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Jesus Christ, the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever
as the Only Hope of the World

BAPTIST HERALD

January 1, 1942

WHAT'S HAPPENING . . .

● The Rev. Albert Stelter of American Falls, Idaho, pastor of the German Baptist Church of that city, has accepted the call extended to him by the Baptist Church of Olds, Alberta, Canada. Mr. Stelter will begin his services in Olds about on February 1st, succeeding the Rev. G. Beutler, now pastor of the Rosenfeld Church of Saskatchewan.

● Evangelistic meetings were held in the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Elmo, Kansas, from November 9 to 23 by the Rev. Arthur M. Collins, a returned missionary from Japan. He brought convincing spiritual messages so that the church was richly blessed and 4 persons professed faith in Christ as Savior, according to the pastor, the Rev. John Broeder.

● The Baptist Church of Carrington, No. Dak., recently experienced great spiritual blessings when the Rev. Pat Malone conducted revival meetings in the church for two weeks in November. The report has been received that there were 26 conversions and reconsecrations. The reporter stated that "the church members were given new faith and courage to carry on the work of the Master." The Rev. Alfred Weisser is the pastor of the church.

● A Union Thanksgiving Day service for all of the churches of Anaheim, Calif., was held on Thursday morning, November 20, in the Bethel Baptist Church with music provided by the Bethel Church choir, under the leadership of the Rev. H. G. Dymmel, and by Miss Lois Schroeder as organist. The Thanksgiving Day message on "Living Thankfully" was delivered by the Rev. Fred Essig. Attractive programs were provided for the members of the large audience by the Anaheim Ministerial Association.

● Since December 1st, the Rev. and Mrs. Emil D. Gruen of Des Moines, Iowa, have been serving the American Board of Missions to the Jews in visitation and evangelistic work in Florida. They are to travel from place to place and make contacts with Jewish people in these areas. Next summer they will make their temporary home in Minneapolis, Minn., and serve the northwest from there. Their forwarding address is 27 Throop Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Their membership is in the Fleischmann Memorial Church of Philadelphia, Pa.

● The Christmas program of the Fleischmann Memorial Sunday School of Philadelphia, Pa., was presented in



Paul and Clara Gebauer
at Home in Portland, Oregon

A "Baptist Herald" Salute!

With this issue "The Baptist Herald" begins its 20th volume with impressive changes in its front cover design, headings for the feature articles and special pages, photography and new departments. We trust that the issues of 1942 will merit your hearty interest and cooperation to make this "the banner year" of our publication.

The art designs for the front cover and departmental headings were prepared by Mrs. Clara Gebauer of Portland, Oregon. Her studies at the Art Institute of Chicago and her teaching experience in Madison, Wis., before her marriage to our missionary, Paul Gebauer, qualified her for the splendid service which she has rendered our publication.

Our salute to her is brought in the widespread enthusiasm and acclaim of our constituency as the new and better "Baptist Herald" begins its ministry for 1942!

EDITOR.

the church on Sunday afternoon, December 21. It featured the play, "The Prince of Peace." The program was in charge of the Sunday School superintendent, Mr. Gustav Straub. On the last Sunday of the year, December 28, the pastor, the Rev. Milton R. Schroeder, preached on the theme, "How Old Are You?" The Thanksgiving offering of the church amounted to \$300, which was very favorable in comparison with other offerings of recent years.

● Evangelistic meetings were held in the Bethel Baptist Church of Anaheim, Calif., from November 17 to 30 with the Revs. Roy and Ralph Kraft of Mount Hermon, Calif., serving as evangelists. The church was crowded for the services, and the Kraft twins were busy, as a reporter stated, in "preaching, teaching, singing, playing and bringing object lessons." The entire church experienced a great spiritual revival, and a number of converts professed their faith in Christ as Savior who were recently baptized by the Rev. H. G. Dymmel, pastor of the church.

● Evangelistic meetings were conducted for two weeks in the Second German Baptist Church of Philadelphia, Pa., by its pastor, the Rev. H. Palfenier. The meetings were very successful with 4 persons professing faith in Christ and many others being reclaimed for Christ. The pastor wrote as follows: "It is, indeed, a privilege to work with the many faithful workers in our church. They gave of their time and talents in an unstinted way. Our prayer is that we may go on in the power of the Spirit of God to higher levels of Christian living."

● The Rev. John E. Grygo, pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church of New York City, was recently elected president of the Regional Conference of New York Baptist ministers. We congratulate Mr. Grygo upon the honor which was conferred upon him! On Thanksgiving Day, November 20, Mr. Grygo brought the message at a union service for neighboring churches held in the Central Park Baptist Church of New York. He spoke on the theme, "Not Unmindful of His Kindness," based on 1. Thess. 5:18. Dr. William Kuhn of Forest Park, Ill., was also in the large audience.

● The Rev. and Mrs. Paul Gebauer, our Cameroon missionaries, spent several weeks in December on a promotional trip to our California churches. On Sunday, December 7, they spoke in the Baptist Church of Lodi. On Wednesday and Thursday evenings, December 10 and 11, they were the guests of the Wasco Church. For a period of several days from Sunday, December 14, to Tuesday, December 16, they spoke at several services in the Bethel Church of Anaheim and on Wednesday evening, December 17, in the Fifteenth Street Church of Los Angeles. They closed their trip on Sunday, December 21, by speaking at services in the Franklin Church. Dr. Kuhn, general missionary secretary, has announced that all requests for passports for the Gebauers to return to Africa have been refused by the U. S. State Department.

(Continued on Page 13)

The Baptist Herald

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Coming!

A DANGEROUS CROSSING

Miss Edith Koppin, our missionary nurse in Mambila, Africa, tells about her adventures in crossing the Atlantic Ocean on a small freighter, barely escaping catastrophes and death on several occasions.

FLYING FOR MY COUNTRY AND CHRIST

Lieutenant Robert Ivan Dittich, a test pilot for the Army Air Corps, relates how he has witnessed for Christ as organist at Randolph Field Chapel and on many opportunities that have come his way.

A HERITAGE OF PRICELESS FREEDOM

The story of the beginning of our denominational history is related with vividness of description and warmth of understanding in another memorable article by the Rev. Charles F. Zummach.

ENTHUSIASM FOR MISSION PROJECTS

The account of our young people's unions which are working hard in promoting various missionary projects will be an exceedingly interesting article for every "Baptist Herald" reader.

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EDITORIAL



Cleveland, Ohio, January 1, 1942
Volume 20 Number 1

United for Action

THE road ahead will be a hard and gruelling grind for our continent and churches. United States and Canada as well as all the Central American republics and South American countries are presenting an unbroken united front to a common foe across the seas. With remarkable speed these governments have gone into action for the ultimate and cherished goal of victory.

The uncertainties of 1942 are legion. No one can foretell the current events in the next twenty-four hours in times like these. But one certainty stands out like a burst of the sun's rays through the dark clouds. That is the united determination of the peoples of our respective countries to give every possible aid to our governments to reach their objectives.

As members of our churches we have always been found in the vanguard of civic duty. Our citizenship on earth in this republic of ours has always been a sacred trust. We accept the words of the apostle Paul as disciplinary truth for ourselves: "Put them in mind to be in subjection to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready unto every good work." (Titus 3:1)

This challenge of the new year 1942 is even broader in its scope. We must be united as Christian forces to bring a faithful proclamation of the gospel to those still living in darkness. There are no other priorities in the building of God's Kingdom. A spiritual ministry must be brought to the lives of our soldiers and sailors. Neither propaganda nor hatred can ever stifle our prayers for all people, including those living in enemy territory.

Dr. Georgia Harkness of the Garrett Biblical Institute near Chicago stated a few days ago that "the church must continue its task, no matter what happens, must maintain a fellowship across all national lines and continue its missionary program."

Our young men in camps will be called upon for a Christian witness, often in difficult circumstances. The opportunities for Christian service by our young people will be many. As far as possible, our foreign missionary enterprise will be maintained. Our home missionary tasks will be multiplied. Our loyalty to Christ and our country will be strengthened as we go forward with faith in the right and love to all men. In that spirit we face the New Year, united for action!



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Fascinating Patterns Are Formed by the Sharply Outlined Shadows Cast by the Stately Birch Trees Across the Snow

A Formula for Living

A New Year's Sermon by the REV. PAUL F. ZOSCHKE of Elgin, Iowa

TODAY we are all like school children with new composition books of 365 pages. Our daily paragraph necessarily is for public perusal. The message read may differ widely from the message written. This composition will be an autobiography of our inner man. Therefore, let us give diligence to our culture.

Haven't you sometimes thought that if there were available somewhere a formula for living with definite assurance of success all people would gladly acquire it? With almost universal acquisition it could revolutionize the present world order. Everyone is seeking such a simple and effective formula. As it is, each of us must more or less produce our own pattern, and before we have done the last stroke in designing it we are removed from the stage of physical existence with no chance to test its effectiveness and impart it to others.

Of course, we believe that there is such a pattern in the person of Jesus Christ, of whom we have four portraits in the gospels of the New Testament. We can view these portraits repeatedly, for we have copies of them in our homes.

True, but haven't you seen paintings with so much crowded into them and with such immense framework that it is difficult to discern the central figure? Our theological accoutrements so confuse us with their multiplicity and fascinate us with their colors that the simplicity of the Savior is indiscernable. We inquire of everyone with the demeanor of an interpreter only to find another extraneous decoration on the Redeemer. Has not the teaching of the Son of God been reduced to a simple sentence, so that even immature children can grasp it?

An English philosopher and statesman has offered this brief declaration: "Our main business on earth is to be, to do, to do without, and to de-

part." He was not particularly religious, and there was no spiritual thought in his conclusion. But the more one meditates upon it, the better it seems to simplify the systematization of Christian doctrine. May we, therefore, attempt to give his statement spiritual significance.

To Be Like Christ

That our being has a special purpose in contradistinction to the rest of creation, everyone knows. The highest ambition of man is to be the best personality possible. The standard for this personality varies with each individual. The one designation that embodies the greatest ideals is "sons of God." Even non-Christians would agree to this.

In the beginning we were created in the image of God, which means that the Eternal himself was the pattern for our fashioning. All through the Old Testament historical record our sonship is fundamental. Hosea said: "And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, ye are the sons of the living God." In his Areopagus address Paul said to his Greek audience: "As certain even of your own poets have said: for we also are his offspring." Thus, the conception of man's filial relation to God is universal.

It is also commonly agreed that man has not always lived up to this high ideal but through disobedience has fallen far short of the goal. The psalmist said: "Everyone of them is gone back, they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no not one." Paul gives it thusly: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Children of God

God in Christ once more reached down into the human world to re-create man in his image. "As many as have received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." Are you among the redeemed that say: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."

The beginning of a new year offers a new start and new inspiration. Shall we not give renewed diligence in writing our autobiographies as children of God, showing forth more radiantly "the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light"? If your composition last year was not that of a child of God, won't you let Christ restore you to his image and return you to the family of God?

To Do His Will

If we are the children of God, what are we to do? Someone said: "We must become convinced of an inherent rightness of things in the uni-

verse." This inherent rightness is not only in the universe but also in the heart of man. Generally, there is developed in man a good sense of decorum. Briefly stated, our purpose is to obey our parents. Wise parents instruct their children to do their will which is their welfare. Our Father in heaven is all-wise. He seeks our well-being.

Furthermore, our being is governed by laws which have their fulfilment and fruitage in our filial relationships. If we are out of fellowship with the Father, these laws are violated, and unhappiness and destruction result.

The first principles of God's will are contained in the Ten Commandments which are basic in all civilization. Without these, we sacrifice our very humanity.

A Challenge For Life

Many people would like to enjoy the parental blessings of home and fellowship, yet solely dominate their environment and never subordinate themselves to others. They live not to serve but to be served. To such Jesus said: "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of God, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Outer compliance mixed with inner rebellion does not satisfy the Father's desire. Positively Micah summed up God's will when he said: "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk uprightly with thy God."

We challenge you to live according to his will, for you were created so to live!

To Do Without Selfish Desires

If we were created by God and re-created by Christ for fellowship with him, we must do without the satisfaction of selfish desires. As children we cannot live according to our wills and our parents' at the same time. "No man can serve two masters" simultaneously; you cannot serve God and self.

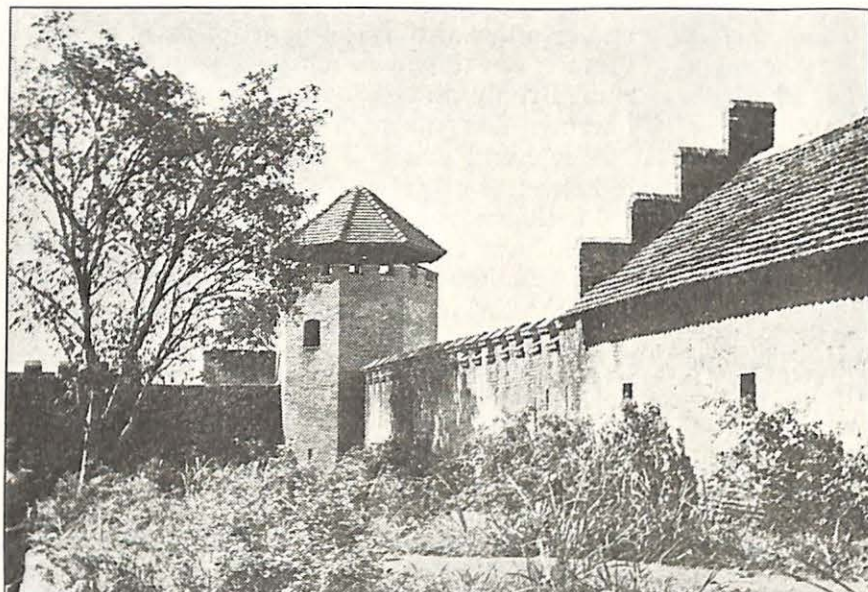
Sooner or later we learn that we cannot do all that is good. We have to choose even among good blessings. There is much good literature, for instance, but we cannot read it all. The more assiduously we do our special tasks, the more ordinary good we must sacrifice. Often we say with Peter: "Behold, we have forsaken all and followed thee." Christ expected this of the early disciples, and he expects it often of us.

This year more than ever we desire the grace to say: "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. This one thing I do. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

To Depart Triumphant

Many of us pride ourselves on being realists but fail to look realistically at the most inescapable fact of life, which is death. This is called

(Continued on Page 20)



The Courtyard of the Bamenda Post Office in British Cameroons With the Ancient Tower (Center) Where Radio Letters Are Received For Our Missionaries in Mbem and Warwar.

Our Prayers for Times Like These

A Summons by DR. WILLIAM KUHN, Missionary Secretary

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Heb. 4:16).

In times like these we will do well to take all of our unsolvable problems and the burden of our crushing cares to "the Throne of Grace." We need not hesitate to unburden ourselves at that holy place. In fact, we have been bidden to come; so we can come boldly. Our great high priest, the Lord Jesus Christ, will intercede for us there.

It is a comfort for us to know that our intercessor has a deep and complete understanding for all our trying experiences. He himself drained the most bitter cup of human life. Only at the throne of grace can we "obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Pray for Our Cameroons Mission

In the accompanying picture you can see a part of the post office of Bamenda in the Cameroons. All our letters pass through this station. In the center you will see the radio tower. Every cablegram or radiogram to our missionaries is broadcast from the coast to this tower in Bamenda. All appeals from our missionaries to the home land must go through Bamenda.

We all agree that Bamenda is of utmost importance for communication between the Cameroons and the home land. However, its importance is not comparable to that of the throne of grace. A letter sent from Forest Park to Warwar arrived there only after one year. It takes a native runner days to go from Mbem or Warwar to Bamenda.

Although we might be sunk in the deepest depths and shrouded in the

blackest night, in a moment of time we can find access to the throne of grace. This throne is accessible for every one from everywhere. Not one of our prayers, if endorsed by our intercessor, will ever be refused. In times like these the throne of grace should become for all of us a reality, where we receive of his fulness, grace upon grace.

Disappointments

At present, our missionaries, George and Louise Dunger, with their little Daphne, and our nurse, Miss Laura E. Reddig, are out on their dark and difficult mission fields alone. The convulsions caused by the present war are felt by them even in that far away place. Their hearts are longing and their eyes are straining while looking westward and waiting almost impatiently for the coming of new workers. We must plead in prayer for our missionaries that they be supported by physical and spiritual strength, enabling them to "endure as seeing him who is invisible."

Paul and Clara Gebauer had hoped to sail early in December. We had secured passage for their sailing at that time. From the British Consulate in New York we had received permission for them to return to the Cameroons and to continue their work there. After having applied twice to the Department of State at Washington for their passports permitting them to sail, these requests for passports have been refused. Doubtless, the present war situation has been a factor in this refusal.

The presence of the Gebauers in the Cameroons seems to us to be essential for the continued welfare of that mis-

THE BAPTIST HERALD

sion. All our missionaries are agreed that at this time we need, more than anything else, re-enforcements of new workers for our Cameroons mission. In the face of these keen disappointments we would not murmur, nor will we cast away our confidence. In deep humility we will bow before him who can open and close doors according to his own sovereign will.

Pray for Our Danubian Missions

Until the last war declarations, we have been able to correspond with our missionaries in the Danubian countries. According to our last reports, mission work has been unhindered, notwithstanding the war restrictions. Many male members of our Danubian churches have been called to military service. Financial burdens have become heavier, and the cost of living has sky-rocketed alarmingly.

Although it has not been possible for us to support those sixty-five Danubian missionaries through recent months, God has prompted others in Europe to render this ministry in our stead. We must pray at the throne of grace that our Danubian missions, established with infinite patience and sacrifice, may not suffer destruction during this war.

Pray for Our Country

During almost one hundred years of our denominational history our record as patriotic American citizens has remained unsullied. To be sure, many of our fathers had their birthplace in lands beyond the sea, but they, not less than others, have been a real asset to our country. Our present membership is largely composed of native-born citizens.

As our denominational field comprises the United States and Canada, the citizens of these two countries know of but one loyalty, and that is to their own country. With readiness of will and with a glad spirit we accept any and all obligations inherent in our citizenship. We detest anyone who in this crisis hour would fail to fulfill any duties of citizenship.

Someone has said that more than 500 of our young men are serving either in the armies of the United States or of Canada. From all our pulpits ardent prayers will ascend to the throne of grace that wisdom and courage and steadfastness be given to all those in positions of leadership, and that the bond of unity be strengthened among the people, both high and low, in following that leadership.

We solemnly resolve and declare that as God gives us grace we will not fail to carry out the divine commission given to his Church by the Lord Jesus Christ. We will strive to develop members into such Christians who will shine as lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. We will pray for the enthronement of the Spirit of Jesus Christ in the hearts of individuals and peoples, so that they can dwell together in brotherly love.

The Trail of a Spiritual Adventure

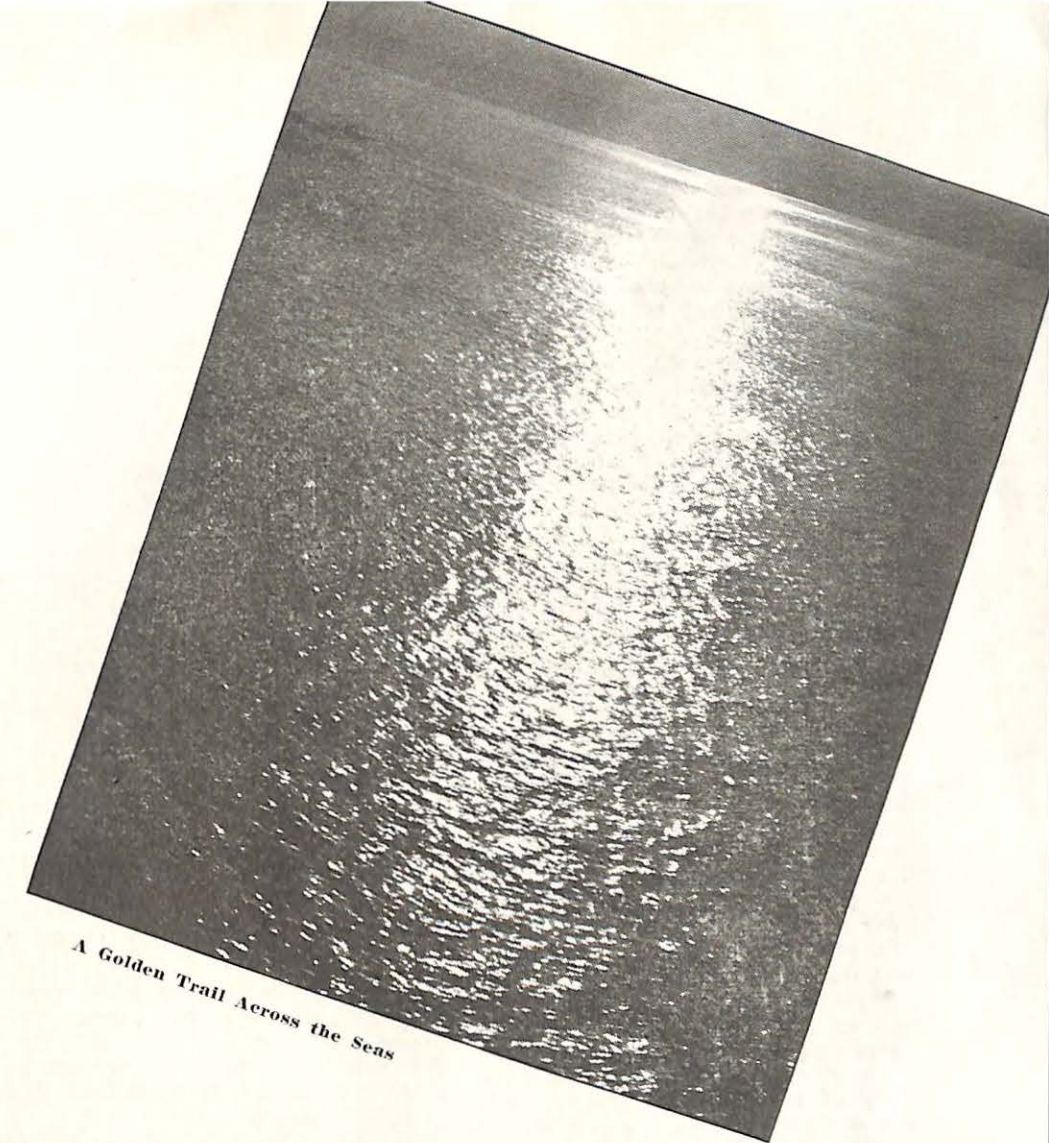
The First of a Series
of Epochal Articles About
Our Denominational History
by the
REV. CHARLES F. ZUMMACH
of Trenton, Illinois

Foreword

The author is one of a family of the third generation of Baptists in America. His grandparents were among the first Baptists of our conference in Eastern Ontario. The family has always taken an active interest in the work of the denomination, as evidenced by the fact that they have contributed five members to the gospel ministry and three mistresses of the manse.

His early religious training was received in a country church of that denomination in Killaloe, Ontario; his theological training in the seminary at Rochester, N. Y. He began his ministry in Trenton, Ill., in 1910. From 1913 to 1922 he served as pastor in Northwestern Canada, three years at Ebenezer and Yorkton, Sask., and six years in Edmonton, Alta. Following this he served the Immanuel Baptist Church in Kankakee, Ill., for six years and the Oak Street Baptist Church in Burlington, Ia., for nine years. In 1937 he returned to his first church in Trenton, Illinois.

We wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to all who have helped to make this history possible and to the various sources of information so generously placed at our disposal. Mention should be made of the Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union, the Publication Society and the faculty of the Rochester Baptist Seminary, who went the "second mile" in extending every assistance and courtesy in the task of gathering the necessary facts upon which this history is based. We also acknowledge our gratitude to the First Baptist Church at Trenton, that so generously sacrificed the time of its pastor to make this possible.



A Golden Trail Across the Seas

In presenting this history to our denomination we have only one aim and one hope, and that is that it might inspire us to greater loyalty and devotion to the cause which we have inherited. To the sacred memory of our forefathers, those sturdy pioneers who blazed the trail and tamed the wilderness and whose faith and courage made possible what we have inherited this work is gratefully dedicated.

CHAPTER ONE

It is with a feeling of deep responsibility that the author has undertaken the task of writing the story of our denomination. This feeling has grown upon us as we read the records of the past. How little most of us know what lies behind our achievements!

Our history is more than the story of a small denomination, for we were never a large group. It is part of a story of a great movement and a revolution in the realm of religion, just as important as the political revolution that gave birth to our nation. The task of the historian is to record facts and to interpret history on the basis of facts. Some of these facts do not make pleasant reading, but unless history is true to facts it is not history, but becomes propaganda.

No one has ever described the task of the historian better than the author of 2. Maccabees in his introduction: "As to ourselves we have undertaken no easy task, yea, rather a business full of labor and sweat. To collect all

that is to be known, and to put these facts in order and to interpret every particular point in its proper setting is the duty of the author of a history."

The Melting Pot

Many strands have been woven into the warp and fabric of our Baptist denomination, of which the German Baptists of North America are only one. Just as America became the melting pot of various nationalities of Europe, so our denomination has become the melting pot of various religious trends and thought. While the pattern they wove is not always clear, our forefathers were dominated by one desire, namely, to build for themselves and their children an independent, self-governing religious community, whose membership was voluntary, not constrained by legal or ecclesiastical decree, but only by the love they bore to Christ their Savior.

They visioned a religious organization where freedom of soul and equality for all should prevail, one that was free from inherited prejudices and historic precedents, and governed only by such rules as were revealed by the Holy Spirit in the New Testament. In doing this they made mistakes, for they were pioneers. They made no claims for infallibility. They were willing to be guided by any new truths the Spirit should reveal to them. This is clearly stated in the preamble of the first constitution of the First German Baptist

Church of Philadelphia, Pa.

It is also necessary to remember that they were a very small minority group in a minority population, speaking a strange language and that few of them occupied or aspired to leading positions. Furthermore, their insistence upon one and only one mode of baptism gave them an isolated place in the community and made their work more difficult with the German-speaking population, among whom infant baptism was not alone an inherited tradition but regarded by many as essential to salvation itself.

Early Trail Blazers

What problems confronted our early forefathers and how did they deal with them? Like the churches of the New Testament they were "trail blazers" for a new religious experiment in a new and hostile environment, and they charted a course that others coming after them might follow. To appraise the spiritual qualities of that early generation of our Baptists and their leaders, their loyalty to the truth as they saw it, the steadfastness of their convictions, their achievements and their sacrifices, their fortitude in the face of bitter opposition, and to interpret these soul qualities to the present generation, that for the most part "knows not Joseph," is the primary purpose of these chapters.

The story of our denomination is the story of an heroic struggle, of self-sacrifice and devotion against almost insurmountable odds on the one hand and of tragic retreat on the other. Victory and defeat alternate with ever recurring rapidity; devotion and selfishness, sacrifice and wilfulness are ever present. There were strong churches and weak churches, great men and little men just as there are today.

But in spite of it all, no one can read the record of these past one hundred years without a feeling of pride at what they accomplished and admiration for those heroic souls who braved poverty and hardships, scorn and contempt from the world to attain their purpose. Verily, "there were giants in those days!"

Denominational History

These chapters are not an attempt to write detailed and factual history of our denomination and the various organizations that go to make up its far-flung activities. It is rather an attempt to interpret the facts, the movements and the trends that are revealed by the facts. Sometimes, we get the mistaken idea that history is a record of dates, names and statistics. But these do not tell the whole story any more than the hospital chart reveals the whole condition of the patient. The chart merely records the pulse beat, registers the temperature fluctuations of the patient, but it does not record the pain, the feverish tossing and the agony of the body and mind through which the patient has passed. In order to understand these one must go behind the chart and read between the lines to un-



Rev. Charles F. Zummach
of Trenton, Illinois,
Engaged in Research Study in the
Seminary Library of Rochester, N. Y.

derstand the alternating periods of debility and recuperation, convalescence and relapse, the struggle for existence ending either in recovery, a lingering invalidism or death.

Denominational history is like that! Why did some churches survive and prosper while others died? It is not an easy matter to determine and in some cases it is impossible to explain. The fact that some patients recover from certain diseases while others die frequently baffles the physician. Churches are like that. Reading through our conference reports is like spending hours in a graveyard. One reads the familiar and unfamiliar names on the tombstones, the dates of birth and death. Some died young; others in the prime of their years. A few reached the allotted three score years and ten; a very few four score years. But the tombstones do not tell the cause of their demise, except in rare incidents. Conference records are like that.

Life's Perennial Problems

To relate all the reasons for their dying, or to explain all the reasons for their growth in the case of each church is beyond the scope of these chapters and a task requiring more information than that at the command of the writer. While it is clear from the records that internal dissension, disputes over doctrine and practice, migration and shift of population and economic reasons were responsible in many cases for either the growth or the death of churches, in many cases one cannot escape the conclusion that these do not tell the whole story. Worldliness and indifference, a lack of vision and shortsightedness on the part of some of the leaders and of the membership, coupled with selfishness and an un-Christian spirit were too often contributing factors.

Another important factor that must be taken into consideration is that only a few of the early leaders were men of

broad culture. For the most part they were men with no specific training. They knew their Bible and—what was most important—they had a personal and vital religious experience which they were anxious to share. Those qualities, combined with some elementary religious training and instruction which they had received in the Fatherland, coupled with a zeal to make Christ known to their countrymen, made them a vital force in the religious life of their community in spite of their lack of specific theological training.

Other Baptist Groups

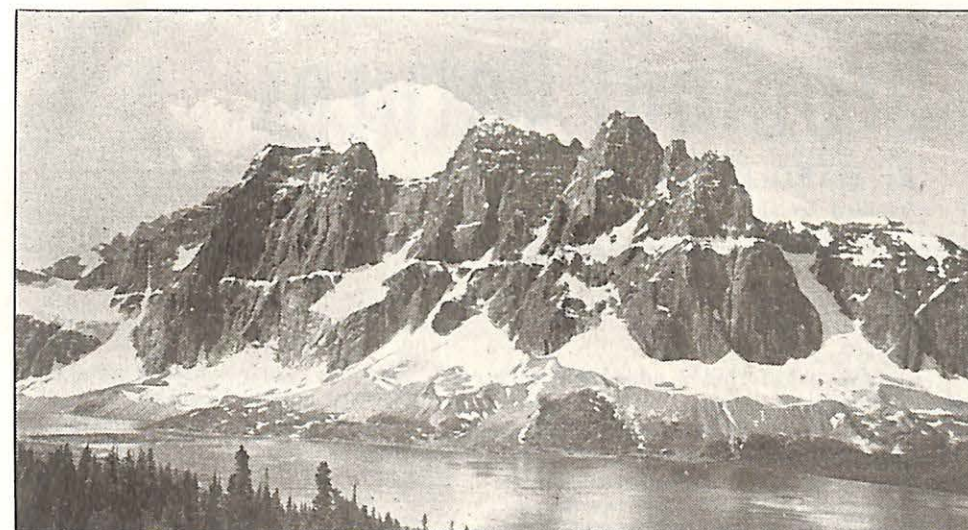
Our English-speaking brethren were quick to realize the value of their work and from the very beginning supported them liberally. The records are replete with expressions of gratitude for the support received from the English-speaking Baptists. It is no exaggeration to say that if it had not been for this liberal support in those early years it would have been impossible for the young movement to carry on. Most of the immigrants were desperately poor and had a hard struggle for existence. They were, therefore, unable to make any great contribution to the cause. But, for the most part, they freely gave of such as they had.

The first conference of our Baptist churches in 1851 records that there were approximately 600 known German Baptists in America, of whom some 200 were members in English-speaking churches. This trend to the English churches increased with the years. In the course of time many of our churches merged completely with the larger body, like little streams merging with the larger streams or rivers. They had fulfilled their distinctive mission among their countrymen and now became part of the larger force in obedience to the higher vision. This is particularly true of some of the churches in the Eastern States and in Ontario.

Loyalty To Our Conference

It must be stated, however, that, within the past twenty years, this trend has practically ceased, owing to the fact that many of our churches and even some of our conferences have discontinued the use of the German language either entirely or for the most part at least in the conduct of their meetings. This has enabled us to conserve the loyalty of our young people who do not speak or understand the German language.

While to all appearance, our work has become largely English, most of our churches still retain their affiliation with our General Conference. What the future may hold in store for us, we are not prepared to predict. The shape of events to come will determine that, but we may rest assured, that, whatever our course may be, we shall continue to play our part, in the years to come, as we have in the past, in the great task of extending God's Kingdom to that end that his will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.



Rugged Peaks, Crowned With
Glistening White Snow,
Lift Their Spires Into the Blue
of the Heavens to Join Them in
Declaring the Glory of God
as All of the Firmament
Showeth Forth His Handiwork.

Two Worlds

By DR. WILL H. HOUGHTON of Chicago, Illinois,
President of the Moody Bible Institute
(From "Rhymes From a City Tower")

God made a world,
And in it there are mountains,
Sunbeams and roses,
And towering pines above,
Cascades and falls,
And rippling brooks and fountains,
All of them telling of God—
His power and love.

Man made a world,
And it was dank and smoky,
Crowded with poverty,
With greed, and soul despair—
Mankind enslaving man,
And all his daydreams wrecking—
Piling his back and heart
With burdens hard to bear.

God made a world
All fair with fruits and flowers,
Crystalline moonbeams,
And a baby's smile.
Man made a world
Unclean, corrupt, and fetid—
With slimy wiles
To make that baby vile.

God's world is good,
And only man is evil.
God's Word is true,
And man alone can lie.
Shall God be blamed
Because man is a failure?
Who shall accuse
When man makes choice to die?

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Colportage Association of Chicago.

Bustling Crowds on Noisy
Streets of a Modern Metropolis
Represent Man's Attempts
at the Building of Another
Babel Where the Lure of
Amusements and of Selfish Gain
is Rampant.



★ The Prodigal Returns ★

By HAROLD GARNET BLACK

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SYNOPSIS

Benoni, the younger son of the Hebrew farmer, Ezra ben Israel, felt an irresistible desire to be free, to be away from all parental restraint and from the necessities and duties of home and the farm. One evening he divulged some of these upsurging thoughts of his heart to his older brother, Chislon, who was stunned by what he heard. But his father, ben Israel, understood the strange yearnings in his younger son's heart and was ready to let him have his share of the inheritance. One day soon thereafter father and son sat astride the she-asses bound for Jerusalem. After several days of hard, slow travel they saw on Mount Zion in the golden distance the walls and towers of the city of David, Jerusalem. Benoni was exuberantly happy!

CHAPTER THREE

In the City of David

By the time they had crossed the valley of Hinnom and reached the southern end of the city, night had come on and the evening sky was soon aglitter with a myriad of twinkling stars. The glorious coolness of the after-sunset hours had likewise come and was doubly welcome after so long a time in the saddle. At the valley gate they paused a little before going through.

The noise and confusion of the day's traffic had now ceased except for the sound of an occasional hoof-beat on the hard, dusty cobblestones. A few yards down the road lay a half dozen beggars by the wayside, clad in their filthy rags. There they were, trying to seize a few hours of sleep before beginning once more to ply their trade: appealing to the sympathy of fellow human beings for money wherewith to buy dates and milk to keep body and soul together for one more day.

"What an unhappy and unfortunate plight to have to come to," sighed Ezra ben Israel, as he cast his eyes upon the broken bits of helpless humanity who had nothing but Palestinian stars to cover them and had to depend solely on the kindly generosity of others for the most elemental and meager necessities of life. "May we never come to this!"

"It is horrible to think about," agreed Benoni, for he had rarely, if ever seen such sad sights before. He could not imagine himself brought to such an extremity. "No son of our tribe," said he to his father, "will ever be reduced to beggary or have to go hungry. We have money; so never fear.

We shall never descend to such depths." Benoni spoke with almost the air of a prince.

"Jehovah forbid!" added his father fervently.

Just as they were about to push on, they saw stumbling towards them a couple of gaunt, gray-clad figures—made more ghastly by the irregular flare of two great torches, one on either side of the road, that smoked dismally, lighted the rough stone roadway very imperfectly. Whence these grim figures had so suddenly appeared and who they were, neither Benoni nor his father knew; but they immediately recognized the cry they uttered, so familiar to travelers entering Jerusalem.

"Unclean! Unclean!" said they in subdued tones, as they raised their arms aloft. "We are hungry. Give us to eat, dear travelers, for we have had nothing for nearly two days."

"Lepers!" said Ezra under his breath to his son, and then addressing them, added, "Why do you come to this gate? I thought lepers were allowed only at the east wall."

"We have broken bounds, it is true," admitted one of them, evidently the elder; "but hunger drove us to it in the hope of getting bread to eat. We oughtn't to have done it, we know. Have mercy upon us, have mercy, for we are starving. We ask for only a little, kind sirs."

They were very repulsive looking creatures. To say that their garments were in tatters would be to compliment them. Their deformed hands and whitened flesh, bitten by incurable disease, were loathsome to look upon and had made them outcasts forever. The hoarse, hollow voice of the elder sounded as though he had recently broken from a tomb.

Touched by the sight of a foul disease and of a suffering that were quite new to him, Benoni was moved by a feeling of sincere and deep sympathy.

"Reach down into the saddle-bags, father," he said, "and take whatever food is left and give it to them. We shall soon be at the inn. I wish we could give them some money too, but that would be impossible, because they are not allowed to handle it and could not use it. Just imagine not having anything to eat for two days! One can scarcely believe that there are such depths of human misery in the world."

Ezra ben Israel did as Benoni suggested, apologizing that he had no more food to give them. Eagerly seizing the

dried fruits and the small wheaten cakes that he placed on the roadside, and stammering out their everlasting thanks, they invoked Jehovah's blessing upon the travelers, shambled off to the right from the main highway, and soon were out of sight, afraid of what the law or the soldiery might do if they were caught on ground forbidden to them.

"Lepers! And nothing to eat for two days—think of it!" That was all that Benoni could find words for, as he turned once more towards the city.

As soon as these two human outcasts had disappeared in the darkness, Ezra mounted his beast again. A moment later, father and son passed through the arched stone gateway which had echoed again and again with the martial tramp of the marching legions of Rome in many an earlier day. After going down the length of a wide, cobble-paved street, they turned to the left and soon found themselves at a khan or inn, not far from a well which had been dug hundreds of years before and was still used to refresh the weary traveler. Ezra knew the keeper of the khan, for he was a distant kinsman and had ministered to tired wayfarers for nearly a generation.

"Greetings to thee, Shobal, my kinsman," said Ezra when he saw his relative approaching. "Have you room for me and mine tonight? This is my son Benoni. He and I are to pass the night in the city, but we hope to be away again on the morrow or the next day at latest. We have a little business to transact that ought not to take us very long."

"Welcome, Ezra ben Israel and Benoni," replied the elderly Shobal. "Fortunately, we have plenty of room. Had I none, however, I should insist that you take mine own and Samlah's. But been but few sojourners of late, though I can scarcely account for it. I cannot remember when we have had so little travel at this time of year. Come, I will show you the room looking eastward toward the temple. Mizzah," said he, turning to a servant, "take the she-asses and give them food and shelter. See that they are well looked after."

So saying, Shobal picked up the lighted lamp, with its smoking wick, and ber, a large square room with whitened walls and three small windows that helped to cool the warm night air. A moment later found them all seated about a low table near the center of the room, engaged in intimate conversation

that sometimes shaded into mere gossip.

For more than an hour they exchanged bits of news concerning their immediate families. They talked of their own children and of the married ones and their children, talked of business and trade, of crops and prices, of the caravans that came and went, of the bandits that sometimes infested the public highways and fell upon unwary travelers, of the political uprisings that generally proved abortive and unsuccessful, of the weighty taxes that were being exacted by conscienceless Roman tax-gatherers, of the new high priests who now carried on the temple worship, and of a dozen other things of current, mutual interest.

At length—it must have been well on toward midnight—Shobal gathered his long cloak about him and rose to go. Picking up again the lighted lamp from which the oil was well-nigh exhausted and the wick of which was now burning low and filling the air with an acrid, smoky odor, he left his kinsman guests and started for his own chamber.

At the door the elderly host paused a moment to say goodnight. "May you rest well, and may the blessing of Jehovah be upon you," said he, with a gracious smile, and then turned into the long, darkened corridor.

"And peace be unto thee and thine," replied the travelers, as they closed the door and prepared to rest for the night. As the day had been long and hard and their journey a wearisome one, they were glad of the chance to lay aside their dusty garments and invigorate their tired limbs with the sweet balm of refreshing slumber. Good indeed was it to lie down once more on a soft couch and drift off into the Land of Dreams.

Mid-morning found Ezra ben Israel and Benoni on their way to discover some reputable dealer in precious stones with whom they might transact the business that had brought them to Jerusalem. Beautiful sights everywhere attracted their attention, a feast for eyes accustomed only to country hill-sides or the wider expanse of the distant horizon. In the southwestern section of the city, for example, were the aristocratic quarters where wealth and luxury lay. At one end of a great bridge connecting the temple with the upper city was the palace of the Maccabees; not far from it stood a huge colonnaded enclosure for holding public assemblies; and in the extreme northwest corner was visible the beautiful palace of Herod, a kind of combined city and fortress, with three lofty towers. Surrounding the king's palace were lovely, spacious gardens, all the walks through which were edged with tiny hedges or with brilliant red and yellow and purplish flowers. In this part of the city were the stately mansions of the wealthy, terraced one above the other, while not far away was a theater richly adorned with gold and silver as well as with precious stones and military trophies.

Instead of going directly to the lower city, Ezra and his son took time enough to go first to the temple, already many years in building and still incomplete. They found its porches and courts thronged with a heterogeneous crowd—Galileans, Hellenists, Judeans, white-robed priests and Levites, Pharisees, Sadducees, temple officials, and even curious Gentiles. Some had come to bring offerings, pay their vows, or seek purification; others to have their causes heard and judged, or to talk on religious subjects, or meet their friends. There, too, were to be seen money changers, who, for a fixed discount, changed foreign coins into those of the temple. And there, also, was the market for sacrificial animals and everything else needed for offerings. Nor was there lacking a clamorous crowd of filthy beggars, unsightly with disease and asking for alms.

Leaving the temple area, the two visitors made their way to the lower city. It, too, presented a bustling scene. As they passed along, they found that it was alive with noisy buyers and bargaining sellers. In one section, where the streets were narrow, bazaars and shops and markets flourished. There, in movable wooden booths, could be seen the shoemaker, hammering at his sandals, the dyer with his variously colored threads, the tailor plying his sharp needle with exceeding swiftness, the carpenter, and the worker in brass and iron. In a kind of little alcove sat a potter at his wheel, which he turned by foot power as he lovingly shaped his wet clay on a revolving disc and touched it into a thing of beauty. In side streets the butcher, the flax spinner, and the wool comber carried on their trades. Wine shops served salted fish, fried locusts, messes of vegetables, pastry, sweetmeats, and cakes.

In larger shady halls in the more aristocratic quarters, artistic trades were carried on. Inside their doors could be seen importations from foreign lands: luscious fruits and wines, jeweled cups exquisitely shaped, finger rings and other workmanship of precious stones, glass, woolen stuffs, silks, fine linen, Tyrian purple, perfumes and ointments that were worth their weight in gold. Taking a street to the left, Ezra and his son soon came to the main thoroughfare of the great city, where they had been told the gem merchants had their places of business.

Even in mid-morning they found it thronged with people coming and going. Here they saw a weary traveler clad in well-worn robes, who pounded with his wooden staff upon the dust covered cobblestone street, as with bent shoulder and heavy step he made his way among the crowd; there, a man who, followed by two or three servants carrying some costly woven stuff he had just purchased, might have been a prince of the House of David, so richly was he clothed in a shimmering robe of dark purple held in with a silken gir-

dle. Here were men apparently from Arabia, desert-dwellers, blackened by the sun and turbaned with stained linen that had doubtless once been white, but was now discolored from constant use; there, long gray-bearded Jews, who strode slowly along, sometimes stopping in groups of three or four to exchange friendly words of greeting or to discuss business affairs or matters concerning their families or common religion.

"Such a busy city—everywhere teeming with life," commented Ezra to his son; "so much bustle and stir; so different from our hill country. The contrast is most striking, of course, but I fear I should soon tire of the never-ending movement. I like much better the quiet of our own Idumean home."

"Everyone to his taste," laughed Benoni.

The young man looked about him not with the eyes of age but with the eager, observant eyes of youth. He dearly loved to see the crowds of people going hither and thither as chance or necessity dictated. Streams of humanity were everywhere on the move, going in all directions.

It was an easy-going, jostling crowd. No one seemed to be in a hurry. There was a great deal of commotion but no confusion of excitement. The day was just an ordinary one—crowds, sober talk, merry laughter, movement, color, noise, business, life. It was a motley mixture of humanity, rich and poor, old and young, all individually going about their business or pleasure.

Just across the street, about half a rod from where they were standing, they noticed a place with a sign indicating that it was the House of Elhana, the jewel merchant. Thither they at once turned their steps, elbowing their way through the motley throng until they found themselves inside its friendly door.

A half dozen others were already there, evidently bent on business too.

An elderly figure rose to greet Ezra ben Israel and Benoni as they entered, that of Elhanan himself, clad in the rich flowing robes of dark blue silk from the East, robes that had been delicately embroidered in red and gold by some superlatively artistic needlewoman. On his head he wore a close-fitting silken cap, while around his waist could be seen a loosely tied girdle of pale blue. His feet were shod with leathern sandals so soft that he approached without noise. One could but remark Elhanan's long and flowing beard, straggly and graying with the years, his capacious mouth and loosely hung underlip, and his somewhat discolored and uneven set of teeth, from which an upper one had long since been sadly missing. His kindly eyes had looked into those of many a wayfarer who had come on a similar errand.

"I give you good morrow, friends. Peace be with you." Elhanan bowed

and smiled as he spoke his word of kindly greeting.

The travelers returned his cordial salutation. Having explained briefly the nature and reason of their visit to Jerusalem, they were invited into the inner room, where they would not be disturbed by the noise of the busy street. There they could quietly discuss the many details incident to the transfer of Ezra ben Israel's property and savings into precious stones for which the House of Elhanan had long been famous.

In spite of the fact that they remained inside nearly four hours discussing the terms and details of their business transaction, a subsequent visit was necessary to complete the legal forms which the Palestinian law required, so that Ezra, contrary to his expectation, was not ready to return home till late the following afternoon.

Elhanan handled the gems so carefully, so lovingly—one might almost say so reverently—that it was a joy to behold the intense pleasure he derived from scrutinizing them. He gazed long upon them with affectionate care, and in some instances explained their history, fascinated as he was by their color, size, and sheer beauty. His eyes glistened with rapturous delight.

"This stone is particularly brilliant," said Elhanan, as he picked up a large blood-red ruby, almost vermilion in hue, from the silken cloth on which he had carefully placed a half hundred gems of various kinds. "See how it shines when the light strikes it? It was the central and largest of seven rubies that once studded the swordhilt of a Parthian king who fell in battle many years ago. Beautiful, isn't it?"

"These gems are all beautiful—lovely beyond belief," was all that Ezra ben Israel could say. He spoke in a voice subdued almost to a whisper, astonished by the wondrous array of costly stones that lay in front of him. Never before had he ever seen anything like it.

Three diamonds there were, of extraordinary brilliancy and cut with all the skill of the most renowned virtuosi in lapidary work. There were pearls, too, of wondrous size and shimmering loveliness, drawn from the deep waters of the distant Persian Gulf, long famed for its pearl divers. Round they were as an ancient shield and as smooth and lustrous and beautiful as a ray of silver light from far off Vega when it rides highest in the month of Tishri. There were rubies of uncommon ruddiness, sapphires whose delicate blue matched that of the cerulean sky toward the sunset hour, a green emerald or two of surpassing depth of color, and four amber-colored topazes that glistened with all that Oriental beauty and splendor that made them such a delight for human eyes to feast upon.

It was just three hours before sunset that Benoni at last found himself the proud possessor of the divided inheritance, made in accordance with his own request and the dream of his own crescent manhood. He was now a man

among men, the happy owner of rare and costly jewels from the House of Elhanan. What an amazing thing it was, he thought to himself, to be able to carry one's entire fortune in the form of a few gems concealed on one's person, for within the figured leathern girdle which closely encircled his body lay an even score of precious stones of enormous value, worth almost a prince's ransom!

Small wonder that neither Ezra nor Benoni slept well that night. One was too sad, the other too greatly excited. They rose early the next morning in order that the elder might be well on his way before the heat became too intense to make traveling comfortable.

Together they walked, father and son, leading the two she-asses to the city gate, and there paused long enough for Ezra ben Israel to tie the reins of Benoni's beast to his own saddle so that he might lead it back home with him, since Benoni would have no more occasion to use the animal. At last they came to the parting of the ways.

"Fare thee well, my beloved son; may the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob go with thee in all thy ways," said Ezra as he bade good-bye to the child of his bosom, "the son of his sorrow."

As he spoke, he pulled from his leathern purse a gold signet ring set with an Egyptian scarab cut in carnelian. "Take this ring, my son," said he, putting it on his finger, "and wear it always. Never part with it, no matter what may befall thee through the years. May it serve as a constant reminder of my undying love."

Despite the fact that Benoni now stood where he was finally to begin the realization of his ambition, there was a fleeting look of sadness in his eyes as ben Israel uttered these parting words. There was a little catch in the boy's voice as he replied, "And may God keep thee, too, dear father. No one knows what the future for either of us holds, but may Jehovah watch between me and thee always."

The elder man put his arms affectionately about his son, pressed him to his bosom for a brief moment then, mounting his own beast, he turned slowly and sadly down the road leading to the south and in a few minutes was out of sight.

Benoni walked back through the city gate with mingled emotions. A strange feeling of loneliness welled up in his heart now that he was all alone facing a world new and strange to him and with all kinds of adventurous possibilities lying ahead. He began to wonder whether he had not been over-zealous about getting away from the restraining influences of home.

For a brief second he was on the brittle edge of indecision. He was almost on the point of running after his father and telling him that he had changed his mind and would like to return home with him. A moment later, however, and the feeling was gone, like

a breath of wind that dies down at the sunset hour.

He knew exactly what he was leaving behind him; he did not know—he could only surmise—what experience lay wrapped up in the tomorrows. There had swept over him a strange and indescribable feeling of nostalgia, a homesickness, a longing for his own soft bed, his own fireside, his own hill-sides, his own vines and fig trees; but that feeling was now past. For months his imagination had been very active, painting vivid pictures of all the delights and gaieties and pleasures of the world that might be his for the asking. Again he felt within him the surge of new desires—to be on the move.

When Benoni returned to the inn or khan, he learned that there had just arrived in the city a small caravan of camels, numbering perhaps forty and led by a bronzed and bareheaded desert dweller seated on a milk-white Arabian horse. It had come all the way from Egypt and was on its way to Damascus. Benoni had seen caravans before, as they wound past his Idumean home on the main Roman highway, but he had never become intimately acquainted with such a method of travel himself. At home there had always been she-asses and donkeys when he needed them. This caravan, he felt, might provide him with an immediate opportunity to visit that populous center and thus bring to quick realization an ambition that had long lain close to his heart. Upon inquiry he found that it was to remain in Jerusalem till only the following afternoon and that it would probably not reach the ancient city of Damascus for several days.

Since Benoni had made up his mind once and for all not to return to his native Idumean hills, he quickly made arrangements to join the dust-covered travelers, so that late afternoon of the following day found them all on their journey north—a happy, bronzed crowd with distinctly nomadic instincts, threading their way along through the valley of the Kidron, past the tomb of the young man Absalom and the tombs of the kings. Fortunately, some additional armed soldiers had joined the camel train at Jerusalem for protection from those merciless bandits who infested the roads and often swept down from their mountain fastnesses upon unsuspecting travelers.

Benoni wondered why additional protection seemed necessary for their safety. Drawing up alongside a bushy-bearded man of middle age who was evidently familiar with caravan travel and whose face betokened more than usual intelligence, he inquired concerning possible perils from highway robbers.

"Shall we really need these extra soldiers, do you think?" he asked. "Is there any actual danger?"

"Indeed, yes," replied his companion. "Though travel by camel caravan is reasonably safe, there is always a chance of sudden attack."

(To be continued)

What's Happening News

(Continued from Page 2)

● The Jeffers Baptist Church of Minnesota recently inaugurated a campaign to pay off the church indebtedness of \$1100. According to the latest reports received from the pastor, the Rev. John J. Johnston, the debt has been reduced to less than \$100 and the campaign is still in progress. The Ladies' Aid of the church also sent a substantial mission offering which was received through mite boxes. The church has also launched an evangelistic campaign and Sunday School enlargement program, the purpose of which is to get as many members as possible participating in visitation evangelism.

● Mr. H. P. Donner, the business manager of our Publication Society, addressed several important gatherings in the Middle West on Publication Sunday, December 14. In the morning he spoke at the English and German services of the Forest Park Baptist Church of Forest Park, Ill. In the evening he was the guest speaker at a union service of our Baptist churches of Milwaukee, Wis., held at the Immanuel Church. He also addressed an informal supper gathering held in the church at 5 p. m. On January 1, 1942, Mr. Donner is beginning his 31st year as the business manager, looking back upon 30 years of service in this important capacity.

● Mr. Walter S. Schaible of Fort Worth, Texas, a former council member for the Southern Conference on the National Y. P. and S. S. Workers' Union, was one of 12 employees selected by the Sherwin Williams Paint Company to spend a week in study and research work in Toledo, Ohio, from November 24 to 29. He also visited Detroit, Mich., on Saturday, November 29, and visited with Mr. Norman Boehm of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. On Tuesday, Nov. 25, he spent some time in conference with the Rev. M. L. Leuschner of Forest Park, Ill., to consider further plans for "the One Hundred Club" in the interest of the Centenary Offering, of which Mr. Schaible is the promotional director.

● Members of the Humboldt Park Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., have cleared away their \$850 indebtedness during the past fourteen months and will burn their promissory notes at the New Year's Watchnight Service. A striking announcement of the pastor's themes for the December services was recently sent to all members and friends of the church, which showed the sun breaking through ominous storm clouds. On December 7 and 14 the Rev. Carl F. H. Henry, pastor, preached on such themes as "What of the Future?", "The Light in the Darkness" and "Pages from a Sinner's Diary." Miss Ruth Doescher is actively engaged as the church missionary.

● On Sunday evening, December 21, the Christmas program of the Temple Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, Pa., was held which featured the dramatization, "Why the Chimes Rang." The Thanksgiving Day offering of the church designated for the Centenary offering amounted to \$54. On Sunday evening, November 30, the young people's group showed mission pictures of our Cameroons field for the benefit of the mission project of the Western New York and Pennsylvania Union. The Amoma Class of the church school recently elected the following new officers: Ruth Bubenheim, president; Emma Staude, vice-president; Irene Matz, secretary; and Fay Kulinna, treasurer. The Rev. Louis B. Holzer is pastor of the church.

● On Sunday evening, December 21, the Christmas play, "Unto One of the Least," was presented by a group of young people at the Bethel Baptist Church of Detroit, Mich. The church choir rendered appropriate musical selections at an impressive candlelight service on Christmas Eve from 10:45 to 12 p. m. with Mr. Elmer Wengel directing the choir. The Bethel Guild Girls distributed "Cheer Baskets" at Christmas to the aged and ill of the

The Spotless Page

By Rev. H. Palfenier
of Philadelphia, Pa.

(Pastor of the Second German Baptist Church of Philadelphia, Pa.)

Another year is dawning
Before my wond'ring gaze,
Its spotless white outspreading
Like an unwritten page;
The past with all its errors,
Its joys and sorrows sore,
Lies buried with its terrors
Upon life's trodden shore.

Before my anxious vision
Lies this unsullied boon,
The gracious gift of heaven
To all beneath the moon.
What shall I write upon it,
What shall the record be?
Will it remain unspotted,
Or marred beyond degree?

O, Father, thou hast granted
To me this virgin time,
Give me the grace sufficient
To lay my hand in thine;
Guide thou my hands so falt'ring
And with thy strength endue,
That they may write unerring
Each letter, Lord, anew!

Then, even though I tremble
And quail before the blast,
Though Satan's hosts assemble
To make me fail at last,
I know the mighty Conqueror
Of Satan, sin and death
Will make the faithful laborer
To tread the victor's path.

church and toys to the children in the Children's Hospital of Detroit. Miss Esther Wengel is president of the group and Mrs. Harold Rocho is its sponsor. On Sunday evening, December 7, while the pastor, the Rev. Paul Wengel, was in Milwaukee, Wis., at the golden wedding anniversary celebration of his parents, the guest speaker at the young people's meeting of the Bethel Church was Mr. M. L. Leuschner, editor of "The Baptist Herald."

● On Sunday evening, November 16, the Rev. H. Lohr, pastor of the Baptist Church of Parkersburg, Iowa, baptized 9 persons on confession of their faith in Christ. These were largely the fruits of very successful evangelistic meetings held in September and October by the Rev. Pieter Smit, D. D., of Lorraine, Kansas. Recently the pastor completed 4 years of service in the Parkersburg Church, during which he baptized 59 persons. The church now has a membership of 138. On Sunday evening, November 30, the young people had charge of a mission program in the church, at which mission pictures of the Cameroons were shown by the Rev. M. L. Leuschner. Miss Shirley Palmer was in charge of the service. The offering of \$57.20 went towards the Iowa Y. P. and S. S. W. Union mission project. Mr. Leuschner also addressed the Thanksgiving evening service of the Parkersburg Church on November 27 and the Sunday morning service on November 30.

● From November 16 to 27 the Rev. Assaf Husmann, promotional secretary, taught the course on "The Ideal Sunday School" in the Bible School held at Minitonas, Manitoba, Canada. Forty-five students attended the school that was in charge of the pastor, the Rev. R. Schilke, and large crowds attended the evangelistic services in the evenings, at which Mr. Husmann brought the messages. He also spoke in the Swan River and Sinclair River churches, and on Friday afternoon, November 28, he addressed the congregation of the Baptist Church at St. Rose, Manitoba. He was the guest speaker in the McDermot Ave. Church of Winnipeg on Sunday morning, November 30, and at both of the services on Sunday, December 7, of which the Rev. Otto Patzia was in charge. From Sunday afternoon, November 30, to Friday evening, December 5, Mr. Husmann was the guest speaker at the German Baptist Church of Morris, Manitoba, and taught several classes in the Bible School with 25 young people present. On Tuesday evening, December 9, he spoke in the Oak Bank Church near Winnipeg and on Wednesday evening, December 10, in the Grace Baptist Church of Grand Forks, No. Dak. He brought his trip to a close with an address on "Forward With Christ" at a fellowship supper for about 60 of the young people from our churches in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, which was held in the Riverview Baptist Church of St. Paul.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Edited by CAPLAIN EDWIN KRAEMER of the Air Corps
Basic Flying School of Bakersfield, California



United States Army Chaplain Edwin Kraemer

ARMY CAMP CHAPELS

During these ominous days when war has spread to almost the entire world and has left men everywhere in the throes of fear and death, there can be found but one ray of hope and one solution to human woe, and that is the saving grace of the Christ.

While civilization itself is reeling and tottering we realize, as never before, the truthfulness of the statement of our Savior, "And every one that heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell, and great was the fall of it." (Matt. 7:25-26)

Every nation and every home that is not built upon this "rock," which is Christ and his Word as set forth in this parable, must sooner or later meet the inevitable doom set forth. That people or that individual, whose life and deeds leave out God and repudiate his sover-

eighty is merely marking time until such day when the quicksands of time and destruction shall mark the end.

"What is America's greatest need today?" In answer to this question the president of New York University brought his great audience to their feet when unequivocally he declared: "America's greatest need today is a re-baptism of religion. And I did not formerly think so," he hastened to add, "but I know it now."

In an address at the commencement exercises of Omaha University, Mr. Eric Hodgins, publisher of "Fortune," the dollar-a-copy magazine, made this startling statement: "I've never been a religious man. My disinterest in religion was always the despair of my preacher father. But now I'm running back to Christianity just as fast as my two feet will take me. It's the only thing to tie to. The world today needs that for which Christianity stands."

In an effort to bring religion to the Army Camps, the United States Government is building some six hun-

dred beautiful chapels on military posts throughout the country. Recently our chapel at the Air Corps Basic Flying School of Bakersfield was completed. It is the pride of every officer and enlisted man of the Post. It affords the chaplain every facility and convenience possible for holding services with the soldiers, and promises to be the place of worship of uncounted numbers who come to the defense of our country. The best of our youth, the cream of the crop, from all states of the Union will go in and out of the doors of this house of God.

Before I enter into a full description of the chapel, I want to say that I can think of no greater opportunity for evangelistic service than we find in the Army Camps today. Men are favorably responsive to the gospel and are glad

Your Attention, Please!

Chaplain Edwin Kraemer, who will edit this page during 1942, was a member of the Cottonwood Baptist Church near Lorena, Texas, before he accepted a call to a Southern Baptist Church in western Texas. His present service as chaplain makes it possible for him to attend some of the meetings of the First Baptist Church of Wasco, Calif.

Letters and snapshots from any of our boys in service will be gladly received for publication in "The Baptist Herald." They may be sent to the editor, M. L. Leuschner, or to the editor of this page, Chaplain Edwin Kraemer, Air Corps Basic Flying School, Bakersfield, Calif. Let's hear from you, young men!

The special subscription offer of fifty cents (50 cts.) for "The Baptist Herald" during the entire year of 1942 for all young men in the service of the U. S. or Canadian governments is meeting with a widespread response. Every church, Sunday School or young people's society ought to provide "The Baptist Herald" for all their boys in service. Send such subscriptions with addresses clearly written out to the Roger Williams Press, 3734 Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

to learn of the way of life in Christ. Many who have never entered inside the walls of a church are hearing the gospel in our camp chapel. Soldier boys are testifying of the power of God. Souls are being saved.

It is my great joy to recall that one of our cadets attended chapel on Sunday morning prior to his death in an aeroplane crash. On his way out he introduced himself to me as he shook my hand. It is a privilege to comfort the bereft with the thought that their sons were in chapel on the day before their departure to be with Christ.

Our chapels are of the village church style with rectangular walls and steeple. The indoors is two tone coloring with seating capacity of 350. The furnishings are devised to accomodate Jewish, Protestant and Catholic services. A large altar can be moved back on rollers into the wall where it stands, leaving only the carved figure of an altar upon the wall. Beautiful chandeliers with some fifty light bulbs provide illumination. Air conditioners are installed high up in the ceiling. Each chapel is equipped with an electric Hammond organ of the newest type.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

PACIFIC CONFERENCE

Special Festivities for the Zion Baptist Church of Franklin, California

From November 13 to 16 the Baptist Church of Franklin, Calif., had the privilege of entertaining the California Association. We are thankful to the Lord for the many blessings received during this time. The ladies of the church, who never tire in lending a helping hand, served appetizing meals. The choir, men's quartet and several soloists helped to make the meetings an inspiration to all who attended. The messages by the speakers were a blessing to all.

On Friday evening, November 28, the choir members held "a house warming" for Mr. and Mrs. von Lengen in the form of a surprise party at their new home in Sacramento. The evening was spent in games with Miss Theo. Wuttke in charge. Later, the Rev. J. J. Rauser, our pastor, led a brief devotional service and presented them with a gift from the choir. A delicious lunch was also served.

Last summer on July 25th the church also surprised the pastor, Mr. Rauser, on his birthday. The service, which was held in the church, was in charge of the Rev. J. A. H. Wuttke. A large basket of flowers was given to him besides an envelope containing a cash gift.

EMMA J. KELLER, Reporter.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

"Inspirational Week" With Dr. Koller and Miss Koppin is Held by the Detroit Young People

The Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union of Detroit, Mich., held its "Inspirational Week" from November 3 to 7 in the Bethel Baptist Church. We were privileged to have as our guest speaker Dr. Charles W. Koller, president of the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Chicago. His topics for the week were: "You Are Living—But What For?," "Oh! I'll Try Anything Once!," "Living Above the Snake Line," "A Living Monument to a Living God!," and "The Family of Christ."

In addition to these very interesting and inspirational messages, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, Miss Edith Koppin, our missionary in Africa, who recently returned to Detroit, told of the medical work there. Musical numbers were presented nightly by members of the various churches.

A contribution of \$65.00 was presented to the "Miss Koppin Medical Unit" toward the \$1,000.00 mission project of the Central Conference Y. P. and S. S. W. Union. A sum of \$65.00 was also contributed for the work at the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. The meetings were very well attended, especially Wednesday, when the auditorium was filled to capacity.

MRS. COLMAR ORTHNER, Secretary.

Miss Koppin Speaks About Africa to the Detroit Women's Missionary Union

Recently a luncheon was held at the Connors Ave. Baptist Church of Detroit, Mich., for the Detroit Women's Missionary Union at which 268 women were present, including 44 guests from the Lansing, Beaver, and Gladwin churches. After the luncheon we went to the auditorium where a fine program was in store for us.

The meeting was under the leadership of our president, Mrs. Kose. Mrs. Adolf Orthner, who served in Africa as a missionary, brought a fitting message of faith and prayer in leading the devotional period.

Miss Edith Koppin, who is one of our

missionary nurses working in the Cameroons and who is now at home on furlough, was our principal speaker. In a very interesting manner she told us about the living and working conditions on the African mission fields. She also brought along a great many native curios which we examined after the meeting. They were most interesting to see.

Mrs. Kose also presented her with a lovely traveling bag as a gift from the Detroit Missionary Union. An offering was received for the Cameroon mission work which amounted to \$65.

OLGA ROSSEL, Secretary.

NORTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

Silver Jubilee of the King's Daughters Society of the Baileyville Baptist Church

The King's Daughters Society of the Baptist Church of Baileyville, Ill., celebrated its 25th anniversary on Thursday evening, November 13. After the prelude by the pianist, the women led by the president, Miss Agnes Schoonhoven, marched into the auditorium, each wearing a pink carnation.

Congregational singing, scripture reading and prayer were led by the pastor, the Rev. H. Renkema. The president of the society extended a welcome and spoke fitting words for the occasion, which was followed by a response from one of our former members. A short program, consisting of a song by the society, a reading, several musical numbers and the reports of the past 25 years by the secretary and treasurer were given. A total of \$2,274.80 was contributed by the members during the past 25 years.

The address of the evening was given by the Rev. D. Newell of the United Brethren Church of Freeport. We also had the pleasure of having a group of the former members present and each one of these was presented with a pink carnation. Mrs. Renkema, our vice-president, then read the greetings which were sent from the former members who were unable to be present and also presented the three charter members with a small gift from the society.

After the program we enjoyed a social hour in the basement, where the committees in charge served a delicious lunch. The table was decorated with silver candle holders, flowers and a beautiful birthday cake which was baked by one of our members, Mrs. Albert Birkholz. It was decorated in pink and white and with 25 burning candles. It was later cut by one of the oldest members, Miss Grace Zimmerman.

MRS. C. R. VOGT, Secretary.

The Baptist Herald Greet's You With A Happy New Year

and urges you to assure to yourself its prospective semi-monthly visits through 1942 by the prompt renewal of your subscription.

The appearance of this first issue, in its new toggery, gives you a foretaste of what you may expect. The physical and literary composition of this number puts the HERALD in an upper bracket in the publication field and will, no doubt, appeal to the aesthetic, as well as the religious sense of the Christian critic.

The publishers bespeak for the HERALD a year of great usefulness.

H. P. DONNER,
Business Manager.

DAKOTA CONFERENCE

Mission Program by the George Station of the Lehr Baptist Church

The B. Y. P. U. of the George Station at Lehr, No. Dak., held a very impressive mission program at the church on Sunday evening, November 30. Several quartets rendered appropriate numbers in a very pleasing manner. Selected short topics on mission work, which were taken from "The Baptist Herald," were read by several of the members.

The highlight of the program was the presentation of the play, "America Help Us," which was written in pantomime form by Miss Helen H. Heitzman of Emery, So. Dak. Several of the members revised the pantomime into a play and it was given in play form.

This three act play portrayed clearly how badly the heathen of Africa need our financial aid and prayers and then, in act two, how poorly the American people are responding to the call. Act three brought things to a climax when the American family broke down and decided to live a godlier life and to spend their money for better things. MRS. HENRY KRANZLER, Reporter.

Northern North Dakota Young People's Rally at Grand Forks

At last summer's assembly the Northern North Dakota Young People's Association accepted the invitation of the Grand Forks Society for the annual rally day, but the weatherman must have overheard us and on November 21st he was about his business. Despite his frolics on icy roads, there was a fair attendance from about four distant societies and we opened our rally with a worship service of thanks and praise. Our meetings were under the able leadership of our president, Esther Schultz, who introduced to us the Rev. M. J. Berglund, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church of Fargo, N. D.

Due to the unfavorable weather conditions, there were numerous substitutions but this proved to be no obstacle to us. Hands to the plow, we united our small forces and by being served and by serving we gathered joys and blessings in a great rally day. Various members and groups of the local and visiting societies revealed some truly remarkable talents in musical renditions throughout the day. In the absence of the Rev. A. Reeh of Goodrich, we were addressed briefly but unforgettably by the Rev. R. B. Million of Grand Forks and the Rev. R. Kaiser of McClusky.

A banquet, arranged and prepared by the local Grand Forks Society, climaxed the rally day. The theme of the banquet, "Pot of Gold," was accentuated in a colorful and unique fashion in the reception room and in a teaching playlet entitled, "Fine Gold."

ESTHER KAISER, Reporter.

The Hebron B. Y. P. U. Looks Back Over the Past Successful Year of Service

As the B. Y. P. U. of the Baptist Church in Hebron, No. Dak., nears the end of another year and as we recall the various programs given by our society, we can say that our work was not in vain. In all our work we considered the spiritual and intellectual welfare of the individual members, at the same time making the programs an uplifting influence upon the congregation.

Right at the beginning of the year the programs were outlined, the members divided into two groups, and Mrs. Martha Frey and Mrs. Anna Frey were selected as our leaders. Under the careful preparation of our group leaders each program was well prepared. Our programs presented musical and Mother's Day material, biographies and missionary information. We also had a special program in memory of the late Dr. Bruno Luebeck.

As a society we started a library and after only a short time we have nearly 50 well selected and influential volumes. Many members are availing themselves of this character building literature.

The culmination of our year's work was the Laura E. Reddig program given in our church on Sunday, November 16, before a well filled church. Under the leadership of Mrs. Martha Frey, one of our group leaders, a very splendid program of readings and musical numbers of an appropriate nature were presented.

After our pastor, the Rev. Edmund Mittelstedt, gave a short synopsis of our Cameroon work, the offering for the Bender Memorial Trek was taken, which amounted to \$20. As in all our programs during the year our mixed choir, under the direction of our pastor, rendered several numbers to help inspire the congregation.

J. E. GRENZ, Reporter.

The Antelope B. Y. P. U. Honors Our Cameroon Missionary, Miss Laura Reddig

The B. Y. P. U. of the Antelope Station of the First Baptist Church of Hebron, No. Dak., is happy to report to the readers of "The Baptist Herald" that we have enjoyed another year of blessing and activity.

The year's program of our B. Y. P. U. set up in January, 1941, was carried out as planned. We have the group system under the leadership of our leaders, Emanuel Staiger and Adeline Krein. Our programs have been an inspiration to all of us.

Throughout the year our activities were continued faithfully. Each month the B. Y. P. U. members with one of our two group leaders and the president, Mr. Alvin Heinle, rendered a program which challenged us to greater loyalty. Our pastor, the Rev. E. Mittelstedt, with his capable wife took part in each program and urged us on to higher attainments.

THE BAPTIST HERALD

The climax for the year was our "Laura Reddig program" given on Sunday, November 9. The topic of the program was the life of Christ, portrayed in word, pictures and songs. We are grateful to our men's quartet for their numbers, and the church choir favored us with songs of praise under the direction of the Rev. Edmund Mittelstedt.

Our pastor then gave us a summary of Laura Reddig's life and work. He closed with the message of the great commission given by our Lord and Master. The church was filled to its capacity with a most attentive audience.

They were so inspired that they also did their share in fulfilling this commission by contributing the fine offering of \$20.00. It was designated for the "Bender Memorial Trek."

ANNA KREIN, Reporter.

God's Bountiful Blessings for Our Churches in Washburn and Underwood, North Dakota

We have had many blessed meetings in both of our Baptist Churches of Washburn and Underwood, No. Dak., this Fall. On the 2nd of November we observed our annual mission festival in the Underwood church. The pastor, the Rev. Radolph Woyke, spoke on the goals of our denomination. An offering of \$104.50 was received for missions. Our mission festival in Washburn fell on the 16th of November. We were very grateful to have had the Rev. Theo. W. Dons, our denominational evangelist, with us on this Sunday in order to bring the messages. He spoke on "The Stewardship of Life" and "The Burden of the Prophet." Both of these messages deeply stirred the hearts of all hearers. The offering in Washburn amounted to \$121.00.

The Rev. P. F. Schilling of Beulah was with us for a series of meetings from November 3 to 13. His sermons were unusually challenging and so acutely practical that they frequently cut deeply into our Christian conduct. For many these meetings were in a true sense a revival and the influence of the messages flows on like an unending stream. One person rededicated her life to Christ during the services.

Underwood was blessed with revival meetings from November 17 to 23. The Rev. Theo. W. Dons served us as evangelist during that time. It was a real treat for the church to have had such a man as Mr. Dons come to us for this series of services. Both young and old listened attentively to his preaching. Several persons who had accepted Christ before made a public confession of this fact for the first time during these meetings. Others sought Christ the victory before the close of our services. We praise our Lord and Master for the boundless blessings that have been ours and we pray that they will make us more faithful to him.

RUDOLPH WOYKE, Reporter.

The Rev. A. W. Lang is Called Home After a Memorable Ministry for Christ

In the midst of life we are surrounded and accompanied by death. This solemn truth again has been verified in the passing of one, whose sudden death has brought deep bereavement to a most beloved family, and has cast the pall of sadness on an entire church, a host of friends and the entire community.

Engaged in a series of revival services, our brother, the Rev. A. W. Lang of Tyndall, So. Dak., became suddenly ill after the close of the Tuesday evening's service and passed away to be with the Lord on Thursday forenoon, November 20. Following the final summons in the active engagement of the gospel ministry, his death marks the close of a noble and useful Christian life.

Albert Wilhelm Lang, son of Jacob and Katarina Lang, was born in Lindekenheim, Baden, Germany, on August 24, 1872. He came to this country with his father and two brothers in 1886. The family settled in Detroit, Mich.

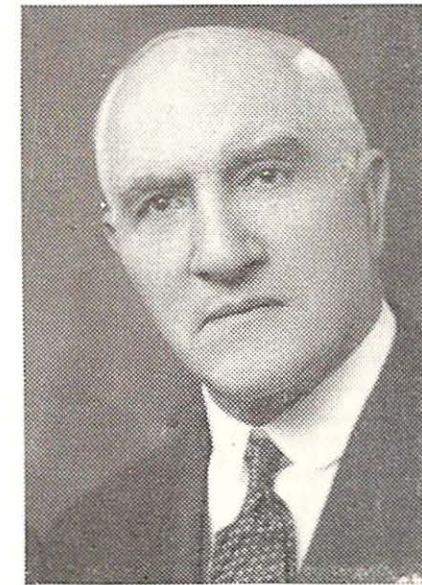
In 1896 he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Marie Reuter, with whom he lived in happy matrimonial union until death severed the bonds of wedlock. Their union was blessed with 7 children. One of these, an infant son, preceded the father in death.

The six remaining children are Albert Jacob of Minneapolis, Minn.; Margaret, missionary in Nigeria, West Africa; George Adam, pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.; Mrs. Esther Osborne of Forest Park, Ill.; Mrs. Anna Ruth Murra of Buffalo Center, Iowa; and William Charles, professor in Yankton College, Yankton, So. Dak. It was the privilege and joy of the parents to see all of their children following the Lord and living useful lives.

Reared in a Christian home, the deceased testified to a definite longing for Christ and his salvation very early in his youth, but did not come to the definite assurance of faith until he was 25 years of age. He was baptized in 1898 by the Rev. J. S. Sprunger, becoming a member of the Baptist Church in Berne, Indiana.

In 1906 the A. W. Lang family moved to Rochester, N. Y., where our brother entered the theological seminary of our denomination. After a two year course in that school he accepted a call to the Second German Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Following are the places and the duration of Mr. Lang's pastorates: Pittsburgh, Pa., May, 1908, to March, 1912; First German Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minn., April, 1912, to October, 1918; Emanuel's Creek, Tyndall, So. Dak., October, 1918, to April, 1931; Buffalo Center, Iowa, April, 1931, to October, 1936; Parkston, So. Dak., October, 1936, to June, 1938; Emanuel's Creek, Tyndall, S. Dak., June, 1938, until the final call to service above.



The Late Rev. A. W. Lang of Tyndall, South Dakota

Funeral services were held on Saturday afternoon, November 22, at the Tyndall church and interment made in the Tyndall cemetery. Those taking part in the services were the Rev. O. W. Brenner, a classmate of the deceased; the Rev. H. R. Schroeder of Madison, So. Dak.; the Rev. J. C. Kraenzler of Emery, So. Dak.; the evangelist, Rev. R. Bronlewe; and the undersigned. Mixed quartets of the Tyndall and the Danzig Churches sang several of Brother Lang's favorite hymns.

C. SWYTER, Reporter.

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

We, as the B. Y. P. U. of the Baptist Church in Parkston, So. Dak., have been and still are busy working for our Lord and Master. Once a month we take over the service when a leader from the B. Y. P. U. leads the meeting under a chosen topic on which the minister preaches. Some of our topics during the summer months were "What to Do With Your Leisure Time," "Influence," and "What It Means to Be a Christian."

On Sunday, August 17, we gave our annual B. Y. P. U. program, which was well received by a large and appreciative audience. Our program consisted of songs, recitations and dialogues. The highlights of the B. Y. P. U.'s history for the past fifteen years were given by the vice-president, Mrs. J. J. Mehlhaff. The Plum Creek and Tripp societies were our guests at this time. After the program everyone was ushered down to the dining room where a fellowship hour was spent. The Rev. J. C. Kraenzler was the guest speaker, his topic being "Encouraging the Young People." The same program was given in Avon on August 31st.

"The more, the merrier" was our motto as thirty-six of us motored by bus to Tyndall, So. Dak., to attend the rally of the South Dakota Young Peo-

ple's and Sunday School Workers' Union recently. All who attended enjoyed the fellowship supper and the meeting. The message by the Rev. Asaf Husmann was very well received. On the trip to and from Tyndall choruses and songs, both in English and German, were sung.

The Sunnyside Bible School from Freeman, So. Dak., gave a program in our church on Sunday, November 16. LYDIA RADEL, Secretary.

SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

The Lorraine Baptist Church of Kansas Celebrates an Anniversary by Burning Its Mortgage Papers

The Baptist Church of Lorraine, Kansas, celebrated the fourth anniversary of the dedication of the church with a fitting program on Sunday, November 30. Dr. Wm. Kuhn of Chicago spoke at both morning and evening services. At the morning service the church burned the mortgage of its indebtedness. Ten thousand dollars in cash was raised in the past few weeks to finish the payment in full of the new equipment. It was a happy occasion when the chairman of the trustees handed the notes to the pastor and instructed him to burn them, signifying the completion of the payment.

A goal of \$1000 was set as a thank-offering for the denomination's Centenary Offering. At the close of the evening service the pastor announced the total offering for the day as of \$1249.27 of which \$1048.00 went for the centennial fund. The evening meeting was in the form of a thanksgiving service with reports about and thanks for the progress made during the four years of our service in the new building.

Some of the high lights of these four years are as follows: A church park was planted and built, being 160 feet wide and 300 feet long. It has twelve kinds of trees, a flower plot, variety of bushes, a large fireplace, playground equipment and picnic equipment. The church kitchen was fully equipped during the four years. The Sunday School is fully graded and the B. Y. P. U. is fully departmentalized. A Moeller organ was installed costing \$5000 and paid for in full.

During these four years the church raised and spent \$130,000 for all purposes. This is the highest financial goal ever tried and attained by the Lorraine Church. During these four years \$24,000 were given to missions. The total cost of the building and equipment was almost \$75,000 and the edifice is today debt free.

Dr. Pieter Smit came to this church seven years ago and will begin his eighth year with the church on January 1st.

Dr. Kuhn spoke in the morning on the subject, "Hold Such in Honor" and in the evening he spoke on "Forward With Christ." Reporter.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE

Southern Alberta Churches Hold a Sunday School and Musical Festival in Calgary

Members and friends of the Southern Alberta churches met in the Bridgeland Baptist Church of Calgary on Sunday morning, November 9, for its annual Sunday School and Musical Festival. It was a beautiful day, making it possible for the people of the country churches to make the trip to the city.

It was a great pleasure to have had the Rev. Phil. Daum in our midst for this special occasion. He was the first to address the Sunday School. Miss Frances Link of Olds and Mrs. Harsch of Carbon followed with brief messages to the children and young people, respectively. Mr. Daum brought a challenging message in the German language based on Acts 5:20 in the morning service.

The actual festival program was held in the afternoon at the large Moravian Church. The recently organized Brass Band of Calgary opened the meeting with a number of selections, and Mr. T. Neher of Bethel conducted a lively song service. The Rev. R. Milbrandt of the Bridgeland Church extended a hearty welcome to the many visitors.

Throughout the afternoon service each individual choir was given opportunity to present one selection. Then the mass choir rendered three beautiful numbers under the capable leadership of Mr. R. Kannwischer of Calgary.

Messages on the following topics made the afternoon program very interesting: "The Superintendent and His Obligations" by the Rev. Phil. Daum; "The Church Choir and Its Obligations to the Church" by the Rev. D. Stone of Calgary; "The Teacher and His Obligations to His Class" by the Rev. John Weinbender; and "The Young People and Their Duty to the Church" by the Rev. C. Nordlund of Calgary. A solo by Mrs. Inez Adam of Trochu and a selection from the Carbon Baptist Quartet added to the impressiveness of the service.

Mr. C. Harsch of Freudental led the song service and the Rev. C. B. Thole read the scripture for the evening service. "What About God?" was the subject chosen by the Rev. J. Weinbender, and the Rev. Phil. Daum brought a message in the German language.

FRANCES KARY, Reporter.

Annual Report of the B. Y. P. U. of the First Baptist Church of Leduc, Alberta

Another year in our young people's society of the First Baptist Church of Leduc, Alberta, has gone by and again we are looking forward to the new. God has been good to us, and, although we as a society have felt discouraged and dissatisfied in these difficult times, yet God's people must never weary but go on as Jesus commands us to do and

then we have that blessed assurance, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

During the past year we have held 14 meetings. Although these have not been many in number, yet they have been of such a nature which proved to be a great inspiration to all. These meetings were varied, such as musical, devotional and educational programs.

In the past year 14 new members joined our society. We lost six members who left our circle, giving us a total of 66 members.

On Tuesday evening, November 18, we held our annual election. The new

officers for the coming year are Mrs. J. Kornalewski, president; Anne Wuerch, vice-president; Milton Hein, secretary; Dorothy Fillenberg, ass't secretary; Elmer Roth, treasurer; Leona Bienert, pianist; and Leona Benke, ass't pianist. The librarians are Violet Sonnenberg and Ida Miller with Bill Ohlman and Rubin Benke serving as ushers.

Already we as young people have undertaken the purchasing of an individual communion set for our church, and donations are rapidly coming in.

AGNES PRIEBE, Reporter.

OBITUARY

WILLIAM CARL REICHENBACH of Pittsburgh, Pa.

William Carl Reichenbach was born on December 24, 1887, in Pittsburgh, Pa., and passed away on November 20th. He was one of God's noble men. With a great loyalty and devotion he gave of himself to the work of the church. He was a patient sufferer through many years, but they never stood in the way of giving his best to the cause of Christ. He will be greatly missed in the choir and by the officers of the church with whom he was associated. He leaves to mourn his wife, Esther Hamel Reichenbach; three daughters, Lois Miriam, Mary Jane and Janet Ruth; and a host of relatives and friends. The strengthening Christ of our brother has become the comforting Christ of these loved ones.

Temple Church, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Louis B. Holzer, Pastor.

JEAN ELIZABETH SCHACHT of Racine, Wisconsin

Jean Elizabeth Schacht, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Schacht, was taken to be with her Lord on Sunday morning, November 9, 1941, at the age of 15 years, 3 months and 2 days. Jean was born on August 7, 1926. She was a faithful attendant at the Church School and young people's meetings until the time of her illness.

In addition to her parents, Jean is survived by two brothers, Robert and Wallis. A memorial service was held in the Hanson funeral home with the Rev. Ray L. Schlader officiating. Interment was in West Lawn Memorial Park.
Grace Baptist Church,
Racine, Wisconsin.
Ray L. Schlader, Pastor.

MR. HENRY J. RIEKE of Burlington, Iowa

Our beloved member, Mr. Henry J. Rieke, was born in Hanover, Germany, on December 24, 1866, and died on October 14, 1941. As a babe he came to America with the charter members of the Oak Street Baptist Church, and in the year 1880 he was baptized into the membership of the church by the Rev. F. Hoelzen.

It was in the year 1891 that he was united in wedlock with Maria Gierke who was called to her reward in 1911. Nine children blessed this union: H. William, Arthur C., Frieda, Erna, Walter, Elbert, Alice, Marie, and Elmer, the latter being called away at an early age. Frieda Rieke is well known in our church circles because of her mission work in Buffalo, Newark, and Philadelphia, and to her we express our sympathy as well in the loss of her father.

It was in the year 1915 that our brother married Mrs. Mary Brenneke whose children, Walter, Harry, Mrs. Wuerch, and Mrs. Miller, also mourn the loss of their stepfather. Mr. and Mrs. Rieke have served the church and their God faithfully and well these many years. He served as deacon, Sunday School superintendent, and church historian, and was willing to be of help to the pastor wherever he could serve.

His last service that many will re-

member was to act as chairman of the reception committee at the General Conference held here at Burlington. Unfortunately, sickness did not permit him to fellowship during those days as he had longed to do. His services to his Lord and Master will long be remembered, and it is our hope and prayer that his loyalty will be an incentive for others to carry on his Kingdom work. The pastor brought the funeral message based on the theme taken from 1. Cor. 2:9 to the large assembly who had come to pay their last respects to one who had been so faithful.

Oak Street Church,
Burlington, Iowa.
Alfred R. Bernadt, Pastor.

REV. JUDSON BEUERMANN of Buffalo, New York

After 46 years of service as a Missionary-Colporteur in Buffalo, N. Y., the Rev. Judson Beuermann died on November 22, 1941, as a result of an automobile accident, at the age of 66 years.

Born December 15, 1874, in Buffalo, N. Y., he found his Lord at the early age of 12 and as a young man answered the call of God to enter Christian service. He attended the German Department of the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, N. Y., and was ordained to the Christian ministry on December 5, 1918, but returned to his former work of a Missionary-Colporteur with the American Baptist Publication Society. During his many years of faithful service in this capacity he became widely known in Buffalo as "the friendly Bible man."

As a beloved member of Temple Church, he proved himself through the years a tower of strength to pastors and people. His Christian character and pleasant personality endeared him to all. His thorough Bible knowledge, his sincerity and zeal for the Lord brought betterment of Christian lives. Brother Beuermann was always gladly seen and heard, and so active that it seems utterly impossible for one so full of life to true, this great Christian worker has gone on to his reward. Our loss is inexpressible, but his gain is great.

Surviving him are his faithful wife, Mrs. Anna Beuermann; a daughter, Mrs. James Archer; two granddaughters, Jean and June; his sister, Mrs. Henry Maybach; his church, and a host of friends who deeply mourn his sudden departure. The many floral tributes and large attendance at the funeral service showed the esteem in which our brother was held.

"Down through our crowded walks and closer air,
O friend, how beautiful thy footsteps were.

When through the fever's heat at last they trod,
A form was with them like the Son of God.

'Twas but one step for those victorious feet
From their day's path unto the golden street;

And we who watched their walk, so bright, so brief,
Have marked this service with our hope and grief."

Temple Baptist Church,
Buffalo, New York.
Herbert Hiller, Pastor.

BAPTIST LIFE ASSOCIATION

Buffalo, New York,
January 1, 1942

To Our Baptist People of the United States and Canada:

One of the most encouraging meetings of the Board of Directors of the Baptist Life Association was held just shortly before the Holidays. It was encouraging because a fifty-four page report of the New York State Examiners on all investments, bank balances, books and records of the Association was read and discussed, revealing a very healthy state of affairs and proving a most conscientious and successful management. This was especially encouraging to us because, legally, all responsibility rests with us Directors elected by our Supreme Governing Body.

One of the biggest thrills felt by all of us was the pleasure of reviewing the increase in membership during the past three years. The Directors expressed appreciation for the faithful work of the office force; for the acts of kindness of the entire agency force in their efforts to extend the valuable benefits the Association offers our Baptist and Mennonite people; for were it not for our agents' generous time and effort to further the success of the Association, we Directors could not hope to succeed. Deep pleasure was felt by every Director in that so many of our own Baptist people had identified themselves with this Association during the year 1941, giving us an opportunity to bring ultimate benefits to many more of our people and their friends, for he who owns a life insurance membership certificate in a successfully managed fraternal benefit association is the possessor of an agreement that gives most at the time when the need of help is greatest,—at the death of the breadwinner.

The comfort and security one feels who possesses a membership life insurance certificate of from \$1000 to \$10,000 of protection and the cheerful holiday spirit one feels when in the bosom of one's family are inter-changeable terms, because both are the result of tender loving family ties, and they remind the Directors of this sacred trust and the duty entrusted to them to perpetuate the Association's benefits to Baptist families.

Through these holiday greetings we bring to the readers of the Baptist Herald our cordial wish that the New Year 1942 will be blessed with health, happiness and prosperity. We Directors, all members of German Baptist Churches, pray that you seriously consider to join with us as members during the year 1942, welcoming our representatives when they come to visit you and in a brotherly spirit listen to the reasons why you, too, should join nearly 5000 others in our mutually managed life and sick benefit association. We feel that the Baptist Life Association, now almost fifty-eight years old, forms a bulwark of protection in keeping alive the "American Way of Life." Count on it as a friend—a friend that provides you with security and happiness in an insecure world.

We remain faithfully,

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Baptist Life Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

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A Formula For Living

(Continued from Page 5)

morbidity and to be abhorred. But isn't our abhorrence a flimsy defense mechanism against our fear of death? Why are we so afraid of our final departure? Isn't one reason a feeling that our work might not have been done creditably, and we would like another chance?

Isn't another reason the consciousness that we have disobeyed our Father and fear the consequences? Those children who have deliberately disobeyed their parents are afraid to face them; but those who have tried to do their elders' bidding to the best of their ability, even though it may be imperfect, will know that father and mother will understand and be merciful.

Or do you fear the experience of death itself? You need not. Doctors have said that death is painless. We are so constituted that we lose consciousness just before our dissolution. Only that which causes death is painful.

The Gift of Eternal Life

Probably, you fear death because you cannot see beyond this life. Remember that our great Father is beyond our physical faculties also. If you love him, why not go to him gladly?

For us Christians immortality does not start with or after death. We have it now. "He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life." Immortality starts at the time we start living with God who is eternal. Death is simply the removal of the visible form with which we are clothed while on earth. Death is changing clothes from the physical to the spiritual.

Fellow Christian, why not face the fact realistically that the Father may call us at any time? Do your work as well as you can; then you shall have no fears or regrets.

This, then, is the challenge that comes to us anew: to be really children of God; to do his will because he loves us and we love him; to do without all that which is not within his will; and finally to return home. As the new year rolls on, our composition progresses. At the close of the season, the Father will want to see our accomplishments. May he be able to smile with approval upon us and say: "Well done, my child!"

An Innovation In The Publishing Field

of our denominational group has been the introduction of the

CLUB PLAN

Be sure your church adopts it this year.

Discuss the matter with your pastor or write to Cleveland.

The One Hundred Club

YOUTH'S OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A PART IN THE CENTENARY OFFERING

Members of the young people's society and Sunday School scholars can take part in this One Hundred Club by contributing 100 coins of any denomination or its equivalent to the Centenary Offering. This represents a challenging denominational undertaking that calls for definite advance on home and foreign mission fields.

A very practical way to make a beginning is to select a young people's booster to direct and promote the membership drive. If such a booster is not available, the pastor will take charge. These will be provided with an honor roll upon which the names of those who contribute will appear and which may be posted in a conspicuous place in the church.

These contributions for the Centenary Offering through the One Hundred Club are to be sent to our headquarters by the church treasurer at least once each month with the amount given as to the number who have joined the club. The names of these churches with the number of those who have joined the One Hundred Club will appear in the pages of the HERALD.

A commendable beginning has been made by the churches in the Southern Conference. Further information about the practical aspects of the plan can be secured from Mr. Walter S. Schaible, 1205 S. Henderson St., North Worth, Texas, who has been appointed by the National Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union to take charge of this project.

The whole-hearted adoption of the One Hundred Club will help your church through its young people and Sunday School scholars to go "Forward with Christ." Wouldn't it thrill you to see the entire youth of your church join in this denominational enterprise for the advancement of God's work?

Start the
ONE HUNDRED CLUB
in Your Church At Once!

Do You Know That...?

Column Edited by the
REV. A. R. BERNADT
of Burlington, Iowa

1. It took twenty-four members of our denominational churches to win one for Christ by baptism last year. We wonder what the other twenty-three were doing while someone brought another.
2. The 1125 registered delegates and visitors attending our last triennial Conference held at Burlington traveled a total of 25,800 miles and came from 28 different States as well as Canada, Poland, and other countries.
3. This year's giving for missions was 41 cents per member better than last year in our denominational churches. That is less than a penny a week, and little enough, indeed, when compared to the great financial increases most members have enjoyed.
4. Billy Sunday said, "The less religion a Church has, the more oyster stew suppers it takes to run it."
5. The new chapel built within the walls of the State Prison at Clinton, New York, has been named the "Good Thief" and would have cost \$250,000 if built under ordinary conditions. Surely, this is evidence that the spirit knows no restrictions, not even those of prison walls.
6. Our Sunday School statistics show we have one teacher or officer for every ten scholars in our Sunday School. Listing the teachers separately would mean an average of about twelve to each class. We wonder how the average class attendance compares with the number 12?
7. The women of the church have always been the best "laymen" we have. They have had a four percent increase in the number of societies reporting last year and a 3.1% increase in membership.
8. Our young people's societies also show a four per cent increase in the number of societies reporting, but show a 4.6% decrease in membership. Is this trend of the times evident in all youth groups?
9. Top Salary in Iowa did not go to the governor last year but to the football coach at Iowa University. His \$12,000 remuneration makes every touchdown look mighty important.
10. Our denominational record shows that the average giving per member for local work last year was \$15.40 and for missions \$4.37. When compared to the war budget of 40 millions daily for England and 60 millions daily for Germany, our Christian budget fades into oblivion.