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January Snows and Smiles

BAPTIST HERALD

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January 15, 1942

WHAT'S HAPPENING

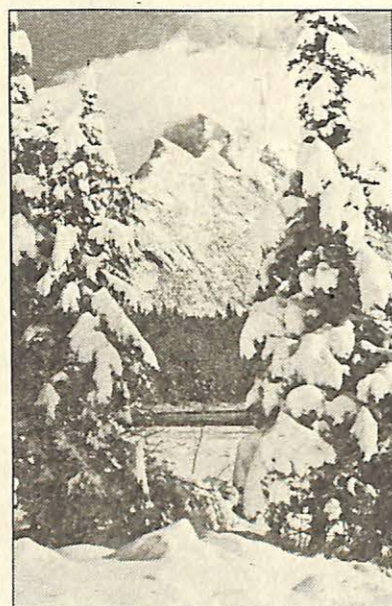
● The Rev. Lewis B. Berndt of Sheboygan, Wis., has accepted the call extended to him recently by the Faith Baptist Church of Minneapolis, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Berndt will begin their ministry in Minneapolis on February 15th, succeeding the Rev. Henry Hirsch, now pastor of the Erin Avenue Church of Cleveland, Ohio. In Sheboygan Mr. Berndt has been the pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church.

● In several of our ministers' homes during the month of December there was great rejoicing because of the arrival of a baby. The Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Knauf of Alpena, Mich., have announced the birth of a baby girl on December 14th, who has been named Evangeline Ruth. The Rev. and Mrs. Frank Veninga of the Bethany Church of Milwaukee, Wis., have proudly announced the birth of their first born child and son, Robert Louis, on December 10th. Equally happy have been the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Schade of Meriden, Conn., who have announced the birth of a daughter on January 1, 1942, and who has been named Kathryn Lois.

● The Rev. A. F. Runtz, pastor of the State Park Baptist Church of Peoria, Ill., recently baptized 16 converts as a result of evangelistic meetings conducted in the church during two weeks of November. On New Year's Eve a candlelight Watch Night service was held, concluding with the communion service, at which some of these who had been baptized and four others who were received by letter were given the hand of fellowship.

● Beginning with January 1st the Burns Ave. Baptist Church of Detroit, Mich., has been enjoying the services of an associate pastor besides those of its minister, the Rev. P. G. Neumann. The associate pastor is the Rev. Adrian Heaton of New Kensington, Pa., a graduate of the Northern Baptist Seminary in Chicago, Ill., who is serving as director of radio and of Christian education in the program of the church. During the past 6 months Mr. Heaton has been taking postgraduate work at the seminary and has also been engaged in teaching.

● The Christmas program of the First Baptist Church of Arnprior, Ontario, Canada, was held on Sunday evening, December 21, by the Sunday School of the church. Mr. E. F. Woermke, superintendent, brought words of welcome and was in charge of the program. Recitations and songs by the Sunday School scholars preceded the presentation of the pageant, "The Light on



The Mountains

You should have seen that mountain-range
 With gaps of brightness riven—
 How through each pass and hollow
 streamed
 The purpling lights of heaven—
 Rivers of gold-mist flowing down
 From far celestial fountains—
 The great sun flaming through the rifts
 Beyond the wall of mountains.
 —John Greenleaf Whittier.

the Hills." The pastor of the church, the Rev. A. E. Jaster, also took part in the program. With the singing of "God Save the King" the program came to a close.

● The Rev. Theo. W. Dons, general evangelist of the denomination, conducted evangelistic meetings in the Baptist Church of North Freedom, Wis., from Sunday, January 4, to Friday, January 16. The Rev. Thomas Stoeri, pastor, will report about the meetings in a later issue of "The Baptist Herald." From January 18 to 30 Mr. Dons will conduct similar services in the Holmes Street Baptist Church of Lansing, Mich., of which the Rev. J. J. Abel is pastor. In February he will begin a series of evangelistic meetings in the churches of the Southwestern Conference beginning with Kansas.

● The young people's anniversary of the Zion Baptist Church of Okeene, Okla., was held on Sunday evening, December 7, with Miss Velma Weber, president, in charge. The fine program featured the play, "The Only Day I Have Known," presented by 8 young people. Special reports were given by

Norma Laubach, secretary, and Weldon Geis, treasurer. A cello solo and piano postlude were brought by Betty Louise Geis. With the first Sunday in January the young people began a Bible study course on "Our Bible," which is to be continued for 3 months and is being taught by the pastor, the Rev. Henry Pfeifer.

● Since October 15th the Rev. Alfred Cierpke of Philadelphia, Pa., has been lecturing as special instructor at the Bible Institute of Pennsylvania which is located in the same city with a student body of 201 students. He is also continuing his studies at Eastern Baptist Seminary and writing his thesis for the Th. D. degree. During the Christmas holidays the Cierpkes were in Cleveland, Ohio, where Mrs. Cierpke sang as soloist in the choir of the Erin Ave. Church in its rendition of Handel's "Messiah." Recently they also celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary with some Cleveland friends, many thousands of miles away from their family of three children who are in Germany.

● On Sunday evening, November 30, a musical program was held by the choir of our Baptist Church of Kenosha, Wis., with Mr. Gerhard Klein, director. The offering was designated for the ministry of the choir. A baptismal service was held at the time of the New Year's Eve service, at which the Rev. A. G. Schlesinger, pastor, baptized seven converts. The guest speaker at that service was the Rev. A. Husmann, promotional secretary. Very successful evangelistic meetings were held for two weeks in the Kenosha Church from November 3 to 14 with the Rev. William Hoover, pastor of the Conners Ave. Church of Detroit, Mich., serving as evangelist. About 10 persons made a confession of faith in Christ during the meetings.

● On Sunday afternoon, December 21, the North Avenue Church of Milwaukee, Wis., dedicated the new "Memorial Organ Chimes" in memory of the late Henry M. Burtzloff and enjoyed the Christmas cantata entitled, "The Holy Advent," rendered by the choir. The Christmas program of the Boys' Club, which was given on Monday evening, December 22, thrilled a large audience, especially the featured play, which had been written for this occasion by the pastor of the church, the Rev. E. J. Baumgartner. The Church School program was presented on Christmas Day at 6:30 P. M. At the Watch Night service on December 31, Mr. Alfred Elssesser, a seminary student from the North Avenue Church, brought an interesting illustrated address.

(Continued on Page 19)

The Baptist Herald

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Coming!

THEY LIVED DEMOCRACY!

This will be one of the most memorable articles ever published by "The Baptist Herald" about Abraham Lincoln and his mother and about Robert E. Lee. The article will be illustrated with six unusual photographs.

GIVE THEM THEIR DAILY BREAD

The general missionary secretary, Dr. Wm. Kuhn, will discuss the salaries of our ministers in these war times with skyrocketing prices in an article that no one will want to miss.

FROM THE GOLD COAST TO "LADY LIBERTY"

Miss Koppin of Detroit, Mich., who is at home on her furlough, resting from her arduous labors as missionary-nurse in the Cameroons, continues her thrilling story about the many dangers and difficulties which she encountered on her return trip.

THE PSALM OF THE HUMAN HEART

The Rev. Victor H. Prendinger of Jersey City, N. J., portrays the message of Psalm 139 until the spiritual gems of God's truths as found in this Psalm sparkle with beauty and winsomeness for all to see.

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EDITORIAL



Cleveland, Ohio, January 15, 1942
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The Wicket Gate

WHO of us is not stirred by the recital of the story in "Pilgrim's Progress" as Christian, greatly distressed in his mind, is approached by Evangelist? Pointing with his finger over a very wide field, Evangelist asked of Christian: "Do you see yonder Wicket gate? Do you see yonder shining light?" Christian, with his eye fixed on the gate and with the shining light directly ahead of him, kept in the path of salvation until the burdens rolled from his back and he reached the holy city of Zion as the goal of all his persistent faith and most ardent dreams.

There is only one straight and narrow gate, which leads unto eternal life, and that is an all-out faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. There is only one road of blessing for the Christian, and that is an all-out devotion to Christ with a focusing of all one's desires and hopes upon him, who is the Lord of life, and with a fixity of purpose to serve him, the Master of all our lives. "Do you see yonder wicket gate?" Is it "this one thing" that you do, pressing "toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.?"

Most of us have a blurred vision of "this wicked gate." We compromise by trying to serve God and Mammon. We are sometimes confused without any clear-cut religious convictions. We fall into the "Slough of Despond" because we cannot say with Count Zinzendorf: "I have one passion: it is Jesus, Jesus only!" We need to concentrate our devotion of spiritual love on Christ until the image of his glory becomes the radiance of our souls.

How many scattering influences are brought to bear on our lives in this modern day! Oh, that every waking moment might be dominated by the one, all consuming desire to glorify Jesus Christ. How subtle are the sins of compromise and indifference! Oh, that we might be ready to burn out for Christ. How easy it is to look away from the shining light of our Christian goal! Oh, that with "Christian" we might never lose sight of "the wicket gate."

"Has life for you a wicket gate,
 A fixed and marked out goal?
 Life is neither chance nor fate,
 But the challenge of a soul."

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from that of the illiterate, sunken masses from Eastern Europe that flocked to our shores during the last half century of the 19th Century. "German culture shook the American giant out of his stupor and awakened him to thinking thoughts and emotions of all humanity." Wherever they settled in large numbers, the community received a distinctive German cultural stamp. This is particularly noticeable in such cities as Cincinnati, St. Louis and Milwaukee, as well as in other localities. In New York and Philadelphia whole sections of the city were almost entirely German.

"Their industry, frugality and thrift invariably made them prosperous. They brought with them a keen respect for law and order, a fine sense of honesty, and an inborn sense of duty. They were gregarious and loved sociability. They sang, drank, danced and enjoyed life, in general. There was nothing dour in their makeup." Family ties were pronounced and strong, and large families almost universal. They had a high regard for education and learning and many public institutions owe their beginning to their initiative. German language newspapers flourished in every community, and the initiative for many hospitals and Old People's Homes frequently came from the German-speaking population.

Rampant Atheism

As to their religion, the great mass of the German immigrants were neither Pietists nor Puritans. "They represented a variety of types, varying from the sentimental Pietist to the abandoned infidel." Atheism was rampant among them. Having been raised in an atmosphere of religious restraint, many of them cast off all restraints in the New World. Material considerations overshadowed religious interest. "The struggle for existence, the battle for bread, the task of subduing the wilderness, the effort required to establish a new home here crowded into the background any thought of a home in heaven."

Sunday became a day of recreation, which they spent enjoying themselves in their beer gardens in the cities, or working on the farm in the case of those who had settled in the country. Many communities were hotbeds of atheism to whom the church and religion was an abomination. The German press of America for the most part was hostile to any pietistic form of religion and denounced all evangelical preachers as "cranks and fanatics." This free thinking element regarded all religion as an impediment to progress. Christians were denounced as "simple folks or fools" who retarded the progress of the human race.

"Der Anzeiger des Westens" stated: "The clergy is the invention of lazy despots by which they attain prestige, wealth and an easy life." In another article he asks: "Did we escape the misery of Europe and did we build our homes in the freest land on earth in

New Denominational Treasurer

Mr. H. Theodore Sorg of Newark, N. J., recently resigned his position as the general treasurer of the denomination. Mr. Fred A. Grosser, a highly respected member of the Forest Park Baptist Church who is holding a responsible office with John Nuveen and Co. in Chicago, has been appointed as his successor beginning with January 1, 1942.

In accepting Mr. Sorg's resignation with regret, the General Missionary Committee paid the following tribute to him for his services. "As General Treasurer, Legal Counsel and active member of the Investment Committee Mr. H. Theodore Sorg has rendered our society a service which cannot be estimated. It gives us much joy to know that Mr. Sorg will continue in his capacity as Legal Counsel and also as a member of the Investment Committee."

order to bow ourselves again under the most abominable yoke which human ignorance and malice can devise?" Others went even farther! "Der Antipfaff" advocated the destruction of all religion in such violent terms that the better element among the German population revolted and forced its discontinuance. But, for the most part, they felt they had left the Fatherland to escape a "priest-ridden State" and resented any effort to impose any semblance of it on their new found freedom.

Sacred rites were satirized in German drinking haunts. In St. Louis, a dog was solemnly baptized in a saloon amidst the jeers of the half-drunken crowd. In Cleveland, Jesus was carried in effigy through the streets in a ribald procession and a mock celebration of the Lord's Supper was performed with the curb as a communion table. Scoffers and hoodlums congregated on the street corners on Sunday morning to mock the worshippers on their way to church. Windows in churches were stoned and the buildings defiled.

Sheep Without a Shepherd

One pastor found a keg of beer in his pulpit on a Sunday morning with this placard attached: "Priester und Affen hat der Teufel geschaffen." ("Priests and apes were created alike by the devil.") In some instances evangelical preachers were manhandled, stoned and dragged to jail on trumped up charges. In some communities they were threatened with death if they did not leave and one murder resulted. In too many communities drunkenness, profanity, and excesses became the order of the day.

What religious interest remained was too often exploited by unworthy pastors, religious adventurers, some of them with an unsavory past, others, infidel students from the German uni-

versities,—for it was the day of rationalism in Germany. Scarcely a community was not at one time or another exploited by one of these roving imposters! "They allow the people to do and believe as they please . . . They can be induced to perform a religious service only when well paid for it and plied with plenty of beer, wine and whiskey." The exposure of such frauds only added grist to the mill of an atheistic press. The result was that the German immigrant became wary of all travelling preachers and evangelists.

The Baptist Witness

The first attempt by the Baptists to evangelize the German immigrant was made by John Mason Peck, pioneer of the Baptist movement in the middle West. He baptized the first German Baptist in St. Louis, Christian Shoemaker, in 1848. His concern for the spiritual plight of the German immigrants is revealed in the fact that he invited Joseph Rieger, a prominent evangelical missionary of the German "Kirchen-Verein," to preach to the Germans around Rock Springs (Lebanon, Ill.) and graciously offered the use of his church for the meetings.

In 1836 he wrote an article in "Pecks Pioneer," describing the spiritual plight of the German population in that territory and appealing for aid to the Baptist Home Mission Society. It is to be regretted, that, whereas the Methodists and Evangelicals responded to the appeal, the Baptists did not.

Opposition also developed from another source. The extreme Lutheran element, led by such men as Walther, one of the founders of the Missouri Synod and editor of the "Lutheraner," bitterly opposed all forms of evangelical Christianity and boldly declared that salvation was to be had only within the old Lutheran church.

But Walther's invectives were particularly directed against the Baptists, who he insisted were spiritual descendants of the fanatical "Muenster Fanatics" in the days of the Reformation. While admitting that our constitution guaranteed religious liberty, he still maintained that the State should take steps to suppress such dangerous heresy and sectarians as the Baptists. On one occasion he threatened the arrest of a German Baptist minister for offering a public prayer in a cemetery. It is hard for us to comprehend such bigotry and intolerance in our day, but those were the days of bitter religious controversy and intense denominational rivalry.

Spiritual Beginnings

But in spite of blatant infidelity, rationalistic hostility and ecclesiastical bigotry, there was a deep hunger after God which nothing could eradicate. In many places pious groups would gather in homes or school houses and some person would read a prayer and a sermon and they would sing the hymns

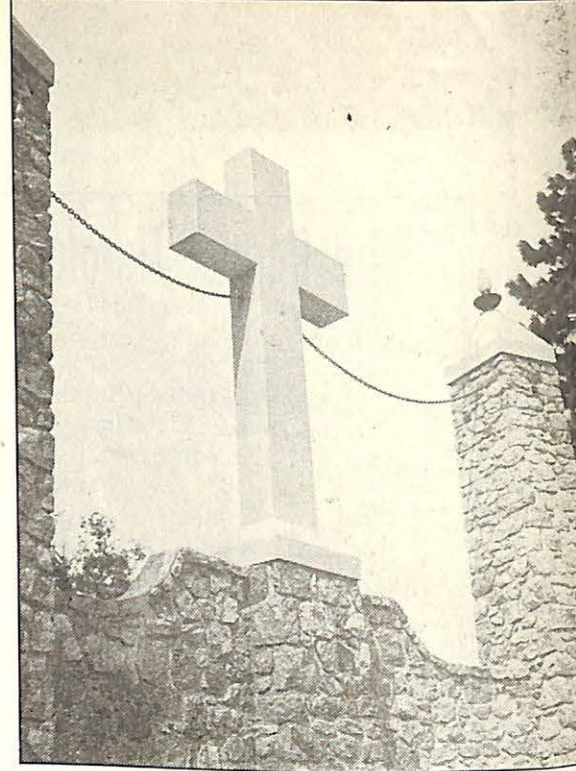
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God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor thro' the skies,
Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by thee our lot is cast;
Be thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide and Stay,
Thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be thy strong arm our ever sure defence;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

—Daniel C. Roberts.



A Heritage of Priceless Freedom

The Second of a Series of Outstanding Articles on Our Denominational History by the REV. CHARLES F. ZUMMACH of Trenton, Illinois

In order to understand such a movement as ours one must give some attention to the cultural and religious background of the group from which they came. German immigrants were numbered among the earliest settlers in this country. The first of these arrived on the British ship, "Concord," in 1683 at the invitation of William Penn to escape religious persecution which was then raging in Germany. These settled in Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania.

Others followed until the movement assumed gigantic proportions. Between 1727 and 1776 more than 30,000 German immigrants settled in America. They were almost purely Protestant. For the most part, they settled along the Atlantic coast and east of the Appalachian, Alleghany and Blue Ridge Mountains. In New York and Pennsylvania the Germans outnumbered the English at the time of the Revolutionary War. Many of them played an important part in the War for Independence, among whom we might mention the celebrated Major General Baron von Steuben.

It is estimated that at the close of the 18th century there were approximately 600,000 German speaking persons in the United States. They were men of energy, of iron will, and, for the most part, possessed those qualities of character that made for a good foundation for the new nation.

The New World

But it was not until after the beginning of the 19th Century that the high tide of German immigration set

in. Economic pressure and political unrest at home, combined with the proverbial German "Wanderlust," resulted in 150,000 Germans entering our ports. In the decade from 1820 to 1830, some 150,000 Germans entered our ports. In the next decade, 1830 to 1840, German immigration reached a half million souls.

This decade brought to the United States a new type of immigrant, namely, the intellectual, rationalistic, often atheistic type, of which we shall hear more later. During the next thirty years German immigration swelled to a mighty stream, so that in the two years, 1882-1883, more than half a million Germans entered the United States. At the close of the 19th Century, there were more than seven and one half million persons of German blood and parentage in this country.

America had, indeed, become the asylum of the persecuted and oppressed, as stated by Emma Lazarus on the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. The wretched refuse of your teeming shores,—send these, the homeless, tempest tossed to me; I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Immigration agents traveled through the German villages, describing in alluring terms the opportunities for a larger life and economic security in the "New World," especially for the peasant class. Books and pamphlets were written and freely circulated among them telling of the wealth to be found in the land of the free. This,

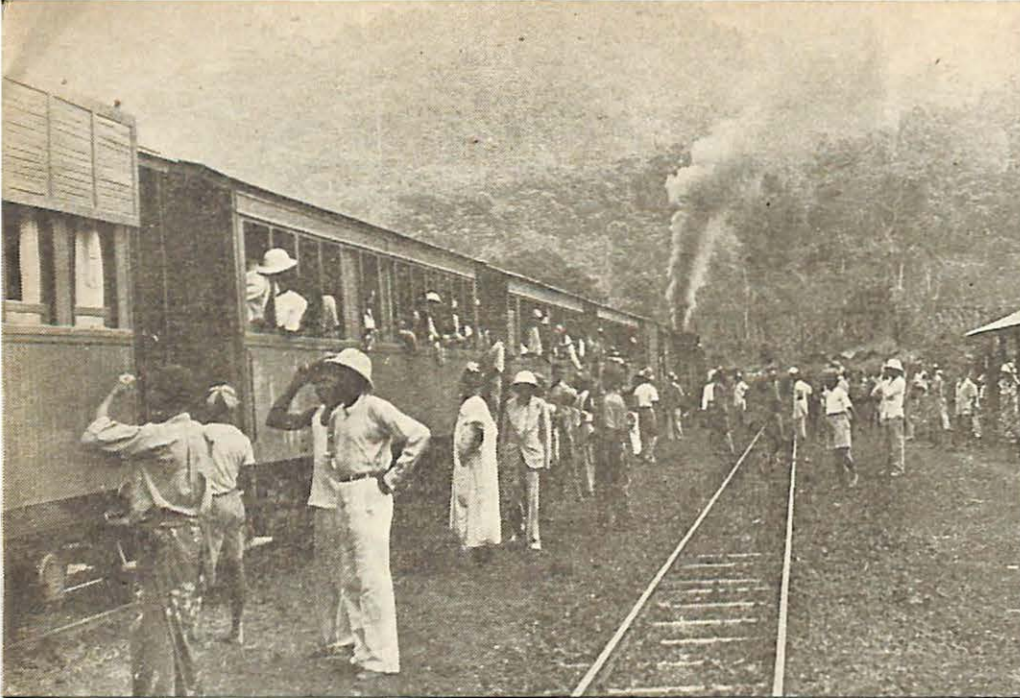
coupled with the seething political unrest prevalent in Germany during the second quarter of the 19th Century and the desire to escape from an ecclesiastical tyranny, "which rigidly prescribed the mode of baptism, confirmation, marriage and burial at the hands of a subsidized clergy," resulted in mass immigration to our shores.

In 1825 the Prussian government issued a decree against all separatist groups and movements in Germany and their "truebe, dumpfe Lebensansicht." The State Church joined in the attack and urged their expulsion from the land. As a result many of them emigrated to America in search of liberty for themselves and their children. These pietistic groups made a very definite contribution to the religious life of the new world. From them came for the most part, the early German Methodists, German Baptists, and the German Evangelical and Reformed Church of America.

Immigration Hardships

Immigration in those days was fraught with many hardships. Unsanitary conditions prevailed on the slow sailing ships. It was not unusual for ships to be from six weeks to three months in making the journey. It is estimated that out of every six passengers one was buried at sea. But in spite of peril and discomfort, the lure of the New World drew them on like an irresistible magnet.

The German immigrant differed in many respects from those of other nationalities. To begin with, he brought with him a rich culture totally different



The Primitive Railroad Train on the Road from Duala to Nkong-samba in the Cameroons, which is Typical of Most Railroad Trains in This Part of Africa and Which Our Missionaries Are Often Compelled to Use on Their Furlough Trips in Making Connections With the Boats Back to the United States of America.

A Dangerous Crossing

The First of Two Articles by MISS EDITH KOPPIN,
Our Cameroon Missionary-Nurse, About Her Adventures in
Returning to the United States for Her Furlough

It was an eventful trip coming home. I am grateful to God for the things I have seen, the things I have experienced, and the things I have learned. Although, no doubt, danger was sometimes near, yet I encountered no harm, neither was I conscious of any danger, and the trip across the ocean was one of the best I have ever made.

I now know that I arrived safely because of the many prayers that went up for me. Upon arrival I learned that everywhere prayers were offered for my safety, and I thank all those who interceded on my behalf. To our God I give the honor!

Because of conditions, we had to take a long route to the coast in Africa. This course took me to places that I have never seen before, and I have been able to see things which were of great interest and inspiration to me.

Farewell at Warwar

With salutes, waving and shooting of guns, I left my beloved people of Warwar, Mambila. Nurse Reddig, Mr. and Mrs. Dunger and little Daphne gave me a loving send-off. As I mounted my horse and scaled the hill in back of the compound, I turned around for another look. My fellow-workers were still waving, and a sense of regret came over me that the time had come for me to go on furlough.

Eight days were spent on horseback, some of the days long, some of them short, stopping at the different villages, helping those who would come for aid, speaking a word of encouragement to those who needed it in places where Christians and catechists are carrying on their work of God.

I had already received a letter from

the Barber Steamship Line saying they were trying to book passage for me. Before I reached Bamenda, I received a telegram from them asking me how much notice I needed to get to the coast since a possible cancelation of some other passenger was in the offing. So I replied that I was on my way.

Finally, I reached the motor road, and God, who sees all our needs, had a motor truck ready for me, which took me to Bamenda. In Africa we cannot choose our time of traveling all the time, and on this trip we had to travel at night, for the motor driver was ordered to be back in Bamenda that night.

Up and Down Hill

We went up and down hill, but there was no mishap, and we arrived safely in Bamenda. Here I detoured to visit some Swiss missionaries at the Basel Mission. They were a couple with two children working in a lonely place. Their work is much handicapped because of the internment of their German missionaries, leaving them short-handed. A great work is left on the shoulders of those who could remain. Mrs. Zurcher was very glad to see me since she seldom sees another white woman, and I experienced a very happy time with them.

From Bamenda I boarded another motor truck which took me from the height of 5,000 feet to 300 feet above sea level in the space of six hours. That was a beautiful trip, going through narrow mountain passes and thickly wooded scenes.

We now came to Mamfe. What a hot place! I had to stop a few days to make arrangements for native canoes and

paddlers to take me down the Cross River. I eagerly looked forward to this trip, for it would take me to places I had long thought about, but which were always too much out of the way. Now I was forced to take this trip, due to the war conditions.

Sitting at the resthouse one evening in Mamfe, I heard the cry of a hippopotamus. He made the earth shake. I would not enjoy seeing some of them, but I was promised that I would see many before long!

My canoe was a large comfortable "dug out canoe." My twenty odd loads were in it with two of my boys to help me, six paddlers and your missionary-nurse sitting comfortably on a canvas chair.

Hippopotami!

We hadn't gone far when I saw my first hippopotamus. He was near the shore. He gave one look at me and then ducked under the water. One glance at the white apparition was enough for him!

It was a beautiful ride down that river. The shores thickly studded with high towering trees and the sun shining through the leaves casting shadows and light on the water made constant changing scenes which were beautiful to behold. It was very quiet. The constant rhythm of the paddlers added to the peaceful scene. Once in a while the natives would break out in song when things got too monotonous for them.

Throughout the day we saw groups of hippopotami, sometimes groups of two, three or four, and even six. It seemed that father and mother were out with the children that day, showing them the sights of the river, and this white woman was one of them. Whenever we came near a group of them, they all would stretch their heads above the water to take a look at us, and then it seemed that "Mama Hippo" would say to the smaller ones: "Duck down. Here is danger!", and the heads of the little ones would go down, and then after one last look, "Papa" and "Mama" would duck, too.

They all stayed at their places. None were excited or interested enough to come close, excepting for one pair. They were huge animals who came within about fifteen feet of us. The paddlers were quite excited and shouted at them, and I too got up from my chair to see what they were going to do, when they ducked under the water. The paddlers said, "Ma, he do fear your white skin." I saw thirty-six hippos that day, and arrived at our place where we were to spend the night just

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as it was getting dark, after eleven hours of sitting in the canoe.

Early the next morning we started off again. That day was uneventful, excepting for the hot sun which shone down on us during the noon hours, and we arrived at our rest camp in the afternoon. There I discharged my canoe and native paddlers and waited several days for the government launch.

Leper Colony

On this launch I traveled in real style. A small so-called houseboat was attached and I had a cabin and deck space for my own use. Huge cockroaches came out at night to keep me company. I spent two and a half days on this launch zigzagging down the river with a native captain and crew. They would stop at different places on the river visiting friends. They had lots of time, but I wanted to get on and we finally reached the place that I had been wanting to visit for many years.

It is the largest Leper Colony in Nigeria under the auspices and supervision of the Church of Scotland Mission. This visit at the Leper Colony and what I saw was one of the most wonderful experiences of my missionary travels in Africa.

In this beautiful valley, covered with palms, is situated this leper colony. There are over two thousand patients in all different stages of this dreaded disease, leprosy. Here to this haven of healing come these afflicted people, and here they find love, kindness, help, and an opportunity to lead a normal life and every chance to be healed of this cursed disease.

It is well organized and laid out place, with little villages made up of well-built native huts, kept clean and made beautiful. Here, in these villages the patients live a normal life, and everywhere I went it seemed that they were most happy.

Life of the Lepers

Everyone who was able was given some sort of work to do, for which they received some remuneration, making them feel useful and independent. Even those without fingers and toes were given work which their gnarled stumps could do. Older women who would be unable to hold some farming tool, or who were unable to grind food, were given the work of rubbing wet

An Entrancing View of the Cross River of Nigeria Where Miss Koppin Boarded a Canoe on Her Return Trip to America. Here 75 years ago the natives were given over to cannibalism and the worship of fetiches. Today there is not a single village along the entire river without a chapel and a school. Here Mary Slessor of Scotland did her wonderful missionary work.

clay on the floors and clay platforms in the church, so that even in their dilapidated state they could do something to bring pleasure to God in beautifying his church. Others were given farming work to do. Many maintained their own farms individually and also worked in the Palm Oil Industry, from which source the colony obtains some of its funds for maintaining the colony.

Those who were too sick to work and be about in the houses are taken care of at the bright, clean hospital. The attendants of the hospital, nurses and dispensers are all lepers in some stage of the disease but are also being treated and on the way to recovery.

I went to the schools, and there the teachers are lepers, teaching others how to read and write and many are learning to read the Bible in their own tongue. The catechists who taught those who were inquiring the way to God were also lepers.

The attendants in laboratories are all lepers, and, while being treated, are helping their fellow-sufferers. Some of these workers have been cured, but have stayed on to continue this work in caring for those who are suffering from this disease.

An Amazing Church Service

It was Sunday morning, and over the air came strains of "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, early in the morning our songs shall rise to thee" and other hymns, played by a band, the members of which are lepers. They have learned to read music and to play the different instruments and are praising God in this service.

Later on as we went to the church services, I was deeply moved as I saw the different people coming from their various quarters. All lepers—cleaned, clothed and coming to church to worship God! Everyone seemed so happy, and I thought of this phrase, "They will have cause to praise thee."

We went into the chapel, a large building of three wings, holding about eighteen hundred people. Men and women were in their designated places and the children in another section. The seating was done in a quiet and orderly manner. The so-called police and guards of the colony, with their blue and green uniforms, marched to the front pew in a body on one side of the church. Then up the other aisle came the hospital attendants, all dressed in white; then to the front came the band, also dressed in white. To one side of the church came the choir.

You can imagine the picture of this great body of people, all lepers, gathering in the house of God to worship him. I never attended such a worshipful and reverent service. The band accompanied the singing of hymns. The choir gave their praise in song.

Mary Slessor's Work

The deacons of the church, sitting in front, interpreted for the missionary as he gave the message. I, too, praised God, that through his servants, the missionaries, these people were being helped.

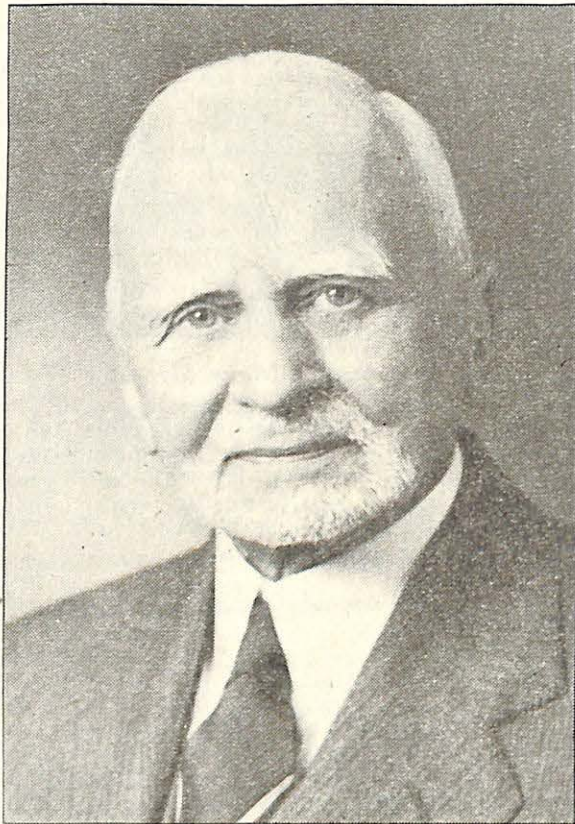
I spent many days at this place, studying this work in all its phases. Here, too, I had opportunity to visit the work of the well famed woman of God, Mary Slessor. Many of you will have read of that courageous woman who dared so much for God. It was thrilling to see now how that place has changed. Churches, schools and Christian Training Center dot this area and "her works do follow her." There is one training center called the "Slessor Memorial," where young women are trained and taught how to found a Christian home and to live a Christian life and to witness for him in their lives and homes.

Then I had another half day's truck ride to Port Harcourt, where I received a telegram from the boat company, (Continued on Page 13)



A Business Manager for God

By MARTIN L. LEUSCHNER, Editor of "The Baptist Herald"



Mr. H. P. Donner Who on December 31, 1941, Completed Thirty Years of Service as the Business Manager of the Publication Society

An anniversary in Brother Donner's life is something to shout from the housetops. For God has endowed this servant of his with remarkable gifts. And he has never failed to give a good measure of his stewardship, "pressed down, and shaken together, and running over." For such a man the bells of tribute ring easily and sweetly!

On January 1st of this year Brother Donner finished his thirtieth year of service as the business manager of our publication society. No other active general worker in our denomination can point to three continuous decades of service. He has been an unique gift of God to our denomination who has marvelously guided the business affairs of the publication society through difficult and stormy years of crisis and depression.

In contemplating Brother Donner's ministry to our churches, one is reminded of a story in "Green Pastures," where God is considering sending one of his servants down to the earth to be put in charge of all earthly affairs. In the Negro dialect of the story, Isaac asks: "Does you want de brainiest or de holiest, Lawd?", and God answers: "I want de holiest. I'll make him brainy."

Brother Donner has yielded himself unreservedly to his assigned task.

His sincere devotion to God's will and his uncompromising service for Christ have enabled him to go all the way for his Master. His address at the Portland General Conference in 1937 as he poured out his soul in anxious concern over the spiritual conditions of our times will burn brightly in the souls of all who heard him on that Saturday morning.

Because of this holy zeal for God's Word and his Kingdom enterprise, God has been able to put him into positions of great responsibility and to give him unusual abilities for the tasks at hand. God has, indeed, made him "brainy." Everyone who knows the affairs of the publication society marvels at the genius of its business manager to make a few dollars go a long way and to smoothe out so many "kinks" and difficulties in the complex business administration of our work.

To be sure, he is a man of fixed habits and ways. No one can change his accustomed breakfast procedure. More significant are those habits that hold him religiously to daily Bible reading and meditation and to other spiritual exercises. He holds with persistent tenacity to certain principles in denominational policy, which he espouses with holy fervor. You may disagree with Brother Donner, but you cannot help

but love him for his sincerity and friendly winsomeness.

He is often mistaken for a minister of the gospel. That is as it should be! Reporters to "The Baptist Herald" often write about an inspiring sermon at a conference or young people's assembly by the "Rev. H. P. Donner of Cleveland." The hosts of our church members and friends who have heard his stirring words of Biblical exposition or historical narration can testify that God is using him as an ambassador of his as much as any ordained minister

"Baptist Herald" Subscriptions

All subscriptions to "The Baptist Herald," that are due at the beginning of 1942, should be renewed by sending \$1.50 to the Roger Williams Press, 3734 Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. If your church has the services of an agent of the Publication Society, transmit your subscriptions through him or her.

The subscription price for "The Baptist Herald" in churches that have adopted the Club Plan is \$1.10. If your church has not acquainted itself with this unusual plan, urge your pastor or church leaders to consider it immediately by writing to Mr. H. P. Donner for information.

Subscriptions to "The Baptist Herald" for all boys in service, who are members or friends of our churches, can be secured for the very nominal cost of fifty cents. Read the announcement on page 14 of this issue for further instructions. Every church should provide "The Baptist Herald" for their boys in service.

in our circles. May his preaching ministry continue for a long time to come!

It must have been God's special smile upon Brother Donner's life that arranged the calendar so that Easter Sunday on April 13, 1941, should have coincided with his eightieth birthday! What a providential event! Letters and flowers and personal tributes were showered upon him at that time, but he has been unaffected by it all, continuing his youthful, vigorous and busy pilgrimage in his home and church and in our publication society in Cleveland.

Brother Donner is preeminently a business manager for God! Therefore, God has blessed him in the business office of our publication society. Therefore, he holds an enviably large place in the affections of our people.

The editor of "the Baptist Herald" regards this as one of the happiest privileges of his life to give these fragrant flowers of tribute to one of his best friends. Later in the year, the publication board will take due account of this anniversary at some public service in Cleveland. For the present, our large "Baptist Herald" family expresses its gratitude to God for the continued and memorable ministry of our business manager, Brother Donner, known and beloved by all!

Enthusiasm for Mission Projects

A Report About the Many Mission Projects Adopted by Young People's Unions, Missionary Societies and Churches

It's lots more fun to work at something which you can call your own than at something for which you can feel little personal responsibility. Even the ownership of a Bible enhances the reading of that book for the owner. The importance of anything for us rises in direct proportion to our awareness of personal attachment to that object. This is an axiom of life that needs little further proof.

This also is a reason for the publication of a list of 25 mission projects in the BAPTIST HERALD recently with the invitation to young people's unions and conventions to make these tasks their very own. The response has been very gratifying, and the results already accomplished have been most remarkable. Our young people are expressing an ardent and unquenchable enthusiasm for our missionary enterprise through their personal attachment to a specific task which is theirs to do.

The promotion of these mission projects in the local convention areas is left largely in the hands of officers and youth leaders of the particular groups. To be sure, generous cooperation is provided by our missionary headquarters in the form of pictures and literature, that are sent out to churches, and missionary data that are forwarded.

It will be of interest to our readers to learn how these young people's groups are progressing in their attainment of these goals. It is still early in the year, and some of the news trickles into headquarters very slowly. But here are a few glimpses.

Atlantic Conference Union

The young people of the Atlantic Conference Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union have adopted the Dungers as their very own. George and Louise Dunger spent many years in the Atlantic Conference area and are still members of the Immanuel Church of New York City. They are scheduled to return to America on their furlough during this year and, if so, they will bring their first message to the Atlantic Conference churches and show their baby, Daphne, with parental pride to those groups. The director of the missionary funds, which has as its goal the amount of approximately \$1000, is Miss Dorothy Beyer, and she reports a deepening interest everywhere in this project. The Atlantic Conference young people have an excellent reputation of usually going over the top!



Miss Helen Heitzman of Emery, South Dakota the Directress of the Mission Project for the Dakota Conference

Iowa Union

Last year the Iowa young people were so successful in raising more than \$1200 for the building of the Mambila Chapel, that they readily acceded to the challenge of another \$1000 mission project for this year. They are working on "the Laura Reddig Hospital" to be erected at Mbem for the hundreds of patients who come to our missionary nurse, Miss Reddig, for treatment. The Rev. C. F. Lehr, of Aplington, Iowa, is directing the project with intense delight. He is providing unusual models of the hospital, drawn minutely to scale, for all the Iowa churches. The Parkersburg B. Y. P. U. is typical of others in the state by having already contributed about \$80 for the project.

Central Conference Union

Not to be outdone by other groups, the Central Conference Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union came to life recently and undertook an ambitious program of raising \$1000 for "the Edith Koppin Medical Unit" for Mambila. These enlarged dispensaries with hospital facilities are indispensable in our Cameroons mission field. Mr. Harold Johns, the president, is circularizing the young people's societies and Sunday Schools with data about the project. Miss Koppin, who is at home in Detroit on furlough, will be

available for deputation work before long. The money is beginning to pour in!

Dakota Conference

"The Bender Memorial Trek" of the Dakota Conference is in its third year of promotion. It is growing from year to year. At present Miss Helen Heitzman, the directress of the project, reports that the Dakota young people have adopted Miss Reddig as their missionary by paying her salary and that they have pledged themselves to help in extra expenses for the hospital maintenance for a total mission project of \$1500. That is a remarkable devotion to the cause of Jesus Christ!

Oregon Union

The Oregon young people are raising \$250 for the building of an elementary school at Mbem to be known as "The Kratt Memorial School." Mr. Sam Rich, the Union's president, is giving the promotion of this project his personal attention. The Gebauers, who are in Oregon at present, are giving it added impetus by their addresses and illustrated lectures on Africa.

California Union

The California young people have gone forward on faith by adopting the mission project of \$500 for the building of a permanent home for Miss Laura Reddig at Mbem, Kakaland. The Union comprises only a few churches, and it was felt that two years would be required to attain this goal. But they have already raised more than \$125 and more money is arriving every month, so that the Union ought to go over the top by the end of the first year. That will be a feather in California's cap without any question whatsoever!

Minnesota Union

The Minnesota Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union has chosen its projects well. With a total pledge of \$250 they will provide for the maintenance of the Mbem Mission Station, where the Gebauers and Miss Reddig are located, and will pay for the construction of six brick huts for the inpatients of Kakaland. Miss Reddig is a close personal friend of many of the Minnesota young people and was formerly a member of one of the Minnesota churches. Watch the Minnesota young people as they go forward!

Southwestern Conference Union

The Southwestern Conference Y. P. and S. S. W. Union also has a two-fold

(Continued on Page 32)

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 get away from all parental restraint and from the necessities and duties of the home. His father understood the strange yearnings in his son's heart and was ready to let him have his share of the inheritance. One Day soon thereafter father and son were bound for the city of Jerusalem, where the elder man bade farewell to his son. Benoni was homesick at first, but he soon felt the surge of new desires and adventures. He joined a caravan bound for the ancient city of Damascus and began to be alarmed as he heard from a traveling companion that there was always a chance of sudden attack by highway robbers.

CHAPTER FOUR

A New World Opens

"Were you yourself ever set upon?" inquired Benoni.

"Only once," replied he of the bushy beard. "That was three summers ago."

"What happened?" Benoni was curious rather than alarmed.

"One day toward the sunset hour," explained his companion, "when my eldest son and I were traveling north, just beyond the Lebanon range of mountains, our camel train was waylaid by a half dozen robbers who rushed down a narrow defile and set upon us with thick clubs and knives. Luckily, in the fight that followed, only one of our men was badly injured, though a second was slightly scratched. Two of the marauders, however, were killed by the soldiers who guarded us, but the rest speedily mounted their fleet horses and effected their escape up the same defile as quickly as they had come, one of them seriously wounded. Caravan travel always involves some risk, but when one has business that must be transacted in a distant city, such risk cannot well be avoided."

"I hope our soldiers give a good account of themselves, in case any roving robber bands fall upon us," was Benoni's only comment.

"Let's hope there will not be that necessity," suggested his fellow traveler, "though one can never tell. It is always the unexpected that happens, you know."

In the city the day had been exceedingly hot, for the sun had beaten down fiercely all through the midday hours, and the dusty roads had caught and held the heat. By the time they were

on their way, however, the intensity of the sun's burning rays had lessened noticeably, and there was a promise of coolness and likewise of the evening dew within a few hours at most. Their pace was necessarily slow, for trains of laden camels are not wont to travel at a faster rate than about two miles an hour.

Three hours after the sun had sunk below the horizon serrated by the low mountain ranges, the caravan halted for the night. There, in tents hastily set up not far from the entrance to a deep wooded ravine, the travelers were able to seize a few hours of refreshing sleep. Very early next morning the caravan was once more on its way again, and, day after day, it made its winding journey northward, though with painful slowness.

Now it crawled wearily over wind-swept shoulders of the hills; now it descended circuitously into rich and fertile valleys. Vines and fruit trees of wide variety were found here and there, clustered about the sunny slopes, while stunted oaks and terebinths were visible on the higher ranges or clambering up the sides from the dry water-courses below. Sometimes the mountains so encircled the travelers that they began to wonder if any egress could be found. Across plains where cattle and goats could be seen grazing, up stony hills and towering mountains with deep gulches where winter rains caused the streams to swell and to rush tumultuously onward toward the Jordan, along winding roads that took them up hill and down dale, with the loud cries of wild birds by day and the calls of foxes and hyenas by night—through such country as this the travelers pursued their eager way toward the northern ancient city. Night always found them snatching a few hours of rest just off the main road or at the pebbly base of some sloping mountain side, near which necessary water was obtainable from some tiny stream.

What a fine feeling of freedom Benoni now enjoyed, to be a man among men! It was a new and strange experience to see travelers and camel drivers making camp for the night. Around the fires, built to frighten away the wild animals, sat men jabbering noisily about the events of the day or the prospects of the morrow. There were always so many things to talk about: the camel's two galled shoulders, on which had been poured the healing oil; the half-crippled child who had been ill with the excessive heat; the near fight that had been occasioned by the

outrush of angry words of a desert dweller who thought he had been insulted by a fellow-traveler; the wine-skin that had broken open when it fell on the hard road, so that nearly all the contents were drunk up by the thirsty stones; the number of days it would likely take to reach Damascus; and the purposes of their journey and various destinations to which they were individually going.

Meanwhile, the women had bundled their children off to sleep and presently lay down close by within easy reach. For a time some of them gazed dreamily up into the vaulted heavens above them, sprinkled with myriads of brightly shining stars, before they themselves dropped off into that slumber which seemed so refreshing to limbs exhausted by the labor and heat of the day. Just what was passing through their minds no one could possibly know. In the light of the camp fires tiny insects could be seen flitting hither and thither, and sometimes there could be heard even the hum of their busy wings.

But not all the wayfarers were asleep. Near one of the smaller fires the swarthy-faced camel drivers playing at tessarae or dice, for the desire to gamble seems to be instinctive, and some form of this game has been played in all ages and all climes. All that they had with which to wager, however, was a copper mite or perhaps a farthing. But the game had proved so exciting, even at that, that two fellows became reckless and staked their outer garments on a single throw of the dice. The smaller man won, an almost toothless but heavy-jawed son of the desert, with bronzed and hairy sunken chest, and with a loud guffaw he left his rash competitor cloakless for the rest of the journey.

"Curse my luck," muttered the ill-tempered loser under his breath. "A thousand curses on him—and on me, too, for being such a fool! It was too good a cloak to lose to easily. I remember the fellow I stole it from. Some day I'll have to rob another man." So saying, he sat down again by the fire and, with a broken stick half-burned and blackened by the smoke, slowly stirred the dying embers.

By the light of another fire several of the caravan travelers and a soldier or two were also gambling with dice, with a silver denarius as the wager. Benoni, unused to this kind of experience, stood back at a little distance, fascinated by the excitement of the players as they won this game or lost

that. He would have been glad to take part, only that he felt a bit timid at doing something of which his conscience did not fully approve. One of the players, a middle-aged man with an aquiline nose and a thinning gray beard, having noticed Benoni's evident interest in the game, invited him to join them.

"Come on, young man," said he, "and try your luck. You can't lose much, nor win much, at a denarius a throw."

"No, I guess it's too late to join now," replied Benoni, seeking to frame an excuse. "I was just going to go and get some sleep."

"There's plenty of time for that yet," urged the other. "You will sleep better with a dozen extra denarii under your head. You will be surprised to see how a few hard silver pieces will soften a pillow!"

Benoni found it difficult not to yield to the man's persuasion and so sat down at the game. It was both new and strange to him, but the players turned out to be honest enough. Sometimes he won a little, sometimes lost. When the company broke up a half hour later, he discovered that he actually had three extra denarii, not a dozen, with which to soften his midnight pillow. He slept no better than usual, however, for even though his pillow was comfortable enough, he had become a good deal excited over the game and had found it impossible to get to sleep quickly.

The third night a band of robbers attempted to attack the leader as he sat astride his white Arabian, but they were effectively dispersed after a few minutes by the soldiery who rushed forward when the note of alarm was sounded. On and on the caravan marched, through Samaria, across the plain of Esdraelon, and into the region of Galilee. Ahead and to the left lay Mount Tabor, with its wooded slopes, its dwarf oaks, its terebinths, its sweet-scented syringes and scarlet poppies. One whole day and night the camel train paused at the lovely lake of Galilee, a little back from the city of Tiberias itself. The travelers found that the lake, with its deep-green, dreaming waters was as calm and as gentle as the sands of the Arabian desert itself.

Had it not been for the aversion in which Tiberias was held by all good Hebrews on account of the circumstances of its recent founding by Herod Antipas, Benoni might have been tempted to remain behind there, to linger by the quiet waters of Galilee, to tramp back into the hills covered with wild grasses and flowering oleanders. But Time is inexorable, and late afternoon once more found them all on the march—across wooded streams, down deep ravines, out into open plains, on and ever on, through the village of Kadesh, and thence over rivulets that rushed noisily along, around shoulders of rock-strewn mountains, thence more sharply to the right, where they could see in the distance Caesarea Philippi across the almost level plain.

Unaccustomed to caravan travel, Benoni found the journey very fatiguing but yet enjoyable. It was a novel experience, never to be forgotten. Hot days, starlit nights with a crescent moon—and dreams of youth! They were dreams which made him look forward with eager and glowing expectancy. Occasionally they passed travelers, usually two or three together, going in the opposite direction, but no caravans. The ninth day found them looking toward the Anti-Lebanon range of mountains, many miles away, the source of the Jordan River. They crossed several other narrow streams edged by yellow-green poplars. After that they gradually descended till they came to a country gently undulating and in some places treeless. Before long they were down on a great flat, sandy plain.

On and on the caravan moved wearily at the end of the tenth day. Away to the left rose the glittering crest of Mount Hermon, from whose shining head of snow came cool winds that tempered pleasantly the scorching heat of the level land on which the sun had been blazing for many long hours. Straight ahead and a little bit below them could be seen afar off a city of ethereal loveliness, mystic, graceful, fragile, delicate enough to be blown away like thistledown by the merest breath of wind.

Tramp—tramp—tramp—with slow and leisurely pace plodded the caravan camels, apparently quite unconcerned as to whether or not they ever reached their destination. To the left the bluish slopes of the Anti-Lebanons made an undulating horizon beautiful to gaze upon as they advanced with measured step through the fertile plain, which farther away became marshland because of the waters of the Abana which spread itself fanwise and finally lost itself in the surrounding desert.

Outside the ancient walls of Damascus the camel train drew up and allowed the travelers to dismount. It seemed good to Benoni to get within the city, to pass through the Jerusalem gate, and to stroll down through the arched arcades, which were striped with crude colors of blue and gold and white, and lent some measure of protection from the burning afternoon sun.

People swarmed through the streets, particularly through the one called Straight, which ran clear across the city from east to west. Chattering families were everywhere; women with brightly colored headdress and gausily shining hair talked volubly and busily.

Benoni crossed the Abana, half a stone's throw in width, and then walked along the cobblestoned street toward the great markets where there were displayed huge balls of larded meat, mutton, bowls of savory messes filled with aromatic spices, sour milk and curds, and trays of cakes and bits of pastry sticky with grape syrup and native honey—all highly tempting to

the appetite of any weary and travel-stained wayfarer. He could not refrain from taking a silver denarius or two from beneath the folds of his tunic to satisfy the hunger that he felt coming upon him after his long journey across the plain.

In the distance Damascus had looked ethereal and lovely, set like a jewel in the midst of an oasis, a veritable earthly paradise. Now, in the mid-afternoon, it became a grim, stark, vivid reality, full of raucous noises and nasal cries; full of the stale odors of cooked meat and the rich, sweet smell of ripened fruit; full, too, of the acrid body odor of jostling, perspiring crowds that swarmed by the hundreds through the narrow, busy, dirty streets. Benoni found the houses crammed closely together. The few dust-covered cypresses and silver poplars visible here and there on some of the streets gave variety to what would otherwise have been a dull and monotonous, though colorful scene.

In the evening, however, the city had changed again and cast its necromantic spell over Benoni. Crossing once more the street called Straight, he strolled southeast to a different section of the city. There he discovered lovely public gardens and dance halls as well as dreamy palaces bordered by running water and decorated with graceful towers and lordly domes. A bit farther along, he saw, just as the nearly full moon rose behind it, an ancient temple with what seemed like exquisitely colored tiling around its massive, stately windows.

Green shrubs, white poplars, almond trees, gorgeous rose bushes from whose velvet petals was distilled the world-famed attar of roses—these were visible everywhere in the soft moonlight and lent an indefinable beauty and charm to the place. At the far end of one street stood a graceful fountain with water-filled basin, into which a young man and maiden were casting delicate sprays of jasmine as they leaned with heads close together against the protecting marble balustrade. On many of the housetops could be seen old and young, enjoying the cool of the evening, as they talked and sang and laughed together in the glorious moonlight. It was a night of enchantment. The ancient city of Damascus held Benoni in its magic spell.

How different the scene from that of his own home amid the quiet hills of Idumea. How different from always being surrounded by cattle and sheep and goats, from having to toil from morning till night in grain field and olive orchard and dusty vineyard, from seeing about him every day the same sights and the same faces—those of his father, Chislon, Ishua, and all the rest. Benoni was glad to be living in a totally new world.

The fact that Benoni had been brought up all his life in a home that had been notoriously lacking in female

companionship seriously handicapped him for a little while after first entering this new environment. He had had no sisters, and almost the only women he had come into contact with were the maidservants of Ezra ben Israel's household. Being thus ignorant of all the social arts and hence unskilled in their practise, Benoni naturally felt a certain bashfulness or reticence—often a positive embarrassment—whenever he came into the presence of women.

The second night after his arrival in Damascus he sat down at a table in a public place to refresh himself with a little wine. It was the only table that was completely empty, for the evening was still warm and the place was thronged with men and women of all ages. Presently two girls, whose parents had been unable to find a place for them at an adjoining table, came and seated themselves opposite Benoni. They were gaily attired and just budding into delightful maturity, as bright and fresh and delicate as pink apple blossoms.

"I hope that you don't mind our sitting here, seeing that you are alone," said one of the strangers with perfect naturalness. "The place is so crowded tonight."

A little dazed for a moment at their sudden appearance, Benoni scarcely understood what the young girl said.

"I—I beg your pardon," he managed to reply stumbingly, after a little hesitation. "I didn't catch what you said. I guess I wasn't listening." He tried to enliven his words with a smile, but ineffectually.

"I was just saying," she repeated in a voice that was both clear and musical, "that I hope you don't mind our disturbing you, since you are alone."

An ordinary young man would have made these words the prelude to a delightful conversation, but to Benoni they somehow brought only embarrassment. Before he knew it, he had risen to go. He could feel the blood rushing to his cheeks.

"No, no, not at all; I was just on the point of leaving." These were the only words that seemed to come to him to say, as he bowed awkwardly and then hurriedly left the two pretty strangers, whose smothered laughter he was sure he heard as he made his way to the door.

But Benoni was quick to learn the art of being agreeable and to develop those social graces and amenities which seem to come to many as if by instinct. Gradually he overcame his little awkwardness and embarrassment. They fell from him like dead leaves from trees in the autumn. Each day brought added self-confidence and greater poise. He thoroughly enjoyed his new-found liberty, his new surroundings, his new mode of life, his ever new opportunities to follow his own desires and impulses with no one to say him nay.

In a month's time Benoni had become familiar with the city of Damascus and its sights, its pleasure gardens and its gay night life. By the time the moon

had waned and waxed again to the full, he had mixed with the young men and maidens of the ancient city and had drunk deep of all the delights it had to offer a country dweller. Its wines were sweet, its young women were pretty, its dancers furnished him with lovely entertainment, so that many a time rosy-fingered dawn was beginning to flush the eastern horizon with early hints of sunrise before he sought his chamber at the khan just off the street called Straight, where he had taken up his new abode.

Occasionally his thoughts wandered back to his native country and the home he had left. In his mind's eye he could see his father busily toiling on his broad acres, pruning his vines and tilling the ground to make it more productive. He could see, too, the maidservants and maidservants at their daily tasks about the house, around the barns, and in the fields. In imagination he sometimes saw Chislon watering the cattle, driving the sheep to pasture,

working among the olive trees, or repairing the winepress.

"Poor Chislon!" he muttered to himself. "He knows nothing but work. He spends so much time with cattle and sheep that he scarcely thinks of anything else. How different is my world from his—and how much better and more pleasurable!"

Yes, the wines of Damascus were sweet, but sometimes they were likewise strong. In his own Idumean hills Benoni had been accustomed to drink only those kinds that had been freshly made, for his father had taught him out of the ancient writing an age-old truth—that wine is a mocker and that whoever is deceived by strong drink is not wise. Ezra ben Israel, good father that he was, had never permitted his sons the kind of wine which goes to the head and, when taken to excess, robs one not only of his good sense but also of his physical and moral control.

(To be continued)

ENTHUSIASM FOR MISSION PROJECTS

(Continued from Page 29)

responsibility which it has adopted as its own. Miss Ruth Socolofsky, president; Miss Lois Lichte, secretary; and the Rev. W. Helwig, council member, are assured of success at the close of the year. The total project calls for \$500 and includes the maintenance of the elementary schools at Mbem (\$250) and the building of one of the two new schools to be erected in Kakaland (\$250). This is a new undertaking for these young people but they are proving themselves to be "doers" of their word.

Wisconsin Union

If you could follow the promotion of the Wisconsin Young People's project, calling for the maintenance of the Mbem dispensary and hospital at a total cost of \$250, you would say that they will not take a back seat for any other group. Mr. Roger Norman, the president, reports that every group in the state will have a share in the project. A fine letter has just been sent to all the Sunday School superintendents and young people's presidents besides the pastors of the churches about the project.

Pacific Northwest Union

The young people of the Pacific Northwest Union in Washington, Montana and British Columbia are supporting Peter Ngang, one of the native workers in the Cameroons. They feel a strong attachment to this fine Christian evangelist of Kakaland.

The other two native workers, Johannes Tonto and Robert Jam, are being supported at \$75 each by the King's Daughters Society of Lansing, Mich., and by the Women's Missionary Society of the Shell Creek Church of Nebraska, respectively.

Western New York and Pennsylvania

In the churches of the Western New York and Pennsylvania area our young people are quietly but successfully working on the project of \$250 for the building of a mission school at Warwar, Mambila. Although few in number, these young people are holding special programs, enlisting support, and going over the top for their project.

Local Churches

The Evangel Church of Newark, N. J., is supporting the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Gebauer, our Cameroons missionary, by their gifts. They look upon the Gebauers with pride as "their own," even though they belong to all of us.

The Sunday School of the Baptist Church at Chancellor, So. Dak., has adopted the project calling for \$100 to maintain the Warwar Mission Station in Mambila where the Dungers are stationed.

The Service Guild of the First Baptist Church of St. Joseph, Mich., is working hard at its mission task of providing \$250 for the maintenance of the Mambila dispensary over which Miss Edith Koppin has charge.

The Missionary Service Guild of the Oak Street Baptist Church of Burlington, Iowa, has shown great joy in striving to reach its goal of \$250 for medical supplies for the Mambila Hospital Plant, for which they have already contributed \$200.

Our Ladies' Missionary Society of La Salle, Colo., is providing for the building of one of the brick huts for inpatients at Mbem. Another hut will be built by the Ladies' Aid of Shattuck, Okla., and two will be constructed by gifts from the Ladies' Aid at Corona, South Dakota.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Edited by MRS. BERTHA JOHNSON of Chicago, Illinois

Announcement

Boys and girls, I am very happy to be your editor for these six months. But I expect to be the editor in name only, for we want you to be the real editors. We would like for you to send in any stories or poems you have written; any pictures you have of your pets or some interesting object; any riddles, puzzles, or Bible games you have; and any suggestions you have for our page. These will be published with your name on this page, and a very nice gift will be mailed to you for each contribution that you send in. You may also send the answer to the "Bible Triangle," and all those sending correct answers will receive a lovely little gift. We want you to be a part of our Club!

Rover, A Real Friend

How many of you boys and girls have a dog? I'll just bet you wouldn't want to lose him, would you? Today, we have a story about a good dog who was a real friend to his little mistress.

Many years ago a young couple went to make their home in a dense forest in the New England States. They worked hard to clear away enough trees to make a place for their buildings. There they settled down for a happy life.

After a time, a dear little baby came into their home. They named her Jo Ann, and she was a real joy to them in their secluded home. When Jo Ann was born, a friend gave her a beautiful puppy. He was a cuddly little black and white puppy and he was given the name, Rover. The two grew up together and they came to be inseparable companions. You see, Jo Ann had no boys and girls with whom she could play because she lived far from anyone. So she and Rover had lots of fun playing together.

One day, when Jo Ann had grown to be a little girl, her daddy was to make a trip to town. He hitched his horses to the wagon and made everything ready, for it was a long trip to town.

Jo Ann watched with eagerness and, finally, she said, "Please, daddy, may I go with you?"

"Oh, no, Joie, you cannot go with me. It's a long trip to town. You will get very tired and it's dangerous, too. You stay with mother like a good little girl." And her daddy gave her a kiss and started on his way.

But Jo Ann was not so easily persuaded. When her daddy started out she started out after him. He didn't look back for he thought she had stayed



Mrs. Bertha Johnson
Editor of "The Children's Page"
for the First Six Months of 1942

safely behind, and her mother didn't miss her for she thought Jo Ann had gone with her daddy.

Late that night when Jo Ann's father returned from town, he asked "Where's Joie?"

"Wasn't she with you?" anxiously asked her mother.

So they discovered that she was lost! The search began at once. The neighbors from near and far came to help. They took their powerful searchlights and started out through the woods. They called and shouted but no response.

Jo Ann's parents were about to give up hope, when on the third day, Jo Ann was found in a clump of bushes, tired, cold and hungry but unharmed. What do you suppose had happened? Four dead wolves off to one side, and a badly bruised and cut Rover told the story.

The parents were overjoyed to find their daughter, but they felt very badly to find Rover in such a condition. They carried him home and put him in their best bed and gave him the best care possible. But Rover died!

The family had come to love Rover so much that it was like losing one of the family, so they had a funeral for him and buried him out under a tree. After a while, they put a marker over his grave, and Jo Ann was to choose the words to be put on the marker. After some thought she chose these words: "He Died For Me."

Boys and girls, have you given your heart to Jesus, for

"He Died for YOU!"

BIBLE TRIANGLE

To make a triangle we start with one long word written vertically—one letter under another. Then fill in the smaller words. The first line is one letter; the second, two letters; the third, three letters; and so on. The result is a right angle triangle.

1. Begins with V. The kind of drink they gave Jesus on the cross. 7 letters, vertical.
2. "Where . . . he that is born King of the Jews?"
3. Used for catching fish.
4. "I will lift up my . . . to the hills."
5. A burial place.
6. To pour oil on the head.
7. Biblical word for clothing.

A DANGEROUS CROSSING

(Continued from Page 7)

saying that I was booked on a steamer to the United States of America in July instead of June. Having some time as yet, I visited a few mission stations in Nigeria.

It was in Nigeria that I heard of the coming of a certain boat, (due to censorship, I cannot give names of boats or localities) which was to bring many missionaries to Africa. Several of the American Protestant missionaries working in Nigeria and the Cameroons were expecting their people on this boat. Older workers and new workers and everyone were praying for the safe arrival of this boat.

War Tragedies!

I heard of the arrival of one of the ships with missionaries on board which, while waiting for the pilot, was cruising at a certain place just outside of the harbor. When the pilot came on board and they had passed into the harbor, another boat passed them and this latter boat had just reached the place where the American ship with the missionaries had been waiting, when it hit a mine and exploded before their eyes. It was tragic!

This well-known "missionaries' boat" was to arrive the next day, but by the time I got down to the coast, all the harbors had been closed and no ship could come in or go out. The principal of the Baptist Academy where I was staying was eagerly awaiting the arrival of his missionaries and he was very much concerned. Of course, this closing of the harbor delayed all ships and boats all along the line, even the one on which I was to embark to America.

(To be concluded in the next issue)

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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

Subscriptions to "The Herald" for the Boys in Service

By way of suggestion to those who have sons in the Army and are interested in having them read "The Baptist Herald" at the amazing low cost of fifty cents per year, if you will send your remittance to the ROGER WILLIAMS PRESS with the address of the subscriber properly stated you will facilitate matters greatly for those who are in the Army. The following form is preferable:

Pvt. John Doe,
325 School Squadron,
Air Corps Basic Flying School,
Bakersfield, California.

These particulars should be noted as it will give assurance that the proper parties will receive the copies.

I should like to take this opportunity to say that your boys in the service will do well to read their denominational papers. I am not in position to solicit subscriptions of any kind for men in the service. Parents should help their sons get their copies.

While our men in training are offered many privileges and opportunities for

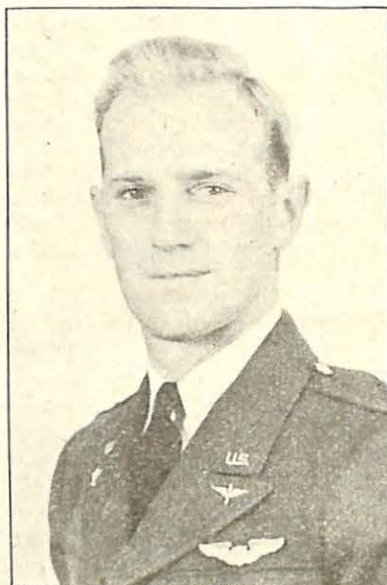
character development and vocational training, they are, nevertheless, placed in an entirely different environment, to which they were acquainted at home. Here they meet with all kinds of temptations, such as they are not able to withstand unless strengthened by God's Word and guided by parents' council.

The public is doing all in its power to provide social entertainments and recreational life for the men, but, unfortunately, commercialized and immoralized entertainment has likewise taken a boom, and many times young men will not know how to differentiate between the two. "Evil communications corrupt good manners." I should like to know that every soldier in our camps is supported by such means as may be available to help them over the rough places and around the worldly places of vice, sin and temptations.

Great is the opportunity which comes to a soldier to serve and witness for the Lord. Many have said to me, "I know now why the Lord sent me here." He sent them to witness. Probably once in a lifetime has the Christian young man the opportunity that he now has to serve the Lord and to share his knowledge of his saving grace.

young people's meetings and singing in their choirs and attending their church services.

In September 1940 I was transferred to Wichita, Kansas, where I was to be a test pilot for the Army Air Corps and to test planes which are made in four of the local plane factories. To date, I have been here a little over a year and a half. I also do a lot of flying all over the country and manage to visit other Baptist churches throughout the United States. For instance, when the large Northern Baptist Convention was held in Wichita lately, I was able to meet a lot of ministers once again whom I have met in my various and sundry travels.



Lieutenant Robert Ivan Dittrich
of the United States Air Corps,
Stationed at Wichita, Kansas

Of interest to some people, when I arrived in Wichita, was the second night in town when I attended a banquet for the young people's convention and there I met a very charming and talented young girl. To make a long story short, I married this same girl. Her home is here in Wichita and she is a Baptist and very active in the work of the First Baptist Church.

She plays the piano and I the violin in the Sunday School orchestra for morning devotional hymn singing and also for many church activities and receptions. My wife also plays the organ, and for her birthday I presented her with a Hammond Electric Organ which is now in our home in Wichita, and it is a joy to listen to it and to play it. Sunday evenings finds the neighbors coming in for an evening of organ music and hymn singing.

In conclusion, although I am a lieutenant in the Army Air Corps and very busy helping "Uncle Sam," both my wife and I still find time to keep up our church work and to get a great deal of joy and inspiration in so doing. Whoever reads this and finds himself in or near Wichita, Kansas, will be more than welcome to pay us a visit at 814 North Chautauqua, Wichita, Kans.

ably in the services, and so one was purchased and I started things out with being the organist of Kelly Field's new organ and chapel. In my spare time I was able to instruct a few women at Randolph and Kelly Fields to play the organ, and then, when my flying activities required most of my time, I was able to turn a number of the Sunday's services over to my new pupils.

When I graduated from Kelly Field, they kept me there as an advanced flying instructor for a year and a half. Eventually, Uncle Sam required most of my time, so I turned the organ playing over to one of my pupils and, when I could make church, I sang in the choir.

On some of the Sundays I'd travel to Kyle, Texas, and visit with the Rev. Max Mittelstedt or go over to Lockhart, Texas, and visit with the Rev. William Barsch and take part in their respective church activities such as

Flying for Christ and my Country

By Lieutenant Robert Ivan Dittrich

I arrived in San Antonio, Texas, in September of 1938 to enter the Army flying school at Randolph Field, Texas. During my stay there I sang in the choir of the Randolph Field chapel. I played the organ for the chapel services every Sunday for the last three months of my stay at Randolph. During this time I had to play for funerals and weddings of officers, etc. The greatest number of weddings that I played for in one day was seven.

In February I went to Kelly Field, Texas, to finish my air corps training. In the meantime, I still played the organ at Randolph, but soon there was a conflict in schedules and so I turned my job over to a lady organist. The chapel at Kelly Field was not much to talk about in that all they had was a piano to use for their services.

In time the folks at the field were convinced that at least a Hammond electric organ would help out consider-

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Annual Report of the King's Daughters Society of Lansing, Michigan

After another year of activity, our King's Daughters' Society of the Holmes St. Baptist Church of Lansing, Mich., is again standing at the threshold of a new year. With the Psalmist of old we would say, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." In this world of turmoil and strife, what a privilege is ours that we can still worship our Lord reverently and undisturbed, and labor in his vineyard!

We again caroled for the sick and aged at Christmas time and presented boxes of goodies. We sent candy to the students in our seminary at Rochester, N. Y., colored eggs for the children at our Home in St. Joseph, Mich., and purchased bandages for our missionaries in the Cameroons.

One of the highlights of our activities was our visit to the Children's Home in St. Joseph. After a short musical program was rendered, each child in the Home was presented with a gift from the various members of our organization. Candy and oranges were given to Mrs. Steiger to distribute among her family as she deemed best. We were especially pleased to have our missionary, Paul Gebauer, the Rev. and Mrs. E. Gutsche, the Rev. L. Broeker, student Gideon Zimmermann, and our beloved Rev. and Mrs. H. Steiger among our listeners. The heart-felt hospitality shown us and the tasty luncheon served before our departure made an indelible impression upon our hearts.

Our largest project for the year was the sole support of Johannes Tonto, a native missionary in the Cameroons. Through the use of mite boxes \$65 was realized for this purpose. At our anniversary program given on November 16, the pageant-drama, "The Lost Church," was presented before a large and receptive audience.

ELVA JESCHKE, Secretary.

SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

Anniversary Celebration of the King's Daughters Society of Okeene, Oklahoma

We of the King's Daughters Society of the Zion Baptist Church of Okeene, Okla., are proud and grateful to the Lord for the completion of another year under his wonderful leadership. On November 5th we gathered in our church to observe in an appropriate manner our anniversary program. The theme chosen for our program was "THE MINISTRY OF LOVE," and

under the able and efficient leadership of Mrs. O. G. Graalman all presentations were rendered inspirationally.

The reports that were given revealed some very interesting and remarkable facts. We do not endeavor to enumerate them all here, but are confident that they are known to God, a fact that brings satisfaction to us. We found many occasions to express our sympathy, and opportunities of extending congratulations to various celebrities were also abundant. Our interest in missions has increased since various phases of that work were brought to our attention, and since we united in prayer for that labor of love. We have gathered and placed our sacrifices upon the altar of God. Our thoughts of the various institutions have led us to spread sunshine and cheer in various ways.

So when we sang "Make the World a Better Place to Live" and when we presented the play, "Who is My Neighbor?" we were satisfied to know that our statistics had been directed to that end. We have added six new members during the past year, and our endeavor is to reach many more in the year ahead. During the summer we had a most profitable and practical bazaar and the proceeds found their way into the Centenary Offering.

After the program, refreshments were served to all who had come to celebrate with us. While everyone enjoyed these tokens of love, other hands were busy arranging secretly in the parsonage a birthday surprise shower for our minister's wife. Spread on the dining room table and on the floor were gifts that included groceries, vegetables, fresh fruit, fresh and frozen chickens, noodles for the soup and even a pan for the frying. Fancy tea towels were even delivered some days later. With gratitude and praise Mrs. Pfeifer stood speechless marvelling and wondering how it was possible.

Officers for the new year are as follows: Mrs. O. G. Graalman, president; Mrs. Henry Pfeifer, vice-president; Mrs. Rose Laubach, treasurer; and Mrs. Herman Dumler, secretary.

MRS. WM. GEIS, Reporter.

NORTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

The Iowa Young People Are Raising Funds for the "Laura Reddig Hospital" in Africa

Encouraged by the very successful conclusion of their "Chapel Crusade," by which they raised about \$1300, or \$300 above their goal, our Iowa young people responded rather enthusiastically to Paul Gebauer's suggestion that for the year 1941-1942 they consider the building and equipment of a much needed hospital on the Mbem field as their special missionary project. Our state president, Harry Luiken of Steamboat Rock, appointed the undersigned to promote this project among our young people. After a good deal of thought and discussion with a number of our young people's leaders, we decided to do three things in connection with the promotion of our "hospital crusade."

First, we secured copies of a picture, furnished by Paul Gebauer, and showing Laura E. Reddig actually laying the first bricks for the modest dispensary building at Mbem, and sent them to every one of our young people's societies, suggesting that they build their own posters, calling attention to our project, around this picture.

Secondly, we decided to use banks similar to the Daphne Dunger banks, but featuring Laura Reddig and her work as a missionary nurse. We had 500 of these banks prepared at the expense of our State Union, and they are now being sent out. These banks, we believe, will prove to be very popular.

Thirdly, in order to make our young people as "hospital minded" as possible, we dared to make a scale model of the hospital for each society. It was, admittedly, a bigger job than we had bargained for, but we actually believe that it was worth all the work and effort put into it. Clara Gebauer made the sketch; Paul Gebauer furnished the dimensions; and the undersigned laid out the work; and with the fine help of the Rev. Herman Lohr and a borrowed table saw, we cut out the pieces. The Lehr family painted the brick joints on the walls, the young people of Parkersburg, Steamboat Rock and Applington churches put in the windows, faced the window- and door-frames and started to nail the buildings together. The rest of the job was mine.

There will be an occasional letter to the societies reminding them of our project. If it will be deemed advisable, the "promoter" may visit all the churches in the interest of our hospital project before next year's convention at Baileyville.

C. FRED LEHR, Reporter.

"Stories of Hymns We Love"

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Ordination Services at Steamboat Rock, Iowa, for the Rev. Howard Johnson

Answering to an invitation by the Baptist Church of Steamboat Rock, Iowa, a number of pastors and other delegates assembled with the church at that place to consider the advisability of setting Mr. Howard Johnson of Joliet, Ill., aside by public ordination for the gospel ministry.

Since the beginning of October, Mr. Johnson has been in charge of the work at Steamboat Rock, having been called to the pastorate of that church some time during the summer.

On the afternoon of December 9 Mr. L. G. Johnson of the Steamboat Rock Church called the meeting to order and led in brief devotions. The Rev. A. G. Lang was appointed temporary chairman. After the roll call of the delegates, the council was organized with the Rev. H. Lohr as moderator and the Rev. C. Swyter as secretary.

Mr. Folkert DeVries of the local church presented the candidate to the council, who then was asked to give his experience and convictions on the three questions of conversion, call to the ministry and doctrinal views. Mr. Johnson then told the council about his experiences of heart and life which brought to him the assurance of personal salvation by faith in Christ. In his statement of doctrinal convictions the candidate was concise, clear and biblical.

In a closed session of the council it was unanimously resolved to declare ourselves fully satisfied and to recommend to the church that they proceed with the ordination services.

These services were held in the evening and were in charge of the moderator, the Rev. H. Lohr, who led in a song service, after which the Rev. C. Swyter read the Scriptures, led in prayer and read the minutes of the afternoon meeting. The Rev. L. M. Clark of the Ridgewood Baptist Church, Joliet, Ill., a brother-in-law of the candidate preached the ordination sermon, using as his text the words of Paul in Romans 11:13, "I will magnify my office." The Rev. G. F. Ehrhorn, father-in-law of the candidate, offered the ordination prayer. The Rev. C. F. Lehr addressed the church; the Rev. H. W. Wedel gave the charge to the candidate; and the Rev. A. G. Lang gave him the hand of fellowship and welcomed him into the ranks of the ministry. A ladies' quartet of the local church sang, and Mrs. Clark rendered a solo.

C. SWYTER, Secretary.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE

Bible School and Evangelistic Services in Minitonas, Manitoba

With great eagerness and expectancy the young people of the First Baptist Church of Minitonas, Manitoba, Cana-



Teachers and Students of the
Minitonas Bible School
Recently Held for Two Weeks

da, looked forward to the days of November 16 to November 28. Those were to be the days of spiritual refreshment and enlightenment in more than one way. During those days we had planned to hold a two week Bible School in our church as well as a two week evangelistic campaign.

A crowded program was arranged and the best possible help was secured in the brethren A. Husmann, our beloved promotional secretary, who taught one hour each day on Sunday School work and served also as evangelist; O. Patzia, pastor of the McDermot Ave. Baptist Church of Winnipeg, who taught two hours each day on "The Ten Commandments" and "Philippians"; K. H. Neufeld of Winkler, Man., who taught two hours each day in singing and music; the pastor of the local church, R. Schilke, who taught one hour each day on "Customs of Palestine." Our hopes and prayers were realized with the coming of these ministers and teachers.

Sunday, November 16, proved to be a day of spiritual blessing with our church filled to its seating capacity. Mr. Husmann brought the messages in the two services at the Minitonas church and in the afternoon at Swan River. On the morning of Monday, November 17, the young people eagerly came out to enroll for the various classes. In all forty-two were enrolled as regular students and about five others as part time students.

Although almost every hour of the day was crowded with studies, our young people showed no sign of weariness during the entire two weeks. They would have loved to have remained together even longer than the two weeks. Besides having meetings every night in the local church, we had some meetings at the same time at Swan River, where Mr. Patzia brought the messages.

Sunday, November 30, marked the climax with a "Saengerfest" conducted by Mr. Neufeld. About ninety singers took part in the soul-uplifting singing. An orchestra of almost thirty opened the program with its strains of music. Our evangelistic meetings were continued until December 3rd with the Rev. C. Miska, pastor of the Czech

Baptist Church of Minitonas, bringing the messages in the German language. In all about eleven Sunday School scholars gave their hearts and lives to the Lord Jesus.

As a church we are thankful to God for his blessings and to all the brethren for their valuable service. The blessings which our young people especially have derived from these days is already seen and felt by the church. The church choir and orchestra have gained a number of new members, for which we are very grateful. It also gives us great joy to be able to report that four of our young people have gone to the Christian Training Institute at Edmonton, Alta., this year.

R. SCHILKE, Pastor.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Recent Mountaintop Experiences for the Temple Church of Buffalo, New York

The Temple Baptist Church of Buffalo, N. Y., has been having mountain top experiences during the last few weeks. On Sunday evening, November 30, eleven young people, who had accepted Christ as their personal Savior, and who for weeks had been instructed and prepared by our pastor, the Rev. Herbert Hiller, followed the Lord in holy baptism.

It was a very sacred and solemn occasion, being preceded by an earnest and pleading sermon on "Saying 'Yes' to God." The Lord was precious near and the Holy Spirit touched the hearts of many in the large audience, so that we can look forward to another baptismal service in the near future.

On Sunday, December 7, these eleven young people, together with a young woman, a husband and wife, and a father of six children received the hand of fellowship into the church. It was an incentive for the members for new and deeper consecration as these 15 persons gathered around the Lord's table for the first time, and it is our wish and prayer that we may be of mutual blessing to each other.

Temple Church has special reasons for praising God, first, because he has again given us such a faithful, consecrated leader. Mr. Hiller, in his quiet and loving way, has won the hearts of our people and is a constant inspiration to us to be and do our best for the Lord Jesus. He is building up the spiritual life of our members, which is evident by the well attended services, but especially by the good attendance and interest in the prayer meetings.

Our other reason for praise and thanksgiving is the fact that the amalgamation of the former Spruce Street and High Street Churches just two years ago is working out so well. There is a fine spirit of harmony and a splendid cooperation among the members and the Lord is blessing the united efforts to build his Kingdom.

LOUISE L. TRUDEL, Reporter.

DAKOTA CONFERENCE

Reception for the Rev. and Mrs. Otto Fiesel by the Vida and Lambert Churches of Montana

On Sunday, November 9, the Rev. Otto Fiesel began his ministry as pastor on the mission field near Vida and Lambert, Montana. We were, indeed, very much delighted to meet our new pastor and Mrs. Fiesel and their two children, who came to us from Trochu, Canada. They succeed the Rev. Howard D. Simpson, who served this field for three years.

On Sunday, December 14, both churches of Vida and Lambert sponsored a reception for the Rev. and Mrs. Otto Fiesel. The principal reception address was brought by the Rev. Howard D. Simpson, who spoke on the entire 15th chapter of the gospel according to John.

The choir also sang several songs, after which the hand of fellowship was extended to the Rev. and Mrs. Otto Fiesel by Mr. Simpson. All church officers also had a part in this reception and were called on to speak in behalf of the different church departments. Mr. Wm. Remmich, Sunday School superintendent, brought words of welcome and encouragement. Mr. Schock, our deacon, spoke words that were uplifting and inspiring to the new minister and his family. Mr. J. Hintz, who teaches the young people's class in Sunday School, also expressed his appreciation and welcomed the Fiesels to this church. Mrs. R. H. Berreth, president of the Ladies' Aid, spoke appropriate words in behalf of the society.

Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Fiesel spoke words of appreciation and thanked the churches very much. In the afternoon, we had the privilege to listen to a missionary from Alaska in a brief message, after which Mr. Fiesel brought us a very inspiring sermon, which made a good impression on the people.

JOHN HINTZ, Reporter.

Several Farewell Receptions for the Sturhahns at Unityville, South Dakota

On Sunday, November 23, a number of friends and the members of the Baptist Church of Unityville, So. Dak., gave a farewell program honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Stuhahn and little Dorothy. The program began at 3 P. M. and lasted until 5 P. M.

There were four pastors from neighboring churches present. A number of addresses were given and musical selections were rendered. Everyone stated that Mr. Sturhahn and his family will be greatly missed since the efforts and work which they have carried on in South Dakota have been of the best. At the close of the party they were presented with a purse of money.

On Thanksgiving Day the members of the church gave a farewell dinner

at the church in honor of the Sturhahns. Turkey, goose, and all the trimmings were served at this dinner. The Ladies' Aid also held a farewell party for Mrs. Sturhahn and presented her with a gift.

The choirs of the Mission Covenant Church and Unityville Baptist Church also gave a farewell party for Mr. Sturhahn, who very capably directed cantatas presented by the members from both choirs. He was presented with two gifts, one from each choir.

A feeling of sadness was felt at all of these occasions, for the Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Sturhahn and Dorothy have been loved by this community. We thank God for planting their presence among us for fine years and wish them God's richest blessings on their new field.

LYLAH ANDERSON, Reporter.

Ordination of the Rev. Arthur Schulz at Washburn, North Dakota

On Monday, December 1st, representatives from the churches of Goodrich, McClusky, Bismarck, Turtle Lake, and Washburn, No. Dak., met with the Baptist Church at Washburn, No. Dak., in response to their invitation for the purpose of examining and ordaining Mr. Arthur Schulz, a member of the Washburn church and a graduate of the Rochester Baptist Seminary in the class of 1941.

The meeting was opened by the local pastor, the Rev. R. Woyke. Following the scripture reading we were led in prayer by Mr. Geo. Engel of McClusky. The council organized itself and elected the Rev. K. Gieser as chairman and the Rev. R. G. Kaiser as secretary. Mr. Schulz was introduced to the council by the local pastor, whereupon he was given the opportunity of relating his conversion, call to the ministry and doctrinal views which he presented in a clear and convincing manner.

In the evening the church gathered for the ordination service under the leadership of the Rev. K. Gieser. After scripture reading and prayer, we were favored with a selection by the ladies' quartet. The Rev. R. Woyke delivered the ordination sermon, choosing as his theme, "The Glory of the Ministry." Thereupon the Rev. A. Rosner offered the ordination prayer with the laying on of hands by the pastors. The Rev. A. Reeh extended the welcome into the ministry, the Rev. R. G. Kaiser brought the charge to the candidate, and the Rev. A. Krombein addressed the ordaining church not to cease praying for the one whom they are sending forth into the gospel ministry. After receiving the Certificate of Ordination from the chairman of the council, the impressive service came to a close with the benediction by the Rev. Arthur Schulz.

May God richly bless our brother, who at present is waiting on the Lord for a definite call to a church or for further leading.

R. G. KAISER, Secretary.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

One Hundred Club is Organized by the Women's Missionary Union of Dallas, Texas

It has been some time since we of the Carroll Ave. Women's Missionary Union of Dallas, Texas, have sent in a report to "The Baptist Herald," and so we are hoping this report will find its way into this valued periodical.

At our December meeting, we voted to organize a One Hundred Club. It was suggested that every member of our Union give \$1.00 per year for the three years to the Centenary Offering. As 25 active members are on our list, it is our intention to interest others in this plan, so that \$100 may be our goal for the 3 year period.

Our meetings are always well attended. This year the officers of our Union are the program committee and thus far we have enjoyed and have been inspired by the programs given. In October we had election of officers with the following result: Mrs. Frank Schultz, president; Mrs. Otto Balka, vice-president; Mrs. Paul Peterson, secretary; Mrs. Edward Grinke, treasurer; Mrs. Herman Steindam, Jr., pianist.

In the November meeting, Mrs. Freese of Dallas gave a most interesting talk on Russia and the work she did there as missionary years ago. The December meeting was a Christmas program. Mrs. Chas. Bohmert gave the Christmas story. Others gave stories of the Christmas songs and musical numbers. In November our Union also served a church dinner immediately following the morning service. Since we do not have a pastor at present, the occasion was the visit of the Rev. Peter Pfeiffer and wife of Waco, who preached for us on that Sunday.

We have just finished landscaping the church and parsonage grounds, all of which was paid for out of the Women's Missionary Union.

MRS. PAUL PETERSEN, Reporter.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE

Annual Report of the Homebuilders Class in Tacoma, Washington

Forty-four happy and laughing members and friends of the Homebuilders' Class of the Calvary Baptist Sunday School of Tacoma, Wash., recently sat down to a grand chicken dinner at one of the inns a few miles north of Tacoma. This meeting was the climax of another monthly class meeting.

This class was organized in January, 1931, by 12 young married people with the help of the Sunday School superintendent, Mr. Fred Stabbert, and the pastor at that time, the Rev. A. Husmann. It was the first English speak-

ing class for married people in our Sunday School and was organized for the purpose of bringing in our married friends who could not understand the German language. The class has grown and now has 25 active members.

Class meetings are held once a month with varied programs, consisting of Bible study, guest speakers, open discussion on various topics, and other interesting programs, planned and given by members of the class. Once a month, one of the members teaches the class. This gives our very fine teacher, Mr. Otto Stolz, a rest, and helps the members appreciate the work which he is so faithfully doing.

One of the milestones of married life—the tenth—is celebrated by honoring the couples with a program, games and “tin” gifts. During the summer months, the social gatherings are held in parks or at lakes. Volley ball is the favorite sport and parents and children enjoy the speedy competition.

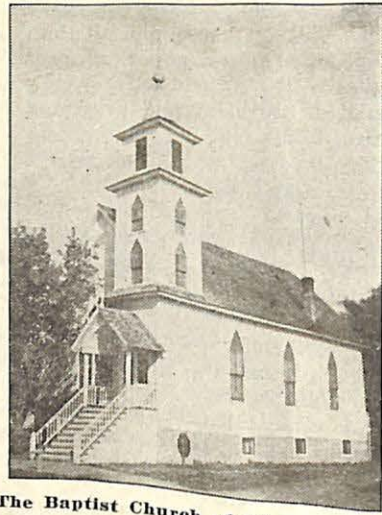
Our December Christmas party and program is annually planned in honor of our children. It is they who, in using their talents in song, musical selections, and verse, make this one of our outstanding meetings. May we as “Builders of our Homes” strive continually to keep Christ the center and head of our homes!

Fortieth Jubilee is Celebrated by the Baptist Church of Odessa, Washington

About 40 years ago, on November 2, 1901, our church of Odessa, Wash., was recognized. At the close of the 19th century a number of German Baptist people emigrated from various parts of the country and especially from Turner, Ore., and settled north of Odessa. Even though they were separated from their church they would not neglect their spiritual duties, but gathered their families together for Sunday School and devotional services. Some ministers occasionally served them by preaching the blessed gospel.

On September 1, 1901, the Rev. J. J. Lucas began his ministry and through his able leadership they were soon organized into a regular Baptist Church. The recognition and organization took place on November 2, 1901. The Revs. J. J. Lucas, J. Kratt, and J. A. H. Wuttke took part in the service. Twenty-six members united with the newly organized church. Through the wonderful cooperation and special efforts the church took a rapid upward swing and when the Rev. J. Lucas left in 1904 the number of members had increased from 26 to 80. For almost two years the church was without a minister until the Rev. G. Eichler followed the call and began his work on April 1, 1906.

The school and living houses were getting too small for their services, so the church saw it very wise to build a chapel. Under the able leadership of Mr. Eichler a church was built and dedicated on December 2, 1907. This little



The Baptist Church of Odessa, Wash.

country church is still in use and very blessed hours of Christian fellowship are held in it.

About this time the need of a Baptist Church developed in the city of Odessa. So a few lots were purchased and a store building was bought and arranged for a church.

Since then the following pastors have served the church: John Jaeger, December 1, 1909 to February 1, 1913; Emil Huber, October 1, 1913, to May, 1920; R. Luchs, May 1, 1922, to August 30, 1924; N. A. Christensen, January 1, 1926, to September, 1929; C. E. Schoenleber, September 1, 1930, to January 30, 1936; and the present pastor, J. G. Rott since June 4, 1936.

On Sunday, November 2, the church celebrated her 40th jubilee and annual Harvest and Mission Festival. Three of the former ministers were present to take part in this great event, the Rev. J. J. Lucas, who was the first pastor, the Rev. G. Eichler, his successor, and the Rev. N. A. Christensen. The brethren Lucas and Eichler spoke during the morning and afternoon meeting. Mr. Christensen brought the evening message.

The church was beautifully decorated with various shades of chrysanthemums. A floral display shaped in the number 40 was placed in front of the pulpit and on each side were twenty white candles with a green base. The short candle light service in the late afternoon and evening had a wonderful effect. The flowers for the occasion were donated by friends and members, and five special bouquets were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Schauerwerker of Spokane.

The songs of praise and gladness by the choir of the church added much to the services throughout the day. Some of our singers, who help so faithfully in the choir from week to week, were already taking part in special singing 40 years ago. The meals at noon and evening were served in the basement at which over 200 people were served.

J. G. ROTT, Pastor.

OBITUARY

REV. FREDERICK HOFFMANN of Portland, Oregon

Our brother, the Rev. Frederick Hoffmann, was born in Sangerhausen, Germany, on May 22, 1856, and passed away on November 30, 1941, in Portland, Ore., at the age of 85 years, 6 months and 8 days.

He had hoped for the Lord's return before his call would come. But God showed his love towards our brother in taking him out of this life without pangs of death. Suddenly, too sudden for his loved ones, he went into the presence of his Lord.

There remain to mourn his widow, who travelled life's journey with him for 59 years; two daughters, Mrs. Lillie Barrett and Mrs. John Helzer of Portland; and seven sons, Hugo of Buffalo, N. Y., Harry of Allentown, Pa., Walter of Lafayette, Cal., Dan of Nelson, Elmer and Milton of Portland; also 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

At the age of 14 years, Mr. Hoffmann came to Hamburg, Germany, to live with an uncle, who was a deacon in the Baptist church. There he became acquainted with the denomination to which he gave the service of a lifetime. Under the spirit-filled sermons of Oncken, Lehmann, Koebner and others he learned to know the Lord and was baptized by the Rev. Mr. Rohde, then pastor at Hamburg. For some time he helped Mr. Rohde as missionary in the suburbs of Hamburg, but felt the Lord's call, to serve him more fully. Professor Rauschenbusch of Rochester, N. Y., invited him to come and study at the Baptist seminary there, which prompted him to come to this country.

In 1882, after graduation, he accepted a call to the church in Minonk, Ill., where he also married his now sorrowing widow, then Gustava Schiebeck, who truly was a great help to him in all of his ministry.

In 1885 he followed a call to the church at Saint Louis, Mo., where he spent 12 most useful years, not only baptizing many, but also building the still useful church and parsonage.

Buffalo, N. Y., called him in 1893, when he became pastor of the then First Church, now Spruce St. Baptist Church. God blessed him richly in his effort to win souls for Christ. The church grew and was instrumental in the organization of two more churches.

Following the Lord's leading he moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, where again he served the Lord with great devotion from 1906 to 1911 and also built the large edifice, now still the place of worship for our church.

During the next 5 years we find Mr. Hoffmann in Leduc, Alberta, in happy service until in 1916 he came to Portland to become the pastor of the Immanuel Church, then the Second Church. For ten years he served well, building the Kingdom of God and enlarging the edifice to its present capacity.

Mr. Hoffmann was not only active in the church as minister, but also served with the fine talents which God had given him in musical and editorial abilities. Many songs were composed by him. Many a one learned to play the instruments from him and former church papers contained large numbers of contributions from his literary efforts.

He also was among those who took the initial steps towards our Old People's Home in Portland and always showed great interest in denominational affairs.

On December 3 all ministers of our Oregon churches came to carry his remains to his last rest. On Sunday, December 14, the Immanuel Church held a memorial service with the family present, as well as a large group of friends and church members. Many were all agreed to pay tribute to his ministry and found faithful in all of his ministry. His influence is still felt, since many of our members were brought into the Immanuel Church during the years he served as its pastor. God comfort the bereft family!

Portland, Ore.,
Immanuel Church.

Otto Roth, Pastor.

What's Happening

(Continued from Page 2)

● Recently a number of unusual leaflets on “Hasty Glimpses at the World's Best Seller” have reached the editorial office. These have been prepared by the Rev. Fred Berger, director of Jewish work for the Los Angeles Baptist City Mission, and have as their purpose the proving to the Jews that the promised Messiah in the Old Testament is the Christ of the New Testament. According to all reports, this important work in Los Angeles is showing wonderful results. Mr. Berger is a nephew of the Rev. J. A. H. Wuttke of Sacramento, Calif., and is known to quite a number of our people. Shortly before Christmas Miss Lois Schroeder of Anaheim, Calif., a daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. O. R. Schroeder, announced her engagement to Mr. Berger. The wedding day has been set for some time in June.

● On Sunday evening, December 21, the male chorus of the Bethany Church of Milwaukee, Wis., composed of about 20 men and directed by Mr. August Giesecke, rendered an old-fashioned Christmas program. On Christmas Eve the church choir held “a musical night” before a large audience with Mr. Max Erbach, director. The Sunday School program was given on the afternoon of December 25. In recent months the church has paid off \$1250 on its indebtedness. The Thanksgiving Day offering for this purpose amounted to more than \$800. Since the Fall of 1941 a Junior Church has been conducted during the hour of the church service with Miss Marie Baudisch in charge. About 30 children are in attendance. The Rev. Frank Veninga is pastor of the church.

● The 40th annual young people's program of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Portland, Ore., was held on Friday evening, December 12. The play, “Her Master's Degree,” that featured the fine program, was directed by Miss Dorothy Rattey. Musical numbers were rendered by Miss Lotti Meves, violinist, by the Misses Doris Roth and Margaret Marks in an organ and piano duet, and by male quartet. Miss Maxine Haag gave the reading, “See God in Everything.” Mr. Harold J. Petke, president of the National Y. P. and S. S. W. Union, brought a brief message. The pastor of the church, the Rev. O. Roth, led in prayer. Officers of the B. Y. P. U. for 1942 are Max Reck, president; Walter Schmunk, vice-president; Mrs. Max Reck, secretary; and Robert Delzer, treasurer.

● The Rev. Vincent Brushwyler, pastor of the Evangel Baptist Church of Newark, N. J., until January 15th, baptized 25 persons on profession of their faith in Christ during the holiday season. Fifteen of these candidates were baptized on Sunday evening, December 21, and the others at the Watch Night service on December 31. An infant dedication service was held on Sunday morning, December 21. Seven-

ral impressive programs were presented by Bible School departments during the Christmas week. Mr. and Mrs. Brushwyler held “Open House” for the members and friends of the church on Monday and Tuesday, December 29 and 30. Beginning with January 18 Mr. Brushwyler is beginning his ministry as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Muscatine, Iowa.

● During the first week of January inspirational meetings were held by the Forest Park Baptist Church of Forest Park, Ill., with messages brought by the Revs. O. R. Schroeder, William Kuhn, A. Husmann and M. L. Leuschner. The Christmas program on the afternoon of December 25 featured a variety of recitations by the Sunday School departments and the illustrated Christmas story brought in stereopticon slides with Miss Jean Anderson chairman of the committee on arrangements. The Christmas program of the “Maennerverein” and Helping Hand Society was held in German on Thursday evening, December 18, with more than 150 persons present. Mr. Erwin Radant, president, welcomed the many

friends and introduced the inspirational numbers. Addresses by the Rev. A. Husmann and Dr. William Kuhn brought the festive program to a memorable close.

● The Christmas festivities for the First German Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., began on Sunday morning, December 21, with the choir cantata, “The Star of the East” by Fearis, which was repeated on Monday evening, December 29, in the Montrose Baptist Church of Chicago. Mrs. Minnie Pankratz, the newly elected church organist and choir director, conducted the cantata. On Sunday evening, December 21, Mr. Lawrence Wegner, of Gladwin, Mich., a student at the Northern Baptist Seminary, brought the message on “No Room in the Inn.” The Christmas party of the Christian Fellowship Chorus on Monday evening, December 22, featured a program of stereopticon slides of “The Other Wise Man” and “A Christmas Carol.” The Christmas program of the Sunday School was presented on the afternoon of Christmas day. The Rev. John Schmidt is the pastor of the church.

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A Heritage of Freedom

(Continued from Page 5)

they had brought with them from the Fatherland. It is from such gatherings that most of our evangelical type of churches sprang.

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Do You Know That...?

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

1. Every church member in our denomination has \$114.47 invested in church property. We wonder how many of our present membership made this actual building fund donation, and how many inherited their share in the \$4,350,798.00 investment in our church properties.
2. Dr. George W. Truett is in the fortieth year of his present pastorate in Texas. Such continued service is made possible by a great preacher, but also by a great and considerate church.
3. We have five less churches in our denomination than a year ago, but for the first time in our history our total membership has passed the 38,000 mark. This seems to indicate a trend to stronger individual churches.
4. 59% of our now soldiers at the various camps are Protestant by faith, 31% are Roman Catholic, with the remaining 10% being either Jewish, some other faith, or none at all!
5. Prime Minister Winston Churchill was granted an honorary degree by the University of Rochester last year, which makes him an honorary alumnus of the student body to which many of our preachers belong. He wrote that he received the alumnus magazine last month in spite of the blockade and enjoyed it very much.
6. Our Burlington Church has a member, Mr. F. C. Jordan, who has been a faithful member of the church for 71 consecutive years, after being baptized through a hole in the ice in a nearby stream. We wonder if there are others who have a longer record of continuous membership in one church?
7. If absence makes the heart grow fonder... how some people must love their church!
8. 3577 officers and teachers in our Sunday Schools are volunteer workers giving of their time and talent each Sunday. When we are tempted to feel discouraged, let us remember that if each of these workers received the rate of 50 cents for the hour's work each Sunday, the bill at the end of one year would be \$93,002.00.
9. Undoubtedly, the total subscription list for our publications will be larger than ever before, for, in spite of difficulties, the work of Christ is going forward, and our denominational group is carrying on the educational program by informing the people through the printed word.