



The Christmas Prayer

BAPTIST HERALD

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December 15, 1946

WHAT'S HAPPENING

● On Nov. 13 the Rev. Albert Stelter of Arnprior, Ontario, Canada underwent a very serious back operation at Ottawa Hospital, Ottawa, Ontario. He has asked for the prayers of God's children in his behalf. Letters can be sent to him at the address: Arnprior, Ontario, Canada.

● The Rev. John Kemnitz, formerly on the staff of our Publishing House in Cleveland, Ohio, is now serving as an orderly in the department of neurology of Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He is also active in the West Baltimore Baptist Church, of which the Rev. Gustav Schmidt is the pastor. His address is 407 Brice St., Baltimore 23, Maryland.

● The First Baptist Church of Durham, Kansas conducted evangelistic services from Nov. 17th to Dec. 1st with the Rev. F. E. Klein of Stafford, Kansas as the evangelist. The meetings were well attended throughout the campaign. The pastor, Rev. L. H. Smith, will report later about the results of these services.

● In the announcement about the two new Seminary professors which appeared in the last issue of "The Baptist Herald," the report should have stated that the Rev. Reuben P. Jeschke of Dayton, Ohio has been appointed professor of English and Christian Education. The field of Christian Education will be given his major attention in his teaching ministry at the Seminary.

● The Ridgewood Baptist Church of Ridgewood, Long Island, N. Y., has called Mr. William R. Siktberg, a third year student at the Biblical Seminary of New York, N. Y., as the associate pastor to assist the Rev. A. E. Kannwischer. Mr. Siktberg, who comes from Indiana, has been rendering a very satisfactory ministry in this capacity since the opening of the Fall term at the seminary.

● Miss Ruth C. Doescher, missionary of the Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church of Philadelphia, Pa., renewed her ministry at the church early in the Fall after an illness of several months. But she has had to return to the hospital and is now in the Chestnut Hill Hospital of Philadelphia, undergoing ray treatments and receiving the best medical attention available. The church through its pastor, Rev. John F. Crouthamel, requests the prayers of our people in her behalf.

● Evangelistic meetings were held in the West Center Street Baptist Church of Madison, South Dakota from Nov. 4 to 15 with Dr. John Leypoldt of Milwaukee, Wis., as the guest preacher. Even though the weather was somewhat unfavorable, the attendance grew from evening to evening. Several Sunday School scholars accepted Christ as Savior. The Rev. Henry P. Schroeder, local pastor, reported that "the whole church was greatly encouraged by these meetings and is grateful to Dr. Leypoldt for his inspiring messages."

● A Union Thanksgiving Day service was held on Nov. 28 by the Faith Church of Minneapolis, Minn., and the Riverview and Daytons Bluff Churches of St. Paul, Minn., at the Daytons Bluff Church with the Rev. L. B. Berndt of Minneapolis bringing the

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message. The Riverview Church was represented by Prof. Edward Omark of Bethel Institute of St. Paul who has been serving as its supply pastor since the Rev. John Wobig left for Portland, Oregon. The Daytons Bluff Church Choir and a trio of girls furnished the special music.

● From Nov. 4 to 17 the Rev. Lawrence E. Wegner, pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Wausau, Wis., served as evangelist at special meetings held in the First Baptist Church of Rhinelander, Wis., of which the Rev. Kenneth L. Beilby is the pastor. There were 8 conversions during the meetings, among whom were a 71 year old man, and the mother of 12 children, three of whom were also saved during the services. Mr. Wegner wrote that he is enjoying a very blessed and fruitful ministry in the Immanuel Church.

● Evangelistic meetings were held in the Trinity Baptist Church of Jersey City, N. J., from Oct. 7 to 18 with the nearby Pilgrim Church cooperating. Phil Saint, Christian artist, and Dr. Wm. L. Taylor of Binghamton, N. Y., were the speakers. A group of 15 persons accepted Christ as Savior and were added to the membership of the two churches following baptism. The Rev. Evert Munning of the Pilgrim Church conducts a course for young people on "Bible Doctrines" on Friday evenings twice a month.

● Evangelistic services were conducted in the Central Baptist Church of Waco, Texas from Nov. 10 to 24 with the Rev. C. B. Nordland of Forest Park, Illinois as the evangelist. The meetings were greatly blessed with a fine response of the people and numerous consecrations. Mr. Nordland also spoke at a Gideons' breakfast meeting, the Waco Baptist Ministers' Alliance and a chapel service of Baylor University. During his absence the Forest Park pulpit was supplied by Rev. Rudolf Schade, Rev. Frank H. Woyke, Dr. C. W. Koller and Rev. Thomas Stoeri.

● At the annual business meeting of the B. Y. P. U. of the First Baptist Church of Leduc, Alta., these officers were elected: Ardon Frederick, president; Helen Grunwald, vice-president; Vera Hammer, secretary; Phyllis Grunwald, ass't secretary; Muriel Peters, treasurer; Clara Seecamp and Ruth Grabia, pianists; Eleanor Roth and Iris Holland, librarians; Waldemar Grabia, Ewald Price, Clarence Brown and John Seib, ushers. During the past year 16 meetings were held consisting of Bible lectures, devotional programs and testimonial services. The Rev. C. H. Seecamp is the pastor of the church.

● Evangelistic services were held in the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Marion, Kansas from Nov. 4 to 14 with the Rev. Martin De Boer of Buffalo Center, Iowa bringing forceful and inspirational messages, as reported by the Rev. J. J. Abel. From Dec. 1 to 15 an evangelistic campaign was held at the City Auditorium of Marion under the auspices of the Christian Business Men's Committee and some of the churches. The radio evangelist, Theo H. Epp, was the speaker with the music directed by Mr. J. Darrel Handel. The Rev. Arthur Schulz of the nearby Strassburg Baptist Church served as pianist during the meetings.

● A song festival was held in the Erin Ave. Church of Cleveland, Ohio on Sunday evening, Nov. 3, with the choir of the Connors Ave. Church of Detroit, Mich., joining the choir of the Erin Ave. Church in a combined chorus of 70 voices. The uplifting and inspiring program was rendered under the directorship of the Rev. B. W. Krentz, supply pastor of the Connors Ave. Church. This festival has become an annual occasion with the fellowship of these two choirs proving to be a great blessing to the churches. The White Avenue Church of Cleveland was also present and thus helped to fill the Erin Ave. Church's auditorium to the very last seat, as reported by the Rev. H. Hirsch, pastor of the Erin Ave. Church.

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Coming

JUBILEE YEAR—1947

Some of the startling new and amazingly interesting features of the enlarged "Baptist Herald in the 25th Jubilee Year in 1947 are announced on page 20 of this issue. The numbers are bound to get better throughout the year. Make your subscription certain at once!

SPIRITUAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE NEW YEAR

The entire denomination will be launched on a great spiritual "Achievement Program" with personal and church goals on Jan. 1, 1947. The plan will be outlined and described by the promotional secretary, Rev. M. L. Leuschner. The youth goals in the "Youth Service Plan" will also be interpreted by the Rev. J. C. Gunst, young people's secretary.

THE STATURE OF OUR SEMINARY

The Rev. Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary, will picture the Seminary's place in our denominational life in a very interesting article. This will be a part of the renewed effort by our churches to reach the goal of the Seminary Endowment Fund.

Subscription price—\$2.00 a year, To Foreign countries—2.25 a year.
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EDITORIAL

Cleveland, Ohio
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The Silence of Christmas

THE SILENCE of Christmas is wonderfully awesome. It is felt in the hushed singing of "Silent Night! Holy Night." It is seen in every Christmas picture which depicts "the heavenly peace" of God's revelation in the Christ-child. It colors the spiritual preparation of every disciple of Christ for this greatest festival of the year.

Christmas was the appearance of God in human life, the outburst of his glory in the person of Jesus Christ. That event has had greater repercussions in human history than a dozen atom bombs. And yet

"How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven."

Out in the stillness of the Judean hills the message is brought to listening shepherds: "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior." Near the busy, crowded inn a first-born son was laid in a manger and wrapped in swaddling clothes, and Joseph "called his name Jesus," "for he shall save his people from their sins." A quest was laid upon the hearts of several wise men afar off with the question that was silently but indelibly etched upon their souls: "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" As silently as the dawn of a new day, so God pulled aside the curtains of human history upon the marvelous event of his revelation of redeeming grace.

"Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth."

Equally astonishing is the anonymity of those who were the first witnesses of this stupendous divine event. They were shepherds, wise men, strangers from afar, but their names are buried in the secret archives of God's knowledge. Henry Van Dyke has given names to the three wise men, but this is merely traditional. The Scriptures bring this Christmas account with an inspiring silence about the identity of these witnesses.

As we gaze upon the Christmas pictures and read again the nativity account and attend the many festival programs, we ourselves become the witnesses of this glorious truth that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself" in love. Words are not necessary to give expression to our feelings in such an hour. In the silence of worship our faith looks up to him who became the Lamb of Calvary, and we are satisfied!

We always associate a sweet silence with Christmas. Only in this silence of Christmas will we be able to hear the song of the angels and the music of the heavenly spheres: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

The Angels' Song

A Christmas Sermon by the Rev.
R. A. GRENZ of Cathay,
North Dakota

Shepherds Tending Their Flock of Sheep Were the First to Hear the Good Tidings of Jesus' Birth as Proclaimed in the Angels' Song

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:14.

"HAVE YOU never walked at night when the stars seemed nearer than the tree-tops, when to your own eyes the sky was aglow with an unwonted radiance? Have you never known some high hour when the heavenly host seemed to sweep into your vision? Have you never heard songs in the air which fell from no human lips? If you have never known such moments, then, alas for the meagerness of your inner life! But if you have entered upon these high moods, your own heart will be the best interpretation of the stories of the nativity." These are the words of Dr. Charles Reynolds Brown. What could be more beautiful in story and setting than the narratives that proclaim the coming of the Son of God to earth!

It seems, in observing the passage of Luke 2:8-15, that God asked one of the angels to deliver the first message of Christ's birth. The message took on added meaning while the angel spoke to the shepherds, for a heavenly host joined the messenger. With a jubilant note the choir of angels sang the very first Christmas carol, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Can you hear the singing?

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Praise and honor to God for the greatest gift, Jesus the Savior of the world. Other works of God are for his glory, but the redemption of the world is for his glory in the highest, the highest heavens.

This part of the angels' song brings to memory the doxology sung in our churches—"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures

here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." A certain awe and reverence come upon the worshipper as he considers the hymn of the angels, the story of the birth of Jesus, and beholds the Beauty, Holiness, Perfection and Love of God. How much glory is given to God this Christmas season?

A certain father and mother became somewhat indifferent to their church and its work. The minister sought to interest them but only with little progress. One of the children of the home took sick. It was during this illness that the parents promised God to take an active interest in the work of their church. Yes, a promise to give praise and honor to God in the highest!

Doesn't it really seem that this is the aim of Christmas—"Glory to God in the highest"? When this becomes apparent, the rest of the verse will follow automatically.

Christmas is a time of joy and happiness, a time when we lift our hearts heavenward to catch the strains of the angels' song. God at the same time stoops low to bestow his blessings upon us—"peace on earth, good will toward men."

PEACE ON EARTH

Tranquillity or quiet upon the earth is the meaning of the second part. It is not entirely a world without war and conflicts among men. Little stock can be placed in the world's statesmen who are at the peace conference until they experience "the peace of God" for the earth.

The angels' message of peace is in a higher sense. For it is the coming to an end of the conflict between man and God, as stated in Romans 5:1, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

On Christmas Eve of 1875, Ira D. Sankey traveled by steamboat up the Delaware River. Many passengers were on the dock because the evening was calm and starlit. Mr. Sankey was asked to sing the "Shepherd Song," better known as "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us." After the singing a man with a rough, weatherbeaten face came up to the singer and asked, "Did you ever serve in the Union Army?"

"Yes, in the spring of 1862," replied Mr. Sankey.

"Can you remember if you were doing picket duty on a bright, moonlight night in 1862?" inquired the stranger.

Mr. Sankey said, "Yes."

"So did I," said the stranger, "but I was serving in the Confederate Army. When I saw you standing at your post I said to myself: 'That fellow will never get away from here alive.' I took my musket and took aim. But then you raised your eyes to heaven like tonight and began to sing. Music always had a wonderful power over me. I took my finger from the trigger and thought to myself, 'Let him sing his song to the end, then I will shoot him.' You sang the 'Shepherd Song.' The words, 'We are thine, do thou befriend us! be the guardian of our way,' stirred me. I thought of my childhood and my God-fearing mother who died all too soon. I couldn't shoot. Now, please, help me to find a cure for my sin-sick soul."

Mr. Sankey threw his arms around the stranger and both sank to their knees. This man found the Good Shepherd. He had peace.

When we sing with meaning the hymn, "Glory to God in the highest" "peace on the earth" will then come.

Isn't this the practical end of Christmas, to make peace a reality?

This is God's regard for people in

(Continued on Page 7)

The Fellowship Fund's World-wide Ministry

Christmas Cheer Is Brought to Many Hearts by Our Extensive Relief Ministry

One Pound Gifts of Flour for 67,000 People

An Amazing Story of a Grateful People
by Rev. William Sturhahn, Our Relief Representative in Germany

Before me lies a pile of 160 letters from only one of the six districts where the first carload of flour from Manitoba was distributed. For the past two hours I have read through these letters of praise and thanksgiving. I wish that everyone of these letters could be published, because out of them pours forth the deep gratitude of people who have faced and are facing the stark, naked reality of death.

They are thankful for even one pound of pure, white flour as they have not seen it in many years. To some it was the providing of a little bread for that day; others tried to save it for a special Christmas cake, but could not. They needed it for the day.

Many of these people are refugees without home, clothing or sufficient food. One woman sketches her past experiences in a terse sentence: "We had eight lovely children. Only two of my little ones are left with me alone." Sixty-seven thousand people received one pound of flour each. Throughout all these letters throbs a deep and proven faith in the providing love of a heavenly Father. "We have learned the fleeting value of material goods," is a frequently recurring statement. Fathers and mothers poured out their grateful hearts, because this flour gave a little extra nourishment to their children. Many old people, who came through the hardships of their flight from the East with their naked lives, appreciate a little "Klöße" in their soup.

Wherever I come as your representative, I hear the praises and blessings of the flour. Oh, how I wish that I had ten carloads to give away. Many a granary corner in the great Middle West of America contains enough wheat to bring unspeakable joy and life to these poor ones. The distribution of the flour was handled in a very efficient manner by "Bruderhilfe," the relief organization of our Baptist brethren.

In this brief message I pass on to you good Manitoba churches, to all of our churches who have helped and are helping, to the brethren in Forest Park, the deepest, most sincere thanks of the Baptists in Germany.

I wish that shutting one's eyes would remove the actual suffering. "For Jesus' Sake" we must double our efforts.

CHRISTMAS RELIEF PARCELS

Many hundreds of food parcels are being mailed each week from our Relief Headquarters in Forest Park, Ill., to the needy in Europe. Provision is being made for the distribution of Christmas goodies among the Baptist children of Germany before Christmas. Clothing is still being sent to Europe in large bales. This wonderful relief ministry is continuing unabated!

This winter will be the hardest Germany and Europe has ever faced. Let us make these people a special Christmas love offering for Jesus' Sake.

A Presbyterian Minister's Tribute to the Rev. A. Koester of Vienna, Austria

By Rev. Frederick Forell of New York, N. Y.

The Rev. Arnold Koester of Vienna, Austria has been for many years the intellectual leader of the Baptist churches in Austria. He is the minister to the Viennese congregation.

When I was in Vienna in 1938-39, the Rev. Arnold Koester was my most understanding and cooperative friend.

I was, at that time, working among refugees who had fled Germany and had come to Austria, and also among the Jews in this big city. I found no one there who had such a great love for the cause. Clever and Biblically sound, he understood the danger for Christianity. Again and again he risked danger and was called before the secret police there.

This worthy man is now hungry, perhaps starving like all the other people in Vienna. I sent him a small parcel, but you can understand I cannot send regularly, as after a service of 20 years in Germany, five years in Austria, and two years in France, I have more calls than I can answer. I would be most happy if you could send help to this godly, really wonderful man. He has a wife who works by his side as a real minister's wife, along with him in his congregation, and five grown-up children who are still living in his house.

I make this plea, not only because of the worth of Mr. Koester, and that he is a dear friend of mine, but because I know what a strategic place the Baptists hold in the evangelical movement in Austria, and perhaps in Central and Eastern Europe. A large number of his congregation are of Roman Catholic background, and it is our experience over there that when people of that religion are dissatisfied with their church, they want to go to a church which does not remind them at all of their previous church affiliations. The difference between the set-up and the church life in the Viennese Baptist congregation and the Roman Catholic church is greater than the difference between the Roman Catholics and the Lutherans. Therefore, if the Baptist movement in Vienna is strengthened, it will help the whole Protestant effort in that country.

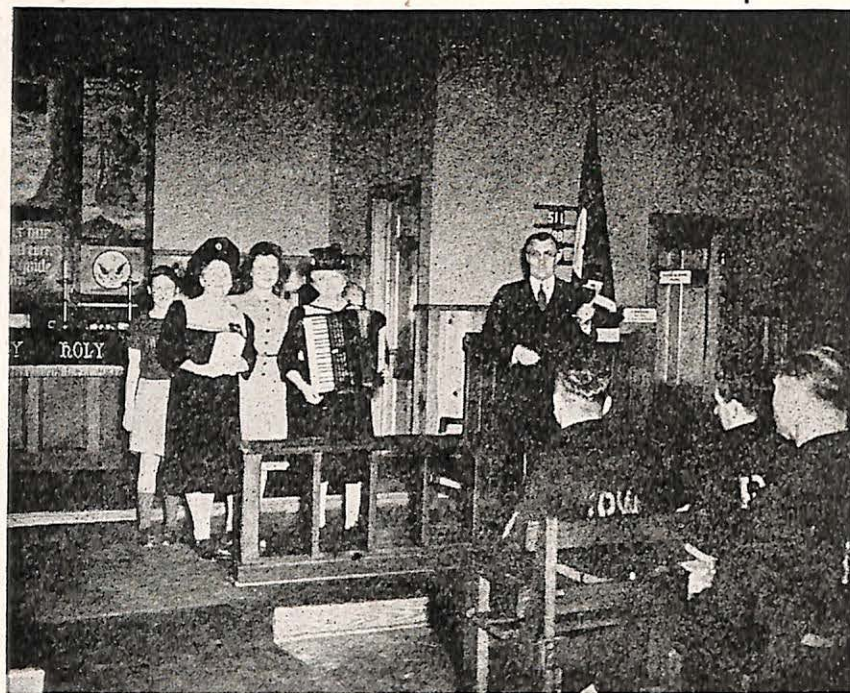
A Christmas Sonnet

By ROBERT GRAETZ

of the Immanuel Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Deeply lost in the throes of profound reverie
All my thoughts with the derelict snowflakes were tossed.
On a window pane canvas like Rembrandt's Dad Frost
Painting portraits of hiemal horrors for me
Deftly draping long fangs from each wire and tree
Locked the doors of the season with care to exhaust
The last note of comfort or warmth at all cost,
Locked the doors of the season and swallowed the key.

Yet I know of a place and I know of a scene
Where a rose budded sweetly in frigid December
While the boreal blasts blew so bitter and barren.
A Bethlehem manger, the Babe Nazarene,
Mary and Joseph, the Magi, remember,
Warmed their hearts at the bud of our dear Rose of Sharon.



The Rev. Gustav Schmidt and Members of the West Baltimore Baptist Church Conducting a Program for German War Prisoners at Camp Holabird

Christmas at Camp Holabird

The Story of a War Prisoners' Camp and of the Ministry of Rev. Gustav Schmidt by Mr. M. L. LEUSCHNER, Editor

CHRISTMAS in a war prisoners' camp! That was only a year ago in the ministry of the Rev. Gustav Schmidt of Baltimore, Maryland, but it was the beginning of a series of adventures that soon changed into amazing miracles of God, the like of which has seldom been duplicated in a pastor's life.

Many German war prisoners were put into Camp Holabird, about ten miles from Baltimore. It was near the army camp, Fort Meade, and also close to factories in which some of the German POW's had to work. Most of these men had belonged to the crack troops of the foxy German general Rommel, and some of them were ardent Nazis in their political philosophy. They had all tasted the bitter dregs of warfare and defeat in the North African campaign. Sullen and cynical, they check off the days on the calendar with listless spirit.

PASTOR SCHMIDT

Then a man came into camp and into their lives. He brought the sunshine of cheer into their hearts, for he was so good natured and winsomely human. He could speak their language. They soon learned that this

man of God, Rev. Gustav Schmidt, was pastor of the West Baltimore Baptist Church. They took an immediate liking to him. That was in the summer of 1944.

For fourteen successive Sundays Mr. Schmidt held services in the recreation hall after having been invited to this ministry by a Southern Baptist chaplain, Rev. P. B. Cooper. But difficulties soon towered formidably before him. Another chaplain took over, and the authorities of an ecclesiastical organization opposed the continued services of Pastor Schmidt at military headquarters. The prisoners heard of this and boycotted the meetings. For more than eight months not a Christian service was held in the camp.

"But God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform." Shortly before Christmas of 1945 another Southern Baptist chaplain, Rev. Henry Hearn, came to Camp Holabird. The men said they would attend the services if Pastor Schmidt would speak to them again. On the Sunday before Christmas he was there, facing a congregation of thirty men. On Christmas Day he and his family held a wonderful service for 46 men. Christmas carols were sung, especially "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht." Edna Schmidt,

THE BAPTIST HERALD

their 12 year old daughter, sang "The Lord's Prayer," which brought tears to many eyes. Outside the rain was pouring down on a cold, disagreeable day, but inside the chapel there were smiles on the faces of all the men and bright sunshine in their souls.

FIFTY-SIX CONVERTS

The services continued week after week from 3:00 to 4:00 P. M. every Sunday afternoon. The pastor's messages were dealing now with the true way of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. The faces of men were now very familiar to the minister, and he had come to know the life story of some of them. Few of them had ever made any real confession in Christ.

On a Sunday afternoon late in January Mr. Schmidt was encouraged to do the unusual thing. The service had been especially inspiring. The Berge sisters had sung with great fervency, and the Holy Spirit came to brood over the chapel. Forty-one men were present, listening with rapt attention to every word that was spoken.

The sermon became more pointed and personal. "Your misfortune in becoming prisoners of war," Mr. Schmidt dared to say, "is actually your good fortune and the opportunity that is now yours to know and to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Your unconditional surrender to the allied armies is but an illustration of your need for personal unconditional surrender to Christ!"

A good old-fashioned evangelistic invitation was given. The men were asked to consider their spiritual need, and to raise their hands, to stand up and to come forward, thereby indicating their desire to pray for complete forgiveness and salvation. A few of the men responded. The heart of the minister leaped for joy and the angels in heaven began to sing as the handful of men coming forward became a glorious procession. Thirty of the 41 men in the audience came forward and surrendered their hearts unconditionally to the Master.

But this was only the beginning! In subsequent services the men who had been converted spoke to the others about their need of a Savior. Things were different now in their lives. The men continued to come forward—five on one Sunday, six in another service, a few others later—until 56 men altogether had come forward and had given a testimony of Christ's saving power in their lives.

THE BAPTISMAL SERVICE

On Easter Sunday the organist pulled out all stops of the organ to play the refrain, "Jesus lives! Jesus lives!", when suddenly the organ music stopped abruptly. Mr. Schmidt looked in the direction of the organist and saw him weeping with his head buried in his hands. As the men continued to sing

of the triumph of Easter, this young German lad came forward to the altar and there experienced the spiritual power of Easter's first resurrection in his own soul.

It wasn't long before these war prisoners, now prisoners of the Lord Jesus Christ, asked about baptism. Mr. Schmidt replied that immersion only would be the scriptural mode of baptism. But how can you baptize war prisoners? That question did not stump this man of God.

After some weeks of facing military officials and making strong demands of them in the name of democracy, Mr. Schmidt was successful. The arrangements for the baptismal service were made. And what a service!

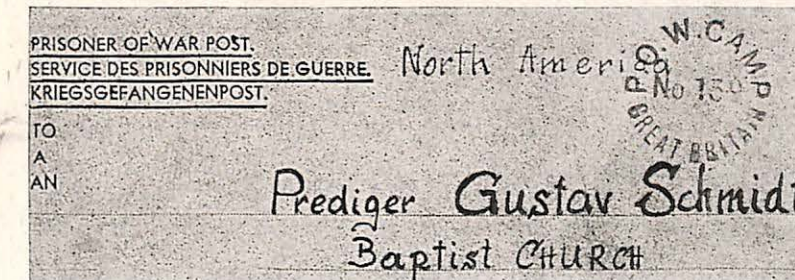
Everything was carried out with the strictest military secrecy. The war prisoners, nineteen of them, were released for that particular Saturday; (the others could not be released because of the nature of their work). Two trucks loaded with the men were taken to the First Baptist Church of Dundalk, Maryland, with a police escort, two radio cars, city and state police and guards of Camp Holabird in the strange procession.

They arrived at the church where they were met by deacons of the West Baltimore and Dundalk Baptist churches in the brotherly spirit of Christ. And such a congregation! The German war prisoners were seated side by side with these Baptist deacons, surrounded by police, detectives, guards and military officers. As a result, Mr. Schmidt spoke a few words in German to the converts and then spent most of his allotted time to bring an evangelistic message to "the pagans" who were the guards of these prisoners. The U. S. Signal Corps took pictures of every one of the war prisoners at the time of his baptism and the photographs are being kept secretly in the military files of the United States Army.

COMMUNION FELLOWSHIP

Afterwards a communion service was held in the church with the Rev. D. Hiller of the Dundalk Church assisting Mr. Schmidt. "You came to the United States with hatred in your hearts," Mr. Schmidt said. "But now in this country you have received Christ as your Savior. You are new creatures in him. Even this tribulation in your life has become a glorious blessing for you. You will return to your country with spiritual peace in your soul and with friendship for this country, I am sure." The nineteen men were then received into the membership of the West Baltimore Baptist Church!

The sequel to the story continues the remarkable uniqueness of the events. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt are receiving many letters from these men, who are now in England or back home



A Letter from Adolf Pomrenke Sent to Rev. Gustav Schmidt from a Prisoner of War Camp in England

in Germany. All of them are faithful to their confession in Christ. A few want to become ministers. All of them thank God for the Christmas of 1945 and for the ministry of Brother Schmidt. "Greetings to my church," wrote one of them. "Grüsse an meine Kirchengemeinde," wrote another.

Rudolph, who is seated at the extreme left on the accompanying chapel picture on this page, wrote this letter from England a few weeks ago (which has been translated): "Dear brother, how happy I am that you wrote to me. Now I know that I have one person who has not forgotten me. Now I don't have to feel lonesome. I do not have any relatives living any longer, so you understand me when I say that I want you to continue to be my spiritual advisor and pastor. How gladly I think back to those lovely services that we had together at Holabird and especially of last Christmas. Those were wonderful meetings, and we were

proud of you, for even the godless men knew about you and became restless under your preaching."

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Although Mr. Schmidt began his ministry in Baltimore on June 1922, about 25 years ago, he now believes that he was being prepared in this quarter of a century for the most important opportunity of a lifetime. This ministry to the German war prisoners was a monumental service which only eternity can reveal in all of its glory and grandeur.

Christmas will have more wonderful meaning for many families in Germany where these former war prisoners will tell the story of last Christmas in America and of new found blessings in Jesus Christ. For this message transcends all boundaries of men and of time: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."



Prisoners of War Who Attended the Christmas Program at Camp Holabird Last Year and Most of Whom Were Converted Under the Preaching of the Rev. Gustav Schmidt of the West Baltimore Baptist Church, Baltimore, Maryland

The Angels' Song

(Continued from Page 4)

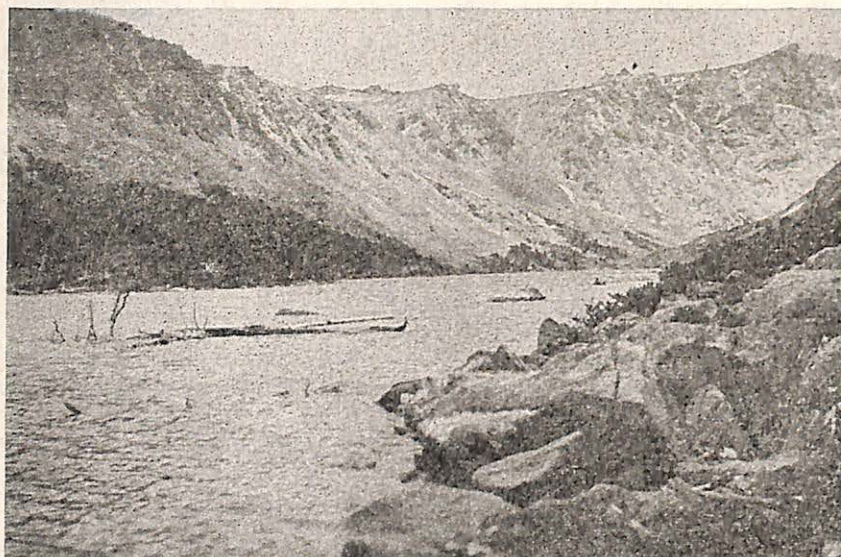
their lost condition. People who can walk in the light as God is in the light and are obedient to him can expect the good will or pleasure of God. Also they will have good pleasure for others. You see, these people are open to God and his plan, as we read, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do his good pleasure."

How much good will is there? Is it expressed in concrete form? How

much action is given to the thought of those less fortunate near our homes as well as to those in other countries?

Christmas is a direct result of the birth of Jesus, but he is being crowded out by Santa Claus and by the glittering display of wealth and riches. There is little good will in this because it is without sacrificial endeavor.

Our Christmas this year will have more meaning than ever before if we join the chorus of angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."



Picturesque Black Joe Lake in Wyoming

Adventures in Wyoming

Reflections on Life in the West by Rev. HERBERT KOCH
of Rock Springs, Wyoming

SEVERAL TIMES since leaving Chicago I have thought of sharing my Wyoming experiences with the readers of "The Baptist Herald." An invitation to write an article came from your editor last Christmas, and so at last I have taken the time to write.

MODERN PAGANS

I left Chicago when the men and women of the Armed Services were still crowding all overland trains to capacity. It was my good fortune to secure a last vacant seat in a smoking compartment adjoining the men's washroom.

In the seat next to the window sat a buxom colored lady who was jovial and generous. In pre-war days she had been a laundress earning \$18.00 a week. Now she was a riveter earning \$75.00 to \$100.00 per week. She had vacationed in Cincinnati, Ohio, her home town, and was on her way back to Seattle, Washington.

She valiantly defended her right to sit in men's quarters. Because she was doing men's work, she claimed equal rights with men to swear, smoke and drink. Because she claimed white women had "high-hatted" her too much because of her race, she decided to take her chances with the men. During the entire trip from Chicago to Omaha, she treated many soldiers and sailors. The stimulating drinks which she dispensed made a laughing stock of more than one soldier and sailor. Before our arrival at Omaha several sailors were put off the train by the Military Police. Our modern pagans

needed to heed Paul's entreaty, "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires."

WYOMING'S GLORY

We soon neared the state of Wyoming. The sage brush studded the hills with occasional green spots, marking the presence of a stream or spring. All of the scene was vaulted by an azure blue sky, seldom clouded, which conveys a beauty all its own. Add to this the large herds of cattle or sheep grazing upon these hills or seeking shelter or water in the valleys and the landscape becomes quite animated. That's Wyoming.



Rev. Herbert Koch of Rock Springs, Wyoming

Manville, a ghost town which had dwindled from a population of 2500 to 250 in twenty years, was the community where I was to spend a school year of nine months. In this town many foundations can be seen that are a mute testimony to plans begun, but never finished. In other cases, houses were moved away to serve as ranch houses or homes in more prosperous communities. All that remained of former glory were gaping holes and broken down foundation walls, reminding one of the rubble and ruin of a bombed city.

Misleading signs were quite conspicuous, too. A barber shop sign was on a shanty now used as a watch repair shop. A sign advertising a bank was on a building housing a general store, and a hotel sign may be seen on a building now used as a public garage. These signs reminded one of people who judging by externals are one thing but on the inside are something quite different. Living a lie or putting on a good front may fool our friends for a time but it can never fool God. Our day solely needs Christians who are upright and genuine, not mere pretenders.

TEACHING SCHOOL

My year of public school teaching afforded me an opportunity to do some reading in History and General Science, for which I had found little time in the past. It would be profitable for every pastor to get away from his regular work every seven years and to find out how the other half of humanity lives. From such an experience one returns with a reinforced conviction that Christ still remains the greatest need of man.

The children who live on ranches and oil fields usually have little of any religious training. They are strong physically for they live an active out-of-door life. Ranch children compete with each other in 4-H Club work, raising livestock, vegetables and fruit. Besides winning prizes, they earn their own money. The boys living in oil camps were able to earn from \$10 to \$15 per day. It was not surprising therefore that absences from school were frequent. Several days were required to earn a roll and several days were required to get over the effects of the spending. In fairness to youth it need be said that in most instances their elders set the pace for living by the slogan, "Let's have fun."

During my teaching experience I discovered an appalling ignorance regarding even the simplest historical facts of the origin and development of the Christian religion.

COAL MINERS

Since June 1, 1945 I have been serving the First Baptist Church of Rock (Continued on Page 19)

Christmas Gifts That Never Tarnish

A Message by the Rev. CARL R. WEISSER of Killaloe, Ontario, Canada

"Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." James 1:22.

THE CHRISTMAS season in the past has always been welcomed because of the spirit of giving which has been manifested. But the true spirit of giving which really brought Christmas into being has been forgotten. The true ideal which prompted the gift—"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"—has vanished in the fullest sense of the word. We have come to the place where it is merely "Indian Giving," which results in bigger and better gifts, so that the returns should be bigger and better.

I am hoping and praying that the Christian world is coming back to the place where the Church of old stood: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33.) First, Christ had to make the sacrifice before we could receive the gift. Who today of God's children would wish to have the gift taken from them? Would they not resist? How many would like to see it taken from someone else? None, I believe. If so, he would be none other than a very selfish person.

Indirectly, it is taken from many people and even ourselves. This happens automatically when we neglect our privileges as children of God. We are warned in Matt. 5:16 to "let our light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Also, "in all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, and sincerity." (Titus 2:7.)

THE BLESSEDNESS OF THE GIFT

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Phil. 1:21.) Paul knew that this kind of living or giving of self would be rewarded with blessedness.

Before Christ came into the world, men were dying in their sins everywhere. Since the old order could not atone for man's sin, what was to be done? Build more altars? Raise another priesthood of earthly origin? No. God sent his Son, not to condemn the world, but to save it. He was elected by God, and consented to do the will of his Father in order to free the world from sin and slavery. Now in the light of the Scriptures there is nothing more in this world Christ can do, since they plainly affirm that Christ shed his blood once and for all on Calvary.

"Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, for this he did once, when he offered up himself." (Heb. 7:27.)

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." (John 15:13, 14.) When Jesus was asked who his friends were, he said, "Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what the Lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." (John 15:15.) Is this not something of which we can be eternally proud that he did impart it to us. This gift of life was only possible because he was willing to impart it to us, as the Father had given it to him in secret.

This gift now is only possible, if we are willing. We are his hands, feet, eyes, ears and mouth. We can be assured that all who give themselves for his service will not have a royal burial procession. Moses was taken on Mount Nebo, and Livingstone's heart was buried in the heart of Africa. "For bodily exercise profiteth little; but godliness is profitable to all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." (1 Tim. 4:8.) We can dedicate ourselves and have the assurance that our labor is not in vain. We may not have our hearts buried in Africa—but our prayers and pocketbooks can be.

OUR GIFT OF SUBSTANCE

"I have showed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35.) This does not seem to be the attitude in this day and age. It is, gather all you can at any cost. But we must remember the Lord has much and can give much, provided we are ready to wait upon him.

It is positively essential that every one receive much, provided God receive his portion. The men with the five and ten talents returned the gift with interest, and were made caretakers over greater possessions. But the lazy and selfish keeper, who buried his in the earth, did not find more administered to him but found that all was taken in a flash. Is it not so that often God takes away from those who have nothing, and gives it to those who already have much? God shares of his abundance not that we should build larger barns, but he wants us to be gaining other talents—other souls with it.

The Church of God has come a long way from the true spirit of giving. If the question were to be asked of us, "Will a man rob God?", we would surely cry out: "No!" But Malachi says, "Yes!" How? In tithes and offerings. It seems the hardest thing for us to so give to the Lord. When the government demands its cut, we pay up; but even though the government has allowed us first to withdraw for Christ's work we reluctantly do so. It is easier to pay \$10,000 to the government than \$10.00 to the church. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." (Mal. 3:10.)

Try to think for one moment of the millions in the world this Christmas—homeless, hungry, cold, and Godless, while we do not want. Shall we store it for the moths and rust, or will we turn it into sparkling jewels for our crown?

THE GIFT OF SERVICE

"Then he ariseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poured water in a basin, and began to wash the disciples feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded." (John 13:4, 5.) How would you survive without a physician? How would your soul survive without the Master? How would your soul be kept fed without the services of God's servant? How are the tens of thousands in Europe, Africa, China, going to see the light and be rescued from death and starvation? Have we become too complacent and do not want to be disturbed in our plenty?

"And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? And he within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee." (Luke 11:5-7.)

Are we only concerned about ourselves and thus watch the Kingdom of God collapse at our feet? Or will we hold the banner of God high, in order that the rolling hordes of sin will not crush everything in their wake? Friends, we must become as the servant to be exalted. Then, first, can we see him as he is, Wonderful and Sublime!

After Many Days

A Christian Novel

by JOYE HOEKZEMA

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SYNOPSIS

Dr. Christopher Matthews, Chief of Staff at Cass General Hospital, had a brilliant mind and skilled hands, but—se people said—no heart. He fell in love with Jane Lee, a nurse and a consecrated Christian, and asked her to marry him. She knew that he was grieving the Spirit of God, but she consented. For their honeymoon they went to the Virgin Islands, where in bitterness of spirit, because of inexplicable tragedies, Dr. Matthews closed his mind to God. Following their return to the hospital, Jane decided to see one of the patients against the doctor's orders. Chris arrived at home just as Mrs. Van Ripper was leaving. He was very angry!

CHAPTER EIGHT

Jane looked up mildly, though she was beginning to tremble. "You look tired, Chris. Of course I served tea. No objections, I trust."

"To that woman, yes! And I think you know why. She's the mother of one of my patients."

"All the more reason why she should be received in your home."

Chris snorted. "I'll wager she came here to complain," he said roughly.

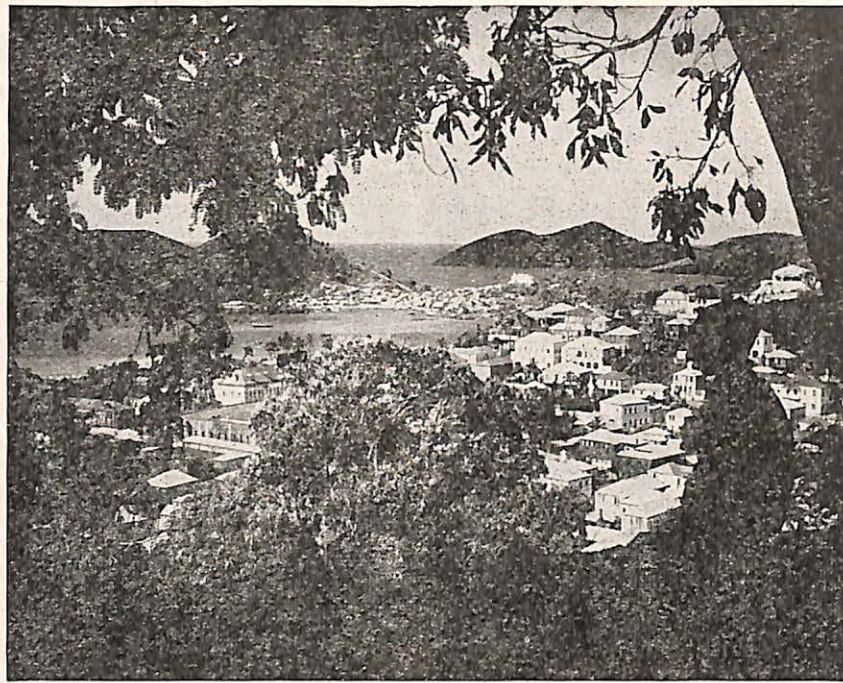
"She came here at my request," Jane contradicted sharply.

"How did you learn about her?"

Jane swallowed hard, not wanting to expose Toby. "A good many people at the hospital know her," she evaded. "They're sorry for her, naturally. She has had a tough time of it."

"Granted! But what's the sense of her acting like a hysterical idiot! Ever since I suggested operating on the boy, she stands around wringing her hands and moaning. He has a spinal curvature and he'll be in a bad way if it isn't taken care of. But try and get that across to her!"

"I believe you'll find her quite acquiescent the next time you suggest it," Jane interrupted, rolling her knitting into a tight little ball and crowding it from sight into a corner of the lounge.



—Ewing Galloway Photo

A Striking View of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands from Synagogue Hill With the French Village With Its White Church Crowning the Hill Top in the Distance. Here Chris and Jane Spent the Weeks and Months of Their Extended Honeymoon.

Chris stared, his lips curling a little. "I suppose you hypnotized her—or was it something you put in the tea?"

"It might have been a little milk of human kindness," she retorted tightly, "but you wouldn't want to believe that, would you, my cynical husband? You'd hate to admit that sympathy and understanding and tenderness have any part in that coldly scientific world of yours. You . . ."

"O. K., O. K., let's skip the rest," he said churlishly. "I hoped we'd left this wrangling behind. I hoped we were done with it when you left the hospital. Must it be dragged continually into our private life? My professional affairs have nothing to do with my home!"

"You believe that, don't you? You actually think that you can go on being two entirely different persons—a kind of Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," she said hotly. "And you blandly expect that it isn't going to make any difference in my feeling toward you! Oh, Chris, how can you be so tender and considerate to me and then so harsh to a woman like that young mother? You could be truly great if you would only stop nursing that old bitterness and let the Lord have His way with you . . ."

Chris reached for his hat. "I won't argue with you in your condition," he said between clenched teeth. "I'll get a bite to eat and go back to the office. Don't wait up for me. I'll probably be late!"

"But I've got dinner in the oven," she protested, fighting to hold back the tears.

"In your present mood my company would give you indigestion," he re-

torted bitterly. "You can't possibly want a split personality for a dinner companion. I'll pick up a sandwich at the drugstore." Without another look in her direction, he stalked out.

She found a bit of blue yarn and rubbed it absently between numbed fingers. Its softness spoke of babyhood and tender dreams and new life. But there was no answering joy in her heart. They were quarreling again, and this time she realized that their eventual reconciliation would be only an armed truce, that peace had left their sanctuary, and real happiness would never be theirs again until God, by some miracle, changed Chris' heart.

Suddenly she moaned there in the stillness, for she had neither the strength nor the will for conflict. Yet she knew, with a terrible certainty, that conflict must come.

She slipped to her knees before the lounge and began to pray in broken half-sentences, her head bowed exhaustedly on her folded arms.

"Oh, Lord Jesus . . . forgive me for failing Thee again . . . I know I shouldn't quarrel with Chris . . . I should leave the whole matter in Thy hands . . . and then rest and have faith that Thou wilt bring victory . . . But, Lord . . . my faith is so small. It's all dark . . . everywhere I look, it's dark . . . Oh, Holy Spirit . . . Lord of the Harvest . . . help me . . . work through me . . . and never let Chris rest until he has arisen and returned to the Father's house. I know he is saved, Lord. He accepted Thee as Lord when he was young. And Thou hast promised that no man shall pluck Thy sheep from Thy hand. Oh, Christ, may he see Thee in me and may my

life reflect Thy beauty and Thy long-suffering. Help me not to quarrel with him again. I'm so weak . . . so miserably weak. Give me grace, Lord . . . give me patience . . ."

* * *

Christopher Matthews, Junior, was born on a hot August afternoon, a healthy, incredibly homely little scamp, red and wrinkled as a frosted apple, with a crop of midnight hair and the lustiest voice in the nursery. Chris was inordinately proud of him.

"Look at that hair! And strong—why he's got a grip like a champ. Look at him punish my finger, will you? Tough as nails. Bet he'll play tackle on a football team someday!"

"Bet he'll have the colic if you don't stop bouncing him around like that. Even if you are a doctor, you certainly don't know how to hold a new baby. Better let Sormagg give you a few lessons."

"You don't hear him making any complaints, do you? He likes his dad, don't you, fella? Say, by the way, what are you going to call him, honey?"

"Christopher Lee Matthews," Jane announced softly, watching her husband's face with a prayer in her brave young heart. "And may he grow to be as fine a man as his father."

For an instant Chris hid his face against the small satin cheek. "May he be a whole lot better man than his dad," he said gruffly. Deep in Jane's soul, hope once again lifted its radiant head.

How pitifully short-lived was that hope! Little Lee was scarcely three months old when the rift between them was broadened.

It was a stormy November afternoon, rainy and dark, with a penetrating chill—the kind of day when an open fire is especially inviting. Jane was curled up before the snapping logs, sewing new nightgowns for Lee, when the bell announced a visitor. To her surprise it was Mrs. Van Ripper, shivering in a thin fall coat. Jane led her to the fire, made her welcome, and wondered anxiously what had prompted this uninvited call.

"Doctor Matthews tells me your son has shown marvelous improvement," Jane said cheerfully, watching the pinched, careworn face. "How grand that he could do without his crutches before he had to start school!"

Mrs. Van Ripper gave Jane a trembling, apologetic smile. "Yes, we are very grateful, Jan and I. Doctor 'But something is troubling you,' Jane said gently, noting that the warmth and the quiet were relaxing the woman's strained body. "Is something wrong, my dear?"

The young mother hesitated, her hands fluttering a little, like the wings of an exhausted bird. "I—I should not complain," she said miserably. "We have so much to be thankful for—only . . ."

"Only what, friend? Don't be afraid to tell me."

Unshed tears gave the other's blue eyes the look of a buffeted sea. "It's Jan," she confided desperately. "He isn't happy. He's too young to be grateful for the fact that he can walk at all. He resents the brace because the other children laugh at him sometimes. He never learned English in the old country, and he has difficulty with the language, too. He grows more unhappy every day. I am afraid for him—he broods so."

"Oh, I'm sorry. Isn't there something . . ."

Mrs. Van Ripper's thin hand touched Jane's arm timidly. "He admires the doctor so much," she said speaking quickly. "And all the time he talks about the great doctor. I've been thinking that maybe if Doctor Matthews could drop around someday and explain to him about the brace and tell him that he won't always have to wear it, it would lift his spirit like nothing else could. He wouldn't mind if the children teased him then—or the limp."

The lump in Jane's throat ached unbearably. "Why haven't you gone to Doctor Matthews about this before?"

Her visitor flushed painfully. "I—I—have tried. But he is such a busy man. I saw him at the office a month ago, but he said he had done all he could for Jan. I am a very poor talker. I guess perhaps I didn't make him understand. That is why I've come to you."

"I see." A chill was in Jane's heart now and she shivered in spite of the fire. "Give me your address and perhaps I can manage to see Jan myself."

"Oh, no, I wouldn't want to trouble you."

"Just in case the doctor is too busy," Jane explained. "I used to work with cases like Jan's. I think perhaps you and I can give him the moral tonic he needs. Let me get a book I bought the other day on plane-spotting. Tell him, when I call next week, I shall expect him to know and identify every plane on the first twenty pages. We'll start by giving him something else to think about besides that brace." She hesitated an instant, then added, "Does Jan know the Lord Jesus, Mrs. Van Ripper?"

The other's tears suddenly overflowed. "Oh, yes, yes. He took the Lord as his Savior when we were still in Holland. But he is so young. He has become bewildered and afraid. But who can blame him? Sometimes I think my faith is even smaller than his!"

Jane's strong young arms seized the shaking shoulders. Suddenly the words of the Fortieth Psalm flashed across her numbed mind and she repeated the first three verses, more to her own frightened heart than to the listening woman.

"I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard

my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord."

For a moment they clung together, blending their tears and their silent prayer. Then Mrs. Van Ripper went quietly away.

* * * * *

Jane waited wisely until after office hours that night to broach the subject of Mrs. Van Ripper and her Jan. Chris was sprawled comfortably before the fire, eating a bowl of popcorn and fiddling with the radio. Jane shrank from the duty before her. It would have been much easier to have forgotten her visitor of the afternoon.

"Chris," she announced finally, "Mrs. Van Ripper was here today."

His head came up sharply and a shadow of displeasure crossed his face. "Again?" he asked impatiently. "I wish you wouldn't encourage folks to feel this is an annex to my office."

Jane held up the diminutive nightgown and deliberately measured the sleeve before she answered. "She isn't the kind of person who intrudes or takes advantage of kindness, Chris. She came today because she is desperate. Jan isn't doing well. I believe she tried to talk with you at the office. Didn't she get it across to you that the boy is brooding?"

He gave her a cold stare. "Can I help it if the kid has developed a case of increased sensibility?"

"No, but you may be able to help him through it now that he has developed this sensitiveness. He admires you very much, Chris. He would love you if you gave him half a chance. This is a new country to him. At best the adjustments are difficult. With the handicap of a brace, it's doubly hard. He is being teased and ridiculed. Can't you imagine how he is suffering?"

"Sure. I've done a turn at suffering myself," Chris retorted gruffly. "But what am I supposed to do? Kill the little ruffians who are getting his goat?"

"Have a heart-to-heart talk with him, lover. He must miss a father's confidence dreadfully. Tell him the brace is only a step toward complete cure. Tell him that in another year, he'll be out there running and playing with the best of them. Build up his ego."

Chris crushed a handful of popcorn and let it drift to the floor—a shower of white confetti. A log broke in the grate, sending up thin blue spirals of flame. Chris seemed to be listening to it, or perhaps it was the mocking voice of the tempter himself who goaded him. Jane, watching his tormented face, realized suddenly that Chris was powerless to talk to Jan, even if there had been willingness in his heart. A prodigal, in the desolation of a foreign land, has no words of comfort and help

for others. His soul is barren. It cannot yield the fruits of gentleness and goodness and faith. Chris was too honest to speak words he didn't feel himself. In the poverty of his heart he had nothing to give, and so his only rebuttal was impotent rage.

"I'm getting fed up!" he said with such abrupt savagery that Jane gasped. "I don't expect you to understand why I refuse to play spiritual adviser to my patients, and I've stood about all I intend to of your nagging. What I do and how I do it, is my business. I'm a surgeon, not a nursemaid. I've discharged the Van Ripper boy. I've done all I can for him. Is that clear?"

Jane folded the little nightgown very carefully, as though it were priceless silk. The flannel clung to her shaking hands. "Quite clear, Chris," she said unsteadily. "Quite clear, indeed. I—I think I'll go to bed now, if you don't mind."

"You needn't," he said wearily as though his spent anger had left him exhausted. "I've got to make a call at the hospital. I'll take myself out of your way."

Like an old man he moved toward the hall. The anguish in Jane's heart came to her lips in a sob of protest. "Chris, my darling, must it be like this?" But he didn't hear her. He went out quietly, closing the door behind him.

The next few weeks brought no reconciliation. Chris withdrew into himself, and the awful gulf between them widened. Jane prayed frantically, but her own lack of faith kept her from receiving her daily portion of the manna of comfort. She performed the everyday tasks mechanically, her eyes dry, her body feverish.

Spring was coming, but there was no joy in her soul. She clung to God's promises, but their eternal strength and reassurance did not pierce the darkness of her spiritual night. Her faith seemed to have failed when she needed it most.

One unforgettable night, just as they were finishing a grim dinner together, Chris announced abruptly, "I'm making arrangements to leave my practice the last of the month. I intend to do some medical research for the government."

Jane was stunned.

"Why not? That's a big field, and workers are needed desperately."

"I—I suppose they are. But why should you . . ."

"It's the place for me, isn't it?" he interrupted harshly, stirring his coffee viciously. "You've told me often enough that I'm a failure in regular practice. And if it's any satisfaction to you, I've come to see that you're right—as usual. But I'll never be any different. I'd better transfer my efforts to an entirely different field. The bedside manner won't count there. Wouldn't you say the job was made to order for me?" The ruthless bitter-

ness in his voice cut like a lash, but now she had the repeated revelation that it was because of his own helplessness that he was striking out at her.

Jane put down her fork. There was no use trying to crowd food past the lump in her throat—past the fear that turned her stomach cold and sick. "The Government will be very fortunate to get you," she said, and wondered dully that her voice could remain so steady when inside she was crumbling like a mud wall in a deluge. She knew, of course, that Chris was leaving because of the breach between them, and it was a pitiless knowledge. Yet she wondered if perhaps this was God's way of answering her ceaseless pleadings.

Jane was never to forget the month that followed. Times without number she read the Psalm she had once quoted so staunchly to Mrs. Van Ripper: "I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry." But when she reached the verse "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay," she wept and prayed desperately, "Oh, God, give me faith—give me faith. Lift me out of this mire of doubt and fear. Give me rest in Thee, and save Chris from the bitterness of his own soul. God, hear me, hear me!"

In the middle of the month an unprecedented epidemic of pneumonia and influenza struck the city. The hospital wards were crowded. Beds were put up in the halls, and oxygen tents were borrowed from neighboring towns. Chris, with the rest of the staff, worked night and day, though as a specialist in orthopedics he might have spared himself somewhat. But that wasn't his way. He came home at all hours, gaunt-eyed and haggard, to gulp down cup after cup of strong black coffee and return to the unending fight.

Then, on the very last day of the month—the day he had planned to offer himself to the Government—he came home from the hospital just before dinner and fainted in the front hall.

Jane never remembered how she got him in bed. She called Doctor Kane, who had been with them when little Lee was born, and he was there in an incredibly short time. Chris was already conscious and weakly protesting, "I'm all right! Tired, that's all!"

"You're a sick man, Chris," Doctor Kane told him sternly. "You've driven yourself inhumanly. Looks like you've got the bug yourself now. Good thing for you that you have a private nurse, eh?"

But Chris only turned a savage, tormented face to the wall.

He was desperately ill during the following weeks. There were black hours when Jane despaired of his life, but somehow he fought through and finally passed the crisis. However,

in his weakened state, the disease had ravaged him and his convalescence was tediously slow and painful.

As the final blow, the stock in which he had invested most of his money collapsed. They were left with only their bank savings. Theirs was the story of Job, Jane thought bleakly, but God had spared little Lee. They had no conquering faith to cry, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him." Even her own faith was wavering like a candle flame in a fitful draft.

Helpless now after his long illness, Chris viewed the world from the patient's perspective. Day after miserable day Jane watched in agony while his spirit grimly refused tenderness and comfort, because he himself had refused to give them to others. He was too honest to take for himself what he had denied to his patients.

It was a terrible thing to see him wrestling with his own bitterness, loathing it, yet powerless to rid himself of it. The weeks dragged by and summer came. Chris showed little improvement. He was suffering now from nervous collapse which only time could heal. Hours of brooding and restless nights only aggravated his condition. Jane's heart bled for him, but she was powerless to aid him. She could only stand at the edge of his broken life and cry to God for courage to live each difficult day.

When fall came the hospital was again suffering from an acute shortage of nurses. Miss Sormagg called Jane one night and diffidently suggested that she come back to work. Jane told her she would think it over.

She knew something had to be done. They had been using their surplus and their bank account was dangerously low. Chris, furthermore, seemed irritated by her presence, and so she finally decided to return to the hospital. Before revealing her plans to Chris, she found a capable middle-aged woman to care for Lee and do the necessary housework.

"So you've got to support me now, too, eh?" he muttered, his face grey and miserable. "That makes me feel noble! You sure picked yourself a swell bargain when you married me, Mrs. Matthews!"

"I'm very satisfied with my bargain," Jane whispered, trying to smile and failing utterly. "And don't be foolish, Chris. I'm not supporting you. We've still got money in the bank. I'm going back to work because the hospital needs help so badly. It's— it's my duty!"

"That's a lie and you know it. We're nearly broke and you've got to work to keep bread in our mouths. You needn't treat me like a moron!"

"Chris, please!" But he wasn't listening. He flung himself into a chair and hid behind a newspaper, but not before Jane caught the look of shame in his bewildered eyes.

(To Be Continued)

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

The Last of Several Socials for Returning Service Men by the Cottonwood Church

Each time one of the Service Men of the Cottonwood Baptist Church of Texas came home, the Sunday School or Baptist Training Union gave a social in his honor. On Thursday night, Nov. 22, we were privileged to have the last Service Men's social in honor of our last three boys to return home, Edward Gummelt, Louis Wedemeyer and Harry Lampert.

We are thankful to God for the return of all of our boys except one. God saw fit to take one of our Service Men, Lt. Arthur H. Hansen, to his heavenly home. Other Service Men present at the social were: Rev. J. R. Wyatt, our pastor; Vernon Ekert, Charles Hansen, Clifton Kraemer, Giles Kincannon, Dr. Wm. Marsteller, Eddie Gummelt, Louis Gummelt and Bufford Swanner.

A large crowd was present and enjoyed the evening's entertainment under the able leadership of our pastor, the Rev. J. R. Wyatt. We have learned to love the Wyatt family and are thankful to God for sending them to us. We will be glad when our new parsonage will be completed and they can make use of it.

Mrs. Clifton Kraemer, Reporter.

NORTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

Recent Missionary Activities of the Baptist Women and Sunday School at Randolph, Minn.

On Sunday evening, Oct. 27, the Woman's Missionary Society of the Randolph Baptist Church, Randolph, Minn., observed its anniversary program. Several of the members presented "The Cross of Service." We had a chalk drawing by Miss Edna Miller and several musical numbers by members.

Our pastor, Rev. Ben Zimmerman, then brought a missionary message. The offering of this evening was designated toward the Fellowship Fund. We plan on having another public meeting in Spring, at which time our offering will go toward our National Society's goal, the Nurses' Training School in the Cameroons.

We observed our Harvest and Mission Festival on Sunday, Nov. 10. Everyone participated by bringing food items which were sent to our needy brethren in Europe. The Sunday School rendered a short program. Both the offerings of the Church and the Sunday School were designated for our Cameroons' Missions.

Mrs. Ben Zimmerman, Reporter.

Baptist "Get-together" for Students and Working Young People in Minneapolis and St. Paul

Our three Baptist churches in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., are planning a "Get-together" for all North American Baptist young people who are attending schools or working in the Twin Cities on Friday, January 31, 1947.

The pastors of these churches request all the pastors and parents who have such young people in the Twin Cities to inform the Rev. John Walkup, 590 Mendota St., St. Paul 6, Minn., or the Rev. L. B. Berndt, 3415 James Ave., No., Minneapolis 12, Minn., concerning their name, school and work connection and address. Those who have their acquaintances in St. Paul should get in touch with Mr. Walkup, and those with students or working young people in Minneapolis should notify Mr. Berndt. But do not delay this important matter. Write as soon as possible!

Mission Service With Pictures at the Riverview Church of St. Paul, Minn.

The members of the Riverview Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minnesota were happy to have the Rev. M. L. Leuschner, editor of "The Baptist Herald," with them on Sunday, November 24. Mr. Leuschner preached at the morning worship service.

At 7:15 P. M. the Junior and Senior Young People's Societies met to hear Mr. Leuschner speak on our Cameroons missionaries. During this time he recommended that we read "Now We Are Twenty-two," an informative booklet giving a biographical sketch on each one of the missionaries in the Cameroons Mission Fields.

The Senior Young People's Society was in charge of the evening service at eight o'clock. At this service Mr. Leuschner showed pictures of the Spanish-American Mission Work in Colorado. These helped to acquaint us with the work of this new mission field. We were also privileged to see the pictures taken during the General Conference Sessions at Tacoma, Wash.

This meeting was well attended and an offering of \$63.49 was received which has been designated toward the \$1000 Minnesota Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union Mission Project for the Spanish-American Mission at Saguache, Colorado.

Carolyn J. Stassen, Reporter.

African Mission Program is Presented by the Ann Judson Guild at Wausau, Wis.

At the midweek service of the Immanuel Church of Wausau, Wis., on Wednesday evening, Nov. 6, a rather unique presentation of African mission work was made by the Ann Judson Guild of our church. This group is composed of school age girls who meet

after school twice a month for mission study.

The African program consisted of a presentation of the life of Ann Judson and an explanation as to the reason the Guild is named after her. An explanation of African topography, vegetation, clothing, housing, means of transportation and classes of people was made by use of a large picture map. Then a graphic presentation of all Protestant mission work was made by use of a large outline string map with various colored strings indicating where the various denominations had mission work. Three girls respectively presented the work of the Conservative Baptist Society in the Belgian Congo, the Northern Baptist Convention work in the Belgian Congo, and the North American Baptist Conference work in the Cameroons. Two reels of moving pictures on the Cameroons were shown.

After the program all were invited to view the display of source materials, maps, pictures and relics which were exhibited. The grand climax was an "African lunch" planned around the use of cocoanut, cocoa and peanuts—all products of Africa. An offering of \$35.00 was received, of which \$25.00 will go for the work in the Cameroons.

Lawrence E. Wegner, Pastor.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE

Birthday Social and Program of the Woman's Missionary Society, Tacoma, Washington

October of every year has been chosen as the month when the Woman's Missionary Society of the Calvary Baptist Church of Tacoma, Wash., comes together to celebrate each member's birthday, to reminisce on the blessings she has received from the Lord, and to bring an offering for some special cause in God's Kingdom work. So on Friday evening, Oct. 11, we gathered in our lower church auditorium with families and friends for a fellowship dinner served by our social committee.

Afterwards our president, Mrs. H. Schmunk, presided over the program. Mrs. W. C. Damrau, our pastor's wife, led in devotions. A ladies' vocal trio added a number to the program. We had the privilege of having as our guest speaker Mr. Glen Wagner, executive secretary of the Pocket Testament League in China. He gave us a challenging message on the verse, "Where there is no vision the people perish." He also showed us pictures of the Pocket Testament League working among the Chinese.

Our offering was designated for the Cameroons Nurses Training School, amounting to \$100.89.

Mrs. Emil Helmrich, Secretary.

Reception for the Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Knauf by the Franklin Baptist Church

Sunday, October 6, was a happy day for the Zion Baptist Church of Franklin, Calif., as we welcomed our new pastor, Rev. W. W. Knauf, his wife and three children. In the morning he brought us his inaugural sermon.

In the evening the program was in charge of the deacon, Mr. E. Neher. We were glad that the Rev. E. Broeckel could be with us to bring the message. Representatives of the church spoke in behalf of their organizations as follows: Mr. D. Veninga for the board of deacons, Mr. Ted Ehmiss for the trustees, Mr. Ed. Schuh for the Sunday School, Mrs. H. Penner for the Women's Missionary Society, Mr. Wilfred Rueb in the name of the B. Y. P. U.

The Baptist Church of Lodi, Calif., was well represented with a number of people. Mr. Hirsch spoke in behalf of the Lodi Church. The men's octet of the church rendered three numbers. Mr. and Mrs. Knauf expressed the thought that the bond of love that united us with our former pastor should continue and that we should prosper and grow in the service of our Lord. About 275 members and friends of the church were present to extend their personal greetings to the Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Knauf and family.

Ed. Neher, Church Clerk.

Young People's Sessions of the Pacific North-West Convention Held in Odessa, Washington

The days of Oct. 19 and 20 will long be remembered for their unmatched fellowship and blessings by all who attended the 21st annual convention of the Pacific North-West Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union at Odessa, Wash.

Saturday morning we were off to an early and thrilling start as our hosts took us on a tour to the Grand Coulee Dam, a distance of 65 miles. As we arrived at our destination and beheld this marvelous sight and then again as we toured the west power house of the Dam, our hearts were touched by the greatness of God's power.

Returning from this tour we gathered around the tables in the unique and cleverly decorated dining hall of the church for the long awaited banquet. Our able president, Miss Esther Blandau of Tacoma, was in charge. While our hosts served us with a delicious meal of fried chicken, we all joined in the enthusiastic singing of choruses under the leadership of Vernon Alf of Missoula.

The vice-president, Mrs. Ben Schmidt of Spokane, reported the results of the special project undertaken during the past year. We were pleased to hear that the objective of \$1500 was far surpassed with the total raised being \$2,968.41. Colfax again claimed the reward for the church having reached the highest percentage above their goal. For a new project it was decided to purchase a one-ton Ford truck for our missionaries in the Cameroons. A goal of \$2500 was set. In the election of officers, Les Miller of Vancouver (Ebenezer Church) was



Members of the Woman's Missionary Society of Southey, Sask., Canada

elected vice-president, Vernon Alf of Missoula, secretary; John Paschold of Kelowna, editor; and Rev. E. Reimer of Paul, Idaho advisor. The Rev. Fred Mueller of Portland, our guest for this occasion, then carried the meeting over the top with his heart-searching message, "Worshipping the God of Pleasure."

The Sunday afternoon rally conducted on the national theme, "Saved to Tell Others," was truly a time of blessing for those who attended. The Rev. J. Halbert of Spokane led the lively and enthusiastic song service. Archie Brøden of Kelowna conducted the roll to which each society responded. Our heartfelt thanks go out to Vernon Alf of Missoula in appreciation for his untiring efforts in organizing and directing the Mass Youth Choir which favored us with several numbers. The Rev. Fred Mueller then lifted us to new heights with his challenging sermon, "Saved to Tell Others."

Les Miller, Reporter.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE

Twelve Hundred People at Northern Alberta's Song Festival Held at Edmonton

The annual Song Festival of the Northern Alberta Tri Union was held in the First Baptist Church of Edmonton, Alberta on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 10. The festival proved a real success since it brought multiplied blessings to the overcrowded house of about 1200 people.

After a few minutes of preliminaries, the mass choir, under the direction of Mr. R. Neske, brought its opening number, "Gottes Volk darf nie ermüden." Several other mass choir numbers were given during the program, besides mixed choir numbers and male chorus selections from the various churches represented. A very splendid feature of the afternoon was a number rendered by the Junior Choir of Edmonton's Central Baptist Church under the leadership of Miss Agnes Buchholtz.

Representing the Northern Alberta Tri Union with special numbers were the following churches: Camrose, Westaskiwin, Leduc I, Leduc II, Rabbit Hill, Wiesental, Edmonton, Onoway and Glory Hill. Dr. C. H. Seecamp brought a short message on the theme: "Praise Ye the Lord."

H. Smuland, Reporter.

Anniversary Program of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Society in Southey, Sask.

The Ladies' Missionary Society of Southey, Sask., Canada has experienced another year of blessing as well as advancement in the Lord's work. Although the group consists of only 18 women, with Mrs. Philip Hertz as our president, we have an active and varied program in the Lord's work.

Working under the Group System, we have good and interesting programs. The sick are visited regularly and presented with flowers, fruit or scriptural wall mottoes. This year we plan to adopt an African orphan insofar as its support and maintenance are concerned, as well as sending funds to a missionary there who is from our home church.

On Sept. 29 we presented our annual program. Our president opened the service with appropriate words of welcome after which the women's choir rendered a beautiful selection. Musical numbers and a dialogue written by Rev. and Mrs. Adam Huber of Leduc, Alberta, "Die Lebenskrone," made a great impression on the audience. Mrs. H. Smuland then spoke in English on, "The Five Crowns of Life." The offering for the evening, together with \$5.00 given by every member instead of having a bazaar this year, amounted to \$138.25.

Mrs. H. Smuland, Reporter.

Reception by the Trochu Baptist Church for Rev. and Mrs. H. Zepik

Sunday, November 3rd, was a day of great blessing for members and friends of the Baptist Church of Trochu, Alta., as the Rev. and Mrs. H. Zepik and their daughter, Lois, spent their first Lord's Day with us. The morning service was held as usual with the choir members in their places rendering a special anthem, after which Mr. Zepik brought his first sermon based on the topic, "The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ."

In the evening we all gathered again for the reception for which the ministers, Rev. J. P. Schultz of Olds and Rev. E. M. Wegner of Carbon had been invited. Mr. John Schramm was chairman of the program. The Rev. J. P. Schultz brought an inspiring message on "Paul, the Soul Winner."

Words of welcome were then spoken by the leaders of the different branches of the church after which we were favored with a song by the male choir entitled, "Why Should I Fear?" The Rev. E. M. Wegner then brought an earnest message on the topic, "Symbols of the Church." Mr. Link, a member of the Olds church, was given an opportunity to speak a few words of welcome.

Last but not least, the chairman called on Mr. Zepik who responded for the family, and he based his answer on I Corinthians 11:23. By this time the aroma of coffee had found its way into the upper part of the church, and all were invited to the basement for a fellowship lunch.

Emil Schimke, Church Clerk.

The Alberta Tri-Union Song Festival at the Trochu Town Hall

The Alberta Tri-Union Song Festival was held on Sunday, October 27, at the Trochu Town Hall. The five churches of Calgary, Carbon, Zion, Olds and Trochu participated. The large crowd and beautiful weather helped to make it a success.

The four superintendents, Henry Weidmann of Olds, Adam Buyer of Carbon, Arthur Forsch of Zion and Mr. Schamuhn of Calgary, spoke during the Sunday School period. Two choruses sung under the leadership of Ruth Unger were a great blessing.

The morning worship service was also well attended. The Trochu choir rendered two numbers during the service. The Rev. J. P. Schultz, speaking on "The Life of Caleb," warmed the hearts of the listeners.

A very palatable lunch was served in the basement of the Trochu church. A lovely "Song Festival" was enjoyed in the afternoon when about 135 voices from five choirs sang to the glory of God. The Rev. E. M. Wegner of Carbon brought the message. Mr. Robert Neske, the Tri-Union director of the mass choir, did a splendid job.

J. P. Schultz, Reporter.

Sessions of the Manitoba Tri Union at Winnipeg's McDermot Ave. Church

We can say with heart and voice that the Lord showered us with manifold blessings during the days of our Manitoba Tri Union and Vereinigung held at Winnipeg from Oct. 18 to 20.

On Friday evening the meeting was opened by Rev. O. Patzia, pastor of the local church, after which Rev. J. Kornalewski of Minnetonka impressed upon our minds the fact that we have either lost or gained spiritually in the last year.

On Saturday morning we gathered for a devotional period led by Rev. A. Kramer of the St. Rose Church. Fittingly he stressed the power of prayer.

We considered it a special privilege to have with us our new executive secretary and to have his initiation into the work take place in our midst. It can be said that he started on the bottom of the ladder since we are one of the smallest unions in our denomination. Already in his introductory message he set our hearts aglow and we shall remember him and the work in which he labors before the Throne of God in prayer.

The Tri Union was opened by Miss Myrtle Janzen of Morris. Again the concern for one another and unity of God and his children were brought out. The usual business transactions were led by our president, Rev. O. Patzia, and the only change of officers was our new secretary, Miss Meta Stober of Winnipeg. A project was adopted to support a native African missionary on our Cameroons mission field.

The post-war wave of vice and crime has made us more mindful of the fact that most of these cases are due to the use of alcoholic beverages. Thus

a resolution was adopted by our Tri Union which reads as follows: "Considering the deteriorating effects that the use of alcoholic beverages have upon men, mentally, morally and materially; and whereas the scourge fastens its death dealing tentacles on the very blood stream of our spiritual existence, we as the Manitoba Tri Union make this resolution: We expect our young people to take a determined stand against the common use of alcoholic drinks in order to be a clean and living testimony for Christ our Lord."

With anticipation we always look forward to the Saturday evening program when each organization represented renders a number on the program. Again it was our privilege to listen to Rev. F. Woyke as he brought before us the needs in our Cameroons mission field as well as at home. He also had a surprise package in store for us. He showed us two films from our Cameroons missionaries.

Intermediate Class of Girls of the Ridgewood Baptist Sunday School of Ridgewood, N. Y., Which Won Highest Honors in a Recent Contest.



The Sunday School was under the direction of the local superintendent, John Schirmacher. After a lively song service, we heard three speakers: Miss Ida Hoffman of Morris, Reinhold Stober of Morris, and Mrs. Kornalewski of Minnetonka.

The message of the morning worship service by Rev. F. Woyke was, "We Want to See Jesus." This world is looking for peace and unity but only in Jesus and his Kingdom can this be found. The Winnipeg choir enhanced the service with several selections.

Sunday evening we were favored by a mass choir which rendered four numbers under the direction of our music director, John Schirmacher. Rev. A. Kramer spoke in the German language on "The Power of Our Testimony," and Rev. F. Woyke in English brought to us some of the truths found in that beautiful verse in Phil. 1:21. "For me to live is Christ."

Lynda Rempel, Reporter.

ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

The Ministry of the Ridgewood Baptist Sunday School in a Metropolitan Area

Our churches of today are called upon to serve in many capacities in answer to the needs of humanity but primarily we must concern ourselves with teaching and preaching the Word

of God. The Sunday School has advanced from its position as a laymen's movement to an important and necessary function of any progressive church. The teaching service of the Sunday School and the preaching service of the church go hand in hand, as we have learned in the Ridgewood Baptist Sunday School of Ridgewood, New York.

Each Sunday School, whether large or small, has problems to be met. Schools located in a great metropolis are not without their difficulties. This is by way of encouragement to our brethren who carry on the work of the Kingdom in rural areas. It is true that we who dwell in "the cliffs" of a big city have greater accessibility to teaching material, convenience of transportation and perhaps a few more coppers in our treasuries for equipment but all these advantages, if they are counted as such, do not make a successful Sunday School.

There are two big "hawks" which hover constantly over the roof of the school in a metropolis. One is the problem of an ever shifting population and the other is the variety of worldly attractions on a large scale. The nation wide housing shortage has given us a little breathing spell but has not entirely solved the problem of the establishment of loyalties.

Perhaps the indifference and complacency of parents who are too busy with their own social engagements, or who are too absorbed in just living to be concerned with bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of God, presents the greatest difficulties. The only answer we have to this by way of human effort is a constant follow-up with organized visitation in the individual homes of the Sunday School scholars.

A further effort was made in our Sunday School by way of a contest to encourage not only attendance but punctuality. All age groups from Beginners through the Senior classes were included. The class of Intermediates, pictured in this issue, achieved the highest honors over a period of six months.

Efforts such as visitation work and contests can help, but are merely secondary. The important equipment and weapon of any successful Sunday School is a staff of officers and teachers who are aware of their responsibilities and who are consecrated to their tasks.

Harold G. Kris, Reporter.

Welcome Home Dinner for the Twenty Service Men of Newark's Walnut Street Church

Saturday, November 9th, was a day of rejoicing for the members of the Walnut Street Baptist Church of Newark, New Jersey, when we gave a Welcome Home Dinner for our returned Service Men. We shared with our twenty boys not only the delicious meal but also the many blessings the Lord has bestowed upon them while serving with the Armed Forces. Our ladies found pleasure the day before in setting up the tables and decorating them with refinement. Having a caterer, Fred Steinke, who is a member of our Board of Trustees, he kindly offered to prepare the turkey dinner which was served steaming hot in the church basement.

A unique program, especially printed for this occasion, will be a reminder of this happy gathering. Even our pastor, Rev. John P. Kuehl, who was in charge of the program was all pepped up and presented many "wise cracks" on some of those present. Brief greetings were given by the deacons, and responses by Ben Neuschaefer for the Army, Elmer Muller for the Navy, and Norman Bosworth for the Air Corps followed. Then there was the presentation of a play, "Thursday—at Home," directed by Mrs. Josephine Rauscher, which brought much applause.

On Sunday evening all of our boys were again present when our service flag was decommissioned. Our deacon, Thomas Mingoa, and trustee Harry Bosworth, parents of some of the boys, had the honor of removing the flag after which our pastor read from Psalm 116. Addressing the boys he said, "My heart is filled with emotions. This day for me will never be forgotten." He had to pause for several moments before he could speak. "I am saving all of your letters," he said, "and they are precious to me, for your faith and loyalty to your Lord, and my desire for you is that you may continue to serve him as well as you served your country, showing your thankfulness not only in words but in service for the Master."

August G. Buermann, Reporter.

SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

Harvest and Mission Festival Program With Special Speakers at Lorraine, Kansas

October 27th was a day of inspiration and blessing at the First Baptist Church of Lorraine, Kansas. At 10 o'clock a Harvest and Mission program was given with all departments of the Sunday School participating. A mission offering of nearly \$2000 was received. This goes to the general mission fund.

Dr. Walter L. Wilson, president of Kansas City Bible College, was the speaker during the worship hour following the program. A basket dinner was served in the church banquet hall at noon.

WANTED, MATRON AND MAINTENANCE MAN

The German Baptist Home for the Aged in Philadelphia, Pa., has the above mentioned positions open. The woman must be of Christian character and must otherwise qualify. The man must have mechanical ability and be able to work in the garden.

Write for details to

Rev. H. Palfenier,
4522 Aldine St., Philadelphia 36,
Pennsylvania

The afternoon service consisted of music by the Schacht sisters, remarks by Rev. and Mrs. George Henderson, missionary appointees to the Camerouns, and Dr. Wilson speaking on "The Holy Spirit." Mr. and Mrs. Henderson spoke to the Young People's Training Union in the evening and Dr. Wilson brought us the message during the gospel hour.

Our visitation evangelism meetings were held from Nov. 17 to 24, which were led by Dr. F. D. Whitesell of Chicago's Northern Baptist Seminary and during which we received many blessings.

Mrs. Ted Wilkens, Reporter.

Experiences of Spiritual Enrichment at the Kansas Association Held at Durham

From October 21 to 23 the churches of the Kansas Association met with the Baptist Church of Durham for their annual meeting. It was a great time of refreshing, and all who were present felt the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The Rev. John Walkup of the Dayton's Bluff Church of St. Paul, Minn., was our guest speaker and brought us fine Bible studies from the book of Malachi as well as other inspirational messages. We were also happy to have with us the Rev. J. J. Reimer of our Colorado Mission and his co-workers, Mr. Young and Mr. Martinez. They brought up personal testimonies and interesting highlights of their work among the Spanish-speaking people.

Each of our morning and afternoon sessions was opened with a devotional entitled, "Times of Refreshings," and they were capably led by laymen and ministers alike. The Rev. Arthur Schulz brought a paper on Tuesday morning on the subject, "The Necessity of a Standard Sunday School," and in the afternoon Mrs. W. Wirth gave us a report on the need and progress of Scripture memory work in Kansas.

On Wednesday morning after a devotional period led by the Rev. J. H. Kruegel, the Rev. Wilmer Quiring brought a paper on, "The Parent's Part in Training Youth." The afternoon meeting proved exceptionally interesting with a round table discussion on "Church Discipline" led by the Rev. T. Dons.

Throughout the meetings of the association we were able to have special

musical numbers, and on the last evening the Hillsboro male chorus and quartet rendered a fine musical program. Mr. Walkup then brought an inspiring message and closed the association with a fitting consecration service. Our host church of Durham and the pastor, the Rev. L. H. Smith, did much to make the association a complete success. The meetings proved to be an enrichment of our spiritual lives.

The officers elected for the coming year are as follows: moderator, Rev. Fred Ferris; vice-moderator, Rev. T. W. Dons; secretary, Rev. W. Quiring; treasurer, Mr. E. Hildebrand.

W. Quiring, Reporter.

Sessions of the Nebraska Association Are Held at the Creston Baptist Church

The Nebraska Association of the North American Baptists was held from October 10 to 13 at the Creston Baptist Church where the Rev. Walter H. Klempel, a recent graduate from our Seminary, is pastor.

The theme of the program was "Christ Central and All Sufficient." Rev. John Borchers of the Shell Creek Church brought the opening address. The devotions were led by the following local people: Mr. Gus Garbers, Mr. John Husmann, Miss Edna Lang, and Rev. John Borchers. Rev. A. G. Rietdorf of Beatrice ably conducted the inspirational quiet half hours.

The topics for consideration were: Christ All Sufficient in Redemption, Rev. A. G. Rietdorf; Christ All Sufficient in Sanctification, Rev. W. H. Klempel; Christ All Sufficient in Guidance, Rev. John Borchers; Christ as Center in Christian Music, Rev. W. H. Klempel; Christ as Center in the Sunday School Effort, Mrs. Martha Kipf of Beatrice; Christ as Center in the Young People's Program, Miss Eunice Prang of Creston; Christ as Center in the Life of Youth, Rev. J. Melvin Elving of Columbus.

Rev. Alfred Hardy, Nebraska Baptist State evangelist, brought the Friday evening message and Rev. Nixon Knight of Albion brought the Sunday evening message.

The officers-elect are: Rev. Walter H. Klempel, moderator; Rev. John Borchers, secretary; Mr. William Brunken, Sr., treasurer. A Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union was also organized. For this organization, Darrel Mohrman of Columbus was elected president; Kenneth Prang of Madison was elected vice-president; and Mildred Rietdorf of Beatrice was elected secretary.

Three offerings were taken on Sunday. The morning offering went to the Seminary Endowment Fund, the afternoon offering to the Fellowship Fund for World Emergencies, and the evening offering was designated for the Camerouns mission field. The total sum was about \$600.

Kenneth Prang, Reporter.

Singspirations, Bible Study and Revival Messages at the Baptist Church, La Salle, Colo.

A series of inspirational revival services were conducted in the Baptist Church of La Salle, Colorado from

Nov. 10 to 21 in which the Rev. Arthur Ittermann of Emery, South Dakota served as guest speaker. In spite of adverse weather conditions of 15 below zero and from 16 to 20 inches of snow everywhere, these special services were well attended. A few stimulating contests such as Bible reading, inviting and bringing others to the house of worship, meditation and consecration created a wholesome spirit of cooperation.

The following figures may speak for themselves, indicating to the reader what was accomplished during these days. In the Bible reading contest as well as in the contest of inviting and bringing others into the church the audience was grouped into two teams. The young people's group read 1165 chapters in the Bible, including the 119th Psalm, while the adult group read 1341 chapters in the Bible, including the 119th Psalm.

The young people succeeded in inviting and bringing twenty-eight young people, while the adults succeeded in bringing and inviting seventy-two adults to these meetings. Considering the snow-bound roads, sub-zero weather and the distance involved in driving at night to church (some drove twenty-four miles every night one way) to join in this hour of inspiration and fellowship in the Lord, we greatly rejoice that about 1000 people by actual count from night to night participated in these inspirational revival services.

Mr. Ittermann's heart-warming and challenging messages really stirred the conscience as well as the heart and will of those in the audience so that everyone felt a greater need of a closer walk with Christ, the Savior.

A. E. Reeh, Pastor.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Male Chorus Concert and Interracial Baptist Banquet at Chicago's First Church

On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 19, about 420 listeners, including a goodly number from our sister churches, attended the eleventh regular concert of the Christian Fellowship Club Male Chorus of the First German Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois. The program consisted of three English and one German group of three songs each plus three encores, with solos by Mr. Elmer Carlquist, tenor, and Mr. Newell Kees, trumpeter. The director is Mr. Herbert Pankratz and the president of the club is Mr. Walter Pankratz whose efforts in behalf of the organization are untiring. The liberal offering of over \$300 has been sent to denominational headquarters for the Fellowship Fund.

On Friday, Nov. 15, our church was host to the Interracial Fellowship Group of Chicago, consisting of all colors and nationalities of Baptists of our city. A fine supper was served by our ladies, after which a well planned program was presented, including music by our mixed choir and Christian Fellowship Club male chorus and a vocal solo by Miss Joyce Pankratz. The Rev. John Schmidt is the pastor.

Edward Meister, Reporter.



—Photo by Herman Siemund

Women of the Grace Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois Who Served at the Tables for the Banquet During the 60th Anniversary Program of the Church

Sixtieth Anniversary Program of the Grace Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois

The sixtieth anniversary of the organization of the Grace Baptist Church, formerly the Second German Church of Chicago, Illinois from Nov. 13 to 17 was a time of exhilaration and inspiration. The church building was erected as a mission of the First Church in 1883. Still in good repair, and with a parsonage added, it has recently undergone extensive renovations with the installation of new electric wiring and lighting fixtures. This was done under the supervision of Mr. Herbert Siemund.

The anniversary program had been entrusted to the capable chairmanship of Mr. Herman Siemund, who has completed 50 years as a member of the church, most of them in places of leadership.

At the opening program on Wednesday evening greetings were brought by representatives of all our sister churches in Chicago, to which our pastor, the Rev. Wm. H. Jeschke, responded happily. In the absence of Rev. J. A. Pankratz, owing to the death of his brother in Kansas, the keynote of the celebration was struck with a message by the Rev. C. Dippel, of Baraboo, Wis., during whose pastorate from 1894 to 1909 the membership reached its highest peak.

On Thursday afternoon the Woman's Missionary Society had an inspiring service with a goodly attendance from other societies. Mrs. Bertha Siemund presided, with Mrs. H. G. Dymmel introducing the speaker, Mrs. Wm. L. Schoeffel of Cleveland, Ohio, president of the National Woman's Union.

The banquet in the Lincoln-Belmont Y. M. C. A. on Saturday evening was a happy occasion with about 200 visitors and church members reviving friendships. Mrs. Rieswig, the only living charter member, was presented with a corsage. An inspiring address was given by Dr. Wm. Kuhn. A caterer had provided excellent food, which was served by our own young ladies, whose picture appears herewith.

On Sunday the Rev. Wm. L. Schoeffel of Cleveland, son of the Grace Church, gave a splendid message in the Sunday School hour, and the Rev. Christian Dippel, despite his 82 years, gave us a stimulating message in the service.

A unique feature of the afternoon service were reminiscences grouped under the theme, "Do You Remember 'Way Back When?'" Mr. Schoeffel gave us a happy introduction to these recollections. Mrs. Rieswig, charter member and now still active in the Forest Park Church, told of the early difficulties and triumphs. She was followed by Henry Meier, who saw the church being built, and was baptized in it in 1887, and by Mrs. Marie Wangelin, a member for 51 years, as well as by many others.

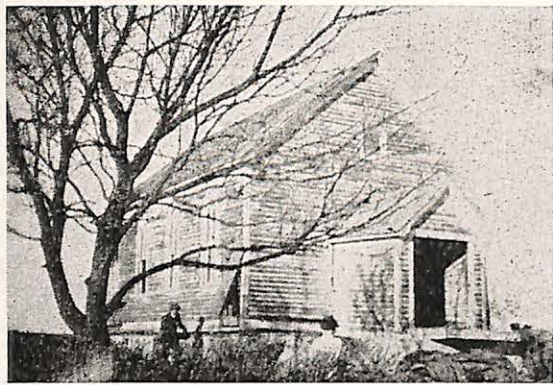
A happy hour of fellowship preceded the closing evening service, at which our pastor, Mr. Jeschke, conducted the memorial service for the many who have gone to their eternal reward. The Rev. Frank H. Woyke, our executive secretary, brought a fine closing message on the subject, "Looking Ahead."

The church was organized under the guidance of the Rev. Jacob Meier of the First Church and the chairmanship of Rev. F. Friedrich, the first pastor. It was blessed with a fine succession of consecrated men of God as pastors: F. A. Licht, Jacob Fellman, Christian Dippel, Robert Stracke, G. H. Schneek, J. A. Pankratz, C. A. Daniel, and then John E. Knechtel as part-time pastor since 1933, followed in 1945 by Wm. H. Jeschke, who came to us directly from our Rochester Seminary.

A number of devoted women also served the church as missionaries. Miss Tekla Molthagen, now Mrs. Butzer of Baileyville, Ill., was able to attend the festivities. Others were Miss W. Schoeffel, Miss Mohlman, Miss Kinzel, and Miss Minnie Proefke, who has served the church for 25 years.

Sacrificial service was rendered for us musically, especially by Prof. Gustav Brandt and Mr. Louis Gregsamer, for 30 years and 16 years, respectively, our organists and choir directors.

John E. Knechtel, Reporter.



The Newly-moved Baptist Church Edifice at Selfridge, N. Dak., After Having Been Laid Upon the Foundation

Farewell Reception for the Rev. and Mrs. E. Gutsche at Benton Harbor, Michigan

On Wednesday, Oct. 23rd, the congregation of the Clay Street Church of Benton Harbor, Mich., held a farewell reception for the Rev. and Mrs. E. Gutsche with Mr. Otto Wesener in charge of the program. The representatives of the various organizations spoke words of appreciation to the parting pastor and his wife. Some of the speakers were the Reverends A. F. Runtz, G. Wetter and Kubsch. The male and mixed choirs sang.

The Gutschees served the church for seven years. During this time the church building was improved, and the church also grew in numbers. In conclusion the pastor and his wife also spoke and brought words of thanks and farewell.

After the reception a lunch was served in the dining hall. Mr. Otto Wesener then presented a substantial gift of money in the name of the church as a farewell gift to the pastor and his wife.

DAKOTA CONFERENCE

Sacrificial Offerings for God's Kingdom by Small Groups at Hettinger and Regent

We praise the Lord for what he has done for us as two small groups at Hettinger and Regent, N. Dak. Recently we had our Mission Days, first in town and then in the country church. The first church mentioned contributed \$333 and the latter \$541 to missions. Shortly before that, the Hettinger group gave \$50 and the Regent group \$320 toward the Fellowship Fund for World Emergencies. The country church also gave \$100 to the minister as a mission gift, realizing his difficulty in meeting the living expenses which are increasing. We trust the own church will follow the good example of the country church. It makes us glad to report about this wonderful spirit of giving for the Kingdom of God, considering the small membership of this church.

We were very happy to have a baptismal service this year at which we baptized 3 young people, among whom was the minister's son Lewis.

R. G. Kaiser, Pastor.

Reception of Welcome for Rev. and Mrs. E. Gutsche at Corona, South Dakota

"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." These words of the Psalmist came to our minds when the members of the First Baptist Church of Corona, South Dakota gathered recently for the reception to welcome our new pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. E. Gutsche.

Our senior deacon, Mr. Leonard De Boer, acted as master of ceremonies. After an address of welcome for the church, several songs were sung by the Primary Department of the Sunday School. After this, representatives of the different branches of the church extended words of welcome to them and brought expressions of thankfulness to God who answered our prayers. Greetings were also extended by the Rev. E. Buenning of our neighbor church of Holloway, Minn., and Rev. D. Rhoads of the local Methodist Church.

Several songs were rendered by a male quartet, a mixed quartet, and a ladies trio, after which Mr. and Mrs. Gutsche responded in a pleasing and friendly way. The rest of the evening was spent in a social way, refreshments being served by the ladies. We are looking forward to great blessings from the Lord, and pray that he will bless the efforts now being put forth for the glory of his name.

H. Hoekman, Reporter.

Answered Prayers for a Church Building for the Baptist Congregation at Selfridge, N. Dak.

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mispah and Shen and called the name of it Ebenezer saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

At last, through the patience and many fervent prayers of our Baptist congregation at Selfridge, North Dakota; of our pastor, Rev. Alex Sootzmann; and many others, we rejoiced on October 29th to see a church building of our own being moved into Selfridge and put upon its foundation.

But we cannot stop here, for there is still much more work to be done on our building. Although our main problem was getting someone to move the building for us and then having favorable weather conditions so that we could proceed to move it, our problem now is getting the necessary materials that are needed for repair. There is

much plastering to be done, much painting and also some remodeling.

There were days in the past when we held our services in a dusty, little schoolhouse out on the prairie. It wasn't the best place in the world to worship God but everyone seemed to be satisfied and everyone usually came out on Sunday. Then there came the time when we were left without a minister. Sunday School services were still continued but it was only a matter of routine. We weren't making any headway whatsoever. And then—new hope entered our souls with the coming of our beloved pastor, Rev. Alex Sootzmann. We continued to hold services in the schoolhouse for a while, but Mr. Sootzmann saw that there could not be any future for the congregation at Selfridge if some steps were not taken immediately toward bettering the conditions. So before long arrangements were made to rent the Congregational church in Selfridge. Every Sunday afternoon people, who were interested in God's word and who loved to hear it proclaimed, gathered at the Congregational church for Sunday School at 2:00 o'clock and for worship service at 3:00 P. M.

Now that we have a church building to which we can go at last, Mr. Sootzmann who has a great interest in the development of Christian character in youth brought enough inspiration to the young people that before long we organized our own B. Y. P. U. Officers were elected and every second Sunday of the month we have young people's meetings in place of the worship service. However, after our own building is ready for use, we have plans to hold our Sunday School and worship services in the morning and to have our young people's meetings in the evening.

In the Spring a committee was appointed to go in search of a suitable building. It was the main topic of conversation at socials or even when neighbors merely got together for a visit. Reports of several suitable buildings came in but with them also came complications. At last, it was decided that we purchase a lonely, forgotten church in the town of Keldron, South Dakota. It was a good building for a reasonable price and it seemed as though that lonely, forgotten church needed us as badly as we needed it.

Pledges were brought in from all sides. Everyone was willing to help out in every way possible. After the busy season in the Spring had passed, the plans for the church basement went into effect. All the men from the church at McLaughlin came out to help pour the cement and, of course, Mr. Sootzmann was in there with the rest, faithfully doing his work with the cement mixer. The men worked from early morning until late at night. The Selfridge Baptist ladies and girls also did their part in preparing and serving the men with good, wholesome food.

And now, at last, we have come to the point where we have our hard earned and long awaited church here in Selfridge. There it stands, upright and waiting! It is waiting for us as its members, with the help of our great and everlasting God, to make it truly into one of God's best churches.

Wilma Goehring, Reporter.

:: OBITUARY ::

Mrs. MINA K. BRUNTZ of Anaheim, Calif.

Mrs. Mina K. Bruntz, nee Jerke, who was born on Sept. 24, 1910 in Ault, Colorado, passed away on Oct. 22, 1946 in Anaheim, Calif. She was the fifth child of Mr. and Mrs. John Jerke, and on Aug. 6, 1930 she married Mr. George Bruntz. From the time she was eight years old until 1937, when she moved with her husband and family to California, she lived in the Greeley and in the La Salle community. In 1924 she was converted, baptized, and taken into the fellowship of the First Baptist Church of La Salle by the late Rev. Oswald Eymann. Her happy home life came tragically to an end when gasoline in which she cleaned curtains caught fire, burning her so severely that, according to a statement by the attending family physician, "she was burned over 60% of her body and 30% is considered the most that one can have and survive."

Her sudden and unexpected death leaves to mourn her beloved husband, George Bruntz; her daughter, Shirley Bruntz, 13 years old; her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Jerke of La Salle; one sister, Mrs. Jacob Sandau of Ft. Morgan, Colo.; three brothers: Edward, Harry, and Albert Jerke, all of La Salle, Colo.; a great relationship and many friends of the church in and around La Salle as also of Anaheim, Calif., her late home.

The body was transferred from Anaheim, Calif., to Greeley, Colorado, and her earthly remains were laid to rest at the Linn Grove Cemetery in Greeley. The undersigned spoke words of comfort and encouragement based on Hebrew 11:3. May the consciousness of God's eternal wisdom and providence strengthen and uphold the bereaved.

La Salle, Colorado

A. E. Reeh, Pastor

Mr. WERNER APLANALP of Portland, Oregon

Mr. Werner Aplanalp of Portland, Oregon was born on May 26, 1882 at Meiringen, Switzerland and died on Nov. 12, 1946 at the Immanuel Hospital in Portland following an operation, having reached the age of 64 years, 5 months and 16 days. At the age of six he came to this country and lived in Portland ever since. On March 16, 1912 he was united in marriage with Rosalie Kohler. To this

union were born 2 sons and 2 daughters.

Brother Aplanalp was converted and baptized under the ministry of the Rev. Jacob Kratt and baptized on Feb. 25, 1923, becoming a member of the Trinity Baptist Church where he remained faithful until his death. He was a paper ruler by trade and served the church well by caring for all its printing needs. He faithfully attended all the church's services. Following a second operation he seemed to sense the Lord calling him home and expressed his readiness to go, although he longed to get well and take his place in serving his family and his church.

He leaves to mourn his departure his now sorrowing widow, Rosalie Aplanalp; 2 sons and 2 daughters; one brother, 5 grandchildren; many other relatives and a host of friends. May the sorrowing ones look to God for comfort and strength in their time of affliction! Our brother will be missed by his family, church and friends.

Trinity Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon

John Wobig, Pastor.

Mrs. GUSTAVE SCHROEDER of Lorraine, Kansas

Louise Wiegand Schroeder of Lorraine, Kansas was born in Berlin, Germany on March 5, 1871. She came to the United States at the age of one year, and lived in Chicago, Ill., for six years. Her parents then moved to Black Wolf, Kansas, where they operated a farm. She lived there through her childhood and the days of her youth. There she learned to love nature in all of its beauty. There she also learned to love the greater Creator, and in the year 1887 she accepted him as her personal Savior under the ministry of Rev. Mr. Kohrs. At the age of 16 she was baptized by Rev. John H. Janssen, and joined the First Baptist Church of Green Garden.

On October 13, 1899 she was united in marriage to Gustave Schroeder, who preceded her in death 13 years and 7 months. Twenty-five years of her married life were spent on the farm. In 1924 she and her husband retired to Lorraine, where she lived the last days of this life's journey.

On October 22nd she met with an unusual accident, which resulted in a very serious back injury. She was taken to the Great Bend Hospital, where she awaited her call to her heavenly home. On October 29 she passed away quietly to be with her Savior and loved ones, having attained the age of 75 years, 7 months and 24 days.

She leaves to mourn her departure two sons, Will Schroeder of Marion, Kansas, and Ernst Schroeder of Lorraine; three daughters, Clara Rolfs and Lydia Rolfs of Lorraine and Alma Ballah of Tribune, Kansas; one sister, Emma Miller of Lorraine; 17 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends.

Lorraine, Kansas

Fred Ferris, Pastor.

Mr. HERMAN KEGLER of Anaheim, Calif.

Mr. Herman Kegler of Anaheim, Calif., was born on Nov. 29, 1861 at Industry, Texas. Blessed with a Christian home, he was taught by his saintly father and mother from the open Bible, and led by them to lift his eyes unto the Lord who alone giveth wisdom and understanding. He acknowledged his Redeemer and Lord in public testimony and confession, and upon his testimony was baptized by the Rev. Mr. Kiefa and added to the membership of the Baptist Church in Greenville, Texas in 1888.

On Nov. 24, 1889 he was married to Miss Elsie Bade, who in the long years of their life was to him a faithful wife and a cheerful companion, his comfort and help especially during the days of his last long illness. The Lord blessed this union with 4 children, of whom one son preceded the father into eternity. Having come to Los Angeles, they united with the Fifteenth Street Baptist Church of that city. Here our brother became one of the leaders in that church, and for many years he was a faithful deacon and trustee. In order to be closer to their children, our friends came to Anaheim in the fall of 1942, where they united with the Bethel Baptist Church and where he remained a faithful member until the day of his departure on Nov. 7, 1946.

He leaves to mourn his departure his faithful companion and wife; one daughter, Mrs. Joe Quast of Anaheim; two sons, Herman of Balboa, Calif., and Marvin of Anaheim, Calif.; four grandchildren and six great grandchildren, and a great host of friends.

Our brother was an ardent Christian, a faithful husband, a loving father, a true friend and an upright citizen. His deep spirituality and love for that which is good and noble endeared him to many. The message of 11 Cor. 5:8 was our comfort at the funeral service in our church.

Bethel Baptist Church,

Anaheim, Calif.

P. G. Neumann, Pastor.

Adventures in Wyoming

(Continued from Page 8)

Springs, the fourth largest city of Wyoming, with a population of 10,000. It is the headquarters of the Union Pacific Coal Company Mines, which produced 6½ million tons of coal for the Union Pacific Railroad in 1945. Mr. I. N. Bayless, the president of the Union Pacific Coal Company, is a Baptist and has been loyal to his local church and has encouraged the religious work in the coal camps.

During the war bus transportation to and from the coal camps was provided on Sunday mornings for those who desired to attend the Sunday School and church of their choice. Miners, however, are not as regular in their church attendance as farmers since they work for a corporation and in war days the seven-day week was enforced. Many men, who could not attend church regularly, soon gave up the habit altogether.

Because many miners had an opportunity to get paid time and one-half

on Saturdays and double time on Sundays, they worked on these days in order to earn \$30 to \$35. Then on Mondays one would see them squander their hard earned money, playing the slot machines, going on a drinking spree, taking a chance on a lucky turn of a pair of dice, or having a wild party with women who try to earn a living the easy way.

Common sense does not justify the ways of the world. One cannot escape the conclusion that those who travel "the broad way" are slaves of him who is the god of this world. It is still true. "The world passes away, and the lust of it, but he who does the will of God abides forever."

BAPTISTS IN WYOMING

The Wyoming Baptist Convention comprises 26 churches with a total resident membership of 4,235 persons. The ten churches of the Southern Association are scattered over a wide area. Cheyenne, Laramie, Rawlins, Rock Springs and Evanston are on the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad. Each has a Baptist Church, and each

is 100 miles from the next church of our faith. For this reason associational meetings are held only once a year. The per capita giving for all benevolence during the past fiscal year for all Wyoming Baptists was \$5.06.

Wyoming is often described as wonderful. The scenic beauties of the Teton mountains and Yellowstone National Park alone deserve the descriptive adjective, "wonderful." The state's hidden wealth of coal, oil and gas are an evidence of God's creative power, too. The clear skies which are seldom clouded permit the heavens at night to declare the glory of God.

Last but not least, there are people on the ranches and in the towns who live humble, devoted Christian lives because they have been made new creatures in Christ Jesus. Mrs. Koch and I have been encouraged by this remnant of the faithful few to continue in our labors for Christ, mindful of Paul's words, "And let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart."



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"Baptist Congress at Copenhagen" by Our Representative in Attendance