

A White Christmas Has Come to the Little Village

# BAPTIST HERALD

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING . . .

● The Rev. Hans Steiger of St. Joseph, Michigan, superintendent of the Children's Home from 1922 to 1943, was called to his heavenly home on Nov. 29. Prof. O. E. Krueger of Rochester, N. Y., brought the message of tribute at the memorial service on Dec. 2, which was in charge of Rev. L. H. Broeker, pastor of the First Baptist Church of St. Joseph.

● The Rev. L. F. Gassner, pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Vancouver, British Columbia since 1942, passed away on Friday morning, Nov. 23, after a serious illness of several months. The memorial service on Nov. 26 was conducted by the Reverends Fred W. Mueller of Portland, Oregon and F. W. Becker of Vancouver, B. C. Brother Gassner's homegoing has left a fine family bereaved and a host of friends in deep sorrow. A memorial tribute will appear in the next issue of "The Baptist Herald."

● The Rev. and Mrs. Paul Hunsicker of Fredonia, North Dakota have announced the arrival of a baby girl in their home on Oct. 21st who has been named Ruth Ann. A baby boy was born to the Rev. and Mrs. J. Kornalewski of Leduc, Alberta, Canada on Nov. 10th, weighing 8 pounds and 13 ounces, who has been named Timothy James.

● The State Park Baptist Church of Peoria, Ill. has purchased a new parsonage at 306 Gilbert Ave., which is a modern six-room dwelling besides a double garage. The Rev. and Mrs. Frank Veninga moved into the new parsonage on Nov. 1st. On Sunday, Dec. 2nd the Rev. H. G. Dymmel, home mission, secretary, was the guest speaker at both services.

● The Rev. J. E. Ehrhorn of Dallas, Texas has been serving the Immanuel Baptist Church near Loyal, Okla. as interim pastor since the departure of the Rev. William Sturhahn for Morris, Manitoba, Canada several months ago. The attendance at the church services is encouraging, and every effort is being made to call a pastor in accordance with God's will.

● Evangelistic services were held for two weeks in November in the Baptist Church of Wishek, North Dakota with the Rev. H. J. Wilcke of Linton, North Dakota serving as evangelist. The meetings were well attended and a real spiritual uplift was experienced by the entire church, as reported by the pastor, Rev. Arthur R. Weissner. Twenty-two persons also confessed their faith in Christ as their personal Savior during the services.

● The Burns Ave. Church of Detroit, Mich. held a farewell reception for the Rev. and Mrs. R. Wilkinson on Sunday evening, Nov. 11, before they sailed to the island of Haiti as missionaries. They were scheduled to await passage for Haiti at Philadelphia, Pa., after November 15. Mr. Wilkinson was the assistant pastor of the Burns Ave. Church during the closing years of the Rev. P. G. Neumann's ministry and opening months of Dr. A. J. Harm's ministry, and both he and his wife endeared themselves to the congregation because of their fine spirit and friendly fellowship.

● On Tuesday evening, Nov. 6, the B. Y. P. U. of the First Baptist Church of Leduc, Alberta held its annual business meeting with a review of the 16 meetings held during the previous

**A Joyous Christmas and a  
Blessed, Happy New Year to All  
Readers of "The Baptist Herald!"  
Martin L. Leuschner, Editor**

year under the presidency of Mrs. J. Kornalewski. The officers of the society elected for the coming year are: Ardon Frederick, president; Mrs. J. Kornalewski, vice-president; Vera Hammer, secretary; Elsie Maskoske, ass't. secretary; Rudolph Ohlman, treasurer; Ruth Grabia and Leona Benke, pianists. The Rev. J. Kornalewski is the pastor.

● On Friday evening, Nov. 8, the young people of the Baptist Church of Paul, Idaho met with the Rev. and Mrs. E. Riemer to organize a young people's society to be called, "The Church of Tomorrow." The following officers were elected for the coming year: Alvin Renz, president; Mrs. E. Riemer, vice-president; Hulda Renz, secretary; Erna Renz, treasurer; Gertrude Riemer, pianist; Fred Renz, Lena Shafer and Hilda Kundart, group leaders. The Rev. E. Riemer began his ministry in the Paul Baptist Church on Oct. 21, 1945.

● Recently the Fleischmann Memorial Church of Philadelphia, Pa., called Miss Ruth C. Doescher of St. Joseph, Mich., as its church missionary and worker, to which she responded favorably. She began her ministry in Philadelphia, Pa., on Nov. 7th. This is her third period of service in the Philadelphia church. Formerly she served during the pastorates of the Reverends F. P. Kruse, Martin L. Leuschner, and Milton R. Schroeder. Until recently Miss Doescher was the missionary of the Immanuel Church of Milwaukee, Wis., of which Rev. Thorwald W. Bender is the pastor.

● The Woman's Missionary Society of Buffalo Center, Iowa held its 45th anniversary program on Friday evening, Nov. 23, with Mrs. John Folkerts, president, in charge and with the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, editor of "The Herald," as guest speaker. Musical numbers were rendered by a male quartet and young ladies' Sunday School class. A missionary offering of \$159.60 was received. For 12 weeks beginning with November 1945 the Rev. Martin De Boer, pastor, is conducting a study course for about 25 young people on "Pilgrim's Progress." These classes are being held on Wednesday evenings.

● The Baptist Church of Golden Prairie, Sask., Canada was recently organized and on Oct. 20 it was recognized. On Sunday, Oct. 21, the new church (see "Baptist Herald," Aug. 15, 1945, page 9) and parsonage at Golden Prairie were dedicated with the pastor, Rev. R. H. Zepik in charge of the festive services. Plans are under way to have every branch of the new church at work by the beginning of 1946. The schedule has so been arranged that with three services a Sunday, it is possible to have an English service in the Golden Prairie Church every Sunday evening. Mr. Zepik also serves the Rosenfeld Church nearby and its station at Annenthal.

● At a recent Sunday evening service of the Oak Street Church of Burlington, Iowa, 23 couples, who had been married by its pastor, Rev. A. R. Bernadt, were guests of honor. Nearly 50 other couples had moved away or were unable to be present at the service. On Sunday evening, Nov. 11, the returned Service Men of the church were special guests at the service. The pastor spoke on "Jesus and the Veteran." The church has extended an official welcome to 19 of its Service Men out of a total of 208. Dr. A. L. Prince, president of Hannibal-La Grange College, conducted special meetings in the Oak Street Church from Dec. 4 to 9.

● On Christmas Eve the Sunday School program of the Baptist Church of North Freedom, Wis., will be held which will feature the play, "Christmas in the Cobbler's Shop" by Mrs. O. G. Herbrecht. Mrs. Thomas Lutz is directing the play. The church choir will render the cantata, "The Music of Christmas" by Ira B. Wilson, on Sunday evening, Dec. 23rd, with Mrs. Elsie Wilzewske directing the choir. On Sunday, Nov. 18, the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, editor of "The Herald," was the guest speaker at both services and at the young people's meeting. Offerings for the Fellowship Fund were received. The Rev. Thomas Lutz is the pastor of the church.

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## The Baptist Herald

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### Coming!

#### NEW YEAR'S SERMON

The Rev. E. Arthur McAsh, the popular young pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Detroit, Mich. will make his bow to "Baptist Herald" readers with a special message of challenge and inspiration in the next issue. This ought to start you off right in the new year!

#### BOUQUETS OF TRIBUTE

On January 1, 1946 Mr. H. P. Donner will bring his memorable ministry of 34 years as business manager of the Publication Society to a close. We shall honor this friend of ours and servant of God's in the next issue with several brief articles of tribute by Dr. Herman von Berge of Dayton, Ohio, Rev. E. J. Baumgartner, present business manager, and Rev. Martin L. Leuschner.

#### OPEN FORUM

The months of January to August 1946 preceding the General Conference will be critically important as new adjustments have been made in these days of transitional changes. Opportunity will be given in each issue of "The Herald" for the reader to voice his opinions and to express his views. The opening gun in the new "Open Forum" will be sponsored by Mr. H. P. Donner concerning our Rochester Seminary.

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## EDITORIAL

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### Let Us Catch Up With God!

IN THE CHRISTMAS issue of "The War Cry" several years ago, Brigadier P. L. De Bevoise of the Salvation Army had an unusual message on the theme, "Let Us Catch Up With God." His words are exceedingly timely and appropriate for the present. "God's stars, like the steeds of a chariot, are always ahead. Our civilization cannot survive materially unless it is redeemed spiritually. God isn't going to let us forge ahead temporarily much more until we catch up with HIM in the realm of the spirit. It's not 'Back to God,' but 'Let's catch up with God!' His stars still go before!"

That was the experience of the Wise Men as they beheld the unusual sign in the heavens. This was God's revelation to them on his revelation to the world. "The star, which they saw in the East, went BEFORE them." (Matt. 2:9.) They searched the Scriptures and eagerly sought the Child in their untiring efforts to catch up with God's truths. So also Christmas will have a meaning and a message for us as we catch sight of God's star and mediate upon his revelation in Christ Jesus and then realize that he always goes before us! The depths of his grace are still unfathomed and the greatness of his love toward us beyond our understanding. Christmas is at the same time the world's greatest miracle and mystery, as we consider the truth that "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself."

Some people try to interpret the present day with the slogan, "Back to Peace," even as a few years ago we heard a great deal about "Back to the Bible." But the fact is that God's Word is far ahead of us. We are the ones who are far behind in the slough of despondency. We are tarrying in the Egypt of selfish fleshpots at a time when we ought to be pushing on towards the Land of God's Promises. God and his Word and his covenant of peace shine like the Bethlehem star far ahead of us.

Christmas calls on us to set our faces forward toward the light that was revealed in Christ Jesus. It challenges us to set our "houses" in order so that our lives can reflect the beauty of Christ's love toward us. It opens our eyes anew to the Bethlehem star that goes before us, unfolding God's promises to us. O, that the world might forget its frantic fretting and catch sight of the Christmas star! We need to go forward spiritually to get closer to God and to the wonders of the Christmas revelation!



# Without Christ—No Christmas

A Christmas Message by Rev. R. KERN of the Bridgeland Baptist Church, Calgary, Alberta

Chris — Christ — Christmas — be — because of — of the Christ-child."

The father at this moment, ready to reach for his hat and coat, seemed paralyzed in his reach. Suddenly he turned on one foot, picked little Jane into his arms and hugged her.

"Mother! Mother! Children," he called, "I've caught it, too. Let's plan for a happy Christmas together." And the happiest Christmas ever to be experienced in that home was planned that very same evening.

## THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS

The lesson of this play is evident. Christ determines the Christmas. Without him there is no Christmas.

We are all aware that Christmas is again coming very near. Everywhere we go there is evidence of this festive season. I imagine, however, that the greatest evidence is in the profit bags of the business concerns. I sometimes wonder what the business places would do without this highly commercialized holiday season. And, the very strange thing is this. Even those, who will not accept the Christ, accept this season with its profitable retails and sales.

But there is something fascinating, attractive, and wonderful about all this hustle-and-bustle and preparation. One "sort of likes it."

But there is also one great tragic danger, namely, because of much of this, Christ is crowded from many homes and even individual lives. While we are buying gifts, while we are attending Christmas parties, while we are eating dinners, Christ is sitting back in some unwanted corner eagerly waiting to have a place in our midst. Yes, the nearer that day comes, the more distant and blurred the true purpose of that divine occasion becomes in many lives and in many homes.

I'm sure that many a father will be worshipping that expected box of cigars more than he will ever think of worshipping the Christ. Many a home in the world will find more joy in that case of beer or bottle of whiskey or even "home-brew" than ever will enter their minds about "the Lowly Babe." Yes, there are so many things of worldly interest and human appetite that will again crowd Christ from the minds and hearts of men and women during this Christmas season.

## NO ROOM FOR HIM

Well, it has always been that way. It wasn't any better on that Holy Night more than 1900 years ago. We read in Luke 2:7 — "And Mary brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." But, so it is! What was it that put him there

that night? It was the interest in something else. It was the compelling cry of taxation. The interest of Caesar Augustus and his political party was not that a Child was to be born, that a Christ was to come. Money and taxation were their theme of interest. And it was largely this that closed all doors of interest and recognition to the King of Kings.

I wonder if we would not find a similar situation, if Christ would come on this Christmas Eve? Apartments, boarding houses, hotels, and homes will be crowded with merry diners, drinkers, and dancers. "No room for Christ" is the unheard cry.

In including this message, I would like to mention several reasons why Christ was not received, and why he is not received today.

I. **He was not expected.** His coming was a great surprise, in spite of the fact that the prophets had hailed his coming centuries ago, in spite of the fact that John was preparing the way for him. Yes, in spite of the fact that the time for his coming was at hand, very, very few believed it to be true. From the lowly shepherds of the fields to the kings of the Orient his star was a great but unexpected event. I wonder how many of us would be fully prepared and would expect Christ if he were to come this Christmas.

There was a much used word in the vocabulary of the early Christians, "Maranatha." The Lord is coming. Why did they use that word? Simply because they were expecting him to come. I fear that we have lost this expectancy, and unless we regain it, his coming will be an even greater surprise.

## CHRIST IN OUR HOMES

II. **There was no room for Christ because they did not recognize him.** During the time, even when he walked the streets of the villages, preached in the marketplaces, on the hillside or by the sea and taught in the temples and synagogues, men constantly asked, "Who is this?" Since they didn't expect him, you couldn't blame them for not recognizing him.

When Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy provisions, they didn't recognize their outcast brother because they didn't expect to find him there. Joseph, however, recognized his brethren because he expected them. How well are we conditioned in our hearts to recognize the Christ whom so many have cast from their heart's door?

III. **Christ was not received because they did not want him.** Oh, yes, they wanted him, but on their own terms.

When I was at our Seminary at Rochester I went shopping for a car one day. I had saved \$150 which at that time was sufficient for a fairly

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# The Birth of the Savior-King

A Christmas Sermon by Rev. JOHN WOBIG of the Riverview Baptist Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

WHEN God wants to do anything, he prepares for it by sending a baby into the world. The darkness of Africa was doomed to break when Livingstone was born. The doom of slavery in the United States was sealed when Lincoln drew his first breath. When there is work to be done, a wrong to be righted, and a truth to be preached, God sends a baby into the world. That is why Jesus was born.

Seven hundred years before this, Micah had prophesied concerning "the ruler to be born in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old." Many decrees and deeds of men, entirely unconscious of God's purpose and prophecy, worked together to fulfil God's Word and to carry out his eternal plan. The Savior-King, the Christ and Lord, was born in Bethlehem as a babe. God did not send an angel, or a ready-made man, or one from the royalty, but a Babe.

He began as a babe in a stable the life he was to close upon the cross. There was "no room" for him in the inn that day, just like today there is no room for him in the hearts of most men, in many homes, as well as in business, society, and politics. Not that the inn was exactly hostile; it was simply preoccupied. That is the trouble in men's hearts today. Business, money-making, pleasure, loved ones and even patriotism take up all the room today. And so there is no room for the birth of the King in human hearts.

## HONORED BY THE SHEPHERDS

It ought to be as the shepherds experienced it. We see, first of all, that the King was honored by the shepherds. (Luke 2:8-14.)

His birth was announced to them. "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

The shepherds proved their fitness to receive the announcement. And why? Because they were men of faith; they appreciated spiritual truth and were waiting and longing for his coming. God honors his Son in the hearts of such today.

The revelation came to them while they were faithful to their duties. "Keeping watch over their flock by night." Theirs was a lowly position, but it was their work and while at it the angels met them. In like manner the call came to Moses. (Ex. 3:1-2.) So it came to Gideon while he was threshing wheat. (Judges 6:11-12.) Thus also Elisha received it while plowing. (1 Kings 19:19.) How different in the case of the Pharisee who stood bragging and was unnoticed by

God! (Luke 18:11.) God always honors our faithfulness. It is while we are doing our tasks that we can expect revelations from him.

Their consciousness of God's presence produced the desired results. "The glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid." The glory shone and fear ensued. Nearness of God always fills the hearts of sinful men with fear and awe. So it was in the case of John when the Son of God revealed himself to John on Patmos. When Peter saw the Supernatural in the draught of fishes he cried out, "Depart from me for I am a sinful man, O Lord." When Isaiah had his vision, fear came upon him in the consciousness of God's nearness. The same results would be felt today if God's presence were actually realized more.

The angelic message also reassured them. "Fear not — — — this shall be a sign unto you." It dispelled their fear by bringing the only cure for it, the Gospel. "Good tidings of great joy." God longs for a fearless people. The Gospel is the best news for this sin-cured and Satan-governed world. But so few today receive it, even though the Gospel has developed for us into a Savior not only born, but crucified, died, buried, and risen again.

Furthermore, the message also told them where to find him. Then in verses 13 and 14 we have the results of the message. The heavenly hosts came to confirm it. The King's birth was to "glorify God," and "on earth peace among men of his good pleasure." But the world receives this wonderful message with such indifference and in so doing refuses to honor the Savior-King. But the more room we give him in our hearts, the more we honor him.

## WELCOMED BY THE SHEPHERDS

The King was also welcomed by the shepherds. (Verses 15-16.) The shepherds showed it by believing God's Word through the angel. So we today welcome the King by believing his Word. We show small welcome to one who has promised us a visit or some gift by saying, "I don't believe it." Let us believe God's Word to show Christ our welcome.

They spoke of it as "this thing which is come to pass." It was a thing in their minds already done. Wise is that person who, when God tells him anything, speaks of it as done. Such has been the faith and work of all great men of God. They knew it was so because God had made it known. That is faith. They did not go to test but to see what they believed. So we today should go into that which God has made known to us in an experimental way.

And there was eagerness in their welcome. "They came with haste." Today men will scarcely come at all. If there is a bargain sale, or some attraction like the World Series, they will stand in line for hours. Here is the greatest gift ever offered to men, a gift, upon the acceptance of which hangs our eternal destiny, yet men are reluctant to come and receive it, or to come and adore him.

## WITNESSED FOR BY SHEPHERDS

The King was witnessed for by the shepherds. (Verses 17-18.)

Those shepherds told it to others. "They made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child." Highly privileged though they had been, they went right back to tell others. They gave to others the good news. So we cannot live the normal Christian life unless we are willing to do this. We must transmit our experience to others.

The salvation of the world depends upon us. The cause of Christ stands or falls, wins or loses with our efforts. The world needs a true King. But the world will only know of him as we, like those shepherds, make known

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Christmas Decorations of 1944 in the Central Baptist Church of New Haven, Connecticut

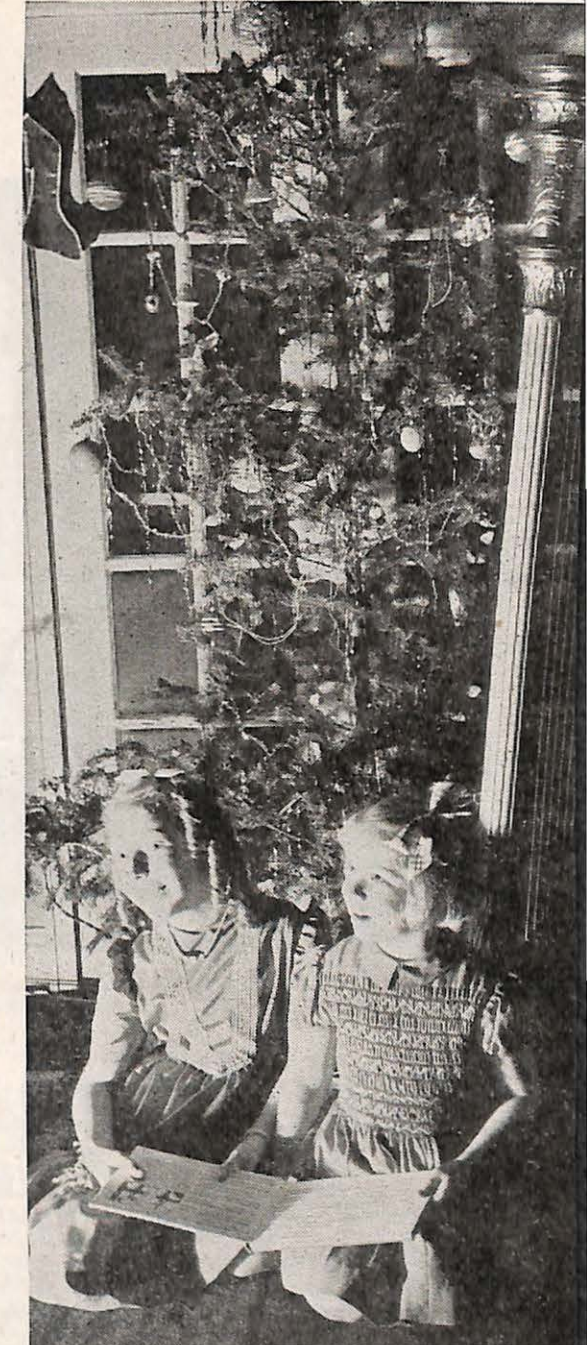
WHILE still in the grade school I took the part of the father in a play entitled, "No Christmas." The mother, together with the children, had apparently caught the Christmas Spirit, whereas the father, who was engrossed in his business and the material things of life, could not see why it was necessary to celebrate Christmas every year, and besides spend large sums of money — and waste a lot of time preparing for a holiday.

The family tried everything possible to point out to their father that there was a definite need for it. They mentioned the Christmas dinner, the tree, the fruit, candy, and nuts. They spoke of the new dresses and suits. They mentioned the toys, and even Santa Claus. The mother spoke to him of the sick, the aged, the orphans, and the needy who were to be remembered. In spite of their efforts, trying to soften the heart of their grumbling and unhappy father, they were unsuccessful to get him to see their point of view.

Finally, the father, having become thoroughly disgusted, threw his newspaper to the floor ready to leave the room. At this moment he noticed little Jane, the youngest member of the family, who had said nothing during the entire course of the evening. She was bitterly weeping.

"And, what are you crying about," the father growled. "What do you want?"

Little Jane looked up at her father through tear-stained eyes. Frightened and brokenly she said to her still angry father, "I — I — wan — want







A Sunday School Teacher's Greatest Joy Is to Make the Truth of God's Word Precious to Her Scholars and to Lead Them to Jesus Christ as Their Personal Savior

# Soul Winning Through the Sunday School

By Rev. ROBERT SCHREIBER of the Canaan Baptist Church of Crawford, Texas

IN considering a topic of such magnitude it will be impossible to consider all phases of this work, but, nevertheless, there can certainly be no overemphasis of the importance of this work. Although it would be nearly impossible to say something new or original on the subject, yet when we consider the fact that nearly half of all who enroll in the Sunday School never accept Christ, we realize that there is much to learn from what has already been said on the subject of soul winning through the Sunday School.

In spite of this tragic loss, 85 per cent of our church members still come through the Sunday School. These two facts, the loss to the Sunday School, on the one hand, and the gain to the church through the Sunday School, on the other hand, together with the deep realization that a soul without Christ is eternally lost, should impel us to attempt even greater things for God through the Sunday School, and then we will also have the right to expect greater things from God.

The task of evangelism today is no different from that of former days. It still means the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ which is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe. Christ would not change his program to fit our modern times, but

he would reiterate the fact that "ye are my witnesses", and an honest, truthful witness is nearly always able to convict the defendant.

## THE POWER OF WITNESS

The greatest evangelistic field of the church today is the Sunday School, and in working this field the power of witness cannot be overlooked. A modern educator says, "The aim of all true education is to secure power in action." The same is true of soul winning through the Sunday School.

Seven boys composed a certain Sunday School Class. They loved to attend the school and they respected their teacher. Once a week she invited them to her home for music, games and a look at the lesson for the coming Sunday. The teacher was anxious to please the boys and to hold them, so she taught them to play cards and to do card tricks. Gradually, more and more time was spent with the cards and less time with the lesson. One by one the boys dropped out of Sunday School. Many years later one of them happened to drop in at a meeting being held at this same church. During the course of the meeting he found occasion to tell his tragic story. The final result was that two of the boys had been hanged, three of them were in prison for life and two were worthless vagabonds.

An insolated case? An unusual case? Perhaps. But in the fine art of soul winning we must learn from the unusual cases as well as the more general. Another class was composed of ten boys and was taught by a fine Christian young woman. The boys became very much attached to their teacher, and she in turn did not fail them in their trust. But boys will be boys, and the excitement of doing something devilish appealed to them strongly. They began to form unwholesome companionships and now and then did not appear in Sunday School. But their teacher did not give them up. She went after them, pleading and reasoning with them. One by one they accepted Christ as their Savior and settled down to devoted Christian lives. Today those boys are men and although several of them have moved away to other towns, those who remain can still be seen on a Sunday morning listening with rapt attention to a soft-spoken, grey-haired woman. That is power in action.

The same is true of the pastor to whom the boys and girls look up with awe and admiration. There should be nothing in his life that could cause one of these little ones to stumble. Have you ever known the sheer joy of childish praise? Have you ever passed a group of children and overheard one of them say to his playmates

in a hushed and proud voice, "That's our preacher!" If you have, you will know what I am talking about. The power of an exemplary life is limitless.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING

A second factor in soul winning through the Sunday School is teaching. I place character first because no matter how able a person may be in teaching, if his life does not coincide with his teachings, all his efforts are in vain. Some would have us believe that Christian education and evangelism oppose each other. The evangelist is often wrong when he maintains that Christian education seeks to bring children into the Kingdom without a definite experience; while on the other hand many Christian educators believe that evangelism is an outmoded method, especially where children are concerned. Both these extremes are wrong, for evangelism and Christian education are two phases of the same thing. "The world cannot be saved by passionate ignorance nor by icy scholarship." Evangelism and Christian education must work together. Both seek to win the lost for Christ. If the teaching in our Sunday Schools fails to lead the children to a definite acceptance of Christ as Savior, better change the teaching before it is too late.

Again there are those who denounce all early training for the child, claiming that the child should be permitted to grow up, making his own choices. Coleridge was once talking with a man who did not believe in giving little children any religious instruction whatsoever. His theory was that the child's mind should not be prejudiced in any direction. Coleridge said nothing; but after a while he asked his visitor if he would like to see his garden. The man said he would, and Coleridge took him out into his garden, where only weeds were growing. The man looked at Coleridge in surprise and said, "Why this is not a garden! There is nothing but weeds here!" "Well, you see," answered Coleridge, "I did not wish to infringe upon the liberty of the garden in any way. I was just giving the garden a chance to express itself and to choose its own production." The parable needs no explanation.

The person upon whom the largest responsibility falls in teaching is, of course, the teacher. Horace Mann once said, "The problem is not the founding of the school, but the finding of the schoolmaster." This applies in a very real sense to the Sunday School. In his book, "Evangelism in the Home Church", Andrew Blackwood states: "The controlling purpose of every teacher should be the same: 'I am the lay pastor of this little flock. I must bring every one of them into right relations with God, and then help each of them prepare for lifelong service in the name of Christ.'"

A teacher who is not willing to accept these responsibilities is not qualified to teach in our Sunday Schools. One of the best illustrations of a faithful teacher is that of Edward Kimball who led Dwight L. Moody to Christ. John R. Mott was won to Christ when

another faithful teacher went after him after he dropped out of Sunday School. Certainly the teaching of these teachers helped to shape the lives of these men into the servicable instruments which they became in later life.

"I took a piece of living clay,  
And gently formed it day by day,  
And moulded with my power and art  
A young child's soft and yielding heart.  
I came again when years had gone,  
It was a man I looked upon;  
He still that early impress bore,  
And I could change him nevermore."

The teacher of the Junior Class has the best opportunity to win the child for Christ. At this age the child will naturally turn to God. And a teacher will do well to take advantage of this natural Christian disposition gently to lead, but not to force, the child to a definite acceptance of Christ. "It has been well said that the time to help the difficult teen-age best is before the teen age is reached. The years preceding the trying turbulent years of early adolescence may be used to develop strength, to form character, and to fortify against the inevitable testings which are to come."

## TWO IMPORTANT LEADERS

The older a child becomes the more difficult it is to win him to Christ. In four out of five cases a decision is reached before the seventeenth year, and eighty per cent of the converts are received into our churches between the ages of twelve and twenty-one.

Back of the seven million scholars enrolled in the Baptist Sunday Schools of America there stand three persons of responsibility: the teacher, the Sunday School superintendent and the pastor. We have already spoken of the teacher. Now a word about the superintendent. Too often we think of this as just another job. The superintendent is the person who opens and closes the Sunday School period. But the true superintendent will do more than that. He should have a compassion for the lost. More than that he should be like a thermostat on a heating unit, keenly sensitive to that moment when the spiritual atmosphere of the Sunday School becomes too cool. At that time a word of challenge and inspiration from him will send the mercury rising. This is a superintendent who is on the job.

Back of the teacher and the superintendent is the pastor. "The pastor's highest duty and most difficult task is to keep the fires of soul winning zeal burning always on the altar of his own heart." A pastor may have his church and Sunday School organized to the Nth degree, but if in his zeal for organization he fails to take note of the spiritual needs of the children, he is like a man who builds a beautiful automobile, perfect in all respects, but has no motor to drive it. A pastor should take a personal interest in every pupil in the Sunday School, saved and unsaved. I have known pastors who would make it a practice of teaching the various classes of the Sunday School for one or two Sundays each, just in order to keep in close touch with the boys and girls. Such a pastor

will reap great rewards for his diligent efforts.

But back of these three there is always the home to be taken into serious consideration. Horace Bushnell said of the child: "The odor of the home is in her garments." Cooperation from the home is essential in the work of soul winning through the Sunday School. The progress of the child in the class is often an indication of the type of home from which the child comes. When asked whether he encourages his children in Sunday School work, a parent often replies, "Well, I don't discourage them." Indifference can often be more poisonous than antagonism.

## BIBLE CENTERED MATERIALS

The use of the proper teaching materials will often determine the success of the program of soul winning. Materials should be carefully selected, keeping the local needs clearly in mind. Local conditions must always be considered. Closely graded materials will not be suitable for the small school. The uniform lessons have their advantages and disadvantages. Much has been said against the use of the uniform lessons for the younger classes. However, they have been and are being used in many instances to great advantage and success. Personally, I like the graded materials but would not force my choice upon teachers and pupils who like the uniform lessons.

The main thing to be kept in mind is to have the materials Bible-centered. There are materials which claim to be life-centered, but my objection is that they often use the Bible only as a reference book, giving Bible quotations interspersed with quotations from secular books, thus putting the Bible upon the same plane with these other books. I am still old-fashioned enough to believe that the Bible must be upheld as the standard of life. "This is the way; walk ye in it." Materials which fail to emphasize the Bible will also fail in the task of soul winning, for the Bible still remains as THE Book on soul winning.

In conclusion, let me point out that the work of soul winning does not end with the child's decision for Christ. It has just begun. After the annual evangelistic efforts many Christian workers wipe the perspiration from their brows with a weary sigh and say, "Well, I'm glad that's done." I say that the real task is yet to be done. True, it is of utmost importance to claim souls for Christ, but we must also remember that their spiritual diet must be changed from milk to meat. This is the task that lies before every Sunday School teacher after her pupils have been saved.

If the church wants Christian workers tomorrow, then the workers of today must be faithful in training these workers for tomorrow. So to every Christian worker I would say, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." "And the things that thou hast heard of me among witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."



# Christmas Garlands and Wreaths

CHRISTMAS PAGES TO BRIGHTEN THE YULETIDE IN YOUR HOME

## THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:1-14

And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David;)

To be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

## A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS WISH

By GRACE NOLL CROWELL

I wish I could have been there first,  
I wish that I had been a child  
In Bethlehem that night;  
I wish I had been awakened by  
A great star's silver light.  
I would have tiptoed out, I think,  
To where the Christ-child lay  
All safe and warm within his bed  
Of coarse, sweet-smelling hay.

I wish I could have been there first,  
Before the shepherds were;  
I wish that Mary had looked up  
And beckoned me to her;  
Had let me touch his little hands,  
And hold his little feet . . .  
That would have been so wonderful,  
That would have been so sweet!

—The Sentinel.

## MY CHRISTMAS GIFT

By RUBY DELL BAUGHER

Three camels came long ago  
With gilded trappings all aglow  
And bearing Wise Men from afar  
Led by a bright and shining star  
To where a precious Baby lay  
On that first far-off Christmas Day.  
They brought Him gifts from everywhere—

Pure gold, frankincense and myrrh.  
They worshipped Him, the Son of Glory,  
Then went away to tell the story.

'Tis now my treasure, sweet, sublime,  
Gift of yesterdays, echoes of Time.  
I am not wise like those of old,  
I have no gifts of shining gold.  
Nor frankincense and myrrh to give—  
I have only a little life to live;  
Lord, I give You that and all it yields  
Of hearts and souls and harvest fields  
To keep the Story young alway—  
I give You these this Christmas Day.

—The Christian Herald

## GOD IS GOOD

By Mrs. MARGUERITE ZURBRIGGEN  
of Sumner, Iowa

Inadequate are words and tongue  
To voice the songs of humble praise  
Within my soul, for  
Has not peace to earth returned?

Peace! No longer does the air resound  
To bursting shells and crashing  
booms,

No longer does the firmament reflect  
Man's infamy to man.

Again the evening sky star-studded,  
And serene, brings soothing balm  
To aching hearts;  
Their silver sheen, gloriously  
undimmed,

Ne'er can be tainted by man's sin.

For ever and for ever  
Until time shall be no more  
Naught can disturb their perfect  
course,  
They must reflect that GOD IS GOOD!

## THE SHINING OF THE STAR

By ANNIE JOHNSON FLINT

When the evils of earth were greatest  
The Christ-child came from afar;  
When the night of the world was  
darkest  
Shone forth the Bethlehem Star;  
Glory and peace was its message,  
Love and good will to men—  
A peace beyond their making,  
A love beyond their ken.

Long has the vexed world waited  
The peace that he came to bring;  
Long have the turbulent peoples  
Looked for a righteous king;  
Long has his sad creation  
Waited redemption's word;  
Long have his faithful servants  
Watched for their absent Lord.

Long—but the time draws nearer,  
The Bridegroom comes from afar;  
When the night of the age is darkest  
We shall see the Morning Star.  
Evil is growing stronger,  
And hearts are sick with fear;  
But our hope is growing brighter,  
For we know that the hour is near.

Faint in the dark skies gleaming,  
Faint on the roaring seas,  
But it heralds the dawn of glory  
And it hastens the day of peace—  
The glory, the peace he is bringing,  
The King who comes from afar;  
And to him who overcometh  
He will give the Morning Star.

—The Watchman-Examiner.

## THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

By Professor LEWIS KAISER  
of Rochester, N. Y.

(A Message Written for Publication  
Some Years Ago Which Is As Timely  
As Ever.)

Christmas is infinitely more than the memorial of an event. It is the symbol of a faith, the manifestation of a spirit, the vision of a hope. The coming of the Christ-child into the world is an ever recurring, an eternal fact. That is the essence of the Christian faith, spirit and hope: "good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people." The centuries, as they roll on, witness with increasing emphasis to the truth of the angelic message that rang out of the brightness of the heavens on that first Christmas eve.

The Christmas Spirit is the spirit of JOY. We all crave for happiness. As the eye seeks the blue sky and the ear sweet music, so the soul instinctively reaches out for joy. Even when men chase after the follies of sin and recklessly plunge into all sorts of hurtful excesses, they are seeking happiness, or what they in their delusion conceive to be happiness. And when they set their minds upon higher and nobler things, seeking after the beautiful, the true and the good, they are also trying to satisfy the inborn yearning of the soul for joy and contentment, for "a thing of beauty is a joy forever."

The true Christmas spirit meets the soul in its deepest need. With the birth of Jesus a joy came into the world such as earth had never known before. From the lowly manger in the obscure town of Bethlehem have issued perennial streams of gladness that have made many of the waste places of this world to blossom out into beauty and fragrance. The babe in the manger has become the Lord of the years (Anno Domini).

The Christmas Spirit is the spirit of "PEACE" and "GOOD WILL" to all men. It may seem to us as we hear the jarring and discordant notes of the peoples and nations even today, with the tragedy of the war still fresh in our memory, that it is idle to dream of a day of universal brotherhood—a day, when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Yet, notwithstanding all appearances to the contrary, the Christmas Spirit is abroad. And insofar as it is the spirit of Christ, it is bound to triumph in the end over the hatreds, fears, prejudices and animosities that have cursed the ages past. The predictions of the ancient prophets are no idle dreams. They are stamped with the seal of the Most High, who has given us the guarantee of the fulfillment of his eternal purposes in Jesus Christ, "the Prince of Peace."

Hence the Christmas Spirit is the spirit of HOPE. It ever looks forward to the better day coming. It does not despair of today, because of its faith in tomorrow. It acts in the living present with added vigor and zest; it sees in it the promise and pledge of a greater future.



## THE BRIGHTEST SPOT

Our God be praised for Christmas time  
In every home or hovel drear  
Throughout the world, in every clime;  
The brightest spot in all the year —  
When Peace on earth is glorified  
With wider fields to wander through,  
When Greed her ugly face would hide  
And Sacrifice comes into view!

How merciless would be the world  
Had not One come to light the fires  
In human hearts where Sin had curled  
His hard, cold fingers around desires!  
What if there were no holy Name  
In Whom all humble ones may pray!  
Our God be praised that Jesus came  
On that first far-off Christmas Day!

## Do You Know That...?

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

The only place where you can warm  
your Christmas heart is at the altars  
of the Church.

In the good old days the bad man  
went around with niches in his gun-  
handle instead of in his fenders.

Are you sure that you have given  
thanks to God for the Christmas pres-  
ent that he gave to you?

In some cities they tear down build-  
ings to save taxes. Perhaps they  
should tear down some taxes to  
save the buildings.

You too may hear the angels' song—  
if you tune in!

Scientists are now trying to find  
the true speed of light. Laymen  
claim that it arrives too early in  
the morning.

The three wise men sought and wor-  
shipped Christ—which proved that  
they were wise men.

There is nothing more difficult than  
making the art of giving advice  
agreeable.

A Christless Christmas is pretty much  
like a counterfeit dollar.

Nowadays a man wants life, liberty,  
and a new automobile in which to  
pursue happiness.

God in Christ shared our humanity  
that we might share his divinity.

The difference between a groove  
and a grave is only a matter of  
depth.

Tuning in on the song-broadcaster  
from Bethlehem, we hear, "Glory to  
God in the highest, and on earth peace,  
good will toward men."

The man whose conscience never  
bothers him must have it pretty  
well trained.

A Christian is like ripening corn; the  
riper he grows, the more lowly he  
bends.

Judging from the national debt, it  
isn't too much of a compliment any  
more to tell a lady she looks like a  
million dollars.

There was no room for Christ in the  
inn, and there isn't room for him even  
today in many hearts.

He was just one of the ciphers in  
the "400."

The angels broke into song when Jesus  
came. Singing still comes into the  
life where Jesus enters in.



# The Cameroons Call for a Medical Missionary

An Urgent Plea for the Missionary Doctor and Prayer Helpers by  
LAURA E. REDDIG of the Cameroons, Africa

GREETINGS from Africa! This has been a busy Sunday of actually fighting the power of darkness with these poor young Christians. But we feel that the Christians will find themselves stronger for this persecution. Sickness calls for much more help than we as nurses are allowed to give. How we pray for a doctor to come to Africa!

I have heard recently, that the Catholics want to get Banco Hospital and Leper Camp but receive no favorable reply. They have no doctor! If we only had one, thousands of lives could be saved yearly. Please, extend our plea for a missionary doctor. Four or five years from now this door may be closed forever, and a wonderful opportunity will be lost. Christ has given healing as a command to us, but because of lack of a doctor and with government restrictions, our Mission is certainly failing in this part of its ministry.

Villages everywhere want dispensaries and hospitals. Lots of young men wish to be trained as Christian



Paul Edwin Michelson at Four Months of Age, Son of Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Michelson, Cameroons Missionaries at Soppo, Africa

medical workers. Girls want to be trained as nurses. So we plead with the Mission Committee to do everything possible to find this missionary doctor and send him out to the Cameroons at once.

Our experiences with sick people and their needs since we are here make us pray daily for a doctor, a Christ-filled missionary doctor to help

with loving skill, to help these whom Christ commanded us to "heal." Our services as nurses would be increased a hundred-fold if we had a doctor back of us. As it is, we are very much restricted and feel quite helpless at times because we have no authority on which to act. Thousands die needlessly because we are not allowed to give the medicines they require without a doctor's backing.

Surely, in our Baptist Conference there must be a Christian doctor who would respond to his call for help. Please, keep trying in every way possible to seek him out. We don't care if he is married or single. We need a doctor out here if this important part of our ministry is to be really a blessing and a help to these people. Perhaps in a News Letter or in the BAPTIST HERALD this plea can be given forth so that everyone can pray for it and seek out the right person.

Miss Margaret Kittlitz sends greetings to all and supports me as I make this earnest plea for a doctor for the Cameroons.

## Without Christ, No Christmas

(Continued from Page 4)

good car for a student. Dressed in my best clothes, I went from lot to lot. Evidently, I must have given the appearance of prosperity to the salesman. They always offered the biggest and most expensive cars to me. Finally I was offered a Lincoln Zephyr Deluxe — etc., for some odd \$1000. I told the salesman that I didn't want it. What I really meant, however, was that I certainly wanted it, and I would have accepted it if I could have had it on my own terms.

Many men and women refuse Christ for that very same reason. Oh, if they could determine the spiritual conditions according to their own desires and wishes, then they would accept him into their homes and hearts. But, on His terms, it's "No!"

I love that story of Simeon, that devout and spirit-filled old saint. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel. On the day when Jesus' parents brought the child to the temple to present him to the Lord, whom did they meet but old Simeon? He had had a revelation that he would not die until he had seen his Lord. Immediately he took the child up into his arms and blessed him. "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant part in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." He expected him because it was his God-given wish. He recognized him because he expected him. He received him because he wanted him.

Friends, we want Christ to be the determining factor for a merry and blessed Christmas for you! For without Christ there is no Christmas.

## The Birth of the King

(Continued from Page 5)

concerning him.

And they told only "that which was spoken to them." Christ was the whole subject. Whenever our religion is most vital, it is most full of Christ. When it is most practical, it always gets nearest to Jesus. It is Jesus only who can save from sin, Jesus only who can plead our cause before the throne of God, Jesus only who can strengthen us for service, and Jesus only who can reveal to us the mysteries of heaven. When a young man or woman falls in love, the thought of their lover pervades all their plans and thinking. So ought our love for Christ react in us.

May our spirit be like theirs! Like those shepherds, so may we "glorify and praise God for all the things we have heard and seen." We are here in this world to bear witness and testimony to Christ.

When W. T. Stead of London, the great reformer for Social Purity, was in prison on Christmas in 1885 he was asked to write a letter to a poor girl struggling against temptation to regain a better life. While he was thinking to write to her about becoming a Christian, a voice seemed to speak to him saying, "Why ask her to be that? Tell her to be a little Christ."

That is what we need to be. That is the best way for us to perpetuate the shepherd's spirit and the Christmas spirit. Every day our influence is telling. May we, like the shepherds, believe implicitly, act promptly and never cease to give praise for the great and wonderful gift vouchsafed us at Bethlehem.

## What's Happening News

(Continued from Page 2)

● On Sunday, Nov. 4, the Baptist Church of Franklin, Calif., held its Mission Festival. Guest speakers at the two services were the Reverends Melvin Pekrul and Lorenz Michelson, students at the Berkeley Baptist Divinity School. The church offerings for missions amounted to \$1807 with the Sunday School giving an additional sum of \$70 and the Ladies' Missionary Society \$40., bringing the sum of mission offerings for the day to the amazing total of \$2277. In November and December the Rev. G. G. Rauser, pastor, conducted evangelistic services in the Grace Church of Medicine Hat and the Freudental and Bethel Churches of Carbon, Alberta, Canada.

● Special services were held in the Grace Church of Grand Forks, North Dakota, from Oct. 22 to Nov. 2 with the Rev. Alfred Weisser of Carrington, North Dakota, bringing the messages. There was one convert as well as many consecrations as a result of the meetings. On Sunday, Nov. 11, the Rev. M. L. Leuschner was the guest speaker at the services. He also conducted a leadership training course with the textbook, "From Pentecost to Patmos," from Nov. 12 to 16, and showed missionary pictures to good sized audiences every evening. Twenty-five young people took the examination at the close of the study course for credit. The church and its organizations also received offerings for the Fellowship Fund for World Emergencies and missions amounting to the fine total of \$308.72. The Rev. Edgar Klatt is the aggressive leader and pastor.

# REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

## PACIFIC CONFERENCE

### Mission Festival at Vancouver's Ebenezer Church and News of Rev. Gassner's Death

The Ebenezer Baptist Church at Vancouver, B. C., Canada held its annual Thanksgiving and Mission Festival on Sunday, Oct. 7. In the morning Mr. Thiessen, who was supplying the pulpit during our pastor's illness, brought us an inspiring mission sermon. The evening service was in charge of our Sunday School with Mr. Nelner in charge. The mission offering was \$250.91.

God has truly blessed our work and we are thankful for the goodness which he has shown us. Our goal is to have 250 persons attending before the end of the year.

We certainly miss our pastor, the Rev. L. F. Gassner, who had been on the sick list for the past four months. God called him home on Nov. 23 and released him from his suffering. The large funeral service was held on November 26.

Edna Miller, Reporter.

## SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

### Southern Conference Harvest Festival and Musical Program by Ladies' Octette at Waco, Texas

On Sunday, October 28, the Central Baptist Church of Waco, Texas held its Harvest and Mission Festival. The program, consisting of musical numbers, recitations and a play, was well presented by the Junior and Primary Departments of the Sunday School. The pastor, Rev. Roy Seibel, brought the mission message, and the offering amounted to \$98.52.

On Sunday, November 4th, the Ladies' Octette of the Young People's Union presented a program in song to a very appreciative audience. The Octette is composed of Adina, Imgard, Pearl, and Ruth Arnold, Inez and Bernadine Gummelt, Elizabeth Stobbe and Mrs. Roy Seibel. Mrs. Chas. Marstaller, Jr., is the accompanist. These young ladies have been very faithful in rehearsing every week and have done much toward beautifying the worship service on numerous occasions.

R. E. Engelbrecht, Reporter.

### Anniversary Program of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Cottonwood Baptist Church

On Sunday evening, October 21, the Woman's Missionary Union of the Cottonwood Baptist Church of Lorena, Texas held its anniversary program.

In spite of bad weather, a very good crowd was in attendance. A reading, "What Are We Doing Today?", was



The Harvests of the Fields on Display at the Ebenezer Church of Vancouver, British Columbia for the Mission Festival

given, after which numbers by a Ladies' Chorus and a piano duet followed. The main feature on the program was the play, "The Women of the Bible," very successfully rendered by the women of the organization.

The pastor, Rev. C. H. Seecamp, gave a stirring talk on "Our Christian Women of Today."

Our mission offering received at this program amounted to \$40.00.

We are very grateful to God for the many blessings of the past year. We held all our monthly meetings. We have our program outlined so that we have a topic every month around which we build our program, using "The Royal Service" as our main material. We also are following the outline of our National Woman's Union and find great joy in fulfilling the requirements of the same. At the last conference meeting our Cottonwood Union received the banner for the most points received in our conference program.

Last May we packed a box of bandages and aprons for the missionaries in the Cameroons. We contribute to some project each month, also support three projects of the Southern Baptists. Great joy has come to us in serving the Lord in this small capacity. Mrs. H. D. Lynn, Secretary.

## ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

### News of Chaplain R. S. Hess and of the Interim Pastor of the Rock Hill Church

Chaplain Robert S. Hess, Pastor on leave of absence of the Rock Hill Baptist Church of Jamaica Plain, Mass., was the guest speaker at the morning service of the church on Sunday, October 28. Chaplain Hess was home on a few days' furlough and at present is stationed at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey waiting for a definite assignment.

Another of the "Youth for Christ" meetings was held on Saturday evening, November 3, at the Rock Hill Church. The speakers of the evening were Rev. Harry Stam and Mrs. Alma Stam of Africa. They brought a most

interesting story of their work as missionaries.

The Rev. Edward J. Olson, a graduate of Gordon College of Theology and now attending the Divinity School at the College has favorably accepted the call extended to him by the Church to be its interim Pastor. Mr. Olson began his ministry with the church on Sunday, November 4th. He formerly served as Pastor of the Baptist Church at North Bellingham, Mass.

Fred Sawyer, Clerk.

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

### Erie's Central Church Enjoys Many Blessings and Anticipates Return of Chaplain Zinz

We of the Central Baptist Church of Erie, Pa., have had the blessed privilege of the leadership of the Rev. Paul D. Ford, for twenty years a missionary to the British West Indies, during the absence of our pastor, the Rev. George Zinz, Jr., United States Army Chaplain. Mr. Ford conducted two weeks of highly successful revival services in March and many were led to a knowledge of the saving grace of our Lord. These services have been continued every Sunday night since then, and many more have taken a stand for Christ and followed him through the waters of baptism.

We are now in the midst of a Post-War Fund drive to reach a goal set at \$5860 to be used in repairing, redecorating, and renovating the church interior and property.

Recently the Ladies' Missionary Society celebrated its seventieth anniversary with a fine program, climaxed by an appropriate missionary play. The Harvest and Mission Festival was held on October 28th in the church auditorium and many donated fruits and vegetables were displayed and later distributed to worthy families and institutions for the needy.

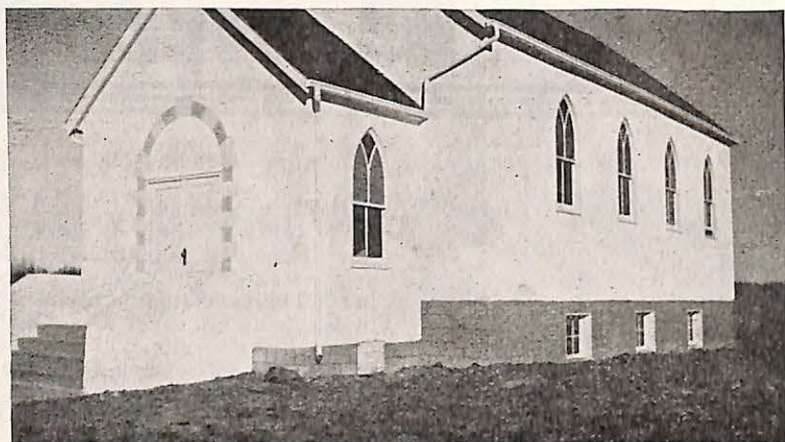
Our latest blessing was a conference of the Erie City and County Sabbath School and Young People which was held in our church. The auditorium was filled to capacity with many others standing. Outstanding speakers were Dr. Stephen Paine, president of Houghton College; and former Erie pastor and Army Chaplain, Rev. Edgar Downing now of Woodville, Mass.

A blessing of the future is looked toward as word comes from Chaplain George Zinz, Jr., that he expects to return to his pulpit around Easter time.

We are especially thankful that of the many names upon our Service plaque every one of them has been spared and not a one has had to lose his life. These are only a few of the many blessings bestowed upon Central Baptist Church, and we are grateful to be so greatly blessed of God.

Mrs. Robert Eichler, Reporter.





The New Clover Lawn Church Building, a Mission Station of the First Baptist Church of Leduc, Alberta, Canada

## SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

### Recent Anniversary Program of the Kings Daughters of the Baptist Church, Okeene, Okla.

The Lord has blessed us greatly as the Kings' Daughters of the Zion Baptist Church of Okeene, Okla., in the year of 1944 to 1945 under the leadership of our president, Mrs. O. G. Graalman. We as 26 active members held 10 monthly meetings and five White

our orphans at St. Joseph, Mich., at Christmas time. We entertain our families with a family dinner in the basement of our church in February. Miss Olson, missionary among the Indians in Oklahoma, was the guest speaker.

We had the privilege of having Miss Ida Forsch with us at our August meeting. We also furnished food for the group at the Scripture memory camp at Roman Nose Park. We have donated to various mission funds, the Seminary Endowment Fund, Okeene Library, Edmonton Christian Training Institute and other causes.

Mrs. S. E. Greb, Secretary.



The Congregation of the Clover Lawn Baptist Church of Alberta at a Sunday Afternoon Service

Cross meetings in the various homes. In white cross we do work for our missionaries in the foreign lands, making bandages or whatever is needed. We also helped our missionary in Oklahoma among the Indians.

Our theme for the year was "Prayer"; our theme hymn, "Take it to the Lord in Prayer"; and our key verse, Matthew 21:22: "And all things whatsoever ye ask in prayer, believing ye shall receive."

In October 1945 we held our anniversary program, composed of musical numbers, a play, "Aunt Elizabeths Missionary Tea," an address by our pastor, Rev. Henry Pfeiffer, and the offering of \$42.50.

We have the Scripture reading chart and reading of missionary books in which 75% of our group took part and over 50% completed their work.

We remember our Old People's Home in Chicago, Illinois twice a year, and

### Sessions of the Kansas Association at the Calvary Church of Stafford

The Kansas Association met with the Calvary Church at Stafford, Kansas from October 15 to 17. The theme of the association was "Laborers Together with God," with the appropriate text, 2 Tim. 2:15.

We were privileged to have Dr. William Kuhn as our guest speaker, and he opened our association with a stimulating message, "The Unseen Christ." On Tuesday morning after a devotional period led by Rev. W. Quiring, the election of officers was held with the following result: Rev. F. E. Klein, moderator; Rev. Fred Ferris, vice-moderator; Rev. Wm. Quiring, secretary; and Mr. E. Hildebrandt, treasurer. Following the election and business, Dr. Kuhn brought us

the sermon, "Heirs of God." Rev. W. W. Knauf gave a paper on "The Ideal Relationship Between the Sunday School and the Church."

Each of our sessions was opened with a devotional period led by Chas. Zoschke, John Eitel, and Chas. Thole. The afternoon session was another time of inspiration with Dr. Kuhn bringing us a Bible study, and a paper by Mr. Ferris entitled, "The Place of a Teacher Training Course in the Program of the Sunday School." The evening service was climaxed with an evangelistic message by Mr. Ferris, and with fine music brought by the Stafford church.

The closing day of the association was especially noteworthy for its inspirational and enlightening messages. Dr. Kuhn brought us three fine Biblical messages; Mrs. W. Wirth gave us first hand information on the Scripture Memory Work and made us feel its importance in the lives of children; Rev. J. E. Kruegel of the Mt. Zion Church led us in an inspirational meeting of song and testimony. An offering was held on the last evening amounting to \$260.61, with part of it going to the Fellowship Fund, and part for the Scripture Memory Work in Kansas. Much of the success of the association was due to our moderator, Rev. B. Fadenrecht, and to the fine hospitality shown by our host, the Calvary Baptist Church, under the capable leadership of the Rev. F. E. Klein.

Wilmer Quiring, Reporter.

## NORTHERN CONFERENCE

### Clover Lawn Chapel, a Mission of Leduc's First Church, Is Dedicated

Recently we of the First Baptist Church of Leduc, Alberta held the dedication of the new, little church building at Clover Lawn, a small mission station about ten miles away.

For several years Sunday School has been conducted in the school house in various ways and by different individuals. Often the people expressed their wish of having a place of worship of their own, but it was not until our present pastor, Rev. J. B. Kowalewski, emphasized the plan strongly that we all became interested in and enthusiastic about it.

The \$5000 church building had its origin when an old school house was bought for \$200, but on examining it, we discovered that it was not worthy of renovation. So it was torn down and arrangements were made for the construction of a new building with full basement. Although we were able to use the new church last winter, it was not until this summer that we were able to complete the beautiful little house of God.

Most of the work was donated and our beloved pastor put in many more hours of labor than any of the rest of us, which was indeed a sacrifice.

The dedication service began in the afternoon with the Rev. K. Korella of the Bethany Church at Camrose and Rev. A. Huber of the Temple Church

of Leduc being among the many visitors and friends in our overcrowded church. After greetings and short messages of encouragement from several churches which were represented, Rev. K. Korella brought the dedicatory sermon, choosing his text from Matt. 16:18. The Rev. A. Huber led in the dedicatory prayer.

This church was built with the hope and prayer that many precious souls might be led to the foot of the Cross and we have already had the joy of seeing souls saved during the two weeks of evangelistic services conducted by the "Dalzell Party" from Brandon, Manitoba.

Emil Price, Clerk.

### Engagements of the Rev. J. C. Gunst, Young People's Secretary, in November and December

#### Sunday, Nov. 4th

Afternoon, "Saengerfest" of the Alberta Tri-Union at the Central Baptist Church of Edmonton.

Evening Service at the Rabbit Hill Church near Leduc.

#### Sunday, Nov. 11th

Morning Service at the Onoway Baptist Church.

Afternoon Service at the Glory Hill Baptist Church.

Evening Service at the Spruce Grove Baptist Church.

#### Sunday, Nov. 18th

Morning Service at the First Baptist Church of Leduc.

Afternoon Service of the Wiesental Baptist Church.

Evening Service at the Central Baptist Church of Edmonton.

#### Sunday, Nov. 25th

Morning and Afternoon Combined Services of the Freudental and Bethel Baptist Churches near Carbon, Alta.

Evening Service of the Bridgeland Baptist Church of Calgary.

#### Sunday, Dec. 2nd

Morning Service at the Baptist Church of Trochu.

Evening Service at the Baptist Church of Olds.

#### Sunday, Dec. 9th

Morning Service at the Bethany Baptist Church of Camrose.

Afternoon Service at the Wetaskiwin Baptist Church.

#### Sunday, Dec. 16th

Morning Service at the McDermot Ave. Baptist Church of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Return to Chicago, Ill. on Dec. 17th.

### Mission Work in Valley View, Alberta Under Direction of Mr. William Mueller

The Lord has spoken in his Word, "Ye are my witnesses," and truly upon us falls the responsibility of witnessing for our Lord. It has been my joy during this past summer and fall to serve my Lord and Master in the Peace River district of Alberta. I arrived on the field on April 1st and continued until the 8th of October. During this time I had many and varied experiences.

My chief work was centered around and in the church at Valley View. Here there are some fine Christian people



Mr. William Mueller, Missionary Worker of Valley View, Alberta (Center... with Clarinet) Surrounded by Cree Indians and Other Gospel Workers Before a Missionary Service

who are doing their best to promote the cause of the Lord. These young people of the district have diligently given themselves to the study of music, so that now there is a fine orchestra there. It was also my joy to help along with their splendid choir.

During my stay there we were privileged to organize a new Sunday School in the town of Valley View. Our attendance varied from 3 to 33. We did count it a privilege, though, to be able to witness of Christ's saving power to these little children who come to our meetings.

The young people's society contributed its share to the work by taking charge of every fourth service and giving a program every two weeks.

The programs were different each time, thus making them more interesting and attractive.

We were also able to reach out into a new district, located about 30 miles from Valley View. Since there is no bridge over the Little Smokey River, the trip to the field had to be made by horse and wagon. Here we were able to conduct a Vacation Bible School and also hold two special services with the people.

It was my special joy to have Rev. E. P. Wahl conduct our baptismal service on Sunday, Sept. 2nd, when three persons were taken into the fellowship of the church.

William Mueller, Reporter.

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## CENTRAL CONFERENCE

### Days of Joy and Blessing for the Beaver Baptist Church of Michigan

God has so richly blessed us as the Beaver Church near Midland, Mich., through the summer months that we wished to share our gifts with others. So for October 21st, when we celebrated our Harvest Program, we invited Rev. and Mrs. A. F. Runtz from our Children's Home in St. Joseph, Michigan to be our guests. After the program we presented to them some of the fruits of our summer toil. The Friendship Circle, which is a newly organized branch of the young ladies in our church and community, presented the Home with rugs and scrap books. We are told that Runtz's car was filled to capacity by the time the last item was packed in.

On October 30th we had the privilege of having in our midst the Rev. Fred Benke who is so faithfully laboring among the Indians in Canada. We were very much interested to hear how eager these red skinned people are to hear the story of Salvation, once Mr. Benke has been able to work his way into the different tribes. It was also of interest to us to see the things Mr. Benke had with him that had been made by the Indians. May God richly bless him for his time and talents he is so willingly giving to the furtherance of God's Kingdom.

We as a church had the joy of deciding, with the help of God, to adopt one of our own girls, Miss Esther Schultz, as our missionary for the Cameroons in Africa. Miss Schultz will complete her training at the Baptist Missionary Training School in the Spring and plans to leave for the Mission Field as soon after that as transportation is available. We as a church wish God's guidance upon her and our prayers will be with her as she labors for the Lord and Master each day.

Luanna Majeske, Reporter.

## DAKOTA CONFERENCE

### Mission Festival with \$1500 Offering and Evangelistic Meetings at Ashley, No. Dak.

We of the Baptist Church of Ashley, North Dakota held our Mission Festival on Sunday, October 14, with Rev. Wm. Hoover of Detroit, Michigan as guest speaker. Very impressive and inspiring services were held in the forenoon as well as in the afternoon.

In the evening evangelistic meetings were started under the able leadership of Mr. Hoover and continued every evening for nearly two weeks, closing on October 25.

The church had experienced the Lord's presence and blessings during the fine evangelistic meetings held about a year ago which had been conducted by Mr. Hoover, so that when we as a Church spoke of evangelistic

### NEW SERIAL STORY Starts in the Next Issue!

## We Spend Our Years

by CHARLOTTE KRUGER

You'll love it and say: "It's the best ever in THE BAPTIST HERALD."

"All aboard!" Dazed Heather Allison, mechanically heeding these significant words, was on her way to Vermont—"the land of green mountains." Her soul was restless, her heart without hope. Her fiancé had been killed fighting in a faraway land; her mother, too, had died. Heather could find no pattern in her life. There were only snarled threads without meaning.

Warmhearted Uncle Anthony . . . genial Maria and Fritz Strauss . . . young Jim Fletcher and his motherless children . . . idealistic Jonathan Kent—these were woven subtly into the pattern of Heather's life. God weaves well, and there are no mistakes. When she found God, the Master Weaver, Heather saw that He was weaving a pattern in her life, and that pattern was beautiful. Vermont was indeed the land of green mountains—and green is the symbol of hope.

The Author, Charlotte Kruger took a secretarial course at a well-known school and worked for five years as a secretary in New York University's Economics Department at the School of Commerce, Washington Square . . . Prepared for Christian service at the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, where she earned her education by writing radio scripts for the Institute radio station WMBI . . . Wrote a novel called "Autumn Gold" . . . Is now serving as a missionary worker at the El Nathan Children's Home in Valdez, Alaska.

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meetings for this season, the invitation was extended to him to come again and serve us. He graciously consented to the invitation. The Ashley Church appreciates the kindness of the Connors Avenue Church of Detroit for relinquishing the time of its pastor during these weeks.

These services were well attended by many people from far and near. On the last few evenings the church was crowded beyond capacity. Many of the people never missed a service during the entire campaign. We have reasons to rejoice for thirty-two young people were converted. Many of God's own children testified to a deeper joy and rededicated themselves to the Lord.

Many special numbers were rendered during the services. We also had the privilege of having neighboring pastors with us at these services, such as Rev. and Mrs. Alex Sootzman of McLaughlin, South Dakota; Rev. and Mrs. Albert Krombein of Eureka, So. Dakota; Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Weisser of Wishek, North Dakota; Rev. and Mrs. Adolph Guenther of Venturia, North Dakota; and Rev. P. H. Hunsicker of Fredonia, North Dakota.

Mrs. H. J. Schultz, Reporter.

### Sessions of the Bad Lands Sunday School Convention at New Leipzig, No. Dak.

The Badlands Sunday School Convention convened at New Leipzig, N. D., from October 12 to 14 with an unusually large representation of delegates and friends of the churches in this area.

The opening address was brought by Rev. H. Lang of Vida, Montana, on the topic, "What is Man?" On Saturday morning Rev. Wm. Jaster of Isabel and Bison, S. Dak., led us in our devotional message in which he discussed the topic, "Christian Education for Children." Rev. B. C. Schreiber of New Leipzig, N. Dak., treated the topic, "Teaching Methods in the Sunday School." During the "Quiet Hour" period Rev. R. G. Kaiser of Hettinger, N. Dak., brought a most inspiring message on the theme, "My Task."

Saturday afternoon was given to business. Due to the absence of the Reverends E. J. Baumgartner and J. C. Schweitzer who were to speak to us, we were happy to have Rev. K. Gieser, superintendent of our Home for the Aged in Bismarck, give us an interesting report on the work that has been so close to his heart. After hearing the reports of the churches we proceeded to the election of officers. The result of the election was: Rev. D. Littke, moderator; Rev. R. G. Kaiser, vice-moderator; Rev. O. Lohse, secretary and treasurer. On Saturday evening Rev. O. Lohse brought a very timely message on "The Rich Young Ruler."

Sunday School on Sunday morning was in the hands of the local superintendent. Rev. H. Lang and Rev. D. Littke spoke. Rev. D. Littke presided at the regular morning worship service. Rev. K. Gieser brought the missionary message based on Mark 16: 15-16. Rev. Matz, a former pastor of the New Leipzig Church, brought a few remarks in English.

The entire afternoon was given to our young people who rendered a splendid program consisting of a variety of numbers in both music and recitation. Rev. B. C. Schreiber was in charge of the program.

Long have we waited for this time when we might see such a display of talent in our young people. It was at this convention that the young people pledged their whole-hearted support to the organizing of a new assembly which is to meet for the first time next summer. A committee consisting of Rev. R. G. Kaiser, Rev. B. C. Schreiber and Rev. H. Lang were authorized to go ahead with plans in this new adventure in behalf of our youth and for the glory of our heavenly Father.

The offering for missionary purposes reached the sum of \$605.12.

Henry Lang, Reporter.

## :: OBITUARY ::

### Mr. JOHN F. GERDES of Burlington, Iowa

Mr. John F. Gerdes, for many years a loyal member and true pillar of the Oak Street Baptist Church in Burlington, Iowa, was called to his eternal reward after a lingering illness on September 23, 1945. He was born in Oldenburg, Germany, on December 11, 1872 and was united in wedlock with Miss Carrie Wagner of Aplington, Iowa, more than 40 years ago. This union was blessed with six children: Emil, Ernest, Paul, Louise, and Jack. Another son, Carl, preceded his father in death several years ago. Paul Gerdes, leader of the youth meetings that were held in connection with the Burlington General Conference, was unable to be present for the funeral because he is stationed with U. S. Armed Forces in Burma.

Our beloved Mr. John Gerdes held many church offices during his years of loyal service, for he was at different times deacon, trustee, vice-moderator of the

church, teacher and superintendent in the church school and served as chairman of the building committee that erected the beautiful and spacious Sunday School addition to the church twenty years ago. The pastor brought a brief funeral address to the hundreds of friends and relatives assembled in the church to pay loving tribute to a true Christian worker.

It is our hope and prayer that the Lord will grant a full measure of comfort to those who sorrow because of human love and give everyone a clear view of the great divine love that has sustained His children down through the ages.

Oak St. Baptist Church,  
Burlington, Iowa,  
Rev. Alfred R. Bernadt, Pastor.

### Rev. GEORGE C. ENGELMANN of Chicago, Illinois

The Rev. George C. Engelmann, residing at the home of his son in Chicago, Ill., passed away on November 3, 1945.

He was born in Remels, Germany, on Dec. 28, 1853. He came to this country with his parents in October 1865 as a

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#### Home is a One Way Street

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by Maxwell Drake.

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#### Jesus the Man of Prayer

by John H. Strong.

No man could write this book who had not first lived it. It is the translation of spiritual vision into daily experience. The author has dedicated this book to his father, Augustus Hopkins Strong, who exercised a great influence among many of our ministers. Predictions are that this book will become the outstanding book of its kind. 130 pages.

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#### News from North of the Nile

by Paul Harris, Jr.

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youth of twenty years, and settled at Bay City, Ill. At an early age he entered the Stassen Preparatory School, then located at Monee, Ill. Next he entered our Seminary in Rochester, N. Y.

In 1881 he returned to Monee to be united in marriage to Amelia Folkers who for 44 years worked at his side as his devoted companion and helpmate. Together they followed the westward trek of the pioneers into the virgin state of Nebraska. Here his mission carried him as free as the wings across the trailless prairies, fording the unbridled and swollen streams even at the risk of his own life at times. He was called upon in the strenuous depressions of those early days to act as relief administrator and distribute rations to the needy. Not infrequently he acted as physician to the sick and afflicted.

After leaving Columbus, Nebr., he went to Eureka, S. Dak., and later to Aplington, Parkersburg and Kesley, Iowa; Manitowoc, North Freedom and Le Roy, Wis., and Alpena and Bay City, Mich.

On December 28, 1944 he celebrated his ninetieth birthday. The many greeting cards, personal messages, and expressions of beautiful sentiments and best wishes sent by his former parishioners, friends, and neighbors made this event a kind of last reunion before his departure to the heavenly Home.

He leaves to mourn his departure his six sons: Fred of Eldora, Iowa; Dr. Andrew Engelmann of What Cheer, Iowa; Richard of Beloit, Wis., Carl and Rev. Edgar Engelmann, both of Flint, Mich., and Dr. Victor E. Engelmann of Chicago, Ill.; also 12 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

It is superfluous to say that he lived and died with an unwavering faith in the power of prayer and a personal Christ who knows and cares.

Interment took place at Monee, Ill., on the family lot of his dearly beloved wife. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. William Kuhn of Forest Park, Ill., and Rev. E. A. Hartwell of Roseland, Ill.

Chicago, Ill.

THE CHILDREN.

## NAME CONTEST

### for Young People's Quarterly

The newly proposed Young People's Quarterly will be ready in August 1946. This new Quarterly needs a NAME.

The Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union will give a prize to the person submitting the name that will be chosen for the new quarterly. If possible the name should be held to one word or as brief as possible.

As a first prize the Union will give a "Teacher's Bible," with complete helps, which is valued at \$5.25. The second prize will be a copy of "Cruden's Complete Concordance" valued at \$2.50 for the second best name submitted.

Send your suggestions for the name of the Young People's Quarterly to the general secretary of the Union, Rev. J. C. Gunst, Box 6, Forest Park, Ill., not later than February 1, 1946

### News About the Young People's Quarterly

On October 18, 1945, a group of fifteen workers met at the Forest Park Baptist Church of Forest Park, Ill., as a committee on consultation to plan more of the details concerning the newly proposed "Young People's Quarterly." Present at this committee sessions were young people's presidents, Christian teachers, Junior and Senior young people's leaders, pastors, and denominational secretaries.

The committee succeeded in making definite plans with respect to policy,

size, character, and contents of the Quarterly. The Editor-in-Chief, who will be the Rev. J. C. Gunst, general young people's secretary, and the Editorial Committee were elected. The primary need of the Quarterly was thoroughly discussed. It was the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following material contents be stressed in the Quarterly.

We must have a Quarterly that contains a greater Scriptural content; a Quarterly that will meet our educational demand; a paper that contains material for the teaching of Baptist principles; a Quarterly that will stir our thinking with respect to our position as a Baptist denomination toward a greater missionary responsibility for all the world; a paper that will inform us about our past developments, our history, missionary, and educational activities; a Quarterly with material on Christians marriage, home building, family life, Church and community responsibilities.

After much discussion, prayer, and planning it was decided that the Junior and Senior young people's materials should not appear in the same Quarterly as was originally suggested. The group was unanimous on the idea that we have a separate Junior Quarterly with a separate editor in charge of the Junior material. Plans are well underway for that Junior material. This material will be introduced to the Junior Societies as soon as possible.

We trust that our leaders will be patient with the Editorial Committee and the Union leaders until such a time when we shall have all details completed.

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