

THE BAPTIST HERALD

March 15,
1941



This Gnarled and
Weather Beaten
Cypress Tree
Stands Guard Like a
Silent Sentinel Over
the Rugged Coastline
and Churning
Breakers of the
Pacific Ocean Near
Carmel, California.

—Photograph by
Gerhard Roth.

Printed in U. S. A.



What's Happening

¶ The Clinton Hill Baptist Church of Newark, N. J., is enjoying the services of the renowned Baptist evangelist, Dr. J. C. Massee, from March 9 to 23. Dr. Massee has been pastor of some of the greatest Baptist churches in the world, including the Baptist Temple in Brooklyn, N. Y., and the Tremont Baptist Temple in Boston, N. Y. The meetings are being very well attended and showers of God's blessing are being bestowed on the church. The Rev. Verner I. Olson is pastor of the church.

¶ The February 1st issue of "The Baptist Herald" published an exceptionally fine "Children's Page" story, which had been written by Miss Dorothy Wobig. By an editorial oversight Miss Wobig's correct address and church affiliation were not given. She is a member of the Baptist Church of Unityville, So. Dak., and also resides in the same town. The Rev. William Sturhahn is the pastor of the church. We are glad to make this correction with apologies to Miss Wobig.

¶ Revival meetings were held in the Baptist Church of Pablo, Mont., for several weeks in February with the Rev. N. A. Christensen of Spokane, Wash., assisting the pastor, Rev. E. Bibelheimer. More than 20 persons made their confession of faith in Christ as Savior during the services. On March 3 similar meetings began in the German Baptist Church of Missoula, with the Rev. W. C. Damrau of Tacoma, Wash., assisting. On Sunday, February 20, Mr. Bibelheimer baptized 20 converts in services held in the Christian Church of Polson.

¶ The Bellwood Mission of the Forest Park Baptist Church of Forest Park, Ill., was recently organized as an independent church to be known as the Bellwood Baptist Church with the Rev. Lloyd Gibbs, a student of the Northern Baptist Seminary of Chicago, as minister. The new church will be affiliated with the German Baptist Churches and will seek formal recognition by the Central Conference next August. It will also maintain a fraternal affiliation with the Baptist Union of Chicago and the Northern Baptist Convention. Mr. Gibbs has been rendering a memorable service at the Bellwood Church during the past nine months.

¶ The Rev. E. J. Baumgartner, pastor of the North Avenue Church of Milwaukee, Wis., served as one of the teachers for the Leadership Training School held in the Salem Evangelical Church for all the Protestant churches of the city for 6 successive Tuesday evenings closing on February 25. Mr. Baumgartner taught a class on "How to Use the Bible" and enjoyed a group

of 54 students who took his course. The Men's Brotherhood of the North Ave. Church sponsored a banquet for 100 men and boys on Friday evening, February 14, at which Dr. Witte of Milwaukee brought a very challenging message.

¶ The Salem Baptist Church of Gotebo, Okla., has voted to be independent of all denominational mission grants, after having been a home mission church for one year, according to its pastor, the Rev. J. J. Reimer. The club plan for our publications has again been adopted with enthusiasm by the church. Five Sunday School scholars

Front Cover Picture

The remarkable front cover picture of this issue of "The Baptist Herald" is published by courtesy of Mr. Gerhard Roth of Fort Lewis, Wash., a sergeant in the United States Army staff in the department of aerial photography. Gerhard Roth, who is achieving quite a fame for his unusually striking photographs, is the oldest son of the Rev. and Mrs. Otto Roth of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Portland, Ore. The front cover picture shows an enthralling scene along the Seventeen Mile Drive near Monterey, Calif., where the gnarled and aged cypress pines, that withstand the fiercest ocean winds, are viewed each year by thousands of tourists.—Editor.

will be baptized in the near future. At present, the pastor is conducting a Sunday School Teachers' Training Course. Mr. A. D. Schantz, the co-porter of the publication society, has spoken to the church recently on several occasions.

¶ Mr. F. C. Jordan, a member of the Oak Street Baptist Church of Burlington, Iowa, celebrated his 83rd birthday on Friday, February 21. On the same day he and the church observed the 71st anniversary of his membership in the Oak Street Church. In 1890 he was baptized in the Flint Creek near the church after a hole had been cut in the ice for the baptismal service. He is the oldest living member of the church, according to the Rev. Alfred R. Bernadt, pastor. An uninterrupted service of 71 years as a member of one church is certainly a monumental record, which deserves recognition in the denomination at large.

¶ During the four Sunday evening services from January 19 to February 9 the Rev. L. Hoeffner, pastor of the North Donna Baptist Church near

Donna, Tex., brought evangelistic messages with the result that 11 persons gave their hearts to Christ as Savior. A group of others has also declared its willingness to follow the Lord in baptism. The reporter stated that "through the earnest and united efforts both of church and pastor, the church has experienced special blessings. To God be all the glory for this new spiritual awakening." With last December the Rev. L. Hoeffner began his fifth year of service with the church.

¶ On Sunday, February 23, several young people of the Fleischmann Memorial Church of Philadelphia, Pa., had charge of the evening service. They took part in the worship service in the leadership of the singing, and with special numbers. Speaking on the general theme, "Living the Christian Life," Sam Blaser, Jeanette Steinbronn and Edward Goebel brought messages on "Using Our Time for Christ," "Using Our Talents for Christ," and "Using Our Money for Christ." On Tuesday evening, March 4, the annual business meeting of the church was held, preceded by a supper. The Rev. Milton R. Schroeder is pastor of the church.

¶ Several ministers and their wives have recently sent out announcements to their friends about new arrivals in their homes. On Sunday, January 12, a baby boy was born to the Rev. and Mrs. G. Beutler of Olds, Alta., Canada, who has been named Graceton. This is their second child. On January 17 a baby girl was born to the Rev. and Mrs. Jacob C. Gunst of Grand Forks, No. Dak. The girl, who is their first child, was named Sara Lou. Recently an 11 pound girl was born to the Rev. and Mrs. Max Mittelstedt of Kyle, Texas. A few months ago, the Rev. and Mrs. Otto Fiesel of Trochu, Alta., adopted a baby girl, whom they have named Marilyn. This is the second girl, whom the Fiesels have adopted.

(Continued on Page 118)

The Baptist Herald

Published semi-monthly by the
ROGER WILLIAMS PRESS
3734 Payne Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.
Martin L. Leuschner, Editor
Subscription price—\$1.50 a year.
To Foreign countries—\$1.75 a year.
Advertising rates, 75 cents per inch, single column, 2 1/4 inches wide.
Obituary notices are accepted at 5 cents per line, set in six point type.
All editorial correspondence is to be addressed to the Rev. Martin L. Leuschner, 7346 Madison Street, Forest Park, Illinois.
All business correspondence is to be sent to German Baptist Publication Society, 3734 Payne Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

Entered as second-class matter January 9, 1923, at the post office at Cleveland, Ohio, under the act of March 3, 1879

The BAPTIST HERALD

Volume Nineteen

CLEVELAND, OHIO, MARCH 15, 1941

Number Six

EDITORIAL

(Guest Editorial by Paul Gebauer, One of our Cameroon Missionaries)

FIFTY years ago our Baptist Church in Trenton, Illinois, sent August Steffens to Africa. At Victoria he had his first real contact with the land of his hopes. Stirred by the beauty of Victoria Bay, moved by the majesty of the mountains that

Faith of Our Fathers. faced him, touched by the welcome the Africans had prepared for him, and pleased with the Baptist Chapel on the seaside, Steffens failed to find adequate words to express what heart and eye beheld. But driven by a compassion for lost Africans, he went to work and—failed not! Into two years he crowded studying, teaching, organizing, soul-winning; and then—as a man of 32 years—he died!

Gone are the Africans who labored with him; gone are the villages of filth and death; gone are the pioneering days along the coast. There still remain his final restingplace in Africa's hot earth, the churches he founded, the children and children's children of those he led to Jesus, the growing Baptist influence, and the songs he translated into the Duala tongue. Those songs of his drift through tropical forests and come down the rivers with the canoes of singing men. I heard them on forgotten mountain trails and in the traffic of modern Duala town.

But more than songs remain! We have with us the memory of those who followed in his trail. Our Rochester Seminary must have been a hotbed of missionary zeal in Steffens' years. While he was on his deathbed out in Africa, Suevern at Rochester volunteered and went to receive and to carry the torch. Again, others followed him to carry far into the heart of Africa the tidings of redemption. They travelled by canoe and on foot; alone and in company; loved and hated; understood and misunderstood. Some died early; others were driven back home by disease.

Some lasted over years only to join Steffens and his eternal missionary society in the end; others are among us today to tell the tale. Let us not forget their names—the Wedels, Grafs, Enns, Benders, Wolffs, Kayser, Orthners.

Their faith lives today. It lives in those pioneers, who now have their sunset days among us. It lives in those, who now carry on among the Kaka and Mambila people. We, who labor among those tribes today, are forever debtors to all who went before us out there in Africa and here at home. A missionary minded seminary brought about missionary minded pastors. They founded churches that were aflame for God and Africa. Our strongest churches of the present originated in those year. You, who read this, well know how your mothers saved for Cameroons, how your fathers prayed for Africa.

Let us not be deceived! The blessings and the opportunities of our days have their roots in the past. The flame that burned away our August Steffens and his noble company of men and women burned alike in our fathers and mothers here at home. All of them were possessed by that one and glorious experience, namely, the redemption they had found in Christ Jesus. All of them were possessed by a holy restlessness that could not be stilled until all tribes knew their Redeemer.

"We will be true to Thee till death!" Will we? It was pagan Africa that led our fathers to exercise faith to the utmost. They met the challenge of their age and prevailed. Africa was led to see Jesus. Africans were moved to live, suffer and die for Him. Africa is on the way home to God. We—the children of this year of chaos—face the return of our own civilization to paganism, to tribal hatred, to national gods. Are we ready for the challenge of our age? "How sweet would be their children's faith, if they, like them, could die for thee."

Our First Missionary in Africa

The Sainly Story of August Steffens, Whose Appointment to the Cameroons Fifty Years Ago Began the Memorable Chapter of Our Missionary Service in Africa, as Written by the Rev. Chas. F. Zummach of Trenton, Illinois

"Men seem alike as the leaves on the trees,
As alike as the bees in a swarming of bees;
We look at the millions that make up the state,
All equally little, all equally great,
And the pride of our courage is cowed;
Then life calls for a man who is larger than men,
There's a surge in the crowd, there's a movement,—and then
There arises a man who is greater than men,
And that man comes up from the crowd."

History centers around great personalities, and great personalities make history. If you know the history of the great personalities of any age, you have a very fair index of the time in which they lived.

One of God's Noblemen

Religious denominations, as well as nations, have their course determined by great leaders. No story of the Protestant Reformation could be written without Martin Luther; no story of Methodism without John Wesley; no history of the Baptist movement in America without Roger Williams; no story of modern foreign missions without Livingstone, Moffat and Carey; and no story of American Baptist foreign missions without Adoniram Judson.

So if you would undertake to write the story of our Cameroon Mission, you must, first of all, write the story of August Steffens. This brief sketch is not the story of the Cameroon Mission. Others, better qualified than the writer, have written that record. This is the story of August Steffens, the first American Baptist missionary to the Cameroons, a story of unparalleled devotion and undaunted heroism, that deserves to be recorded in the annals of our denomination.

No one can study the record of his life without arriving at the conclusion that this apparently humble man, reared in humble circumstances, was, in truth, one of God's great noblemen. Had he been permitted to live out his allotted three score years and ten and to continue his work, he would unquestionably have ranked as one of the great missionaries of all times. One of his biographers, Rev. J. Pfeiffer, writes of him: "Perhaps we are still too near to evaluate his greatness, but if ever the history of the Cameroon mission will be written, the short but glorious years of the work of August Steffens will constitute one of its most glorious pages." (Sendbote, Aug. 18, 1898.)

His Family Background

Who was August Steffens, and what manner of man was he? The writer has



August Steffens as a Young Man Just Before Sailing for Africa

had the rare privilege of twice being the pastor of the church that gave to the Cameroons one of its noblest sons, August Steffens. He numbers among his dearest friends the members of Steffens' family. Ever memorable will be his experience as a young pastor in his first church with this group of noble Christians. Never a prayer meeting and seldom a public prayer by any of the members, but the work of the Cameroon mission was mentioned before the throne of grace! Unfortunately, the records available are not complete, and there remain many gaps which we are unable to fill. But what we do have enables us to get a fairly comprehensive picture of this hero of our Cameroon Mission.

The subject of this sketch was born in Brunau, Altmark, Prussia, on February 3, 1861. His father was a farmer. Early in his life he was apprenticed to the tailoring trade. Two of his brothers are still living, Herman Steffens in Blackfoot, Idaho, and Dr. Albert Steffens in Menno, So. Dak. His family belonged to that group of German Christians who, although they belonged to the Lutheran Church, were noted for the sincerity of their Christian life, and were called the "Pious" (Die Frommen).

Burdens on the Boy's Heart

When only fourteen years of age, he became seriously concerned about his salvation, and after much praying he finally yielded himself fully to Christ as his personal Savior. Henceforth, he lived wholly for him who had redeemed

him. On January 29, 1876, he was baptized upon confession of his faith by the Rev. Mr. Mueller in Platendorf, and united with the Baptist Church in Brome.

Little did that church and Mr. Mueller dream that in that fifteen year old lad God had foreordained the pioneer of our German Baptist work in the Cameroons! From the beginning he manifested an intense missionary zeal, and it is said of him that he never engaged in conversation with a stranger without inquiring about his soul's salvation. The fate of the heathen world lay heavily upon his young heart, and he often expressed his concern over those who had never heard of his Savior.

His mother relates that one day a travelling colporteur asked the six year old lad: "Well, my boy, what do you want to be?" He promptly replied, "A foreign missionary." His mother "kept all these things in her heart," and carefully nourished this childish impulse. Only God knows to what extent his godly mother shared in the later success of her illustrious son.

Days in Trenton, Illinois

In the fall of 1880 the family emigrated to America and settled in Trenton, Ill., where he continued to work at his trade. Since there was no organized Baptist church in Trenton at that time, he united with the First German Baptist Church in St. Louis, of which the Rev. J. M. Hoefflin was pastor. His zeal for his Master remained unabated in the new world. He gathered a group of boys and taught a Sunday School class in the Methodist church. He conducted Sunday School in the surrounding country schoolhouses. He writes in those years: "My heart yearns to do something for Jesus and to win souls for him."

He gathered the little group of German Baptists in Trenton, conducted their meetings, and was instrumental in organizing them into a church. His friends recognized his abilities and encouraged him to study for the ministry. So in September, 1886, he set out for Rochester, N. Y., and entered our seminary, from whence he graduated with honors.

Spiritual Giants of Those Days

He, thus, became a product of that decade in the history of our seminary that gave to the denomination such outstanding leaders as Lewis Kaiser, A. J. Ramaker, G. Fetzer, Fr. Friederich, H. Schwendener, F. W. C. Meyer, C. A. Daniel, J. A. Heinrichs, O. Koenig, and Walter Rauschenbusch. It is easy to understand that an age that could pro-

duce such leaders in a single decade, from such a small group as the German Baptists then represented, could also produce an August Steffens. Truly, "there were giants in those days!"

He graduated in 1891 with a class of eight, all of whom have rendered valuable services for the Lord, and some of whom have distinguished themselves in the work of the Kingdom. Two of his classmates are still with us, the Rev. C. Dippel and F. Bueermann. Among others, who graduated with him were A. P. Mihm, former editor of "The Baptist Herald," and one of his successors in the Cameroon Mission, his intimate friend, the gifted Peter Herbert Wedel.

Summer Opportunities to Work

To what extent he interested himself in foreign missions during his seminary days does not appear from his letters. That there was no lack of interest in foreign missions in the seminary during those years is evidenced from the fact that two of its graduates, George N. Thompson and J. A. Heinrichs, had volunteered and had gone to India under the auspices of the American Baptist Missionary Union. His chief concern seems to have been to find an opportunity to work for his Lord. He was one of the most active workers in the Wilder Street Mission, which he loved with all his heart. In his letters to his sister Mary, (his "Schwesterchen"), he repeatedly expresses his concern about finding an opportunity to witness for his Master during the summer months.

We find him doing Colportage work for the American Baptist Publication Society during the summer of 1887. This not only gave him an opportunity to work for his Lord, but it enabled him to make many contacts and friends in the churches of the middle West, which proved valuable for the work of the mission in years to come. The following summer, 1888, found him serving a small group of German Baptist churches in Missouri, and he promised them that he would return the following year.

But shortly before the close of the school year in the spring of 1889 he received a request from the church in Seymour, Connecticut, to serve them during the summer months. He decided to go East. That this was providential, of that there can be no doubt. For here he made the acquaintance of many churches in the East, making many friends, which proved so valuable in the years to come. Here he spent a happy summer, and to his sister he confides that these were the happiest months of his life.

The Cameroon Call

Just when he determined to go to Africa does not appear from any of his correspondence during those years. In 1889 he read the story of the bombardment of the Cameroon coast by the German battleship, the "Moeve," and the plight of the small group of native Baptist Christians left stranded after



The Grave of August Steffens in the Christian Cemetery at Duala, Cameroons

the transfer of the mission by the British to the Baseler Mission Society. It made a tremendous impression upon him.

In his farewell letter written on board the steamer, "Fuerst Bismarck," we find an interesting item. He speaks of the emotions that filled his heart at the thought that his childhood dreams to become a foreign missionary were



The Steffens' Mission House Built With the Money Contributed by His Relatives in Trenton, Illinois, and Willed to the Mission Society on His Deathbed

about to be realized. Then he tells what determined him to go to Cameroons. It appears that a boyhood friend of his in Germany, who had been preparing himself to go to the Cameroons, was drowned while bathing a couple of years previously. He says: "That decided me for Cameroon."

In the fall of 1890 he wrote Mr. Scheve in Berlin: "For some time I

have had it in my heart to write to you . . . From the 'Wahrheitszeuge' I gather that you have a warm interest for missions. Ever since I read of the 'Moeve' bombarding the villages of those poor people, I have felt that I wanted to work among them. Now that Germany has taken over the Cameroons I have prayed that the German Baptists might take over the work among those people. I have admired the staunchness of those native Christians during these trying times. More and more the conviction has grown upon me that I should go there as a missionary. I have therefore decided to go, if God will open the way."

Obstacles in the Way

However, the brethren in Germany did not appear to have been very enthusiastic about his offer, and he received no reply to his letter. Even in America there was grave questioning about the wisdom of our German Baptists undertaking an independent foreign mission work. Professor Schaefer wrote an article on the subject, in which he strongly advised against taking such a step. In Germany a bitter controversy was raging over the question. The chief argument against the proposal was: "It will cost too much, and the climate is too deadly."

Steffens relates that during his stay in Germany in 1891 some of the churches positively refused to make any contribution for the Cameroons. But the General Conference in Hamburg in August, 1891, endorsed the project and commended it to the churches. However, it was a long time before all opposition vanished. That Steffens had almost despaired of realizing his fond-

est hopes, is seen from one of his letters to his sister, as late as January 30, 1891, in which he expresses his resolve to accept a small church somewhere in the West, and asks her to be his housekeeper.

But that was not God's plan for his life! About that time Prof. Rauschenbusch wrote to his brethren in Germany as follows: "There is a young man in

our seminary, who will graduate next spring, and who is anxious to become a foreign missionary . . . He is a devout Christian, has a fine personality, and, above all, is active in Christian work. He is possessed of a desire to go to the Cameroons. I urge upon you brethren to give this matter serious consideration." As a result of this letter the matter was taken up by the mission committee in Berlin, and on March 27, 1891, August Steffens was appointed as the first American Baptist Missionary to the Cameroons.

Missionary Beginnings

Steffens did not begin the missionary work in the Cameroons. Baptist missionary work in those colonies had been carried on for forty-five years by the Baptists of England with varying degrees of success. One of the heroes of that period was Alfred Saker, who died in 1880 with these words: "O, that I had another life to give to Cameroon."

But when the British transferred the colony to Germany in 1884, they felt that the Baptists of Germany should take over the mission there. But lack of funds and interest, and even strenuous opposition on the part of many of the Baptists in Germany, prevented this from being carried out. Failing in their effort to get the German Baptists to take over the field, the British Society reluctantly transferred the mission to the Baseler Mission Society. The result was tragic, to say the least.

It is not within the province of this article to describe the evil consequences that followed. It was soon discovered that it was possible to transfer physical property, and even political allegiance, from one nation to another, but spiritual allegiance was an entirely different matter. Large numbers of the native Baptists of Cameroon remained loyal to the New Testament principles, which they had been taught. Trying days followed. Many became indifferent, some reverted to heathenism. News of the conditions began to be discussed among Baptists, both in Europe and America. They made a profound impression upon young Steffens. It was this which apparently determined him to go to Cameroon.

Bound For Africa at Last!

He was ordained in St. Louis on June 2, 1891. At his special request his beloved Professor J. S. Gubelmann preached the ordination sermon. A farewell was held in the Methodist Church in Trenton, in which the whole community participated. He then visited a number of churches in Iowa, among them Burlington, where a number of his countrymen lived. He also went to Illinois and Michigan in the interest of the Cameroon mission. Everywhere he was warmly received, and special offerings for the mission were taken in almost every church he visited. He also visited a number of churches on the Atlantic coast before sailing, all of whom received him cordially.

He sailed from America for Germany on July 16, 1891, and arrived in Berlin on August 13. Relatives in Trenton and other friends had raised sufficient funds to defray all of his travelling expenses and \$250 besides, which he turned over to Mr. Scheve upon his arrival in Germany. At one time the Trenton Church contributed more for the Cameroons than they did towards their pastor's salary, for which they were severely criticized. But who is fit to judge? When your very flesh and blood have been offered up as a sacrifice for a cause, it is only natural to feel that any material sacrifice is not too great.

Anna Cappell of Cincinnati

No record of the life of August Steffens would be complete without something about a remarkable woman, Anna Cappell, who became his wife. Recently some additional and important information concerning her was obtained by the writer. It is taken from a diary kept by a sister of the late Rev. C. A. Daniel, who was a personal friend of Anna. The Cappell sisters were members of the Mt. Auburn Baptist Church. The family was Catholic. The father was a mail-carrier.

Through the influence of a Rev. Mr. Greife, a Baptist minister who lived on the same street, the girls attended the Baptist Sunday School, were converted, and joined the church. Anna always manifested a warm interest in foreign missions. In 1890 the Student Volunteer Movement, then newly organized, met in Cincinnati, and two students from our seminary in Rochester, August Steffens and Peter Wedel, attended the meetings. They were entertained as guests in the Cappell home. It was here that August Steffens first made the acquaintance of the demure, red-headed school teacher, who later became his devoted wife, and aroused in her an interest in Cameroon.

It seemed to have been a case of love at first sight for both of them. That same year Anna transferred her membership to the German Baptist Church, where she became an ardent worker until she followed Steffens to the Cameroons in July, 1891.

A Happy Marriage

Upon Steffens' arrival in Berlin Mr. Scheve confronted him with a cablegram reading: "I am coming with the next boat. A. Cappell." Questioned as to who this person was, he shyly confessed that it was a young school teacher, whom he had met in Cincinnati, and whom he had asked if she would not like to go to the Cameroons. This cablegram was her reply.

His first reference to her in any of his letters is after their marriage, which took place in Berlin on October 10. A week later he writes from London to his family as follows: "I thank God that he has given me such a wonderful wife. She is the daughter of Catholic parents, and is about a year older than I am. She is not as beautiful as some others, but has a quality of spirit. She has been a teacher of

German in the public schools of Cincinnati for nine years. She is well educated, very talented, yet modest, sensible, and above all a devout Christian. We love each other very much. What more can my heart desire? I know we shall be very happy."

Her letters reveal a high degree of education. Her penmanship is so perfect that it might serve as the headlines of a "copy book." Her devotion and her heroism knew no bounds. Their love for one another was beautiful. Even after she became the wife of missionary Suevern, she still wrote of her "unforgettable August" in these words: "His love and devotion to me, his noble Christian character will remain a sacred memory to me. I thank God that I was privileged to share this noble life for even such a brief time."

Overwhelming Tasks in Africa

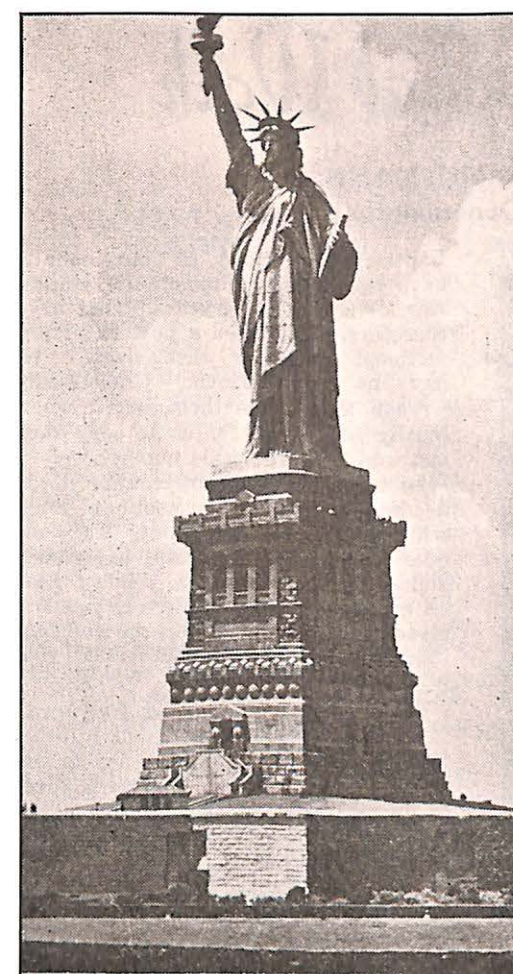
Their farewell took place in Berlin on October 11, 1891, and on the 12th they left for London, where they spent a couple of weeks, discussing the situation with the English brethren. Mr. Steffens writes: "The brethren here have an entirely wrong conception of the attitude of the German Baptists toward Cameroon. I am glad I have been glad to clear up many misunderstandings." They left Hamburg on November 6, and on December 8 arrived in the Cameroons.

The task confronting them was prodigious! In his first letter home he writes: "The task is overwhelming, but Anna and I are happy in it." Conditions on the field were deplorable. The native Baptists had lost all of their property, schools, churches, etc. The churches were demoralized. Slandorous reports about them had been spread abroad. Some of the teachers had endeavored to carry on the work without any salary, when they might have received good salaries from the Baseler Mission.

He commenced to preach at once, some of the native English residents acting as interpreters. His wife immediately began reorganizing the schools and teaching, a task for which she was admirably fitted. Buildings needed to be repaired and new ones constructed. A mission house was urgently needed. For the first few months he shared a native hut with a native teacher's family, a goat, some pigs, and a flock of chickens. From his relatives in Trenton he begged \$1000 with which to build a mission house, which he willed to the mission on his deathbed. How happy they were when they could move into their new home, where they could enjoy at least a small measure of privacy.

Remarkable Accomplishments

In a letter to his friend, Rev. C. Dippel, he begged for \$200 to enable him to pay some salary to the native teachers, with whom we had shared his last crust of bread. A gift of \$30.00 from Mr. Dippel he acknowledged "as (Continued on Page 117)



The Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor is Symbolic of Those Blessings of God Which Have Come to This Nation Through the Great Revivals in Her History

Few people today know anything about the wonders of the revival that swept America in 1857. Eighty-three years of blessing, enriching the spiritual life of America and the world, flowed out of that mighty outpouring of divine grace. The great men of that favored period have gone to be with the Lord. Our present generation does not know the Lord as the men of that revival period knew him.

The term, "revival," still lingers with us, but its meaning has been largely lost to present-day Christians. Therefore, the story of America's greatest revival should be retold, that it may clarify our conception of true revivals and deepen our longing for another similar divine visitation.

The Wickedness of 1857

The conditions of 1857 were strikingly like those prevailing during the past ten years. Multitudes of Americans were living in idle luxury. The theater and the dance had gripped a pleasure-bent people. Divorce was easy; feminine smokers were numerous. Drinking, free love and gambling were widespread, and crimes of violence were increasing, not only in the "wild and woolly west," but everywhere. Vice walked naked and unashamed. Vicious

The Great American Revival of 1857

The Fifth of a Series of Articles on "The Great Revivals of History"

by
REV. F. W. BARTEL
of Avon, South Dakota

cults like Spiritism and Mormonism captured the minds of multitudes. Carnality and strife paralyzed the churches with spiritual impotence.

The nation had been generally prosperous. Business was everywhere expanding. Buying, selling and money-making occupied the minds of business men to the exclusion of better things. Prosperity gave the people much leisure for reading, and secular reading greatly increased. Infidelity and atheism were rampant. The writings of Tom Paine and other infidels were read by multitudes. People turned from the church and gave themselves to pleasure and amusement. The consciences of men were hardened. Indifference to spiritual things generally prevailed. Then a series of providences paved the way for a great nation-wide repentance.

Prayer Meetings Everywhere

First, there came a great financial crisis and business depression. Banks stopped payment every week. Failures were numbered by the thousands. Wealthy people became paupers overnight. Unemployment caused unspeakable suffering and misery. And, driven by dire adversity, a heart-broken people turned to God in prayer. Spontaneous prayer-groups sprang up every-

where, and soon noon-day prayer meetings spread from coast to coast. One such prayer meeting in New York City had a daily attendance of over 5,000 people. A gentleman, travelling from Omaha to Boston, observed a prayer meeting at every stop along the way and reported a prayer meeting two thousand miles in length.

Usually some great name is associated with a revival. But the revival of '57 is exceptional, for it is not linked with any outstanding personality. Nor is it possible definitely to fix a place for its origin. The wonderful fact is that in answer to the Church's united cry, ascending from all parts of the land, the Holy Spirit, quietly and suddenly, throughout the whole extent of the United States, renewed the Church, and awakened in the community around it a great thirst for God.

Nation-Wide Repentance

Thus, it came about that the revival began in different places at the same time, and continued for a time before it became generally known. For, as in the miracle in 2. Kings 3, when water quietly filled the ditches dug in the thirsty valley by believing and praying men, so now there came the sudden and quiet flow of the gracious Spirit, and in a moment the churches became channels brimming with living waters. When the churches awoke to full consciousness of the miracle, it found that from the East to the West, and from the North to the South, the land was alive with daily prayer meetings. And it was in these daily prayer meetings that the revival fire fell.

For as men and women prayed, people were smitten with an unshakable conviction of sin in their homes, on the street and while at work, as well as in the churches. Able bodied men got a sight of their sins, and discovered themselves under the just condemnation of God. The most healthy and vigorous women, whom one would least expect to come under revival influence, were commonly the first to feel the convicting power of the Spirit. All ages and conditions were affected alike. Whole families and groups were convicted and gloriously saved. The most hardened sinners and infidels were melted, some being led to Christ by the hand of a little child.

A Mighty Harvest

Ministers were busier with seeking souls than doctors are with patients during an epidemic. They were reaping a mighty harvest of precious souls. Everywhere the mourning of stricken hearts mingled with the song of the redeemed. Nor was the blessing confined to the land. It was as if a vast cloud of blessing hovered over land and sea. As ships drew near to American ports, they came within a definite zone of heavenly influence. Ship after ship arrived with some tale of sudden conviction and conversion. In one ship the captain and the entire crew of thirty

(Continued on Page 120)

A Pattern for Promotional Work

An Introductory Message by the REV. A. HUSMANN,
the New Promotional Secretary of the Denomination

(Editor's Forward—The election of the Rev. A. Husmann by the General Conference assembled in Burlington, Iowa, last August was one of the highlights of those memorable days. Brother Husmann is eminently fitted for the difficult promotional task which is his. We as a denomination can look forward to great blessings which we shall receive from God through his ministry.)

From a good brother in Texas I recently received the following lines: "Not all of us in the Waco church have as yet had the pleasure of learning to know you. But we hope to get acquainted with you at the association meeting." That will be from March 21 to 23. And I expect that the pleasure of becoming acquainted will be mutual.

But since it will take many months for me to get to all of the conferences, associations, and assemblies, and many more months to go to every local church of our vast denominational territory in person, I gladly welcome this opportunity in the meantime to introduce myself to our great denominational family through the pages of "The Baptist Herald."

God's Open Door

You will surely not misunderstand me if I say that I feel highly honored to have been elected to the office of promotional secretary at the meeting of the last General Conference in Burlington, Iowa. You know from the published account of the sessions how that came about. I sincerely believe that God had his hand in that election, or else I should have refused to accept the office and should have stayed with my beloved church in Philadelphia and close to my family.

For reasons too deep for me to understand, God has set a new open door before me, leading to new and wonderful opportunities for Christian service. I accept them gratefully and humbly. But realizing that greater opportunities involve greater responsibilities, I accept the challenge of this office in utter dependence upon God's grace. Responding to the exhortation of Prov. 3:5-6, my prayer shall be: "Lord, I shall rely on thee with all my heart, and not lean upon my own insight. I shall have mind of thee wherever I may go, and trust that thou wilt clear the road for me."

A Pattern for Promotional Work

The promotional secretary's job is a new office in our denomination. This does not mean that promotional work



Rev. Assaf Husmann
of Forest Park, Illinois

is a new venture among us. It is not. A great deal of promotional work is being done by all of our general workers. But the office is new. The larger

Travelling Schedule in March for Rev. A. Husmann

- March 6-9—South Texas Association at Mowata, La. (Paul Hintze, Pastor.) (Guest Speaker at the Saturday evening, March 8, and Sunday afternoon young people's meetings, March 9.)
- March 11—Donna, Texas (L. Hoeffner, Pastor).
- March 12—Kyle, Texas (M. Mittelstedt, Pastor).
- March 13—Greenville, Texas (J. J. Lippert, Pastor).
- March 14—Gatesville, Texas (W. H. Buening, Pastor).
- March 16 (Sunday)—Cottonwood, Texas (H. Ekrut, Pastor).
- March 17—Crawford, Texas (C. C. Gossen, Pastor).
- March 20 to 23—Central Texas Association at Waco, Texas (P. Pfeiffer, Pastor).
- Friday, 11-12 A. M.: Message.
- Friday 7:30 P. M.: Evening Sermon.
- Sunday, 11-12 A. M.: Sunday Morning Sermon.
- Sunday, 2:30 P. M.: Young People's Address.

Baptist conventions of our country have been having promotional secretaries for a number of years. They have, therefore, established a pattern of promotional work for themselves. We have no such pattern. Undoubtedly, we can learn from them, but it would hardly seem wise for us to copy their methods in a wholesale manner.

In order to meet our peculiar needs, a new pattern for promotional work will have to be worked out. This will take time, and effort, and experience, and wisdom, and grace. While I shall be engaged in this endeavor, you will please patiently bear with me and help me with your counsel and your prayers.

Your Good Will and Prayers

I shall need your good will in order to succeed in the task assigned to me. The Kingdom of God and the Church of Jesus Christ are cooperative enterprises. When God launched his work of salvation on earth, he counted on the good will of men. There is no doubt about God's good will, for God "will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." To be sure, he did not gain everybody's good will. But then, only as many as received Christ, to them gave he power to become the sons of God. It is evident, that salvation takes effect only where God's good will meets with man's good will.

The portion of his work, which God has entrusted to us, can be effectively promoted only by our collective good will. I therefore covet your good will. Some have told me that my position would be a very difficult one by virtue of the exceedingly great feats of accomplishment which would be expected of me. Others have called me a "commotion secretary," because I am supposedly expected to stir up a great deal of commotion in our denominational enterprise.

Forward With Christ

I have received a goodly number of congratulatory letters, some of them exceptionally fine expressions of good will. One of these sets forth a symposium of the great qualities of Moses, of Joshua, of Elijah, of Isaiah, of Jeremiah, of Peter and of Paul, adding: "Our denomination needs such a man." This I believe. But with all due regard for my friend, the author of this treasured letter, I sincerely hope that no one will look for such a symphony of high accomplishments in the new promotional secretary. The disappointment that would inevitably follow, would be too deep.

And now, forward with God, for Christ and his Churches!

Children's Page

Edited by MRS. EDNA SCHROEDER of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ROBERT LEARNS AN EASTER LESSON

"Mother," asked Robert, aged ten, as he returned home one Sabbath from Sunday School, "could you tell me about something in nature that would help to explain Easter?"

"Why do you ask such a question, Robert?" queried Mrs. Burton anxiously.

"Well," the eager boy continued, "next Sunday is Easter, and our Sunday School teacher said that this week we should try to think of something in nature that would help us to understand the meaning of Easter. He said there were many things we could think of, but I can't think of even one. So I thought maybe you would help me."

"I'll see what I can do," promised the mother. "Perhaps after dinner we can try to solve your problem."

Robert ate his dinner that Sunday noon in a hurry. After dinner he volunteered to help mother with the dishes, something he seldom did, because he was eager to hear what mother had to say about Easter. His readiness to help impressed the entire family, so much so that his younger sister and slightly older brother became curious, too, about what mother was going to say and do.

"Let's go into the living room," suggested mother when all the work in the kitchen was done.

Accordingly mother, accompanied by the three children, went into the front room. Near the large bay window that made the room look bright and cheery stood a beautiful plant, a pure white lily, that Mrs. Burton had raised. Straight to the plant she walked, the children following and wondering what this had to do with Easter.

"That's a nice flower," said Robert. "It's the whitest flower I've ever seen, and it has a nice smell, too."

"Yes, it is a beautiful flower; it is one of my favorites," answered mother. "But it didn't always look as nice as it does now."

"Why, what do you mean mother?" queried Betty Mae, Robert's sister, who was just a year younger.

"If you children will sit down for a few minutes," mother suggested, "I'll try to tell you why."

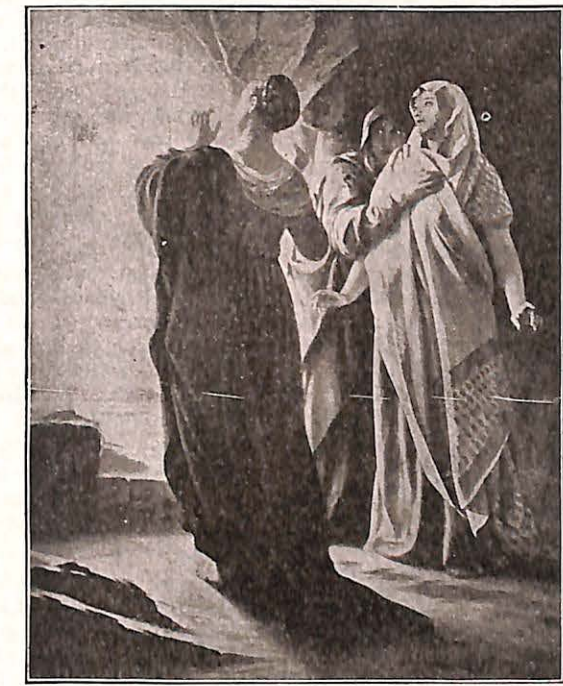
When all were comfortably seated around the lily, Mrs. Burton began her story. "You see, children, this beautiful flower has a history. I've raised lilies before and this one, which I have now, grew from a bulb that I had last year. A lily bulb isn't attractive at all. It is really ugly and dirty. If you were to look at it, you would hardly believe that such a beautiful flower could come from it. But that is just what happens. As ugly and dirty-looking as a lily

bulb is, when it is planted in some earth and cultivated carefully it gradually grows into a flower. First the stem comes, then some leaves, next some blossoms and then the lovely white flowers. Real, living, beautiful flowers from an ugly bulb that doesn't seem to have life in it at all. Isn't that wonderful?"

"Yes, it is, mother," responded Robert quickly, "and I think I see how that fits into Easter."

is not here, he is risen! What wonderful news that was. Jesus the Savior who had been crucified, who had died and had been buried in the tomb was no longer dead, he was alive. The tomb that had been a place of death had been changed through his resurrection into a place of life. That is truly the story of Easter. Easter means that as unpleasant as death may be, beautiful life can come out of it.

"I've never heard Easter described



"When Jesus' friends came to visit the tomb, they were astonished to see the huge stone that had barred the entrance rolled away."

"I'm sure you do, son," replied mother, "for it is really very easy to understand what the beautiful lily has to say about Easter. On a day that we now call Good Friday, and which we shall celebrate later this week, Jesus, our Savior, was crucified by the cruel Roman soldiers on a horrible cross. When he had died, his body was taken from the cross and put in a tomb. Now tombs and cemeteries and death are not things that people like to think about.

Many people in that day did not like to think of them either. They did not like the idea of Jesus being in a tomb. A number of his close friends were so grieved by it that they shed many tears over it. But as dark and unpleasant a place as the tomb was, something happened on Easter that made it different. When some friends came to visit the tomb they were astonished to see the huge stone that had barred the entrance rolled away. And while they were standing still in amazement an angel, keeping watch nearby, said, 'He

that way before," said Robert, greatly impressed by mother's explanation. "And I never knew, either, that a lily was so much like Easter."

"There's still something else I can say about Easter and the lily," continued Mrs. Burton. "The same thing can happen to each one of us that happens to the lily. Our ugly, sinful lives can become attractive and beautiful when we believe in Jesus and love him as our Savior and Lord. Because He lives, we can live also, and we can live in such a way that our lives will truly be beautiful."

Mother's story about the lily ended, the children thanked her and went their way. But no one was more impressed than Robert. He had heard about something in God's wonderful nature that helped to explain Easter. Next Sunday when he went to Sunday School he went with great eagerness. He could hardly wait to tell his teacher of the interesting Easter lesson he had learned from mother.



The Vision

By Paul Hutchens

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SYNOPSIS

Rodney Deland had a special path marked out for him! He was gifted with the talent of a beautiful voice, and with it his mother had dedicated him to take on the mantle of his dead father, who had been a famous Christian song leader. Even though Rodney had strayed from that holy purpose, he accepted a temporary position to direct the Christmas cantata in the Riverview Memorial Church. While going to the church for the first rehearsal, he met a young woman on the bus, who got off at the same corner with him and waited in the drug store for their respective parties to meet them. The girl wore a green-gold star with the words engraved on it, HE LIVES.

CHAPTER THREE

A little later they were standing near the magazine and book department in the corner drug store, as if both were waiting for the same person. The sudden change from sub-zero to seventy above brought another rush of pain to his tooth, but he set his thoughts upon other things.

His eyes swept across the miscellaneous display of magazines and books, whose titles and cover designs shouted that the contents were of a sensational nature. Realism was the flavor of most popular novels today, an attempt of the modern author to word-paint every cruel and ugly and obscene thing in all its cruelty and ugliness and obscenity. This, the reviewers said, was life.

This, Rodney's wise little mother had taught him and Norda, was not life. This was distorted life.

This also is love, clicked the type-writers of a thousand authors, writing of uncontrolled passions, and promiscuity and unfaithfulness to the marriage vow.

And this, Eloise Leland had taught her children, was not love, but depraved love; and she had quoted to them from the Bible: "Herein is love, not that we loved Him, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." And then she had told them of the sweetness of the love that had been her own when their father was alive, and advised them, "Be very careful with whom you fall in love. Never allow yourself to love one who does not love our Lord Jesus. Remember you are God's born-again children, and He, as your Father, will lead you to the right life companion."

For a brief moment Rodney's thoughts modulated to Rexville, and he was again on the rocky ledge overlooking the river. His thoughts were of the star, and on each one was engraved the words, HE LIVES. Suddenly, and with an almost overwhelming surge of emotion, he felt again the presence of God, felt his own faith and love reach up to clasp Him unto himself. He felt his faith to be as pure as that of a little child. He saw ten thousand stars transformed into as many souls, and again he was a chosen man, a man of destiny as he believed in his boyhood he would some day be, set apart from eternity as a Messenger of the cross—to take his father's place.

And then suddenly, unexpectedly, he turned and looked straight into the silver-gray-green eyes of the girl, who had been watching him all this time.

He saw the swift color flame into her cheeks and neck, felt his own cheeks flame in response, and he said, "I—pardon me, I didn't mean to—"

"Pardon me," she was as embarrassed as he. "My curiosity sometimes plays tricks, I—" In her smile he saw two dimples playing, one in either cheek.

And so they met, Rodney and the girl who was to play so important a part in his life during the weeks and months that followed. He knew that this would not be their last meeting. He would want to see her again and again, until he knew her—until he discovered if, perhaps, she might be the chosen one to drive from his mind the nascent love for Shera Thorwald, the one to lead him back to God.

A moment later, the door opened and Dr. Stephen Webber, pastor of Riverview Memorial Church, came into the store, whereupon the girl in the fox-collared coat, turned to greet him, exclaiming gaily, "Hello, Daddy! I thought you'd never come!"

It was as if a human dynamo had entered the store, charging the very air with electricity. Rodney saw Dr. Webber's eyes flash with pride as he greeted the girl who called him "Daddy." His grizzled, shaggy brows overhung gray eyes like her own. His apology for being late was, Rodney thought, only an explanation, as he said,

"I was down town late. I planned to head you off at the office, but you had just left, so I had a race with the street car."

"And you lost?" Her tone was playful and intimate, the way a daughter's

relationship with her father should be, Rodney thought, and thought also of a father he had not known except for such a little while.

"I lost," Stephen Webber said, "because I hurried over to the conservatory, thinking I'd pick up our new choir director. I missed him, too. But here I am, alive and unhurt."

Rodney came forward quickly, and with outstretched hand, saying, "And here I am!"

Introductions lasted only a moment, during which time Rodney learned three things: Dr. Webber, as a father, was very much in love with his lovely daughter; the daughter's expressive gray eyes declared that her Daddy was the finest Daddy in the world; and Le Vera Webber herself, was an extraordinary attractive young woman.

It was with hope and singing thoughts that he went with them to the car which was to carry him to his dinner engagement and to his appointment as the new choir director of Riverview Memorial Church.

The ride to the Webber residence lasted only a few moments, it seemed, yet it was for Rodney a climatic hour. During the interval there were questions and answers and general desultory talk. Alone in the back seat, with Dr. Webber at the steering wheel and his attractive daughter beside him, Rodney's thoughts dodged their way through the traffic of the past, the present and the future. He learned among other things that the new pastor of Riverview Memorial Church had been an evangelist for many years, travelling and preaching in many foreign countries and in nearly every large city in America. Beginning tomorrow night, he was conducting a four-day Bible conference in the old city hall at Fayette, a neighboring city some seventy miles distant.

Riverview Memorial church had been newly decorated under the supervision of the famous architect and interior decorator, John Nystrom. No other church auditorium in America was more beautiful, or more conducive to the spirit of worship, yet it was unlike that of any other church. "We hope to make it a mighty evangelistic center, where in the providence of God, thousands will be saved. As soon as possible there will be a daily radio broadcast. We hope to train and send out many young people as missionaries and pastors and singers. . ."

Dr. Webber startled Rodney by saying, "I knew your father many years ago. He was with me in a number of evangelistic campaigns. I remember how proud he was of you, and how he used to look forward to the day when you would be with him in the work."

"If ever there was an evangelistic singer sent from God, it was Douglas Deland. . ."

The time had come now for the mantle of the father to fall upon the son, and for the son in the spirit and power of Elijah to carry on. . .

Rodney had known from earliest boyhood that some day he would sing before thousands. He had known also that he was to be a man of destiny, different from all others branded by his unusual singing voice to indicate that the God of the universe had set him apart for a special work.

It was when he was a little boy playing in the great out-of-doors along the river that skirted his father's farm, that the great fact of himself had become a thing almost overmastering. With the old stone bench for his stage, and the trees and vines, and the birds and squirrels and frogs for his audience, he would sing and sing and dream of the greatness that would some day be his. Then it was that he knew. Some day he would become a famous singer like his father, and he would sing and sing and sing, and men would be converted and wouldn't sell liquor any more, or drink it; and his Daddy up in heaven would look down and be proud of him. . .

His high soprano voice would quaver out across the fields, over the somber little river and be lost in the wild reaches of the prairie. The elms and maples and willows that hugged the river's banks transformed themselves into a dense forest of people, all listening to him—to him! In those moments he was supremely happy, under the spell of an emotion that was warm and beautiful, that somehow in his thinking became entangled with his conception of God and goodness and everything in the world that was right and great and holy. Some time he might even convert the whole world to Jesus, and then there wouldn't be any more people to sell and drink whisky or any drinks with alcohol in them, and people wouldn't get killed. . .

The emotion trembled and cried within him like a winged prisoner beating its pinions against the bars that jailed it. Sometimes the prisoner was his own voice, his talent; the restraining bars were himself, his boyhood. Would he never become a man?

Again, he himself was the prisoner, and in proud defiance he would lift his head and voice and sing. He could feel the tone vibrations throbbing against the roof of his mouth, pouring forth in delicious golden waves, like ripe wheat waving in the harvest winds, out and out, over the trees and the fields of tasselled corn, filling the woods and the whole world. Sometimes he himself would ride upon those

waves, like his toy boat curtsying on the waves of the river; and in his thoughts he would drift into a world that was all music and beauty, and in which he himself was the center from which everything good and beautiful emanated.

Once during flood season, the pull of the current had snapped the string that had moored the boat to his clinging hand. The boat had drifted away and he had never found it again. Maybe it had drifted away and away, all the way to the place where the sky came down to the earth, and maybe it had gone up to where Daddy was. . .

How long must he wait? How long be held back? He himself was that little boat, feeling the pull of destiny, tugging, tugging at his moorings. Oh, that he might know the real purpose for which he had been born! The chord that was holding him was another Rodney, a bad little boy within him, and that was the reason why he too must be saved, his mother had taught him—and he had believed.

Came teen age, and new and revolutionary emotions awoke within him, and were explained by a wise mother, and in the books she gave him to read. Rodney became a man over night, knew that he was a man; knew also that he was not.

In these formative years, the knowledge that he would some day be great, was lost and found—and lost again. It sighed within him like a sleeping giant, sighed and slept and waited until the boy—the man—should awaken once more.

Early teens, late teens; high school, college.

Bewildering emotions; tottering dream worlds. Life was not at all beautiful, and could never be made so. All things beautiful did not emanate from Rodney Deland. The gay idealism of his boyhood gave place to a dissonant realism that blared in his mind like the jungle jazz of a cheap and out-of-tune orchestra. Two things Rodney came to hate with bitter hatred: jazz, popularly called "swing"; and alcoholic drinks. To him they were the epitome of evil.

Two people he loved with all the love of his heart: his beautiful, Christian, understanding mother, and dark-haired, dark-eyed vivacious Norda. . .

Tonight, in the car that was taking him to the Webbers and to a new experience, the prisoner awoke again, beat his pinions against the bars—new and stronger bars now. . .

The figure changed and he felt the tug and pull of the current. But the little boy who held the rope—it was a rope now—was no longer a little boy, no longer himself, but a giant with a mocking sneer upon his lips. And the giant's name—the giant himself, was UNBELIEF!

Strange people, the Webbers. Yet very, very human. At the dinner table there was badinage, courtesy, spirituality. Rodney liked them all: Mrs.

Webber, refined, motherly, patient, regal; nine-year-old Jerry who sat directly across the table and chattered garrulously of school activities; fourteen-year-old Maybelle with her laughing blue eyes, her semi-sophisticated air, who was especially elated because her father said she might, if the new director agreed, sing in the Christmas cantata; the pastor himself, from whose grave demeanor there tumbled forth at intervals clever bits of wholesome humor, interspersed with casual spiritual remarks which indicated that in the undercurrent of his thoughts, there flowed the river of the Kingdom of God.

There was little formality in the Webber home. Words sprang up from all around the table at the same time, like a covey of partridges from a tangle of shrub and wild grass on the old home farm.

And there was Le Vera, whose gray-green eyes said so much, yet concealed so much more, whose rufous-brown hair was the color of the winter fur of the wildcat that had used to haunt the woods along Crawfish river back home. La Vera's hands were not those of a society girl, as were Shera's, but of a carefully groomed working girl. In what way, he wondered, was she employed? Her movements were not those of studied grace, but of a good and wholesome girl whose actions were merely normal.

There had been freckles on that straight smooth nose when she was a little girl, Rodney decided. He had never before seen gray eyes that were so expressive. He found himself inadvertently looking at them—and looking away again whenever she glanced in his direction.

There was music in the family relationships in the Webber home. And there was love, the kind of love that belonged in families. He was a wandering bird who had not found its nest, but who was on the way home. "Oh bring me home, Father! Give me the faith of these who know and love Thee!"

There was a pre-rehearsal prayer meeting in the pastor's study just off the chancel in the church. There were only four persons present: Pastor Webber, Le Vera, Rodney, and John Nystrom, the bachelor architect, who seemed to be on intimate terms with the family, and who, Rodney suspected, was very much interested in the pastor's daughter.

There was a refinement and dignity about Nystrom that Rodney liked, a spirituality that was enviable. His face was that of a man who had suffered, and who still suffered, but who had found a way of triumph. He recalled to Rodney the words of his mother when once she had told him of her own triumph over the one great sorrow of her life, "I have learned Dr. A. B. Simpson's secret,—that the school of sorrow is the school of faith." And then his wise little mother had added,

"Study the lives of God's giants, Rodney—Simpson and Moody and Wesley and Knox and Calvin and Luther, and Alexander and Torrey and Spurgeon..." There had been a long parade of them, and their biographies were in the library in the old home living-room tonight. He had read them, as he had read also, the lives of P. P. Bliss, Ira D. Sankey, Fanny Crosby and others. Fanny Crosby had learned much in the school of suffering, and her song of faith was being sung now by a million singers the world over.

While they were on their knees, praying, Rodney could hear the muffled voices of incoming members of the choir in an adjoining room. He knelt beside Nystrom near the pastor's desk. He was very much aware of each uncalloused knee as it contacted the hard maple floor.

There were four prayers in succession. Rodney suffered during those moments, for it had been a long time since any one had heard his voice in prayer. How could a man pray when he did not believe! He might say words, might even say them sincerely, but —

He felt like a sinner being suddenly ushered into the holy of holies. He could not stand the light, nor the holiness which he felt was here; and yet he was glad. This was the way back, —the way home—only he would not be thrust so unworthy into the Father's presence.

Le Vera's prayer was first. Her voice had that same musical quality it had displayed on the street car when she had said, "Thank you." Only now there was more pathos:

"Dear Father, we do love Thee so. We thank Thee for giving thine only begotten Son to die on the cross for us. We thank Thee that we know that He lives..."

There was a tiny gold star on the lapel of Nystrom's coat also, as there was on Dr. Webber's. "We ask Thee tonight for our new choir director, Mr. Deland, that he may be anointed afresh for his important task. As we sing once more of Bethlehem's Savior, may we be very wise, bringing to Thee all the gold, the frankincense, the myrrh of our lives..."

"We pray for the unsaved members of our choir, that theirs may be the vision of a lost world, needing the old, old story of Jesus and His love..."

Rodney winced, and he heard within him his mother's voice saying, "Never lose the vision, Rodney..."

John Nystrom prayed in a voice that bespoke intimacy with the One to whom he prayed, "... That our new leader may be Spirit-filled, a true soul winner... Give us all a world vision..."

Rodney Deland prayed. His childhood prayers had been uttered from every nook and corner of the old farm, from every foot of ground along Crawfish river, from the old stone bench, from a score of trees and saplings along the shore, prayers formed in childish words. His prayer now was carefully

worded, and sounded in his ears like the clanging of a cymbal. Afterward, he recalled some of the things he had said... "Give me a passion for souls. Throw upon my shoulders the mantle of my father, help me to believe without make-belief that the only way of reaching the lost is through the preaching of the gospel..." The words, he knew, were not his own, but were culled from the choice sayings of his brave little mother. And yet he realized that they were his very own heart's desire.

They arose from their knees. It would soon be seven-thirty.

"You'll want to see our new auditorium," Dr. Webber said, and whispered aside to Rodney, "it's Nystrom's idea."

The chapel was indeed beautiful. Rodney stood at the entrance and looked forward over a sea of blue leather opera chairs to the platform, saw the place where in the Sundays to come, he would stand to direct the singing of the choir and congregation. A dark blue dome-like ceiling above the platform was sprinkled with golden stars which flashed on and off with rhythmic regularity—here, there, there, here, everywhere; and Rodney thought of the old rock stage back home, and of the fireflies playing among the willows.

A terraced choir loft at the back of the stage was filled with blue, cushioned, chromium-trimmed chairs. While Rodney stood in the silence, watching the stars, they became to him a symbol of the souls that some day he might win, if only I can believe again.

Slowly then, pushed by some invisible hydraulic pressure, there arose in the center of the front of the stage, a blue, gold-trimmed pulpit desk...

Stars! Here, there, there, here... HE LIVES... Abram's stars... A pulpit arising beneath the stars... "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature..."

Yet, even while the vision held him transfixed, the very beauty of it made him think of Shera Thorwald, worshipper at the shrine of beauty, who did not believe that any one was lost, or ever would be; and he knew that the days ahead would be dangerous days, requiring greater wisdom than he now possessed.

..... Morning. Le Vera Webber, Dental Assistant, arrived thirty minutes early at the office of Beade Thorwald, D.D.S. She unlocked the outer door, entered, closed the door after her, passed through the lobby into the reception room, moved animatedly across the green Kavara rug which harmonized so cheerfully with her red-brown hair.

She stopped in front of a curtained alcove on the opposite side of the room near the window. There she swung lightly out of her green coat with its silver-dyed fox collar, deposited both coat and green, flowered turban in the curtained alcove coat-cupboard.

A few moments in the retiring room and she was transformed into an effi-

cient dental assistant in immaculate nurse's costume—white gown with military collar, white orthopedic shoes. Her hair dress was plain and without embellishments. A black stripe fringed her snow-white nurse's cap.

She busied herself with routine morning duties. To each rehearsed "success thought," Le Vera, Christian in the truest sense, appended a supplemental verse from the Bible:

Fear paralyzes effort: Perfect love casteth out fear; The secret of success is constancy of purpose: This one thing I do: forgetting those things which are behind, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus; In making a living, don't forget to make life worth living: For to me, to live is Christ; Harmony as well as efficiency is needed to radiate enthusiasm: "And be ye kind, one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you"; Sunny thoughts cast rainbows over every commonplace task: Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God."

Le Vera liked the frolicsome little song that gambolled about in her heart this morning. She had been singing it ever since she had left home an hour ago. It fell in the category of a "popular" song, but, she was very sure, would not be classified as "worldly." She detested most of the popular songs of the day which were so saturated with the atmosphere of the theater and the dance, which things she loathed.

Only occasionally was a popular song worthy of being sung by a true lover of the Lord Jesus Christ, whom Le Vera knew in such an intimate way.

"I'll compose one of my own," she had avowed one day—yesterday, in fact. It was still in the process of composition.

Other thoughts were tumbling about in her mind this morning—thoughts of last night's choir rehearsal and of the masterful way in which Rodney Deland had conducted "Chimes of the Holy Night."

Graduate dental nurse, she had taken seriously the solemn pledge of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Toronto. It was her dental creed, as was the Apostles' Creed that of Riverview church of which her father was pastor... Rodney Deland's brown eyes were so expressive. They said so much and concealed so much more. His face had that "good" look, so rare among young men. He had given her the alto solo in section 2 of the cantata...

"We lift our eyes unto the hills..."

His own voice was so rich and full. She had never heard a tenor she liked better...

"I solemnly pledge that in the practice of my profession I will always be loyal to the welfare of the patients who come under my care. I will..."

(To be continued)

B. Y. P. U. Topics and Programs

Sunday, April 20, 1941

WANT WILL NOT WAIT

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

The man who fell among thieves is symbolic of the hosts of people who are in desperate material want and spiritual need in our day. "The good Samaritan" is the ministry of every Christian who shows immediate mercy on those in need. For such want will not permit any delay.

1. An Obligation

The sin of the priest and Levite who passed by the wounded man along the highway was not so much their failure to help him as rather their inability to recognize their bounden duty to help him. As children of God we must see ourselves as bound together by the ties of humanity. He who loves God must show that love in a ministry of kindness and mercy to his brother. Otherwise, that love is false and untrue.

A certain Brahmin turned his back scornfully upon an Indian outcaste, who was dying in the way. When a Christian missionary ministered to the unfortunate man, the Brahmin priest said: "My religion forbids me to do that!" To which the Christian replied, "My religion compels me to do that!" That is the constraint of God's love within us.

2. Our Privilege

Christian people have been active in meeting the needs of the world in the name of Christ because it is a means of witnessing to their Lord and Savior. That, certainly, is the joyous privilege of every one who bears the name of Christ. Hospitals, dispensaries, schools, agricultural stations and the like reveal the spirit of Christ in the one who is rendering the service on mission fields. No greater joy could be ours than this ministry to those in need whose confidence, affection and devotion are won thereby.

3. An Example

Like the good Samaritan, we who give our immediate attention to the dire needs of those about us become examples in the Kingdom work of God. We start influences that are without ending in their scope. We preach by the lives we lead. Such sermons are more vital than words. To others it will be said as the Master commends us for our ministry, "Go, and do likewise." May our example always be pleasing in the sight of the Lord!

Sunday, April 27, 1941

CHINA, WAR AND CHRIST

Scripture: Mark 16:9-20.

If the Chinese had not already sur-

vived more calamities than almost any other population, one might in recent years have lost hope of any dawn to follow China's night. Yet the fact is that hope has never died in Chinese hearts and nowhere has faith in the future been more steadfast than in the Christian groups. Damage to the pro-

perty and work of missions has undeniably been great and the spectacle of Christian nations making war in Europe has not helped matters. Nevertheless, the fact that missionaries remained at their posts, often under circumstances of personal danger, and rendered their services in sheltering the wounded and the distressed has made an impression upon the Chinese of all classes. It cannot be disputed that Christianity still lives in China and missionaries believe that in the future it will contribute increasingly to the greater China which is sure to rise from this conflict.

We are bound to have a deeper appreciation of the Chinese people than ever before. They have maintained a wonderful morale in spite of terrific losses, not only of homes and other property, but of lives. Our missionaries report that the cost of living in Shanghai in 1940 was approximately seven times higher than it was before the Japanese invasion. The difficulties encountered by all but the rich in obtaining food are aggravated by the manner in which the country has been laid waste. Many of the large cities lie in utter ruin. Thousands of smaller towns are nothing but ashes. A missionary of the East China mission estimated the number of villages and hamlets burned and completely destroyed as approximately a million, and he added that the actual number is possibly larger.

The Christian leaders have been doing their part in the work of reconstruction. In Chungking, Dr. J. W. Decker of the Foreign Mission Society found that two of the six women who are included in the New People's Council of the government are well known and active Christians. He also found that the representative of the city of Nanking in that council is a Christian University president. Since Christians are but one a thousand in the population these facts are significant. In the summer of 1940 the Japanese government settled with American Baptists for the damage done to the property of Shanghai University during the period of military occupation. It was not possible immediately to move back to the campus University classes which had been meeting in the International Settlement, seven miles distant. The leaders of Christian education in China envisage a greater and brighter future than anything the University has known in the past.

Editors Note: The preceding section on China was taken from the Baptist missionary pamphlet, "New Horizons." Further supplementary material on these programs can be found in "Topic," copies of which can be secured from the editor.

Stimulating New Books!

The Coming League and the

Roman Dream

By Harry Rimmer, D. D.

Will the Roman empire be revived in the latter days? This is what many interpreters of prophecy claim, in fact it is quite universally accepted. But Rimmer rejects the theory and calls it a dream.

This is an arresting book. It sets one to thinking. You must by all means read it.

87 pages 50 cts.

Forty Years on the Labrador

By Ernest H. Hayes

The life-story of a great modern missionary. It is literally stranger than fiction.

Dr. Wilfred Grenfell was greatly used of God in his sacrificial life. There is inspiration in the reading of this graphic narrative. 136 pages.

Price \$1.25

Is the Kingdom of God Realism?

By E. Stanley Jones

The newest book from the pen of this outstanding Indian missionary.

All who have been privileged to hear Dr. Jones in the National Preaching Mission that is sweeping over our land will surely want to read his book in which he puts Christ in the center of the Kingdom.

All of Dr. Jones' books are fascinating reading. 284 pages.

Price \$2.00

Song Leadership

By Homer Rodeheaver and Charles B. Ford, Jr.

A practical manual, indispensable to Song Leaders by two internationally known professional men. Valuable helps, hints and information for generating spontaneous and joyous group singing. Just out!

Pamphlet, 70 pages 50 cts.

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

Reports from the Field

Eastern Conference

Visit of the Arnprior B. Y. P. U. to a Neighboring Young People's Society

On February 3 the B. Y. P. U. of the First Baptist Church of Arnprior, Ontario, Canada, paid a visit to the Carleton Place B. Y. P. U. The recently lected president, Warren Woermke, was in the chair.

Items on the program included vocal numbers by Eleanor Scheel, Hazel Kauffeldt, Phyllis Woermke, instrumental numbers by Warren and Irvin Woermke, and a paper entitled, "The B. Y. P. U. Voice of Fellowship," by Rachel Burke. The Rev. A. E. Jaster delivered a short inspiring message to the young people.

At a previous meeting, Mrs. A. E. Jaster, leader of the Service Commission, conducted an unusual type of meeting by presenting a reproduction of a Winston Curry program.

RACHEL BURKE, Reporter.

Atlantic Conference

Reception for the Rev. and Mrs. H. Palfenier by the Second Church of Philadelphia, Pa.

Although a mutual feeling of good will had been experienced during the two weeks which had passed since our new pastor and his family had arrived in Philadelphia, Pa., the Second Church of this city set aside Wednesday evening, February 12, officially to welcome Rev. and Mrs. Herman Palfenier.

Representatives of the several church organizations expressed the good wishes of their respective societies and assured the pastor and his wife that their cooperation could be depended upon in the work of the church in the days and weeks to come. The Rev. J. G. Dracwell and the Rev. A. Cierpke spoke to the members of the church and to the new pastor, wishing all God's blessing and benediction. The Fleischmann Memorial and Alpha Baptist Churches were represented by their pastors, the Rev. Milton R. Schroeder and Rev. Howard K. Williams, respectively. A representative from the Baptist Ministers' Association of Philadelphia extended a welcome in the name of the association to Mr. Palfenier.

In response to the greetings of all, Mr. and Mrs. Palfenier pledged their devotion to the church and expressed a desire for loving cooperation in the tasks lying in the future.

The church looks forward to God's continued blessing and benediction as it continues its work under the leadership of this new minister of ours.

IDA DRAEGER, Reporter.

CONFERENCE DATES

June 17 to 22—Dakota Conference at Linton, North Dakota.

June 25 to 29—Pacific Conference at Anaheim, California.

July 9 to 13—Northern Conference at the First Church (Frederickheim Church) of Leduc, Alberta.

July 27 to 31—Eastern Conference at the Temple Church, Buffalo, New York.

July 30 to August 3—Southern Conference at Gatesville, Tex.

August 6 to 10—Southwestern Conference at Okeene, Oklahoma.

August 6 to 10—Northwestern Conference at Racine, Wisconsin.

August 20 to 24—Central Conference at White Ave. Church, Cleveland, Ohio.

September 10 to 14—Atlantic Conference at Second Church, Brooklyn, New York.

Dakota Conference

Miss Martha Manz, Missionary from the Tabor Church, Dies in the Belgian West Congo

Miss Martha Manz, missionary in the Congo District of West Central Africa, has made her departure from this life at the age of 33 years. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Manz, who are members of the Tabor Baptist Church, eleven miles northwest of Mercer, No. Dak., received a telegram on January 27 with the sad message.

Miss Manz grew up in this part of North Dakota. At the age of 12 years she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and by baptism became a very active member of the Tabor Church. Later she attended the Northwestern Bible School in Minneapolis, Minn., for six years.

In September, 1938, she and some other friends went to Africa as missionaries without any support from a missionary society. Judging by the letters she wrote to her relatives and friends and by the article which appeared in the May 15, 1939, issue of THE BAPTIST HERALD she was very happy and successful in her work.

On Sunday, February 9, a memorial service for Miss Manz was conducted in the Tabor Church, where Martha was a respected member until her untimely departure out of this life. The minister, the Rev. August Rosner, gave a talk on "Crowns" or "The Blessings of a Devoted Christian Life," and appropriate songs were rendered and testimonies given of her Christian influence.

AUGUST ROSNER, Pastor.

Pacific Conference

Young People of the Portland, Stafford and Bethany Churches Hold an Enjoyable Social Gathering

The B. Y. P. U. of the Trinity Baptist Church of Portland, Oregon, invited the B. Y. P. U.'s of the Laurelhurst, Immanuel, Stafford and Bethany Churches to a social and get-together on Valentine's Day, February 14.

We met in the Sunday School room of the Trinity Church. Each church presented a skit or musical number or both. The first part of the program was entirely comical and the latter part devotional. Miss Ione Whiting was the leader, and Mr. John Leyboldt, Jr., led the chorus. We were served with punch and cake, both of which were very delicious.

We have made a report of this, since it was the first time we came together for a social evening of this type, and it was a very successful and enjoyable evening. We wish to thank the Trinity Church.

MAXINE HAAG, Reporter.

Activities of the Loyal Workers' Class of the Immanuel Church in Portland, Oregon

On Friday evening, February 21, we, the girls of the Loyal Workers' Class of the Immanuel Church, Portland, Ore., honored our parents with a Washington's birthday banquet at our church.

The church basement was beautifully decorated with red, white, and blue paper. Each girl gave her mother a corsage. After the delicious meal, we took part in some games. Burdene Peterson gave a reading, and Doris Roth and Margaret Marks played a piano duet, after which we all joined in singing some patriotic songs.

There are about 15 girls in our class. We meet once each month in one of our homes. At our January meeting we elected new officers for this year. The following were elected: president, Margaret Marks; vice-president, Ruth Reutter; secretary, Mary Schmunk; and treasurer, Eunice Reck. Our teacher is Mrs. Jennie Hoelzer.

At Christmas we sent a box to our Children's Home at St. Joseph, Mich., and remembered each child with an individual gift. Recently we gave \$25.00 to the church towards the renovation of the church auditorium.

The Lord has richly blessed us as a class of girls in the past year and we are confident his blessing will rest upon all we endeavor to do in the coming year.

RUTH REUTTER, Reporter.

Northern Conference

Inspiring Young People's Rally is Held in Calgary, Alberta, for the Bridgeland and Neighboring Baptist Churches

On the afternoon of Sunday, February 9, approximately 300 people crowded into the auditorium of the newly built Bridgeland Baptist Church in Calgary, Alta., Canada. The visitors came from the Craigmyle, Bethel, Freudenthal and Zion Station churches in response to an invitation from the Calgary Church to attend a special Young People's Rally. The occasion was the visit of Rev. M. L. Leuschner, secretary of our National Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union.

The Rally opened at 2:30 in the afternoon with a song service led by Mr. Ted Neher, director of the Bethel Choir. Reuben Schamuhn, president of the Calgary B. Y. P. U., extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. The young people from the various churches took an active part in the services. Ralph Dohms of Calgary read a passage of scripture and Ben Kary of Craigmyle led in prayer.

Dave Grig of the Freudenthal Church addressed the gathering on the subject, "The B. Y. P. U. and Its Relation to Christ" and Clara Sailor of Calgary followed with the topic, "The B. Y. P. U. and Its Relation to the Community." After this fitting introduction Mr. Leuschner brought a challenging message to the young people on "The B. Y. P. U. and Its Relation to the General Mission Work."

The Choir of the Bethel Church as well as the Calgary Choir rendered several selections throughout the service. Beatrice Link, student of the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton, favored the audience with a solo. Between the afternoon and evening services the visitors were served with sandwiches, cakes, cookies and coffee in the dining room of the church.

Mr. Chris. Harsch, director of the Freudenthal Choir, opened the evening service with a period of lively singing. Mr. Art Buyer read a portion of scripture and Reuben Schamuhn led in prayer. The choir from Freudenthal rendered two appropriate selections, after which the Rev. F. Alf, pastor of the Freudenthal Church, addressed the gathering in the German language on the subject, "Let Us Be Gideons!"

Following a selection by the Calgary Ladies' Choir and a recitation entitled, "Tommy's Prayer" by Albert Grig, Mr. Leuschner again addressed the young people. His theme, "Forward with Christ," was definitely uplifting and encouraging. For this evening service the visiting choir blended their voices with those of the Calgary Choir in rendering two beautiful selections, "King All Glorious" and "Selig sind die." After a brief period of consecration to Christ, Mr. Leuschner pronounced the benediction. A special mis-

sionary offering of \$35.00 was received.

Thus, ended a day of Christian fellowship. It was, indeed, a great privilege for the young people of our Southern Alberta churches to meet in this inspiring way. We are grateful to the Bridgeland Baptist Church and its pastor, the Rev. P. Milbrandt, for having arranged such a pleasant meeting.

FRANCES KARY, Reporter.

Southwestern Conference

The Salem Baptist Church of Gotebo, Oklahoma, Is Enjoying Spiritual Prosperity

The Salem Baptist Church of Gotebo, Okla., held its annual business meeting on January 3 for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year and of transacting the necessary busi-



Choir of the Baptist Church in Minitonas, Manitoba, Canada

The Ministry of the Minitonas Church Choir

This is our first appearance in "The Baptist Herald" as the Baptist Church Choir of Minitonas, Manitoba, Canada, and it is a privilege to be able to describe the wonderful work which the choir is doing.

We have a total of about 35 members in the organization, who are doing their best both in financing the work and singing. To help cover our expenses each member is requested to pay a fee of five cents per month or more.

The Bible tells us that every person should be a missionary, and every member in the choir is fulfilling this verse of the Bible, because singing is one of the many methods in telling about the Savior's love to others. Whenever needed the choir does its best in helping along with vocal choruses. It is the choir's privilege to sing every Sunday morning in the services.

It really is amazing how our fine choir master is able to be present at most of these rehearsals, held on Thursday afternoons, for he must travel 9 miles with a team of horses. That is not very easy when the thermometer shows 20 to 25 degrees below zero, but with all these difficulties he is present at most of these rehearsals.

The result of our 1941 election was as follows: choir master, Mr. J. Pohl; president, Mr. A. Goltz; secretary, Mr. Eddie Ginter; treasurer, Miss Olga Ko-

timore; time keeper, Lillie Hart; pianists, Mrs. R. Schilke and Lydia Hartz; book monitors, Edward Hiller and Loeffel Hart.

God's Word is not only glorified through preachers but it can also be spread through music and singing. So may God take over our leadership and may he lead us in his footsteps!

EDDIE GINTER, Secretary.

ness of the church. The installation service of the newly elected officers was conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. J. Reimer, on the following Sunday.

It is with a feeling of sadness that we report the loss of a number of faithful members, who have gone to be with our Savior. In honor of these departed friends, a memorial service was conducted on New Year's Eve by Mr. Reimer. This was a very impressive service and an inspiration to us to try to achieve even greater things in the future. Evidence of this fact is shown by regular attendance and enthusiasm displayed by our members. We had the privilege of having the Rev. and Mrs. Paul D. Ford, missionaries to Jamaica, recently to conduct a very inspirational revival meeting in our church. In spite of the inclement weather when attendance was small, Mr. Ford delivered his messages with as much fervor and earnestness as though he were speaking to a capacity audience. In addition to his splendid sermons, Mr. Ford showed us many pictures of the natives of Jamaica, his mission home and churches there. As a result of his efforts, five precious souls were led to Christ, and we hope that we may win others.

As is customary, a week of prayer was conducted by Mr. Reimer to usher in a year of service and thankfulness to God. Both young and old participate in our regular prayer meetings each Wednesday night. We are divided into classes and have a Bible study course in connection with these meetings.

Our Sunday School is the most enthusiastic department of the church. A great deal of interest is shown by regular attendance. Teachers' meetings are held for the purpose of discussing problems and exchanging ideas. Our Sunday School is conducted on the six point record system.

BEATRICE SCHMIDT, Reporter.

Northwestern Conference

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Broeker of Burlington, Iowa, Celebrate Their Golden Wedding Anniversary

In celebration of their golden wedding anniversary on Wednesday, February 12, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Broeker, members of the Oak Street Baptist Church of Burlington, Iowa, held open house at their home in the afternoon and many friends called with heartiest congratulations. The occasion also marked the 74th birthday of Mr. Broeker. His wife is 73 years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Broeker, the latter the former Miss Lena Lempken, a native of Oldenburg, Germany, were married by the Rev. Mr. Macholz, who at that time was pastor of Oak Street Baptist Church, at the home of Mr. Broeker's parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Broeker. They have lived at their present residence the last 40 years. Although Mr. and Mrs. Broeker had no children of their own they reared a nephew and a niece, Chris Lemme, Oshkosh, Wis., and Mrs. Robert Schramm of Burlington. Another nephew of theirs is the Rev. L. Broeker of St. Joseph, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. Broeker were assistant caretakers at the county farm for some years and later Mr. Broeker was employed as night watchman at the John Boesch company of Burlington.

ALFRED BERNADT, Pastor.

Miss Hannah Seils of North Freedom, Wis., One of God's Saintliest Servants, Has Closed Her Earthly Pilgrimage

Miss Hannah Seils of North Freedom, Wis., was called home to be with the Lord on Sunday afternoon, February 23, at the age of 85 years, 2 months and 25 days. Of her immediate family she is survived only by her older sister, Augusta, but a large circle of relatives and a host of friends in many places of this land mourn the passing of a dearly beloved friend, whose memory will ever remain sacred to them.

Miss Hannah Seils was born in Treblin, Germany, on November 28, 1855. In a short autobiography written in 1910 she wrote: "Through the grace of God I was born into a family where Christ was, indeed, the head of the house." Her parents had been convinced of the biblical meaning and method of baptism for believers only and, because of their faith, suffered persecution. But the piety of parents and co-believers made an indelible impression on her youthful mind.

When she was about 12 years old her parents with their two sons and six daughters emigrated to America. A third son died in infancy and was buried in Germany. A second brother died while they were on board ship and was buried at sea. Hannah spent her youth in the pioneer home of her parents in Freedom Township, Wis.

Early in life she became a seeker after truth and salvation. So it was that while she was attending high school in Baraboo, she was, as she states it, "led to make an open confession of her personal faith in Christ." Her father, who was a lay preacher, baptized her and she became a member of "a group of baptized believers in the vicinity of North Freedom." Early she felt the urge within her soul to consecrate herself wholly to the work of the Lord. After teaching school a while she went to Cleveland, Ohio, where her sister, Augusta, was working.

There now came an invitation to enter the Missionary Training School of the Women's Baptist Home Mission Society. Joyfully she availed herself of the opportunity. After a year of study and training she was sent as a missionary of this society to Philadelphia, Pa., to work among the three German Baptist Churches there.

Later she was asked to devote her entire time to the field of the First German Baptist Church, now the Fleischmann Memorial Church. She labored faithfully in Philadelphia for 30 years. At times she was asked to do special work for the Home Mission Society, speaking to churches and conventions in the interest of their work. Many are the proofs of the high regard in which she was held during these years, and even to the younger generations her name and work are very well known. The people of Philadelphia as well as the society have given her many visible proofs of their appreciation of her services.

In 1915 she retired from her responsible and strenuous labors and returned to her home in North Freedom, Wis., of course, only to continue with her loved ones her services to the Lord within her home church. Here, too, her services have been greatly appreciated.

The last seven years of her life have been years of affliction and suffering. But through it all none of us have ever heard one word of complaint from her, except words of regret that her aged and beloved sisters should be caused so much weariness. It was, indeed, a marvel for her and for all of us, that her sister, Augusta, now 90 years of age, could bestow upon her such continuous and affectionate care. One great sorrow was not spared her in these last months, in that her younger sister, Mrs. Theresa Koch, passed from this life, and of course she could not attend her memorial services.

On Wednesday, February 26, the large relationship and the many friends of our sister gathered at the church for memorial services. To our great sorrow the only survivor of her family could not attend, as our dear Miss Augusta Seils, her sister, was confined at home because of sickness. Rev. C. Dippel and Rev. C. F. Stoeckmann assisted the pastor, Rev. Thos. Stoeri. Her self-chosen text, Titus 3:5-7, was considered as "Her Last Testimony."

THOMAS STOERI, Pastor.

Central Conference

Mr. Robert Jansen, For Fifty-Three Years a Member of the Kankakee Church, Is Called Home

Mr. Robert Jansen, one of the most highly respected members and a stalwart pillar of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Kankakee, Ill., has gone home to be with the Lord. His death on Sunday, February 23, a few days after his 74th birthday, brought great sorrow to a large circle of relatives and friends, who knew him and loved him. The funeral service was held in the Immanuel Church on Wednesday afternoon, February 26, with a garden of lovely and fragrant flowers surrounding the casket. All of the children of the deceased were able to be present, except a daughter who resides with her husband in Anchorage, Alaska. The service was opened worshipfully by an organ prelude with Miss Lulu Krueger at the organ. The pastor of the church, Rev. George Hensel, who was in charge of the service, read appropriate Scripture passages and the obituary and brought a message on 1. Cor. 15:57.

The Rev. F. P. Kruse, a friend of the deceased for more than 65 years, touched the heart-strings of memory in a beautiful tribute, using the words of David for Jonathan as his own: "I am distressed for thee, my brother: very pleasant hast thou been unto me; thy love to me was wonderful." (2. Samuel 1:26). The Rev. M. L. Leuschner, of Forest Park, Ill., a nephew of Mr. Jansen, offered the prayer and pronounced the benediction.

Robert F. Jansen was born on February 20, 1867, at Somonauk, Illinois, as the son of Rev. and Mrs. Frederick Thoms. His parents died in his boyhood years and he was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick G. Jansen of Kankakee where he resided to the close of his life. On April 15, 1888, at the age of 21, he made his confession of Christ as his personal Savior, and was baptized into the fellowship of the Immanuel Church by Rev. A. Vogel. On September 13, 1888, he was united in marriage to Louise Seedorf. God blessed this union with ten children, five sons and five daughters, all of whom survive, with the exception of two sons who died in their infancy.

The Rev. George Hensel's fitting eulogy of Brother Jansen was expressed in the following words: "Brother Jansen was a man of varied talents, deep convictions and strong loyalties. As a Christian husband and father he had no apologies to offer to his loved ones for he took himself and his duties seriously. In the 53 years of his membership in the church he served in many capacities as Sunday School teacher, as Sunday School superintendent, as church clerk, as financial secretary, as deacon, and as church moderator. These offices were filled by him not in any perfunctory manner. His work was always done thoroughly and

conscientiously. The Kingdom of God was his chief concern, and he gave evidence of that by sacrificing for it, in giving of his means, in assuming the responsibilities of his offices and in attending services regularly. We shall miss him and shall find it hard to fill his place."

MARTIN L. LEUSCHNER, Reporter.

BOOK TITLE CONTEST

On March 6 the Editorial Committee, meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, considered the 231 titles submitted for the new denominational history and made the following selection:

THESE GLORIOUS YEARS

Submitted by Mr. Raymond Rappuhn of Melrose Park, Illinois. The following titles were judged to be next best, and those submitting them will receive a free copy of the book.

"One Hundred Years of Service" by Rev. F. W. Bartel of Avon, South Dakota.

"The Heritage of a Century" by Rev. H. F. Hoops of Los Angeles, California.

"The Faith of a Century" by Rev. Peter Pfeiffer of Waco, Texas.

The Wayside Pulpit

By REV. THEO W. DONS of Forest Park, Illinois

A CAREFREE LIFE

"Take no thought for your life"

Matt. 6:19-34

These remarkable words were spoken by our Master. Earthly cares and worry are not for the child of God. He who cares for the flowers of the field and the birds of the air will surely care for his own. The cares of this life are like thorns among which the plant of faith will not thrive. Cares will make our hearts heavy and will curtail our usefulness in the kingdom. To put temporal things first in our lives will indicate lack of faith in the heavenly Father. If God has become our heavenly Father through faith in Jesus Christ we escape the cares which lead to the slavery of mammon, and the soul will not be torn hither and yon.

Is it so hard to trust? We are so prone to worry and fret. Yet how much more peace of heart would we experience if in this day of distress and trouble we could "cast all our cares upon him, for he careth for us." "My God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory."

There are some "thoughts" for our lives which we cannot afford to take lightly. The all important question is: "What must I do to be saved?" This question we must answer with personal faith in the Savior Jesus Christ. And what must necessarily follow: "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."

But when a thousand things are more important in our daily curriculum than the one thing needful, we will miss the sweetness of fellowship with a Father who cares. After all, "what does it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his soul?"

OUR FIRST MISSIONARY

(Continued from Page 106)

welcome as the dove with the olive leaf." The sick had to be cared for, instruction had to be given to new converts, discipline restored among the churches, new stations and schools opened up, and missionary tours undertaken to survey the conditions and the extent of the field. They took eight native boys into their home, whom they clothed and fed at their own expense out of their meager salary of \$600 per year.

One marvels at the prodigious amount of work which Steffens accomplished in only 18 months. So quickly did he master the native language that before his death he not only was able to preach without an interpreter, but translated a number of hymns into the Duala language, 28 of which are still in use in their hymnal, a copy of which was sent to the Trenton Church by Paul Gebauer with the inscription: "To the church that sent out Steffens, to those who have been led to Jesus by his songs."

In one of his letters he refers to a spiteful letter received from someone, who accused him of "living like a prince in Africa." He contrasts this unjust accusation with the stark reality. Owing to lack of funds, they were able to purchase only the barest necessities before leaving Germany. Many needed supplies could not be provided. Unable to afford tropical clothing, he had to swelter in the tropical heat in his American clothes. On his tours he almost died of thirst, because he dared not drink the water and lacked a filter. Unable to eat the bread because it had become mouldy, they were compelled to subsist on wormy hard-tack, washed down with rain, when they could catch it.

"Life in Cameroon is Short"

The results of his work were soon evident. Baptisms were frequent. The native Christians regained their courage and soon won the respect of the age and soon won the respect of the community. The German Colonial Government appreciated his efforts and gave him every assistance. He secured the grounds for a new mission house, and many new stations and schools were opened. During his first year there were 376 baptisms, and by the time of his death over 600 new converts had been added to the church. Humanly speaking there could be only one result from such strenuous labors under such adverse conditions, a physical breakdown!

Repeated attacks of fever had begun to sap his strength. His last letters voiced a fear that he might not live long. He writes: "Life in Cameroon is short, but so long as God gives me breath, and so long as my hands are able to move, I shall labor for the salvation of Cameroon. . . I cannot refrain from preaching, although I know it means a new fever attack. My time is worth more than gold out here."

Like a candle that is consumed as it gives off its light, so he literally consumed himself for Christ and the Cameroons. On June 28, 1863, he suffered another attack of the dreaded African fever. At first there appeared to be little danger, but in a few days his illness took a sudden turn for the worse. On the evening of July 3rd he said to his wife: "Anna, I believe the crisis will come tonight. I feel very weak."

It came at midnight. He called Mr. Dibundu and deacon, Tondi, and the children of their household to his bedside, and commended them to the Lord. He requested that Mr. Dibundu preach his funeral sermon on the text, "Love never faileth," and that he be buried alongside the remains of missionary Todd.

The Torch Passed on to Others

Then he dedicated a last farewell message to his family in Trenton, and a letter to Mr. Scheve as follows: "When you receive this letter I shall no longer be here. I have loved you as a father and the Cameroon mission and people with all my heart. The mission house which I built I bequeath to the Cameroon mission. Take care of my Anna. She has been a true wife to me. We were so happy." At nine o'clock on July 4, 1863, his course was run, and peacefully he passed away.

His death was a stunning blow, not only to his wife and the mission, but to all of his friends. But it was also a challenge to others who took up the torch that fell from his hands. On the same day that Steffens lay dying in far off Africa, another student in our seminary was writing a letter to Mr. Scheve. He wrote: "Ever since my dear friend and schoolmate, August Steffens, went to the Cameroons, I have longed to join him in the work there. I have now definitely made up my mind to go to the Cameroons as a missionary. Will you not please present my application to the mission board in Berlin. Signed: Emil Suevern."

Suevern was accepted and labored in the Cameroons for many years with marked success. After the death of his first wife, Pauline Daniel, he married the widow of August Steffens.

In Steffens' Honor

But to August Steffens belongs the honor of having been the first of that long list of heroes and heroines, who for the love they bore to Jesus Christ and a lost race in that dark continent of Africa, counted their own lives not dear, but gave themselves freely for the black people of Africa in the Cameroons, so that, as Steffens put it: "The sons of Ham shall not always remain in slavery, but that the dawn of a new day shall burst upon them."

As the blood of the martyrs became the seed of the church, so Steffens' death became the seed in Africa's soil from which has sprung the rich fruits in the years to come. "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my end be like theirs."

What's Happening News

(Continued from Page 102)

¶ The Bethel Baptist Church of Sheboygan, Wis., recently redecorated the interior of the church auditorium at an approximate cost of \$225. On Monday evening, February 24, the young people of the church surprised their pastor, the Rev. L. B. Berndt, on the occasion of his birthday. The guest speaker in the church services on Sunday, February 23, was the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, editor of "The Herald." Present at the evening program of missionary pictures were Dr. Robert MacMullen, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Sheboygan, and Rev. H. Wright, minister of the Sheboygan Falls Baptist Church, and their wives. From May 18 to 21 the church will observe its 50th anniversary in connection with the Wisconsin Association to be held in Sheboygan.

¶ The White Avenue Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio, received unusual publicity in "The Cleveland Press," one of the largest dailies in the city, on Monday, February 17, with a striking article by Mr. Frank Stewart, church editor for the newspaper. An article over three columns, illustrated with a picture of Rev. William L. Schoeffel, pastor, described the editor's experience in visiting a church service on February 16 as "a stranger." "I received a welcome," he wrote, "a little bit different from any I have received in 115 churches I have attended." (Who said something about a warm German Baptist welcome?) "The White Avenue choir is one of the best I have heard in several months. The distinguishing thing about this church is the order of service. Mr. Schoeffel, who is unusually friendly, has worked out a program that is impressive and worshipful."

¶ On Saturday afternoon, February 8, Mr. Theodore W. Niebuhr, son of Rev. John F. Niebuhr of the Bronx, N. Y., and Miss Adeline E. Keller of Newark, N. J., were married by the Rev. Vincent Brushwyler. Mr. T. W. Niebuhr served as Sunday School superintendent in the Baptist Church in the Bronx for 14 years, of which his father was formerly pastor. Last year he spent 8 months in South America, making a survey of roads for the Inter-America Company. He is now stationed in Trinidad, British West Indies, where Mr. Niebuhr is a civil engineer on a U. S. navy base project. Mr. and Mrs. Niebuhr flew by airplane to Trinidad by way of Miami, Florida and Puerto Rico. Because of Mr. Niebuhr's prominence in former young people's activities in the Atlantic Conference, "The Baptist Herald" is delighted to publish this news and to wish the couple God's richest blessings during their stay of 3 years in Trinidad.

¶ Word has been received through Dr. W. O. Lewis, the executive secretary of the Baptist World Alliance and relayed to Dr. William Kuhn, and also through Mr. Emil Wilde of East Detroit, Mich., in a personal letter, that the five Ger-

man Baptist missionaries, who were formerly serving the Cameroon fields at Soppo, Buea and Ndu, Africa, are now in internment camps in Jamaica, one of the larger islands in the West Indies in the Caribbean Sea, not far from the North American continent. These missionaries are the Rev. H. Simoleit, Jr., Rev. and Mrs. Laessig and their two children, Mrs. Sieber, (whose husband recently died in the Cameroons), and Miss Frieda Maier. They write as follows: "All of us are well in our new place. The climate is better than in Nigeria and in the Cameroons. Please send our best greetings to all our people, friends and relatives in the U. S. A. and elsewhere." We are indebted to Mr. Wilde for this welcome and informative news.

¶ The mid-winter institute of the Minnesota Y. P. and S. S. W. Union was held from February 21 to 23 in the Faith Baptist Church of Minneapolis, Minn., with a large crowd of young people in attendance. Miss Maria Schreiber, president of the union, was in charge of most of the meetings. The speaker for Friday evening, February 21, was the Rev. Emanuel Wolff of St. Paul who spoke on "Signs of Discipleship," and on Sunday, February 23, the guest speakers were the Rev. August Lutz of St. Bonifacius, Rev. R. Nelson, Baptist executive secretary for the state, and Rev. Wm. H. Schobert of Jeffers. Classes on Saturday were conducted by the Rev. John Wobig and Rev. Richard Clearwater on "The Holy Spirit" and "Romances of American Baptists," respectively. A lively forum on "Peace or War?" was ably led by Vernon Heckmann on Saturday afternoon. The Saturday evening program was called "Talent Night."

¶ A letter from Mr. Herbert Ekrut of Waco, Tex., was recently received at the editorial office with the sad news about the critical illness of his father, the Rev. H. Ekrut, pastor of the Cottonwood Church near Lorena, Texas. Herbert's letter follows: "My father started feeling quite sick a few weeks before Christmas and has become worse ever since. He was in the hospital for about three weeks, and since the doctors were unable to help him, we have taken him to our home and are trying to make him as comfortable as possible. Dad suffers quite a bit at times, but with much medicine we try to ease his pain as much as possible. God has been merciful to us and we feel that the prayers of our many Christian friends are helping us daily to bear the burden. We desire all of our Christian friends to remember Dad and us in their prayers since we know that God is the only One who can help us and that He does answer prayer." Letters to Brother Ekrut should be sent to 816 Dutton Street, Waco, Texas.

¶ Recently Mr. Frederick J. Berger, a nephew of the Rev. J. A. H. Wuttke

of Sacramento, Calif., was appointed "Director of Jewish Friendship and Evangelization" by the Los Angeles Baptist City Mission Society. Mr. Berger is a graduate of Linfield College in Oregon and a post graduate of Stanford University in California. He is about to receive his B. D. degree from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pa. He has been a world traveller and has been in contact with Jews in Palestine, Vienna, Berlin, London and many cities in America. Dr. Ralph L. Maybury, executive secretary of the Los Angeles area, wrote concerning this new venture: "We were distressed because we Northern Baptists were making no effort to give the gospel to the Jew. He needs a real personal experience with God which is possible only through faith in Jesus Christ, his Messiah."

¶ The First German Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., has adopted the club plan for our publications with very effective results. The church now has 51 "Baptist Herald" subscribers, which is more than a 50 percent increase over that of the previous year. The young people of the church have sponsored the plan with Mrs. Walter Pankratz serving as "Herald" booster. Mr. Edward Meister, president of the B. Y. P. U., and Mr. Elmer Benson, chairman of the stewardship commission, have also contributed largely to the success of these efforts. The Christian Fellowship Chorus of the church has recently given musical programs in the German Baptist Church of Kenosha, Wis., the Bethany Church of Milwaukee, Wis., the Norwegian Baptist Church and the Pacific Garden Mission of Chicago. This men's chorus delighted the large audiences at the Saturday and Sunday sessions of the General Conference in Burlington, Iowa. The Rev. John Schmidt is pastor of the church.

¶ On Saturday evening, March 1, the young people's society of the Forest Park Baptist Church of Forest Park, Ill., celebrated its 50th anniversary at a banquet held in the Oak Park Arms Hotel. About 150 people were seated at the beautifully decorated tables, who listened eagerly to the address of the guest speaker, Dr. Charles W. Koller, president of the Northern Baptist Seminary of Chicago. Mr. Fred Grosser served as the capable toastmaster. The new officers of the B. Y. P. U. are Gerhard Koch, president; Fred Grupp, vice-president; Jean Carol Grosser, secretary; and Walter Volkmann, treasurer. On Sunday evening, March 2, the young people's anniversary program was continued with a message brought by Professor Jacob Heinrichs, formerly missionary in India and a professor at Northern Seminary in Chicago. Mr. Harold Johns, a president of the B. Y. P. U. for many years, also took part in the service. The occasion, which was also Professor Heinrich's 81st birthday, was lovingly remembered by the young people. The Rev. Theo. W. Dons is pastor of the church.

Baptist Life Association

860 Walden Avenue, Buffalo, New York

Statement of Financial Condition as of December 31, 1940

ASSETS	
Book Value of Real Estate	\$ 97,685.40
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	461,269.83
Liens and Loans on certificates of members	59,454.68
Book value of U. S. and N. Y. State Bonds	118,174.69
Cash in office and deposited in banks	77,548.36
Interest due and accrued	18,434.61
Bills receivable	1,392.60
Rents and interest due	1,197.00
Assessments in course of collection	4,508.70
Liens and interest on Class B. members	2,145.34
Office furniture and fixtures	1,914.00
Donated mortgage	1,500.00

Gross Assets	\$845,225.21
Total Assets not admitted	27,579.84

TOTAL ADMITTED ASSETS	\$817,645.37
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LIABILITIES	
Death Claims awaiting proof	\$ 3,143.61
Permanent Disability claims, present value	8,700.06
Assessments paid in advance	18,983.29
Reserves Amer. Exp. Mortality Table:	
(a) 3½% Select and Ultimate	160,056.00
(b) 4% Preliminary Term	442,018.00
(c) 3½% Illinois Standard	32,733.00
(d) Juvenile Certificates	12,367.37
(e) Sick Benefit Certificates	3,342.09
(f) Permanent Disability	1,171.16

TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$682,514.58
Special and Contingency Reserves	59,000.00
Surplus (Unassigned Funds)	76,130.79

TOTAL TO BALANCE WITH ASSETS	\$817,645.37
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RATIO OF ASSETS TO LIABILITIES

December 31, 1940 —	109.58%
December 31, 1939 —	109.27%
December 31, 1938 —	109.80%

STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF ERIE } ss.:

Walter B. Morton, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the accountant who made the foregoing computation and answers to the questions above set forth concerning the condition of the Baptist Life Association as of December 31, 1940, and that the same are correct and true to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

WALTER B. MORTON.

Subscribed and sworn before me this twenty-fifth day of February, 1941,

E. C. SMITH, Notary Public.

Ratio of Actual to Expected Mortality

Dec. 31, 1940 —	52.00%
Dec. 31, 1939 —	48.88%
Dec. 31, 1938 —	52.55%

The Association has been managed by insurance experts since its reorganization in 1911. It has served Baptist people for fifty-seven years. Our Cash Position, as compared to one year ago, has improved forty-four percent.

Net Rate of Interest Earned

During 1940 —	4.46%
During 1939 —	4.41%
During 1938 —	3.94%

To Our Present and Future Members

Dear Friends:

We feel that every Baptist family has an interest in the strong, financial position of this Association. You are entitled to this full information and we have, accordingly, prepared this report from our annual statement as submitted to the various officials of states in which the Association is licensed. Since organization of the Association in 1883 it has paid to its members and their beneficiaries the sum of \$1,462,881.00 in death, old age and disability benefits. As the Association has no stockholders all gains, savings and earnings are returned to members in dividends.

Each obligation, for past fifty-seven years, has been promptly met. At no time has the Association found it necessary to borrow funds or sell its securities.

All our investments have been made in conformity with



WANTED Men and Women

in every Baptist Community as part-time or full-time sales representatives for

BAPTIST LIFE ASSOCIATION

Legal Reserve Life and Health Insurance for Baptists

Complete Information will be sent to you on receipt of your letter addressed to

BAPTIST LIFE ASSOCIATION

860 Walden Avenue
Buffalo, New York



THE REVIVAL OF 1857

(Continued from Page 107)

men found Christ at sea, and entered the harbor rejoicing. The tidings of this work of divine grace spread far and wide, and everywhere Christians were aroused to seek from God a similar visitation. Thus, the revival spread throughout the land and out beyond the sea.

In his "History of American Revivals," Dr. Frank G. Beardsley says: "For a period of six to eight weeks, when the revival was at its height, it was estimated that fifty thousand persons were converted weekly throughout the country, and as the revival lasted for more than a year, . . . conservative judges have placed the number of converts at five hundred thousand."

The Fruitage of the Revival

The revival inaugurated the great evangelistic movements under D. L. Moody, the prince of American evangelists, and his spiritual successors. It gave us such nation-wide youth movements as the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., Christian Endeavor, and the

A Confidential Word with our Subscribers

Owing to the pressure of business in our Circulation Department it was utterly impossible to discontinue the mailings of the BAPTIST HERALD to last year's subscribers whose renewals for 1941 had not been submitted. Will such friends kindly bear with us for reasons given. We hope to discharge this task after this current issue has gone out.

If, possibly, some subscriber has merely delayed his renewal and is desirous of having his service continued will he considerately act immediately by remitting the subscription price, either direct, or through the HERALD booster. This will prevent an undesirable interruption in the service.

Will all churches, and church representatives also please remember that final settlement will be due by March 31st.

The Publishers.

Student Volunteer Movement. It brought into existence summer conferences, Bible institutes, and Bible colleges. It was the happy mother of scores of gospel hymn writers and composers, whose inspirational spiritual

songs have blessed churches in this and other lands for more than 80 years.

It crystalized the American Sunday School movement, and gave us the International Uniform Sunday School Lessons. The fire that fell from God in 1857 gave us scores of renowned evangelical preachers, men of superlative spiritual power, and scores of pioneer missionaries, who in turn founded great missionary organizations. It lighted tens of thousands of family altar fires, and preserved the nation from the corruption that seriously threatened it during the period following the Civil War.

This marvelous spiritual awakening united the Church, cleansed her membership, renewed her allegiance to Christ, rekindled her soul-winning passion and zeal, raised up scores of Christian agencies and mighty preachers of the gospel, and resulted in the turning of many thousands into the Kingdom of God. Truly, this story of what God did more than eighty years ago ought mightily to arouse all true Christians to pray most earnestly for a revival that will shake heaven and once again bless the whole world.

Christ's Command—

WINNING THE UNSAVED TO CHRIST!



Soord's Picture of
"The Shepherd and the Lost Sheep"

"And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matt. 4:18-19)

"Fishers of men!" That is what every Christian must be. You have been saved to serve. You have received God's gift of eternal life in order to tell the gospel to others. Otherwise, the light that is in you will become dim and dark.

"Evangelize or Fossilize" is God's command to His Church and to every disciple of His. That is our task together as ministers, parents, church members, young people. Introduce your friend, your neighbor, your brother or sister to Christ. You will be blessed beyond measure by such a living witness for Christ!

"Go ye!" — these are Jesus' commanding words — "And preach the gospel." Win someone for Christ in 1941. That should be your prayerful endeavor.

THE SECOND OF TEN DENOMINATIONAL GOALS TO BE ACHIEVED IN OUR CHURCHES' PREPARATION FOR THE CENTENARY JUBILEE IN 1943