

THE BAPTIST HERALD

December 15,
1941



This Beautiful
Christmas Tree,
Garlanded With
Festive Decorations,
Brightened the
Hearts of the
Boys and Girls
at Our
Children's Home
in St. Joseph, Mich.,
on December 25, 1940



Printed in U. S. A.



What's Happening

¶ The Rev. E. S. Fenske of Vancouver, B. C., Canada, pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of that city, recently accepted the call extended to him by the Freudenthal Church near Carbon, Alberta, Canada. Mr. Fenske hopes to begin his ministry on the new field soon after the beginning of the new year. He will succeed the Rev. Frederick Alf, now of Missoula, Montana.

¶ The Calvary Baptist Church of Stafford, Kans., recently extended a call to the Rev. F. E. Klein of Wasco, Calif., to which a favorable response was given. Mr. Klein will begin his services in Stafford on Feb. 1st., succeeding the Rev. Alfred Weisser, now of Carrington, So. Dak. It was learned that the Stafford Church hopes to construct a new parsonage before the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Klein and their two children.

¶ Evangelistic services were held in the East Side Church of Chicago, Ill., from November 9 to 16, with the Rev. L. H. Broeker of St. Joseph, Mich., serving as evangelist. The attendance was very fine with cooperation by members of 3 neighboring churches. Three young people made their confession of faith in Christ. The church recently put on a new roof and had the interior of the auditorium redecorated at a cost of \$500. The Rev. Herbert L. Koch is pastor.

¶ On Sunday evening, December 7, the congregation of the First Baptist Church of Bellwood, Illinois, met with the Forest Park Baptist Church. The Rev. Lloyd George Gibbs of the Bellwood Church brought the message and baptized six converts on confession of their faith in Christ. A special offering was received to help pay off the original debt on the Bellwood Church property. At the communion service that followed the Revs. O. R. Schroeder and Lloyd George Gibbs officiated.

¶ Evangelistic meetings were held for two weeks in November in the Baptist Church of Ellinwood, Kans., with the Rev. C. H. Seecamp of La Salle, Colo., serving as evangelist. In spite of unfavorable weather conditions, the attendance was fair and the church as a whole is in a much better spiritual condition due to the stirring messages which were brought. The pastor, the Rev. W. Helwig, reported that a baptismal service will be held in the near future.

¶ The Rev. Vincent Brushwyler of Newark, N. J., pastor of the Evangel Baptist Church of that city for more than 10 years, presented his resignation to the church on Sunday, Novem-

ber 23, and announced his acceptance of the call extended to him by the First Baptist Church of Muscatine, Iowa. This large church of Muscatine is a Northern Baptist Convention church. Mr. Brushwyler will succeed the Rev. Vance Webster, who has become the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Eugene, Oregon, and will begin his services in Muscatine on January 15, 1942.

¶ Evangelistic services were held in the First Baptist Church of Aplington, Iowa, from Tuesday, November 11, to Friday, November 21, with the Rev.

Front Cover Picture

Christmas is the children's festival! In every home, wherever there are children, loving parents will focus all of their attention and devotion upon "the little ones" in their midst.

In our denomination at large the thoughtful concern of our people will be directed towards the needs and interests of our Children's Home in St. Joseph, Michigan. For this family of more than a score of children belongs to all of us. By means of Christmas goodies, chickens, sausages, cookies, toys, merchandise and gifts of money our people will remember this Children's Home, which is an important part of our home missionary enterprise.

Look again at the Christmas tree on the front cover of this issue. Around such a tree the children of the St. Joseph Home will gather to sing the carols and to hear the Christmas story as related by "Pa" and "Mom" Steiger and to receive the shower of gifts from the churches everywhere. Remember these children at the Home in your prayers at this season of the year and, by all means, do not forget this mission work at your church's Christmas festival!

G. P. Neumann, pastor of the Burns Avenue Church of Detroit, Michigan, serving as evangelist. The attendance was exceptionally good, and about ten persons made their confession of faith in Christ as Savior. At the Thanksgiving Day service on the morning of November 27, the Rev. M. L. Leuschner of Forest Park, Ill., was the guest speaker. The mission offering amounted to \$560.

¶ A series of evangelistic meetings were conducted by the German Baptist Church of Madison, So. Dak., from November 10 to 23 with the Rev. R. P. Bronleewe serving as evangelist. "The attendance increased from day to day,

the entire church membership was quickened, and there were about twelve conversions besides a larger number of people who rededicated their lives to the Lord," according to the pastor, the Rev. Henry R. Schroeder. He continued: "We are sure that the effects of these meetings will be felt in our community for a long time to come."

¶ Mr. Louis Johnson, a student in the Northern Baptist Seminary of Chicago, Ill., and a member of the Forest Park Baptist Church, has been called as student pastor of the Union Baptist Church of Wyocena, Wis., where he began his services on November 23. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were formerly members of the Baptist Church of Steamboat Rock, Iowa. In the Forest Park Church they have served as Sunday School teachers and youth leaders. Mrs. Bertha Johnson will edit the "Children's Page" of "The Baptist Herald" for the first six months of 1942, beginning with the January 15th issue.

¶ The Rev. Albert W. Lang of Tyndall, So. Dak., died suddenly on Thursday, November 20, from pneumonia. He was ill for only a very short period. The memorial service for him was held by the Baptist Church of Tyndall on Saturday afternoon, November 22 which was attended by a large host of relatives and friends. A son of his, the Rev. George A. Lang, is pastor of the Ebenezer Church of Detroit, and a daughter, Margaret, is serving as a missionary in Nigeria, West Africa. His brother, the Rev. A. G. Lang of Britt, Iowa, is also well known in our circles. A more complete memorial article will appear in the next issue.

(Continued on Page 468)

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The BAPTIST HERALD

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EDITORIAL

HOW strange the strains of the angels sound at this Christmas season of 1941! In the quietness of the Judean hills as

peaceful shepherds watched over their flocks by night, it was altogether fitting that the heavens should reveal the angelic hosts with their song, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace." But these same words almost choke in our throats as we look out upon a world at present that is aflame with the fires of war and hatred.

But just the opposite is true! These words have never been more appropriate than at this turbulent Christmas of this year. For the Christmas message of God's revelation of love and mercy has always been addressed directly to individuals—to each one of the shepherds, to the wise men in the East, to Anna and Simeon in the temple, to you and to me in this year of our Lord, 1941. We, who find ourselves caught up in the whirlpool of life's martial tempest from which there is no escape, need to know the art of inward composure and serenity for which God alone can lay the foundations.

An old, familiar story deserves to be repeated. Some years ago an art contest was announced for paintings which were supposed to depict the thought of peace. Many paintings were submitted, showing quiet pastoral scenes of sheep grazing on the hillsides and of contented cows at the brook and also portraying innocent cherub faced children asleep or at rest in their mothers' arms. But none of these won the first prize.

For the prize winning painting, strange as it may seem, showed the seething, tumbling, noisy waters of Niagara Falls in a scene of turbulent action and then, partly hidden in the leaves of an overhanging branch a tree, the little nest of a bird, as the feathered mother serenely sat upon

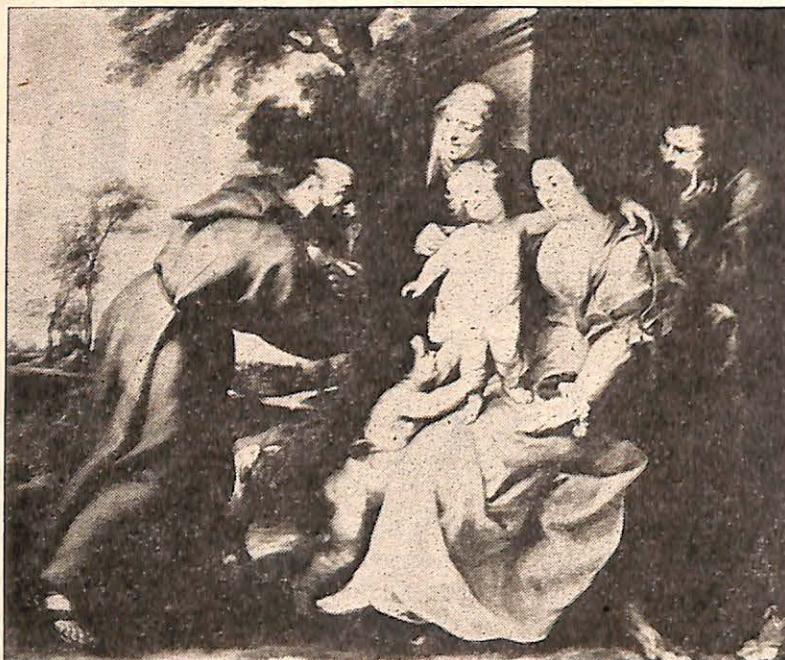
her eggs. That is a picture of peace at the height of its glory when not even the storms of life are able to disturb its tranquility.

Christmas is preeminently a spiritual festival of the heart. What mattered most in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago was not the bustle and excitement of the census takers in the city, but the dawning realization in the hearts of Mary and Joseph and shepherds around a lowly manger that "unto them was born this day a Savior which is Christ, the Lord." What is of greatest significance at this Christmas season is not so much whether there will be a Christmas truce among the warring camps or whether the world is any nearer to the day of international peace. What is most important is whether my soul in a seething world of madness is a sanctuary of peace in which Christ can make his abode.

To be sure, we ardently hope that the lights of peace may again shine in every part of the world! We pray earnestly for such a day when the swords of men will be beaten into plowshares. We shall strive with every fibre of our being to usher in such a glorious day. But that perfect picture of nations and peoples at peace with each other always begins with individuals, who, like you and me, hear these Christmas words of the angels and let God build his sanctuary of peace in our hearts.

In the light of this interpretation, these words take on a new meaning, especially in just such a time as this! The more the blizzards of hatred and wickedness may blow outside, the greater will be the need of keeping the hearthfires of peace and love burning within our hearts.

That was God's revelation in Christ, born in a manger in Bethlehem many years ago. That is the purpose of the angel's song, "On earth peace." That is the precious meaning of Christmas!



"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the highest shall overshadow thee: Therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."
Luke 1:35

Mary of Nazareth became through God's providence the Virgin Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the birth of our Lord the Old Testament prophecies concerning his coming were fulfilled.

The mystery of Mary's motherhood lies in the annunciation of the angel Gabriel to Mary: "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee . . ." Mary as a Virgin is mentioned in Matt. 1:23—"Behold, a virgin shall be with child . . ." and in Luke 1:27—"Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin . . ."

The supernatural conception of Jesus is reported in the Scripture without hesitation, and without any attempt at proof or explanation, as if the work of God needed no defense. The only proof rendered is the declaration that it was an event come to pass in fulfillment of prophesy. What God does is expected to commend itself to men who recognize his authority, without formal vindication.

Without repeating here the attacks which are made against the Christian doctrine of the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, we give the following reasons why we whole-heartedly believe in the miraculous birth of the Son of God.

The Authority of the Bible

The truthfulness and the authority of the Bible are involved in this question. The Bible teaches the virgin birth. There is no question about that. If the Book is not truthful here, it may be untruthful in fifty or a thousand other particulars. We hold to the divine inspiration of the writers of the Bible. The God of the Bible, who has performed so many miracles in the Old Testament,

is able to perform this miracle in a human body, too.

The Holy Spirit is the first witness for the virgin birth of Christ by Mary. This we see in the narrative of Matthew 1:18. "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost." Joseph, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away quietly.

The Witness of the Spirit

"But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost . . . that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son . . ." (Matt. 1:20-23). Important is here the divine task of the Holy Child, which is already mentioned in Matthew 1:21—"Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."

The birth narratives of Matthew and Luke bear clear indications of truth. Their wonderful restraint, their lofty moral tone, their delicacy of language, their primitive and Palestinian character and their mutual independence and their agreement, these and many other characteristics create in the sympathetic reader an overpowering favorable impression.

The Record of the Disciples

Such impression might have to be resisted if these narratives stood alone. But when they are taken in connection with the whole majestic and self-evidencing portrait of Jesus Christ as it is

Jesus Christ, Born of a Virgin

A Timely Article by the
REV. ALFRED A. CIERPKE
of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



December 15, 1941

contained in the New Testament, the necessity for resistance is gone. If Christ really rose from the dead, if he really was at all the kind of person that he is represented in the New Testament as being, then there is every reason to think that he was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

The original disciples accepted Jesus as Messiah, as Son of man, and finally, as Son of God. They left no record of opposition to the virgin birth of Jesus. We cannot argue from the silence of Mark that he did not believe that Jesus was born from the Virgin Mary. The Gospel of John in chapter 1:14 ("The Logos became flesh") seems to have the virgin birth narrative of Matthew and Luke in mind and to be giving a philosophical explanation of the birth of the incarnate Logos.

In the case of Luke we have a physician, who made careful research and records and this is the result of his investigations. He could very well have come in contact with Mary herself or with her circle, who knew her secret. Paul does not oppose the virgin birth. We may refer it in Romans 1:3—"Seed of David, Son of God," and in Galatians 4:4—"But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman."

The Belief of the Church

The virgin birth was also the belief of the early Church. This is shown by the fact of its adoption as part of the Apostle's Creed and the Baptismal Confession of the Church at the very beginning of the second century or at the close of the first. The Church at that time was only about seventy years distant from the Lord's crucifixion. Gospels containing the virgin birth narratives had been circulated twenty or thirty years earlier, and during this period the Church had a continuous history and succession of office-bearers and was well acquainted with the fact of its past.

The significance of the inclusion of the virgin birth in the Apostle's Creed is seen when we remember that the creed is no elaborate compilation but is very brief. The only facts about Jesus to which it gives place are: the virgin birth, the death, the resurrection, the ascension, the sitting at the right hand of God, and the future judgment. Evidently, such an enumeration was intended as the very minimum of Christian belief.

The Nicene Creed in its original form did not contain any statement on the mode of our Lord's birth, but simply affirmed that he "came down and was incarnate." But the Constantinopolitan Symbol added the words, "Of the Holy Ghost and the Virgin Mary." Irenaeus (A. D. 180) says: "We believe . . . his birth of a virgin and his passion, and his resurrection from the dead, and the ascension . . . of the beloved Christ Jesus."

A Supernatural Revelation

If the virgin birth was affirmed of a man, about whom we knew nothing, or if it was affirmed of any ordinary man, it could not be believed. For



The Mountain's Majesty is Reflected in the
Crystal Clear Water of the Lake

a naturalistic Christ we do not need a supernatural birth. But Jesus was no ordinary man. Never once in all his career does he make the faintest approach to confession of sin or moral imperfection.

He, who was so lowly of heart, reveals no consciousness of sin, and though he poured forth his thanks to God, the Father of all, he expresses no gratitude for personal sin pardoned or even averted. He is holy and divine in his whole personality, the Son of God and the Son of Man.

We conclude in saying: THE VIRGIN BIRTH OF CHRIST IN THE FULFILLMENT IN MARY REPRESENTS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA IN THE COURSE OF THE UNIVERSE. IT IS A NEW ENTRANCE OF THE CREATIVE POWER OF GOD IN SHARP DISTINCTION FROM THE ORDER OF NATURE. GOD'S FATHERHOOD AND MARY'S MOTHERHOOD GAVE US OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

About the King's Business

By the REV. THEO W. DONS, General Evangelist

Texas is a great state. Its greatness lies not only in the fact that it is the largest state in the union but also because it numbers many "live" churches belonging to our denomination.

It was my privilege to work in these churches for almost three months, beginning with the first of August. It was a wonderful experience for me to get an insight into our work in the Southern Conference, and the blessing received by working among these people will keep my heart fires warm for a long time.

Our denomination is blessed with men and women who are good stewards of the Lord Jesus Christ. There are great possibilities in the realm of stewardship in all our southern churches, and our denominational goals may receive a big advance because of the vision of God's people in Louisiana and Texas.

Mowata, La., where the Rev. Paul Hintze is pastor of a small group which is strong spiritually and financially, was the first stop. The church at Cottonwood, Tex., is a strong and virile church offering a real challenge to the new pastor, the Rev. C. H. Seecamp of La Salle, Colo., who is coming to them. Crawford, Texas, where the Rev. C. C. Gossen has served in an admirable way for 14 years and where I concluded my first trip, still has fine opportunities.

The second trip included two weeks with the Greenvine Baptist Church near Burton, Texas, where the Rev. J. J. Lippert is a faithful servant. Although weather conditions were somewhat against us, still the Lord blessed us as we met together day after day. The community is strongly attached to the Missouri Lutheran Church and not responsive to evangelistic meetings. However, there were some who attended. At the last meeting two children made a confession of faith. Financially this church has been undergoing difficulties, and yet a splendid mission offering was received.

The church near Donna, in the beautiful Rio Grande Valley where the citrus fruits grow and where the highways are lined with palms, is small in number but strong spiritually. The membership changes from year to year, due to the transitory population. Strangers are hard to reach, yet the group is united and is going forward under the genial leadership of the Rev. L. Hoeffner. Here as in every church a good mission offering was given. God granted us meetings in which his presence was manifested. Mr. Hoeffner and I took time out for a brief visit in Mexico but we decided the good old U. S. A. is the best place for us.

Kyle, Texas, was our last stop. Here the Rev. Max G. Mittelstedt, the friendly and capable pastor, holds forth. They



Rev. Theo W. Dons

have a splendid church edifice and the people have a cooperative spirit which is evidenced in the relationship of pastor and church. All the while we were in Texas we experienced very warm weather except when we came to Kyle. The beginning was wonderful and the sun shone in all its brightness.

During the course of the week, however, a "norther" came up which chilled us to the bone. It affected the attendance very much but not the spirit. Although unconverted are hard to persuade to come to church, still the

A Colporter's Meditations

By MR. A. D. SCHANTZ, the Colporter of Our Publication Society

Traveling from coast to coast, one can see God's watered garden on display. In the 19th Psalm we read: "The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handy work." Going from church to church and state to state, I have often been carried to the wonders and beauties of the third heavens, it seems. Often as I have viewed the wonderful scenes with their charming beauty and splendor, I have thought that my eyes deceived and my mind betrayed me. But God alone can make the fruitful garden.

We see all of this beauty because of one thing. God made the spring of unfailing blessings whose waters fail not. And as God showers his temporal blessings upon the earth through the sun, moon, stars, clouds and the rains to make it bring forth harvests to give seed to the sower, and bread to the hungry, so does God shower his spiritual blessings upon his children who are

General Evangelist in North Dakota

The first experiences of the Rev. Theo. W. Dons of Forest Park, general evangelist, in meetings in North Dakota were accompanied by many blessings. On Sunday, November 16, he was the guest speaker at the mission festival of the Baptist Church at Washburn, No. Dak. The offering amounted to \$116.50.

From November 17 to 28 he conducted evangelistic meetings in the Baptist Church of Underwood, No. Dak., during which there were 10 confessions of faith in Christ as Savior. A total of \$154 in mission offerings were received by this church.

On Thanksgiving Day, November 20, Mr. Dons spoke at the union service held in the Washburn Methodist Church. His theme was "Gratitude to God." The Rev. Rudolph R. Woyke is pastor of both the Washburn and Underwood Churches.

churches received the inspiration of a series of meetings. We closed our meetings in Kyle on the second Sunday night with a large audience.

My impression of the South is quite favorable. Our churches are alive and active and interested in our denominational enterprise.

I want to express my personal appreciation to the people and pastors who have shown me much kindness and consideration. We covet the intercession on our behalf as we strive to continue to evangelize.

recipients and whose hearts and minds are open to receive the heavenly blessings. Only obedient children of God are springs of blessings, whose waters fail not. Christ said, "He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living waters."

God is pleased to see our lives as fruitful and as beautiful as a watered garden. He cannot be delighted in any other. It is a thrill to see the high peaked and snow capped mountains, the lakes with their beautiful rainbow colors, and the rivers with their swift flowing streams and waters as clear as crystal. The display of trees, when they change their foliage, show forth God as their Master Painter and perfect Artist in their beautiful variety of colors. In all of this God is revealing the beauties of heaven and is calling mankind to a higher place of life. It is God's watered garden in which he is

The Need of the Hour

By the REV. ARTHUR ITTERMANN of Emery, South Dakota, Chairman of the Dakota Conference Evangelistic Committee

Critical times demand sane and decisive action. During these crucial days our beloved country has acted quickly in various branches of our American life, yet, many public-spirited men, as statesmen, business men, prison wardens, criminologists, social welfare workers, and editors concur that decisive action for spiritually arousing our American people is imperative. Our land's desperate needs and conditions call and demand this during rising inflation, morally decadent home life, tragic crime in youth, economic decay, and threatening social upheavals and revolutions. We need a spiritually and morally sound people able to bear and sacrifice courageously for our cherished Union.

"What America again badly needs is responsibility to a Christian God," comments the prominent Chicago attorney, Daniel Schuyler, not necessarily a religious man, but a student of government and of ordered society. In commenting on our vital problem, youth, the distinguished Major General Leonard Wood remarks: "If American youth are losing their religious interest, the fact must be accepted as an evidence of our national decay."

Likewise, with many fellow editors, W. O. Hart, of the Orange (Calif.) Daily News states: "The American people should again get back to that sublime faith in a Supreme Being which was the guiding beacon of our forefathers. We need to feel a responsibility to a Creator in order that we may have a feeling of responsibility to our government and to our fellow men. Such a condition would save the civilization we know. We need to make sacrifices, but to do that, we need an aroused spirituality."

Similar noble and lofty spiritual aspirations from distinguished personages should prompt Christians to prayerful and energetic promotion for a great spiritual awakening. Let us cooperate with like-minded Christian workers until our beloved land sees the fulfilled promise of God in 2. Chron. 7: 14: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Last summer at the Dakota Conference our Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union, seeing the great need of evangelism in our Dakota Conference as well as in our beloved land, decided to promote vigorously "Soul Winning" as the important mission of the church of Christ. To this end a promoter of evangelism was

appointed to encourage young and old to help win lost souls. This director of evangelism, the Rev. Arthur Ittermann, successfully encouraged through God's rich blessings many young people's societies as well as Sunday School workers to adopt and follow out with great enthusiasm and the true courage of "a good soldier of Christ" his following recommendations for effective evangelism.

The recommendations are that every member of Christ surrender wholly to God; that societies follow a study course on personal evangelism with the text book, the ten cent booklet of Oscar Lowry, entitled, "Scripture Memorizing and Successful Personal Work." Prayer groups are to be formed to meet before the Sunday evening service or other convenient time to pray definitely for our needy world, land, churches, and lost souls, and to prepare good evangelistic programs to be exchanged with our other churches for the promotion of evangelism.

The distribution of gospel tracts is to be accomplished through church tract racks, personal distribution by letter or personal contact, or by having local newspapers publish sound gospel tracts under the caption, "Soul Harvesting Enterprise," "Tract Department," etc. The pastor or local influential church members can effectively encourage in critical times as these their editors of local papers to publish gospel tracts or good religious quotations in paragraph form for the sake of heightening the morality of our land and preserving our democracy and liberty so dearly bought by our forefathers.

Further, full cooperation among pastor, S. S. superintendent and B. Y. P. U. president is asked for the encouragement of eager personal soul winning on the part of Christians during revival meetings as well as for perennial evangelism. A key-person is to be appointed to report to the evangelism promoter from time to time concerning problems and victories and to what extent these recommendations are being realized.

Above all, "for a time such as this" united prayer is asked that God may call forth many evangelistic laborers in his harvest field to save many precious souls and our present world civilization from complete chaos, yes, to save America even as in a critical revolutionary period the Wesley brothers saved England through the promotion of evangelism.

challenging us to pattern our lives spiritually to the likeness of such a beautiful garden.

We as a denomination are God's watered garden. In all of these one-hundred years God has showered his spiritual blessings upon us and prospered us. He made us a spiritual family in heavenly places. The sacrifices were made by our fore-fathers whom God used mightily and through whom he showed his regenerating power and sustaining grace. Through their submissiveness to God's Holy Spirit they faithfully discharged the responsibilities that God placed upon them concerning his Kingdom by their earnest zeal and faithful labors.

But now God, through them, has placed their charge upon our shoulders

A "Baptist Herald" Innovation

Among the numerous interesting changes planned for next year's volume of the BAPTIST HERALD will be one which does not originate with the editor.

By decision of the executive committee of the National Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union, a small picture of the editor will appear as part of the editorial page heading beginning with the January, 1, 1942, issue. In this matter the committee overruled the modesty and objections of our general secretary.

We believe the readers of the BAPTIST HERALD will enjoy the personal touch which the picture of Mr. Leuschner will provide as he speaks through his editorials.

HAROLD J. PETKE
for the committee.

and has left the responsibility with us to carry on God's Kingdom enterprise. How are we going to carry on? How are we meeting the needs of God's demands of us? Our lives through our deeds and actions and through the service we render is that spring of water by which God's garden will be and must be watered. If the garden fails, then the spring of water will have ceased to flow in us.

And yet, with all of our shortcomings, there is a Spirit that is felt and a tie of Christian fellowship existing that cannot be found in any other group of Baptists. Having now been in to many of our churches and attending the many conferences and associations and since I belonged formerly to another family of Baptists, I can speak of my own experience. If you only once plunge deeply into the spirit of our Baptist family, you will feel assured that such a spirit cannot be found in any other group. But God is challenging us "that our denomination was, still is, and shall ever be, a well watered garden, and a spring of water, whose waters fail not."

What's Happening News

(Continued from Page 462)

On January 1, 1942, Miss Victoria A. Orthner of Forest Park, Ill., the church missionary and worker of the Forest Park Baptist Church for the past 13 years, and Mr. Robert Preiss, a trustee of the church and chairman of the same board for many years, will be married at Coral Gables, Florida, at the home of the bride's mother. The officiating minister will be the Rev. Frank Orthner, a brother of the bride. After an extended honeymoon trip, the bridal couple will be at home at 36 No. Brainard Ave., La Grange, Illinois, after January 25th. Miss Orthner's resignation as missionary of the Forest Park Church will take effect on December 15th.

The 50th anniversary of the Women's Missionary Union of New York City and vicinity was held on Friday afternoon and evening, November 21, at the Harlem Baptist Church of New York. Dr. William Kuhn of Forest Park, Ill., was the guest speaker at both services. Large crowds of more than 300 people attended the meetings and marveled at the beautiful decorations and enjoyed the delightful fellowship. Mrs. Victor Prendinger, the president of the Union for 10 years, was presented with gifts and a bouquet of flowers as a token of the high esteem in which she is held. New officers for the Union were elected, and a male chorus sang in the evening service.

On Thursday evening, November 20, the members of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Detroit, Mich., held their annual church night with a fellowship dinner and inspirational program. Dr. Albert Hughes of Toronto, Canada, was the guest speaker for the fifth time on similar occasions. The special Thanksgiving Day offering amounted to \$20,844.49, of which \$1,000 were designated for the missionary enterprise of the denomination and the rest for the building fund of the church. Mr. Norman J. Boehm, treasurer of the building fund, spoke in behalf of the fund after the offering had been received, after which several thousand dollars more were added in cash and pledges. The church is showing great enthusiasm for its new building project. The Rev. George A. Lang is pastor.

An impressive Thanksgiving Service was held by the Trinity Church of Portland, Ore., on Thursday, November 20. The unique program featured brief addresses on "Why I am Thankful" by a schoolboy, James Krueger; an office girl, Lillian Heissler; a nurse, Lydia Frey; a mechanic, Edward Neubauer; a farmer, Mr. Christian Kraft; a mother, Mrs. Hulda Leypoldt; a builder, Mr. Harry Johnson; a minister, Rev. Theo. A. Leger; and a home missionary, Ione Widing. The Rev. Paul Gebauer, one of our Cameroon

Christmas Holidays for Our Seminary Students

The following students of the Rochester Baptist Seminary are going to the places mentioned after their names to spend their Christmas holidays:

Henry Lang at Plevna, Mont.

Lorenz Michelson at Martin, North Dakota.

Robert Zimbelman at McClusky, No. Dak.

Alex Elssesser at Milwaukee, Wis.

Melvin Pekrul at Cleveland, O.

Gideon Zimmerman at Cleveland, O.

Fred Mashner at Cleveland, O.

William Jeschke at Buffalo, N. Y.

Fred Schmidt at Buffalo, N. Y.

Vincent Sprock at Buffalo, N. Y.

Henry Schmuland at Buffalo, N. Y.

Edwin Miller at Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Bruno Schreiber at Bethlehem, Pa.

Alex Sootzman at New York, N. Y.

Vernon Link at Buffalo, N. Y.

John Giesbrecht at Buffalo, N. Y.

Albert Bretschneider, President.

missionaries, brought the main address. A ladies' quartet and the church choir rendered musical numbers. The offering for our missionary enterprise amounted to more than \$600. The Rev. John Leypoldt, D. D., is pastor of the church.

On Friday evening, October 24, the members and friends of the Riverview Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minn., gathered for the dedication of its new Orgatron, which was the realization of the hopes of all those who united their sacrificial gifts to crystalize this dream into achievement. A concert of organ music was given by Mrs. Philip A. Sandberg, an accomplished organist of St. Paul. Other musical items consisted of a number by the church choir and solos by Mrs. Mildred Crisman and Dwight L. Parker. Mr. Wm. Stassen, Sr., chairman of the board of trustees, made the presentation of the organ key which was in turn accepted by Mrs. Frank Stassen, our organist. The service of dedication and dedicatory prayer were given by the pastor, the Rev. John Wobig.

The Thanksgiving Day Service of the Salt Creek Baptist Church near Dallas, Ore., was held in connection with the annual church dinner on Thursday, November 20. The missionary offering of the church amounted to \$438, to which more was added enabling the church to send \$500 to headquarters as its part in the Denominational Thanksgiving and Sacrifice Week. At the Union Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday evening, November 19, conducted at the Dallas High School Auditorium, one of the speakers was the Rev. Otto Nallinger, pastor of the Salt Creek Church. On Sunday evening, November 23, the young people's society showed pictures in color of the Oregon Young People's Assembly of the past

summer, at which Mr. Nallinger served as dean.

On Wednesday evening, November 5, the members and friends of the Grace Baptist Church of Grand Forks, No. Dak., gathered at the church for an "Appreciation Night." This was highlighted by a fine dinner served by the ladies, followed by a program. It was called "Appreciation Night," because the basement of the church had been remodeled, making two additional classrooms, and the entire basement had been redecorated. This entailed considerable work and expense. All the labor was donated by the men of the church after their regular working hours. The pastor, the Rev. J. C. Gunst, worked side by side with the men, encouraging them by his own diligent efforts. Upon completion of the project, this "Appreciation Night" was arranged to show recognition for the splendid volunteer work of the men and the pastor.

Mr. F. W. Godtfriing, secretary of the Baptist Life Association of Buffalo, N. Y., since 1911, was recently given a reception at the Y. M. C. A. of San Francisco, Calif., attended by 42 persons who were faithful members and workers on various committees of the German Branch Y. M. C. A. during the years from 1890 to 1895 while Mr. Godtfriing was the general secretary of that branch of the San Francisco Y. M. C. A. It was an unique occasion, because all present were now old people, and Mr. Godtfriing was actually embarrassed, as he reported, because he could not recognize many of them due to the changes in 45 to 50 years in their appearance. About half of those present were at Mr. and Mrs. Godtfriing's wedding on July 18, 1893. The old German hymns were sung and old photographs were exhibited. The reception lasted fully four hours.

The Rev. William Kuhn, D. D., general missionary secretary, spent ten days recently on a trip to the Atlantic Coast. On Wednesday evening, November 19, he addressed the Thanksgiving Eve service of the Andrews St., Church of Rochester, N. Y., of which the pastor, the Rev. D. Fuchs, was in charge. On Thursday evening he spoke at the Thanksgiving Day service of the Immanuel Church of New York City, where a mission offering of about \$140 was received. The church was well filled for this occasion with the pastor, the Rev. John Grygo, conducting the service. On Saturday evening, November 22, Dr. Kuhn addressed the banquet gathering of the Fellowship Church of Passaic, N. J., on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and also on Sunday evening November 23, he brought the anniversary sermon. The Rev. William Stroh led his church in this festive program. On Sunday morning, November 23, Dr. Kuhn was the guest speaker in the Pilgrim Baptist Church of Jersey City, N. J., of which the Rev. Victor Prendinger is pastor.

His Christmas Star

A Beautiful Christmas Story Written for "The Baptist Herald"
by FRANCES REX of Aberdeen, Washington

John Brenner smiled down at his young wife sitting beside him on the cushioned seat. "I can guess what you are thinking about," he said.

She smiled back at him. "Of course you can. I have thought of nothing else since you received that letter from Mayor Hanford. Just think of being asked to do that! It is too wonderful! I've thanked God a hundred times already."

"It is a little feather in my hat," admitted John.

"'Little feather'!" expostulated Ann, "it's a great big plume!"

"And you don't mind not spending Christmas as we had planned?"

"Not in the least. This is so much better. When will we get there?"

"Christmas eve if all goes well."

"Just the night before! That won't give you much time to rest and prepare your speech. What do you mean, 'If all goes well'?"

"The car isn't pulling right and with all these mountains ahead, I think we'd better stop at this next town and have it looked over."

"Oh, no, John! Don't stop unless you have to; it takes so much time. Maybe the car will be all right."

"Maybe we will get stuck and have to be towed in, too."

And two days later they did.

It is not pleasant to be held over by car trouble in a small mountain village when you have plenty of time on your hands. When it is the Christmas season and you are in a big hurry to obey a summons from your mayor that will mean a feather in your hat, it is a good deal worse.

John and Ann sat across from each other in the dingy little dining room of the town's one hotel. Ann's lips were trembling. "This is the day before Christmas, John. We will never get there in time now."

"They say we can have the car by five this afternoon. Maybe if we drove all night—"

Ann toyed with her food, her appetite gone. John reached out and patted her hand.

"When we trust
We do not worry.
When we worry,
We do not trust."

He quoted. "Now never mind about that feather." He grinned.

A small blond waitress brought them some extra butter and gave them a curious look.

"That's odd," said Ann, "we didn't ask for more butter and, besides, we have plenty." She glanced up and caught the blond girl looking at her again. "John," she whispered, "is my hat on crooked?"

"You look good to me. What's the matter?"

"That waitress keeps looking at us." And then a minute later: "Here she comes again and this isn't her table either."

The girl filled their water glasses and Ann smiled at her. She hesitated, shifted the pitcher to her other hand and then spoke:

"Aren't you the couple who were through here two months ago and left some tracts?"

"Yes, we ate here and left some," said Ann while John looked up interestedly.

"I found them when I cleared your table and I—I just wanted to tell you how much I appreciated them. It's so unusual—getting anything like that."

Ann beamed in delight. "I'm so glad! We left tracts in every hotel and cabin, garage and filling station where we stopped on our trip."

The girl looked astonished. "What a wonderful idea! What a lot of good you must do! Are you missionaries or—a preacher?" Her glance fluttered to John.

"Neither," he said. "Our name is Brenner. Real estate is my business, but we always take time to be interested in the King's business too."

"I am Kate Jason," said the girl, "I visited in Portland last year and was saved there. It's been hard since I came back. There's no regular preaching services here and my father is very indifferent. Mother is dead. I haven't met anyone who cares. They just laugh

at me here in the hotel. It's hard—and lonely. But I daren't stand here talking." She picked up the pitcher again. "I just wanted to thank you." She walked away and Ann began eating with relish.

"Just think of that, John! Maybe there has been quite a few like her who have been helped by our tracts. We've passed out hundreds."

John nodded. "And that man at the filling station back in Nebraska. He seemed so interested. I was glad I had that gospel of John to give him."

"We can send him more literature when we get home. John, if this Kate Jason gets off an hour this afternoon, let's ask her to come into the lobby and spend it with us. Maybe we can help her."

Yes, Kate had two hours off and she accepted their invitation with almost pitiful eagerness.

They sat down to wait and John dozed. Three o'clock. Three thirty, quarter to four and still no Kate! She went back on duty at four-thirty. Ann awakened John.

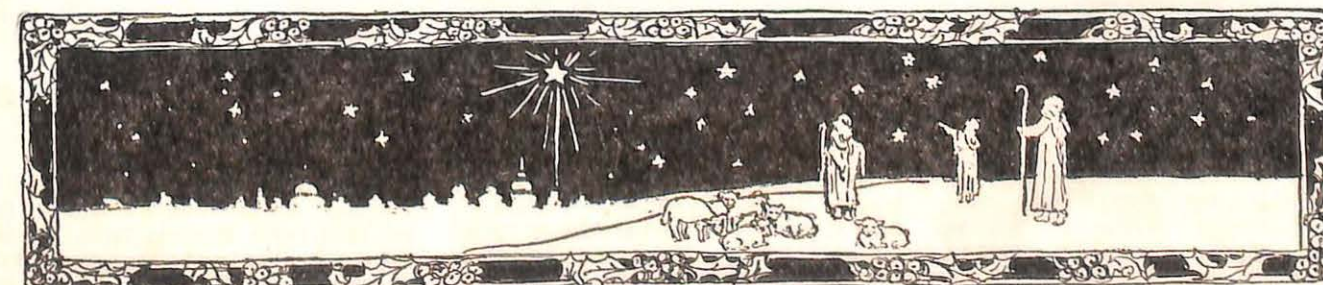
"Do you suppose she was kidding us, after all?"

"She seemed perfectly sincere. Besides, what could have been her motive?"

At four o'clock she came in breathless and covered with snow. "I'm so sorry to be late," she panted, "but I had to run home first and set out father's supper. Then just as I was leaving he slipped on the back steps and broke his leg and I had to send for the doctor. He was scolding me about being so excited about you folks and he wasn't looking where he was going—that's how he happened to fall. I wish—oh, would it be asking too much for you to go out there and talk to him? It's about a mile though and there isn't a sidewalk, but father's not saved—oh! if you had time before your car was fixed—"

John sprang to his feet. "Of course, I'll go! I'd like nothing better. Ann, you can stay here and talk with Kate."

(Continued on Page 472)



★ The Prodigal Returns ★

By HAROLD GARNET BLACK

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SYNOPSIS

Benoni, the younger son of the Hebrew farmer, Ezra ben Israel, felt an irresistible desire to be free, to be away from all parental restraint and from the necessities and duties of home and the farm. One evening he divulged some of these upsurging thoughts of his heart to his older brother, Chislon, who was stunned by what he heard. When he was told by Benoni that he even wanted to ask his father to let him have his share of the property that would be coming to him later, he said: "I think that some people would call you crazy! You had better go to bed!" But Benoni only paced up and down the roof, thinking about his alluring dreams.

CHAPTER TWO

The Urge of Youth

That night Benoni lay tossing on his bed, for he was restless of mind and body. He had visions of feminine loveliness rise before him, visions of gaiety and pleasure, of wine and dancing, of late hours spent amid bejeweled splendor. It was a gorgeous dream from which he could not get away, even if he would, full of superb loveliness, dazzling pleasure, gay companions, lively song, sparkling wine, and beautiful ladies.

In all of this there was nothing of sheep and cattle, of sun-burned toil, or of parental oversight or control, the things to which for so long a time he had been accustomed and which he had taken as second nature and without question. There was no dank smell of moist soil, decaying leaves, no pungent, acrid suggestion of sheepfold or stable, but only those delicious, fragrant odors that were associated with the perfumes of Arabia or the rich spices of the East.

Benoni had one obsession now, and one only—to get away from the sheltering roof of his old home and lead a life of unadulterated pleasure so well suited to his jocund, fun-loving spirit. His mind was made up. He was determined to break away. There were just the two boys. He would ask his father to divide the inheritance at once so that he might take his share and do with it as he liked. Benoni had no assurance that he would outlive his father. In that case he would have no opportunity to enjoy what Ezra ben Israel's death would bring to him as the younger son of a rich man. He would tell him the very next morning while the urge was still strong upon him. He must quaff the wine of life for himself.

Benoni wakened early. His mind was excited with the splendid dream of what such a vastly changed life might bring him. He knew, however, that to persuade his father to his point of view would not be an easy task. Such a strange idea would likely strike ben Israel as a thunderbolt strikes a great oak on the forest-clad sides of Mount Tabor.

After the morning meal, Ezra rose and strode across the earth-hardened floor. At the door he paused a moment.

"I'm going to get a pruning-hook," said he, "and go up to the olive orchard and then to the vineyard. The grapes are already beginning to turn purple. What a huge yield we shall have this season! Never better. God has indeed been good to us. We should be more than ever thankful to Him."

Benoni was not all sure that this was the right moment to speak of his new hope and wish. He, therefore, hesitated a moment; but just as his father turned to go out, the boy, summoning up all his courage, called out, "Father!"

"Yes, my son," said the older man as he stopped at the threshold a moment and turned to look at him.

"Father," continued the boy, "don't be surprised at what I am about to say."

"Surprised! What is the matter? Why surprised?" asked Ezra, his voice and manner contradicting his words and betraying a little agitation in spite of himself.

"For some months," went on Benoni, "indeed I think it is really years, I have been wanting to see something of the world about us, but I have always remained here at home with you and Chislon and the servants, believing that it was my duty to do so. Lately, however, I have had . . ."

"What would you do?" interrupted Ezra ben Israel, suddenly sensing the situation. "Go away? Leave your father? No, no, that cannot be."

"Yes, father, that is it, though not just as you say it," replied Benoni, with a trace of a boyish smile. "I do not really want to leave you and Chislon—that is not it—but I do want to see something of the world, and I suppose that means leaving home. Here I feel so hemmed in."

"Impossible!" said his father excitedly, as if stunned by a sudden blow.

"No, not impossible," explained the boy. "You see you are well-to-do. You have Chislon to lean on and many men-servants and maidservants under you. You have no real need of me."

Ezra ben Israel turned a little, almost staggered. His eyes sought the door, through which he could glimpse the rock-strewn hills so familiar to him. They seemed quite different now.

"I shall likely want to come back again later," added Benoni, the words seeming to come from nowhere as a little wedge by means of which he hoped to open the door of his father's will so that he might grant him his heart's great desire.

"No, no, my son," replied Ezra, "I need you. I need both you and Chislon. For all these years since dear Rachel's death I've worked for you two boys, growing rich and prosperous, that you might enjoy the result of our joint labors, might marry comely daughters of our own tribe so that you might bring honor, you and your children and children's children, upon the name of Israel and my father Ahiezer. And now you want to leave me. No, I say, it cannot be. You are mad, Benoni, to ask it. I pray you say no more about it. I am rich. You are young; you are healthy; you have everything you need and should be happy. I beg of you, mention no more to me this strange, this crazy notion of yours."

"But, father," protested Benoni, with a wistful eagerness in his voice, "I am not happy here. I crave excitement and have none in this place. I wish to see the world. I've scarcely ever been beyond the narrow confines of these Idumean hills. Once you took me to rock-hewn Petra away to the south, it is true; and I have been to the temple at Jerusalem a half dozen times, and twice to Bethlehem of Judea, but never once even to Gaza or Nazareth, much less to Tyre or Sidon or Caesarea Philippi."

Into his father's eyes had come a look of profound sadness.

"I wish to know," continued Benoni with eager enthusiasm, "what the outside world is like, to see the cities built on far-off plains, to visit for myself the places that bronze-faced caravan travelers have told me of—with their strange peoples and stranger customs, their hanging gardens and lordly palaces. All these would I see, and perhaps . . ."

"Why, son, how can you think . . .?" broke in his father. But Benoni continued without stopping.

"I feel cramped and hedged in here," he went on to say, "and I need room to breathe. I crave freedom to come and go. I've tried hard to be contented here, father, but it is of no use. I have been

fashioned for some other kind of life. Can't you see that I . . .?"

"No more, son, no more—please; your speech hangs like a dark cloud upon me. I must go now," said Ezra ben Israel, as with slow and saddened step he strode across the threshold in the direction of his olive trees and his purpling vineyards beyond. Heavy indeed was his heart that day. His feet were lead. The light of life seemed to be slowly flickering out.

"What can the boy be thinking about?" he muttered to himself as he walked slowly toward the low-lying hills, for Benoni's eagerness to get away had chilled him to the very marrow. "I can't understand him; he is so unlike Chislon. I named him Benoni, 'the son of my sorrow.' Alas, poor Rachel, my beloved, he has indeed become the child of my sorrow."

On he strode, haltingly, like a stricken deer.

"Yes, my beloved, this is the greatest sadness that has come upon me since we laid thee in the tomb of thy fathers," ben Israel kept murmuring to himself as he took her still loved name upon his lips. "I can't understand it," he repeated over and over again. "David sorrowed for Absalom, but this sorrow is of a different kind."

Ezra ben Israel did not sleep that night, but tossed restlessly back and forth till early dawn. Somehow, he felt old and lonely. Just before the shafts of sunrise shot across the eastern hill-tops and touched them with their ruddy, golden light, he dropped off into a quiet slumber. It lasted, however, for only a few minutes, for Chislon had already risen and, having taken a draught of goat's milk from an earthen pitcher, had tried to set it down again quietly; but it made just enough noise to waken the sleeping man.

In those few minutes of temporary and benign forgetfulness, however, Ezra ben Israel fancied that he saw the beloved face of his Rachel. She seemed to be smiling as she pointed to Benoni's bed. Never had she been more real. She was nodding with her head, as if urging her husband to accede to Benoni's strange and sudden request. He fancied that he could see her lips moving as she framed words that clearly said, "Let him go."

Had Rachel returned, he wondered, a heavenly visitant, to make him see that he had been wrong in his decision of yesterday? It was indeed she; that he well knew. Her red, full lips, her beautiful face, her flashing eye and sunny smile were the same he had known when he married her in the month of Sivan more than a score of years before. What a lovely creature she had been, always with a song on her lips and a spirit as fresh as the morning dew and as bright as the many-colored rainbow!

Unfortunately, however, the sound of the earthen pitcher had aroused Ezra from his dream-vision. He awakened with a sudden start, then closed his eyes again in an effort to restore the

image of his loved one. But his effort was futile. She was gone!

Turning over on one side, he sat up on the edge of his bed and thrust his feet into his leathern sandals.

What did this dream mean? he began asking himself. Was she a "familiar spirit" whose will must be obeyed, even if it did not seem wise to him, even at peril to himself? He remembered that the aged king Saul had secretly gone to a familiar spirit at Endor, and now he himself must follow the nodded suggestion of his well beloved, even though he could not understand why. Jehovah, he believed, must be in it; but the thought of losing his son nevertheless gave him an aching heart. He could not help feeling a sense of terrible desolation, for his heart was deeply human and his love for Benoni was very great.

Supposing that Benoni should leave the old home. Whither would he travel? Would he go to the region of the Egyptian Nilus river whence their forefathers had escaped through the intervention of Jehovah and the wisdom of Moses? Would he visit world-renowned market-places? Would he travel to ancient Damascus and to those, ruined cities near the swirling waters of the Tigris or the many-channeled Euphrates? He didn't know. Quite likely the boy didn't know, either.

At any rate he would wait for Benoni to renew the conversation rather than reintroduce the subject himself. Perhaps after the turn of yesterday's events, the son would not speak of it again. That, at least, was Ezra ben Israel's wish—and his hope.

But if he thought that, he did not know his younger son. Scarcely had they finished their morning meal of bread and goat's milk and dried figs, before Benoni once more broached the question that lay next to his heart. He had noticed that his father had seemed less talkative than usual, and he was sure he knew why. Nevertheless, he would try once again, yet fearing that his parent's mind was likely unchanged. In the depths of his soul there still lingered, however, the faintest of hopes.

"Father," said he, as soon as he thought he saw an opening to resume the subject so close to his heart, "have you given any more thought to our talk of yesterday?"

"My son," said Ezra, "you surprised me yesterday with a strange request. I am about to surprise you with as strange an answer. Yes, I have thought of it. Indeed, I have thought of nothing else. When I rose this morning, I got up with the wish—the hope—that you would not mention the subject again."

"Then I can't go," murmured Benoni, believing he had read his father's thought and anticipated his words. His face showed how keen and bitter was his disappointment.

"Let me explain, Benoni," replied his father, "and tell you what is in my mind. I said that I rose with the hope that you would not mention the unpleasant subject again. Since then, however, a strange, a peculiar thing

has happened; another feeling, a different one, has taken possession of me."

"What do you mean, father?" asked the boy eagerly.

"It is difficult to tell you," replied Ezra ben Israel, "but I shall try. Your suddenly expressed wish to leave home cut like a lash across my face, for I had had no hint of your discontent before. I had never dreamed of it. It was hard to believe that your heart yearned so for such a different kind of life, because I had always taken it for granted that you and Chislon would remain here to till these fertile valleys and mountain sides, to gather grapes and olives, pomegranates and figs, from vineyard and orchard, and to feed your flocks and herds upon these Idumean hills. Your strange words leaped at me like a wild animal in the dark and stunned me with their suddenness, their seeming audacity. I thought they betrayed a lack of affection, a sense of ingratitude. . ."

"No, not that, father," Benoni broke in. "I'm not ungrateful."

"I believe now that you are right about that," admitted the elder man. "It is not that you lack affection; you are not really ungrateful; it is only that you have the heart of a boy. It is hard for age to understand the spirit of youth. It must always be so, because nature has made us that way. Rarely is there built a bridge of thorough understanding between the two which both may travel with ease, safety, and assurance. You want to try your own wings as the young eaglet must in time try his, if he is ever to learn to fly."

"Then I may really go?" Benoni's eyes were all eagerness.

"Last night," continued Ezra ben Israel, ignoring the boy's question, "I lay on my bed and tossed about, scarcely closing my eyes. Toward morning I fell asleep, but for a brief time only. In those all too few minutes, however, I had a kind of vision of Rachel, your dear mother, as she was when she came from Hebron to be my lovely bride, as beautiful as a doe upon the mountains. She seemed to be veritably alive. Indeed, I think she must have been alive, for she smiled and gave me clearly to understand that I should grant your wish and thus gratify your desire."

"Wonderful!" exclaimed the boy excitedly.

"I believe now," continued Ezra without stopping "that she was sent by the great Jehovah to guide me in my decision. When I rose this morning, however, I could not quite bring myself at first to change my resolution, for only yesterday I had declared that to grant your request was quite impossible. But the memory of that lovely early morning vision has since led me to believe that I was wrong. Indeed, I am certain that I was wrong. So now I am ready to say that you may go—and may the blessing of Jehovah go with you and keep you!"

"Oh, father, that's wonderful!" again shouted Benoni as he seized his father

by both arms and began to dance up and down around him in sheer ecstasy.

It was an important decision that was made that morning in the house of Ezra ben Israel. It marked the turning point in a human life. The result of such a decision no man could possibly foresee. The pattern of life is intricately woven, full of light and dark colors to give variety and beauty. To Benoni that decision brought high hopes, to Chislon vastly greater responsibility.

And so it was agreed that Ezra ben Israel should divide his inheritance between his two sons. According to Jewish law, Benoni, as the younger son, would inherit one-third of his father's wealth. To translate Jewish wealth into a portable character was not difficult, for in the great city of Jerusalem were money lenders and jewel merchants who made such transactions their everyday business.

Then began a great stir and bustle, as friends learned what had just happened. The sixth day thereafter found Benoni and his father sitting astride two she-asses which had been brought by servants to the door of their home, ready to take them on their journey to the capital city.

Chislon was sad that day; he was thinking of what the months ahead might have in store for him after his brother had gone. He was somewhat resentful, too, for he realized that he himself might have asked to go away in search of pleasure and excitement, and yet hadn't done it; perhaps also a bit jealous at the thought of the happy prospect which so dazzled the mind of his brother.

"Farewell, Benoni," said he, when at last the travelers were ready to start. "May the Lord watch between thee and me while we are absent one from another."

"Farewell, brother," returned Benoni, as he pulled on his reins, "may Jehovah watch over all of us." There was a note of sadness in his voice in spite of the fact that he was eager to be off.

As the two rode down the lane to where it turned into the street leading to the main highway, the boy looked back and waved his hand. There, standing near Chislon, were the menservants and maidservants, all assembled outside the low stone cottage to wish them Godspeed. Light of heart was Benoni; at last he was on his way to the Land of his Heart's Desire.

They had started about three hours after sunrise in order to be able to rest through the middle of the day, when the sun was hottest. When they left, there were scarcely any other travelers abroad, though they saw, some rods ahead, one man hurrying along on the back of a donkey, perhaps hastening towards Carmel, possibly going to Gaza. Presently they passed another wayfarer journeying with his wife and child, going almost south, whence Ben Israel had come. The mother and child were seated on the back of a camel, while the husband walked by the side

of his long-eared donkey, apparently making their way back to the edge of the desert. As they passed, they bowed solemnly to each other, but apart from that there was no other sign of greeting, all being severally intent on their own business.

The sky was well-nigh cloudless. The stone-covered hills were parched and bare for the most part, with only slight signs of vegetation here and there. Rocky wastes they were, with little on them save occasional briars and thorns or other low-lying shrubs. The roads were dusty and the air was moistureless.

Towards noon Ezra ben Israel took from his saddle-bag a handful of dried figs and gave some to Benoni. It was extremely hot, for the full effect of the sun's blistering rays was now making itself felt. There was not a single breath of cooling wind. When the sun was nearing mid-heaven, they dismounted near where the road forked, one branch going up over the slope of a high hill toward the Dead Sea. At a short distance not far from where the road turned to the left, the travelers saw four or five palm trees that were drawing their meager sustenance from a niggardly soil. They knew that these would give them some relief and temporary shelter from the sun's burning rays.

Taking a wineskin from the side of his saddle, Ezra first took a long draught himself and then handed the remainder to his son. Though the wine was warm, it was, nevertheless, refreshing. Glad indeed were they to stretch themselves on the pebbled ground where the fan-shaped leaves cast their shadows. Fortunately, while they lay there, a gentle wind sprang up—so gentle that it was barely noticeable—but light as it was, it was indeed welcome, for it made the heat a little less oppressive.

"I wonder what the future has in store for us, my son," said the elder man, after they had further refreshed themselves with another handful of dried figs and a second deep draught of wine.

"Nothing but happiness, I'm sure," replied Benoni. "Perhaps I shall return some day full of wisdom, of experience, rich in the knowledge of this world and its ways, with a deep and abiding joy in my heart."

"May it be even so," said the elder man fervently, and then added, "I often think that Jehovah is very wise in withholding from us a vision of the future and of what the seeds of time may bring forth."

After the intense heat had abated a little, the two travelers, now greatly refreshed, got astride their beasts again and were soon once more on their way to Jerusalem. Occasionally a flock of wild birds flew over their heads with raucous cry.

As they proceeded, they met an increasing number of wayfarers. Some were weary and footsore; others were mounted on magnificent steeds and may

have been princes of some blood royal. They had already left Carmel behind them, had passed beyond Hebron, and were following the ever winding highway. They rode over the crests of the lower hills, across ample valleys, through ravines and narrow defiles walled in by precipices that showed scarcely any vegetation. The air continued to be dry and still quivered with the heat, and the road itself was covered with the gray dust of summer. After some hours of hard, slow travel, however, they saw on Mount Zion in the golden distance the walls and towers of the city of David. The fading day was arched by a sky that was full of lurid color, red changing into gold, and that presently into primrose and lavender and blue.

(To be continued)

HIS CHRISTMAS STAR

(Continued from Page 469)

Kate gave the necessary directions and John set out.

At four-thirty Kate went back to work and Ann, her head full of plans now, hurried out to shop in the town's few stores.

At five o'clock John had not returned and Ann walked over to the garage and got the car. She stowed her packages inside and drove out to the Jason place. It was Christmas eve and Ann felt more excited and "Christmasy" than she had felt in years.

John opened the door and motioned her into a chair, his finger on his lips. Then he went back into the adjoining room.

Ann waited, listening to the low murmur of voices. She knew the battle that was going on behind that closed door and knelt to pray.

Then she slipped out to the car and carried in the gifts she had brought. Quickly she decorated the bare little rooms with the candles and holly and set the potted plants in the window. Then she hurried to tuck the gifts into their gay tissue wrappings. There were two Bibles, a warm bath robe for Mr. Jason and some girlish articles for Kate. These finished, she piled them on the center table where Kate would find them when she came in late that night. Seven-thirty and the men were still talking in the next room.

At eight o'clock John Brenner opened the door and said, "Ann, come in and meet a new member of God's family."

They drove out into the Christmas night.

"We won't get there in time now, Ann," said John.

"I know, dear."

"It means that I won't get that feather in my hat." His right hand came down from the steering wheel to squeeze hers. "Sorry?"

"Not in the least," she said contentedly, "because, while you might not have a feather in your hat, you have something infinitely better and greater. You have a star in your crown!"

Reports from the Field

Southern Conference

Blessed Revival in the Small Elm Creek Church of Texas

Some of "The Herald" readers may wonder where Elm Creek, Texas, could be! It's a small church located about 30 miles east of San Antonio, or about the same distance southeast of Randolph Field, the so-called "West Point of the Air." This should give you an idea where Elm Creek and our church are located.

During the last week of September the Rev. Max Mittelstedt, minister of the Kyle Church and part time minister here, held a revival for one week. These days were of great blessing to us. Mr. Mittelstedt's sermons were given in such a clear way and with words filled with such meaning that they were taken into all the hearts of those who attended. We had the happy privilege to have eight young people surrender their lives to Christ as Savior during this series of meetings.

On Sunday, October 12, we had our baptismal service at the Seguin Baptist Church. We had the pleasure of having a group of Seguin and Kyle people present to celebrate this day of happiness with us. On the following Sunday these eight young people were received into the fellowship of our church, and the Lord's Supper was celebrated at the same time.

We know that God has blessed our small group, and we want to work for him in the future. With the help of our beloved minister, surely we will prosper.

LILLIE MAE SCHRAUB, Reporter.

The Kyle Baptist Training Union Elects New Officers

On Sunday evening, September 28, the Baptist Training Union of Kyle, Texas, held its annual business meeting. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Herbert Lengefeld, general director; Edwin Ahlhardt, Jr., vice-director; Virginia Merle Schmeltekopf, recording secretary; Joe Wiegand, treasurer; Margaret Lengefeld, pianist; and Adolph Wiegand, chorister.

We now have five groups for Seniors, Intermediates, Juniors, Adults and an adult group of young married people. This latter group was organized during the past year. All use the Southern Baptist quarterlies, except the adult group which is taught in German by our pastor, the Rev. Max Mittelstedt. We now have an enrollment of about 80 members in our B. T. U.

On Friday evening, October 24, we held our annual program, which consisted of a number by our male choir,

Rules for Reporters!

All reports should be addressed to the editor, Box 6, Forest Park, Illinois.

Every report to be eligible for publication must reach the editor within one month after the occurrence of the event reported. No late reports will be acceptable!

The reports should be kept as brief as possible. A maximum length of 300 words will be permitted. This will allow us to publish all reports received in every issue.

EDITOR.

Southwestern Conference

Sessions of the Oklahoma Association at Gotebo

The Oklahoma Association met from October 23 to 25 at the Salem Baptist Church of Gotebo. Due to inclement weather, there were no delegates present for the opening service, but on Friday evening four visitors from the Ingersoll church ventured through the mud.

It was impossible to carry out the program according to schedule, as only one of the speakers was present, namely, the Rev. E. Buening of Ingersoll. He brought several inspiring messages on the following subjects: "The Valley of Decision," "Awakening to Battle for Righteousness," "Sowing for the Master," and "God Send Workers." The Rev. H. A. Meyer, also of Ingersoll, spoke on the subject, "Overcoming Life."

On Sunday morning we were smilingly greeted with lovely sunshine, and we continued happily with our program. Mr. Meyer taught the Sunday School lesson, and Mr. Buening led the morning's worship with a most inspiring message.

On Sunday afternoon the young people had charge of the program which consisted of duets and quintets, a reading and a play entitled, "True Greatness." The Gotebo young people were assisted with this program by the young people of the Bessie and Ingersoll churches.

On Sunday night the song service was led by Earl Geis, followed by a solo by the Rev. H. A. Meyer, after which Mr. Buening brought the message, "God Send Workers." Due to the fact that we were unable to carry out our program on the first day of the association, we continued through Monday with the addition of three visitors.

On Monday afternoon all unfinished business was transacted. Mr. O. G. Graalman of Okeene was elected treasurer, and the Rev. H. Pfeiffer, Rev. Wm. Sturhahn, Rev. E. Buening, and Mr. Adolf Kosanke were elected to serve on the program committee. It was agreed that \$75.00 be sent to the Centenary Offering. The Ingersoll church extended the invitation for next year's association, which was readily accepted. A letter from the Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Reimer to the association was read, in which they expressed their regret in not being able to be present. They are now residing at Flagstaff, Arizona.

After a short song service and musical numbers, the Rev. H. Pfeiffer of Okeene and the Rev. Mr. Franz brought the closing messages.

MRS. WERNER SCHANTZ, Reporter.

reports by the secretary and treasurer, and a play entitled, "Follow Thou Me," which was the highlight of our program. We had a large crowd present with visitors from Elgin, Herter, Waco, Crawford, Lockhart and San Marcos. We held an offering which amounted to \$15.

We thank God for groups of young Christian people who try to accomplish more from time to time for his work. RUBY WIEGAND, Corresponding Sec'y.

A Thanksgiving Banquet Is Held by the Cottonwood Church of Texas

On Thursday evening, November 13, the Missionary Society of the Cottonwood Baptist Church near Lorena, Texas, sponsored a thanksgiving banquet in the dining hall of the church. The thanksgiving motif was carried out, and chrysanthemums decorated the banquet table.

Mrs. Adolph Kraemer, president of the missionary society, welcomed approximately 110 members and guests. A special program was rendered by the brotherhood under the able leadership of its president, Mr. Chas. Marstaller, Jr., who opened the program by reading Psalm 100.

The program consisted of three readings, "Little Willie's Hearing" by Walter Gordon Gummelt, "Little Willie's Complaint" by Gerald Wedemeyer, and "Where Do You Live?" by Walter Gummelt. We were very fortunate in having the Rev. P. Pfeiffer of our Waco church as our guest speaker, who chose a fitting topic for the occasion, using as his theme, "The Three Necessities of Life."

Our supply pastor, the Rev. John McGee of Baylor University, gave us a splendid presentation of the simple phrase, "Thank You," stressing the fact how easily these simple words are so often neglected. A quartet number and a song by the brotherhood were given. The program was closed with a word of thanks from our society president, Mrs. A. Kraemer, and Mr. Pfeiffer offered the closing prayer.

MRS. THEODORE NEHRING, Reporter.

Central Conference

Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. E. Marquardt is Celebrated at Chicago's East Side Church

The fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Marquardt of Oak Park, Ill., was celebrated at the East Side Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., on Wednesday evening, November 26. A delicious turkey dinner was served to 150 invited guests.

Following the dinner a formal service in charge of the pastor, the Rev. Herbert Koch, was held in the church auditorium. Mrs. Arthur Zimmerman played a medley of hymns and German chorals on the organ. The West Suburban Male Quartet rendered two sacred songs and one secular number, and a ladies' trio sang two appropriate selections. A humorous prose selection and three original poems written for the occasion were read.

Two former pastors of our church participated in the program. The Rev. Paul Friederichsen read the 103rd Psalm and offered the opening prayer, and the Rev. C. F. Lehr of Aplington, Iowa, gave the anniversary address based on 2. Thessalonians 3:5: "But the Lord is faithful, who shall establish you, and keep you from evil. And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ."

Mr. Carl J. Schroeder presented Mr. and Mrs. Marquardt with a box containing personal money gifts from friends. During the happy fellowship hour which followed light refreshments were served.

Mr. and Mrs. Marquardt have been loyal church members since their youth. Their friendliness, hospitality and simple faith in God have helped them to win a host of friends. During their residence on the East Side of Chicago Mr. Marquardt served our church in the capacity of deacon. Their daughter, Mrs. Herbert Gnass, has been active as a soprano soloist of the Forest Park Baptist Church choir, and their son-in-law, Mr. Otto Saffron, is a member of the well known West Suburban Male Quartet. May God richly bless our friends during the remaining sunset days of their life!

HERBERT L. KOCH, Pastor.

Northwestern Conference

Farewell Reception for the Rev. and Mrs. H. Hirsch in Minneapolis, Minnesota

The Faith Baptist Church of Minneapolis, Minn., held a farewell reception for its pastor, the Rev. H. Hirsch, and family on Friday evening, October 31, in the church.

A fine variety of reminiscences as well as best wishes for God's blessing was given by the representatives of church organizations, some in the form of addresses, some in poetry, and others in song. Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch also were



Mr. and Mrs. Emil Marquardt of Oak Park, Illinois, Who Celebrated Their Golden Wedding Recently.

given opportunity to express themselves.

The program was followed by a lunch in the church basement at which time short testimonials were brought and choruses were sung. A beautiful table lamp and an end table were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch from the members of the church.

Sunday, November 2, was Mr. Hirsch's last Sunday with us. His messages both in the morning and evening were inspirational. The thought he most desired to leave with us was that "Christ remaineth." Yes, what a wonderful thought to leave with us!

It goes without saying that we wish the Rev. H. Hirsch and family God's richest blessing in this new work of theirs in the Erin Avenue Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio.

ALBERT W. LANG, JR., Reporter.

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THE BAPTIST HERALD

105th Session of the Iowa Association at Elgin

The 105th Iowa Association met with the First Baptist Church of Elgin, Ia., from September 29 to October 1. The theme of the association was "The Divine Trinity." The Rev. C. F. Lehr, pastor of the Aplington Church, was the pre-convention speaker. His messages were very timely and inspiring. The Monday evening service was centered around "the Father" of the trinity. The Rev. H. W. Wedel spoke on the theme. The devotions were well attended and uplifting, the following leading them: Harry L. Johnson, Elgin; Lou G. Johnson, Steamboat Rock; John F. Miller, Elgin; and Chas. Willicke of Aplington.

The Tuesday's themes were centered on "The Christ" of the divine trinity. On Tuesday morning the Rev. Pieter Smit of Lorraine, Kansas, spoke on the theme, "Christ, Our Mediator" and the Rev. A. G. Lang of Britt, La., on the theme, "Christ, Our Atonement." On Tuesday afternoon the Rev. H. Lohr of Parkersburg spoke on the theme, "Christ, Our Immortality." The Rev. John Walkup of Sheffield brought the evening message speaking on the theme, "Christ, Our Strength."

The Rev. O. W. Brenner presided over the business sessions. The following officers were duly elected for the coming year: vice-moderator, Rev. H. W. Wedel of Victor; clerk, Rev. John Walkup of Sheffield; treasurer, Lou G. Johnson of Steamboat Rock. Mr. Chas. Willicke of Aplington was re-elected as a member on the mission committee. The amount of the mission offering was \$80.06. It was designated as follows: \$10.00 to Rev. Paul Zimbelman, \$10.00 to Mrs. Brenner and the remainder to our General Mission Fund.

The Wednesday's themes were on the "Holy Spirit," the third person of trinity. Due justice was given to all of the messages bringing out the important part the Holy Spirit plays in God's redemptive plan. The Rev. O. W. Brenner of George and the Rev. E. Gruen of Des Moines spoke on the respective themes, "The Holy Spirit Reveals God's Love" and "The Holy Spirit Convicts of Sin." The Rev. Carl Swyter of George brought the third message of the morning session on the theme, "The Holy Spirit Regenerates." The themes of the afternoon session were "The Holy Spirit Sanctifies" by the Rev. Paul F. Zoschke of Elgin, and "The Holy Spirit Teaches" by the Rev. H. Renkema of Baileyville, Ill. The closing message of the association on Wednesday evening was brought by the Rev. Carl Swyter of George on the theme, "The Holy Spirit Comforts."

The meetings were all very well attended and the reports of the churches of the association were encouraging. The report of the church at Parkersburg, Ia., seemed to be very outstanding. The Lord in a wonderful way, not only the past year but also this year, has sent a great revival to Parkersburg.

HARRY L. JOHNSON, Reporter.

December 15, 1941

Special Meetings at the Riverview Church of St. Paul With the Rev. Paul Zoschke as Evangelist

During the two weeks of November 10 to 23 we of the Riverview Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minn., had the joy and privilege of having the Rev. Paul Zoschke of Elgin, Iowa, with us for special meetings. Mr. Zoschke proved very capable for the work, and we are thankful for his ministry in our midst.

His clear and inspiring messages yielded results in souls being won for Christ as well as contributing toward the spiritual growth of the church members. The fine spirit and cooperation on his part, the special music by the choir and other groups, the prayers that were uttered, the testimonies that were given, and the personal work that was done, all contributed toward the results that were attained. We express our appreciation for the services of our brother and also our heart-felt thanks to the Elgin church for granting him the permission to come to us. We look hopefully to the future.

Mr. Zoschke also spoke at the Union Thanksgiving service of the three German Baptist churches of the Twin Cities which this year was held at the Riverview Church. The auditorium was filled for this meeting and the message was most fitting and helpful for the occasion.

It has been the custom of the two St. Paul churches in late years to unite for a Sunday evening service during the time that either one engages in a series of special meetings. On Sunday evening, Nov. 23, we had as our guests the members and friends of the Dayton's Bluff Baptist church. May the efforts and influence of these meetings continue to yield lasting results.

JOHN WOBIG, Pastor.

Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of Church Dedication at Lebanon, Wisconsin

On Sunday, November 9, the Lebanon Baptist Church of Wisconsin enjoyed a day overflowing with inspiration and blessing. The occasion was the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the church building. We were very fortunate in having the Rev. Martin Leuschner with us for that day; and besides the messages he brought during the services, several took advantage of the time between meetings for informal discussions with him.

In the morning at the regular service Mr. Leuschner directed our thoughts to the power that Christ has and is willing to share with us so that we can witness for him and do the things he has commanded. Our reward is his promise to be with us always.

During the afternoon service our pastor, the Rev. V. Wolff, told a few things about the history of the church and building. The church was organized April 8, 1849, by the Rev. Wilhelm Grimm. In 1864 the church voted to put up a building of brick and the members subscribed over \$1000 for that

purpose. In the spring of 1866 they started the building and it was dedicated on December 16, 1866. Mr. Wolff listed the pastors and the years they served. The membership is small now but those who have taken their memberships elsewhere are working for Christ in other churches.

Mr. Leuschner then spoke on Psalm 34. He stressed the promise which should encourage us to go "Forward with Christ" to do greater things in his kingdom. The evening meeting was taken up almost entirely with moving pictures of the work being done in the Camerouns and those taken at the

Lord's work in our small corner and to go "Forward with Christ."
 ESTHER S. KRUEGER, Reporter.

Atlantic Conference

Election Night Concert is Held by the Young People's Union of New York City and Vicinity

The annual election night concert of the Baptist Young People's Union of New York and vicinity was held on November 4 at the Second German Baptist Church of Brooklyn, N. Y. The concert committee, consisting of Miss Elenore Ohlsen and Mr. Victor Pren-



Some of the Members of the Lebanon Baptist Church of Wisconsin and Their Families at the 75th Anniversary of the Church's Dedication

Burlington meeting of the General Conference.

Friends from the Watertown, Concord, and Oconomowoc churches joined us. Watertown brought a basket of beautiful yellow chrysanthemums, expressing their generous thoughtfulness. Among other floral contributions was another basket of flowers with the figure "75" designed in "baby chrysanthemums."

Buffet lunch was served at noon, in the evening and after the evening service.

We regretted having the day come to an end, but we heard and saw so many things which inspire us to carry on our

dinger, had compiled an exceptionally fine program for us this year. Most of the churches of the "Jugendbund" were represented.

The program consisted of solos by the Rev. Wm. Stroh of the Fellowship Church of Passaic and by Mrs. Walter Becker of the Immanuel Church of New York City, a trumpet solo by Mr. Walter Marklein, Jr., of the Second Church, Brooklyn, and piano solos by Mrs. John Grygo of the Immanuel Church, New York and by Miss Jo Ann Rauscher of the Walnut Street Church, Newark.

"The Four Flats" from the Pilgrim Church of Jersey City favored us with two humorous selections. The Girls' Trio of the Walnut St. Church of Newark and the Girls' Chorus of the Second Church of Union City rendered two fine selections. Miss Ruth Tipton of the Second Church, Brooklyn, recited a humorous monologue. Evangel Church was well represented by its grand orchestra.

A wonderful spirit of fellowship exists among the churches of our "Jugendbund." Each church in our Union visits another church and is host to a visiting church once a year. We are looking forward to a blessed year of service for our Master under the leadership of our president, Mr. Edward Baumfalk.

JULIA VENINGA, Reporter.

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Northern Conference

Minitonas Young People Present a Fine Program for Several Worthy Causes

On Thursday, October 23, the young people of the First Baptist Church of Minitonas, Manitoba, Canada, gave a sauerkraut supper, following which a program was presented. We had a great many visitors and the church was crowded with an eager audience.

The program was opened with selections from the orchestra, and consisted also of solos, recitations and selections from the mixed and male choirs. Mr. Hanley of the United Church of Minitonas, Mr. Smit of the English Baptist Church of Swan River, and the Rev. Phil. Daum of Winnipeg delivered addresses.



Young People of Minitonas, Manitoba, Who Presented the Play, "These Things Shall Be," at the Minitonas Baptist Church Recently

The feature of the program was the drama, "These Things Shall be," which was presented by the following persons: Eric Schroeder, Hans Jacksteit, Fred Hiller, Edward Hiller, Alex Hiller, Seferin Braier, Arthur Kokot, Eddie Ginter, Edmund Lausman, Milton Hart, Paul Hart, Lawrence Hart, Erick Holland, Eelma Braier, Annie Hart, Tillie Hart, Annie Hart, Adina Tulman, Sabina Tulman, Tillie Henkelman and Adina Koket. This play was very interesting and dramatized the way in which a man with money can use it to good advantage.

The supper and program netted us the sum of \$91.30. After the expenses had been paid, a sum of \$73.99 was left. This amount was divided into three parts, \$25 being sent to the Bible School at Edmonton, \$25 to the Canadian Red Cross, and \$23.99 to the young people's library for books.

Many of our active young people are leaving us this winter. Miss Tillie Hart, Seferin Braier, Eddie Ginter and Arthur Kokot have decided to go to the Bible School in Edmonton. Several others are in the army so that our group has grown considerably smaller, but still we look forward for a blessing in the year to come.

ADINA TULMAN, Reporter.

Sessions of the Alberta Tri Union Are Held in Edmonton

After a lapse of two years, due to the unsettled conditions of the world, the Tri Union of Alberta, Canada, together with the Alberta Convention was held at the Central Baptist Church of Edmonton, Alberta, of which the Rev. E. P. Wahl is pastor, from October 16 to 19.

On Friday morning a report was given by the young people's director, the Rev. R. Milbrandt. On Friday afternoon a devotional service was conducted by the Wiesenthal B. Y. P. U. under the leadership of Miss Verda Schuler. The business of our Tri Union was conducted with the Rev. F. W. Benke as chairman. The reports of the treasurer, Sunday School director and

work by the Rev. A. Huber. Various Sunday School superintendents took part in a short discussion. Mr. Wahl reported on the Bible School work, arousing everyone to the realization of the wonderful success of the Christian Training Institute.

Following the acceptance of the various resolutions, a discussion about the \$600 mission project took place. It was decided to send one-third for foreign missions; one-third for home missions; and one-third for provincial activities.

Saturday evening was "the high light" of the Tri Union program. A lengthy and inspirational program was rendered. Mr. Kern of Camrose acted as chairman. Mr. Milbrandt, president of the Tri Union, called the "Roll." The churches that were represented, amounted to sixteen, responded with a chorus or Bible verse.

The newly elected officers were then introduced by the president. There were a number of beautiful musical numbers by various young people's groups and the Rev. John Weinbender, also a guest speaker, gave a very inspiring sermon on the topic, "Is Modern Youth Religious?"

On Sunday morning Sunday School was conducted by Mr. E. Nellner, superintendent of the Edmonton church. Musical selections were rendered by various classes of the church and by the male choir, directed by Mr. W. Schubert. Miss Esther Faszler of Hilda, Miss Agnes Priebe of the First Church of Leduc, and Mr. R. Dickau of Wetaskiwin brought short messages.

The worship service was conducted by Mr. Wahl. The mass choir rendered the selection, "Let Mount Zion Rejoice," and the Rev. R. Milbrandt delivered the message, using Matt. 20:33 to 34 as his text. The mission offerings received on Saturday evening and on Sunday amounted to approximately \$325.

On Sunday afternoon the church was filled to capacity with approximately 700 people in attendance, eagerly awaiting the musical festival. The four different church choirs included Edmonton choir directed by Mr. J. Lentze; Leduc First Church choir directed by Mr. L. Priebe; Leduc Second and Rabbit Hill choir conducted by Mr. A. Huber; and Camrose church choir conducted by Mr. R. Neske. All the choirs then formed the mass choir and sang two selections. The Rev. F. W. Benke delivered a short message on the topic, "Appreciation of Music."

The Sunday evening service concluded the Tri Union session. An inspiring message was delivered in the German language by the Rev. A. Huber, and a challenging message in English was brought by the Rev. R. Kern, "Building Christian Character."

We are indeed grateful to God for having permitted us to gather in this manner. We are also grateful to the Rev. and Mrs. E. P. Wahl as well as the members of the Edmonton Church for their kind hospitality.

BEATRICE LINK, Reporter.

Birthday Sunday School Banquet at Trochu, Alberta

We as the Sunday School of the Baptist Church of Trochu, Alberta, Can., have many things for which to be thankful. Our Sunday School has been well attended during recent months.

In October we held our birthday banquet as a Sunday School in the basement of the church. Under the direction of our capable Sunday School superintendent, Mr. J. Schramm, we were called to order and began the banquet with the singing of choruses. Our Sunday School was divided into the respective month groups and seated accordingly at the tables. Each group gave an eight minute program, composed of songs, short readings and testimonies.

After the program we held an offering on the basis of age, from which we realized the sum of \$55.28. This money will be used for missionary work. Afterwards a lunch was served with a birthday cake for each month. We certainly spent a very enjoyable evening. Our prayer is that our Sunday School might be a blessing in our district.

WALTER RESCHKE, Reporter.

Dakota Conference

Sessions of the Central Dakota Sunday School Association at Venturia, North Dakota

The Central Dakota Sunday School Association held its annual session with the Baptist Church of Venturia, No. Dak., from October 15 to 17. God gave us wonderful Fall weather for this occasion, and a great number of delegates, visitors and friends gathered from near and far with great joy and eager expectancy. The crowds even filled the basement of the church where a loud speaker had to be installed for their benefit.

At the opening service a welcome was extended by the local pastor, the Rev. A. Guenther, to which the moderator, the Rev. Charles Wagner, responded. The message of the evening was brought by the Rev. Edmund Mittelstedt of Hebron on Psalm 72:19.

On Thursday morning, October 16, following a devotional service conducted by the Rev. A. Krombein, papers were read by the Rev. A. Husmann, promotional secretary, on "What Can Be Done to Awaken Interest in Missions?" and by the Rev. Willy Luebeck on "The Practical Value of the Bible as a Textbook in Sunday School." The afternoon program was featured by a panel discussion on the Sunday School in which the Revs. A. Husmann, G. W. Rutsch, Emil Becker and A. Ittermann participated. The Thursday evening message was brought by the Rev. A. Husmann on the text, John 5:39.

On Friday morning Sunday School demonstrations were conducted with the following leading the different groups: Rev. E. Broeckel the Adult Bible Class; Mr. Ernst Herr, the young people's class; Miss Eleanore Weisen-

burger, the Intermediate Class; Mrs. G. W. Rutsch, the Junior Class; Mrs. Wm. G. Jaster, the Beginners' Class.

Business matters pertaining to the association and the bringing of the reports occupied most of our time on Friday afternoon. The next Sunday School Convention is to meet with the Spring Convention at Ashley, No. Dak. The following were elected as officers for the coming year: W. Luebeck, chairman; A. Ittermann, vice-chairman; W. G. Jaster, secretary-treasurer. The promotion committee is to consist of the Revs. W. Luebeck, A. Krombein and E. Mittelstedt. On Friday evening the closing message was brought by the Rev. F. W. Bartel, the Dakota Conference evangelist.

W. G. JASTER, Reporter.

Activities of the Ladies' Missionary Society of the Johannestal Church near Ashley, North Dakota

Another year is gradually drawing to a close and we as the Ladies' Mission Society of Johannestal, near Ashley, No. Dak., can say that God has truly

been good to us and has blessed us in many ways both spiritually and physically. Even though we do not report very often, nevertheless, we are an active group. Our society has a membership of 22 and it is our aim to win more members through the ensuing year.

We meet on every second Thursday of the month at the church. Besides the reading of "Missions-Perlen," two different members give a special number at each meeting either in song or verse. Recently Mrs. W. Luebeck has begun reviewing with us a Bible study on the life of Christ of which she gives a portion at each meeting. This is proving to be very interesting and inspirational. The Rev. and Mrs. W. Luebeck are a great help to us and assist us in many ways. No task is too great or too small for them. In return we try to prove and express our gratitude by giving them occasional cash donations, grocery showers and other useful gifts of various nature.

On September 20 we had our annual food sale, the proceeds of which netted almost \$40.00. This fall the appearance

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of our church was greatly improved when it was given a fine interior painting and decorating job. To this our society also gave financial aid by buying a fine new wool rug, a new library table, new scarfs for the piano, piano bench, table and new window shades.

On October 19 our society gave an interesting program at the church which consisted of two dialogues entitled, "Sparsamkeit ist kein Geiz" and "Die Talente des Lebens," the latter written for us by the Rev. W. Luebeck. The program also included two readings, songs by the society, ladies' trio and quartets. The offering amounted to about \$24.

During the festive seasons of the year such as Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, our various institutions such as Children's Home in St. Joseph, Mich., Old People's Home in Chicago, Ill., Old People's Home in Bismarck, No. Dak., and our Seminary in Rochester, N. Y., are always remembered with boxes of assorted fresh meats, sausages, butter, noodles and cases of eggs. The present officers of the society are president, Mrs. Carl Fischer; vice-president, Mrs. Jacob A. Bertsch; secretary, Mrs. Jacob Wagemann; and treasurer, Mrs. Edward Hengel.

MRS. JACOB WAGEMANN, Secretary.

Pacific Conference

Young People's Sessions of the Recent Pacific Northwest Conference at Spokane, Wash.

The fifteenth annual conference of the Pacific Northwest Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union was held at Spokane, Wash., on October 25 and 26. Here all were gloriously blessed by the fellowship with God and with friends which was experienced in these meetings.

The conference was opened by a banquet dinner which was served in the beautifully decorated dining room of the church, highlighted by the motto, "Forward With Christ."

Our meetings were deeply influenced by the wonderfully inspiring talks on his missionary experiences by the Rev. Paul Gebauer who spoke also to the conference group on the preceding Friday.

We were privileged to have Miss Ella Neuman of American Falls, Ida., as a guest speaker on Saturday evening. She spoke to us on her personal experiences in child evangelism while studying at the Biola Bible Institute in Los Angeles, Calif.

The Rev. W. C. Damrau of Tacoma then delighted us with an interesting message on "Is there a Place for the Young People in the Church?" He pointed out very clearly the many opportunities of the young people, and urged us to go forward in the work! Seventy-five dollars were designated for our missionary fund.

Mr. Paul Krueger of Colfax was elected president for the next two years; Mr. Herbert Schmautz of Missoula, treasurer; and the Rev. H. Zepik, advisor. With such a fine group of leaders we may look forward to renewed zeal and great interest to the great work before us.

On Sunday morning Mr. Philip Buchholz, the Spokane superintendent, called upon representatives of the various Sunday Schools for reports on their work. The Sunday afternoon meeting was of the highest importance, in that the responses from our various B. Y. P. U. groups were fitted with a joyous spirit and showed unusual fervor in the work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Throughout the meetings we were blessed by the fine music brought to us by the ministers' quartet, the Colfax group and by numerous choir selections. The Rev. Hugo Zepik of Start-up gave us our closing talk on John 21:22.

We thank our heavenly Father for the rich blessings he gave us and the new vision we have received.

MRS. BEN SCHMIDT, Secretary.

\$60,000 Addition to the Portland Home for the Aged is Dedicated

Dedication of the new addition to the three-story Baptist Home for the Aged in Portland, Oregon, was held on Tuesday, October 14, with Dr. Wm. Kuhn of Forest Park, Ill., as guest speaker. The new wing was completed at a cost of more than \$60,000.

Modern in every detail, the wing contains four two-room apartments with private bath, four double rooms and 20 single rooms with hot and cold water, and it brings to 100 the number of guests that can be accommodated by the home. Two sitting rooms are included on each floor. The large air-conditioned dining room has a seating capacity of 120 persons.

The new chapel has a seating capacity of 160 persons. On special occasions the dining room doors may be opened making a seating capacity of 500. The pulpit and pews are a gift of the members of the Daniel Frey family, in memory of their father, who was first president of the board.

Art glass windows were donated by guests in the home and the light fixtures by members of Emanuel Baptist church. A painting of the "Good Shepherd" by Paul Grimm of Los Angeles, son of Mrs. Olga Grimm, a guest in the home, is being given by Dr. W. H. Bueerman, who was president of the home in 1914 and 1915.

The old kitchen and chapel have been changed into a canning kitchen, guest laundry room, storage room, new fruit room, sewing room and bedrooms for the help. There also is a workshop for men guests who might wish to make little gifts or repairs.

The new fruit closet has shelves to take care of 3000 quarts of fruit, 1000 quarts of jams and jellies, and 50 quarts of pickles, which have been put up under the direction of Mrs. N. Schnell, matron of the home, and helpers.

B. Y. P. U. Anniversary Program at the Bethel Baptist Church of Anaheim, California

The annual B. Y. P. U. program and installation of officers of the Bethel Baptist Church of Anaheim, Calif., comes at a fitting time of the year when we are thinking of thanksgiving.

Our program, celebrating the 39th anniversary of the society, was held on Sunday evening, November 2. The program was both interesting and inspiring. The 15th Street Baptist Church

and the Ebenezer Church of Los Angeles were invited to come and enjoy our program with us, which they did whole heartedly and in large numbers.

The program was opened with the usual singing of hymns, prayer by Carl Feldmeth of Los Angeles, scripture read by Herbert Stabbert, the outgoing president, who also had a word of welcome to all the friends and visitors present. The annual reports of the secretary, Ruth Urbigkeit, and of the

(Continued on Page 480)

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38 * But Jōsh'u-ā the son of Nūn, ' which standeth before thee, he shall go in thither: "encourage him: for he shall cause Is'ra-el to inherit it.

B.C. 1491
* Num. 14.
30.
* Ex. 24. 13;
33. 11.
See 1 Sam.
16. 22.



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THE ACTS, 17 CHAPTER 17

NOW when they had passed through Am-phi-pō-lis and Ap-ō-lō-ni-ā, they came to Thēss-

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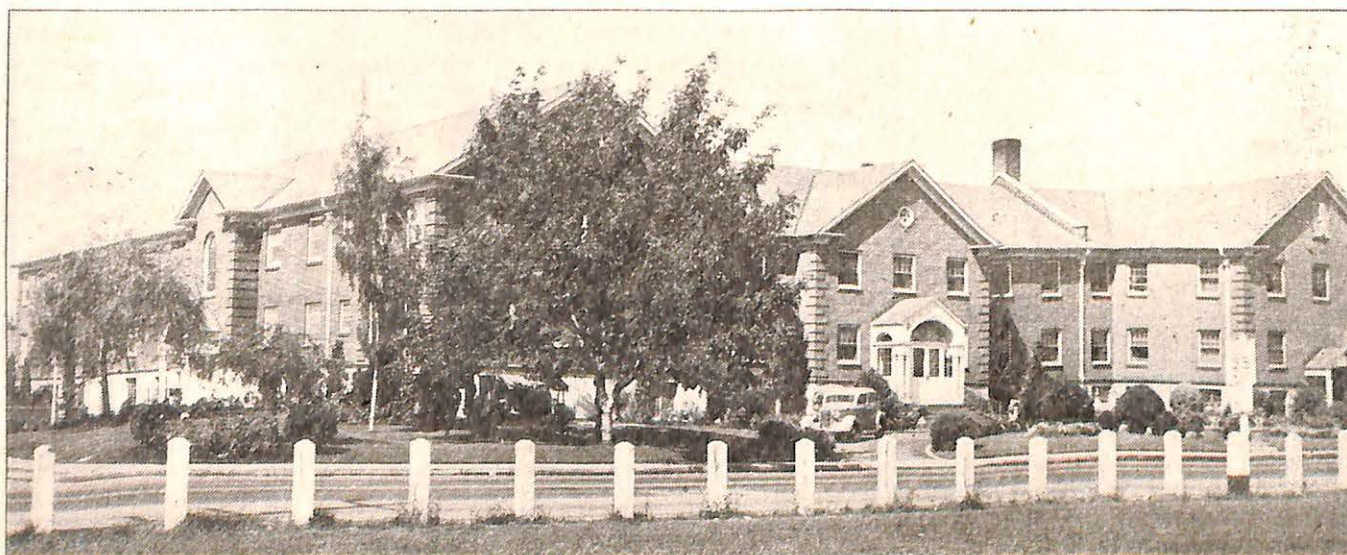
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The Home for the Aged in Portland, Oregon, With the Newly Completed Wing (On the Left) Containing 50 Additional Rooms, Spacious Dining Hall and Worshipful Chapel

ANAHEIM B. Y. P. U. REPORT

(Continued from Page 479)

treasurer, Marvin Hartmann, were read.

Most of the evening was given over to the presentation of our denominational missionary play, "Better Than Gold" written by the Rev. E. J. Baumgartner, which depicts the life of the Bulgarian Gypsies and how a stolen Bible resulted in the conversion of many of them. The singing of a young men's quartet consisting of Alfred Hartmann, Paul Remland, Erhardt Hartmann, and Marvin Hartmann was enjoyed by all. The Rev. H. G. Dymmel installed the new officers who are as follows: Paul Jungkeit, president; Esther Leuschner, vice-president; Clifford Hemmerling, secretary; Marvin Hartmann, treasurer; and Alfred Hartmann, assistant treasurer.

RUTH URBIGKEIT, Secretary.

Highlights in the Program of the Laurelhurst Baptist Church of Portland, Oregon

Special evangelistic meetings were held in the Laurelhurst Baptist Church of Portland, Ore., from November 2 to 9 with the Rev. Wm. Weyhrauch of Valley City, No. Dak., as guest speaker. He spoke with great fervor and love for the lost souls. His messages stirred our hearts and they were helpful to all who came faithfully. Several persons accepted the Lord as Savior and will be baptized in the near future.

On Wednesday evening, November 12, the Ladies' Missionary Society of the church sponsored a "pot luck supper" and held a missionary program. Paul and Clara Gebauer were special guests besides many friends of the church. Our missionary program was opened with congregational singing while Miss Ruth Reisbick played beautiful selections on her vibra harp. The Rev. Fred W. Mueller, our pastor, led a short devotion. Under the leadership of Mr. Wm. Schunke, two fine musical numbers were rendered by the ladies' chorus of the church.

Paul and Clara Gebauer both showed pictures and lectured as they were shown. Their African pictures are always much appreciated. We marvel at their great accomplishments in such a short period of time. Eileen Riemer, president of the young people's society, presented Clara Gebauer with a large box of discarded jewelry, pencil stubs, and crayolas, which were collected by the young people, and with a large box of small paper pads. From the church, Sunday School and young people's society, a fine new Leitz projector was presented to Paul and Clara Gebauer.

A vocal duet by Mrs. Schunke and Mrs. Sageser was the last number on our program. The fine evening was enjoyed by all. The purpose of our meeting was to hold an offering for missions, and a substantial offering was received. ANNA WARDIN, Reporter.

This Number of the BAPTIST HERALD closes the volume 1941.

THIS COMPLETES NINETEEN YEARS OF ARDENT SERVICE FOR OUR ENGLISH SPEAKING CONSTITUENCY. DURING THESE YEARS THE PUBLICATION HAS PROSPERED UNTIL IT HAS BECOME A VITAL FACTOR IN THE LIFE OF THE DENOMINATION. ITS CAREER UNTIL NOW HAS ENJOYED THE FAVOR OF CHRIST OUR LORD AND THIS IS HUMBLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

THE NEXT NUMBER BEING THE FIRST NUMBER FOR 1942 WILL HAVE SOME PLEASING SURPRISES. GREAT PAINS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO MAKE 1942 SURPASS ANYTHING THAT HAS GONE BEFORE. WE COVET, ACCORDINGLY, YOUR WARMEST INTEREST AND SUPPORT.

AN IMPORTANT PHASE OF ALL PUBLICATION VENTURES IS THAT OF CIRCULATION AND THAT MEANS THAT THERE MUST BE MAINTAINED AN ACTIVE ROSTER OF SUBSCRIBING READERS.

RENEWAL TIME HAS ARRIVED FOR NEARLY ALL OF THE PRESENT SUBSCRIBERS. BY ALL MEANS, DO NOT NEGLECT THE MATTER BUT SEE THE CHURCH BOOSTER, OR CHURCH AGENT WITHOUT DELAY, OR IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH REPRESENTATIVE SEND THE RENEWAL ORDER DIRECT TO THE CLEVELAND OFFICE OF PUBLICATION. A SUBSCRIPTION BLANK IS ENFOLDED IN THIS COPY OF THE "HERALD" FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

CHRISTIAN GREETINGS AND GENUINE WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR ARE EXTENDED TO THE "HERALD" FAMILY.

THE MANAGEMENT.

3734 PAYNE AVE.,
CLEVELAND, OHIO

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN U. KOLLER of Waco, Texas

On November 17, 1941, Mr. John U. Koller of Waco, Texas, passed on to his heavenly reward at the age of seventy years. Brother Koller was born in Switzerland on March 4, 1871, coming to this country as a young man to establish his home here in America. Our departed friend was a quiet and unassuming man, but he was one of those faithful Christians who permitted his "light" to shine at all times in his home with the result that he had the joy of seeing two of his daughters enter the Master's service as wives of pastors, and his son as pastor of one of our leading churches.

Our departed brother was converted and baptized here in Waco on October 6, 1895, by the pioneer Rev. F. J. Gleiss, and he was a faithful member of our church until the time of his death.

Surviving Brother Koller are his devoted wife, three daughters, and three sons, one of whom is Dr. Charles W. Koller, president of the Northern Baptist Seminary, Chicago, Illinois.

Dr. Tidwell, head of the Bible department at Baylor University, brought a very appropriate funeral message assisted by the Rev. Rayburn Floyd and the undersigned.

Central Baptist Church,
Waco, Texas.

P. Pfeiffer, Pastor.

MRS. GERTRUDE KECKER of Wasco, California

Mrs. Gertrude Kecker of Wasco, Calif., was born March 24, 1865, in Germany. In her early youth she was converted, baptized and united with a Baptist Church there. In 1891 she was united in marriage to Mr. Herman Kecker, who preceded her in death almost two years ago. In 1893 she came with her husband and oldest child to the United States and settled at Humphrey, Neb. Here they united with the Baptist Church. Then in 1907 they moved to Lorraine, Kans., where they were also united with the Baptist Church. In 1920 they came to Wasco, Calif., where they have resided ever since. Here they were also members of the church. Suddenly and unexpectedly she was called home on October 21, 1941. Her age was 76 years and 7 months. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. John Roskam and Mrs. Fred Teubner; one son, Kurt Kecker; all of Wasco; one brother, Frank Schlick of Lorraine, Kans.; 19 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The Lord comfort and bless them all!

"Mother,
Back of every achievement
Is a mother's face.
Back of every great deed
Is a mother's prayer.
Back of every hero
Who wins a hard fought race—
Look! you'll find
A mother."

Wasco, Calif.

F. E. Klein, Pastor.

MR. CARL BAUER of Carrington, North Dakota

Mr. Carl Bauer was born on April 6, 1878, at Odessa, Russia, and came to the United States at the age of 12 years. He went to his heavenly home on September 22, 1941. He was in failing health for years but his death was brought on suddenly by heart attack.

He was converted, baptized and joined the Baptist Church in 1904 and remained a member until he was called to his heavenly home. On November 9, 1905, he was united in marriage to Caroline Albus. To this union ten children were born, of whom a daughter and son died in infancy. His daughter, Viola Rose, died in 1937 at the age of 17.

Surviving to mourn his loss are his wife, 7 children, Lawrence of Ransomville, N. Y.; Albert of Fort Belva, Virginia; Elmer of Newfoundland; Clarence and Carl of Great Falls, Montana; Frederick of Carrington, No. Dak.; Mrs. John Jeske, Carrington, No. Dak.; two sisters and three grandsons.

Carrington, No. Dak.

Mrs. Carl Bauer.