during which Sunday afternoon is always set aside for the young people. The program was given at the Trinity Church of Portland, formerly the First German Baptist Church.

The entire program was splendid. The speakers were entirely young people from our various churches. There are seven churches in Oregon. There were three speakers, and their talks were sincere and inspiring. The addresses and the speakers were as follows: "What Do the Young People Expect of the Church," by Woodrow Joss of Bethany; "What Does the Church Expect of the Young People," by Viola Schrenk of Salem; and "Do We as Young People Need Jesus Christ?" by Mildred Schneider of Salt Creek.

Mr. Edward May, our president, extended a hearty welcome to all, especially to those from out of town. Mrs. Emma B. Meier was the director of the mass choir, that sang two numbers which were really beautiful.

The young people decided to give \$200 to our Cameroon Missions in Africa. This is to go for a combination hospital and school there. They need this amount to complete the building and for supplies. We have decided to raise this money by giving a play. All characters will be taken from the churches in Portland and Bethany. Mrs. Leona Nettler is the director of the play. When it is ready to be presented, it will be given in the various churches. We hope that we may be able to help a little and we know we will be blessed by doing what we can. The offering taken on Sunday will be given to this cause also.

Dr. William Kuhn was with us. It seemed that our meeting was quite a missionary meeting, and Dr. Kuhn was certainly a welcome visitor.

MISS MAXINE HAAG, Secretary.

Los Angeles B. Y. P. U. Reviews Its Past Year's Activities and Its Annual Program

On Sunday evening, November 5, the B. Y. P. U. of the Fifteenth Street Baptist Church of Los Angeles, Calif., held its annual program, which included the installation of the new officers for the coming year. These officers are Walter Heiman, president; Walter Wessel, vice-president; Maryanne Adam, secretary; and Gus Stark, treasurer.

The program was also attended by the Ebenezer Church of Los Angeles and the Anaheim Bethel Church, besides the many members and friends from the local church. The Rev. H. Dymmel of Anaheim was the guest speaker who spoke on the topic, "Life's Greatest Choices."

The program consisted of a trombone solo by the Rev. B. W. Krentz, a choir selection, several quartet numbers by our "Harmony Four," and a playlet, "The Greatest of These is Love." This play was written by the late Prof. O. Koenig in German. For this occasion it was translated into English by our minister. (Extra mimeograph copies may be obtained by writing Rev. B. W. Krentz, 1709 Trinity St., Los Angeles, Calif.)

Our monthly service at the San Pedro Mission has been carried on with faithful attendance. During the summer we distributed about 600 handbills in our church neighborhood, advertising the various departments of the church. We also purchased a guest book for the church lobby, secured chorus books for our services, and financially supported the church bulletin.

Our Sunday evening devotionals are fairly well attended and the subjects are varied. One month we read the book of Genesis at home, and filled out examination questions during the devotional hours. During another month we had Bible Quizzes, location contests and a verse memorizing contest. One entire Sunday evening was given over to a stereopticon lecture on "Pilgrims Progress," and another to motion pictures of Salvation Army work. One evening a month we meet alternately at the homes of members for "Sings-fests," which are well attended.

We tried a new idea in our election this year, which turned out to be very successful. Each member was given a mimeographed ballot a week before our annual business meeting. Those members, who were unable to come, mailed their ballots.

We have planned a strenuous program for next year's activities. The book, "Airplane View of New Testament History," will be studied chapter by chapter, to be followed by discussion. A test quiz will be given every month. We are going ahead boldly, trusting in Christ, our Lord.

FLORENCE EISELE, Reporter.

Graduation Exercises of the Primary Department in the Lodi Sunday School

The Primary Department of the Sunday School in the Baptist Church of Lodi, Calif., held its graduation exercises in October. The children presented several songs in the main auditorium of the church, and then 15 of the children in class No. 4, of which Miss Bertha Meyers is teacher, recited the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, and the Twenty-third Psalm. Ruthie Weigum recited all the books of the New Testament and Donald Perman all the books of the Old Testament.



Children and Teachers of the Primary Department in the German Baptist Sunday School of Lodi, California

These children at this time were presented with their diplomas, graduating into the Junior department. Mrs. Aug. Auch, superintendent, introduced their new teachers, who are Miss Adele Burgstahler, for the girls and Mr. Gus Hust for the boys class.

Mrs. John Hellwig has faithfully served as superintendent of the Primary Department during this past year. It was with our regrets that we accepted her resignation. Mrs. Adolph Grieser has been elected to succeed Mrs. Hellwig. She has accepted her duties by putting forth every effort possible to make the classes interesting and for winning new members to the department.

The children meet each Sunday at 9:45 A. M. in their own little auditorium where Mrs. Grieser, with the assistance of her teachers, teaches them songs and tells them Bible stories. They always can light the candles on the birthday cake if it should be such an occasion for one of the children.

On December 5 the primary teachers served as hostesses to a special affair for all the parents of the youngsters. The children entertained with songs and recitations.

A picture of the children and teachers, besides the superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. Aug. Auch, accompanies this report.

BERTHA MEYERS, Reporter.

Sessions of the California Association in the Fifteenth Street Church of Los Angeles

Smiles and hearty handshakes greeted the delegates and visitors of the California Association as they met for their annual convention at the Fifteenth Street Baptist Church of Los Angeles, Calif., from November 9 to 12. The Rev. B. W. Krentz, pastor of the church, made us all feel welcome in his own original way. The moderator of the association, the Rev. H. G. Dymmel, took us in the opening address on an exhibit tour through the book of Jonah, showing us that God

does not love only one nation, but that his love is for all nations.

To have had some of our veteran ministers with their years of experience leading the devotions and discussions made us feel well repaid for the efforts we made in attending the association. "Christ in the Home and Church" was a very timely theme. In the message of the Rev. A. Felberg on the difficulties in the modern home, he made us see the danger in magazines and radio programs. "The Family Altar" a stirring message by the Rev. G. G. Rauser of Franklin, showed us the evil in neglecting family worship. He also showed us the blessing that rests on a home dedicated to the Lord.

In a Christian home great emphasis should be laid on the training of Christian habits. This was the lesson that the Rev. H. G. Dymmel of Anaheim presented. The Rev. F. E. Klein of Wasco laid emphasis on the place of the children in the church. They should not be put into any book or corner, but into a prominent place in our churches. He felt that the responsibility of teaching children is far greater than that of preaching to the church. Last, but not least, was the lesson which the Rev. O. R. Schroeder of Anaheim presented on "Discipline in the Home and Church." Discipline should be taught at home and not left to the ministers.

The program of the Ladies' Mission-

ary Union, with Mrs. Reichle of Fresno presiding, was well attended and inspiring. The Rev. F. E. Klein gave the message on "Mothers of the Bible."

Sunday, November 12, was the crowning day with the combined choirs of Anaheim and Los Angeles rendering two songs, and the Rev. J. A. H. Wuttke of Sacramento giving the missionary address. His topic, "The Church With Open Doors," made us see the great field that lies before us and also the promise to those who are faithful. We have not neglected our young people, for on Sunday afternoon Dr. Walker, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church of Los Angeles was the guest speaker. His topic was "The Elements of Life."

On the closing evening the message was given by the Rev. A. Felberg. All those attending the association were determined, as the parting hour came, to go on with God and put him first in their lives.

ERNA URBIGKEIT, Reporter.

Central Conference

First of a Series of Monthly Rallies for the Chicago Jugendbund Held at the Grace Church

The first of a series of monthly rallies for the Young People's Union of Chicago, Ill., and vicinity was held on Monday evening, November 13, at the Grace Church with an attendance of 105 people.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. Victor Loewen, president of the Jugendbund, and Mr. Roy Anderson, former president of the Jugendbund, acted as song leader. The Rev. Martin L. Leuschner led in prayer and the Omicron Trio of the Oak Park Church favored us with several vocal selections.

Dr. Charles W. Koller, president of the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, was the speaker of the evening, and used as his topic, "Misplaced Affections." Taking the life of Samson as a background for his message, Dr. Koller told us that the only chance we have for happiness is to find the place God wants us to be, accept that place and fill it to the best of our ability and to the glory of God. Samson would have been saved to live a God planned life had he avoided tainted contacts and foiled temptation at its beginning rather than at its height. Dr. Koller stressed the importance of Christians not being unequally yoked together with unbelievers, and gave us several examples from daily life to illustrate his point. Another feature of the evening was a gallery of snapshots taken at the Lake Ripley Assembly last August.

Those who attended the rally departed that evening with God's admonitions ringing in their hearts, vowing to follow the leadings of the Holy Spirit more closely in their daily walks of life. IRMA L. GRIEGER, Secretary.



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martens of Chicago, Ill., With Their Daughter (Left), on Their Silver Wedding Anniversary (Vernon, a Son, Does Not Appear on Picture)

Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martens of Chicago, Illinois

Twenty-five years ago Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martens, members of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., were united in marriage. In the wedding party at that time were Mrs. Frieda Lindstrom, sister of the bride, acting as the maid of honor; Mrs. Dohrau as the bridesmaid; Mr. George Martens, brother of the groom, as the best man; and Mr. Herbert Hecht, brother of the bride, as the ringbearer.

On October 24th of this year the large relationship gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Martens to observe their silver wedding anniversary, and for this occasion the original wedding party was on hand. To the beautiful strains of the wedding march, they once again took their places before the minister. This time it was the Rev. Reuben Lindstrom, brother-in-law of Mrs. Martens, before whom the couple reaffirmed their vows. Miss Lucille Martens, the only daughter, sang "I Love You Truly" and "O Promise Me."

Again on October 27th a large circle of friends gathered to offer their congratulations and good wishes. The members of the F. T. F. (First Things First) S. S. class presented Mr. and Mrs. Martens with a novel gift of 25 silver dollars, all wrapped in silver tinsel and held together with a silver cord. Their pastor, the Rev. John A. Mueller, extended his felicitations and the honored couple graciously responded.

Through the years Mr. and Mrs. Martens have been both faithful and active members of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Chicago. Mrs. Martens is rendering an appreciated service as a choir member and church organist. Mr. Martens is our congenial Sunday School secretary and a member of the board of trustees.

JOHN A. MUELLER, Reporter.

Organ Dedication of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Chicago

Sunday, November 19, was a memorable occasion in the history of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill. When our forefathers built the edifice in which we worship, they left a recess in the wall, undoubtedly hoping some day to install an organ there. Many of our forefathers have long since passed on, but that hope constantly burned in the hearts of us who came after them. Therefore, it was with great rejoicing, that on this Sunday we saw the realization of this hope, when before a capacity audience, with a spirit of festivity and expectancy prevailing, we were able to dedicate our newly installed four stop, Aeolian pipe organ.

Our pastor, the Rev. John A. Mueller, was in charge of the dedicatory service. After the splendid rendition by the choir, he called upon Mr. George Retzke, Jr., who in behalf of his mother, Mrs. Rose Retzke, presented a set of 18 Concord chimes as a memorial to Mr. George Retzke, Sr. Mr. Paul Martens, whose efforts during the weeks of installation were unceasing, presented the organ and Mr. Otto Deutschman, acting in behalf of the chairman of the board of trustees, received the titles.

Following the responsive reading, Dr. John Knechtel, pastor of the neighboring Grace Baptist Church, led us in the dedicatory prayer and then for the first time we listened to the melodious strains of the organ, as called forth by Mrs. Paul Martens, who, in years past, has ably served as organist. The Rev. Martin Leuschner served as our guest speaker and brought an inspiring message on "The Ministry of Music." After singing a heartfelt, "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow," the Rev. P. A. Friedrichsen, our former pastor, dismissed us with the benediction.

The ladies, under the able direction of Mrs. Ella Kornetzke, had provided a buffet lunch of which we gladly partook.

BETTY KLEINDIENST, Reporter.

King's Daughters Society of Lansing, Mich., Presents its Annual Report

Once again, the King's Daughters Society of the German-American Baptist Church of Lansing, Mich., stands at the threshold of a new year. We are now an organization that celebrated its second birthday on November 11. During 1939, four more members have joined our ranks.

Last Christmas we made and distributed packages. Then we made boxes of candy for our seminary in Rochester, New York. At Easter, we colored eggs for the Orphan's Home in St. Joseph, Mich. During the month of May we started our birthday plates. The money collected from our plates

will be put into our treasury. Packages were made by the organization which were sent to Dr. F. W. Meyer, missionary, who is in the Philippine Islands. Lastly, we sent \$50 to our missionary, Sister Lydia Doellefeld, who is in Bulgaria.

At the present time we are making dresser scarfs for the Old Peoples' Home in Chicago, Ill.

As we close the year 1939 with a hopeful note, may 1940 be still a more blessed year in which to do our Lord's work!

ELSIE L. HOPP, Secretary.

Atlantic Conference

Election Night Concert by the Young People's Union of New York City

On Tuesday evening, November 7, the Jugendbund of New York City, N. Y., and vicinity held its annual "Election Night Concert" at the Second Church of New York City. We again enjoyed a fine musical program, rendered by the talented young people from the various churches of the Jugendbund.

Our president, Mr. Alfred Orthner, presided and gave the welcoming address. After the Scripture reading by Miss Grace Kettenberg, vice-president, followed with prayer by the Rev. H. G. Kuhl, pastor of the First Church of Union City, N. J., a musical program was rendered by the talented members of the following churches: Ridgewood Church, Long Island; Evangel Church, Newark; Immanuel Church, New York; Walnut Street Church, Newark; Second Church, Brooklyn; and Second Church, New York City.

Mr. Frederick Baumfalk of the Pilgrim Church of Jersey City, N. J., was the concert chairman.

JULIA HARTWIG, Recording Secretary.

Enlargement and Renovation Program of the Meriden Church Crowned With Success

On Thursday, October 12, an enthusiastic band of members and friends of the Liberty Street Baptist Church of Meriden, Conn., gathered around banquet tables, on which was served a delicious turkey dinner in celebration of the conclusion of a long and arduous building program, connected with the enlargement and renovation of the church plant.

For six months, from early May until October, the men and friends of the Liberty Street Church had labored hard and long to erect a new monument to the cause of Christ and his Kingdom in the city of Meriden. A new two-story addition was built to the back of the church, which made it possible to enlarge the assembly room on the ground floor to almost twice its previous size and to add a new kitchen. The addition on the second floor has given the church a much needed and

delightful parlor, which has been completely furnished with cheerful grouping of maple pieces of furniture. The problem of comfortably heating the church plant has been solved by the installation of a new oil heating and air-conditioning furnace.

The new addition will make possible a much more effective church program. Extensive plans have already been laid for the work of the next year.

The most thrilling part of the building program is the fact that all the labor was contributed voluntarily. The church did not have to pay a "farthing" for the six months of labor that were required to make the changes. The church is blessed in that it has an unusual assortment of skilled building craftsmen. Many friends outside of the church also gave generously of their services to make the completion of the project possible.

The greatest surprise of all, however, was furnished on the night of the celebration. After a period of hymn singing and remarks of congratulation by the pastor, the "Surprise Offering" envelopes were opened one at a time and the amounts posted on the blackboard. When the last envelope was opened, astonishment scarcely describes the feeling of the members when it was announced that the offering for the evening was more than \$500. Everyone went home that night with the determination to do bigger and better things for Christ.

THEO. KOESTER, Pastor.

CANDY

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

requiring candy for their Christmas treats are invited to consider our offering.

PURE CANDIES

prepared under sanitary conditions in conventional two piece boxes containing one half pound are available at the very reasonable price of

15 cents

per box plus transportation charges.

Sunday Schools not too far from Cleveland will find this attractive.

Motor freight charges are very reasonable: To Detroit, 39 cts., to Chicago, 58 cts. per cwt., and corresponding costs to other points.

Send fifteen cents in Stamps for a sample box

German Baptist Publication Society,
3734 Payne Ave., Cleveland, O.

New England Association at its Annual Conference Considers "Christian Home-Building"

The 43rd annual sessions of the New England Association of German Baptist Churches were held at the Liberty Street Church of Meriden, Conn., from October 20 to 22. The theme of the conference was "Christian Home-Building."

The conference was opened on Friday evening by an address by the Rev. A. W. Jones, a minister of one of the Baptist churches in Bradford, Conn.

An inspiring young people's banquet was held on Saturday evening, at which the Rev. John Brush of New Haven, Conn., brought an unusual message. Prof. Frank Woyke, former minister of the church, brought the message at the regular worship service on Sunday morning. The Sunday afternoon session was devoted to the work of the Ladies' Missionary Union. The conference was brought to a fitting climax on Sunday evening by a message delivered by the Rev. Gustave Friedenbergh of New Britain and a closing communion service led by the Rev. Theo. Koester, minister of the entertaining church.

The new officers of the association for the coming year are as follows: John Luebeck, moderator; Rev. Theo. Koester, secretary and treasurer. The newly elected young people's officers are: Alice Kaaz, president, Joe Atwater of Boston, Mass., vice-president; Lillian Lucas of Bridgeport, secretary; Rev. Theo. Koester, ministerial adviser. THEO. KOESTER, Reporter.

Southwestern Conference

Anniversary Program of the Ladies' Mission Circle of Shell Creek, Nebraska

The Ladies' Mission Circle of the First German Baptist Church of Shell Creek, Neb., held its anniversary program on Sunday afternoon, October 15.

A splendid program consisting of dialogues, recitations and various musical numbers was rendered. A very appropriate talk was delivered by our neighboring pastor, the Rev. Theo. Frey of Creston. Our neighboring church of Creston was also represented. The offering taken at our program amounted to \$33.53, which was designated for the support of Sister Lydia Doellefeld of Bulgaria.

Our Mission Circle consists of 18 active members. It is our aim to meet on the second Sunday of each month. We have pledged \$50 yearly to the support of Sister Lydia Doellefeld.

It is the wish and prayer of our Mission Circle to launch out into greater service for our Lord and Master and to serve him faithfully in the coming year.

IDA MENKE, Secretary.

Sessions of the Oklahoma Association at the Immanuel Church Near Loyal

The 69th Oklahoma Association gathered this year for its annual sessions with the Immanuel Church near Loyal, Okla., beginning on Thursday evening, October 26, and ending on Sunday, October 29.

A cheerful song service, with special numbers by the choir and male chorus, followed by a hearty welcome by the Rev. R. A. Klein, filled every heart with expectation and made us all feel at home amidst the hospitable people at Loyal. The opening sermon on "The Church After Nineteen Hundred Years" was brought by the Rev. J. J. Reimer of Gotebo.

On Friday morning after a period of devotion led by Mr. Philip Weigand of Ingersoll and a brief business period, interesting reports were given from the various churches. Following that a message on "True Discipleship" by Mr. Nichols, a visiting minister, brought the morning session to a close.

After a sumptuous dinner, Mr. H. G. Geis of Okeene led in the devotional period, after which Mr. O. G. Graalman of Okeene spoke on "The Relation of a Christian to the World." After a song and an interesting open discussion, the Rev. Haskel Beck, also a visiting Baptist minister, spoke on Eph. 6, "The Need of the Hour." In the evening Mr. Nichols again addressed an attentive audience on the message, "The Sin of David."

Saturday morning Mr. Adam Fritzler of Shattuck led the devotion after which Mr. Beck gave an exposition of the first and second chapters of 1. John. After another business session, the Rev. J. J. Reimer spoke on "The Three Tenses of Our Salvation." In the afternoon Mr. H. G. Geis led the devotions and the Rev. F. W. Socolofsky spoke in German on "Die Lehre von der Liebe" and the Rev. A. Knopf on "The Marks of a Believer." In the evening Mr. Beck spoke on "Jesus of Nazareth."

On Sunday morning the church was crowded to capacity. The Sunday School and worship service had the following inspiring features: addresses by representatives and chorus singing by the children; commemoration of the fourth anniversary of the dedication of the new Immanuel church building in which the host pastor reported an aggressive progress with 51 additions over the four year period and the church debt nearly cleared; and a mission sermon by the Rev. F. W. Socolofsky on Acts 27:23-25, with songs at intervals by the choir and male chorus.

In the afternoon the young people had their own program and in the evening the inspirational association was brought to a close with the final message on "The Holy Spirit in the Believer's Life" by the Rev. J. J. Reimer.

J. J. REIMER, Secretary.

Renew Your Baptist Herald Subscription

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This is the twenty-fourth issue of the HERALD and the last for the departing year.

Renewals are therefore now in order and it would be well to dispose of the matter promptly so that interruptions will be averted.

Please see the church booster or communicate with us directly.

An order blank goes out with this number of the HERALD for your convenience.

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The Publishers.

3734 Payne Ave.,
Cleveland, O.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from Page 462)

● On Saturday and Sunday, November 11 and 12, the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church of Winnipeg, Man., Can., celebrated its 50th anniversary. The Rev. Otto Patzia, pastor, was in charge of the festivities. Guest speakers included the Rev. William Kuhn of Chicago, Ill., and the Rev. Phil. Daum of Winnipeg. Letters from the former pastors and friends were read at the service. While in Winnipeg, Dr. Kuhn consulted with the church board regarding the General Conference next year, and it was decided not to attempt to hold the conference in Winnipeg in 1940. It is hoped, however, that at some later date the conference may be held in Winnipeg, Canada, for the first time. Further information about the meeting place of the General Conference in Burlington, Iowa, appears on page 466 of this issue of "The Baptist Herald."

● On Saturday, November 18, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Orthner of Coral Gables, Fla., celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. This unusual and very happy event was observed quietly by the Orthners with some of their near-by friends. The parents as well as several of their children are well known throughout the denomination, especially the daughter, Miss Victoria A. Orthner, who is the missionary of the Oak Park German Baptist Church

in Illinois, and Miss Adelaide Orthner, a former missionary of the Harlem Church of New York City, and the sons, Rev. Frank Orthner of Long Island City, N. Y., and Rev. Adolf Orthner of Detroit, Mich., our former missionary to the Cameroons of Africa. Their many friends in the Pacific Northwest, Texas, New York and other sections of the country, where they have resided, will be interested in this news. May God's blessing of love continue to shine upon this honored couple!

● Dr. William Kuhn, general mission secretary, participated in the sessions of the Oregon Association held in the Trinity Church of Portland from October 26 to 29 and during the week that followed he spoke in the following churches: Immanuel Church of Portland, Bethany and Stafford Churches near Portland, Salt Creek Church near Dallas, German Baptist Church of Salem, and Laurelhurst Church of Portland. On Sunday, November 19, he was in Watertown, Wis., where he addressed the morning service and spoke at the anniversary program of the men's club. On the following Sunday morning he was the guest speaker in the Immanuel Church of Milwaukee, Wis. On Thanksgiving day, November 30, he spoke in the morning service at Aplington, Iowa, and in the afternoon and evening services in Sheffield, Iowa, where members of the Steamboat Rock, Aplington and Parkersburg churches were also present. On Sunday, December 3, Dr. Kuhn addressed the missionary rally in the German Baptist Church of Stafford, Kansas.

● For the early Thanksgiving celebration the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, editor of "The Baptist Herald," traveled to North Dakota to spend Friday, November 24, with the young people of the Northern Dakota churches at their annual Thanksgiving rally held in Harvey, No. Dak. Meetings were held throughout the day at which the theme, "Blazing New Trails in Christian Truth," was considered. "A Sky-High Banquet" was held in the evening at which missionary moving pictures were shown and the Rev. R. W. Hodges, state secretary, spoke. For the later Thanksgiving observance Mr. Leuschner attended the young people's institute of the Southern Y. P. and S. S. W. Union held from November 30 to December 3 in the Carroll Ave. Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas. The well attended institute held a host of good things in store for the young people, including a wedding. The Rev. Rudolph Woyke of Washburn, No. Dak., and Mrs. Margot Bauer of Dallas, were united in marriage at a ceremony performed on Friday morning, December 1, during the sessions of the institute. A report of these enthusiastic gatherings will appear in the next issue of "The Baptist Herald."