

Baptist HERALD



The Joys of Christmas Morning!

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

December 15, 1948

Denominational Reminders

ENGAGEMENTS

Rev. Frank H. Woyke

Sunday, Dec. 19 — 60th Anniversary, King's Highway Baptist Church, Bridgeport, Conn. Professor R. P. Jeschke of Rochester, N. Y., will also serve as guest speaker.

Rev. M. L. Leuschner

Watch Night Service, Dec. 31 — State Park Baptist Church, Peoria, Illinois (Missionary Pictures).

NEWS FLASHES!

Rev. and Mrs. Earl H. Ahrens

Earl and Lois Ahrens, Cameroons missionaries, landed safely at Duala on the Cameroons coast on Nov. 1st. A cablegram from Paul Gebauer informed the office that they were "engaged in transporting goods inland."

Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Michelson

Edwin and Verna Michelson and their family sailed from Liverpool, England in October on a banana freighter and ought to be in Africa

by the time this issue reaches the reader. They will again be stationed at Soppo near the coast.

Dr. and Mrs. Leslie Chaffee

Dr. Leslie Chaffee, newly appointed medical missionary for the Cameroons, and his wife and their children, Douglas and Sylvia, sailed on the "S. S. Queen Elizabeth" from New York City for England and then left for Africa from an English seaport on Sunday, Nov. 21st, on a banana boat. They ought to arrive in the Cameroons before Christmas Day!

A Joyous, Blessed Christmas to Everyone!

That is the heartfelt wish of the business manager, Rev. E. J. Baumgartner; of the editor, Rev. Martin L. Leuschner; and of all the Publication Society staff to the readers of THE BAPTIST HERALD.

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." — 2 Cor. 9:15.

THE BAPTIST HERALD

"YOUTH COMPASS TOPICS"

for young people's meetings

January 2, 1949 — "1949 With Christ" by Rev. Roy Seibel, Waco, Texas.

January 9, 1949 — "Practice in Praying" by Rev. H. R. Schroeder, Madison, South Dakota.

January 16, 1949 — "The Lord's Share" by Rev. Ben Zimmerman, Randolph, Minnesota.

January 23, 1949 — "A Christian's Bookshelf" by Rev. E. Wolff, Dallas, Oregon.

January 30, 1949 — "The Radiant Life" by Rev. R. Kern, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Dr. Donald G. Davis
5 Bonnington Terrace
Edinburgh 6, Scotland

Rev. L. Hoeffner
Emery, South Dakota

Chaplain A. E. Kannwischer
United States Penitentiary
Lewisburg, Penn.

Rev. A. G. Lang
Parkersburg, Iowa

Rev. Emil Riemer
Anamoose, North Dakota

Rev. E. M. Wegner
812 Huron St.
Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

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Martin L. Leuschner, D. D., Editor

Rev. E. J. Baumgartner, Business
Manager

AMONG OURSELVES

Another "Baptist Herald" birthday is around the corner! On Jan. 1, 1949 this publication will begin its 27th volume. To celebrate the occasion "The Baptist Herald" will appear in a new colorful "dress" with a streamlined front page design and with artistically prepared headings. Great things are being planned for the entire year with interesting coverage of our denominational enterprise and our own mission fields. A more complete announcement about the 1949 highlights of "The Baptist Herald" will appear in the next issue.

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IN THIS ISSUE

It's Christmas time again! Both the message and spirit of Christmas come to you from almost every page of this issue. The Christmas truths are proclaimed with great fervor and Scriptural clarity in several sermons. The story of Christmas in the Cameroons is related by three of our missionaries on different fields. The brief story about Christmas Eve in a railroad station of Germany is a gem! Even the program for the Week of Prayer ought to prepare your hearts at this Christmas season for greater blessings still to come! Yes, from every page of this issue and from every heart let it resound: "A blessed Christmas to everyone!"

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COMING

New Year's Sermon — The Rev. Edwin Miller of the Erin Ave. Church, Cleveland, Ohio, will start the new year aright with a spiritual challenge.

C. T. I. Dedication — Several brief articles by the Rev. E. P. Wahl, Dr. William Kuhn and the editor of "The Herald" will bring the story of the dedication of the new building of the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton and the opening of the new school year on Nov. 1st.

Baptism at Mbem — An article by Miss Ida Forsch and pictures by Miss Laura E. Reddig will describe the wonderful baptismal service recently held in the grassland country of the Cameroons.

The BAPTIST HERALD

Volume 26

December 15, 1948

No. 24

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A Book Everyone is Talking About

"THE BIG FISHERMAN"

By LLOYD DOUGLAS

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THE BIG FISHERMAN will quite probably be rated as the most significant of Lloyd Douglas' long list of successes. It is a magnificent story, the story of a roistering, blasphemous fishing boss who abruptly about-faces in mid career to become "Petros" — the rock. It is a "big" book in every respect, even in physical length for it runs to 581 pages. It has been five years in the writing.

The story begins with the attempted union between Arabs and Jews and through the marriage of Antipas to Arnon, only child of the Arabian



King. From this ill-starred union there issued a child, Fara, who becomes one of the principal characters in the story together with the noble Arabian youth, Voldi, who loves her and attempts to help her accomplish her vow of vengeance on Antipas for the wrongs against her mother.

How the lives of Fara, Voldi and Simon Peter become intertwined as the towering figure of Jesus appeared on the shores of Galilee, makes so fascinating a tale that the last page of the book comes all too soon. A Golden Age — the years of His teaching ministry truly lives again in the pages of the "Big Fisherman."

Price \$3.75

Other Novels by Lloyd Douglas:

"Magnificent Obsession"

"The Robe" — "The Green Light"

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EDITORIALS

Martin L. Leuschner

The Christmas Tidings

CHRISTMAS is essentially the telling of good tidings of great joy concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a great deal more than the exchange of gifts among family and friends. It goes far beyond the personal enjoyment of the delights of the Christmas festival. It is a witness that Christ has been born anew in our hearts. It is a proclamation that God is in Christ reconciling the world to himself. It is telling forth the good news of the Gospel to all people.

The Christmas story in each of the gospels repeatedly presents this truth. The coming of the Christ-child was announced to Mary by the angel with the words: "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest" (Luke 1:32). Another angel appeared to Joseph and brought the tidings: "Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21). To the shepherds on Bethlehem's hills came the announcement of the angel: "For unto you is born in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). The tidings were proclaimed by the angelic host in an outburst of song: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to men" (Luke 2:14). The same tidings were conveyed to the wise men from the East, for as they came to Jerusalem they said: "We have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him" (Matt. 2:2).

This is the glory of Christmas! It is the evangel—the good news—that Jesus Christ is "the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world" (John 1:9). It is a proclamation which we announce boldly and confidently to all the world that Christ is the only solution to all of its problems. There is a propulsive power about the joys of Christmas which sends us forth with a winsome witness for Christ. Like the shepherds of old, we cannot rest until we have "made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child" (Luke 2:17).

This central truth concerning Christmas must be brought into the forefront of attention in our holiday festivities. We need to get away from the undue emphasis on what we are to get at Christmas. It is still "more blessed to give than to receive." There is a grave danger of restricting our Christmas thinking to the smaller circles of the home, family and most intimate friends. Christmas, as the proclamation of good tidings, should be world-encircling in our outlook and sympathies.

Christmas is not only the story of the Christ-child that began his life on earth in the Bethlehem manger but it is the whole Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is the missionary summons of going into the world and preaching the Gospel to every creature. It is my witness that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Timothy 1:15). It is the telling of good news of great joy concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. That must be central in every activity of this festive season in order to make it truly Christmas in the Christian spirit!

BIBLE TEXT

"His name shall be called Wonderful" Isaiah 9:6.

The prophet Isaiah announced the wonders of the coming of the Christ-child. Authority was to be vested in him. "The government shall be upon his shoulder." He was to be known by a composite name of glory and prestige. But the greatest thing of all that the prophet could say was "that his name shall be called Wonderful."

Everything about the Lord Jesus Christ is wonderful! His supernatural birth defies all human reason. His miraculous ministry left the people amazed. His Gospel is still a stumblingblock to the worldly wise. His power to save and to forgive sin is a mystery to all until you have experienced it in your own life. At the heart of Christmas is the matchless Name of Christ, whose revelation of God's love and life-giving ministry to others can only be described as "wonderful." Christmas underscores this truth that "his name shall be called Wonderful".

THE 1949 ANNUAL

The ANNUAL has almost become an indispensable publication for every North American Baptist. The latest names and addresses of the pastors, the statistics of our churches and the important data concerning our denomination are found in these pages. Our missionary fields are colorfully presented. An illustrated calendar for the year is featured. Special features are included. The 1949 ANNUAL, for which orders are now taken at fifty cents each, is beautifully prepared with superb pictures, memorable articles and thrilling accounts. The centenary of the birth of George Grenfell, Baptist missionary in the Belgian Congo, has been commemorated with an article by Harold Gieseke. This is only one of a score of fascinating articles. Be sure to secure your copy of the 1949 ANNUAL from your pastor or publication society agent.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER

Many of our churches will observe the Week of Prayer from January 2 to 9, 1949. All of them ought to observe it. In order to provide for an inspiring spiritual program for those days, the denominational secretarial staff requested Dr. A. Dale Ihrie of Bellwood, Illinois to prepare our own topics and material for those services. That material with suggestions for the leader, with thoughts for reflection and prayer and with a profound study of Ephesians is presented in this issue. Make good use of it during the Week of Prayer! Let your church rally around this program for prayer and Bible study and for a good beginning in 1949!

The Christmas Message

"Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Luke 2:10

By PROFESSOR ALBERT S. FELBERG of Rochester New York

OUR CONCEPTION of Christmas is that of a happy time for everybody, a time of joy and merry making, an occasion of family reunions. We think of Christmas as a season when acts of love, the giving and receiving of gifts, the exchange of greetings and a bit of concern for others are the order of the day.

But the Christian's real understanding of the meaning of Christmas goes far deeper. We rejoice because "unto us is born this day a Savior which is Christ the Lord". Because of the continued proclamation of the good news about the Savior, each year we observe his birth. It is a time of deep spiritual joy for the believer, and a time of merry making for the rest of the world.

THE MESSAGE OF JOY

Christmas with its message brings us face to face with the prophetic idealism of great joy, peace and good will among men. By it we are rebuked concerning our selfish living, and we awaken to the need and concern of others. As we behold the unparalleled manifestation of the love of God in giving Christ Jesus to us in the flesh to show the Father, to set before us the Way of Life, and, above all to bring forth eternal redemption for us, we are moved to think of others and their need, at least for a while. It seems as if the whole world were one family. Even the foreigner is made to feel at home, and the prisoner behind stone walls is thought of, because of the love of God in Christ shed abroad in the world. That creates joy and gives us the Christmas message.

Christmas is a happy season and has been so from the first observance when the angel said: "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy". Ever since then we have been singing at Christmas. Our overflowing hearts cannot be still. Our exultation must find some expression. We sing of God's love shed abroad in our hearts, proclaimed by the angels, experienced by the believers. Thus the Christmas message brings us joys which make us forget the dreariness of life. When the angels proclaimed the joy of the Savior's birth to the world,

that was music to the human ear unparalleled in history. Our hearts are strangely warmed by this angelic message.

As we walk the city streets at the Christmas season, we hear the message of joy proclaimed from business establishments, churches and group gatherings. Though none can so fully proclaim the message as the angels did, for they knew the greatness of the miracle of God's manifesting love, still our hearts are filled with joy when we hear it. It is a message of God's love toward all men, whoever, wherever, whatever they are. Man is so absorbed in himself that he often forgets God, his love and his care. But this message stands out through all the ages that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son."

The real joy of Christmas is found in the personal experience of Christ. It was a glad day when Jesus came to Bethlehem, but what a glad day it is when Jesus enters our life and fills our hearts with joy and singing. Every year the blessed Christmas message serves to accentuate that experience of Christ being born in the believer's heart. The message to the shepherds was the promise of abiding joy in the human heart, and since that blessed day people of all ages have found the fulfillment of this promise in their personal experiences.

THE MIRACULOUS BIRTH

Then, too, we think of Christmas joy in terms of giving, and there is ground for this opinion. The pleasure of giving was part of the joy of that first Christmas. God gave his Son. Mary gave herself to carry out God's plan when she accepted this responsibility. Joseph stood ready to give in the years ahead with his strong protection to the mother and her holy babe. The wise men gave their gifts, and all experienced the satisfaction of joy. Giving is an expression of love and the strengthening of joy. If our joy is to be complete, we need to give of ourselves, our substance and our service in order that other lives might be enriched.

We read in Ephesians 1:3-4, 10, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who — hath



—Photo by Eva Luoma
The Grand Surprise on Christmas Morning!

chosen us in him before the foundation of the world" — showing us how it was the purpose of God's will that in the dispensation of the fullness of time he would unite all things in heaven and earth alike to be under his rule. Now that makes Christmas what it is! Paul says, "When the fullness of time was come God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem from captivity those under law, in order that we might receive our sonship."

Perhaps we do not quite fully appreciate nor understand the validation of God's manifestation in the incarnation of his Son. Christmas means that the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. God is with us; God is in our midst! God could have used any instrument to save the world, but he chose to use one that even we can appreciate. He sent a Person, his Son, incarnate in the flesh, that we, beholding his glory might believe unto salvation.

John gives a definition of the incarnation of Christ in terming him the Word and making him "the eternal being." "In the beginning was the Word". He describes his personal communion with God: "And the Word was with God". Then he gives his divine essence: "And the Word was God". As the Word is co-eternal with God, so is Christ co-existent with God. Christ did not become

(Continued on Page 18)

The Panorama of Divine Peace

A Christmas Sermon by the REV. RALPH C. LUTTER, Pastor of the Minnetrista Baptist Church, St. Bonifacius, Minnesota

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

PEACE IS ONE of the most cherished possessions of the soul. Today, with rumors of war on every hand, there is much interest in the subject of peace. Is the word, peace, a sort of a sentimental, religious ideal which has been forced to retreat before the mad onrush of paganism and philosophical thinking?

The fact of the matter is that THERE IS PEACE ON EARTH TODAY. There may not be peace among nations, but there is peace in the hearts of believers in Christ. Too many men have understood the word, peace, as having political or philosophical connotations. It is a SPIRITUAL word, a state of the soul, the gift of God wrought by the Holy Spirit in believing hearts.

If by the word, panorama, we mean an unobstructed view in every direction of something being gradually unfolded before us, let us note how the incidents relative to the birth of the Christ-child reveal the truths of peace. Its timely message seems to speak to us as though it were enacted by living characters on a stage. Three scenes are easily distinguished.

Scene one introduces us immediately to the world's soul desperation.

WORLD'S SOUL DESPERATION

"And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed" (Luke 2:1). Ever since the Battle of Philippi (B.C. 42), the Jews had been subject to the heathen Romans, who felt that their calling was to carry out the idea of the state and of civil law, to unite all the nations of the world in a colossal empire, stretching from the River Euphrates to the Atlantic, and from the Lybian desert to the banks of the Rhine. Their practicality and tyranny only served to incite rebellion on the part of the Jews.

When the Roman Caesar called for a registration of all, he was merely employing a method of economics which other nations have practised. We read that Joseph and Mary left Nazareth to go to Bethlehem, the place of their registration. Unlike the Roman custom which called for a registration at the place of their abode, the Jews went to their birthplace.

Joseph trudged wearily alongside of the beast which carried Mary, his wife. They found upon reaching Bethlehem that every inn was filled to capacity. Where should they stay? Surely, the loving kindness of the Lord God is seen, in that a place was found where they might lodge, even if it was only a humble, cattle stall! Mary, being great with child, would find privacy and quietness here, apart from the boisterous inn. It was here that she brought forth her first-born son, wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.

No room for them in the inn! What a reflection upon the inn-keeper. Perhaps he didn't know of the important occasion. How these words suggest a reason for the world's desperation today!

Many in this world have no room for Jesus in their hearts. Why? It may be that they have no conviction as to sin which has blinded them. Habits of life can keep men from Christ. Their lives are filled with the cares of the business life, or they are engaged in the pursuit of security or power. Won't you also give Jesus room in your busy life? He wants to give you his peace and rest.

Can you have peace today in spite of the rumors of war? Yes, because of heaven's peace proclamation.

HEAVEN'S PEACE PROCLAMATION

The scene quickly changes from a desperate world, as we observe some humble shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night on a Judean hillside near Bethlehem. The clear, blue sky with its myriads of stars seems to cast a solemn, reverent spell over the earth, when suddenly the Angel of the Lord breaks the silence with these joyful words: "Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10, 11).

Hardly had this announcement been made when there was heard, as it were, an antiphonal response sung by a heavenly choir: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14). This was heaven's "Peace Proclamation" to all the world!

Is it not highly significant that the announcement was first made to humble shepherds? Dr. Marshall Lang

comments: "It is not to supercilious Pharisee, not to Sadducee, cold and dry as dust, not to Essene ascetic and separatist, not to Herodian worldly and crafty, not to the mighty or the noble that the first tidings of the great joy are brought. The first preacher is the heavenly Angel, and the first congregation some lowly, simple men, who are doing their duty in the place which God has appointed them".

God has always revealed his Son to the lowly in heart. Jesus said: "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:3).

This heavenly peace proclamation has had a more far reaching effect than has any treaty or armistice prepared by men. Abraham Lincoln's "Emancipation Proclamation" freed but one race in one country of the globe; whereas this divine proclamation was meant to free all people. The World War One armistice temporarily ended a "hot" war for a time, but this divine armistice will in time end all hostilities, destroy the power of all sin, and guarantee peace among nations. There is no sinner so great whom he cannot save; nor is there a nobleman so good that his salvation is not needed.

GOOD TIDINGS TO ALL

It is a message of comfort. How fear does influence so much of our present-day living! There is the fear of man which paralyzes all righteous effort; the fear of insecurity, which debilitates both mind and body; and the fear of war which prevents social love and understanding. Only by faith in Christ shall we find release. He wants us to have that comfort!

It is a message of good tidings to all. It is the good news that, although man has grievously sinned against God, there is forgiveness and restitution for all who believe in Christ. He was born that he might become man's substitute. He died and shed his precious blood for our sins that we might be forgiven. He arose that we might experience within us his very resurrection life and power.

Lifted up was he to die,
"It is finished", was his cry;
Now in heaven exalted high;
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

It is a message of peace. There can be no peace in a sinner's heart until the sin question is settled with



A Scene from the Nativity Dramatized by Young People of the Evergreen Baptist Church of Brooklyn, New York at the 1947 Christmas Program of the Sunday School

God. "The wicked are like the troubled sea when it can not rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is NO PEACE, saith my God, to the wicked" (Isa. 57:20, 21). He wants everyone to have his peace which is theirs by accepting him as their Savior. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

We turn next to the scene which suggests man's peace realization.

MAN'S PEACE REALIZATION

"And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child" (Luke 2:16). As soon as the angels departed from them, the shepherds hastened to go to Bethlehem to see the Christ-child. What they saw in the Child and what they experienced in their hearts are reflected in the fact that they went away glorifying and praising God. The Shepherds not only heard OF HIM but they actually KNEW HIM.

So it must be the experience of every mortal today who desires that divine peace and life everlasting. Hearing of him must lead to experiencing him by simple faith in him. The world cannot go back to look upon a literal manger to see Jesus Christ, but it can see him in us. O profound mystery is this, that "Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20).

The story is written that on the night before Christmas in 1870, the French and German armies were facing each other. A French soldier received permission to leave the lines.

(Continued on Page 18)

Christmas at Nsungli

On the Ndu field in the interior of the Cameroons Ruby Salzman and Hilda Tobert celebrated Christmas with the Christian natives as they remembered the Rev. and Mrs. Earl H. Ahrens who had left the station for America because of the accident to Earl

By MISS RUBY SALZMAN of Ndu, Africa

CAN THIS BE Christmas time when we walk around in anklets and short sleeves outside in the afternoons? The mornings and nights are cold enough. It is 68 degrees in my office this morning and the sun is shining in the east windows.

On Christmas Eve the church at Ndu was crowded. This is the only time that the natives have church at night. The church teacher and evangelist both preached, and the congregation sang themselves hoarse. After church we had our cook, house-boys, and horse-boys in to receive their Christmas gifts. Each was given two yards of white shirting material and a bar of soap, plus peanuts and candy. Then they left to join the merry making in their various compounds. Miss Hilda Tobert and I then opened our own packages. A family from South Dakota sent a parcel to each mission station. My birthday packages, including one from Anaheim, California, arrived

on December 18th in time for Christmas.

On Christmas morning the church was crowded again. The school children sang the Christmas carols. The natives sang their native songs. The teachers who are home from the training school sang a choir song. The evangelist preached. I played my accordion, and one of the teachers from the Training School gave a short talk. It means much to these people to have some of their own boys come home from school and to speak in church. After the service I played for the children outside church.

The crowds came and went on the mission station until 5:30 P. M., thoroughly enjoying their festival day. In the evening we had 16 natives with us—church teachers, evangelist, three nurses, and the other school teachers. We sang and sang, and then had Christmas devotions. They also enjoyed peanuts and candy. At 9:30 P. M. they left. From then until bedtime we sat and read. So ended my second Christmas Day in Africa!



On Christmas Day 1947 Miss Ida Forsch and Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert Schneider Say: "There never was such a duck!" (Left) Before They Sat Down at the Christmas Table at Mbem, Kakaland (Right) as the Guests of Missionary Laura E. Reddig

Christmas at Mbem in the Grasslands

It was a blessed Christmas at Mbem, Kakaland when the Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert Schneider from Warwar, Mambila joined the Missionaries Laura E. Reddig and Ida Forsch and the Christian natives at Mbem for the programs and festivities

By the REV. GILBERT SCHNEIDER of Warwar, Africa

THE MISSIONARY Conference at Soppo in December 1947 was an inspiration to each of us here in Africa. When the week was ended, we all felt a greater awareness of our oneness of spirit and a sincere thankfulness for God's providence as great decisions and future plans were made. It was a grand reunion.

When we reached Mbem on our trek back to Warwar, it was the twenty-third of December. We accepted the invitation of Laura Reddig and Ida Forsch to spend Christmas with them at Mbem, rather than in the saddle going home. It was a Christmas to remember, with credit and gratitude to our good neighbors at Mbem.

No effort was spared in making Laura's house festive for the occasion. We "built" a Christmas tree out of cypress branches—and a very realistic one, too! We made and hung a big wreath with a red ribbon on it in the front window. We decorated the mantle with bows and candles, created a snow scene as a table centerpiece, arranged a bucketful of gorgeous poinsettias in the living room and added extra touches of gaiety here and there on walls and over doors. Yes, we even hung up our stockings. Although the sun was hot, the grass parched, the horizon hazy because of the harmattan — this was the day

before Christmas, and our first in Africa at that.

In the evening we went to the Mbem Baptist Church to the annual Christmas program. We were anxious to attend because they had planned it all themselves while we were gone to the Soppo Conference. It was very different from any we had attended in America, but it was excellent. It was typically native, and occasionally an incident seemed humorous to us, which was not intended to be so at all.

The church was lighted by the dim but mellow glow of the lanterns brought by those who owned them. The walls, entrance and platform were decorated with green branches, raffia palms and red hibiscus blossoms.

There was much spirited singing with drum accompaniment. Some special Christmas songs were sung in English by the school boys. The recitations almost all consisted of Bible verses recited by the school boys in English with great expression and gestures. They love to be dramatic and are remarkably good at it too.

The feature of the evening was a play put on by the school boys depicting the Christmas story. The shepherds, the manger scene, and the wise men were portrayed in order as the scriptural passages were recited. They enjoy drama and make a great

effort toward realism. We had to smile when, during the shepherd scene, we heard several school boys gently lowing as sheep outside, and again when the angels made their appearance. Literally with a rushing of wings (made of raffia palm and chicken feathers) some little school boys hurried in from outside to the platform and announced: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men." They quickly disappeared again, their little wings fluttering in the breeze.

As we watched the dramatization of this story so well known and so dear to our hearts, we were thrilled. Here we were being vividly reminded again of God's love for all mankind. Some people today would resent seeing a black madonna, a black baby Jesus, a black Joseph, black shepherds and black wise men. To Africa, of course, it is the natural thing. We are so thankful that the light that came to earth with Jesus does shine in the faces of all God's family, whatever color the face may be.

After the program we had a cup of coffee and sat around the fireplace listening to records. Along with people everywhere we enjoyed once more the familiar Christmas carols as well as the play, "Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. At 11 P. M. we tuned in to America and

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Christmas Eve at a Railroad Station

A stirring story from Stuttgart, Germany of Christmas Eve 1947

By REV. OTTO NALLINGER, Director of Relief for the Baptist World Alliance

IT WAS Christmas Eve! Already in the afternoon we had been informed that a train with about 1800 discharged prisoners of war from France was scheduled and would pass through our station that night. The train would stay here for only 25 minutes.

So we got busy to make the necessary preparations. The church choir was mobilized for the first time to sing some of our well known Christmas carols. Lots of coffee was cooked, containers filled and placed on the platform. When everything was finished we gathered in the middle of the platform to wait for the train.

The snow was coming down in thick flakes. The air was quiet. The rush and noise around us broke off. People were celebrating Christmas Eve everywhere. Suddenly two glowing points appeared in the darkness and we heard the thumping of a locomotive.

Shortly afterwards, the train rolled slowly into the station hall. Now the choir began to sing, "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht," one of our best known Christmas carols and immediately the windows and doors of the single cars

were pushed open and out poured these men who had been homesick for years. How happy they were about this first greeting! Their faces beamed with joy.

Now each of us was busily giving out hot coffee to the thirsty men. We were soon surrounded by the POW's who held out their containers, jugs, pots and messkits to receive the hot liquid. The greater part of them came from South France, some from Africa.

"How glad I am to be back home again," one of them told me. "I have been on the train for 42 days after five years of captivity."

No sooner had we emptied our containers when the whistle of the transport guard called the whirling crowds back into the cars. We quickly gathered and sang another Christmas carol and were still singing when the train left the hall with the POW's bending out of the windows, waving their handkerchiefs and caps and singing at the top of their voices these beloved old songs together with us.

When the train had disappeared in the distance we quietly cleared up all utensils and containers and each of

us thought by himself: "Never mind the lost time that you should have spent in a warm room with a Christmas tree, aglow with candles, and with Christmas cookies. You have brought joy and comfort to these poor men so that they could have their Christmas, too."

Christmas at Mbem

(Continued from Page 8)

heard President Truman give Christmas greetings to the nation in the annual ceremony of the lighting of the tree on the White House lawn. We were thrilled by the carols of the glee club, and the trumpeter as he played, "O, Holy Night," so beautifully.

On Christmas morning our stockings were filled and running over with all sorts of nice things! After a fine Christmas morning service in the church, we enjoyed a bountiful duck dinner to the recorded music of Handel's "Messiah."

On Christmas night we had a party for our native helpers. The Mbem and Warwar staff combined made a splendid group of boys, and we all enjoyed playing games together. We told the Christmas story again and explained some of our American Christmas customs in answer to their questions.

Are you beginning to see now why we can say with all sincerity — we had a blessed and a merry Christmas! It has been a beautiful Christmas season. We pray that the spirit and message of Christmas may continue to be our theme for the coming year. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!



Christmas Decorations (Center) in the Missionary's Home of Laura E. Reddig at Mbem, Kakaland. (Left) Laura Reddig and Mildred Schneider Standing by a Flowering Cactus on Christmas Day 1947, and (Right) Peter Shu, Miss Reddig's Cook, With His Children on Christmas Day 1947



The 1949 Week of Prayer

Meditations Prepared Expressly for North American Baptist Churches
for Use from January 2 to 7, 1949

By DR. A. DALE IHRIE of Bellwood, Illinois

INTRODUCTION

Scripture: The Book of Ephesians.
Theme: Power Through Union With Christ.

Preparation: Read one chapter of Ephesians before each daily meditation.

SUNDAY, JAN. 2, 1949

"Our Vital Union With Jesus Christ."

Read Ephesians 1

What is the best way to describe the most intimate relationship in all the world? Will the illustration of a vine and its branch convey the idea of complete "oneness?" Or of a bride and her husband? Or of a body with its head? Or of a building and its corner-stone? The Bible uses all of these to teach us the most important truth in the world: that a vital union with Jesus Christ is necessary for our salvation and for our empowerment to live in God's will.

In this chapter the Apostle Paul attempts to draw back the curtain of time and to unveil the amazing fact of the believer's relationship with Christ in the eternal, transcendent, celestial purpose of God. It is as though we look beyond all time and space and by the miracle of revelation we see Christ in all his radiant splendor as the King of kings upon the throne of glory before the foundation of the world, and lo! we see ourselves reigning with him, because we are spiritually "at one" with him. This was God's plan before we ever came into being. What a truth!

How did all this come about? Well, in the spirit of prayerfulness, let us continue our study each day of this week.

To the Pastor: It may be well to spend this first evening in a "full-view" study of Ephesians showing how our union with Christ, which we see in its glorious aspect in chapter one, came about. In the five succeeding chapters we see our union at Calvary (reconciliation); our union at the time of conversion (salvation); our union in the believer's new heart (transformation); our union in the believer's walk (sanctification); and our union in divine empowerment (invigoration). It is as though the apostle gives us the climax first, and then takes us back to lead us step by step to the position which so thrills us in chapter one.

Prayer Objectives: Pray for the spiritual lives of our people, since none of our programs of advance will be successful apart from spiritual power. Pray for the pastors, teachers, and general workers in our denomination, that they may grow in grace to spiritual manhood. God needs not better methods, but better men. Pray for your own deeper life, that you may tap resources of spiritual strength which you have never known before.

MONDAY, JAN. 3, 1949

"At One With Him On Calvary."

Read Ephesians Two.

When God drew back the curtain

of time by the miracle of revelation, we thrilled at the sight. We saw ourselves eternally occupying a place of majestic fellowship with Christ. We were amazed at the thought, and our minds quickly asked the obvious question: "How could these things be?"

In Ephesians two we find the answer. It is entirely God's doing — none of ours. Our high spiritual destiny was wrought by the atoning work of Calvary. "Ye . . . are made nigh by the blood of Christ." Christ Jesus identified himself with us in the judgment which is upon all sin. Ours was the sin, the cross was the place, but the suffering was Christ's. From the depths of judgment we are lifted to the heights of forgiveness because we are at one with him on Calvary.

Look at our spiritual state as set forth in the first three verses: spiritual death, Satanic disobedience, and carnal desires. Now look at the last four verses: permanently united with Christ and his saints. What brought this about?

"And when before the throne,
I stand in him complete,
'Jesus died my soul to save,'
My lips shall still repeat."

To the Pastor: Here is an opportunity to explain the doctrine of the atonement, which is the key to understanding the Christian Gospel. Our union with Christ in his death and resurrection is the only means of entering the "new life." Christ's atone-

Come ye apart to a quiet place for prayer and meditation upon God's Word, and with the Psalmist of old, listen to the voice of the Lord: "Be still, and know that I am God"

ment plus personal faith equals newness of life. Neglecting either element of the divine formula will preclude divine results.

Prayer Objectives: Pray for the salvation of our friends and fellow-citizens. Pray definitely for people whom we would like to lead to Christ. Pray for a spiritual awakening across the continent. Pray for evangelists, pastors, and leaders who are engaged in the business of soul-winning.

TUESDAY, JAN. 4, 1949

"At One With Him In Our Personal Faith."

Read Ephesians Three.

Theoretical knowledge is no substitute for experience. A man may read four books about how to swim, but he won't be a swimmer until he gets into the water and puts his ideas into practice. Similarly, a person may know all about Christ's redeeming grace without having experienced it. Doctrinal knowledge has no merit from personal faith.

After Paul explains the mystery of salvation to the Ephesians, he urges them to exercise their faith so that they might experience what he has described. He interprets his entire ministry to them as having this single aim: to lead them into an abiding relationship with Jesus Christ.

A tight-rope artist named Blondin once asked his friend, "Do you believe I could push a wheel-barrow with a man in it across five hundred feet of wire?" His friend replied, "Yes, I really believe you could." "Fine," said Blondin. "Will you get in and let me push you across tonight?" Flustered, the man quickly replied, "O no, sir! I wouldn't let you try it with me!"

Did the man really believe? If he had, he would have been willing to get "into the wheel-barrow." So with Christianity. The knowledge revealed in Ephesians two means nothing apart from the experience Paul urges in chapter three. The one describes salvation from God's viewpoint; the other from man's. The first is a doctrine; the latter is an abiding experience.

To the Pastor: In your own outline of this chapter, emphasize the truth that Paul meant the Christian life to mean more than a mere momentary decision. The good news of Gentile salvation committed to him (verses 1-7), and his commission to the Gentiles (verses 8-13) issued forth in a prayer that their previous conversions would be more than mere experiences of the moment, but would be real identifications with Christ (verses 14-19).

Prayer Objectives: Pray for the spiritual growth of new Christians. Pray specifically for the children and young people of the church and Sun-

day School. Pray for the various phases of life in your local church. Remember the pastor, teachers, deacons, officers, classes, organizations, etc., of your own church.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5, 1949

"At One With Him In Our Inner Lives."

Read Ephesians Four.

The whole story of the human race is proof that we cannot legislate righteousness. Inner attitudes determine outer deeds. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

The fourth chapter of Ephesians calls attention to some of the things that should characterize the Christian heart. Spiritual unity, mutual service, purity, newness of life, kindness — these are the furnishings of the regenerated soul.

A little boy once asked whether it was hard to pluck the old spoiled fruit so that new blossoms could take their places. The farmer replied that when the sun begins to shine in the Spring, the sap starts to run, and the new life rises up and fills each branch, the old fruit naturally falls off. Sometimes we think that a sort of outer reformation is necessary to lift human lives to a higher moral level. Such thinking is wrong; true change is only possible as the "new life in Christ" wells up in a man's soul. Then the old fruit falls off.

We may teach men to define the word "love" and demonstrate its meaning by precept and example. We may coax people and prod them to show love toward their fellowmen. We may make "love" the theme of all our education and preaching. But we will accomplish nothing until Christ is in the heart to do the loving. This is the truth which God teaches in today's passage. Unless our inner lives are at one with Christ, Christian living is impossible.

To the Pastor: Here we move from the doctrinal side of Christianity to the practical. The emphasis is on personal ethics. This is a good opportunity to lead a discussion on the personal obligations of Christian living. Be specific in your approach.

Prayer Objectives: Pray for the world-wide program of the Christian Church as it engages in ethical and moral battles. Pray for the entire missionary program of our denomination. Concentrate on our own North American Baptist mission fields, and remember missionaries by name who are our representatives. Make this prayer meeting one of world scope with reference to missions, evangelism, and ethical projects everywhere.

THURSDAY, JAN. 6, 1949

"At One With Him In Our Outer Walk."

Read Ephesians 5 to 6:9.

Anyone who confines his interpretation of Christian living to the merely personal realm HAS MISSED THE WHOLE THRUST OF THE GOSPEL. The Biblical conception of the new life starts at the core and moves outward into all society. One who has been born again is expected to grow more and more Christ-like. The only possible ideal is that our future heavenly actions are to begin right here and now. We do not wait for heaven before we begin our holy living. You may not like the phrase, "social gospel," but you cannot escape the revolutionary results of holy living. If every Christian were as orthodox in his actions as he is in his theology, this world would not long remain the same.

Congressman Judd of Minnesota recently said, "There can be no civilization without order, no order without cooperation, no real cooperation without Christian people, and there can be no Christian people without Jesus Christ." If your Bible study has found any disunity between Paul's doctrine and Christ's Sermon on the Mount, you had better re-read the Book.

In chapters five and six, Paul takes us from personal to social obligations. Social vices concerning sex, liquor, duties of wives and husbands, filial responsibility, parental necessity, servant-master relationships are all discussed very pointedly. These are foundational to civilized living.

To the Pastor: Many of our people are a bit one-sided in their ideas of Christian living. They need to see that to be Christ-like will compel them to sense their responsibilities in things beyond the walls of their church or home. Use this opportunity to teach them concerning the social outreach of Christian living.

Prayer Objectives: Pray concerning our denominational enterprise for world relief. Pray for the Million Dollar Offering. Pray about the world conditions which hinder the work of Christ. Remember our national leaders and international statesmen. Pray for the North American Baptist Conference.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1949

"At One With Him In Our Victory Over Sin."

Read Ephesians 6:9-24.

After a study of the book of Ephesians, we begin to understand how God works. The marvelous vision of our heavenly glory revealed in chapter one does not seem so impossible now. God's strategy for bringing us into a righteous Kingdom is not that of "transplanting" but of "transforming." The person whose hopeless condition was described in chapter two is now seen in chapter six. He is no

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

● The Rev. L. Hoeffner has resigned as pastor of the Baptist Church of Elberta, Alabama after having served as its pastor since 1943. He and his wife have moved to Emery, South Dakota where they are making their residence temporarily. He is awaiting God's guidance as to some church field or place of service in the future.

● On Sunday, Sept. 26, the Baptist Church of Odessa, Wash., held its annual mission festival with the Rev. Alfred Foll, pastor, in charge. The missionary offering amounted to \$740.12, including a gift of \$54.48 by the local Woman's Missionary Society. A new garage has been built near the parsonage and other improvements have been made.

● The Baptist Church of Wishek, North Dakota has extended a call to the Rev. Ervin J. Faul of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada to serve as its pastor. Mr. Faul's favorable response has been received with the announcement that he will begin his pastorate in Wishek early in January 1949. In Wishek he will succeed the Rev. Arthur Weisser, now pastor of the Temple Church of Lodi, Calif.

● The Baptist Church of Anamoose, North Dakota has called the Rev. Emil Riemer, formerly of Paul, Idaho, to serve as its pastor. Mr. Riemer is already on the field, serving as the new minister since Oct. 17th. A report about the church's reception for him and his family appears among the "Reports from the Field" in this issue. Mr. Riemer has succeeded the late Rev. Karl Gieser who died on May 29, 1948.

● The Bethany Baptist Church near Vesper, Kansas held a fellowship supper and a missionary offering for the Million Dollar goal of the denomination on the evening of November 2nd. The Rev. J. C. Gunst was the speaker and also showed colored slides taken at the Kansas Scripture Memory Camp and at other conference camps and of our missionaries. The Rev. R. B. Stabbert is pastor of this church.

● The Daytons Bluff Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minn., recently appointed the Rev. R. G. Blank of the Twin Cities of Minnesota to serve as its interim pastor. He has been rendering this appreciated ministry since No-

vember 1st. Mr. Blank is the radio preacher on the Family Altar program. The Rev. John Walkup, former pastor of the Daytons Bluff Church, brought his ministry to a close shortly before the church's 75th anniversary held in August 1948.

● The First Baptist Church of Watertown, Wisconsin has extended a call to the Rev. J. G. Benke of Hebron, North Dakota. Mr. Benke resigned as pastor of the Hebron Baptist Church on Sunday, Nov. 28, after a pastorate of five years, and announced that he had accepted the call of the Watertown church. He will begin his new pastorate in Watertown on Sunday, February 6, 1949, succeeding the Rev. Rudolph Woyke, now of Salem, Oregon.

● The Union Baptist Church of Arnold, Pa., has called the Rev. William D. Ross of Neustadt, Ontario, Canada and a favorable response has been given. He will bring his ministry to a close at Neustadt on Sunday, Jan. 12, 1949. In the Union Church he will succeed the Rev. Arthur Kannwischer, who is now serving on the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh. The Baptist Church of Neustadt hopes to call a pastor in the immediate future.

● Mrs. P. J. Trudel of Perrysburg, New York, the wife of the chairman of the North American Baptist Seminary board and a member of the Temple Baptist Church of Buffalo, New York passed away on Nov. 22nd. The memorial service was held in the Temple Church of Buffalo with the Rev. Herbert Hiller, pastor, in charge of the service. All the Rochester Seminary professors were in attendance. More complete details will be published in the next issue of "The Baptist Herald."

● The East Side Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois has extended a call to the Rev. H. R. Schroeder of Madison, South Dakota to which a favorable response has been given. Mr. Schroeder will begin his pastorate in the church of the South Chicago area on January 1, 1949, succeeding the Rev. Louis Johnson. He served as pastor of the West Center Street Baptist Church of Madison, South Dakota from 1945 to 1948. He is also the editor of the bilingual Sunday School quarterly of the Roger Williams Press.

● A Vacation Bible School was held last summer by the Villa Ridge Baptist Church of Portland, Oregon with 27 children in attendance. The pastor, Rev. Henry W. Barnet, supervised the school assisted by Mr. Bob Drummond. Teachers serving on the staff were Miss Ruth Hartung, Mrs. Ruby Chausse, Mrs. Thomas Furney and Mrs. Bob Drummond. The offerings were designated for the Cameroons Mission field. The Villa Ridge Church is a mission of the Bethany Church of Oregon.

● Dr. A. J. Harms, formerly pastor of the Burns Avenue Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan, has accepted a position as Professor of Christian Education at the California Baptist Theological Seminary, 427 West 5th Street, Los Angeles, California. Dr. Harms began his full-time service this year on November 15 when the new school term opened. The school is accredited and offers both undergraduate and graduate courses. It has recently acquired the former residence of Cecil B. De Mille as an additional dormitory for students.

● The Rev. Albert Knopf of Kiowa, Kansas, former pastor in several of our churches of the United States and Canada and well known in circles of North American Baptist churches, passed away on Sunday morning, Nov. 7. The funeral service was held at the Bethel Baptist Church of Ingersoll, Oklahoma on Nov. 10, of which he was a member at the time of his homegoing. Mr. Knopf was ailing from a creeping paralysis of the throat. A more complete obituary will follow in the next issue of "The Herald."

● The Grace Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois has extended a call to the Rev. William L. Schoeffel of Cleveland, Ohio to become its pastor. Mr. Schoeffel, following his ministry at the Immanuel Church of Kenosha, Wis., has served for several years in the book department of the Roger Williams Press. He will begin his pastorate in the Chicago church, which is his "home church," soon after January 1, 1949. Mrs. Schoeffel is the president of the National Woman's Missionary Union and the editor of the department, "We, the Women," appearing in "The Baptist Herald."

● The First Baptist Church of Manitowoc, Wisconsin has extended a call to the Rev. E. M. Wegner of Carbon, Alberta, Canada to which a favorable response has been given. Mr. Wegner will begin his pastorate in Manitowoc about Jan. 1, 1949 where he will succeed the Rev. John Schweitzer, now of Vancouver, British Columbia. During Mr. Wegner's ministry at Carbon, Alberta from 1945 to 1948 he was instrumental in bringing the former Freudenthal and Bethel churches together to unite in the Carbon Baptist Church and he led the church in its very commendable building program.

● From Oct. 25 to Nov. 7 the First Baptist Church of Sumner, Iowa held Bible studies and evangelistic meetings with the Rev. Howard Johnson of Steamboat Rock, Iowa and the Rev. John W. Walkup of Minneapolis, Minn., bringing the messages. The Rev. Wm. Jeschke, pastor of the Sumner Baptist Church, assisted the Rev. Martin De Boer with evangelistic meetings at the Baptist Church of Buffalo Center, Iowa from Oct. 11 to 24. On Sunday, Sept. 26, a joint baptismal service was held by the Sumner and Elgin churches with 13 candidates baptized by the Reverends Wm. Jeschke and Arthur Ittermann.

● The Grace Baptist Church of Grand Forks, No. Dak., honored Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Werre on Thursday evening, Oct. 28, on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary. A banquet was held in the church's dining room with 200 guests attending. The original bridesmaid of 50 years ago and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Stauss, attended as well as nine of their children and 27 grandchildren. The pastor, Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, was in charge of the program which consisted of musical numbers, readings and the presentation of a gift from the church by Mr. Kromminga, deacon.

● On Sunday, October 24, the Grace Baptist Church of Gackle and Alfred, North Dakota held its Harvest and Mission Festival with its newly called pastor. The Rev. John Reimer formerly of Saskatchewan, Canada, as speaker. It was a fine autumn day, and all services were well attended. The people, too, were in fine spirits and gave liberally of their means. The Gackle choir and the Alfred Station male quartet vied with each other in their appreciated ministry. The offerings taken at the three services amounted to \$877. The pastor reported: "We are looking for great things from the hand of the Lord in the coming months."

● Mr. Henry Marks of St. Paul, Minn., a prominent member of the Riverview Baptist Church, passed

Christmas at Belo

The Christmas festivities on the Belo mission field where the Rev. and Mrs. S. Donald Ganstrom and their family and Missionary-Nurse Margaret Kittlitz are stationed

By REV. S. DONALD GANSTROM of Belo, Africa

THERE is never a dull moment in Africa or a time when you wonder, "What shall I do." It is always, "What shall I do first." On December 4, 1947 we left Belo en route to Soppo in the new three-ton Chevrolet truck for the largest mission conference since the field has been staffed with American missionaries. We felt God's presence and guidance in the business plans as well as our devotional fellowship. The ten days together came to a close too soon. It hardly seemed we had been there that long. On Saturday evening we had a formal Christmas banquet with honest-to-goodness HAM and all the trimmings. Gilbert Schneider was the toastmaster and led all of us in good laughter. It was fun to be ladies and gentlemen in a place where you do not get an opportunity really to "dress up." We were back at Belo within 14 days, and then came the rush of preparing for Christmas.

We had the traditional Christmas tree at our Belo Mission made from cypress bows, with other decorations of poinsettias, candles and nativity scene. During the afternoon of Dec. 24th we had several of the Christian mothers come with their children for a Christmas party when we played our Christmas carols on the phonograph, related the Christmas story, told of the tradition of the Christmas tree, and gave small gifts to the children.

away quite suddenly on Oct. 25. Mr. Marks was a member of the denomination's Publication Board at the time of his homegoing and formerly had served on the General Council, Finance Committee and other important committees and boards. From 1922 to 1925 he was the president of the National Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union. He will be greatly missed by the Riverview Church of St. Paul and its Sunday School and Men's Club as well as by the larger denominational circle.

● Evangelistic services were held from Oct. 31 to Nov. 7 by the Calvary Baptist Church of Stafford, Kansas.

On Christmas Eve we had the traditional party for our house-boys before the service at the church—which began at 9:00 P. M. The service was impressive not only in message, but in lighting. We have no electricity, you know, so there was only the light of several lanterns which some had brought to show them the path. On Christmas morning there was also a service which was well attended. Miss Margaret Kittlitz and the Ganstroms had breakfast together and then gathered around the tree to enjoy our gifts from family and friends.

The church service on New Year's was an inspiration. After the message to a good crowd, the preacher asked for testimonies from those who had been blessed during the past year. Several responded that gave our hearts special joy. One, Grace Puttee, a mother of three grown girls, and about 50 years of age had just been baptized. She had been sprinkled previously and had been faithful in her attendance at church and living a good Christian life as observed on the outside. She was thankful she had finally been shown to follow Christ the correct way.

Then a middle-aged man, who has been blind for 17 years, was thankful for the Light God had given him in his life and his guidance as he helps him walk to church, even though he does not see with his physical eyes. There were many others, whose testimonies were thrilling to hear.

Professor F. D. Whitesell of the Northern Baptist Seminary of Chicago, Ill., brought expository messages on Romans, and Mr. Ed. Link, student at our Rochester Seminary, served as song leader and soloist. Two young men were converted during the meetings. On Sunday, Nov. 21, the Harvest and Mission Festival of the church was held with the Rev. M. L. Leuschner of Forest Park, Ill., bringing the messages at the morning and afternoon services and showing missionary pictures in the evening. A baptismal service was held on Sunday evening, Dec. 12, at which the Rev. Aaron A. Stackhouse baptized three converts on confession by their faith in Christ.



—Photo by Herman Siemund
Forests of Trees Can Be Seen on the Way to Paradise Valley on the Slopes of Mount Rainier, Washington.

Cloud Across the Sun

A Novel by G. FRANKLIN ALLEE

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SYNOPSIS

Larry Brantwell, a famous radio announcer and singer, was told by the doctor that he was through with his radio career because of a bad throat condition. All that the doctor could further suggest was to get out-of-doors, to go logging in the Northwest country. It wasn't long before Larry was on his way to the white-capped Olympics in Washington to begin life all over again at Camp One, of which Big Jim Rand, a bold dynamic leader, was foreman. Larry was injured in an accident and had to recuperate in the nearby town of Sheldon. On Sunday he and his boss, Sam Reese, went to church together. The service was lacking in interest until the preacher spoke about "consecration — an all-encompassing, self-annihilating surrender of oneself to God."

CHAPTER SIX

LARRY could scarcely take his eyes from the speaker as the words were spoken evenly, but with the forcefulness, deliberateness a man might use were he delivering an ultimatum to a city or a proclamation of freedom to a nation of bondmen. He glanced sidewise at Reese and saw him sitting straight and tense, his fingers laced so tightly together above the hymnbook that the knuckles showed bloodless and white. One swift glance he shot in the direction of the jaunty little hat, which now stood more distinctly, as the wide shoulders before him sagged, reveal-

ing the soft folds of wavy hair and one little white ear, and then turned his attention back to the pulpit.

"I know a man," the speaker was saying, "and some of you know him also — a grand specimen of manhood he is, too — who mentally and emotionally has suffered years of untold agony, but who has found triumph and joy through the discovery of this secret, which he learned in a mysterious and almost miraculous manner.

"Some of you knew me when I came here to this city as a beaten man. Then this man of whom I speak revealed his secret to me—and it is this which I am declaring to you today. Since then I have lived in a new world. A life of rich satisfaction opened to me there, a life possible for every fully consecrated child of God. Complete consecration means a way out if you have a vital problem in your life which is too great for you to conquer alone. Think it through, friends."

Both young men were quiet and abstracted as they walked down the hill, as though the message they had heard occupied their minds to the exclusion of conversation. But when they had ordered their noonday meal and were waiting for it to be served,

Reese leaned back and, smiling in his enigmatic way, said, "Not a bad reason for going up there, Brantwell—not bad at all. I must confess that I think your judgment is tops. In fact on that basis I shall be most happy to entertain a suggestion for your immediate promotion within the ranks of our bankrupt corporation."

"So you like him? I'm glad you do. I think he's exceptionally good," Larry said, aware of the implication of Reese's words, but striving to hide his knowledge.

"Now! Mr. Brantwell—"

"Larry to you, Mr. Reese."

"Sure enough, Larry, and by the way, my parents christened me Samuel, but somewhere along the battle-front of life I lost the last syllable—during the depression, I suppose—and now it's just plain Sam."

"All right; Sam it is. Any relation to the famous uncle of that name?"

"A dependent nephew. But to get back to the point, the point you're trying to steer me away from, Beautiful girl, that Miss Linden. And you don't need to color up like that; I'm in love, too."

The waitress brought their lunch just then, interrupting the conversation. When she left, Larry said, "I've never seen the lady in question."

"Well, Larry, I've never believed in love at first sight, but now I'm convinced. One look at your enraptured countenance while she was playing, and, oh, boy!"

To the waitress who had come up just then, he said, "Coffee with cream only." Then to Larry, "The prosecution rests."

"Which disproves that old saw about there being no rest for the wicked," Larry retorted.

"Ouch! That hurt," Sam said, grimacing.

Larry spoke. "Well, if it was love, the object of it would appear quite worthy on first inspection. But laying aside all jokes, that parson made some pertinent and close-fitting statements this morning."

"Yes," Sam soberly replied. "His premise staggered me, and I haven't come up for the count yet."

"Me, too. If that holds true, which I'm not at all certain it will do, I wonder why we haven't heard it preached before this."

"Oh, I think it's really the truth, all right. It's just that most of us aren't willing to pay the price. But that isn't what got me; it's that I've heard it a number of times from my mother. And connected with that, there's quite a story. She has an old—"

"Telephone for Mr. Reese," called a clerk from the doorway.

"Excuse me; be right back," Sam said.

Several minutes elapsed before he returned, and then he hastily finished his meal, saying, "It was from Camp Two. That bunch is always getting into some kind of jam!"

The wound in Larry's shoulder was nearly healed, but one spot, where little red lines centered, worried the attending physician and after examination he ordered him to Seattle for special treatment.

Sam returned from the camp at dusk wearing a heavy frown and with fire dancing in his dark eyes. When Larry, in answer to his question, repeated the doctor's verdict, he said, "I'm driving home right away, and you might as well ride in with me."

He put in a telephone call, and soon they were on their way. They drove north to a highway junction at the elbow of Hood's Canal, a long, narrow body of water that branches off from Puget Sound and points south by southwest some thirty odd miles, then makes an abrupt turn and extends another twenty miles east, heading up at a point twelve miles west of the huge naval base at Bremerton. It varies in width from two to five miles, about thirty miles of it lying at the foot of the Olympic Mountains, from which a number of swift snow-fed streams come down to empty into it.

The sun was out of sight behind the snow-clad peaks on the travelers' left, setting the mountains in sharp outline against the crimson sky. A few thin layers of stratus clouds, high enough to catch the sunbeams, were glowing with what looked like the colored beams of some giant searchlight hidden behind the mountains. Lower, where the evergreen-clad foothills surrounded the base of the peaks, a soft haze, that looked as though it might have been dipped fresh from the darker blue of the bay and diluted with the turquoise of the sky, covered the landscape.

Sam, apparently absorbed in thought, said little on the drive to Bremerton, and Larry was content to let it be so. There was a solemnity and a melancholy in the air that stirred his memory. He remembered the heights of fame and prosperity to which he had ascended, and the thought aroused no little bitterness within him as he compared his position then with his present status as an injured logger riding in with his employer for treatment of what might prove to be a dangerous infection. He thought of Lorraine, with her slender fingers tripping gracefully from key to key, and wondered if he would be able to muster courage to visit the station. But it was the remembering of the hundreds of letters which had formerly poured in from his "public" that caused the greatest tightening of his throat. Only a trickle of his former copious fan mail, forwarded by the post office, now reached him, so soon was one forgotten when misfortune fell upon him. True, it was not financial need that sent him to the timber as a logger, for the bank book in his music case testified to the success which he had attained in those months after his release from the Red Cross. But to be set aside ruthlessly, to step down from the position of a popular radio singer to that of a common lumberjack—that was a bitter pill to swallow.

Sam's black mood continued until they drove around Sinclair Inlet and into Bremerton. Many ships rode at anchor in the well-protected harbor. Larry never passed through the place without marveling how, in the space of five years, it had grown from a small town to a thriving city of nearly a hundred thousand inhabitants, its great shipyards, dry docks and repair shops extending for several miles along the waterfront.

They ate supper in a noisy cafe amid the rattle of dishes, the blare of a juke box and the hubbub of many voices. Then they drove to the ferry dock and embarked for the seventeen-mile water journey to Seattle on one of the huge ferries that ply the waters between the two ports. The ship they caught this trip was the "City of Sacramento."

"It's noisy and smoky on the passenger deck; I believe I'd rather stay down here in the car," Sam said as the ship moved away from the dock.

"Suits me," Larry replied. "I never did fancy being a smoked herring."

"At least with that kind of smoke," Sam added.

The ship rocked gently as it turned about and headed down the bay. The throbbing of the engines reached them even through the additional cushioning of the car. Through the small windows along the side of the car deck they could see the gleam of many lights upon the hillsides. Reese settled back and sighed audibly as he said, "Boy! What a day!"

Larry murmured an unintelligible answer as there was little to which he could reply. A little later the lumberman spoke again. "I gave Farmer his walking papers. As superintendent out there he's done nothing but create friction for months. Then this morning he tried to let Jim Rand out, and the entire crew went on strike. That's the second* time that's happened. The first time I blamed Rand, but now I see which way the wind is blowing. I had determined that he has been playing ball with some of my competitors, so when this came up today I let him go. We sure had one stormy session!"

"From what I've observed and heard out there, I'd say you did a very wise thing. I suppose you have someone to take his place," Larry said, as some reply seemed to be expected.

"I think so; that is, if you'll take the job," Sam said.

Larry laughed quietly, thinking it only a joke on the part of his employer. He said, "That's a nice piece of humor, Sam."

"Sounds crazy to you, doesn't it? But I mean it. I'm offering you the place." Reese's voice was serious.

"Sounds more than crazy," Larry said in amazement, beginning to comprehend his meaning. "Why! I hardly know anything about logging, to say nothing of running an outfit like yours. I still think you've thought up a good joke."

"Never was more serious in my life. And, what's more, I've already promoted you to it. I talked it over with Rand, and he thinks it's a good idea. Jim knows logging from A to Z, and you know how to get along with men. Farmer didn't know either. Besides that, I have every reason to believe he sold out to some other outfit that's trying to break me—which makes me doubt if we'll be able to keep going another month, unless the state releases some more timber to me."

In the next half-hour Larry used every argument he could summon in an endeavor to convince Reese that he was totally unfit for the position

he was thrusting upon him. But through it all the lumberman stood firm, insisting that he knew what he was about; and in the end there was nothing to do but yield.

The ship swung in close to Alki Point, where great floodlights illuminated the beach, and then throbbed on through the waters of Elliot Bay. Larry said, "I hope I can get into a hotel tonight. I closed my apartment, and it wouldn't be in any condition to stay in. I'll call the Olympic from the ferry dock; they might accidentally have a vacancy."

"Call nothing! You're going home with me," Sam said emphatically.

"Hey! How do you get that way?" Larry said, turning to frown upon his companion. "I may sponge a ride, but not a home."

"An' who said ye were a-going to sponge?" Sam said, swinging off into a perfect imitation of an Irish brogue, as he had a way of doing occasionally. "I called Mother before we left, and she said you were to come home with me. And when Mother gives the order, we obey at our house."

"She must be a bit like her son."

"Only more so," Sam said, tipping his hat to one side and smiling. "Not that she's bossy, but we all know that whatever she thinks best to do is apt

to turn out so. I want you to meet her."

The house on Queen Anne Hill was an old three-story brick structure with long porches in both front and rear and a driveway that circled back through a large rose garden and came out on the other side of the house. On either side there were permanent awnings under which cars could stop, and steps leading to a side door.

"I feel like a heel, coming here like this," Larry said as the car came to a stop under one of the canopies.

"Well, a heel should be booted, and that's what I'm doing to you, booting you around tonight. First I make you take a job you don't want; then I make you come home and stay in my wigwam. Arise and enter."

The house, with its quiet air of comfort and refinement, proved to be anything but a wigwam. Taste and culture, without extravagance, were reflected in all the appointments of the house. The rugs were rich, but without a trace of garishness. The furniture and drapes blended into an attractive plan, and oil paintings adorned the walls. Mrs. Reese met her son and his guest with a quiet graciousness that immediately set the visitor at ease and captivated his heart. She was of medium height,

slender and graceful. Her hair, which was graying slightly, was combed upward from her white forehead in a becoming style that made her look both patrician and motherly. But it was her eyes, and the deep, quiet calm resoluteness resting there, that attracted Larry. Although she lacked the quick, bright smile that was always ready to leap to the face of her son, there was in hers a rare quality that made frequency unnecessary. Watching her as they sat for some time in the big living room with the cool evening air stirring the curtain behind her, Larry thought, What poise she has! What a happy, easy life, free from care and pain, she must have lived!

Long after he had retired he could hear the voices of mother and son, subdued but in earnest consultation, coming up the broad stairway from the living room. Finally they seemed to blur into indistinctness, like the whispering of the night wind among the firs.

When he awoke it was broad daylight. The sunlight was streaming into the room, and Sam was shouting, "Wake up! Don't you know that people die in bed?"

(To Be Continued)

We, the Women

News and Views of the National Woman's Missionary Union

By MRS. FLORENCE E. SCHOEFFEL, President

GIVING

Stores thronged with eager shoppers; men and women with armfuls of bundles jostling each other in the rush to catch the crowded buses; bell-ringing "Santas" on street corners collecting donations for Christmas baskets to the poor; chimes from a downtown church filling the air with lovely carols—the hustle and bustle of the pre-Christmas days, which always thrills one with excitement and anticipation. "What shall we give to—?" is the question troubling most of the busy shoppers.

It is fitting that giving instead of getting should have the emphasis at this glad season, for it is in response to the giving of the greatest Gift of all that we are celebrating. "God so loved the world that he GAVE . . ."

Taking time out from the rush of last-minute shopping, to contemplate the meaning of God's gift, the realization comes anew—"He gave his only begotten Son . . ." He gave himself! In all our plans for Christmas giving, how much of ourselves have we included?

It was the night before Christmas.

Old Mrs. Martins sat in her wheelchair by the window, watching the gay looking crowds hurrying past. It was lonely in the house, with no one but Sarah, the faithful housekeeper, since the children were too far away to come home for the holidays.

Suddenly she heard music, a familiar carol, sung just outside her door. When Sarah hastened to open it, several members of the Woman's Missionary Society stepped into the room. Mrs. Evans was carrying a brightly wrapped parcel, with a sprig of evergreen tucked under the ribbon.

"We have come to wish you a very joyful Christmas, and a happy New Year," she said, presenting the gift, as the others gathered about the old lady, expressing their own greetings and good wishes.

With tears in her eyes, Mrs. Martins replied. "You will never know how much this means to me. To think that, busy as you all must be, you took time to surprise me. I cannot thank you enough for your love, as well as for this beautiful gift."

They could have had it delivered from the store (it was bought early

enough) but how much more it meant, given with all the warmth of friendliness, in person. With a little thought I am sure we will discover many ways in which we can give ourselves—our service, our love, our talents—remembering that "the gift without the giver is bare".

May we at this Christmas season catch the meaning of true giving, as revealed by God himself. And then, throughout the coming year, let us make the prayer of this poem a reality in our lives:

GOD, LET ME GIVE

God, let me be a giver, and not one
Who only takes, and takes unceasingly.

God, let me give, so that not just
my own
But others lives as well may richer
be.

Let me give out whatever I may hold
Of what material things life may be
heaping;

Let me give raiment, shelter, food or
gold,
If these are, through thy bounty, in
my keeping.

But greater than such fleeting treasures,
may

I give my faith, and hope, and cheerfulness,
Belief and dreams, and joy and
laughter gay

Some lonely soul to bless.

—Author Unknown.

CHILDREN'S PAGE



THE HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Holidays are almost always happy. Easter with its story of the Risen Christ, May Day with its baskets of sweet spring flowers, Fourth of July with its fire-crackers and Thanksgiving Day brings turkey. But I suppose Christmas has always been the children's "Happiest Holiday."

This year Jack and Betty were a bit doubtful about it. For they were stranded up in the snow-bound country with Granny, while Mother rushed across the broad Atlantic to join Daddy in Paris. Of course she would bring them lovely presents when she came back next month; a French doll with a beautiful silk dress for Betty, and a Swiss music box that played real tunes for Jack.

But next month was a long way off. And meantime there was Christmas just around the corner. Jack and Betty were used to the most glorious Christmases. There were always presents galore, for were they not the rich little Claytons? Nothing was too expensive to put on their Christmas list. Not even real live ponies and little red automobiles that honked their horns!

"It's ridiculous, Celia," said Granny to Mother. "You've spoiled these children to death. You leave them to me and I'll give them an old-fashioned Christmas that will warm their hearts. The kind you used to have."

But the children hadn't heard that. So how were they to know that this was to be an extra special Christmas? Certainly, there were no fine stores away up here in the country. And no exciting bundles arriving every hour in the day. There was just snow, snow, snow, until with noses flattened out against the window panes they could not see beyond the garden gate.

"Get on your coats and caps, chickadees," called Granny. "The sleigh will be around in a minute, and we're going out on a Christmas foraging party."

That sounded more like it, thought Jack and Betty when Granny explained that "Foraging" meant "to hunt." So they piled under the warm blankets and Granddaddy slapped the reins. Away they went, skimming as light as air over the hard crusted snow.

First, they stopped at a neat little



—Photo by Eva Luoma
"I thank Thee, God, for Christmas and for the coming of the Christ-child into this world. Amen!"

white house just over the brow of the hill. Granny introduced them to the prettiest little girl they had ever seen. She had such sunny, yellow hair and such sky blue eyes. But her little face was very pale and she never once tried to get out of her big padded chair. She sang them a Christmas carol in such a soft little voice that it almost made the tears come in Betty's eyes.

"She's lame," said Granny as they left. "She could walk about a bit and get the fresh outdoor air if she had a pair of crutches. But her Daddy is dead and her Mother is too poor to buy them for her."

The children were quiet until they drew up in front of the next house. "There's a new baby here. I haven't seen it myself yet," explained Granny. The children tip-toed in behind her. There were blankets hung over the windows to keep the sharp, cold winter wind out of the broken panes. The new little baby lay inside its mother on a narrow cot. It was a prettier baby than Mary Lou's new sister at home, thought Betty. And Mary Lou's new sister slept in a satin draped bassinet and had three dozen French hand-made dresses, too. This baby had no clothes at all. Only an

old blanket wrapped around her. It even made Jack feel badly and he was a boy.

"Just one more visit, chickadees," announced Granny cheerily. The children didn't feel cheerful at all. They hadn't known there was so much misery in the world. Their world had always been so comfortably full of ice cream and party dresses and soft-blanketed little beds.

This time it was a white-haired old lady who seemed to be a special chum of Granny's. But when she was introduced to Jack and Betty, she moved slowly toward them and felt their hair and faces in a strange manner. Then they saw that she was blind. Gentle, faded, blue eyes that stared blankly at them out of a kind old face. Not to see! — Betty shuddered.

"Oh, Ganny, I can't stand any more," she wailed on the way home.

"But what can we do about it; that's what I want to know," suggested Jack practically.

"I was hoping you'd ask that question, sonny boy," said Granny. "How about a Christmas for others instead of ourselves this year?"

"Oh, I'd love it," they both cried in the same breath.

"Well, Mother left enough money with me to order that electric train set, Jack. Shall we put it into crutches for little lame Martha?"

"You bet!" said Jack emphatically.

"Then if Betty wants to give up her furnished doll's house, we can buy some books with raised letters that blind Mrs. Evans can read by running her fingers over the pages. There are things for the others that you can do yourselves. That will be the best fun of all."

Bright and early the next morning began a week of busy days for Jack and Betty. Jack chopped an enormous pile of wood for the Jones' fireplace. Betty helped Granny cut out tiny dresses and petticoats for the new baby. Evenings they all rolled dough for dozens of sugar cookies.

Then the day before Christmas they picked out the tallest cedar tree on the front lawn. Granny brought down a big box of the very red and green balls that had decorated Mother's tree when she was a little girl. They strung popcorn all over the waving boughs. And overnight the Christmas

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THE CHILDREN'S PAGE
Is Edited by
MRS. A. REEH, LA SALLE, COLO.

Children's Page

(Continued from Page 17)

angels sent just the faintest glitter of bright new snow to make their tree gleam in the morning sunshine.

The sleigh got busy early on Christmas Day and brought all the folks; little lame Martha, the blind woman and the new baby's daddy. How their eyes stuck out with astonishment when they saw the glorious surprise. Granddaddy untied the little lame girl's crutches. Betty handed the new baby's father a prettily wrapped package of dainty garments. Jack gave to the old blind lady the Bible in braille. She was so happy that her hands trembled on the precious pages of the book.

So Jack and Betty found their Hap-piest Holiday. For it is more blessed to give than to receive. And verily a friendly heart is greater than much money!

Adapted from "The Necklace of Friendship."

Panorama of Peace

(Continued from Page 7)

He walked toward the Germans. His comrades watched with bated breath, listening lest there should be the crack of a rifle, and their fellow soldier should fall and bite the dust. When he had gotten well toward their lines, he suddenly stopped and began to sing the Christmas song, the refrain of which was, "Noel! Noel! Christ is King in Israel!"

The German soldiers did not stir. Their hearts beat more quickly and their thoughts were carried back to happy groups gathered about brilliantly lighted Christmas trees in the homes beyond the Rhine. When the Frenchman had finished his song and returned to the ranks, a man came out from behind the German breast-works, and coming to the same spot, he sang a beautiful German version of the same song. At the close of each stanza both armies united in the chorus: "Noel! Noel! Christ is King in Israel!"

The selfishness of Napoleon III had arrayed these men against each other, but the love of Jesus Christ had conquered for one short hour, set aside bitter hatreds, and imparted a sense of brotherhood among the soldiers.

Yes, there is PEACE ON EARTH today in the hearts of believers, but how we long for that day when nations shall be purified at his coming, when the true brotherhood of man shall no longer be but an abstract ideal unattained, but then a true, spiritual reality to all.

May Heaven's Best bestow Peace and Rest upon a wandering, weary world! We await the return of THE PRINCE OF PEACE.

Week of Prayer

(Continued from Page 11)

longer dead in trespasses and sins. He is very much alive and is donning the armor of God, preparing to go out and do battle for the Lord.

What battles yet remain to be fought! What victories need still to be won! Sin is all around us. Satan seems to be stronger than ever. Christianity seems to be backing away. Churches appear to be weak; Christians suffer spiritual defeats; ministers grow discouraged; soul-winners fail; programs trail away into nothing; angels tremble. What is the answer?

Brethren, the answer is not in a defeatist attitude which declares that the odds are too great. The answer is in a brand of Biblical Christianity which rises out of the miry clay, and by the grace of God is cleansed without and within. It sheds its garments of filthy rags and puts on the whole armor of God. It goes forth with an unimpeachable Gospel, an invincible God, an unconquerable power, and a triumphant song. It unfurls the banners of victory before the victories are won. It can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth. It is the Church of Jesus Christ, at one with God from Calvary to Eternity. At one with God in victorious living! At one with him in power! Power through union with Jesus Christ! Praise his holy Name!

To the Pastor: Show how each of the pieces of the "whole armor of God" is appropriate for the spiritual needs of our day. End the series on a note of victory.

Prayer Objectives: Pray for spiritual victory in every phase of the Christian life. Remember especially our denominational enterprises: the Million Dollar Offering, the Sioux Falls Seminary project, the Edmonton Training Institute, our Children's Home, Homes for the Aged, etc. Pray victoriously!

The Christmas Message

(Continued from Page 5)

God at some point in time, but this inter-relation of personality is inherent in the eternal being of God. Thus Eternity, Personality, and Deity are fully attributed to Christ.

It seems unthinkable, yet it is true, that the infinite eternal Son of God narrowed himself to the limitations of "the likeness of sinful flesh". He abandoned his eternal dwelling before the face of God and dwelled in the midst of sinners, in order that we might behold his glory. Beholding this manner of God's love humbles us in the dust.

To receive and to accept the message of his miraculous birth as set

forth in the Scriptures enlarges our conception of God. We see him free to reveal himself in any form and nature to meet man's need for God. There are no impossibilities or mysteries to God. God in Christ is free to turn water into wine, to command winds and waves to be still and the elements of nature obey his will. He is free to feed the multitudes with little substance, to forgive sins, to heal the sick, to raise the physically and spiritually dead. God likewise is free to impregnate a virgin of Galilee with his divine spirit.

God affirms this truth at the baptism of Jesus when the vault of heaven opened and the voice of the Father proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased". It is from our heavenly Father that we have the divine revelation of the incarnation of himself in the eternal Son.

By faith in Christ we too are made sons of God, but in a different sense than Christ. He was and forever continues to be the only begotten Son of the Father, and it is only through the Son that all other spiritual beings are brought forth, and the believers are made acceptable in the sight of God. Though the redeemed and regenerated spirits of men become partakers of his divine life.

Christmas brought also the joy of the future to the hearts of the believer. The happy prophecy was remembered about the joy in the years ahead when Mary said, "From henceforth all generations shall call me blessed". This message of Christ's birth changed the outlook of the shepherds in Bethlehem, the wise men of the East, and all who truly seek Christ as the fulfillment of prophecy, the Christ, their Savior.

There is a message of hope in the angelic song for the heavy-laden, the downtrodden, the broken hearted, the helpless and hopeless. "Unto you is born this day a Savior," — bringing with him peace and good will. This message proclaims the dawn of a better day. It promises victory of righteousness over evil and over death itself. Thus the Christmas truth rightfully applied becomes the anchor of hope to our soul, the deliverance from bondage and fear of death.

But now "the Word became flesh" and brought the glory of heaven and God to earth and is now within the grasp of the human heart and mind. Therefore in our own experience let the flesh be made the instrument of the Word. Let us lay full claim on God's Christmas gift to us, and join the angelic hosts in the proclamation of his truth, opening our hearts to God for a new infilling of his love. As a result, peace and hope will be the satisfying experience of our hearts.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Southwestern Conference

Offering of \$13,250.50 Received By Lorraine Baptist Church of Kansas at Mission Festival

Harvest and Mission Festival Sunday was celebrated on October 31 at Lorraine, Kansas at the First Baptist Church. Several weeks preceding this date, the church members voted to set \$10,000 as the goal for the missionary offering. Part of the offering was to go for the support of Dr. and Mrs. Chaffee and the Rev. and Mrs. George Henderson, Cameroons missionaries, and a portion for European relief and the establishing of a medical work in the Cameroons.

We were happy and privileged to have the Rev. Frank Woyke, executive secretary of the North American Baptists, as our guest speaker for the day. His inspirational sermon in the morning and his talk concerning the denominational mission work in the evening brought home to us again the great opportunities God has given us as Christians and as a denomination. How we should thank and praise him for these opportunities and accept them gladly by being faithful in our prayers for our work and in giving of our means.

Our offering totalling \$13,250.50 was the largest ever received by our church in one day, and we do thank God that we were able to give it for the glory of One who has given us every good thing.

Mrs. Theodore Wilkens, Reporter.

Mission Sunday and Evangelistic Services Are Held by Baptist Church, Bison, Kansas

Mission Sunday, Oct. 31, as observed by the First Baptist Church of Bison, Kansas was a perfect climax to one week of extensive home mission work. We were blessed immensely by the soul inspiring messages brought to us by Rev. J. C. Gunst, our guest speaker. We observed Mission Sunday with an all day meeting at the church, including the noon and evening meals served in the church basement by the ladies. A mission offering was taken on that day amounting to \$541.32.

During the week preceding, Oct. 25 to 29, we as a church secured the use of a school house some distance from the church and conducted evangelistic services each night. This community is to a large extent unchurched and therefore we feel that it is a challenge to our constituency. These services were well attended, and although no visible results were seen, yet we still trust God's promise in Isaiah 55:11.

Harold H. Fischer, Pastor.

Dakota Conference

Reception for the Rev. and Mrs. Emil Riemer and Daughter at Anamoose, North Dakota

The arrival of the Rev. and Mrs. E. Riemer and family at Anamoose, North Dakota was the occasion for much joy in our church and community. Mr. Riemer began his ministry on Sunday, Oct. 17th, but we decided on the following Sunday, Oct. 24th, to welcome the new pastor as well as his wife and daughter at our evening service.

Officers representing all branches of our church were given a chance to take part in this service. We also had invited several of our neighboring churches with their pastors, who were also given an opportunity to speak.

Several songs and readings were given by the young people. This was followed by a hearty response by the Riemer family, after which we gathered in the "lower room" for refreshments served by the ladies of our church. We as a church feel that this has been a prayer answered by God, and that we may look forward to future months when God will reveal his power through his Gospel and that many blessings may be ours.

Thomas Derman, Reporter.

Offering of \$1071 at Harvest and Mission Festival at Bismarck, North Dakota

On Sunday, Oct. 17, the Bismarck Baptist Church held its annual Harvest and Mission Festival here in Bismarck, North Dakota. The young people had decorated the church beautifully for the occasion. Baskets of fruit and vegetables, shocks of corn and huge pumpkins were to all of us a friendly reminder of the abundance of God's love.

The Rev. Paul Hunsicker of Fredonia, No. Dak., was our guest speaker. In the morning service he brought a thanksgiving message in which he caused us to recount the many blessings of the past year. In the evening he brought a stirring missionary message. The hearts of the people were stirred and they were

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moved to lay \$1,071.94 upon the altar of God. Thanks be unto Him!

Our church here in Bismarck is growing. Again and again new families move into our fair city who find their way to our church. In recent weeks we were able to receive several of these into the church. We are pleased with the many visitors and strangers at our regular services. Our great concern is the pressing need for a larger church edifice. We are engaged in gathering funds and in perfecting plans for this purpose. For this great undertaking we do need a greater and stronger faith, for all of us are going to be called upon to bring sacrifices.

Bismarck offers many opportunities for mission work. These have lifted our church to a new level in this community. With these opportunities come many new responsibilities that must be met. We are confident, however, that God will give us the necessary guidance and strength to do his work. May our hearts be wholly dedicated unto him!

Edward Kary, Pastor.

Mission Festival and Young People's Activities at Baptist Church, Selfridge, No. Dak.

On Sunday, October 5, the first Mission Festival was observed by the Baptist Church at Selfridge, North Dakota. The Rev. R. G. Kaiser of Hettinger, North Dakota was the guest speaker, and a blessed time was enjoyed by all. We have completely cleared the debt on our new church, except for a few minor bills.

On October 10th a group of 15 young people from the church at Selfridge went to Bison to participate in the Sunday School Convention. Everyone remarked about how grand they thought it was.

On October 24th a special young people's meeting was held for the purpose of re-electing officers and organizing an active program. The officers elected were: Art Walker, president; John Walker, vice-president; Jake Walker, treasurer; Wilma Goehring, secretary; Mrs. John Walker, pianist; Lawrence and Sam Walker, ushers. A program committee was also selected, composed of Loretta Walker and Emma Hepper.

On Nov. 14 Miss Ruth Huber of McIntosh became the bride of Jerry Giegle of Selfridge. This was the first wedding held in our Selfridge church.

Revival meetings were held in our church for a period of two weeks from Sept. 5 to 7 with Evangelist G. Palfenier as our speaker. Everyone enjoyed the sincere and heart-searching messages. One person was saved and everyone was richly blessed.

Wilma J. Goehring, Reporter.

Northwestern Conference

Session of the Minnesota Woman's Missionary Union at the Minnetrista Baptist Church

The Woman's Missionary Union of the Minnesota Association met on Friday, October 15, at the Minnetrista Baptist Church of St. Bonifacius, Minnesota.

An inspiring program, consisting of missionary skits and appropriate music, was a blessing to all who attended. The societies contributing numbers were those of the Daytons Bluff and Riverview Churches of St. Paul, Jeffers, Holloway, Hutchinson, Randolph and Minneapolis. The offering of \$25.00 was designated for the work of Dr. and Mrs. Leslie Chaffee in the Cameroons.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. E. H. Buening of Holloway, president; Mrs. R. Lutter of St. Bonifacius, vice-president; and Mrs. John Adam of Minneapolis, secretary and treasurer.

Mrs. John Adam, Reporter.



Young People and Pastors in Attendance at the Rally of the Wisconsin Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union at Wausau, Wisconsin

Wisconsin Young People's Rally at the Grace Baptist Church of Wausau, Wisconsin

On October 23 and 24 the young people of the Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union of Wisconsin held their rally at Wausau, Wis. It was a great success and everyone enjoyed every part of the program.

The rally was opened with devotions led by the young people of Pound, after which the Rev. John Grygo of Pound brought an inspiring message. The afternoon session closed with the business meeting.

The evening service opened with devotions led by the young people of Milwaukee's Bethany Church. This included a period of testimonies by the young people, followed by the message of the evening by the Rev. North E. West of Kenosha. Following the evening service a period of recreation conducted by the host church was enjoyed by all.

During the morning service on Sunday, the Rev. M. L. Leuschner of Forest Park, Ill., brought an inspiring message. His topic was "United In Action." In the afternoon service he brought another message on "Unity in the Bonds of Peace."

We had a very enjoyable rally. We want to thank the Wausau people for their kind hospitality. May God bless the young people as we strive to do greater things to further the Kingdom of God.

Joyce Kopf, Secretary.

Northern Conference

Baptist Young People of Spring-side, Sask. Present Annual Program Before Capacity Audience

Sunday, Oct. 17, marked another milestone in the history of our Baptist young people's society at Spring-side, Saskatchewan, as we presented our annual program under the capable leadership of our president, Mr. M. Arndt. Our new church was filled to capacity as friends came to hear us

Many Young People Participate in the Alberta Tri Union Song Festival at Calgary

On Sunday, Oct. 31, the annual Song Festival of the Southern Alberta Tri-Union was held in Calgary. Many gathered from far and near to be in attendance for this great day. The choirs of the Carbon, Zion, Calgary, Trochu and Olds churches participated.

The morning worship service was held in the Bridgeland Baptist Church. The superintendents of Carbon and Olds spoke on the Sunday School lesson. The Junior Choir of Calgary, under the leadership of Miss Lily Bertsch rendered two fine selections. The Rev. Hugo Zepik of Trochu brought an inspiring message.

The afternoon service, held at the Crescent Heights Baptist Church, was the highlight of the day. The fine program, led by the Rev. E. M. Wegner of Carbon, consisted of numbers by the mixed choirs, male chorus, quartet and trios. The mass choir under the direction of the Rev. H. Schatz presented three uplifting messages in song. The Rev. J. P. Schultz of Olds brought the afternoon message on "The New Song."

May the Lord bless all choirs which sing to the honor and glory of God!

Ruth Unger, Reporter.

Five Hundred People Attend the Song Festival of the Saskatchewan Tri-Union

Under the leadership of the Rev. R. Kanwischer the Saskatchewan Tri-Union held a choir festival at Regina on Sunday, October 24, in which the following churches took part: Esk-Jansen, Nokomis-Lockwood, Southey-Serath, Edenwold, Davin and Regina. Guests of the more distant churches came already on Saturday night. On Sunday morning the mass choir sang and the Rev. John Wahl of Jansen brought a very fine and appropriate message.

The actual festival was held in the afternoon at the Technical School Auditorium. About 500 persons were present. The mass choir rendered several items and each individual church also added to the program with choir anthems or quartets, duets and solos. The Rev. E. H. Nikkel of Southey and Mr. E. L. Thiessen of Edenwold brought helpful short messages. Dinner and supper were served in the basement of the church for all the singers and for all other guests. Many of the guests had to leave for home soon after supper, but a good number of the singers stayed behind to repeat part of the afternoon program together with the Regina Church choir at the Cameron Memorial Baptist Church in Regina.

All who were present had a great day of rejoicing in the Lord. The Christian fellowship was inspiring and our joy was all the greater because we were singing to the glory of our Lord.

Hugo Lueck, Reporter.

Central Conference

Fall Luncheon and Meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Detroit, Michigan

The Woman's Missionary Union of Detroit, Mich., consisting of the Missionary Societies of Bethel, Burns Ave., Connors Ave., Ebenezer and Linden Ave. Baptist Churches, held their Fall luncheon and meeting at the Linden Ave. Church on Tuesday, Oct. 12th, under the leadership of the president, Mrs. Ruth Rumminger. Mrs. Arthur McAsh, secretary of the Central Conference Union, led the devotional service, choosing for her meditation the 4th chapter of Philipians.

The Rev. Paul Wengel, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Adrian, Mich., who had recently returned from Europe, was our speaker. Having spent three months in Europe and having traveled extensively in the war torn areas, visiting and making personal contacts with all walks of life, Mr. Wengel was well informed and able to give us a true description of the physical, material and spiritual situation of the European people.

He was also able to interview some of the Baptist preachers in these areas, who are doing all they can to care for the spiritual needs of the people. Because of the destruction and because of lack of means of transportation, they find it a real hardship to travel to conduct services in their established churches. Some churches have 20 to 40 stations, many miles distant, with only one pastor to visit and to conduct services. The wish, "Had we bicycles!", was expressed. How they would shorten the miles, save time and physical energy, bringing God's spiritual food and comfort to weary souls. Our offering of \$102 was given for European relief to help in a small way overseas.

The officers of the Detroit Woman's Union are: president, Mrs. Ruth Rumminger, Ebenezer Church; 1st vice-president, Mrs. Arthur Thoms, Burns Ave. Church; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. Otto Patzia, Connors Ave. Church; secretary, Mrs. A. Potz, Bethel Church; and treasurer, Mrs. Stanley Geis, Linden Ave. Church.

Ida Potz, Secretary.

90th Anniversary Celebration of the First German Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois

Wonderfully blessed days were held by the First German Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., from Oct. 28 to 31 when the 90th anniversary could be celebrated. Oct. 28th was known as Denominational and Sister Churches Night!

Our church had put on a festive appearance with flowers everywhere. Pastors of the other Chicago churches extended good wishes, reminding us that in most cases our church was the mother of their church. Dr. Wm. Kuhn, Rev. F. Woyke, Rev. H. G.



Members of the Church Board of the First German Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois at the Ninetieth Anniversary Exercises

Dymmel and Rev. J. C. Gunst told of our church in her relation to our denomination. Special music by our Ladies Chorus, directed by the former organist, Mrs. Walter Pankratz, an organ solo by the latter and two by Mr. Arthur Pankratz, also a former organist, did much to make this evening a perfect beginning for our four-day celebration.

Oct. 29th was "Church Family Night." At that time we cast a definite look into the past. The church history was read, revealing God's faithfulness throughout the years and his wondrous works as performed through his servants. Old-time members were presented to the congregation and pictures taken of those who have been members of our church 40 years or more. Then former members related incidents of days gone by. Greetings which had come from far and near were read by our pastor. Special music was rendered by a former organist, Mr. Wm. Krogman, by Mr. and Mrs. W. Gardziella, and our mixed choir and male chorus directed by our organist, Mr. Herb Pankratz.

On Saturday night a large crowd assembled for the banquet in the lower auditorium which had been profusely decorated with all the gorgeous colors of autumn by Mrs. A. Klingsporn and her committee. Mr. Walter Pankratz, as master of ceremonies, contributed much to the enjoyment of the program. Special music was rendered by the Harmonaires, vocal and instrumental trio from YOUTH FOR CHRIST; by Mr. Kurt Kaiser, pianist; and by our lovely waitresses, the CHRISTIAN GIRLS RESERVE. Directed by Mrs. Herb Pankratz, they sang, "America, the Beautiful," especially arranged for them by Mr. Herb Pankratz. "I'm Singing, Because He Gave a Song to Me," was a line from the lovely vocal solo by Joyce Pankratz.

Our pastor, the Rev. Robert Schreiber, who has been with us a little more than a year, was presented with

a wrist watch, a token of love from the many friends he has made in that brief time. Mrs. H. Kohler brought a very effective reading, "The Chimes Of Amsterdam," accompanied by the music of chimes. The speaker of the evening was Dr. C. W. Koller, president of Northern Baptist Seminary.

On Sunday morning we had the privilege of hearing the Rev. J. Schmidt of New York, N. Y., former pastor of our church, and Rev. L. Wegner of Wausau, Wis., formerly our student pastor. The latter spoke first, his topic being: "I Will Build My Church." "Co-Workers In the Kingdom of God" was Mr. Schmidt's topic, given in German, during which he pointed out, that the most important task of such Kingdom workers is to win souls for the Master. Our hearts rejoiced at this, for in that respect God has been blessing us too. Within the last year many have accepted Christ as their Savior and many have rededicated themselves to the Lord as a result of the earnest preaching of our pastor, Rev. Robert Schreiber. Great anthems by our choir and lovely organ solos by Mr. Herb Pankratz also beautified this service.

Wagner's "Pilgrim Chorus" rendered on the organ by our organist was a fitting beginning for our final service on Sunday evening, Oct. 31st. Our love for Christ was intensified as we listened to the choir's rendition of "Beautiful Savior." Mrs. C. Orth, Joyce Pankratz and Mrs. H. Pankratz sang: "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place" by Brahms, and the male chorus gave a number by Mendelssohn entitled, "Supplication." Dr. John Leypoldt of Milwaukee, Wis., spoke about the "Future Church." As we closed with the hymn, "The Banner of the Cross" and the organ followed with "The Son of God Goes Forth to War," we knew that in looking back during these days, we had once more received our marching orders: "Go Forward With Christ."

Mrs. Wm. Zoch, Church Clerk.

Inspiring Evangelistic Meetings at the Bethel Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan

The Bethel Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan engaged in a brief effort of evangelism from October 24 to 31, which proved to be the greatest special meetings experienced in Bethel's 84 years. These meetings were under the leadership of the Rev. W. Douglas Roe, president of the Philadelphia School of the Bible, and assisted by J. Stratton Shufelt, internationally known gospel musician. Great crowds, averaging about 400, thronged the main auditorium for all ten services.

God visited his people in most unusual power and 51 persons came to the inquiry room. The atmosphere of expectancy and reverence each night was unique in our experience. Thank God that the days of genuine revival have not passed. The Rev. J. Lester Harnish is the pastor of the church. Reporter.

A Bible Conference Under Youth Auspices Is Held at St. Joseph, Michigan

We, of the First Baptist Church in St. Joseph, Michigan, have much for which to be thankful to God. The first part of October we completed a two weeks' Bible Conference. This was under the able leadership of Dr. A. H. Steward, noted preacher and Bible expositor. He is from the Extension Department of the Moody Bible Institute. Dr. H. A. Ironside calls him the "walking Bible."

He was secured for us by the young people of the church under whose auspices the meetings were held. They also presented various musical numbers, some being guest musicians. On two evenings, Lois Hatt from the Grand Rapids School of the Bible was with us. Gene Jordan of radio station WMBI, a wonderful Marimba player and an accomplished violinist, was with us for the closing evenings. On Saturday evening we had an Old Fashioned Singing, with a brief message by our own pastor, Rev. L. H. Broeker.

The meetings were brought to a close on Sunday with Dr. Stewart's morning sermon emphasizing our "Wonderful Savior" and in the evening he preached on "Christ's Return."

Mrs. Daniel Pschigoda, Reporter.

Pacific Conference

Reception by Baptist Church of Paul, Idaho for Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Lippert

On October 24 the Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Lippert were welcomed by the First Baptist Church of Paul, Idaho. For the morning service, Rev. Charles Gordon, a missionary among the Navajo Indians, who served the church as interim pastor, brought an inspiring message. The choir rendered two

appropriate numbers and a delicious dinner was served to the large audience at the City Hall.

At the afternoon reception service, Mr. and Mrs. Lippert were brought into the church by Mr. John Miller and seated by Mr. John Riedlinger. Mr. John Miller, the senior deacon, welcomed the pastor and wife in behalf of the church. The Sunday School was represented by Mr. Dave Krause, superintendent. Mrs. Peter Schaug represented the Ladies' Aid with words of welcome. The B. Y. P. U. was represented by Mr. Paul Schafer. To add to the variety of the program, there were many musical selections. To all of these gracious and hearty expressions of welcome, Mr. and Mrs. Lippert responded warmly, saying that they had come to work together with us by the grace of God in harmony and love toward one another for the cause of Christ.

After choir rehearsal on Thursday evening, October 28, it was our privilege and joy to surprise our new pastor and wife with a kitchen shower.

Paul Schafer, Secretary.

Visitation Canvass by the Ebenezer Baptist Sunday School of Vancouver, British Columbia

In the August committee meeting of the Ebenezer Baptist Sunday School at Vancouver, British Columbia, our main discussion was "Canvassing the District." The Rev. Rubin Kern, pastor, gave us an outline of the procedure of this work. A committee of Senta Gertz, Edna Miller, Elmer Daum, and Mr. Kern was appointed to make full plans and preparations for this campaign.

Our canvassing took place in the early part of September. The area covered was approximately one and a half square miles. We visited about 4,000 homes. This was all voluntarily done by 37 young people. On canvass nights we met in church at 6:30 P. M., enjoyed the dinner which was prepared by various Sunday School classes, and between courses we received our instructions from Mr. Kern. Then we set out for our assigned territory. By 9:00 P. M. we returned to church to share our experiences with our fellow-workers.

Following our canvass campaign, the committee sent letters inviting the new prospects for Rally Day on Oct. 3rd. Our attendance on that Sunday was 331. We have had 107 new scholars at our school, of whom 42 have been enrolled in the class books.

At the close of the Thanksgiving program held on Sunday evening, October 17, a total of 52 scholars received Bibles. The Lord has richly blessed our school this past year! Edna Miller, Secretary.

Annual Session of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Pacific Northwest Association

The business session of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Pacific Northwest Association was held on Oct. 22 in the forenoon at the Calvary Church of Tacoma, Wash.

Mrs. A. Foll of Odessa, Wash., led us in devotions.

The business of the morning was quickly dispensed with Mrs. F. E. Klein of Colfax and Mrs. E. Bibelheimer being re-elected, respectively as president and secretary-treasurer.

Then the reports from the different societies were given. European relief seems to have been stressed by all societies. Some societies also reported helping with clothing for the flood stricken area in Portland last June, each society doing its utmost in relieving the suffering and hunger and in upbuilding God's Kingdom.

The afternoon meeting was ably led by our president Mrs. F. E. Klein. Mrs. Phillip Daum of Chilliwack read John 12:1-9 and Mrs. J. F. Olthoff of Tacoma led in prayer.

A warm welcome was extended by the local president Mrs. Fred Klapstein. The new pastors' wives, Mrs. H. J. Wilcke of Tacoma and Mrs. R. Kern of Vancouver, were welcomed into the Union, after which Mrs. R. Kern rendered a piano solo. The local society gave a play, "Crowns of Life," which made a deep impression upon all.

A reading followed by Mrs. Herbert Schmautz of Missoula, Montana. The offering of the afternoon was \$57.50 and that with the dues paid to the union made a grand total of \$106 to be equally divided for the hospital work in the Cameroons and the new buildings for our Seminary in Sioux Falls, So. Dak. A trio number was rendered by Tacoma society and a fitting memorial service was conducted for the five departed sisters by Mrs. J. C. Kraenzler of Missoula.

Miss Ann Swain, our Scripture memorization worker, who was with us over the association, then gave us a short address on "The Exalted Word," using Colossians 3:17 as a text. After a double duet number from Spokane, we heard an inspiring address by Mrs. F. W. Bartel of Spokane on "Christ as our Teacher in Prayer."

Mrs. E. Bibelheimer, Secretary.

Eastern Conference

Eighty-Fifth Anniversary and Rededication of Renovated Sanctuary, Temple Church, Pittsburgh

On Friday evening, October 15, a host of members and friends of the Temple Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, Pa., assembled to begin a weekend of anniversary celebration and rededication. Mr. Elmer E. Staub of Detroit, Mich., well remembered as teacher of the Baraca Class, served as genial toastmaster at a most delightful banquet. Musical selections were rendered by the Glasser Trio, Temple Male quartet, and Daniel A. Rose, trumpet soloist.

Following the banquet, a historical sketch written and prepared by Marie Margaret Skyrms, assisted by Frieda Sayenga, was presented in the sanctuary. Mr. Albert Wagner, who married the great-granddaughter of Caspar Fischer, one of the founders of

Temple Church, acted as "Father Time" in the presentation and was assisted by Daniel A. Rose, as "Page." Those who narrated the history of Temple Church were: Edgar Sack, Sr., Nellie Batz, Ida Zeiler, Elizabeth Kapteina, Edith Collins, Phyllis Peterson, Richard Deckman and Betty Jean Carpmann.

In the span of eighty-five years those who served Temple as pastors were: Rev. Reinhard Otto, 1866-70; Rev. E. C. Deckman, 1870-72; Rev. F. W. Schaelicke, 1873-75; Rev. W. Paul, 1875-76; Rev. Heinrich Kose, 1876-78; Rev. L. G. Hilmer, 1879-80; Rev. E. C. Deckmann, 1881-87; Rev. H. L. Donner, 1887-97; Rev. Henry C. Gleiss, D. D., 1897-1904; Rev. Samuel Blum, 1907-09; Rev. Henry Schultz, 1909-13; Rev. A. P. Mihm, 1914-21; Rev. A. A. Schade, 1922-28; Rev. O. E. Krueger, 1929-35; Rev. Theodore Koester, 1935-36; Rev. F. W. Bibereich, interim minister 1936-37.

Rev. Louis B. Holzer, our present pastor, came in April, 1937. He is best loved for his faithfulness in visiting the sick and his hearty friendliness to everyone. He has done much to bring about unity and co-operation among the Protestant Church of the Hilltop and has had active part in the Week Day School of Religious Education sponsored by these Hilltop Churches.

Following the historical sketch, Mr. H. P. Donner, for many years active in Temple, brought a challenging message. He fondly referred to the "twenty-four years of great usefulness and blessing in a stalwart congregation, which at that time consisted largely of men."

On Sunday morning a capacity audience participated in the anniversary and rededication service. Enormous floral contributions enhanced the beauty of our newly renovated sanctuary. Musical anthems were beautifully rendered by the Temple Chorus consisting of twenty girls, under the direction of Minnie Becker Meredith and Helen Glasser Smith, organist.

Rev. O. E. Krueger, former pastor, brought the anniversary message, "Work For the Light Is Coming." At the close of this service Mr. Elmer E. Staub led in the prayer of rededication. In the Church School session which followed, several guests gave brief messages relating to the work of Temple's Church School.

The closing service of the anniversary on Sunday evening was a Community Night Service. Dr. L. P. Bumpus brought greetings from the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. Dr. Frank A. Sharp, pastor of the Union Baptist Church, compared Temple's history with that of Union. Later in the program Rev. Arthur Kannwischer of the Union Baptist Church, Arnold, Pa., also spoke. Mr. Raymond Seibert, a former member, rendered a tenor solo, "The Pilgrim."

Mr. G. Frederick Staib, who had been organist of Temple Church from 1912 to 1942, was guest organist for the evening. The anniversary was concluded with refreshments and fellowship in the social rooms of the church. Elisabeth M. Kapteina, Reporter.

:: OBITUARY ::

MRS. PAULINE GUTSCHE of St. Paul, Minnesota.

Mrs. Pauline Gutsche, nee Bahmert, of St. Paul, Minn., was born on April 25, 1895 in Russia. In 1913 she came to the United States at the age of 18 years. She was married to Ferdinand Gutsche on November 15, 1913. This marriage was blessed with five children, one daughter preceding her in death at an early age.

She came to know Christ as her personal Savior and was converted in January 1914. She was baptized into the fellowship of the First German Baptist Church (Now Dayton Bluff Baptist) of St. Paul, Minn. on Easter Sunday, 1914. For 34 years she remained a loving, faithful member of the church. On August 17, 1948 at 8:35 P. M. at the age of 53 years, 3 months, and 22 days, after a long illness, she went to her heavenly home to be with her Savior. She leaves to mourn her departure her husband; four children, Alfred, George, Lorraine, Irwin; and 4 grandchildren.

Dayton Bluff Baptist Church, St. Paul, Minn.

ESTHER STANKE, Correspondent.

MRS. CLARA ELIZABETH VOOGD of Aplington, Iowa.

Mrs. Clara Elizabeth Voogd of Aplington, Iowa was born July 28, 1873 at Watertown, Wisconsin, the daughter of the late Rev. Wm. F. and Mrs. Voogd. In 1889, when her father became pastor of the Aplington Baptist Church, she came to Aplington with her parents. On June 20, 1894 she was united in marriage to Mr. Oltman A. Voogd, who preceded her in death in 1938.

She leaves to mourn her death one daughter, three sons, one brother, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The departed was baptized by her father upon the confession of her faith in 1887 and has been, since making her home in Aplington, a member of our church. For about 16 years she served as secretary of our Benevolent Society.

A heart ailment which, during the latter weeks of her life, caused her considerable discomfort and pain, at last resulted in her death on Monday, November 8, at the age of 75 years and a little over three months. Funeral services, conducted in her home and in the church, were in charge of her pastor.

Aplington, Iowa

C. FRED LEHR, Pastor.

MR. JOHN WORMSBECKER of Tyndall, South Dakota.

Mr. John Wormsbecker of Tyndall, South Dakota, son of Andrew and Christina Wormsbecker, was born on August 1, 1857 in Alt-Danzig, South Russia and died on October 12, 1948 at the age of 91 years, 2 months and 11 days. He came to this country on June 22, 1877 and settled in Yankton, So. Dak., for a short time. He worked as a farm hand near Tyndall for about one year, and in 1878 he homesteaded 15 miles northwest of Tyndall.

On July 11, 1880 Mr. John Wormsbecker was united in marriage with Ann Bucholz. This union was blessed with eight children, three sons and five daughters. Three sons and one daughter preceded him in death.

At the age of 51 he gave his heart to Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and was baptized by the late Rev. D. Schulz and became a member of the Tyndall Baptist Church, of which he remained a faithful member to the end of his life.

He leaves to mourn his departure four daughters: Emma Black, Milbank, So. Dak.; Amelia Berndt, Eagle Butte, So. Dak.; Dora, at home; and Bertha Berndt of Tyndall, So. Dak.; 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren and many relatives and friends.

The undersigned spoke words of comfort to the bereaved based on Rev. 14:13 on the theme, "Heaven's Description of the Sainted Dead."

Tyndall Baptist Church, Tyndall, South Dakota

ALBERT ITTERMANN, Pastor.

MR. SAM DECKER

of Hutchinson County, South Dakota.

Mr. Sam Decker, son of John and Katherine Decker, was born in South Russia on Nov. 27, 1870. He came to this country with his parents at the age of five and lived in Hutchinson County in South Dakota all his life.

He was married to Amelia Triebwasser in 1898. This union was blessed with 11 children, three of whom preceded their father in death. The good wife and mother was called home to glory in 1936. In 1938 Mr. Decker was married again to Dorothy Schoppert. On Oct. 20 he fell and broke his hip. In spite of all possible medical care, he died at the age of 77 years, 11 months and 8 days on Nov. 5, 1948.

One year ago he made a public confession of his faith in Christ as his personal Savior and he was prepared to meet his Lord. He leaves to mourn his departure his wife; six sons, Adolf and John of Parkston; Dave, Edwin and Herbert of Emery, and Rynold of Parker, So. Dak.; three daughters, Emma Huether of Westington Springs, So. Dak.; Helen Walter of Oneida, So. Dak.; two brothers, Dave and Jake of Huron, So. Dak.; three sisters, Mary Walter of Bridgewater, Sarah Hofer of Freeman and Elizabeth Hofer of Emery; 31 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; many relatives and a host of friends.

The Rev. G. W. Rutsch conducted the service in the Parkston High School Auditorium where over 600 people had gathered to pay tribute to this respected citizen of this community. Rev. Jacob M. Tchetti of Huron and Rev. J. I. Walter of Bridgewater assisted in the service.

A contribution of \$109 was given in honor of Mr. Decker and was designated to the work of Rebecca Glanzer, missionary in India. Amos 4:12 served as a challenge and comfort at this memorable service.

THE FAMILY.

MRS. J. F. OHLHAUSER of Carbon, Alta., Canada.

Mrs. J. F. Ohlhauser, nee Luisa Neher, of Carbon, Alberta, Canada was born at Long Lake, South Dakota on July 22, 1893 and passed away on October 31, 1948. It was a very sudden death. Although Mrs. Ohlhauser was comparatively well, she suffered from a weak heart condition and as a result was called to her heavenly reward during the early Sunday morning hours without anyone witnessing her death. It was, indeed, a tremendous shock for her beloved husband to discover her cold body at his side at the break of day. But, our Savior says, "Let not your heart be troubled. In my father's house are many mansions" and "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live."

Having accepted the Lord Jesus as her personal Savior, Mrs. Ohlhauser was baptized by the Rev. C. Bischoff in 1905 and added to the Baptist Church at Jewell, S. D. Some years later her parents and family migrated to Canada, making their home in the Carbon district. Here they became members of the former Freudental Church and later belonged to the former Bethel Church. In 1913 Mrs. Ohlhauser was married to Jacob Friedrich Ohlhauser and a happy family life for some 35 years resulted. God blessed their home with two children, Rose and Esther.

She leaves to mourn her departure her sorrowing husband; two daughters, Mrs. Rose Gieck of Carbon and Mrs. Esther Gieck of Calgary; one grandchild, Melody Lane; three sisters, Mrs. Katharine Meidinger of California, Mrs. Paulina Schatz of Medicine Hat, Mrs. Amalia Lippert of Paul, Idaho; and three brothers, Edward Neher of California, Theodor and Arthur Neher of Calgary. Her parents, three brothers and two sisters preceded her to the heavenly reward.

As a member and willing worker of this church Mrs. Ohlhauser was held in high esteem. Her genuine love and friendliness toward everyone will long be remembered. May she rest in peace awaiting her loved ones in the heavenly home above.

Carbon, Alberta, Canada

E. M. WEGNER, Pastor.



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