

THE BAPTIST HERALD

February 1,
1940



The Men's Baraca
Bible Class of the
Oak Park German
Baptist Church,
Forest Park, Illinois,
of which the Rev.
C. B. Nordland
(Front Row, Center)
is the Teacher.
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Printed in U. S. A.



What's Happening

● Mrs. Carl Fuellbrandt of Vienna, Germany, the wife of the director of our Danubian Gospel Mission Field in southwestern Europe, passed away on January 24 after a lingering illness of several years. The cablegram message was received at missionary headquarters from Budapest, Hungary. An only son resides in Toronto, Canada.

● The Rev. Emil Becker, pastor of the German Baptist Church of Herreid, So. Dak., baptized 9 persons on confession of their faith in Christ on New Year's Eve, December 31. At this Watch Night service 15 persons were welcomed into the fellowship of the church. During the past year there have been 28 additions.

● On New Year's Eve at the Watch Night service the Rev. W. Helwig of Ellinwood, Kans., baptized two young women and received these and another girl into the fellowship of the Ellinwood Baptist Church. Mr. Helwig wrote: "The work is progressing very nicely here. We now have a membership of 107, which is higher than this church has had for years."

● Messrs. Richard Grenz, Peter Pfeifer and George Zinz, members of the senior class of the German Baptist Seminary in Rochester, N. Y., brought morning devotional messages in January over radio station WSA Y from 7:15 to 7:30 A. M. under sponsorship of the Rochester Council of Churches. A quartet composed of the students R. Kern, G. Zinz, A. Schulz and W. Marchand assisted at these services.

● On Sunday evening, December 17, the B. Y. P. U. of the German Baptist Church in Goodrich, No. Dak., held a Bible Day program. Interesting topics on the Bible were given by Lula and Eugene Gerlitz, Viola and Ruth Engel, Gladys Haux and Bertha Fleck. Musical numbers were rendered by Leona Brodehl and Eileen Martin. The program was a spiritual blessing to those present. The Rev. Adolf Reeh is pastor of the church.

● The Rev. Christian Dippel of Baraboo, Wis., is spending the winter months at Crowley, Louisiana, where he is a regular visitor in the services of the Mowata German Baptist Church. He left his Wisconsin home on Saturday, January 6, spending Sunday morning in the St. Louis Park Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Dippel will also spend some time in New Orleans and will visit most of our Texas churches before returning to his home in April.

● At the Watch Night service of the Humboldt Park Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., the Rev. W. S. Argow baptized a convert upon confession of his faith. That same evening the church held a birthday surprise for Mr. Argow and presented him with a radio and lovely fern plant. Mr. Argow spent the Christmas week in Erie, Pa., with his family. The services during the Week of Prayer in the Humboldt Park Church were conducted by Mr. Argow.

● The Rev. W. P. Rueckheim of Chicago, Ill., a member of the Oak Park German Baptist Church, will move to Lilymore, Ill., in March. In Lilymore Mr. Rueckheim has started a Sunday

BIBLE DAY

The observance of this day has been set for February 18th. This is an earlier date than in former years due to the early appearance of Easter.

Please be sure to give this day some observance and don't fail to raise a collection, or make an appropriation, for Bible distribution and our colportage department.

Simple programs have been sent to our Sunday Schools suggestive of a brief service but sufficient for a full hour where such observance is preferred.

If desired, more copies of the program material can be supplied as well as offering envelopes.

GERMAN BAPTIST
PUBLICATION SOCIETY

H. P. Donner,
Business Manager.

School which meets from time to time in the schoolhouse. He has also held a preaching service in the People's Church. He hopes that with God's help this work may grow from small beginnings to great things in God's Kingdom. Such pioneer missionary work by this minister of ours without a charge is to be highly commended.

● The Minnetrista Baptist Church of St. Bonifacius, Minn., experienced days of spiritual uplift during the evangelistic services held from November 20 to December 1. The Rev. Emanuel Wolff of St. Paul, Minn., brought the messages at the services, as a result of which 8 children and 2 adults came forward professing faith in Christ as Savior. The pastor of the church, the Rev. August Lutz, wrote that "it is our sincere desire that this may be the beginning of a spiritual harvest in our vicinity."

● The Rev. William Kuhn, D. D., of Forest Park, Ill., spoke at the Week of Prayer services held in the German Baptist Churches of Scottsbluff, Neb., and of La Salle, Colo., on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, January 9 and 10, respectively. He was on his way to California to attend to several business matters in the interest of the denomination. On Sunday, January 14, he addressed the morning service in the Fifteenth Street Church of Los Angeles and in the evening in the Bethel Church of Anaheim.

● The B. Y. P. U. officers of the Carroll Ave. Baptist Church of Dallas, Tex., for 1940 are as follows: Chris Behr, president; Emil Boettcher, vice-president; Mary Roth, secretary; and Edward Grinke, treasurer. The society has a long and memorable history, having celebrated its 48th anniversary on Saturday evening, December 2, during the Southern Young People's Assembly held in the Dallas Church. The beautifully presented play, "Ba Thane," was the feature of that program. The Rev. William E. Schweitzer is pastor of the church.

● The Baptist Church of La Salle, Colo., enjoyed a busy holiday season over Christmas. About 250 persons attended the Christmas program and 100 people were present for the Watch Night service which was conducted for the first two hours by the young people. For a church with a membership of 82, the attendance at its festival programs is notable, indeed! Beginning with January 15 revival meetings

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Martin L. Leuschner, Editor

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The BAPTIST HERALD

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Number Three

EDITORIAL

SOME PEOPLE endear themselves to our hearts because they are always on the lookout for the beautiful in life. They fix their gaze on the silver linings of the dark clouds. They try to

Looking for the Beautiful in Life.

understand, where others judge rashly and harshly. They speak a kind encouraging word, where others criticize unduly. They single out the merits of another, while all the rest are gloating over some gossip they have heard. Their lives reflect the beauty, which they are always finding in every crevice of life's situations, until we, too, yearn to be like them.

That spirit should be predominantly characteristic of the Christian life. It has experienced the transforming power of the love of God in Christ Jesus. That love, as the apostle Paul tells us, is "always gladdened by goodness, always slow to expose, always eager to believe the best." Judgment of another's acts is left to God, for he alone is omniscient. Such a Christian refuses to be a party to any kind of revenge in deed or thought, because "vengeance belongs alone to the Lord." He is above the sordid, petty, despicable things, which give life its somber colors of tragedy and heartaches, because his walk is with Jesus Christ.

The Master always saw life, not so much in its present state of reality, as in the possibilities of which it was capable with the help of God. Zacchaeus, in his eyes, was not the hard-fisted publican whom his fellow Jews despised but the heroic disciple who would make restitution for all his deeds. The crowd wanted to stone the woman, who had been found in adultery, but Christ saw how the touch of God upon her life would make her radiantly beautiful. Simon, the Pharisee, wanted to throw a woman out into the

street, who had brazenly entered his house, but Christ saw her beautiful heart and said of her: "Her sins, which were many, are forgiven; for she loved much!" Jesus has blazed the trail for his followers by looking for the beautiful in life.

There is an old story about Jesus, which cannot be regarded as actual history, but which embodies the true spirit of the Master. He and his disciples, as they walked along the dusty road, came to a dead dog that lay in the center of the road. Some of the disciples said hastily with disgust: "What an ugly sight!" "How the flies swarm over his body!" "He is covered with dust and dirt!" Then Jesus spoke up and said quietly: "My, what pearly white teeth he has!" This is a picturesque glimpse into Jesus' actual ministry, always looking for the beautiful in life.

How our homes might become like heavens of happiness, if parents and children mutually might make this the ruling practise of their lives! Overlooking the irritations and forgetting their human differences, such members of the Christian family would emphasize the fine and praiseworthy things in each others' lives. The greatest enemy of many a church is the back-biting gossip that slinks like a serpent through its ranks. What a well spring of refreshment and encouragement it is to the minister, if the people, to whom he ministers, will say a kind and commendable word about his message instead of "tearing it to pieces" critically at the dinner table! How eagerly young people respond to the encouragement of some adult, who has seen the possibilities of the beautiful and good in such young lives! How sweet and calm our own lives become when we make this rule of Christ the one by which we live.

This means looking at life with the eyes of Christ. It means to live with his spirit of love. And such a "love never disappears."

FEBRUARY 1940						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Between Two Sundays

By the REV. ERICH E. BONIKOWSKY of Carrington, North Dakota

OUR COMMON Sunday observance reminds one of the story, "The Lost Horizon." This story describes a very secluded valley in the almost impassible mountains of Northern China, where many centuries ago a monastery was built and surrounded by a beautiful village, called Shen-gri-la. The inhabitants had only one rule of life, "Be moderate." Consequently, they lived very happy and long lives. There were no quarrels, but only undisturbed peace. Nature was exquisitely beautiful as a perfect setting for an ideal life.

The greatest desire of these people was to preserve this little paradise, even when a great world catastrophe might wipe out all other cultures. There were the mountains, that protected them from outside invasion. But there was one defect in this little ideal world. It was entirely isolated from the rest of the world. The protecting mountains stole away the horizon. They produced people without a horizon, who lived only for themselves. Hence, the story is called "The Lost Horizon."

The Lost Horizon of Sunday

We are in danger of robbing Sunday of its horizon. Our Sunday observance becomes another "Shen-gri-la," beautiful in itself, ideal, but isolated from the other days of the week and everyday experience. As for me, I have not much



Rev. Erich E. Bonikowsky

trouble in being a Christian on Sunday. The tranquility of the day is conducive to contemplation on the spiritual values of life. I notice also that the people around me are so different on this day. They not only wear Sunday clothes but also Sunday faces. Even their voices are softer, and their vocabulary has improved over night. All seems like brotherly love. So I do not have to look on the calendar as to what day of the week it is. The Sunday spirit is in the air!

On such a day I feel the urge to go to church. There, on the wings of song and music and prayers, I am carried to higher altitudes. Earthly things grow smaller and smaller as I rise. Then, I realize that I am on the mountain top. There seems to be an unearthly radiance about

me. I hear voices of a vanished past, and, more distinctly than ever, the voice of the Master. My heart is stilled by the nearness of heaven. While I listen to the message of a minister, it becomes so real to me that I look up and see Jesus only. But, usually, I myself have the audacity to preach with vigor about the great claims of our Master on our lives and about the reality of living a victorious life every day of the year!

Blue Monday for Christians

There is that common experience, that we awake on Monday morning to face a very realistic world. We have come down as ministers,

not only from the pulpit but also from the mountain top, not necessarily to meet a man who has become a demoniac because of our preaching on Sunday, but our every day self in working clothes with a harder look on his face. We look into the mirror and are convinced that this is Monday.

Other people, we notice, have changed, too. Kindness and love are not quite so evident. On Sunday night it was a revival of the unfittest. Today, in our struggle for bread, it may be "survival of the fittest." Yesterday we taught and learned how to live; today we are concerned only about "making a living." We go out into the dust and despair of the streets and see again the needs and neglects of thronging men, and their harrassed hurry begins to possess us. Sunday is "a lost horizon" on the other days of the week.

Any earnest Christian does realize that living abundantly throughout six days without a Sunday among them is the task of a man. I could not do it, unless I had three definite convictions that keep me spiritually alive until the next Sunday dawns.

"I Have a Father"

First, I have a rich Father. He has the invisible resources of a whole universe at my disposal. He has assured me that the more I give, the more I shall receive. I have tried it hesitatingly a few times, and have found it to be true. So I am led to believe that even when I lose life, he will give me more life. When I am in need on any day of the week (I am on every day) I call on him. When he does not seem to hear me, I seek for him. At the last resort, I knock, and he opens the door. When I speak to him, I do not use philosophic terms, such as "Divine Mind." I plainly call him, "Father," for I know that he cares for me as for a son. He always answers every time. He gives me exactly—no, not what I ask, but what I need most! When his answer is "No," he gives me even something better than I asked for. Because of this experience, I practice his presence daily. Living on such terms with him, makes this otherwise so confusing and cold universe just like a home to me.

"I Have a Friend"

Another secret of mine is that I have a dear Friend. We love life, because there are people whom we love and who love us in return. We live for those who love us. The world would be a lonely place for us, if we had a Father but no brothers and sisters. We are so attached to friends, whom God has given us in this world, that when one dies, a part of our life dies with him. But many people know how bitterly disappointing friendship may be. Human friends are changeable because they are human. Some of them love us only so long as they think us worthy of their love. Loss of friendship brings a lonely week, sometimes a lonely life.

But such loss is not merely to be borne; it is to be used. For one thing, it leads us to rely more on our divine Friend, who is with us always, throughout the week, throughout all of life. He walks with us when we descend from Sunday's mountain into the week's valley. We are told that some day, when our week of life is over, he will lead us even through the valley of the shadows of death. We may be on such intimate terms with this friend, that we may call him by his first name—Jesus. We hesitate to discuss certain problems with other friends, but we may have our daily appointment with him, when we talk over our most intimate problems with him.

How could I wait then until next Sunday! Such daily friendship enriches my life, guides my steps, and sheds glamour on my daily path.

"I Have a Future"

My third secret is that I have a great future. When I begin another morning, whether it gilds the sky or not, I say to myself: "Remember, you do not live for this day only, but for tomorrow." I realize that my "today" will decide my "tomorrow," and so I attempt to live accordingly. Though things of today cause friction and fretting, my happiness should not depend on "happenings."

When it happens, so that in spite of my honest efforts my daily task remains unfinished, I remember the story of a young lady whom I knew well as a small boy. Emeline was an attractive girl with a winsome personality and a good voice. She had prepared a song to sing in church on Palm Sunday. But she never saw the next Sunday dawning nor did she sing the song. On Sunday morning she was found dead on the floor in her home, where her life blood was coloring the wall crimson. Bandits had killed her. The event was a great shock to me at the time, but today I believe she will sing that song on "the Beautiful Isle of Somewhere." All broken songs will be continued then, so that all unfinished tasks may be completed.

This life is only a fragment of the life to be. I expect that the best is yet to be, if I am prepared to face the future. In a word, I want to live every day under the inspiration of eternity. I believe that my Creator meant me to be a soul of eternal worth. Hence, I must try sincerely every day to live up to my high destiny. Eternity, thus, illuminates the darkness of the fleeting hour.

To have a heavenly Father who cares, to live on intimate terms with a Friend divine, and to see the rays of eternity silver-lining the clouds of the common day, this is sufficient inspiration for me, to live from one Sunday to another. Thoughts of a Father, a Friend, and a Future keep me alive! My sympathy goes out to the Christian who lives only on Sunday! For between the Sundays I am going forth on glorious adventures with my God!

Christmas at the Children's Home

A Glowing Report of Colorful Festivities at the St. Joseph Children's Home by Mrs. H. W. Smith

Preparations for the great event of Christmas have been in progress for weeks at the Children's Home in St. Joseph, Mich. There is a locked store room on the second floor, to which Earl has the key and to which he alone has access. One sees packages arrive and carried upstairs intact, and committed to that room of mystery. Expectancy is in the air! Whispered consultations are held here and there. Wishes are expressed, often through a "go-between" as to one's desires. Lengthy lists are prepared and put in "Mom's" hands with great confidence that hopes will be realized.

Of course, there are preliminary festivities and fun that do help to lessen the tension of the suspense. There are, for instance, Sunday School class or department parties with good times and gifts. There are the decorations to put up, outside trees to be wired with colored lights, a blue star to be put over the front door and a cross on top of the flagpole in red lights. The beautiful trees for inside (a large one for the dining room and a smaller one for the living room corner) are set up and decked handsomely with realistic snow and ice and with blue lights to make them look cold and misty when lighted.

And the good people, far away in the Dakotas, in Kansas, in California and in many other places, have been sending such good things to eat—chickens, sausages, smoked and fresh pork, beef, and ducks, and lots of homemade cookies, nuts and fruit and canned goods—all because it's Christmas and they are full of good will toward the boys and girls of the Children's Home in St. Joseph!

For about a week before Christmas, after the bountiful meals, "Pa" Steiger begins to call for Scripture verses referring to the birth of the Savior. Verses, that have been committed to memory during the year relating to this theme, are now assembled in order, beginning with Gen. 3:15, and all that Moses and the prophets wrote concerning the Christ. The words of some familiar carols are taught to those who do not know them. Then they are rehearsed and practiced, so that every one will be able to take part in that phase of the program.

Christmas cards and letters have begun to arrive for various members of the family. Notices of expected visitors' arrivals are announced, and callers multiply. Mrs. Steiger's sister, Mrs. Smith, the missionary from Burma, well known to all but the newest children, arrives with her family from



Smiles Come to the Children's Faces When It Snows at St. Joseph, Michigan

Iowa City to spend the holidays here. Miss Edith Gutzeit, one of the distinguished alumnae, now engaged in welfare work in Harrisburg, Pa., is also a house guest.

All of these, being former children of the Home, and still counted members of the family, fall easily into the routine and lend a helping hand wherever needed. The "Smith Brothers," as medical students, are pressed into service on cuts, scratches, and all such minor injuries and disinfecting jobs. Peggy, who loves little folks, is always on hand to help them with Bible verses, and carols, and the numerous services they like to require of a willing friend. And so each one is fully occupied until the last minute.

Sunday, December 24, is a day that has its own special significance, for it is "church-going day." The morning worship service is a delight in every way. In the evening there is a Christmas program of the right sort, in which all departments of the Sunday School are represented and in which our Lord is honored. It is an enjoyable and fitting prelude to the REAL Christmas, for which we of the Home have been "simply waiting."

At last it is mid-afternoon on Christmas Day, December 25. The orders at the dinner table were explicit that no one of the children was to be around upstairs after three o'clock,

and such orders are still obeyed around here. Earl and a few chosen helpers are making many trips to and from the locked room to the dining room—with loaded arms! Visitors are being ushered into the living room where all the chairs have been arranged.

Promptly at four o'clock the bell rings, and soon the room is full to overflowing. Every chair is taken and still the visitors keep coming. The program, with "Pa" Steiger presiding, begins with a carol, led by Mr. Bradley, another alumnus, and with Earl at the piano playing the accompaniment.

The chairman of the board of managers, Mr. C. J. Netting, is an annual visitor from Detroit. With him is Mrs. Netting and a daughter from Benton Harbor. The chairman of the local committee, Mr. Max Stock, whose appropriate gift each year is stockings for all the children, is present. The superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. Peterson, is here with his wife. He has brought a fine radio as a gift to the Home, from the Sunday School. The secretary of the Y. M. C. A. with a part of his family, several ministers, a number of parents and other relatives of the children, quite a number of "oldtimers," living near by who could not miss this occasion, are among those present. Not to be forgotten is little Patsy Ann, a grandchild, who has won all hearts with her cute ways and who feels much at home here.

The program proceeds. The Christmas story is read again in all its simple beauty from the sacred page. Prayer is offered by one of the alumnae, its chief note being thanksgiving and praise. "Pa" Steiger speaks on the meaning of this day of great joy, and then a few "oldtimers" tell of past experiences and festivities. A last song is sung with a gay note, and then the rush across the hall to the dining room where each child finds his or her place at the table piled high with gifts—the final consummation of high hopes and great expectations!

All have been admonished to keep all tags and labels and in no wise to allow them to be lost or to get mixed up in the opening of gifts. Each present must be acknowledged, and thanks must be sent to the generous and thoughtful donors. Can you imagine it possible that there would be no slip-up, no accidental loss or misplacement of these tags, with so many children, so many parcels, so much excitement and turmoil? Surely, that would be a superhuman achievement even for this

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What's Happening News

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were held with the first week conducted in German to be followed by a week or so of English services. The Rev. Carsten H. Seecamp, pastor, brought the evangelistic messages.

● On Thursday evening, December 28, the North Donna Baptist Church of Donna, Texas, pleasantly surprised its pastor, the Rev. L. Hoeffner, on the occasion of his birthday. Soon the usually so quiet parsonage was filled with members and friends, who came to greet the pastor with their birthday song. Mr. D. W. Heidland, the senior deacon took charge and spoke briefly in behalf of the church and friends. He also presented to the pastor an envelope in which there were birthday greetings and a gift of money. The evening was then spent in social fellowship.

● Mr. Harvey Heckman of St. Paul, Minn., a member of the First German Baptist Church of the city, has been selected to take over the responsibility of directing the activities of the Ramsey County Sunday School Association in the Twin Cities for the first eight or nine months of 1940. Mr. Heckman began his new duties on January 1, 1940. He will return to the University of Minnesota to finish his architectural course in the Fall. Mr. Heckman is the author of the interesting article and report about the World Conference of Christian Youth held last summer in Amsterdam, Holland, which appeared in the January 1, 1940, issue of "The Baptist Herald" under the title, "The World's Questioning Youth."

● Mr. Walter S. Schaible of Forth Worth, Texas, the council member of the Southern Conference for the National Y. P. and S. S. W. Union, recently visited all the churches of the conference in the interest of our Rochester seminary. In almost every church he gave the illustrated seminary lecture prepared by Prof. A. A. Schade. From October 15 to December 17 he visited the Waco, Gatesville, Cottonwood, Dallas, Hurnville, Kyle, Crawford, and Greenvine churches. Everywhere he found a profound interest in the seminary mission project, in which the churches provided Sunday dinners for the seminary students over a number of weeks.

● The members of the World Wide Guild of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Kankakee, Ill., recently entertained the Sadie Robbins Chapter of the First Baptist Church of the city at a "Fellowship Get-together." The meeting was opened with group singing of the old guild songs and a devotional period. The guest speakers, Miss Alethea Kose and two girls from the Bap-

tist Missionary Training School in Chicago, brought glimpses of the school and the background, work and ambitions of the students. "Later in the evening, refreshments were served and an enjoyable time was spent meeting old acquaintances and making new friends," according to the secretary, Miss Lillian Hennings.

● On Sunday, December 3, Mr. Elmer Dingfield of Tacoma, Wash., president of the Pacific Northwest Y. P. and S. S. W. Union, visited the German Baptist Church of American Falls and its mission station at Paul, of which the Rev. A. Stelter is pastor. He went on to Chicago and Forest Park, Ill., where he visited the missionary headquarters and to Detroit for a visit with his former pastor, the Rev. George A. Lang. On his return trip he spent a day each at Missoula, Mont., and Spokane, Wash. He also visited the Colfax Church in the interest of the Pacific Northwest Union. Elmer Dingfield wrote that his "trip proved to be very interesting, exciting and encouraging!"

● The B. Y. P. U. of the Oak Park Baptist Church in Forest Park, Ill., has been exceedingly busy with religious activities in recent weeks. During the Christmas season the young people went carolling, held a program in the Chicago Home for the Aged, presented a play at the Sunday School program, and attended a Christmas party in the home of their president, Mr. Harold Johns. At the Watch Night service of the church, the B. Y. P. U. was in charge of the first hour with the Messrs. John Baumgart, Gerhard Koch, Frederick Dons and Harold Johns speaking. The B. Y. P. U. also had a part in the Fiftieth Jubilee program of the church on Tuesday evening, January 23, when the Sunday School and young people had charge of the service.

● The Walnut St. Baptist Church of Newark, N. J., finished 1939 and began 1940 auspiciously with a fine Watch Night service on Sunday evening, December 31. The Rev. John P. Kuehl, pastor, extended the right hand of fellowship into church membership to 11 new members. Three of the new members came by letter and the remaining eight through confession of their faith in Christ as Savior. The pastor preached on the subject of "Finishing to Begin," stressing the possibilities of a life devoted more fully to Christ in 1940, at the conclusion of which the Lord's Supper was commemorated. A fine attendance, which doubled previous attendances at Watch Night services reaped spiritual blessings from this inspirational service.

● In December the Men's Brotherhood of the Oak Street Church was organized with the following officers elected: president, Emil Hemmye; vice-president, Henry Bohlen; secretary, Victor Siems; treasurer, William Lohman. At the following meeting of the brotherhood on January 8, the guest speaker was the chaplain from the penitentiary at Fort Madison. Forty-two workers of the church made a systematic survey of the North Hill area, calling at nearly 2700 homes in the three weeks of December before Christmas in the interest of the Oak Street Church and Sunday School. Miss Amanda Kruse of Lorraine, Kans., a missionary in Nigeria, Africa, was the guest speaker at the service on Wednesday evening, January 3. The Rev. Alfred R. Bernadt is pastor of the church.

● Rev. Hugo Lueck, teacher and leader of the Baptist Seminary in Lodz, Poland, who was stranded in the United States at the outbreak of the European war, is recently speaking in many of the German Baptist churches. For several Sundays in November he was in Cleveland where he spoke in the pulpits of the White Ave. and Erin Ave. churches. On Sunday, December 17, he served the Bethany Church of Milwaukee, Wis., and repeated his visit on Sunday, January 7. On Sunday morning, December 24, and at the Watch Night service he addressed the North Avenue Church of Milwaukee. On Sunday, December 31, at both the morning and evening services he was the guest speaker at the Immanuel Church of Milwaukee. In Chicago, Ill., he addressed the First German Baptist Church, of which the Rev. John Schmidt is pastor, on Sunday, January 14.

● The Rev. H. F. Hoops of Los Angeles, Calif., who recently spent 68 days in the Hospital of the Good Samaritan because of a serious infection has fully recovered and is again at home. In a lengthy epistle to the editorial offices he wanted to express his appreciation to his many friends who sent him greetings to the hospital. A paragraph from his warm hearted letter follows: "How glad and happy I was, when I became able to read my Bible, and pore over the many written messages friends had written to me at the house and to the hospital, but which I could not read during the earlier weeks of my hospitalization, when I was too weak to even attempt to peruse them. Due to the dazed condition in which pain-alleviating drugs, that were administered, kept me, I hardly could comprehend their content, even when they were read to me by my daughter on her regular visits to the hospital. But weeks afterward, I literally lapped up every precious word of those sympathetic communications, and feasted, too, on the Word of God, especially during the night watches."

B. Y. P. U. Topics and Programs

Edited by the REV. WILLIAM L. SCHOEFFEL of Cleveland, Ohio

Sunday, March 3, 1940

WITH CHRIST THROUGH SAMARIA

Scripture Lesson: Luke 9:51-62.

Preparation

The next few weeks will bring us face to face with far reaching events and momentous decisions in the earthly ministry of our Lord. A careful perusal of the scripture passages is most essential. In the meeting previous to this one, suggest a careful reading and outline of the ninth, tenth and eleventh chapters of Luke's gospel as well as the fourth in the gospel of John. It would be well, indeed, to write this outline on the blackboard before the service. Then have it understood that instead of a speaker treating the topic, everyone is expected to share the thoughts and impressions received while studying these passages. Appoint someone to give a short historical sketch of the "Samaritans" as a necessary background.

1. The Shadow of the Cross

There is a determined purpose of Christ coming more and more to the surface and profoundly influencing his ministry, a seriousness that even his disciples could not explain. In Luke 9:45 we are told plainly, that his disciples did not understand his saying about his inevitable suffering. How could they? His face was set toward Jerusalem and nothing, not even his best friends, could change his course. Why? Because he had the conviction that it was his Father's will and plan, and though the shadow of the cross assumed more sinister proportions he, nevertheless, pursued his course. One cannot read these passages without the deep impression how fully and completely Jesus was consecrated and surrendered to his heavenly father. Anything less than that would surely have caused him to change his course or even seek to avoid the conflict at Jerusalem.

2. Discourses on the Way

A deep note of seriousness characterizes the journey of Jesus from this point on. At an earlier occasion, when he and the disciples were charged with a spirit of levity by the Pharisees, he points to their happy fellowship, comparing it to a bridal party. (Luke 5:14.) Now one is deeply impressed by an atmosphere of seriousness and urgency, a feeling that the end is not far off. With this in mind read about the mission of the seventy. (Lk. 10:1-24.) The disciples were to be about their business and "greet no one by the

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Song Service:

"Come We that Love the Lord."

"Living For Jesus."

"I Love to Tell the Story."

Hymn Story and Interpretation:

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory."

(Let the piano play this hymn softly during this interpretation.)

Scripture Lesson:

Musical Selection.

A Season of Prayer.

(Have a number of sentence prayers and appoint someone in advance to close the season with prayer.)

Hymn:

"The Old Rugged Cross."

Sharing our Thoughts and Impressions

Brief Talk by the Leader

Closing Hymn:

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus."

Helpful Books:

Smith, "Lyric Religion."

Baile, "The Gospel in Art."

Maus, "Christ and the Fine Arts."

"Abingdon Bible Commentary."

Glover, "With the Twelve."

Poteat, "They Shared His Passion."

Rall, "The Life of Jesus."

Smith, "In the Days of His Flesh."

Plays and Pageants:

Marsh, "The Challenge of the Cross."

Wilson, "The Way of the Cross."

Bayly, "The Way of Life."

Field, "Pontius Pilate."

way," because oriental customs took much time and, hence, delay. It is discovered in the challenges of Jesus to those who would follow him. His own urgency is so great that he does not stop in towns or villages, but, if night overtakes him, he simply rests under the open sky like Jacob with a stone for his pillow. (9:58.) Under such conditions he can not offer any material promises or blessings. He would not even permit one man to say farewell to his own family. "We haven't time for that," he seems to say, "our business is too important and urgent." At the same time there is a real note of joy when the seventy return. Facing the cross he, nevertheless, believes and is assured of ultimate victory, for when he sees Satan falling from heaven, he knows even his suffering will end in victory.

3. Through Samaria

That was, indeed, a challenging act for him, especially since his face was set toward Jerusalem. For a Jew that was not only an unpleasant experience but he was even in danger of being ceremoniously defiled. Perhaps John gives us the true interpretation of this act of Christ in the fourth verse, the fourth chapter: "And he must needs go through Samaria." There was a real purpose. The Samaritans, regardless of their enmity, needed the gospel. Jesus does here what he again and again did, as he throws all customs overboard and carries out his Father's plan. Not only the Jews but also the Samaritans must hear the gospel. It is noteworthy that in the mission of the twelve they are charged to go to the cities and villages of the Jews only, but here Christ himself enters Samaria and charges the seventy to go everywhere.

The preaching of the gospel is our duty and responsibility, given to us by Christ himself, and only Christ himself may relieve us of such responsibilities. Paul, fiercely attacked by his enemies who dared to challenge his apostleship, again and again states his case: "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ." Yes, we are ambassadors of Christ, and with his help let us preach the gospel in season and out of season, to every one, in all the corners of the world. God will take care of the harvest.

4. The Good Samaritan

What a contrast this parable is over against the prejudice of the Jews and the intolerance of James and John. Everyone would expect that the priest or levite would practice neighborliness and charity. No one expected of the Samaritan such compassion. Yet, only he possessed it. The question is not "who proved himself a neighbor?" but "to whom can I show myself a neighbor?" That is, indeed, a worthy question to ponder over as we go back to our daily task and occupation.

Sunday, March 10, 1940

WITH CHRIST AT BETHANY

Scripture Lesson: Luke 10:38-42.

Read also John 11:1; 12:1; Matt. 21:17; Mark 11:11. Have someone look up in "The Dictionary of Christ" and the gospels or any other good reliable "Bible Dictionary" the description of the village of Bethany. The word itself is interesting. Its significance is "house of the prairie" or "house of the poplar." It was a village not far from Jerusalem.

(Continued on Page 60)

Books to be Cherished and Loved

Personal Testimonies of Favorite Books by Young People of the Denomination

The Bible, the History of God's Redemption

By Vernon C. Heckman
of Minneapolis, Minnesota

"We search the world for truth, we cull
The good, the pure, the beautiful,
From graven stone and written scroll,
From the old flower-fields of the soul,
And, weary seekers for the best,
We come back laden from our quest,
To find that all the sages said
Is in the Book our mothers read."
John Greenleaf Whittier.

No matter what your taste is in reading, you are likely to find in the Bible the type that you like best. Prose, poetry, adventure, narration, history, biography, hymns, philosophy, and sermons are to be found in this beautifully diversified library. Although it is all of the above, I believe that it is principally a book of history. By that I mean, not a history of the world, or the Hebrew people, but a history of redemption. Whatever bears on the redemption of sinful man finds a place in the Bible. All else, although interesting and valuable, is of lesser importance.

God, after creating the world and man to inhabit it, looked down in mercy upon him whenever he disobeyed, sinned, or drifted away from his Creator. Yes, sometimes there was punishment for sin, but there was also frequent evidence of a loving Father who redeemed his own from the throes of evil. God made his sun to shine on the just and unjust. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." When Christ ascended on high to be with the Father and to intercede for man, God sent his Holy Spirit to minister unto man and thereby gave him power to witness for Christ in this world fettered with sin.

Briefly, that is the history of redemption as I find it in the Bible. But in a certain sense that history does not finish when the scriptures stop. God has proved himself "the living God" who has not said his last word on any subject or put his finishing touch on any task. Therefore, my friend, if you read his Book, I believe it will start something in your life which will constantly progress and unfold until that day when Christ shall come again in glory.

John Bunyan's Immortal "Pilgrim's Progress"

By Florence E. Schiapt
of Canton, Ohio

The Christian life, says St. Paul, is a struggle "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of

darkness . . . against spiritual wickedness in high places. John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" made this truth strikingly real to me. By means of personification and symbolism the opponents and difficulties, which a Christian meets all through life, become most vivid.

"The ease that pilgrims have is but little, in this life," Christian discovers. Much of his way lies through such places as the Slough of Despond, the Valley of Humiliation, the Hill of Difficulty. Memorable is the incident where Christian and his good friend, Hopeful, leave the King's Highway to go through By-Path Meadow, and find themselves in the territory ruled by Giant Despair. After being prisoners in the dark dungeons of Doubting Castle for several days, Christian suddenly remembers the key, "Promise," hidden in his bosom, which opens the locks in Doubting Castle for them.

In his talks with such "persons" as Envy, Ignorance, Mr. Talkative, Mr. Worldly-Wise, and others, Christian expounds the reasons for his faith and belief. His most dangerous opponent, Apollyon, he also overcomes with his sword of the spirit, the Word of God. Reading this book thoughtfully, one is compelled to compare his own reactions to temptations and dangers with those of the Pilgrim. To me it was a searching self-revelation.

Is the struggle of the Christian life really worthwhile? The triumphal entry of Christian into the Celestial City, with which the book closes, definitely answers that question in the affirmative.

To one interested in the exposition of great truths, couched in striking symbolisms and in beautiful language, resembling the Holy Scriptures in majesty, this grand allegory and immortal book, "The Pilgrim's Progress," is highly recommended.

Ben-Hur, a Tale of the Christ

By Angeline Socolofsky
of Shattuck, Oklahoma

"Ben-Hur," a tale of the Christ, will long remain in the corridors of my memory. To me it is perhaps the most fascinating and most vivid of all the stories of our Savior. After having read this beautiful, as well as heart-rending story, of the One who gave his life for the world, one cannot help but love him more and strive to live a life such as would be precious in his sight.

The story of the nativity is beautifully portrayed. One is given to wondering at the explicit faith of the wise men, who traveled from the ends of

the earth to worship the Redeemer. In trust and through prayer they sought him—Gaspar, the Greek; Balthasar, the Egyptian; and Melchior, the Hindoo.

Very near the beginning of the story, Ben-Hur comes into the picture. He is an Israelite lad, living with his mother and sister in the quaint home that is typical of that land. They are very happy together.

It happened that at the time of the royal entry of the new procurator of Judea, Valerius Gratus, Ben-Hur and his sister, Tirzah, stood on the roof of their home, in order better to see the procession as it passed. Ben-Hur, in his excitement, rested his hand upon a cracked tile. The pressure was strong enough to displace the tile, and it fell upon the procurator. Thinking that the act had been intentionally done and giving no time for explanation, the enraged Romans rushed to the house-top and seized Ben-Hur. His mother and sister, too, were snatched from him and were taken to the Tower of Antonia.

For three years Ben-Hur was a galley slave. As he labored here his thoughts were ever with his loved ones. He mused—"Are they among the dead or are they still living? If living—where can they be and how great is their anguish?" It was by the hand of Quintus Arrius, the Roman tribune, that Ben-Hur was finally freed.

Lew Wallace, the author, has given us so many stirring accounts. Some of the outstanding ones are "The Chariot Race," "Christ's Healing the Lepers" (among these were Ben-Hur's mother and sister), and the "Crucifixion."

I was much impressed with the reading of the life of a noble character such as Ben-Hur's. He was chief among them who sought to protect the One who was coming to be the "King of the Jews." When it was revealed to Ben-Hur that Christ was a Savior of souls rather than an "Earthy King," he believed and became an earnest Christian.

At the crucifixion, Ben-Hur, who was so willing to bring aid to his Master, looked into the face of the One who said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." I cannot help but wonder if, in that face, Ben-Hur did not see the dear, loving eyes of the child who offered him a drink of water, years before, as he was being taken to the galley as a slave. At that time all others were his enemies—and then a child brought water to him from a well and that Child was Jesus!

Blaze Star

By Paul Hutchens

SYNOPSIS

Dale Mars, a popular radio announcer, answered a letter from one of his radio fans and found, much to his surprise, an elderly invalid who wanted him to read from the Bible, just as he did over the ether waves, and to help him to tune in on station LIFE. That same evening Dale made the acquaintance of Nova, the daughter, who served as her mother's nurse. Dale became deeply interested in Nova and began to neglect Adalene Waring, a stenographer in the radio office, who was trying hard to be attractive to Dale. After a busy morning of broadcasting, Dale was overjoyed to find a letter from Nova in the mail. His excitement soon subsided when he learned that it merely announced that he had left his fountain pen at her home. "Only if he should care to call for it—!"

CHAPTER FIVE

He thought for a moment of Adalene Waring, remembering that the fountain pen had been a gift from her last Christmas. It was that gift that had awakened him to the realization that she was beginning to think too much of him and that she had no doubt considered his attentions as meaning much more than they did.

And here he was, still keeping company with her, perhaps getting in deeper and deeper! Why, Adalene, little fool, might be madly in love with him. Strange he hadn't thought of that before!

He stored the letter away in the car dash, whence he drew his bathing suit. The air was heavy and very hot, almost oppressive. It might perhaps rain this afternoon, or tonight. But his thoughts were not of rain or of the sultry atmosphere, but of the girl he should see tonight at eight o'clock. Not once in his thinking did he remember that he was scheduled to call at the Brownstone Waring residence at half past seven and that he and Adalene were to spend the evening somewhere together.

It was eleven-thirty o'clock in the Orriston. Nova, standing beside the radio in her mother's room, was facing the window when the big gray car drew up at the curb. She had found the pen and dispatched the letter to its owner earlier in the morning. There was a brand new voice at the micro-

phone at KEL now. Perhaps Dale would come this morning, she had thought, and she was a little disappointed at the prospect, for it seemed more romantic for a young man to call in the evening.

But here he was! She turned quickly and hurried from the room. When the buzzer sounded and his voice came through the speaking tube, she wondered at its quality. It did not sound at all as it had last night nor as it did over the radio, yet there was a strange familiarity. She was puzzled. She could hear the lower door open and his steps coming hurriedly up the stairs. She opened the hall door, smiled a friendly greeting, stepped back for him to enter, then went suddenly pale as she exclaimed: "Ken!"

Her thoughts flew back to the hospital where she had first known Kenneth Remsen—he an interne and she a student nurse.

Debonair, auburn-haired, daintily-mustached, young Dr. Remsen flashed her a brilliant smile that revealed a row of gleaming white teeth and carved deep dimples in either cheek. Copying her tone, he exclaimed, "Nova Anita Louverne!"

He stepped across the threshold, hat in hand, his laughing brown eyes appraising her in undisguised approval. "You're more beautiful than ever," he said, and she blushed furiously at the compliment. She was too surprised to speak, too utterly overwhelmed.

"My internship is over at last," he explained, "and I am a free man, Kenneth Remsen, Bachelor of Arts, Doctor of Medicine, twenty-seven, single, eligible! I've come to carry you away. My prancing steed is just outside."

He was the same as she had known him at the hospital—dashing, complacent, courteous. He had a way of overwhelming her, of making her feel that she was the most glamorous, most desirable woman in the world. Also, he had a way of making her very unhappy. Always when she had been with him, she had felt a rising up within her of a feeling of bondage to self, of abandonment of that self to worldly pursuits, a dimming of her vision of things spiritual.

At this moment when her thoughts were of Dale Mars, when only a few moments before she had been concentrating upon her lessons in soul winning, seeing Ken was a distinct shock. Two Bible passages which she had me-

morized only this morning had been especially precious. Both were under the heading, "Conditions of Success in Soul Winning."

The first had been under the sub-heading, "A Fully Surrendered Life." How rich and satisfying, that verse: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Under the second sub-heading: "A Life Clean Within and Without," the verse was: "If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and meet for the Master's use and prepared unto every good work." The context of that verse indicated that the truly separated life involved a separation of one's self from worldly companions as well as worldly indulgences.

She had been away from Ken long enough now to appreciate the freedom won by separation. The closer she had walked with Christ the more certain she had been that she must never allow herself to fall in love with Kenneth Remsen. For to marry him would mean, eventually, wealth, social position and the temptation to a life of ease entirely apart from the will of God. Not that wealth or social influence could not be of service in the Kingdom, for they could, but as the wife of a famous surgeon—for he would surely become such—she would be expected to drift out and out with the social tide—dancing, cards, cocktails, wasteful luxuries, emptiness.

From all this her soul shrank in scorn, when fellowship with Christ was hers. But all this tinsel had shone like gold and silver and precious stones when hued with the colors of earth's rainbow—when she had allowed herself to fall under the sway of Kenneth Remsen.

But was Dale Mars any more a Christian than he? Was Dale Mars a Christian at all? Perhaps not, but she had read in his face last night, after his talk with Mother and after he had listened to her playing, something that made her believe that, like Zaccheus of old, he was seeking to see Jesus. And it did not take for a seeking Savior and seeking sinner to meet: "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which is lost."

Dale Mars' fountain pen was in her hand, his name engraved on a little

gold band on the outside. For a moment, her eyes left those of Kenneth Remsen and fell to her trembling hands. She could feel his power over her and was afraid.

His eyes followed hers and his face fell as if he had been struck. Had he read the name? Did he know Dale Mars? Had he read her thoughts?

"Come," she said. "I want you to meet Mother."

"Of course," he said. "How is she?"

"As bright as ever, only a little more so, perhaps."

"Mother," she announced, leading the way into the room, "this is Dr. Remsen, whom I knew at the hospital. Dr. Remsen, my mother."

He bowed, flashed his usual brilliant smile, started visibly when he saw her hands.

"And how are you today, Mrs. Louverne?" His voice was too professional, Nova thought.

Maria Louverne's answer was cheerful, her face lighting up in its usual manner. "I am having the time of my life," she said. "This morning, just before sunrise, there was the most beautiful music just outside my window. When I first awakened it was barely light enough to see, and there was a vacuum-like stillness. Then all of a sudden—I hadn't heard a wood thrush in years—all of a sudden, as clear as an aeolian harp, I heard him strumming, 'Uoli . . . aeolee . . . uoli . . . aeolee,' with a little pause between each tone. I don't think I was ever so thrilled in hearing him before. Such rare quality, such rich, rolling vibrance—I think the Heavenly Father sent him to sing just for me, don't you?"

There was a quick convulsing of her face muscles as pain caught her unawares, as it always did, and made her wince.

But to Maria Louverne it was as if nothing had happened, for she said, "After he had played for me a few minutes, a robin joined him, then a song sparrow and a house wren; and soon I was listening to a whole symphony. There is only one thing more beautiful, Dr. Remsen, and that is when Nova plays the hymns. Bird voices are heaven's music in imitation, but Nova's playing of the old hymns is like heaven itself."

"Your mother is adorable," Ken told her a half hour later when they were sitting in a quiet little nook in a downtown cafe. "I can't blame you for loving her as you do and for wanting to take care of her."

Nova found herself looking rather helplessly into those blue eyes, so clear and appealing. He had never seemed more handsome than today. Snow white shirt; red-brown tie to match his wavy hair; single-breasted, medium-blue coat and white trousers; his almost too perfect teeth gleaming below

his daring little mustache; the dimples in his cheeks playing with every spoken word, every laugh, every smile. But his talk was worldly talk: of Kenneth Remsen mostly and of his success in the operating room; of the lovely new home he expected to have some day, the acclaim that would come to him and to the woman who would share his life with him. It was all very wonderful. It appealed to her love of beauty and success and attention. It was complimentary to have a man like Kenneth Remsen propose to her, plead with her, almost.

Last week—this morning even—she had thought she was dead to all this. Last night when she had walked under the stars, her Christ had seemed so real, her future in His service assured! "Blaze Star." Ablaze at all times with the radiance of true womanhood, flaring up with fresh new glow in every emergency whenever light was needed most—that had been her resolve last night. And with what joy she had resolved it! How she had loved Him, her Savior!

And today, only a few hours later, when the emergency had arisen, instead of shining for Him, it seemed her light was growing dim. She looked helplessly into his eyes and felt herself enshrouded in total darkness.

She must not let this happen to her! This was playing with nitroglycerin! Having Ken so near, so attractive, so earnest in his appeal, was like lighting the fuse attached to a high explosive. Rather, it was the burning of that fuse, the sputtering fire creeping nearer and nearer with every fleeting second. She must be rid of him, send him away. This feeling for him was not love but infatuation, for true love would not take away the Light of Life, for God was both love and light, and these two did not conflict.

Like a flash of sheet lightning in a sky smothered with black clouds, the verse of the morning flashed into her memory: "If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and meet for the Master's use, and prepared unto every good work." But it was only a lightning flash and all was dark again.

What was he saying now? Something about Mother being unusually cheerful for one who was so old and so full of pain and so very near the end? She caught the last phrase and said, "Dr. Rogers says it will be only four months!"

"And then?"

She wished he hadn't said it like that. She felt sorry for him when he added, "You will be free then and you will have no excuse for keeping me waiting."

But he had said it and the ugly flaw in his character lay exposed like an old wound unhealed. She saw it and shuddered, pitying him, yet somehow glad

that she had discovered it: it would make it easier for her to refuse him. Even if he were in love with her he should not be so unsympathetic toward her—mother!

He must have interpreted her thoughts for he immediately apologized. "I'm sorry, Nova. That was unfair, unsympathetic." And she wished he hadn't apologized for when she looked again the old wound was healed, and she found herself liking him once more, and under his spell.

"For old time's sake," he ventured, "let's take a spin around the city and out into the country. I'm staying over tonight; I am to assist Dr. Rogers in a major operation tomorrow morning at the hospital. I've engaged a room at the Stanton."

"I go on duty at three," she informed him. "From three until midnight tonight."

He frowned. "Can't you get a substitute? I'd like to have you all to myself today. You aren't under hospital rules now, you know."

"Oh, I couldn't possibly. Besides, Mother has a visitor at three and I have to be there to help. It's very important."

"But you'll let me drive you around a bit."

There was really no reason why she shouldn't. Besides she wanted a little more time to think, and some other place to talk where she did not have to wonder if someone might overhear or some passing waitress see and read her facial expression.

And while they drove and talked, and she pointed out to him various places of interest, she planned her escape. If it were true, as Dr. Rogers had said—and she would have to believe it—that Mother could live only four months—then she could no longer use that as an excuse to Ken for not marrying him. She could not say to him as she had said so many times before, "I could not think of marrying any man while Mother needs me so."

But was there not another reason a thousand times greater? Why should she shrink from telling him? Why indeed, unless because when she was with him, the light of Nova Louverne lost its glow and faded away into nothingness!

They were out in the country now. "That's our new transmitting station," she told him, indicating a low building at the left with a network of antennae stretched high across the top of tall towers.

"I know. You've recently been given a new wave length, I believe, and have doubled your power. I sometimes listen in. Nice little programs you put on."

"You ought to go on the air yourself, Nova,—I've always said so—with talent like that. How would this sound? 'Ladies and Gentlemen, you will now be entertained in a fifteen minute pia-

no recital by Mrs. Kenneth Remsen, wife of the famous . . . By the way, who is the man with the orange blossoms in his voice—what's his name?"

"You mean—? What is his name?"—Oh," she interrupted herself, "that's the famous Brownstone Waring nurseries over there. We've lived in Dresden only a little over a year, but already we've come to consider it our own city. One day last spring I brought Mother here and wheeled her all over the grounds. If there's anything she loves more than music, it's flowers and birds and every green and living thing."

They were on Brown Avenue now, nearing the city park. He copied her tone impatiently as he said, "And yonder in the center of that lawn is Mr. Brownstone Waring's special strain of Colorado blue spruce, I suppose!"

"Haven't you a park around here somewhere, where we can park and really talk?"

She knew now that she might as well face it. She hoped he would take his medicine like a man. She gathered the scattered fragments of her will, molded them quickly into something resembling poise, breathed one faltering, wordless prayer, conscious of the fact that it was almost impossible to pray when in the company of Kenneth Remsen, hoping that her very helplessness and her feeble desire to do God's will might be interpreted by Him as prayer—knowing that it would.

They parked in the shade of a maple near the tennis courts. He shut off the motor and led her to a secluded bench far enough away from the courts not to be noticed. He seated her graciously in his old debonair manner and sat down beside her.

For a long time he sat feasting his eyes upon her, smoking and thinking, clearing the track of his mind for a quick streamlined dash straight for the heart of Nova Anita Louverne.

Smash!
Crash!
Thud!

Wham! . . . Thud! . . . Smash! . . . The white clad, bare armed, bare headed, sun-tanned opponents on the tennis court were playing as if it were a championship game. The score for the flag set stood at 5-4 in favor of Jerry Flagler. If he should win this particular game, the set would be his. If Dale Mars should win, the score would stand at five all, making it a deuce set, in which case it might take the rest of the afternoon to finish it, for these two were evenly matched.

For fifteen minutes now the score for the game had been first forty all, then advantage in, then deuce game, then advantage in—or out. Always it came back to deuce. Jerry was serving, using a vicious driving ball that curved unexpectedly just beyond the net and dropped unbelievably short of the an-

tipated place, and rolled after striking the ground.

"We're deuce, again," he called across the net.

"The deuce we are!" Dale cried cheerily. Whew, it was hot! He ran a forefinger across his brow and tossed off the perspiration. He knew in the way a player knows such things, without feeling too proud of himself, that he was playing better than usual today. For in his imagination he had placed Nova Louverne in her gay little nurse's uniform—minus her cap—on the green bench over by the drinking fountain. She was watching the game, which, also in his imagination, was one in which rival players duelled for her hand in marriage. A silly thing to imagine perhaps, but then there was no harm in it, and it did make a difference in his playing. The only difficulty was that once having seated her there, he must concentrate on the game, rather than upon her.

The planet of Mars, astronomers had discovered, had no satellites, no secondary planets revolving around it. But the man Mars—Dale Mars—with tennis balls flying back and forth over the net with terrific speed and skill . . .

Yonder on the bench shone Nova, Blaze Star, aglow with beauty and excitement, and with an appeal that he had never felt in any other woman.

Once more Jerry was ready to serve. He stood poised, the ball in his left hand, the racket in his right. The first ball had gone wild. Dale knew, from that particular pose, that the serve would be a long slow curve. He stood far back from the net, racket in readiness, crouching, waiting, nerves aquiver. Jerry's long, left arm tossed the ball high, his racket cut through the air in a wide arch and struck the ball with a terrific smash. It sizzled across the net like a bullet straight toward Dale's feet. It would go outside, Dale decided. He jumped, spread his legs apart to let it pass, heard it strike the woven-wire backstop behind him and turned to look for it.

"It went through!" Jerry cried. "Yonder it goes out across the park. If this were baseball that would have been a home run!"

Dale's eyes caught it just as it struck the side of a tree, glanced off and went bouncing over the grass and down the hill. "I'll get it!" he shouted, and dashed after it, a satellite flying off on a tangent, and Mars breaking from its orbit and hurtling after it!

Dale Mars . . . Nova Louverne . . . Nova Louverne Mars . . . Mrs. Dale Mars . . . Tonight he would call for his fountain pen, and he would listen once more to her playing. Perhaps she would invite him to sing with her. The yearning in his heart made him hope that her selection would be a hymn. Also, he desired greatly to sit as a pupil at the feet of the wizened little old lady whose fingers had once run with

fairy lightness over the piano keys, but were now coiled into hopeless knots of bone and withered flesh. Ah! but she understood the knotty problems of life and she knew the One Who could untangle them all.

And then he saw Nova, and she him. Luminous violet eyes, and serious brown ones. The brown ones went suddenly green with envy, for they had seen also a smooth-shaven, dimpled, daintily mustached man whose attention was riveted with the eyes of a lover upon Nova Louverne. Instantly Dale disliked him. He was too handsome, he thought. He hated the glaring mustache, plastered like a plucked eyebrow under his too perfect nose. He hated the deep dimples, the perfect complexion, the suave manner. He had seen it all in one quick glance.

Nova saw him standing Apollo-like, the startled expression on his face, his brown arms and shoulders glistening with sweat, rippling muscles playing on those arms and shoulders; saw also the pain in his eyes. And in that brief second something passed between them, a secret which neither of them understood but which must be guarded as sacred and belonging to themselves alone.

He mumbled an incoherent apology and stumbled awkwardly after the ball. Introductions were not in order, of course, but Nova did not think of that. She arose abruptly and called to him. "Mr. Mars!" Nor did she consider the rules of etiquette as to who should be introduced to whom; nor yet the fact that she did not know Dale Mars well enough to call him to her like this. It was a desperate effort on her part to carry her little candle to the Source of light.

Kenneth Remsen, B. A., M. D., rose peremptorily and studied the brown youth before him.

"Mr. Mars, this is Dr. Remsen. Dr. Remsen, Dale Mars of KEL. You've heard his voice, of course."

Dr. Remsen bowed stiffly, extended a professional hand. "I was just asking about you," he said coldly. Their eyes locked in combat.

"We knew each other at the hospital," Nova said half apologetically. "I handed him the instruments and he—" "I did the mutilating," Dr. Remsen interjected.

"And the undertaker—?" Dale asked without smiling. Under other circumstances what he had said would have provoked laughter. He tossed the ball into the air, caught it, tossed it again. The atmosphere was painfully strained. He frowned at his wrist-watch, saw that it was after two o'clock. He would barely have time enough to finish the set with Jerry, take a cold shower and get back to the studio at three. He muttered a dutiful, "Glad to have met you, Dr. Remsen," and ran back to Jerry.

(To Be Continued)

Reports from the Field

Southwestern Conference Impressive Watch Night Service Held by the La Salle Baptist Church

On Sunday evening, December 31, a Watch Night service was held by the members of the First Baptist Church of La Salle, Colo. After a rousing period of singing, a candle light service was presented with the choir furnishing background music, which was followed by several musical numbers and readings.

A missionary play, "A Soldier of the Cross," was presented by the B. Y. P. U. Those taking leading parts were Lloyd Gies, Charlotte Meyer, Mildred Moser, Wesley Moser, Albert Renke and Fred Meyer.

After a short intermission and the serving of refreshments, a heart stirring testimonial and prayer service was conducted by our pastor, the Rev. C. H. Seecamp.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Witt of Bison, Kansas, Celebrate Their Silver Wedding Anniversary

On Saturday, December 16, about 100 friends and relatives of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Witt of Bison, Kans., met at the German Baptist Church of the town to help them celebrate their silver wedding anniversary.

A mixed quartet from the church sang "Sweeter as the Years Go By," and the Rev. R. Vassel gave a short talk. A bounteous basket dinner, served at noon, was immensely enjoyed by all. The lovely three tier wedding cake, topped by a miniature bride and groom, centered the table.

Their children, Helen, Arthur, Ruth and Ethel, were present for the occasion. Miss Helen Witt served for two years as president of the Kansas Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union. In the afternoon Mr. Ernest Hildebrand of Stafford, Kans., youngest brother of the "bride," showed slide pictures.

White Christmas Program of the Bethany Sunday School in Kansas

The Sunday School of the Bethany Church near Vesper, Kans., presented its Christmas program in the nature of an unusual white Christmas project. A large map of Africa was cut out of black board and on it were printed the words, "White Christmas for Dark Africa." The map was also sectioned off in rectangles, the size of a dollar bill. This was displayed before the



Africa Covered With Dollar Bills
and Marjorie Jaeger of the
Bethany Church of Kansas

congregation several weeks before Christmas. It was announced that on Christmas Eve we would bring gifts to the Christ Child as well as to each other. So the people were prepared to cover the map with dollar bills. Young people and children had part in the exercises. Boys and girls first marched to the platform, bringing toys which they wanted to give to children less fortunate than they were.

After proper ceremonies the boys and girls gathered the envelopes with the money, taking only one at a time to the platform where tellers counted the money and pinned the bills on "Africa." Coins were counted, and as soon as a dollar's worth of coins was stacked up, it was changed into a bill and pinned on. The result was what you see in the accompanying snapshot. "Africa" covered with dollar bills.

Appropriate addresses made it very real to the people that our money was going to serve God in the "Dark Continent." Over thirty-five dollars were contributed. It more than covered the map. Our B. Y. P. U. is studying "Pilgrim's Progress" under the direction of Mr. Carl Woody. It is also competing with other unions in the six point record system of the conference.

The Northwestern Sunday School Convention of Lincoln County, Kans., is sponsoring a teacher training class which meets at the Bethany Church each Friday evening. The subject is "Old Testament Law and History." Five churches comprise the convention. The Rev. J. H. Kornelsen is the teacher.

At our Watch Night service we baptized two men and received three others into our fellowship by letter. Other

candidates were ill, and we anticipate another baptismal service soon.

Our Ladies' Mission Circle recently started a "First Aid Chest" to loan out to needy families stricken by sickness. It is sponsoring the Scripture Memory work at Bethany this year. They work through the public schools, which are visited by two of our women one Friday afternoon of each month.

The Rev. Roy Seibel, pastor of the Strassburg Baptist Church near Marion, Kans., preached each evening during the Prayer Week at our church. His Spirit filled messages touched our hearts deeply.

J. H. KORNELSEN, Pastor.

Unique Observance of Publication Sunday by the Mount Zion Church of Kansas

On the second Sunday of December the Mount Zion Baptist Church of Kansas had for its morning program objective the work of the Publication Society. The pastor, the Rev. Thomas Lutz, spoke of its beginning, continuation and its expansion in the different publications, of its blessed and far-reaching influence in our mission activities at home and abroad, and of the information it conveys to the local churches.

The local representative of the publication society, Mr. Charles A. Zoschke, pointed out how the various publications of the society serve to expound the Scriptures, give scriptural information on Baptist teaching and how they endeavor to build and promote the spiritual lives of individuals as also collectively of the adherents of our constituency. He also spoke of the various papers, pamphlets and books published to dispel and counteract false doctrines and distortion of the Scriptures.

It was further emphasized that the compelling power, the endeavoring and leading spirit in the expansion and distribution of its papers, and the society's world encircling influence must primarily be attributed to the fertile minds and adept qualifications for the particular work of divinely sent men who have carried the responsibility of its work from the beginning. They have always been men of vision with faith in God and his Word, with an understanding of the magnitude of our constituency in general as well as the minor details of the individual.

Considering this, the Mount Zion Church adopted a resolution to acknowledge the faithful and sacrificial work of the men in our publication society, who now carry on this work.

CHARLIE A. ZOSCHKE, Reporter.

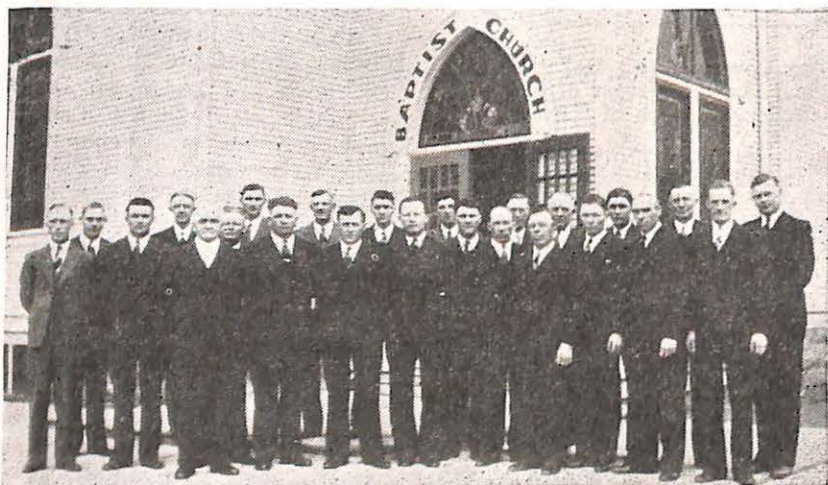
Dakota Conference Six New Members Received Into the Fellowship of the Beulah Church

During the two first weeks in November revival meetings were held in the German Baptist Church of Beulah, No. Dak., in which the Rev. Fred Trautner of Eureka, So. Dak., assisted us. Five persons accepted Christ as their personal Savior and decided to follow him in baptism.

On Sunday, December 3, a goodly number of our people migrated to Bismarck to witness the baptism of these converts. Another person, who was outside the fold for a while, came back again, and so we had the joy and privilege to give the hand of fellowship to six new members.

The Lord is working among us and we believe that he will give us a large harvest of dear souls.

P. F. SCHILLING, Pastor.



Men's Chorus of the Baptist Church in Emery, South Dakota,
That Sang Every Evening During Recent Revival Services

Ordination Service of the Rev. Oscar Bonikowsky of Sioux Falls, South Dakota

On December 28 the various representatives of the South Dakota Association met at Parkston, So. Dak., for the purpose of ordaining Mr. Oscar Bonikowsky. The delegates organized themselves and appointed as their moderator, Rev. F. W. Bartel; and as clerk, Rev. A. J. Fischer. The candidate related his Christian experiences and his call to the ministry. He expressed extensively his doctrinal views and, after a careful examination, the council agreed to notify the church to proceed with the ordination.

The Rev. F. W. Bartel led the ordination meeting and the Rev. Wm. Sturhahn brought the message. Mr. Bonikowsky graduated from the German Baptist Seminary in 1938, and since then has served for a summer the Baptist Church at Herreid, So. Dak. Last spring he graduated from Sioux Falls College with a B. A. degree. At present he is serving the

Parkston and Tripp congregations, and, part time, he teaches several subjects at Sioux Falls College, where he also takes post graduate work.

A. J. FISCHER, Reporter.

Annual Report of the Linton B. Y. P. U.

The B. Y. P. U. of the German Baptist Church of Linton, No. Dak., has closed another successful year, filled with many rich blessings. The officers who will guide the league through the year, 1940, are: Mrs. Gottlieb Kremer, president; Mrs. Fred Kremer, vice-president; Elsie Wagner, secretary; Viola Graf, treasurer; Arlene Graf, pianist; and Ilean Dobler and Phyllis Zoller, ushers.

The departmental plan, which has worked successfully for the past two years, will again be followed this year. During the past year we lost two members, but have gained nine new ones, making the total membership 32.

president. Ervin Huber was again elected as secretary, and Theodore Aldinger was elected treasurer.

Ten new members were admitted into the union during the past year, including: Johnny Oberlander, Bertha Folmer, Martha Opp, Martha Lang, Viola Karch, Clara Burkhart, Albert Losing, Emma Buerkle, Marion and Wilmer Huber.

A program for the year was set up in January, 1939, and with the capable assistance of our pastor and general advisor of the B. Y. P. U., the Rev. J. J. Renz, we followed it through as nearly as possible. Trusting in God for guidance, we again hope to carry on successfully in 1940.

ERVIN HUBER, Secretary.

Twenty-seven Converts Baptized in the Emery Church at the Watch Night Service

The closing days of 1939 were very happy for our German Baptist Church and Sunday School in Emery, So. Dak. On the last day of the year it was the pastor's privilege and joy to step into the baptistry with 27 persons, among whom was a father with his son and daughter, following the Lord's command, "Believe and be baptized."

Most of these converts came as the result of our revival meetings held during the last part of November. The Rev. R. P. Bronleewe, a "son" of our Buffalo Center Church in Iowa, served as our evangelist. Brother Bronleewe studied for a time in our seminary at Rochester, and later graduated from the Northern Baptist Seminary in Chicago. He brought his loud speaker along, so that we could send some of the songs and messages from our church tower, not only over the town but out into the country. The large men's chorus, the picture of which accompanies this report, sang every evening during the meetings.

We had a full house every night. Periods of prayer were held before each service, the young people and adults meeting in separate rooms. At the same time in another part of the church, children's meetings took place under the leadership of Mrs. Bronleewe, who is ably assisting her husband in his work. The Lord answered our prayers and blessed the efforts put forth, so that we were able to receive on the first Sunday in the new year 28 members into the fellowship of our church.

All our meetings are well attended. Often we have over 100 at our prayer meetings and Bible study.—Nearly all go to Sunday School so that our number runs many times over 300. A fine Christmas program was given, and an offering for our Children's Home in St. Joseph, Mich., was received of over \$60. We as a church feel a greater responsibility since the Lord has given us new members.

AUGUST G. LANG, Pastor.

Eastern Conference Activities of Our Seminary Students Over the Christmas Holidays

The call of the Christmas holiday season always finds a welcome audience at the German Baptist Seminary of Rochester, N. Y. We rejoice because this holiday season affords us the opportunity of visiting our homes, or the homes of our friends.

Approximately twenty young Rochester theologians travelled to various parts of our country and Canada. The boundaries reached were Kansas in the South, North Dakota in the West, and Manitoba in the North. Intermediary points covered were Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and New York.

Apparently both churches and pastors welcome such an emigration from Rochester, for they speedily put all the young men to work in the glorious task of preaching and teaching the Word of God. The men all returned safely to us in spite of the inclement weather, with inspired reports about the hospitality of the many friends of the seminary, and because of the many opportunities afforded them to testify to the saving power of Christ. All told, more than thirty sermons were preached, and many classes taught by these brethren.

We wish to express our sincerest gratitude to the churches and homes for the warm reception extended us. We remember you all in our prayers, and we wish for you a happy year in the service of Him, at whose throne we may daily meet in prayer.

PETER PFEIFFER, Reporter.

Seminary Student, George Zinz, Jr., Attends Recent Student Volunteer Conference at Toronto

Missionaries from many distant countries mingled with Chinese, Japanese, Indian, American and Canadian students of the Student Volunteer Movement of North America, meeting for a Consultative Conference on the World Mission of Christianity at the University of Toronto from December 27 to January 1.

The 500 delegates came from colleges, universities and theological seminaries throughout the United States and Canada. These delegates knew, either by first-hand experience or through study, the significant facts about the world-wide outreach of the church and thereby discussed intelligently the possibilities of the Christian Church in this world of unrest. The conference group was divided into twenty seminars in which such problems as racial prejudice, war, church organization and Christian movements were discussed.

The evening meetings seemed to be the most profitable. One-half hour was

EDITOR'S NOTICE!

The great number of reports, covering the Christmas and New Year's season in our churches, has necessitated the omission of several features and a few annual B. Y. P. U. reports from this issue of "The Baptist Herald." Because of the limited space available for this material, all reporters are urged to make their contributions brief and factual.

responsibility. The main problem now facing Europe, according to Professor Hromadka, is who shall reconstruct the countries of Europe after this war? Will the economic and moral situations be guided by Christian or pagan ideals?

College students do not want war. Christian ideas will prevail. The spirit of Christ is not a poet's dream and will conquer!

GEORGE ZINZ, JR., Reporter.



The Junior Choir of the Greenvine Church of Texas, Which Renders
an Appreciated Service

Southern Conference The Junior Choir in the Greenvine Church of Texas

Our children in the Greenvine German Baptist Church near Burton, Texas, are receiving special attention. Not only do they have their Sunday School hour but they also have a part of their own during the morning worship service. Just before the morning message a children's sermon in the form of a story is given or an object lesson or a chalk talk. As their part in this service they occupy the front pews. When finished, they return to their parents for the rest of the service.

Fifteen minutes before the evening meeting the children gather to be instructed in singing choruses and songs and memorizing Bible verses. We call them our "Junior Choir" or choristers. That they enjoy these services is evidenced by their remarks: "Daddy, hurry up or we will be late for our church." (They call this period before the service their church.) "We sing for the morning service just like the big choir." etc., etc.

It is a joy to the parents and leaders to hear them sing for the morning or evening services, whenever called upon. The work among them is appreciated by the parents and older people. This special attention is given to them because the children of today will be the church of tomorrow.

MRS. J. J. LIPPETT, Reporter.

Northern Conference Bible School for Southern Alberta Young People at the Bethel Church

For some time the young people of Southern Alberta, Canada, have been eager to come together and to become better acquainted with God's Word. So a Bible School was held at the Bethel Baptist Church near Carbon, Alberta, from November 27 to December 8, which proved to be a great success.

An average of 30 to 35 students attended, who represented the German Baptist Churches of Bethel, Freudental, Zion and Olds.



Students and Faculty of the Southern Alberta Bible School Held at the Bethel Church

Many interesting studies were pursued, which were of a spiritual benefit to all attending. The courses consisted of "Sunday School Work" and "Ancient History" taught by the Rev. R. Milbrandt; the latter subject and "Baptist History" taught during the second week by Rev. C. B. Thole of Olds; "Introduction to the New Testament" and "Baptist Principles" taught by the Rev. G. Beutler of Olds; "Sermon on the Mount" and "Personal Work" taught by the Rev. O. Fiesel of Trochu, who was with us only for the first week; the latter subject then continued by the Rev. R. Milbrandt. During the second week we were privileged to have the Rev. H. Schatz of Leduc with us, who taught "First Epistle of John" and "Music."

The devotional periods were led by students, which added much to our spiritual growth. During the two weeks revival meetings were held, the messages being brought by the ministers. All who attended the meetings left with the desire to follow Christ more closely, and 10 persons confessed Christ as their personal Savior.

On Friday, December 8, our Bible School came to a conclusion with a short program rendered by the students, which consisted of special music and brief addresses.

IDA NEHER, Reporter.

Dedication of the New Parsonage at Olds, Alberta, Canada

Sunday, November 19, proved to be a day of victory for the members of the German Baptist Church of Olds, Alberta, Canada, as we gathered at our church in order to dedicate our parsonage to the service of Christ and his Kingdom.

The pastor of the church, the Rev. G. Beutler, opened the service with song and Scripture reading. The Rev. J. H. Ashdown, pastor of the English Baptist Church of Olds, offered the dedication prayer, which was followed by a choir selection. Mr. Ashdown also served as guest speaker for the occasion.

After the close of the service in church, everybody assembled before the parsonage. A song was followed by a short dedication prayer by the pastor. Then the deacon, Mr. R. C. Link, spoke a few words and, after unlocking the door, gave to the Rev. G. Beutler the key to the house, which was dedicated as a medium of loving service for Christ's Kingdom.

In spite of the fact that the past years have meant new beginnings, crop failures, and hardships for the members of our church, our hearts are raised in grateful praise to God for the manifold blessings which have been showered upon us. Great sacrifices on the part of the members have made possible the erection of the parsonage in this year. Practically all the labor

was contributed freely by our own people. The gift of \$200 from our General Mission Society has also been very gratefully accepted by our church.

BETTY BEUTLER, Reporter.

Christmas Program for the Cree Indians of Wetaskiwin, Alberta

Our young people of Wetaskiwin, Alta., Can., again had a very interesting time with the Cree Indians at the Christmas program held in the old church of the Bull Reserve, near Wetaskiwin, Alta., on Friday evening, December 22. The weather was favorable as on snow-bedecked roads we made our way to the huts of the red men and gathered with them to celebrate the coming of Jesus as Savior of all races and nationalities.

Our Indian friends, old and young, gathered early for this important occasion. The young people of the Wetaskiwin First German Baptist Church had collected and arranged treats for the Indian children. They presented these to the eager group of children. Some of the white children and some of the Indians recited their Christmas pieces and sang songs of praise to Jesus our King. The missionary, the Rev. Fred W. Benke, related the story of the first Christmas and made its application for our day.

The treats of our white people were handed out as well as little gifts of the Indian parents were put on the Christmas tree for their children. The chief spoke and thanked for such good will, stating that such was the real spirit of Christ who said: "What you have done unto the least of these, you have done unto me."

The loss of loved ones is always touching and, humanly speaking, we can hardly understand when someone in the blossom of life is taken away. A fine, young Indian brave, William Bull, son the Mr. and Mrs. George Bull and grandson of the late chief Lewis Bull, was not able to spend Christmas with us as in former years. He was called home to glory just a few days before. He was only 21 years of age and unfolded a beautiful life full of hope and promise for his parents, the missionary and friends.

Having given his life to Jesus Christ, we enjoyed to have him take an active part in the Lord's work. Shortly before his departure he said: "I am not afraid to die." Then turning to his parents, who had nursed him in all his suffering, he said: "Soon I will be well off when I go to the place of the Father of all mankind, where there will be no more sickness and sorrow. There I will see my grandfather (the late Chief Lewis Bull) and all loved ones. Tell Mr. Benke I pray to God." A memorial service was held for him in the Old Indian Church on Sunday, December 31, as well as for all who were bereaved.

FRED W. BENKE, Reporter.

Pacific Conference

Christmas Banquet of the Loyal Workers' Class at Portland's Immanuel Church

On Friday evening, December 8, the girls of the "Loyal Workers' Class" of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Portland, Ore., held a Christmas banquet in honor of their parents.

Tables were set up in the basement of the church and were beautifully decorated with red and green candles and holly. Each mother was presented with a corsage by her daughter.

After the delicious meal was served, the girls gave a program led by the president of the class, Ruth Sauer. The program consisted of Scripture reading, Christmas carols, musical numbers, readings, and a skit.

At Christmas our class made tea towels for a Children's Home here in Oregon, and also gave scrap books to children in the hospital.

There are about 18 girls in the "Loyal Workers Class." Our teacher is Mrs. Jennie Hoelzer.

RUTH REUTTER, Reporter.

Impressive Watch Night Service Held by the Salt Creek Church of Oregon

To spend the last few hours of the old year and to begin the new year in God's house has been traditionally observed by the members of the Salt Creek Baptist Church of Oregon. We received spiritual blessings as a church again at the close of 1939.

The Watch Night service began with a short message delivered by our pastor, the Rev. Otto Nallinger, immediately after which a young lady was baptized upon her confession of faith in Christ Jesus as her personal Savior.

Following this, the B. Y. P. U., with our president Dr. Norman Classen in charge, presented the story, "Saved at Sea," interspersed with songs by our mixed choir and special groups of singers. Gilbert Schneider was the narrator.

The last hour of 1939 found us again in the main auditorium. This was a communion service, and our three deacons cooperated with the pastor. The Scripture and opening prayer were given by Mr. Emil Aebi. A brief talk about the past of our church was brought by Mr. Henry Voth, Sr. Mr. Dick Bartel spoke on the present work of our church. Mr. Nallinger then gave a brief message on the future of our church, and, as the new year began, led us to the throne of grace in prayer. The service ended with the church gathering around the Lord's table and partaking of the communion.

EVAN SKERSIES, Reporter.

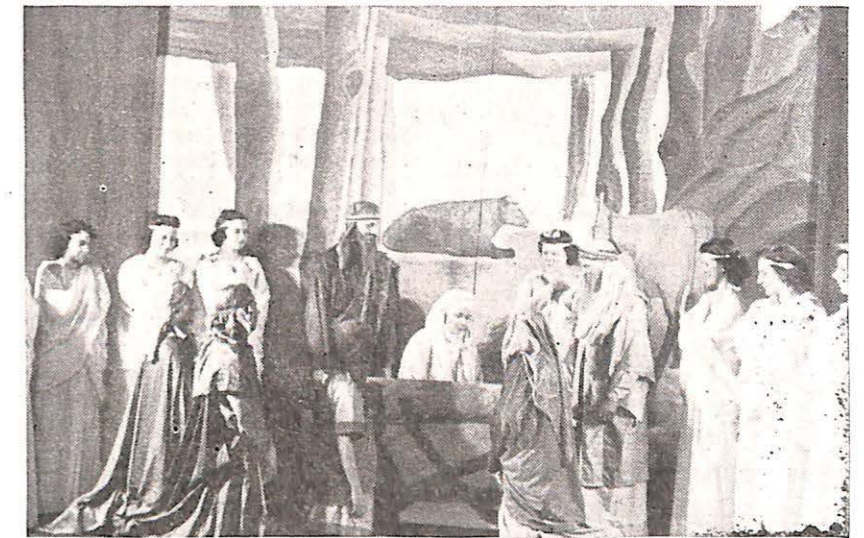
Bright and Happy Holiday Season for the Trinity Baptist Church of Portland

The holiday season for the Trinity Baptist Church of Portland, Ore., from

the Thanksgiving service, November 23, at which a missionary offering was received that amounted to \$512.88, through the New Year's Eve service, was an active and blessed one.

On Sunday, December 10, Mr. Edward Tober followed in the steps of obedience to the Lord's teaching and was baptized by our pastor, the Rev. John Leypoldt.

On Saturday, December 16, twenty-three B. Y. P. U. members met at the home of Miss Laura Meier to repair and paint broken toys, which were collected from the membership; and distributed by the Sunday School.



Manger Scene in the Pageant, "From the Manger to the Cross," Presented at the Laurelhurst Church, Portland, Oregon

A very impressive White Christmas service was sponsored by the Sunday School at its morning session on December 17, at which the following articles and foodstuffs were collected: 240 articles of miscellaneous foodstuffs, 50 pounds of mixed nuts, 200 pounds of potatoes, 8 dozen apples, oranges and grapefruit; 24 rebuilt toys, clothing for an orphaned boy, bedding for a family of seven persons, and one pair of boy's shoes. An offering and additional monetary gifts amounted to \$44.70, with which the following supplies were purchased: picnic hams, spam, three cases of canned goods, one case each of celery and oranges, twenty pounds of coffee. From all these supplies twenty-two baskets were filled. The committee in charge of this project were Mr. and Mrs. Gus Bachofner, Elsa Bertuleit, Jennie Boehi, and Harry Johnson.

An annual music feature was the Christmas concert rendered by the choir on Sunday, December 24, under the leadership of Mrs. Emma B. Meier, director. Following the Sunday School Christmas program on December 25, thirty B. Y. P. U. members gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Boehi for a "Fireside Sing."

Our Watch Night service was a memorable one. As the old year was passing, the congregation gathered around

the communion table. This made us realize the solemnity of passing moments. On the first Sunday of the new year our pastor, the Rev. John Leypoldt, extended the hand of fellowship to 7 persons.

In reviewing the reports at the annual business meeting of the church, we find that a total of \$5077.40 were contributed to foreign and home missions. Indeed, as we glance over the past and into the future we are grateful for the many outlets of service, both in a spiritual and monetary way.

GERTRUDE M. BELTZ, Reporter.

Lovely Christmas Pageant at the Laurelhurst Church of Portland, Oregon

An original Christmas pageant entitled, "From the Manger to the Cross," written and directed by William Schunke, was presented at the Laurelhurst Church of Portland, Ore., under the auspices of the Sunday School, with Mr. Emil Henkelman as superintendent. Mr. and Mrs. Schunke have recently returned to live in the "City of Roses" and have chosen to make Laurelhurst their church home. Over 50 young people took part in this biblical presentation.

The interest ran so high that it was necessary to repeat the pageant four times. Hundreds of visitors came to see it. Our own people were urged to remain home to make room for our visiting friends. It was first presented on Christmas night. On this occasion our Junior chorus of over 30 boys and girls sang two beautiful Christmas songs under Mr. Schunke's leadership. The final presentation was given in connection with our Watch Night service.

Leading parts were taken by Frieda and Edwin Fauth, who portrayed Mary and Joseph. "Bill" Freitag was the leading shepherd. The parts of the three kings were ably taken by William Glaske, Rudolph Redman, and

Victor Dyck. Preceding the pageant Miss Velma Bienert gave the Christmas story as recorded in Luke with organ accompaniment, and Miss Eileen Riemer presented the dramatic musical reading, "The Inn." Miss Marion Roach had the greatest memorization task, taking the roll of the reader.

Large canvas murals, painted by our director, furnished fitting biblical backgrounds for all of the scenes. The shepherd scene as well as the others, namely, those of the wise men on the desert, and the manger scene with Mary and Joseph brought a hush over each audience. There was great reverence throughout all the presentations. Mr. Eric Pohl was in charge of the special lighting, and he did a fine job of it with a specially built rheostat equipment with which he produced the many beautiful lighting effects. Mrs. Schunke, assisted by other women, made all the colorful biblical costumes. Miss Gertrude Hensel, presiding at the piano, furnished the accompaniment.

All of our many friends agreed that this pageant was the greatest presentation of its kind they have ever witnessed. Our pastor, the Rev. Fred W. Mueller, closed each meeting with suitable words of commendation and prayer.

ANNA WARDIN, Reporter.

Northwestern Conference A Unique Candle Light Service at the First Church of St. Paul, Minnesota

On Christmas Eve the congregation of the First German Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minn., met for the usual Sunday evening meeting, which had been announced to be a candle light service by the pastor, the Rev. Emanuel Wolff.

The church auditorium, decorated for the Christmas season and augmented with candles placed at appropriate places for this service, seemed to cooperate to usher in the happy season. The service was opened in the usual manner with the singing of Christmas hymns, two of which were solos by Mr. Rudolph Benert.

At this point the pastor announced his theme for the evening, "Christmas Eve at the Parsonage." The lights having been extinguished and the candles lit, the pastor seated himself beside a small table on the platform soon to be joined by his wife. Mrs. Wolff, with a true-to-life question, "May I come in, dear?" received the cheery response, "Yes," and took her place across the table from "hubby." Putting to use a little imagination, the audience had the privilege of observing some of the private moments and thoughts of a minister's life ably portrayed by Mr. and Mrs. Wolff.

The informal conversation, revolving around the thought of "sacrificial giving," contained a very fine message, and interspersed with a touch of humor it was enjoyed by all present.

PAUL H. STANKE, Reporter.

Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. A. Stockman of Mauston, Wisconsin

Mr. and Mrs. August Stockman of Mauston, Wis., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Wednesday, November 22. An unusual feature of the event was the fact that the attendants at their wedding 50 years ago, Mrs. Frank Fosdick of Oak Park, Ill., and Mr. Albert Falk of Racine, Wis., were both present at the golden wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Stockman were married in 1889 in the German Baptist parsonage at North Freedom, Wis., by the Rev. Henry Griep. They established their home on a farm near Ableman where they lived for about 25 years. They were active members of the North Freedom church. Later, they moved to Mauston, Wis., where they have been faithful members of the Baptist church ever since. Mr. Stockman, after serving as deacon of the church for many years, is now our deacon emeritus.

The anniversary day was spent at the farm home of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey F. Stockman, where a bountiful dinner was served in their honor. Relatives and friends from far and near gathered to extend their best wishes. The Stockman children sang the song, "Silver Threads Among the Gold." After dinner our pastor, the Rev. Roy L. Schlader, invited Mr. and Mrs. Stockman to the church's prayer meeting where an impressive program was held in their honor. Mr. Schlader read the beautiful golden wedding ceremony, closing with the benediction prayer.

May the heavenly Father continue to bless and help this honored couple in his care!

MRS. FRANK C. BROKOPP, Reporter.

Central Conference Christmas Festivities in the Immanuel Church of Chicago, Illinois

On Sunday evening, December 17, the choir of the Gross Park Immanuel Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., directed by the Rev. John Mueller, presented a Christmas cantata entitled, "Hark, the Herald Angels" by Petrie. The leading soloists of the choir were Miss Lucille Martens, soprano; Herbert Hecht, baritone; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martens, alto and tenor; and Evans Billington, tenor.

On the following Sunday, December 24, the Sunday School presented its annual Christmas program. The Primary children, under the able direction and training of Miss Florence Friederichsen and Miss Ida Adam, gave their little messages and Christmas songs, which delighted the parents and friends. Then the young people's class presented a drama, "Christmas with

the Home Folks." The leading players were Betty Kleindienst, William Reichert, Jackie Voigt and Vernon Martens. The drama clearly depicted the vital difference between a shallow Christmas and a hallowed Christmas.

Thus, in some way, the various members and departments of the church, commemorated the birth of Christ in service for him.

MARION KLEINDIENST, Reporter.

The Ogden Park Church of Chicago Welcomes its New Pastor, the Rev. S. F. Geis

On Thursday evening, January 4, the Ogden Park Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., welcomed its new pastor, the Rev. Stanley F. Geis, with a festive program and a hearty pledge of loyal cooperation. The church was well filled with many members and friends who participated in the service.

The Rev. J. A. Pankratz, who had supplied the pulpit for the last 7 Sundays of 1939 and who had officiated at the wedding of Mr. Geis's parents, was in charge of the program. Greetings from the sister churches in Chicago were brought briefly by the Rev's. H. Koch, J. Schmidt, J. Knechtel, T. W. Dons, J. Mueller and W. S. Argow as well as by the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, young people's secretary.

The welcome of the church was extended by representatives of various organizations as follows: Mr. J. Frisch for the church, Mr. O. Horn for the Sunday School, Mrs. E. Lengefeld for the Ladies' Aid, Mr. E. Kassner for the B. Y. P. U., Miss H. Srigley for the World Wide Guild, and Mr. W. Thomson for the choir. Several appropriate selections by the church choir, the girls chorus and the male quartet were sung. The lovely Christmas decorations added their touch of color to the evening's festivities. An original poem was recited by Miss Ruth Koffinke in welcoming the pastor just before a large bouquet of flowers was presented to him.

The Rev. and Mrs. S. F. Geis had arrived in Chicago on the preceding day. They found the pantry in the parsonage well stocked with food upon their arrival. But on the following day Mrs. Geis became quite ill and could not attend the reception. Mr. Geis was formerly pastor of the Dickinson County Church near Dillon, Kansas. He brought a brief address at the close of the service in which he fervently described the purpose of his ministry and thanked the church for its warm welcome. A period of social fellowship followed, in which the members of the audience made their personal acquaintance with Mr. Geis.

May this pastorate in the heart of Chicago's metropolitan district, which has begun so auspiciously, grow in effectiveness under the banner of Jesus Christ!

M. L. LEUSCHNER, Reporter.

Activities of the Men's Baraca Bible Class of the Oak Park Church, Whose Picture Appears on the Front Cover

On October 18, 1924, a group of seven men met in the Oak Park German Baptist Church of Forest Park, Ill., to consider the possibility of organizing a men's Bible class. Our Sunday School superintendent and secretary had discussed the need for a men's class and had arranged this conference. This was the birth of a class that today has a membership of more than one hundred men with an average attendance very close to the number present for the photograph, shown on the front cover of this issue of "The Baptist Herald."

God has richly blessed our class with outstanding teachers, such as the late Otto C. Braese; Mr. R. D. O'Brien, secretary of the Oak Park Y. M. C. A.; and now the Rev. C. B. Nordland, an executive of the Moody Bible Institute and a member of our church. Many fine reserve teachers have been very helpful at times, including our "Baptist Herald" editors, the late Rev. A. P. Mihm and the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, and our pastor, the Rev. Theo. W. Dons. We owe much to all these men for the growth of our class. We must also recognize the untiring labors spent by the class officers through these years.

The name, "Baraca," was recently chosen for the class. This means "blessing," derived from the thought expressed in 2. Chronicles 20:26. The Baraca-Philathea Union is an international organization which in July will celebrate its Golden Jubilee. The class did not apply for a charter in this organization until last year. Obtaining membership has proven to be of practical assistance. We can recommend affiliation to other classes.

Our devotional and Bible study period is at 9 o'clock each Sunday morning throughout the year. Our class has its own program with singing, special numbers, notices, scripture, prayers and teaching. For a few years we disbanded during the summer months, but we found that it was essential to keep the class active the year around. Our average attendance during the past summer months was better than thirty men per Sunday.

A monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of each month is a part of the class program. Generally these meetings have been solely for the benefit of members. At first, we met in the homes of members, but the group became too large for the average home. Some meetings were then held in our church, and, later, for two years we enjoyed the facilities available at the Oak Park Y. M. C. A. The monthly meet-

ing program is of variable nature. Our annual banquet takes place in October, and the annual outing in June or late September. Speakers of prominence and other educational or entertaining features have been arranged for the other nights.

A routine that is not varied soon loses the interest and attendance that are essential to class activities. Therefore, the class made a change during the past year and arranged several meetings that were open to relatives and friends of class members, our church members and the public. These meetings were followed by a social time, with cake and coffee served. The moving pictures, which were taken in the Danubian lands by Mr. Leuschner, our young people's secretary, were shown one evening. On other evenings, pictures of Germany, Switzerland, the Pacific Islands, the South China Boat Mission, and the nature studies of Sam Campbell were shown. The peak attendance was 375. We anticipate a moving picture lecture about the Holy Land in the near future.


The men have supported our financial program very loyally. Monthly dues are received on the first Sunday of each month, excepting June, July, and August, after the regular offering has been received. During the past year more than \$300 were contributed. A portion of each Sunday offering is given to the Sunday School, which in the last year exceeded \$120. Banquets, socials and outings are planned to be self-supporting, leaving our funds

available for worth while assistance. In addition to contributions toward our church debt, Christmas fund, needy families, mission work and institutions, flowers are sent to sick members, or members of their immediate family who may be in a hospital.

Occasionally, a contest is arranged to increase membership and deepen interest. While contests are a stimulant, we must concede that the durable benefits are negligible. Still, we intend to have contests in the future, because we recognize the temporary advantages and appreciate that even a very small gain is better than the loss that might result if we had no contest to stimulate the interest.

To those men and classes who have not enjoyed the progress, development and activities outlined herewith, we give this brief summary as a possible encouragement. We do, however, recognize that the surface of the possibilities has barely been scratched. Our attendance should easily be doubled. We wish to acquire a more suitable class room (we now use the church auditorium), where our program and appointments can be better arranged. We should have a group which, at least once each month, will bring a little cheer to those confined to Old People's or Children's homes, hospitals and jails. A devoted and self-sacrificing group of men is needed to carry on the work we are doing and should be doing. By the grace of God we hope to grow in knowledge, spirit, influence and numbers.

ROLAND ROSS, President.



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B. Y. P. U. TOPICS

(Continued from Page 48)

1. A Restful Place

Again and again we hear someone say, "I wish I could go to some quiet place where I would not be disturbed by all this hectic rush, din and strain." We can only imagine what such a restful, quiet place meant to Christ, away from the busy capital, away from the hatred and bitterness of his enemies, alone with his friends. Christ did not have much of comfort and ease. Usually, he was so busy ministering to others that he barely found time to eat and sleep. In order to gain the necessary silence, so essential for meditation, he had to seek some quiet mountain top or cove along the Galilean lake. Many a night, after a busy day, he only found a stone for his pillow, and now in the most trying days of his ministry his Father provided him with kind and loving friends and a sheltering home, where he could withdraw after the most trying situations.

Take such experiences as the cleansing of the temple and the Day of Questioning. (Mark 12.) Such experiences drain every reserve power one possesses. How grateful and happy he must have felt to Mary and Martha for their inviting and comfortable home. Indeed, this place had become so dear to him, so that it is no wonder that we read in Luke 24:50 that the ascension took place in the neighborhood of Bethany. (If you can get a copy of Siemiradski's picture, "Christ With Mary and Martha," you will contribute greatly toward the meeting.)

2. Heart to Heart Talks

Surely, most of his disciples met with Mary and Martha here in this quiet nook and listened to the many things Jesus had to tell them. Many of the things recorded in the several chapters in John 13 to 17 might have been referred to during the quiet evenings here.

It is natural that Jesus would take this opportunity to clarify and instruct his friends after some of the trying and vexing days in the capital. That Mary was more inclined to the spiritual things than Martha is quite obvious. She was devoted to her Master and, perhaps, even accompanied him on his daily journeys to Jerusalem.

3. Sacredness of Service

Let us not make the common mistake in this connection in discounting service. No one less than the Master dignified labor and he himself was the busiest man in that group. There is a definite dignity and sacredness to labor that we must rightly recognize. That Christ needed such service after his busy days in the city is without doubt. Martha was one of those sweet womanly characters who was deeply interested in the material needs and comfort of her precious guest and friend. There was a definite place for that, but Martha did not discern rightly, for she did not know when to stop. Notice your own home and preoccupation when you have dear friends or distinguished guests visiting. Naturally, you want to make them comfortable and to feel at home, but notice how often the host or hostess is so fatigued before the guest comes or is so preoccupied with the material things that one gets little benefit out of a visit.

4. Choosing the Best

A friend once made it his business to ask all good Christians to define the term, "spirituality." To his amazement very few could answer. Goodspeed in his translation of 1. Cor. 2:15 gives a very excellent definition: "The spiritual man is alive to all true values." Is not this the problem that Martha and Mary faced, to evaluate things according to their worth? That is also your problem and mine. A South African farmer used to throw

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stones, lying near his door, at the chickens in the vegetable garden only to have someone come along and discover that they were diamonds in the rough. In this world, where so many values are only temporary, is it not our responsibility to evaluate things correctly? Mary had this deeper insight, and that is what Jesus meant when he said, "Mary hath chosen the good part." In this day, when the material blessings often crowd out the spiritual values, blessed is the man who seeks the fellowship of God's children and the sanctuary to lift his eyes unto the spiritual values, and will take time out to sit at the feet of the Master to learn more of him and his Kingdom!

THE CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 46)

well-run establishment, where order and routine are second nature.

For a time decorum and quiet are thrown to the winds in the jubilation over the many useful, interesting and novel gifts. The dining room is in a state of good, healthy "Kuddel-Muddel," as the children run from one to the other to "show you what I got" and to try on this and that and finding out how a new toy works. There is shouting and squealing and dancing about, hugging and kissing and even shedding tears of joy, in an ecstasy of overflowing spirits. It has to be seen to be appreciated. Surely, those who help to bring about this happy time would feel highly repaid for their trouble and expense could they see with their own eyes what transpires at this place.

All the children present agree that the waiting may be hard, but it's worth waiting for! None are better taken care of at Christmas than the boys and girls at this Home in St. Joseph-by-the-Lake.

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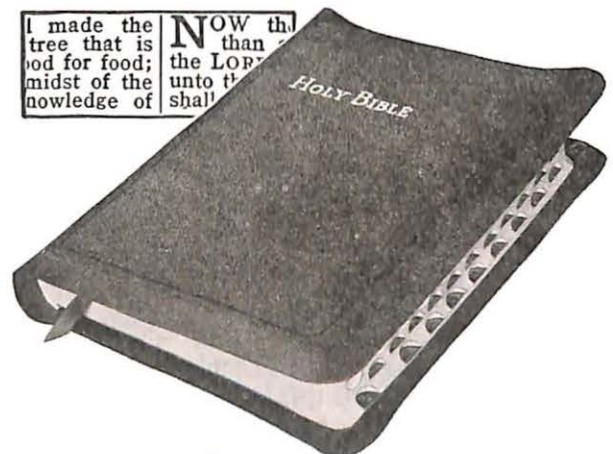
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