

Baptist **HERALD**



The Rugged Monterey Coast of California

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

February 15, 1948

Denominational Reminders

ENGAGEMENTS

Rev. J. C. Gunst
Sunday, Feb. 22 — Dayton, Ohio.
Feb. 26-29 — Sessions of Southern
Texas Association, Kyle, Texas.
March 1-3 — Visitation of Texas
Churches.
March 4-7 — Northern Texas Asso-
ciation at Dallas, Texas.

Rev. Martin L. Leuschner
Sunday, Feb. 29 — Kankakee, Ill.

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 23-25 — Session of the South-
western Conference Mission Com-
mittee at Okeene, Okla.
Feb. 27-29 — Minnesota Young Peo-
ple's Mid-winter Institute, River-
view Baptist Church, St. Paul,
Minn.
March 3-5—Northern Conference Mis-
sion Committee and C. T. I. Gov-
erning Board Session, Edmonton,
Alta., Canada.

"YOUTH COMPASS" TOPICS
for Young People's Meetings

March 7 — "Christian Symbolism" by
Rev. Charles Zummach, Peoria, Ill.
March 14 — "A Preparation for Easter"
by Rev. Frank Veninga, Peoria,
Illinois.
March 21 — "Hail the King" by Miss
Dorcas Scheel, Arnprior, Ontario,
Canada.
March 28 — "The Triumph of Easter
Morn" by Rev. Herbert Hiller,
Buffalo, N. Y.

DEDICATION OF NEW CHURCHES

On February 15, we plan to dedi-
cate to the glory of God our new
church edifice at Elk Grove, Califor-
nia. All former members and inter-
ested friends are cordially invited to
help us dedicate this new place of
worship. We were formerly known as
the Zion Baptist Church of Franklin,
Calif. Our pastor is the Rev. W. W.
Knauf. William Rauser, Reporter.

On Sunday, March 7th, the dedi-
cation of the new edifice of the First
Baptist Church of Elsmere, Delaware
will be held. All friends are invited
to attend or to send letters of greet-
ing to the pastor, Rev. Christian
Peters, 9 Beech Ave., Elsmere, Del.

THE BAPTIST HERALD

PRIZE WINNERS IN PLAY
CONTEST

First Prize — Miss Agnes G. Buckles,
Edmonton, Alta., Canada.
Second Prize — Miss Harriet Grieger,
Miami, Fla.
Third Prize — Mrs. Henry Raese, De-
troit, Mich.
Fourth Prize — Mrs. Martha T. Gerthe,
Cathay, No. Dak.
Fifth Prize — Miss Agnes Schoon-
hoven, Baileyville, Ill.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Rev. W. H. Buenning
3702 Beverly Drive
Waco, Texas
Mr. A. Avery Higgins
6000 Adams St.
West New York, New Jersey
Rev. Fred J. Knalson
Underwood, North Dakota
Rev. Otto Nallinger
67 Merwin Avenue
Rochester 9, New York
Rev. J. J. Reimer
512 Adams St.
Monte Vista, Colorado
Rev Paul F. Zoschke
5515 White Ave.
Cleveland 3, Ohio

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AMONG OURSELVES

Plans are now being made for the
many conferences and denominational
activities to be held during the sum-
mer months. The editorial in this
issue brings the first public announce-
ment about the pastors' retreat which
is scheduled for July 26 to August 1.
The Summer Visitation Committee will
arrange for the appearance of all our
denominational workers at the many
conferences and young people's as-
semblies. This planning session of the
committee will be held on March 20.
All the information about conference
dates and sites should be in the hands
of the committee by March 15. Send
this data to our headquarters in Forest
Park, Ill.

IN THIS ISSUE

Have you ever thought about read-
ing "The Baptist Herald" as a prayer
helper of the Lord? You will find
much for which to pray in this num-
ber! Our Baptist brethren in Germany
whose plight is described in this issue
need your prayers. Our Seminary in
Rochester ought to be a daily prayer
burden of yours. The mission op-
portunities in South America are de-
picted by the Rev. J. H. Landenberger
on his visit to Brazil. The great evan-
gelistic program of the church must
be supported by the prayers of God's
children. The reading of this issue
ought to inspire a prayer meeting in
your soul as well as in your church.

COMING

"What is the greatest thing that the
Risen Lord has done for us as North
American Baptists?" This question
will be answered in the next issue by
the headquarters secretaries in the
light of the observance of Easter and
the Easter Offering.
Dr. Kuhn will say that the greatest
thing is that God has put the seal of
his Holy Spirit upon us; Brother Woyke
that the Lord has given us high hopes
for the future; Brother Dymmel will
tell the story of our fifty missionaries
around the world; Brother Gunst will
see the answer in the devoted groups
of young people and their mission pro-
jects; and Brother Leuschner will
emphasize the spirit of unity in Christ
that binds us together.

The BAPTIST HERALD

Volume 26 February 15, 1948 No. 4

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Suggestions for Lent and Easter

AMAZING CROSS Herman Hoeksema
A fine exposition on the Cross of Jesus
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THE CRUCIBLE OF CALVARY .. H. Rimmer
As a crucible tests all material, so Calvary
tests all men \$1.50
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forgettable language \$1.50

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EDITORIALS

Martin L. Leuschner

A Retreat for Our Pastors

THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT of a retreat for our pastors under denominational sponsorship to be held at Green Lake, Wisconsin from July 26 to August 1 of this year has been greeted with unanimous enthusiasm. The General Council has already taken action to approve such a retreat and to assist the local churches in its financing.

The need of such a retreat has long been evident. During the three-year interval between General Conference sessions, a great many new pastors come into our churches who are not acquainted with our denominational activities. Opportunities for fellowship with other pastors of our churches are limited because of the great distances involved. The unity of fellowship on the part of our spiritual leaders is jeopardized unless there are occasions for mutual acquaintance and sympathetic understanding of our common aims.

The retreat will be held for the active ministers of our churches and for such other pastors and laymen for whom provision can be made. A maximum of about 300 men can be housed in the Abbey on the picturesque grounds of the Northern Baptist camp at Green Lake, Wisconsin. No wives or children can be permitted at this first retreat.

The General Council has provided for the payment of one cent a mile for travel expenses to and from the retreat for every minister who attends. It will also pay \$10.00 for every man's room and board at the retreat which will cost about \$3.00 per day. Every church through its official board will be requested by the General Council to send its pastor to the retreat and to pay a similar amount of his travel expenses at one cent a mile and the sum of \$10.00 for his stay at the camp. This week of attendance at the retreat is not to be included in the vacation period of the pastor. It will be necessary for the minister to be in attendance at the retreat at least from Tuesday evening, July 27, through Sunday, August 1, to be eligible for this financial support.

A committee composed of the Reverends Frank H. Woyke, chairman; Alfred Bernadt, John Leyboldt, C. B. Nordland, and M. L. Leuschner, met at the denominational headquarters on February 5 to plan for the program of the retreat. Every effort is being made to secure the services of some outstanding Bible teacher who will bring enriching studies daily. A great deal of time will be allowed for fellowship and discussion. There will be participation by the pastors themselves in the program besides the presentation of the work by our denomination and its cooperating societies. Informative exhibits and a book display will be prepared. Some time will also be allotted for recreation. It ought to be a memorable week of spiritual uplift which every minister definitely should attend.

Full particulars about the retreat program will be made by May 1st. Letters to the churches with the request for their financial cooperation will be sent before that time but now is the time to plan and to pray for this week on the part of our pastors and churches alike. The blessings of such retreat are bound to overflow to the farthest reaches of our denomination so that the spiritual results will be beneficial to all!

BIBLE TEXT

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:16).

Spiritual growth should be characteristic of every Christian. As we become older in years, we ought to grow younger in spirit. A daily renewal of God's grace within us should light up the inner man. Our spiritual fortitude should be greater, our understanding of God's truths keener, and our joy in the midst of God's true riches more perfect as we progress in the experiences of the Christian life. For this cause we faint not in spite of the outward circumstances of trouble, adversity and oncoming age. We have then found the fountain of youth in Christ. We have laid hold on the gift of eternal life. We have learned the lesson of living victoriously day by day!

•

LITTLE THINGS

They are the little things that count for most in life. They may seem insignificant to the people involved, but they loom up large in God's record books. That was the message of Jesus' words in Mark 9:41. "For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name shall not lose his reward."

Little deeds of kindness reveal a heart that is great in love. Only a few words can bring a wonderful encouragement to another and show an even greater spirit of thoughtfulness and concern. Little gifts can sometimes be of larger value than expensive things because they are accompanied with so much of the soul of the giver. Give attention to the little things of life in the name of Christ, and great will be your reward with the smile of his approval!

•

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

A great deal depends upon a good beginning as to how successful and happy the new day will be! Let the day begin with God in reading and meditating on his Word. Let the first waking moment be one of praise to God for his renewed mercies and blessings. Fill your soul with the melody of a familiar song and let it rise into expression on your lips. You will be surprised at the miracle that will be you as you go forth to meet the tasks before you with God at your side.

In this connection, it is a good habit to take a great spiritual thought with you into the experiences of the day. It may be a Bible verse or the phrase of a poem or a thought on which you can lay hold. For example: "Get the pattern of your life from God; then go about your work and be yourself." (Phillips Brooks.) You can live greatly on a thought like that!

Christ Before Pilate

A Sermon by the Rev. H. G. BRAUN, Pastor of the Parkston and Tripp Baptist Churches of South Dakota

"WHEN MORNING was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor. And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, 'Art thou the King of the Jews?' and Jesus said unto him, 'Thou sayest'" (Matt. 27:1, 2, 11).

In that great work of art, "Christ Before Pilate," Munkacsy has brought out vividly the different passions evoked by the trial of Jesus, in which malice and hatred seem to predominate. Pontius Pilate is calculating on his fingers, as if it were a sum in arithmetic, whether it would be a policy to condemn or to acquit this prisoner. Two aged students of the law seem to be discussing a fine point, and an elder of the people, increased in goods and swollen with pride, leans back in his seat and eyes Jesus with contempt.

CRUCIFY HIM!

One scribe, more thoughtful and candid than the rest, is not certain about the situation. He seems to be asking himself whether this man can really be guilty of blasphemy and sedition. An orator, a typical demagogue, has struck an attitude and is demanding the condemnation of the accused. The crowd beyond is surging to and fro, a mass of senseless fanatical faces; and one young man, shutting his eyes and opening his mouth after the fashion of his kind in all ages, is bawling, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" A Roman soldier, indifferent and dominant, keeps back the rabble with the butt of his spear.

"And Jesus stood before the governor." They were standing face to face in the splendid hall of the palace, Pilate and Christ. The hall was adorned with vessels of gold and silver,



A Rainbow Arch Across the Yosemite Valley in California

the floor was of rich mosaic, the columns were of many-colored marble. The Roman governor seated himself on the Tribunal in all pomp. On either side were the Roman soldiers in full armor. Politically, Pilate represented the mightiest power on earth, the power of the Roman empire. Before him stood the prisoner, worn and wasted, his face marred more than any man's, the agony of long hours of struggle and torment and sleeplessness in his eyes, the marks of blows and insult upon his face. His hands were bound; his garb was the humble dress of a Galilean peasant. And yet he represented a power greater than even that of Imperial Rome — the Kingdom of God.

THE KING OF KINGS

"Art thou a king?" asks Pilate, not without a feeling of contempt for the poor figure of the prisoner. Yes, he is a king! But since Pilate would naturally misunderstand his claim to the kingship, he adds: "My kingdom is not of this world." That is not a very dangerous kingdom, thought Pilate. What concern has he with heavenly provinces which could yield no tribute and offer no armed resistance? And yet he was not quite satisfied. He thought that still some mysterious danger might lurk behind the words of Jesus, so he asks further: "Thou art a king, then?" The answer removes all fear from the mind of his judge. "Thou sayest, I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth."

That was enough for Pilate. "Truth" was a country beyond his jurisdiction, and was not likely to work any injury to the empire. Pilate, convinced of the innocence of Jesus, makes several attempts to save him. All these attempts failed because Pilate was a coward. It is bad enough to be a physical coward, but it is still worse to be

moral coward, especially when principles are at stake. To have convictions but no courage behind them, to know the right course and to pursue it, is good, but to lack the pluck to do it, that is a pitiful state for the mind of a man.

Pilate brings Jesus out before the multitude and says, "I find no fault in him. I will therefore chastise him and release him." A weaker proposal could not have been made. There is no justice in it, whether the prisoner is innocent or guilty. It lowers this judge to the level of the false accusers and now the rabble knows how to deal with him.

Pilate's second attempt to release Jesus was even more unjust than the first. He scourged the prisoner whose innocence he had declared. Perhaps, he thought that the Jews might be satisfied when they saw Jesus bleeding and fainting from the scourge. But Pilate mistook the people with whom he had to deal. The sight of blood seemed only to infuriate them against the innocent sufferer, and with one fierce yell of fury they cried, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

THE CHOICE!

"Why, what evil hath he done?" cried Pilate, and in desperation he brought out Barabbas, a noted murderer, and set him beside Jesus, and told them to take their choice. Ah, what a scene for wonder and contemplation. The innocent and loving Savior rejected, the slinking, depraved criminal chosen. They made their choice as many have made it since; and perhaps you and I can recall times when we have deliberately rejected the good and chosen the evil, when we have also said, "Not this man, but Barabbas." You, my reader, must choose, and you have made your choice one way or the other, for with reference to Christ no man can remain

(Continued on Page 17)



Primary Sunday School Children at Worship in the Immanuel Baptist Church, Kenosha, Wisconsin, With Mrs. Dan Behr, Superintendent, in Front of the Children and the Teachers at the Left

Making More Friends for the Church

Wherever God's people make a positive effort to make friends for the church and show an earnest, prayerful desire to win them to Christ, marvelous things are bound to happen. This is the story of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Kenosha, Wisconsin

By the REV. NORTH E. WEST of Kenosha, Wisconsin

"Let the lower lights be burning!
Send a gleam across the wave!
Some poor fainting, struggling seaman
You may rescue, you may save."

THE THEME of the above chorus has been the driving motive of every effort to make friends for our church. We have felt closely akin to the Apostle who said, "I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Cor. 9:22).

In a previous article I described several ways by which we are trying to make friends for our church. Through the use of Prospect Cards, Registration Cards, Sunday School surveys, and Cradle Roll Enlargement, we have endeavored to increase our constituency list, and thus provide concrete opportunities for an evangelistic harvest. The object of this article is to relate ways of "Making More Friends For Christ".

NEWSPAPER AND RADIO SERVICE

A potent factor in making more friends for the church is the newspaper story. Church activities can be reported in such a way that community interest will be aroused, and cause many visitors to attend. Nearly every

week our newspaper carries some story concerning our church. Over the years the community newspapers have given us space to the value of many hundreds of dollars. And as a result many visitors have been led to attend our church, and a certain percentage have joined. The value of newspaper publicity is in getting people to attend the church for the first time. From then on they must be cultivated by means of the church's registration card and friendly visitation.

Similar to the newspaper service is that of a local radio station. It so happens that our Kenosha Station has a free reporting service for local news. Whenever any of our activities are reported to the newspaper, a duplicate copy is given to the radio news editor. Never has the radio station failed to announce our special programs, and as a consequence many who have heard the announcement responded. And anyone showing such interest is contacted in an effort to add them to our constituency list. This type of activity is too new to be properly evaluated, but we do know that one family has joined our church as a definite result of a radio contact.

Still another effective way of mak-

ing friends is via an organized telephone campaign. There is a certain percentage of persons in every town who would attend a special church program if they had a personal invitation; and the telephone is one of the most effective agents. In order to reach everyone we have divided our telephone directory into 10 parts of 12 pages each. A Telephone Committee of 12 members has been appointed. A special program has been arranged in our church for each month; so three or four days prior to it the committee begins to function.

THE TELEPHONE CAMPAIGN

Each member is given one page of names in the directory, and is instructed to call every family listed, extending a cordial invitation to attend. So effective has been this approach that the church auditorium has always been full, and many of those attending have come as a direct result of a telephone invitation. Continuing in this manner, we will have invited, over the course of a year, everyone in our city to attend our church at least once. And we are confident that many of the visitors will return.

A pastor friend told me recently of

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using a telephone campaign in connection with a revival meeting. A full church was the result from the first evening, and 32 strangers were converted who came because of the telephone invitation.

Churches located in rural areas could use this method with less difficulty than those in the cities. When I was pastor of a rural church in North Dakota it was only necessary to call the telephone operator and ask for an "open line". Thereupon, each telephone on every "party line" throughout the whole countryside was connected to the speaker's telephone; the program was then announced for the benefit of all. A crowded church always resulted.

POSTCARD PUBLICITY

A general postcard publicity campaign can also be a helpful means of making friends for the church. An attractive invitation can be printed on a government Postal Card at a nominal cost. These can be mailed out as boxholders to every person on a rural mail route without benefit of name or address. In the city these cards can be sent to the occupant of a specified street address which can be secured from the city directory. A group of women can be found in nearly any church who will gladly address postal cards during leisure moments. And with such a sustained effort any church can mail a general invitation to every family in its community during the course of a year.

Only a certain percentage of families will respond to such an invitation, but even a few each year would make it eminently worthwhile. This phase of our program is too new, as yet, to make an evaluation of its merits. However, whole industries are founded on direct mail advertising, which leads us to believe that our efforts in this direction will enable us to make even more friends for our church.

CULTIVATING THE CONSTITUENCY

An additional method for adding to the constituency list is through cooperation with the City Hostess. In many communities of 10,000 or more population the merchants employ a city hostess to visit every new family upon its arrival. A small gift or souvenir is usually given as an evidence of civic interest. Upon arrangement with the hostess a church can extend a printed welcome to attend the church services, and can also secure the names and addresses of the families having the same denominational preference. Thus, a church that is aware of such an opportunity can frequently enlist many new families before they begin to backslide.

Of course, in all of these efforts at



A Junior Class at Work in the Immanuel Baptist Church, Kenosha, Wisconsin, With Mrs. Kenneth Unwin, Teacher, at the Right

making friends for the church, the final fruits will be determined by the diligence with which the constituency is cultivated. Even though it may be true that the number of additions to the church is in direct proportion to the size of the constituency, and will be greater or lesser as friends are made or not; nevertheless, merely building up a long list of names will not be sufficient. There must be a continuous program of follow-up.

We have tried in our church to send a mimeograph news-letter, describing the activities of our church to every constituent family each month. Whenever there has been a special program in the church, we have mailed them a postcard invitation. We have de-

veloped a large visitation committee which periodically visits every one of these new families, striving to draw them into the more intimate fellowship of the church, and making, as the Holy Spirit has led, a definite effort to win them for Christ and church membership. For children whose parents will not bring them to Sunday School, we have a transportation committee which arranges automobile transportation until such time as the parents begin to get a concern.

Undergirding it all has been constant prayer that the Spirit of the Lord would quicken hearts and convict of sin. As a result, God has graciously honored our efforts. In a

(Continued on Page 24)



The Young People's Deputation Team of Kenosha's Immanuel Baptist Church Ready for a Service at the Willowbrook Tuberculosis Sanitarium

Youth in a Time of New Beginnings

Excerpts from an Address at the Baptist World Congress at Copenhagen, Denmark by the REV. HANS ROCKEL, President of the Baptist Seminary at Wiedenest, Germany, About Conditions Among the German Baptist Young People

WE HAVE BEEN amazed how swiftly our Baptist Sunday School and youth work has grown again in the midst of the ruins of our destroyed cities. In spite of tremendous difficulties, in spite of our great poverty, we have now in all parts of Germany a stronger young people's movement than ever before. Today nearly twenty men and women are giving their full time in young people's work. But the opportunities are so great and the aims we have set before ourselves so far reaching, that we could use five times as many helpers.

During the past summer we held over 200 holiday camps and Bible courses in which some 10,000 children and young people took part. In many places there has been an awakening among our young people and many young men have been converted to Christ and baptized. In all the zones, including the Russian, we have regular Sunday Schools and youth groups. God has given us a new beginning. That is the most hopeful thing that can be said about German youth, indeed about Germany as a whole.

How has it happened? We had to surrender to God. We saw in our collapse the judgment of God, and we found the grace of God. Our need is great, but God's promise shines upon our new beginning.

We had to surrender, and we have surrendered to God. No one can really picture to himself the extent of the German catastrophe. The end was complete capitulation. But there were two possibilities. Many capitulated unwillingly; they began to complain and to justify themselves. Others were so shaken by what happened that they made an inward surrender not only to men but to God. The same happened among our young people. I could give you many examples. With startling earnestness many of our young men and women confessed that there is now only one cause to which they can give their lives: Christ and the Church!

We saw in our collapse the judgment of God, and we found the grace of God. As Baptist young people we have asked ourselves wherein our special guilt lay. I have said to our young people that we have not been true to the tradition of our Baptist forefathers. Freedom of conscience, a fight for truth even to martyrdom, faith in the victorious

power of the Holy Spirit to the rejection of any reliance on force, holy brotherhood, love towards all men — these were the things which burned in the hearts of our forefathers.

We have let the fires go out! Therein lies our guilt. But God has given us a new beginning. It is a difficult beginning, for our need is great. We see our need, but God's promise shines upon our new beginning.

In the name of our German children and young people I want to thank you from all my heart for what you have already done to meet our need. The help which we are receiving from Baptist churches outside Germany means our salvation. We have lost much. I have lost the home where I was born in East Prussia, my home in Hamburg has been destroyed, but to how many millions of people has this happened!

With a German medical unit I went deep into Russia and I know what the youth of Russia sacrificed. In the West I cared for American and English soldiers who were severely wounded, and I know that many of your comrades did not come back. And what of the losses in France, Belgium, Holland, Poland and the Balkans and also in the Scandinavian Lands? But over our need there shines God's promise. What is left to us? Paul says: "And now abideth faith, hope and love." These are more than all that we have lost.

May God give us all a new beginning of faith in the victory of the Gospel, of love towards all men, of hope in the coming of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God upon the earth. For HIS is the Kingdom and the power and the glory for ever and ever!

What Is It Now Like in Germany?

A Revealing Picture of Conditions in Germany by HANS HERTER of Stuttgart, One of the Leading Laymen of the Baptists of Germany

OUR HARVEST Festivals in Baptist churches in Germany had a somber note. From times gone by the earnest word of Christ was heard: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved" (Jer. 8:20).

What is it now like in Germany? It seems like a dream and a gift from God that we can go to bed without any fear of the terror by night or of the enemy who might overpower us. How vivid are still the memories of the screaming of the air raid sirens, when we seized our children in their sleep and a few belongings and rushed with them and the sick, the aged, the infirm, everybody together, to the shelters underground! How real is still the

remembrance of our first impressions afterwards when we came back into the streets of our cities and found the houses in ruins and people everywhere in the last agonies of a terrible death.

A few days ago I looked over a section of the city of Stuttgart, called the Heilsbronn, where in less than twenty minutes about 20,000 people met their death on the streets or in air raid shelters. Now as we walk down the desolate streets and look over the miles of ruins, all of this that happened only a few years ago seems to be a frightful nightmare from which we have not fully awakened as yet.

It is this picture of a man walking in his sleep that is the impression generally given by the German people today. After all of the heavy burdens laid upon us during the past eight years — actually during the past thirty-three years — in which we were always challenged to do more than was humanly possible, we now find it difficult to become enthused about any new plans and great undertakings. The consciousness of the ever-present thought — "Well, it doesn't make any difference after all! It just won't do any good!" — has paralyzed our thinking and living.

OUR RELIEF MINISTRY

Clothes are still being received at our relief headquarters in Forest Park, Illinois for shipment overseas. Swedish Baptist Churches are also cooperating with our relief program.

All letters from strangers in Germany requesting relief aid should be sent to our Forest Park headquarters for investigation.

To be sure, our people are busy as usual at their ordinary pursuits. They are working away at the ruins, cleaning the bricks, carrying away the rubble, digging into the piles of debris in order to earn enough for themselves to secure a few potatoes and some precious bread besides a little kindling wood for the winter.

One can see scenes on the streets of Germany like that outside the city wall of Sarepta long ago, where a widow once was picking up wood to prepare her last meal and then to eat and to die. Clothes are patched again and again until they become almost like rags upon our bodies. It is very difficult to call a dilapidated room a home which has to serve as a shelter from the cold for entire large families. Germany is a people that is holding fast to life but does not want to go under! But how much longer will they manage to keep that grip on life that is ever weakening?

In such trying times of adversity about which we cannot begin to write concerning their cause and effects, there is a tragic exhaustion of the spirit of an entire people which ultimately results in "a nervous breakdown of the soul of a nation." Those who have not lived through times like these can never fully understand the staggering reality of Jesus' words: "Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold."

Evil and iniquity have multiplied before and during the war years. One must recognize how terribly critical these dark forces are in endangering our Christian faith and cooling the ardor of our love toward God. The spiritual values are stifled by the daily drudgery of eking out a bare existence. They are overpowered by the selfish drives of self-preservation. That is the greatest danger facing this German nation. In the midst of such a tidal wave of trouble all we can do is to cry aloud to our Master as we find ourselves sinking, "Lord, save us!"

And HE will do it! He will not let us be tried beyond our ability to endure, but the trial will have to have a purpose to the glory of his Name. Under his good hand even the adversities of these terrible hard times will have to "work together for good." We as Baptists of Germany continue to believe in God and will remain close to him as well as listen to his spiritual warnings so that we can hear his words in the midst of our burdensome cares for our daily bread: "Take heed unto yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overburdened with the cares of this life" (Luke 21:34). We are appropriating God's promise with all the strength of faith: "Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4).

The Baptist Publishing House at Kassel

By MR. EBERHARD SCHROEDER, Director of the German Baptist Publication Society With Headquarters at Kassel

IN 1934 on the occasion of the World Congress in Berlin our Baptist Publishing House was still in full prime. About 120 employees and laborers were employed. At Jägerstrasse No. 11 we had a well equipped plant with modern machines. National Socialism attacked Christianity, especially after Rosenberg had been appointed leader of political instruction. The Gestapo confiscated Christian books and religious publications, the printing plates of which were to be melted down, and gave instructions to limit the publications of the Christian press. Nevertheless, we were able to maintain our

lowed. We were not permitted to publish any reports from the parishes or religious articles in it, but only so-called official information of the German Baptist Union. The NSDAP and the Deutsche Arbeitsfront started a hard struggle against us with the slogan: "Christian must disappear." No one of our fellows in the management of the publication house obeyed the pressure to enter the Party.

In 1943 the publishing house in Kassel was shut down. It became more and more difficult for the book shop to spread Christian books, because almost all Christian publishing houses had been shut down.



Faculty Members and Students of the Baptist Seminary at Wiedenest Near Cologne, Germany With the President, Rev. Hans Rockel, on the Front Row (Center — Seated)

service as a Christian publishing house.

The Old Testament was to be treated very cautiously. We as Baptists were interested in renouncing nothing of the principles of the Christian faith, but also tried to avoid unnecessary danger by particular publication of critical themes. During this time of tension the nerves of our fellow-laborers were much strained, especially Mr. Flüge suffering from it. They introduced a pre-examination of our Christian calendar by a Nazi censorship.

In 1939 the Christian press was restricted. We no longer received paper for our devotional almanac. Argument: War.

In 1940-41 the Christian press was forbidden and only a needy "official Gazette" consisting of four pages and an edition of only 5000 copies was al-

On October 22, 1943 a bomb attack was made on Kassel, by which also our publishing house was totally destroyed. Ten persons of our plant, who were on duty as airprotection guards, were killed. Office and book shop were transferred to the lodgings of Eberhard Schröder, the business manager.

On March 8, 1945 bombs fell the second time with the complete destruction of the house of Schröder. Kassel was 80 percent destroyed!

At the end of war we had a bad balance. All things were destroyed, fittings as well as archives, bookkeeping, correspondence and all documents. But the main point was that we were released from political pressure and started confidently the reconstruction of our publications.

(Continued on Page 19)

Your Pastor's Sunset Years

A Message About the Denomination's Ministers and Missionaries Pension Fund Plan by MR. ROLAND E. ROSS, Comptroller

WE WHO BELIEVE in God have learned to depend on him to provide our needs from day to day. And yet, who is there among us who does not work for his or her livelihood? Would any of us simply remain idle and expect God to give us all we need? Who is there among us who does not give some thought to making provision for those years when we are no longer able to earn our daily necessities? Also, who can say that God's care for us does not include that we should use such means as are supplied, to provide for our retirement years? Is it not reasonable to say that our Ministers and Missionaries Pension Fund is also in the Providence of God?

CONCERN FOR THE FUTURE

Our ministers and missionaries are generally the least concerned about provision for the future. Many serve their church or field for such a small income that they can do little if any more than provide for their daily living. Such as these are especially deserving of all the help we can give. The churches that are served by such pastors ought to be especially concerned about helping to provide an income for the declining years of these servants of God.

All of us ought to be most anxious to help, as we are able, to provide at least a small income for every retiring minister and missionary. I have observed how much even our small pension has meant to our retired pastors and their wives; and how grateful they are. It is surprising how much they are able to do with even such a small amount. But it is a struggle, and we realized that the provision must be increased.

As compared with those who fare even modestly well on a small pension, we have over the years also noted those who are no longer able adequately to serve their church, but are obliged to continue as long as their church permits because it is their only means of support. And their churches just cannot turn them out, knowing that they are without other means of support. As a result the churches, and what is more important, God's work in those communities suffers, or even dies.

Our denominational office, through its Aged Ministers and Relief funds, has been able to help some of our needy pastors and missionaries, but everyone will agree it is much better to have a definite source of income which

has been earned, than to hope to be favored with a grant which may also be discontinued by force of circumstances.

THE NEW PENSION PLAN

Our new Ministers and Missionaries Pension Plan has been designed to provide a larger retirement income, and do so with a greater degree of certainty. Our old plan was very good and the fund was adequate to meet its obligations. However, this was largely due to the fact that most of our pastors did not enroll as members; because they lacked the confidence that the fund could be sound while the premiums (or dues) were only one per cent of salary, or even less. Therefore it was considered to be most important to set up our new plan on an actuarially approved plan which would merit the confidence of our pastors. Now, even if every pastor and missionary becomes a member, the fund should prove well able to meet its every obligation.

Recently our executive secretary, the Rev. Frank H. Woyke, sent a letter to the pastor and the church clerk of every church in our General Conference. Attached to this letter was a set of rules and regulations which were established as the basis for the operation of our new plan. Another set of rules and regulations was also attached, which outlined the basis for transferring from our old plan to our new plan. Much effort was given to make all these provisions understandable. However, if any point is not clear, or if perhaps a pastor or church clerk has not yet received this letter, please write to our executive secretary, Post Office Box 6, Forest Park, Ill.

Those who wish to join our pension plan, who have not been members of our old plan, should have no difficulty. The rules and regulations are clear about the requirements. Difficulties will, however, seem to present themselves to those who have been in our old pension plan for a number of years and must now consider their status in the new pension plan. Every effort has been put forth to make the provisions for the transfer to our new pension plan as fair as possible. Following are the rules and regulations that govern the transfer.

TRANSFER OF PAID-UP MEMBERS WHO ARE AGE SIXTY OR OVER.—Pension members who have completed their thirty years of dues

payments, having passed their sixtieth birthday, shall become pensionable at age seventy (70) years, (or at age sixty-five if unemployed), with one-third (33-1/3%) increase in their pension.

TRANSFER OF PAID-UP MEMBERS WHO ARE UNDER AGE SIXTY.—Pension members who have fully paid their pension under the old plan but have not yet attained their sixtieth birthday shall have the option of—

- (a) Continuing as paid up under the old plan, to be pensioned at age seventy with a one-third (33-1/3%) increase in pension as provided in other cases.
- (b) Resume payments under the new plan until thirty-five years have been paid in, in which case such members will be eligible to receive pensions on the basis of the new plan and at age sixty-five.

TRANSFER OF MEMBERS NOT FULLY PAID WHO ARE AGE SIXTY OR OVER.—Pension members who have not yet completed thirty years of dues payments, and who have reached age sixty (60) years, having passed their sixtieth birthday, shall continue paying under our old pension plan, and become pensionable at age seventy (70) years, on the basis of the old plan, plus a one-third (33-1/3%) increase as was granted members who are already receiving pension. The old provision for members becoming pensionable at age sixty-five in the event they are wholly unemployed shall continue to apply.

TRANSFER OF MEMBERS NOT FULLY PAID WHO ARE UNDER AGE SIXTY.—Pension members who have not yet attained their sixtieth birthday, and who have not fully paid their pension under the old plan, must continue their pension under the provisions of our new plan, or choose terminal benefits as provided by the following paragraph.

DISCONTINUING MEMBERSHIP.—Any minister or missionary who was a member of the Pension Fund prior to August 1, 1947, and who prefers to discontinue membership instead of continuing as a member of the Pension Fund on the new 4% basis of payment may discontinue membership on or before April 1, 1948, and thereafter be entitled only to the following benefits:

- (a) He shall become entitled to a "paid-up" participation in the

(Continued on Page 24)

Missionary Opportunities in South America

Report by the REV. J. H. LANDENBERGER of Gladwin, Michigan of His First Contacts With Baptists of Brazil and Observations of Spiritual Conditions in South America

ON OCTOBER 23 at 10:00 P.M. our "big bird" soared into the sky. In a few minutes the lights of Miami and Miami Beach, Florida were left behind and the ocean stretched out below us. We simply relaxed and tried to sleep. At 5:00 A.M. we landed at San Juan. Then another plane carried us across the island of Puerto Rico. In the afternoon we sighted land and landed at Port of Spain, Trinidad for refueling.

The heat in the sun was intense. We found ourselves in tropical surroundings and were happy to climb 10,000 feet where it was delightfully cool. Before dark we saw the coastline of Brazil. At 10:00 P.M. we landed at Belem for inspection by the health, immigration and police authorities.

RIO DE JANEIRO

The exciting moments of our journey were reached the next morning. All at once we leaped over a mountain range and had the beautiful bay of Rio de Janeiro below and ahead of us. We circled the bay in a wide arc, passing the peak with the statue of Christ, so that we could land at the opposite side of the bay. After custom formalities were completed, the Rev. Pitrowsky, son of our own Baptist churches and pastor for thirty years in one of our leading churches in Rio de Janeiro, greeted us at the dock.

Next morning we visited his church and found a fine, lively Sunday School with 17 classes. In the service that followed it was my privilege to speak. The church has a large property with well-equipped classrooms including a nursery.

In the evening Mr. Pitrowsky took us to the First Baptist Church of the city. This is a very impressive structure built like a Greek temple with six massive Ionic columns in the front. It was erected at the cost of 1,600,000 cruzeiros. A cruzeiro equals about five cents. Today the church building could not be duplicated for less than four or five million cruzeiros.

The church has a membership of 1400 and seats about 1600 people. The interior is ivory white, except the pews and galleries on three sides which are mahogany. The floors throughout the building are of hardwood of different colors and are kept spotlessly clean.

Before the service four different B. Y. P. U. organizations met in their

respective rooms for prayer. In one of them was a bust of Willson Buck Bagley honoring a pioneer worker of the church.

BAPTISTS IN BRAZIL

We had a wonderful first Sunday in Brazil in fellowship with these fine people. There was a reverent spirit in the house of God. It became clear to me that in one thing they show a more Christlike spirit than all American churches since there is no distinction between whites and Negroes. They have no race problem. A very large percentage of the members are Negroes.

At present there are 55 Baptist churches in Rio de Janeiro, 787 churches in all Brazil with a membership of over 70,000. In Rio we have a large Baptist college and a seminary. The Baptist publication house is the only one that is printing a complete Portuguese Bible.

Thursday morning we left Rio and arrived in the evening at Sao Paulo. Although we were traveling first class, there is no comparison with our comfortable American trains. On the back of our tickets was printed "Grande Velocidade". It is the fastest train in Brazil!

At the station we were met by Rev. Ziegler and several brethren who gave us a warm welcome. The next evening it was my joy to speak to our church at its prayer meeting. Some of the people there we had known in Rio Grande do Sul. What a happy meeting it was with God in our midst! But how my soul became burdened when I saw under what trying conditions our church has to function in comparison with what I had seen in Rio de Janeiro.

A MODEST MEETING PLACE

Our church meets on the fourth floor of a building with no elevator, in the downtown section of the city. This floor is rented by an Armenian Congregational church for 250 cruzeiros a month. From this church our brethren are renting the spare time for 200 cruzeiros a month. They can use the room only from 2:30 to 6:00 P.M. on Sundays and one evening during the week.

The room is large enough for 100 people. For special occasions it is entirely inadequate. There is no church sign whatsoever on the building and strangers can walk by the door a hundred times, not knowing that a church

meets up on the fourth floor. During the war years it was a God-given place of refuge for the church. But now they must come out into the open in order to survive and to grow. They must have a meeting place of their own, however modest it may be in the beginning. Through no fault of the brethren, it was neglected twenty years ago to secure church property when it was so much easier than it is now.

There are 36 Baptist churches in Sao Paulo, among them 3 Russian, 1 Lettish and 1 Hungarian church. But our brethren have no home of their own. There are more than 60,000 Germans in the city. What an opportunity for missionary work!

God has placed it heavily upon my heart to find some outside help for these brethren which is so urgently needed. God must have led me here for that purpose. No doubt, during forthcoming weeks I shall gain more insight into the life of this great metropolis which is the commercial hub of Brazil.

BAPTISTS OF SAO PAULO

The church in Sao Paulo has only about 100 members. It is supporting its pastor without any other assistance. Since the pastor had his training at the Seminary at Rio de Janeiro, he is well able to serve in both languages. On November 15 the church had its Harvest Festival. The members brought clothing, embroidery, pictures, fruit and vegetables which were sold. Although hopes ran high the result was beyond expectation. Over 50,000 cruzeiros were pledged of which 10% will go for European relief and the rest for their building fund.

Sao Paulo is an unique missionary field. With a strong church here the Gospel may spread to the interior of the state of Parana where we have already several groups of brethren.

We left Sao Paulo on November 17 and arrived in Cape Eie, Rio Grande do Sul on November 19 where I am finishing this report. The Rev. O. Horn awaited us at the station. The church here has two meeting places. On Sunday, November 23, the baptismal service was held. From here we shall visit all our churches in Rio Grande do Sul one by one. May God give us a burning message in our hearts to encourage and strengthen our brethren who have suffered much during the past war years.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

● Mr. A. Avery Higgins has been serving as pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of West New York, New Jersey since August 1946. He is a student at the National Bible Institute of New York City. He is not ordained as yet. A son, named David, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Higgins on Dec. 23rd. His address is given among the "Address Changes" on page two of this issue.

● Dr. Milton C. Froyd, assistant director of the Department of Schools and Colleges of the Board of Education in the Northern Baptist Convention, brought a stirring message in the Rochester Baptist Seminary Chapel on January 6th. On January 8th the students enjoyed hearing the Rev. Wolfgang G. Gerthe of the Germantown Baptist Church near Cathay, No. Dak., discuss "What Salvation Meant to Jesus."

● The Men's Octet of the Baptist Church of Elk Grove, California, rendered a ministry of song at the California State penitentiary, Folsom Prison, on Sunday, Dec. 21, and again on Sunday, Jan. 4. The Rev. W. W. Knauf, pastor, assisted the octet in its ministry. The dedication service of the new church at Elk Grove has been set for Sunday, Feb. 15. A detailed, illustrated report of the dedication festivities will appear in a forthcoming issue.

● Recently the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Fischer of Ashley, No. Dak., was held in the home of Mr. and Mr. Schrenk, parents of Mrs. Fischer. In a beautiful decorated room and to the music of Wagner's "Lohengrin March," the surprised couple was escorted to the place of honor. Messages of congratulation were brought by all present, including Prof. O. E. Krueger of Rochester, N. Y., and Rev. Walter Stein, local pastor.

● The Rev. Edwin Michelson, missionary in the Cameroons of Africa who is now at home on furlough, is enrolled since January as a student at Wesley College and the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks, No. Dak., preparatory to receiving his B. A. degree in August. His wife and two children are with him in Grand Forks, where they are attending the services of the Grace Baptist Church, of which the Rev. G. K. Zimmerman is the pas-



The Familiar Iron Steps Leading Up to the Front Entrance of the Seminary Building at 246 Alexander Street, Rochester, N. Y.

tor. The Michelsons hope to return to the Cameroons in the Fall of 1948.

● The Immanuel Church of Wausau, Wisconsin held a "Rededication Service" for its remodeled building on Sunday, Jan. 18, with Dr. John Siemens of Minneapolis, Minn., the executive secretary of the Minnesota Baptist Convention, as the guest speaker. The remodeling program has been in progress since August 1947, as reported by the pastor, Rev. Lawrence Wegner. From Jan. 19 to 25 evangelistic meetings were held with the Rev. William Hoover of Benton Harbor, Mich., serving as evangelist.

● The Pilgrim Baptist Church of Jersey City, New Jersey has enjoyed the interim pastorate since September, 1947 of the Rev. Lester N. Schoen, chaplain of the Veterans' Hospital in the Bronx, New York, N. Y. Mr. Schoen was ordained at the Fleischman Memorial Church of Philadelphia, Pa., and served several of our churches before becoming chaplain at the Veterans' Hospital. The attendance at the services of the Pilgrim Church has increased, and the interest in the church's program is definitely growing, according to reliable reports.

● On Monday evening, Jan. 12, a farewell service for the Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Goodman, and their son, Larry, missionaries to the Cameroons of

Africa, was held at the Grace Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill. Among those participating in the program were the Rev. J. C. Gunst representing the denomination, Mr. Walter C. Pankratz for the National Y. P. and S. S. Workers' Union, Dr. Warren Filkin and Miss Talbot of the Moody Bible Institute, and the local pastor, Rev. Wm. J. Jeschke. The Goodmans sailed from New York City for Africa on Monday, Jan. 26, on the "S. S. Tai Yin" of the Barber Steamship Lines.

● A Baptist Boys' Club has been organized at Ashley, North Dakota with the pastor, Rev. Walter Stein, and laymen of the Baptist Church in charge. About 20 boys have been enrolled at the outset. A large barn on the parsonage lot has been converted into a clubhouse with work benches and lathes installed and ample provisions made for manual training and recreation for the boys. The expense for the clubhouse is being borne by the Baptist Church. It is hoped that this venture may ultimately inspire a community-wide "canteen program" for the boys of Ashley under the supervision of the churches and high school.

● The Rev. Henry Hirsch recently presented his resignation as pastor of the Erin Avenue Church of Cleveland, Ohio and announced his acceptance of the call extended to him by the Baptist Church of Goodrich, North Dakota. He will begin his pastorate in Goodrich on Sunday, April 4th, succeeding the Rev. J. C. Kraenzler, now of Missoula, Montana. Mr. Hirsch served as pastor of Cleveland's Erin Avenue Church since 1941.

● On Sunday, Feb. 8th, the Rev. Roy B. Anderson brought his farewell sermons as pastor of the Ogden Park Church of Chicago, Ill. He also spoke at the Chicago Ministers' Association on Monday afternoon, Jan. 26, at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. C. B. Nordland. On Sunday, Jan. 18, he preached in the evening service of the Forest Park Church. The new pews of the Ogden Park Church were dedicated on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 1, with Dr. Wm. Kuhn as the guest speaker. Mr. Anderson began his ministry in a new Baptist mission at San Bernardino, Calif., on Feb. 15th.

● An inspiring installation service for officers and committees of the Bethel Church of Buffalo, N. Y., was held on Sunday evening, Jan. 4th. The pastor,

Rev. Paul E. Loth, preached on the topic, "A Wise Decision — Serving God and Living Acceptably Unto Him." The following qualifications for service were dwelt upon during his sermon: 1) definite relation to Christ; 2) knowledge of the Word of God; 3) recognize the faithfulness of God; 4) consecration unto Christ.

● On Friday, Nov. 28, a group of approximately 80 relatives and friends gathered at the parsonage of the Canaan Baptist Church of Crawford, Texas to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Hodel. An impromptu program for the occasion was arranged. A mixed sextette sang several hymns. The Rev. J. J. Lippert brought an appropriate message and words of congratulations. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hodel have two children, Mrs. Granvill Rost (Verna Mae) and a son who is serving our country. He is stationed at present in Puerto Rico. The honored couple received many beautiful and useful gifts.

● Special evangelistic meetings were held at the Temple Church of Buffalo, New York during the Thanksgiving season. Through the inspiring messages of Rev. William D. Ross of Neustadt, Ontario, fourteen young men and women gave their hearts to the Lord. This was truly a cause for thanksgiving. On Sunday, Dec. 28, these young men and women followed the Lord in baptism and on the first Sunday in the New Year were received into the fellowship of the church around the Lord's Table. Two other women were received at the same time by letter. "Our wish for the New Year is that the Spirit of God may continue to work in the hearts of our people," as reported by Mrs. Walter Schmidt.

● On January 16th Mr. F. W. Godtfriing, secretary of the Baptist Life Association, took a day off from his work at his desk, staying home and locking himself in his study to celebrate the anniversary of his connection with the Baptist Life Association. He felt the need of being alone with his God in meditation and prayer, reviewing the completion of 37 years of activities to build up a Fraternal Benefit Association of Baptist people in the United States. Brother Godtfriing has seen the growth of the Association from 1142 members to 6000 and the assets have grown from \$46,000 to \$1,200,000. Promptly on December 31, 1947, the books of the Association were closed for the year. It has had the biggest growth in adult new members and handsome growth in assets. The annual statement is in the course of preparation and must soon be in the hands of every state insurance commissioner. The association is licensed in 19 states.

Holiday Echoes from Our Seminary

A Report and "Thank You" Message in Behalf of Our Seminary

Faculty by DR. T. W. BENDER

FARM YARDS at Plum Creek, South Dakota and at Vesper and Stafford, Kansas have quieted down considerably! And if you think your church raises better chickens, the boys at our Seminary in Rochester, New York are ready to try your samples! Eggs arrived from Alfred, No. Dak. (At the present price of eggs it requires much more spiritual strength to remember our school.)

Of course, there were nuts. They came from the faithful women at Lodi, California. So that the traditional trimmings might not be lacking on the festive board gifts of money were sent by women's groups at Streeter, No. Dak., Eureka, So. Dak., Jewell, So. Dak., Kenosha, Wis., and Plevna, Mont. Lest the boys run out of dish towels the women of Vesper, Kansas and Napoleon, No. Dak., provided some new ones plus other linens.

It may also be timely to name here the churches that have sent tangible greetings to the Seminary during the first months of this school year. There were cookies, towels, bed linens, and monetary "hellos" from Central Church, New Haven, Conn.; Grand Forks, No. Dak.; Dayton's Bluff, St. Paul, Minn.; Ingersoll, Okla.; Benton Harbor, Mich.; Alfred, No. Dak.; and Durham, Kansas. Thus the Spirit of the Lord moves and works in our people! May you who gave be more richly blessed even than we who so gratefully received.

With the present high cost of living and transportation most of our students could not leave Rochester to be with their loved ones over the holidays. Some of these used their vacation to catch up on term papers, reviews, etc., in preparation for the semester examinations the middle of January. Some, as in other years, shared in the rendering of "The Messiah" by the Rochester Oratorio Society. Some were kept busy with student pastorates.

SEMINARY NOTICE!

The second semester is under way at our Seminary in Rochester since January 26th. Applications for next year are already coming in. Anyone interested in a catalog of the Seminary may write to: North American Baptist Seminary, 246 Alexander St., Rochester 7, New York.

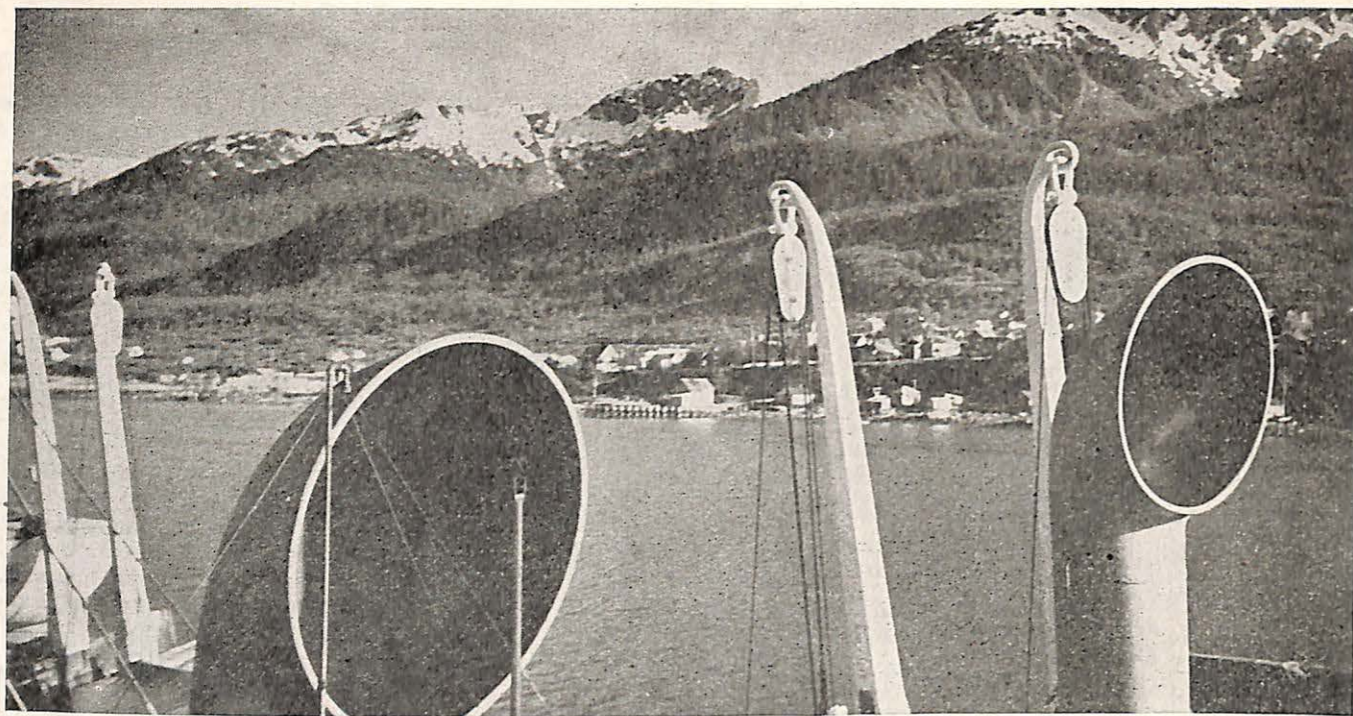
There were caroling deputations who gladdened the hearts of shut-ins and hospital patients. There were entertainments in the homes of President George Lang and Prof. Otto Krueger. The Christmas programs at the Andrews St. Baptist Church, musical, dramatic, and miscellaneous, gave opportunities of joyful service to many of these who could not go home.

A few of the men did get away. I do not have the complete reports in my hands, but data on hand show that we had "ambassadors" in four Canadian provinces and at least ten states. The Temple Baptist Church of Buffalo, N. Y., continued the praiseworthy custom of entertaining two of the students for the holidays. Leland Schantz and Reinhart Schalin were the fortunate ones this year. Joe Sonnenberg, Ed. Link, and Vernon Link spent the holidays in Detroit, visiting most of our churches and participating in various services. Adolph Braun, Bert Braun, L. Bienert, and H. Weiss were guests in Beaver, Mich., helping in different capacities with programs and worship services.

The Ehmann's celebrated with the people at Lehr, No. Dak., and helped in the work at Aberdeen, So. Dak. John Vanderbeck could be at home at La Crosse, Wis.; and Helmut Riemer went all the way to Esk, Sask., only to be outdistanced by Isadore Faszer who could be with his loved ones at Edmonton, Alta. Prof. Reuben Jeschke enjoyed being with his family at Stamford, Conn., and to bring the Christmas message in King's Highway Church of Bridgeport. Prof. T. W. Bender conducted evangelistic meetings at Morris, Manitoba for eight days.

Professor Albert Bretschneider spent a part of the vacation with the Ridge-wood Baptist Church of Ridge-wood, Long Island, preaching in one of the services on Sunday and participating in the Watch Night service.

This partial list of men and events will give our people some insight into our Seminary life. We rejoice in the reports of God's blessing that the students have brought back. With them and for them we again say "thank you" for the kindnesses and opportunities given our "boys" wherever they appeared. May the Lord bless such efforts in service as they rendered! A spirit of deeper seriousness and firmer application to the work at hand has gripped our Seminary family as we enter 1948. Pray for us without ceasing!



—Ewing Galloway Photo

Land of Tomorrow

A Novel by CHARLOTTE KRUGER

(Copyrighted by Zondervan Publications)

SYNOPSIS

After the war Chris MacKay went back to Alaska—"the Land of Tomorrow"—not only to the mountains and forests, but to love and dreams. On the steamer he met Julianna Barrett, who was going to Alaska with the message of the Gospel. In the little fishing village of Beaver Creek Julianna held meetings for the children in the old schoolhouse. She also met an old-time friend of hers, Lydia Wilson, the friendly government teacher. One morning as Chris MacKay neared Beaver Creek he saw smoke rising from one end of the village. It looked like a bad fire! He hurried to the house of the drunken "Cookhouse Mike" and dragged him to safety. Little Molly was also saved. As friends took these two to the Andrewvich cabin for shelter, Neal Jones and Bob Carter of the government mail boat, "Nushagak," also arrived to help. Everybody was in a frenzy at Beaver Creek.

CHAPTER FOUR

AT LAST the fire was put out. Grimy and soot-covered, the men who had helped to save the Tedishoff cabin sprawled around in the June sunshine.

MacKay, wiping the perspiration from his hot face, asked the question that had been in the back of his mind during the whole time he had been fighting the fire.

"Any of you men know where Steve is?"

"Sure," a handsome young Aleut volunteered, "he take Old Joe to town ... bum leg hurt bad ... take him to doctor."

"How long's he been gone?"

"How long? Let's see ... I guess last Monday. He leave same day old Grandma Andrewvich die."

"He miss big party ... lotsa eats ... lotsa drinks," added an older native with a grin.

"You mean Molly was alone with the old man for several days?" His reply was the affirmative wagging of half a dozen black heads.

Two men emerged from the Andrewvich cabin at that moment and came over to where the men were sprawled on the grass. MacKay recognized one as Neal Jones, the skipper of the government mailboat. The other, a younger chap, looked familiar though Chris could not think of his name.

Jones stepped up to MacKay, and extended his right hand. "Congratulations, Bud," he said with sincerity, "I hear you're the hero — the one who saved the little girl."

"Thanks, Jones," said Chris with embarrassment. "I just happened to get here first, that's all."

Bewildered at the stranger's recognition of him the mailboat skipper looked his amazement. "Pardon me," he said, "but do you know me?"

"Uh-huh." MacKay's sun-tanned face broke into a winning grin. "Uncle Sam had me stationed in Valdez for a while a few years ago ... pretty little town. Guess all the fellows knew

you, the skipper of the 'Nushagak'."

"What's your name, Bud?"

"MacKay ... Chris MacKay ... Wyoming."

The two men exchanged another hearty handclasp.

"So you were a soldier stationed in Alaska. How come you're still here?" Jones asked the question frankly.

"I came back ... liked Alaska so well."

"You're kiddin'."

"No ... I mean it ... really."

"Bob, come here." Motioning to his young helper, Jones introduced the two. "MacKay, this is Bob Carter, my 'good man Friday' on board the 'Nushagak.' Bob, this is Chris MacKay of Wyoming. He tells me he likes Alaska so well he came back after Uncle Sammy released him."

"Good place," agreed young Bob. "Glad to know you, MacKay."

"Glad to know you, too," returned MacKay. They exchanged hearty handclaps and warm smiles.

At MacKay's suggestion the trio abandoned the group of natives and headed for the schoolhouse at the other end of the village.

Lydia Wilson opened the door when the men knocked. She had just returned a few minutes before after tending the old man at the Andrewvich shack.

MacKay was introduced to the likeable young woman and the three were cordially invited to stay for luncheon.

Chris asked to see Molly and was promptly led into a small bedroom off the sitting room.

The little girl's joy upon seeing the tall white man standing beside the bed was evident from the light that shone in her large eyes.

"Chris MacKay!" She spoke his name softly. Her thin little hand was stroking one of the flowered squares of the pretty quilt with which Miss Wilson had covered her. She looked up with her great dark eyes. "You ... you always come when ... when ... people ... need you?" She asked frankly. Then her solemn look changed to a slow smile.

Chris, fumbling to get something out of his pocket, replied, "Almost seems that way, doesn't it Molly?" He had succeeded in withdrawing the small square box. Handing it to the child he said, "Here, Molly, I brought you something ... thought maybe you'd like this."

With trembling hands, the girl took the little white box. "For ... for my ... birthday?" she asked simply.

"Is this your birthday?"

"Tomorrow ... I think."

Miss Wilson, standing in the doorway, overheard. She hurried to the kitchen, whipped up the batter for a cake and had it poured into pans and placed in the oven in a few moments.

While she was setting five places at her kitchen table — the only one in her little apartment — Jones stood in the doorway watching her. Young Carter was reading a National Geographic magazine in the sitting room. MacKay was with Molly.

"Mind if I watch?" Neal asked with a friendly grin.

"Not at all." Miss Wilson's plain face lighted with a smile. "I love having company ... fixing good things for them." She arranged her bright fiestaware dishes carefully, then peeped into a few covered pots on the stove.

The mailboat skipper helped where he could, opened a few cans and insisted on whipping the thick canned milk that Miss Wilson declared "actually whipped, though it was kind of leaky."

"That's one thing I miss up here in Alaska ... good fresh milk," she said.

"Now if you lived over in Matanuska or up at Fairbanks or some other places in the Territory, you could even have that," Jones replied. "What's the matter, don't you like this kind?"

"I've learned to like it," admitted the teacher, "but at first I had a hard time getting used to the powdered and canned milk."

They chatted of inconsequential things while the meal was being pre-

pared, laughed together and thoroughly enjoyed each other's company. It was very pleasant for Lydia to have the companionship of her own race for a change. She looked forward happily to these fortnightly visits of the "Nushagak." This trip was extra special in that the fellows were spending far more time at Beaver Creek than was customary. She appreciated it especially since the preceding days had been such tense, nerve-racking ones.

Finally everything was in readiness. After washing their hands, the five sat down to the colorful table to enjoy a delicious meal. The cake Miss Wilson had hastily made was topped with the "leaky" whipped cream and bedecked with ten pink candles. Her school records had given her the date of Molly's birth.

"This is your birthday party, Molly ... but a day early," Miss Wilson announced when the five were comfortably seated.

The native child, too pleased and bewildered to reply, looked gratefully from one to the other. She was bashful about eating in the presence of adults, particularly white people. Her grandpa made her eat alone, after he had first taken what he wanted. Even Steve had allowed her to shift for herself so far as food was concerned. Regular mealtimes, well-prepared and appetizing foods, were unheard of in the Tedishoff cabin as was the case in the other native homes. When you were hungry, you ate. It did not matter what time of day it was or whether others were eating, too. Usually the whole family ate breakfast together. The rest of the day the individual ate as he wished.

During the course of the meal, Lydia Wilson had a favor to ask of the mailboat skipper. "Mr. Jones," she said regarding him frankly, "I'm wondering if you could take Old Mike to town with you when you go ... to the hospital? One of his arms is pretty badly burned. I've done what I can for him, but I feel that he should be in the hospital. They can watch him better there. Then, too, he won't be able to drink."

"Sure thing," replied Jones good-naturedly. "We'll take him along with us. Bob here can be 'nursemaid.'" He winked at his assistant.

"Aw, quit your kiddin', Neal," growled the young fellow with feigned annoyance.

"What about Molly?" Jones asked, smiling at the child who was eating silently.

"I'll keep her here with me ... at least till Steve returns," said Miss Wilson simply.

Later that afternoon the "Nushagak" pulled away from the Beaver Creek dock with a convoy of gulls circling and dipping ahead and alongside.

Down in the galley in one of the lower bunks lay the miserable-looking form of old Cookhouse Mike. Sobered by the dreadful experience of the fire that morning and suffering some pain, he had remonstrated about going to town to the hospital, but finally Mrs. Andrewvich had helped him to see the wisdom of going.

"Maybe you lose arm ... like Old Joe lose leg," warned the toothless native woman. "No take care sore leg ... get like rotten fish ... cut it off."

Terrified lest a similar thing should happen to him, the old man had agreed to go to the hospital.

Back in her cozy apartment, Lydia Wilson began to sort the few pieces of mail that Jones had brought for the population of Beaver Creek. In the excitement she had forgotten about them till now ... a most unusual thing because she usually "devoured" her letters promptly, as she herself expressed it. The teacher's job at many of these little native villages included that of being postmistress. The natives would be coming to see if there was any mail for them, so she hastily sorted the few letters, then the magazines and several packages. Her own share of mail this trip was small. She glanced at the return addresses on a few. One was from her married sister back home in Pennsylvania. There were a few advertisements and the return papers on a mail order she had sent in a few months before. The last letter was a small square one addressed in plain backhand in brown ink. She turned it over. On the back she read her friend's name ... Julianna Barrett. She tore open the dainty envelope, and eagerly read the message:

Dear Lydia,

I believe our earlier plans may work out. I learn that practically the whole village will be moving down the Bay to work at the cannery during the months of August and, possibly, September. There will be no reason for my staying here for at least one of these months, so you may expect me on the earliest boat I can get in August. I'm looking forward to a wonderful time—a time when we can renew our acquaintance of high school days. Those two "tastes" of life at Beaver Creek have given me a longing to know you and your little village better ...

There was more to the letter ... appreciation for the hospitality shown her on two previous occasions and a report of the growth of her little Bible class at Willow Point where she lived.

* * * * *

"Do you got to go, teacher?"

"Do I ... 'what,' Minnie?"

Julianna Barrett looked down at the wistful face of little Minnie Totemoff who had come to visit her that afternoon at her little cabin and had found her packed and waiting for the "Nushagak."

"Do you have to go? I mean? . . ."

Julianna smiled down into the child's pitiful face.

"Yes, Minnie, I have to go," she said.

"Why?" There was pleading in Minnie's eyes.

"Why? Because I know there are many children at Beaver Creek . . . boys and girls who want to know about the Lord Jesus just the same as you children here at Willow."

"But . . . but . . . what . . . what'll us kids do while you're gone? We don't got no place to come to . . . 'cept here . . . your house." Minnie's dark face was the picture of despair.

Julianna winced at the child's use—rather her misuse—of the English language, but did not bother to correct her this time. Sometimes it became so tiring, for it seemed that the children never remembered. She was asking the Lord for guidance daily . . . for wisdom . . . for kindness.

"I won't be gone so terribly long, Minnie," consoled Miss Barrett, though in her own heart she knew a month to a child would seem like a year!

"How long?" Minnie's fat round face lighted hopefully. "Two days . . . maybe three?"

"N-no . . . longer than that," admitted Miss Barrett, "three or four weeks."

"Weeks?" Minnie's voice sounded sad and thin.

Her pitiful countenance touched Julianna's heart and yet it amused her to see this otherwise carefree child so concerned about her going. By tomorrow she would have forgotten about feeling sad today.

It was late that afternoon when the "Nushagak" arrived. The mailboat rarely stayed at Willow Point for a long time . . . usually just long enough for the freight and mail to be unloaded. She would hurry down and let Neal Jones know of her intention to go along as far as Beaver Creek. Probably Lydia had already told him, but Julianna Barrett wanted to be sure.

When she reached the long dock, the boat was just being secured to the barnacle-covered pilings. A tall young man was tying the stern rope. As she reached the end of the dock, he looked up. Somehow he seemed to be vaguely familiar. Where had she seen him before? That friendly smile, those straight white teeth, the unruly brown hair that fell over his forehead, those kind blue-gray eyes . . . surely she must know him.

"Hello," she found herself saying. "Is Mr. Jones . . . Neal Jones around?"

"Sure thing," MacKay replied with a grin. "I'll tell him you want to see him, Miss Barrett." The rope tied, he walked with long easy strides to the pilot house, poked his head inside for a moment, then returned with the announcement, "He'll be right out."

He had called her "Miss Barrett"! Evidently he knew her! Where had she seen him before?

Suddenly she remembered! He had been part of those pleasant days on board the "Aleutian" last March when she had come to this land . . . this land to which she had been longing to bring the Gospel. She recalled a few friendly talks they had had together . . . walking or standing on deck . . . watching the gulls . . . the funny porpoises . . . sea lions . . . the changing scenery, breath-taking in its beauty. His name? Was it not "Mac" something or other?

Neal Jones emerged from the pilot house. Stretching his long length, he looked up at the attractive blonde up on the crude dock, surrounded by a throng of children and puppies. The boys and girls were delighted every time the mailboat came in and always made it a point to get down to the dock. The village dogs invariably followed.

"Hello, Mr. Jones!" Julie smiled down at the tall blond skipper. "Have you room for a passenger? I forgot to ask you last time you were here, but I'd like to get over to Beaver Creek."

"I know all about it, Miss Barrett," returned Neal. "Lydia Wilson told me to pick you up." The tone of his voice indicated his willingness to help the young missionary.

"Would you like us to pack your things down to the boat?" He was beside her now, having climbed nimbly up the long ladder.

Julianna had to look up at him now. "That would be very kind of you," she said.

Chris MacKay had been right at Neal's heels . . . following him up the ladder. He swung his tall form from the last rung to the dock and stood beside the couple whose backs were toward him.

Neal turned immediately to introduce his new helper to the young missionary. "Miss Barrett," he said, "I'd like you to meet my new 'first mate' on board the 'Nushagak' . . . Chris MacKay. Chris, this is Miss Barrett."

"How do you do, Mr. MacKay?" Her voice was soft and low . . . musical . . . the way Chris had remember it. "I believe we met on the 'Aleutian' last spring . . . if I'm not mistaken."

"That's right, Miss Barrett." Chris regarded the young woman warmly. "I didn't expect then that I'd have the pleasure of seeing you again some day."

"The world isn't such a big place after all, is it?" put in Jones with a friendly grin.

There was only a small amount of freight to unload today . . . some case goods, one slim sack and a few sheets of plywood. The two men moved the things quickly from the "Nushagak" and stowed them in the shedlike building at the end of the wooden dock.

"Chris," said Jones, "I can manage these last few things without any help. Would you pack Miss Barrett's things down now? When you get back, we'll be ready to pull out."

"Sure thing, Neal." MacKay, more than willing to help, strode off beside the attractive young woman who led the way to her home.

The lay-out here at Willow Point was much the same as at Beaver Creek . . . a long dock, then a spruce-covered knoll with a schoolhouse perched on top, log cabins straggling up the hillside, a Russian church and a small cemetery in the distance. The hill was a great deal steeper here than at Beaver Creek. There were split logs placed for steps with a sturdy railing for the less sure footed to hold onto . . . especially in wintertime when the snow and ice made the hill hazardous.

Splashes of bright magenta fireweed added color to the background of greens . . . dark gray-green of spruce and yellow-green of straggling grass and weeds.

"Are you the teacher here, Miss Barrett?" asked MacKay as they neared the top of the log stairs and headed for a small cabin a few yards to the side of the white schoolhouse.

"Not the schoolteacher," explained Julianna. "There's a married couple in charge here. They've gone Outside for the summer and asked me to stay at their place since it's much more convenient than the little cabin I'd been staying in. I do teach though . . . I teach the children from the Bible . . . the Word of God." She looked up at Chris frankly. "It's a wonderful Book," she added. There was warmth . . . enthusiasm . . . in her tone.

They reached the small log cabin. Julianna threw wide the front door and led the way inside.

"Here are my suitcases," she said, indicating two attractive pieces of airplane luggage that stood in the center of the cheerful sitting room. "I could have carried the things down to the dock myself, I suppose," she

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apologized, "but I wasn't sure whether or not there would be room for me."

"There's no reason why you should have to lug these heavy things." Chris took up the two small bags and carried them out onto the small porch. "Is this all?"

"Just my flannelgraph board," said Julianna, "but I can carry that myself. It's not heavy."

"Here, let me take that too," said Chris, as he picked up the bulky wooden box.

Julie was fastening a flowered kerchief over her bright head. MacKay hated to see her hide the honey-colored hair.

"Please!" remonstrated the girl. "Really, Mr. MacKay, I'm good at packing things. You should see how experienced I became at fetching my daily water supply from the brook." She was smiling . . .

"No running water?"

"Here at the schoolhouse cabin I have running water . . . not at my own little place."

"That must have been tough . . . a girl like you lugging heavy buckets of water." A frown crossed MacKay's face.

"It was fun," corrected Julie. "But," she admitted, with a happy little laugh, "this is much nicer, in fact sometimes I feel as if I'm living in town . . . with all these conveniences!"

The door locked, the couple started down the steep hillside to the dock, Chris carrying the two heavy bags, Julianna insisting on "packing" the flannelgraph board herself. She did not carry it far, however, for several children had come up the hillside trail and now begged to carry the cloth blackboard for their teacher. She had to say "eenie-meenie" so that no one's feelings would be hurt. The privilege fell to little Jimmy Kompkoff who placed the oblong case squarely on his shining dark head and began to make a bee line for the "Nushagak."

Juliana and Chris had to laugh as they watched the little fellow go.

"He looks like an animated letter T," the girl said.

"Sure enough," agreed MacKay.

They had to wade through a sea of youngsters before they could clamber down the ladder onto the mailboat. Chris passed the luggage down to Neal first, he himself descended and then he helped Julianna down . . . not that she needed any help, for she was very nimble and quick.

A chorus of children's voices begged her to "come back" as the "Nushagak" slipped away from the long dock. Julianna Barrett promised them that she would, and waved to them until the boat rounded a small island and shut them from view.

(To Be Continued)

"You Should Know -"

A National Young People's and S. S. Workers' Union Feature

THAT the Youth Service Plan, which is sponsored by the National Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union, is a plan to make contacts for and financially to assist students in Christian work during the summer months. Students who are members of one of the North American Baptist Conference churches, attending a Christian School or Seminary, and wishing summer employment, are given aid through the Youth Service Plan.

Last year the Summer Visitation Committee placed 18 students in several of our churches and in several conference organizations. Arrangements are again under way where we hope to place at least twenty and possibly more student workers this summer.

These young people who are eager to use their time and talents, after some

preparation, in Christian service are ready to help in various fields of activities. Most of them are qualified to serve in one or more of the following fields: Vacation Bible School, summer assemblies, church mission work, leader and directors of Scripture memorization work, and preaching services in the case of seminary students.

Our pastors and conference organizational officers will remember our \$10,000 Youth Service Goal. It is important that every one of our youth organizations assume some share in this Youth Service Goal. This is necessary to finance the summer student worker from year to year.

Through the generosity of our conference organization and churches the Youth Service Goal is made possible. An amount of \$3,300 is needed annually for their work. Some local and

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We, the Women

Views and News of the National Woman's Missionary Union
By MRS. FLORENCE E. SCHOEFFEL, President

MORALE DAY

RECENTLY a little magazine called "Sunshine" came into my hands. In it was this short story which I would like to share with you.

As Jane dropped in to visit her neighbor, Ann, one rainy afternoon, she found her seated at her desk in the living-room.

"Writing letters?" asked Jane.

"Sort of," replied Ann. "This is my Morale Day. You see, the first Tuesday of every month I take time off to write notes to a few folks I know."

"That's a good idea, to set a definite time to answer the letters that have been piling up."

"Oh, but I'm writing letters that I really don't owe. I pick out people that I think will not be expecting to hear from me, and to whom such a surprise note would bring real cheer."

"But what do you find to write about?"

"Oh, just everyday things — about my children, my flowers, our dog — just as if I were chatting with them, on a friendly visit."

"What a perfectly wonderful idea. When you think how much it means to all those folks, you can certainly

pat yourself on the back for giving their morale a real boost."

Ann looked at Jane. "I didn't mean their morale," she exclaimed, "I mean mine!"

"Your morale?" echoed Jane.

"Yes. You haven't any idea how warm and happy it makes you feel inside. It always turns out to be one of the happiest days of the month for me, no matter what mood I'm in when I start." —

We have just entered upon the period before Easter known as Lent. Many people abstain from doing certain things, such as eating candy or going to entertainments during this time, as a sacrifice.

I should like to suggest that we put the emphasis upon the positive — that we do certain things which in our busy life we otherwise often neglect. There are many little kind and thoughtful deeds which will bring cheer to others, such as writing notes or cards, visiting the shut-ins, taking a plate of home-baked cookies to Grandma Jones, who has a sweet tooth, but is confined to her wheel chair, etc.

By thinking of others in this way we will be following in the footsteps of the Master, who "went about doing good."

CHILDREN'S PAGE



THE GINGHAM DRESS

All this happened down in the beautiful island of Puerto Rico. It is surrounded by warm, tropical waters where the sun shines brightly by day and the stars seem close enough to pick out of the sky at night. The people are very, very poor, though. The mothers do fine embroidery or work in tobacco factories to earn a few extra pennies for their families. The children run dirty and naked all day in the hot Puerto Rican sunshine.

CHILDREN'S PAGE EDITOR
Mrs. A. E. REEH
Box 242
LA SALLE, COLORADO

The first time the missionary ever saw Ester, she was pattering up the broad steps of the church building in search of the Sunday School.

"You are a nice little girl," said the missionary. "But all the Sunday School

morning and I'll make a pretty dress for you myself."

All night the missionary thought and thought. "What can I use to make a dress? I haven't a scrap of material of any kind."

Finally she decided what to do. There were some pretty blue and white gingham curtains in her kitchen window. Just enough to make a little girl's frock. She decided she could get along without curtains.

So when Ester came at nine o'clock on Monday morning the missionary took down the gingham curtains and measured her size. Then snip, snip the scissors and buzz, buzz went the sewing machine. At ten o'clock she was buttoning Ester into the daintiest little gingham dress you ever saw. She brushed her black hair into curling, round curls and even found a piece of blue ribbon for a bow.

Ester was the happiest and proudest little girl in Puerto Rico that day. She always came to Sunday School after that with her dress shining clean and smoothly ironed.

The years went by and Ester grew up into a beautiful Christian girl. She had a fine, clear mind and the missionary saw to it that she received a mission-education. She went through all the higher schools of Puerto Rico. Then the Christian friends gave her a chance to study in a Baptist College in the United States. Ester came back a full-fledged teacher with excellent training. She was offered a splendid position in a government school and went off to another town to earn a good salary. When she came back for her vacation, she ran over to call on the missionary who was her dearest friend.

"I'm so glad to see you, Ester dear. I want to ask your advice. You know we've started a day school for the children here. We're too poor to pay a teacher more than the small sum the children can afford themselves. So it is a problem to find some really good person to teach them. Do you happen to know anyone who would come?"

Ester thought hard.

"I'll see what I can do," she promised. "I'll let you know tomorrow."

The next day such a happy, shining-faced Ester appeared at the missionary's house.

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"I've found someone for you," she said. "It is myself."

The missionary was shocked into protest.

"Oh, my dear child!" she exclaimed. "I didn't mean that. You have such splendid training. And we can pay so little. Not a twentieth of what you are earning now."

"That doesn't matter a bit," declared Ester. "I saved most of my salary all this year. And I truly want to pay my debt of love for the gingham dress. I've never forgotten it."

It was just the unselfish gift of a cheap little gingham dress that won a friend. And friends, you see, never forget their obligations.

(Adopted from "The Necklace of Friendship.")

You Should Know ...!

(Continued from Page 17)

regional organizations have made, in part, the Youth Service Goal a regular annual home mission project.

All of the summer student workers are to make their contacts through the Summer Visitation Committee. Application blanks for pastors and students alike have gone out and many of these applications have been received. Your support by prayer and your gifts will encourage these students to be a great blessing in the Lord's work.

The Baptist Publishing House

(Continued from Page 9)

In October 1945 we got the license by the American Military Government. At present our rooms of office are in two small rooms at Kassel-Niederzwehren, Frankfurter Str. 224. Our program is clearly settled, but awfully restrained by the great want of paper. Our task is to announce the gospel to all people in the distress of the present time and to provide our parish members with hymn-books, Bibles, devotion books, Christian journals, etc. Having no more our own printing office, we have our publications chiefly printed at Stuttgart.

The reconstruction of the buildings at Kassel is still not possible, for the quarter in question is completely destroyed and no building material at hand. The only periodical we could publish until now is the "Gemeinde," as successor of the "Wahrheitszeuge," unfortunately only with eight pages monthly and 15,000 copies. Necessity for an evangelical Sunday paper similar to our "Friedensbote" (edition in peace about 200,000) and for a children's paper (edition in peace 50,000 every Sunday) is very great.

In Copenhagen at the Baptist World Congress brethren from abroad promised us to help with paper. Our joy therefore is great!

From Russia to Canada's Freedom

By JOACHIM KUDENCZUK in a Letter to the Rev. Hugo Lueck of Regina, Sask., Canada

(The author of the following letter is one of Mr. Lueck's former students at the Baptist Seminary of Lodz, Poland. He arrived recently in Canada. His trip was paid by the International Refugee Organization. He signed a contract to work for a lumber company in Canada for a period of ten months. He is a Russian who lived and worked in Germany during the war. He is a very gifted young man who was the best preacher in his class of Russian students at the Seminary, according to Professor Lueck. The letter, translated by Brother Lueck, follows. Joachim Kudenczuk's address is Camp 43, Nipigon Lake Timber Co., Nipigon, Ontario, Canada.)

I HAVE the great privilege and joy to greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and to bring you greetings from the Rev. W. Gutsche and many other brethren in Germany.

You well remember and know me from the time when I was your student at the Seminary in Lodz in 1935-39. Since then I have gone through many trials. I was in the war; became a prisoner of war in Germany. Afterwards I worked in the Polish Baptist Church in Lodz, was in Hamburg at the Seminary and during the time of heavy bombing I was in several places in Germany.

I worked among the Slav people in Germany and God greatly blessed our work. Before the end of the war, I worked in a place in Germany called Velbert. God so blessed our efforts that a whole church was organized

among the "Ostarbeiter" (forced labor workers in Germany). We baptized and received 108 persons into the church during the time I worked there.

During the dangerous days of heavy air attacks I had wonderful opportunities to preach the Gospel in the Luftschutzkeller (air-raid shelters) where also a large number were saved. During the war over 25,000 Slavs were converted in Germany. This was a great joy for us. After the war I worked for two years among the Displaced Persons. We worked in more than 100 camps in the American and British zones in Germany. I often served with British and American chaplains for whom I interpreted into Russian and Ukrainian.

I also know German fairly well so that I even preached in German to the Fluechtlinge (Refugees) to encourage them with the Word of God. God kept me in a miraculous way in these hard years of the war. He also blessed me richly in his work and has now brought me to Canada.

I am very happy to be in Canada and do not know how to thank God enough that he brought me here in such a marvelous way. With me another ten Baptist brethren have come, of whom one is Brother Jawtuchowicz, former pastor of our church (Russian Baptist) at Brest-Litowsk. Now we work in the forest, but we hope the Lord will call us to his work here in Canada among the Slav people.

All the other brethren with me, though they do not know you personally, send their heartiest greetings.

Christ Before Pilate

(Continued from Page 5)

neutral. "He that is not with me is against me," said Christ, and that word stands.

"What shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" said Pilate to the crowd. How has a Roman judge fallen, to take dictation from a mob! It seemed an unfortunate predicament to Pilate to be obliged to deal with this prisoner. When he saw that he could do nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying: "I am innocent of the blood of this just person; see ye to it."

Of course, Pilate washed away none of his guilt. It is the advantage of a weak man, of one who tries to shift his responsibility. Is not this a common fault among Christian people?

We blame our failure to stand by Christ and his cause on everything but the real cause. Nothing will ever wash us of our guilt except the blood of Jesus Christ. Tears of repentance and the blood of sacrifice would have cleansed the hands of Pilate, and nothing else will ever cleanse ours.

Nowhere is the glory of the soul of Jesus more prominent than here while he stands before Pilate. The mob rages, and Pilate twists and squirms. Only Jesus is calm. The waves of hatred and anger dash themselves powerlessly against the peace of his soul. That strength and peace he would bestow upon his followers. So when all is lost, and the waves of wickedness seem about to overwhelm all justice, then let us remember our blessed Lord, who unflinchingly took his way to the cross to bear witness to the truth.



The Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Reeh of La Salle, Colorado (Right) and Their Children, Roger and Nola, With Friends from Denver, Colorado on the Left, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Huebner and Their Son

Little Ester was the youngest of nine children. When there is not much to begin with, there surely isn't anything left over for the ninth child of a big family. So Ester had never had a real dress to wear in her whole life. She was as naked as a little plucked chicken. Dirty, matted hair hung down over her bright eyes. And her little tummy stuck out like a big balloon.

For she had what the Puerto Ricans call a "banana stomach." You see bananas are cheap in Puerto Rico and the people eat more of them than is good for them. It is hard to make the cows give rich milk because the food for cattle is expensive and hard to get. So the children do not have their quart a day of nice fresh milk. They would go hungry if they did not stuff bananas from the full-laden banana trees.

children wear little dresses. Ask your mama to make you one and then come back again."

Poor Ester! There wasn't a bit of goods in the little dirt-hut to make a dress. Her mother was too busy embroidering beautiful linens all day long to sew one anyway.

"Don't cry, little Ester," said her big sister. "I know what we'll do."

So she threaded a needle and dragged out an old piece of flag bunting which was used for a cover on the bed. The next Sunday Ester appeared at Sunday School in red and white stripes with a neat field of star-spangled blue right over her chest! The missionary had to explain that no one could cut up Uncle Sam's flag and make dresses out of it. It would not be honoring the flag properly. But she felt so sorry for little Ester that she said, "You come to my house to-

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Northern Conference

Christmas Program at the Emmanuel Church of Jansen, Saskatchewan, Canada

Where and when did the habit of exchanging gifts at Christmas originate? The answer to this question was given to us at the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Jansen, Sask., Canada in a colloquy by the Junior Department of our Sunday School as they presented their Christmas program on Christmas Eve, our first in the new chapel. Children in their own simple way can often reach and touch the hidden depths of human hearts where adults fail. Their efforts on this evening were greatly blessed. Judging by our adroit youngsters, we have every right to predict a brilliant future for our church.

Since the Rev. John Wahl, our pastor, served the Esk church during the Christmas holidays, the Rev. E. J. Bonikowsky, our former pastor, consented to fill the pulpit during Mr. Wahl's absence, although his chronic throat ailment permits very little speaking.

May we all in the light of God's holiness come to a keen awareness of our imperfections and submit ourselves to the Potter's touch and pray that every area of our lives may be re-created so that we may be an influence for good on the lives of our fellow-men.

W. E. Bonney, Reporter.

Pacific Conference

Eighteen New Members Are Received by the Baptist Church of Colfax, Washington

We of the First Baptist Church of Colfax, Wash., have had some thrilling experiences in recent weeks. From December 1 to 12 we enjoyed evangelistic services with the Rev. G. G. Rauser of Salem, Oregon as guest speaker. Mr. Rauser's forceful and interesting messages will continue to be a challenge to us for many days to come.

Christmas activities brought many blessings, the Watch Night service on New Year's Eve being especially noteworthy. A full church enjoyed a varied program which included a message, special musical numbers, a gospel film, refreshment hour, candlelight service, prayer session and highlighted by a most beautiful and impressive baptismal service during which seven young people were baptized.

On the following Sunday the climax was reached when, at the communion



The Jeffers Baptist Church Located Near Jeffers, Minnesota

service, the hand of fellowship was extended to eighteen people. These included those who had been baptized and others who came by confession of faith and letter. This brought to fifty-eight the number of new members who have joined with us in 1947. This increase was chiefly due to the tireless and prayerful efforts of the Rev. F. E. Klein, our pastor. This Sunday marked the anniversary of Mr. Klein and family, for they came to us just one year ago on Jan. 1, 1947.

We praise the Lord for these blessings and pray that he will continue to bless our efforts during this coming year.

Mrs. Paul Krueger, Reporter.

Northwestern Conference

Watchnight and Baptismal Service at the First Baptist Church of George, Iowa

On December 31st members and friends of the First Baptist Church at George, Ia., assembled to spend the last few hours of the old year and the first few minutes of the New Year in the house of the Lord. After the singing of a few hymns, Scripture reading and prayer, we listened to three short plays, ably presented by various organizations of the church. A brief inspirational talk was given by the pastor, Rev. J. J. Renz. Many praised God through testimony and prayer. This was followed by an hour of fellowship around the refreshment tables in the church parlors.

All reports to be eligible for publication must reach the editor within one month after the event. Reports should be limited, if possible, to 250 words.

Once again that evening, the congregation assembled in the Church auditorium where our pastor preached a sermon on the topic, "The Tenth Hour." The highlight of the evening had arrived; the church was darkened, leaving only the baptistry light, while the baptismal candidates, who numbered eight, prepared to enter the waters of baptism and were immersed in the name of the Triune God. This Biblical injunction climaxed our Watch Night service.

We praise our Lord for the rich blessings bestowed upon our church and that he has added to his church here 41 persons during our brief labor upon this field. We covet the prayers of all "Baptist Herald" readers for 1948.

J. J. Renz, Pastor.

Dedication of the new Edifice of the Jeffers Baptist Church in Minnesota

Sunday, October 12, marked 31 years that the Jeffers Baptist Church (located 4½ miles east of Jeffers, Minnesota) has existed. Nearly one year ago we began a remodeling project to make the old structure into a more efficient church. At a cost of approximately \$9,000, we now have a building which will adequately serve this rural area.

The usual Sunday School hour was conducted, followed by the worship service. Rev. H. G. Dymmel spoke to us at that service. Visitors from a distance were taken into our homes for the noon meal. At the afternoon service special music was brought by Mrs. Wayne Williams of Windom. Rev. Wayne Williams led in the song service, the pastor read Scripture and led in prayer and the local choir sang. The history of the church was given by the pastor, and recognition given the 17 charter members (only 11 are now living). An offering of \$738 was received to be applied to the building fund. Two messages were given, one by Dr. John R. Siemens and the other by Rev. H. G. Dymmel, followed by the act of dedication, in which everyone present took part. The dedication prayer was given by Mr. Dymmel.

At 5 P. M. the evening meal was served to about 200 people who had a grand time of Christian fellowship in the new church basement.

The evening service was another exceedingly good service with the local male quartet bringing the special music. Mr. Dymmel gave the closing message, telling of his recent experiences in seven countries of Europe. At the close of the evening service, moving pictures were shown which told the story of our remodeling project — the pictures having been taken at various stages of the work.

Wm. G. Trow, Pastor.

Silver Anniversary of the Men's Brotherhood of Grace Baptist Church, Racine, Wis.

Friday evening, Nov. 21st, marked the silver anniversary of the Brotherhood of the Grace Baptist Church of Racine, Wisconsin. About 160 guests were present for the occasion. Representatives from the following Baptist churches were in attendance at the celebration: Immanuel Church of Kenosha, Grove Avenue Baptist and First Churches of Racine.

Mr. Charles Meier, president of the brotherhood, acted as Master of Ceremonies. Dr. F. D. Whitesell, professor at the Northern Baptist Seminary of Chicago, gave the address of the evening using for his theme, "Greater Things Than These Shall Ye Do."

Greetings and felicitations were brought by Mr. R. Weiss, president of the Brotherhood of the Immanuel Church of Kenosha, Rev. C. J. Pugh of the Grove Church, Rev. T. B. Frizelle of the First Church, and Rev. Ray L. Schlader, pastor of the host church. A brief history of the organization was read by Mr. Henry Binder, vice-president. Rev. North E. West read the Scripture and Mr. Otto Jander led in prayer.

Mr. Arthur Kastensen read communications from out of town friends who were unable to attend.

Reporter.

Colorful Christmas Presentation at the Minnetrista Baptist Church, St. Bonifacius, Minn.

The beauty and majesty of the Nativity exercised its spiritual influence on the Minnetrista Baptist Church of St. Bonifacius, Minnesota again this year, and it found its culmination in the Christmas Eve celebration.

The dramatic presentation, "The Gift of the Christ Child," was proclaimed by all who saw it as one of the most inspiring productions ever presented at the Christmas programs which have been given during the past several years. Under the direction of the Sunday School superintendent, Mr. W. E. Heinemann, members of the Sunday School and the Young People's Society presented this gripping Christmas production. Mrs. W. E. Heinemann had charge of the music.

The success of this program must be attributed to the attitude of worship with which the entire cast approached its task. The prayerful meditations preceding practice periods during the weeks before Christmas, on the coming of Jesus, tuned the hearts as well as the minds of the members to the beauty and holiness of the great event.

In addition to the dramatic presentation the children of the Sunday School, and many children of visiting friends brought the Christmas story in music, recitations and dialogues. A substantial offering was made for our Children's Home in St. Joseph, Mich.

Through this celebration of Christmas the church has been brought into closer communion with our Lord.

The Reporter.

Mrs. L. B. Popkes of Aplington, Iowa Celebrates Her One Hundredth Birthday

The Baptist Church of Aplington, Iowa had the rare privilege of celebrating the 100th birthday of one of its honored members, Mrs. L. B. Popkes, on Dec. 27, 1947. It was a warm, sunny day and the birthday child's physical condition was excellent, so that loved ones and friends from near and far were able to come and bring their felicitations.

Mrs. Popkes was born in Ostfriesland, Germany where, also, she was baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist Church of Ihren by the Rev. P. J. De Neui in 1864. Her parents were among the first Baptists of that part of Germany and in her parental home services were conducted by the Rev. J. G. Oncken and others of the early leaders of our work. In 1899 the Popkes family came to the United States.

Mrs. L. B. Popkes of Aplington, Iowa on Her 100th Birthday Celebrated on Dec. 27, 1947 With Her Great Granddaughter Myrna Kaye Kievet of Buffalo Center, Iowa



The Lord has blessed Mrs. Popkes with good health and a clear mind. Her favorite occupation to this day is reading. Next to the Bible she reads "Der Sendbote" regularly from beginning to end, German Baptist history, devotional books and sermons by Spurgeon, Oncken and others of the early servants of the Lord in Germany, many of whom she knew personally. She faces the future confidently, wistfully smiling as she tells people that, after all, her pastor told her more than once that the FIRST hundred years are the hardest. Her one ardent wish is that her loved ones, grandchildren and their children, might all come to know and to serve the Lord whose faithfulness and love mean so much to her.

The Aplington Church is proud to number her and the three of her children, who reside here, among its members. Here also lives her only living sister, also an honored member of our church, Mrs. Heyo Frey, who was 95 years old on her last birthday.

Among the congratulatory messages received were a cablegram from Germany and an orchid from Tom Breneman in Hollywood. In her honor the church set aside \$100 from its general fund to be given to some missionary or benevolent cause to be chosen by her.

C. Fred Lehr, Pastor.

Central Conference

Annual Meeting and Recent Blessings at the Home for the Aged of Chicago

On Monday evening, November 17, our Chicago Old People's Home Society met for its annual meeting. In addition to annual reports, elections, and other necessary business, a very fine musical program was presented. A fellowship hour with refreshments was enjoyed by all.

Musical numbers included solos by Miss Lydia Mihm of our Forest Park Church, organ solos by Mrs. Walter Lautenbach of Humboldt Park Church, and two groups of selections by the Ambassador Male Quartet of Wheaton College. These young men also gave their testimonies.

The elections resulted in the reelection of Roland E. Ross as president,

and Wm. J. Krogman as treasurer. Rev. A. G. Schlesinger was elected vice-president and Daniel B. Granzow is the new secretary. Rev. E. J. Lengefeld continues as our superintendent, having been reappointed by our managing board.

Our constitution had been carefully reviewed during the year and some changes proposed. The annual meeting of the Society was changed to February from November. Objectives of the Home were outlined by our officers. We hope to be able either to buy or build in a new location, or improve and enlarge our present property. The presently available funds will not be sufficient to accomplish all our needs and we, therefore, wish to solicit further gifts from those interested in providing comfort for our people.

We wish to acknowledge with thanks the cash, foodstuff, and all other contributions. In order to provide better food storage, we have installed a deep freeze box and built a walk-in cooler. Gifts of meat and other foodstuffs will be especially appreciated in these times of high food costs and can now be safely stored.

We are thankful to God for the opportunity and privilege to serve him by helping to make a pleasant Home for nearly one hundred people.

Publicity and Promotion Committee.

"God's Glory" Revealed in Program of Lansing's Holmes Street Baptist Church

In accord with the motto, "We Beheld His Glory," found in the main auditorium of the Holmes Street Baptist Church of Lansing, Mich., the primary ministry of this church during the year 1947 had been to set forth Jesus Christ as the only and sufficient Savior from sin.

The Sunday School, organized for all ages with Mr. Emil Dachtler as superintendent, has offered excellent opportunity for Bible study. In the morning worship hour the pastor, Rev. H. H. Riffel, presented a series of studies from the epistles presenting Christ as our great High Priest and sacrifice. Excellent work has been done by the choir under the direction of Mrs. Marguerite Baier, former student of Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York and graduate of Michigan State College, with Miss Kathe Penno and Mrs. Ernice Friesen as pianists. Sunday evening services have been held regularly with a well organized male chorus, directed by Mr. Reinhard Kwast, male and mixed quartets, trios and soloists providing the music. Enthusiastic song services have been led by Mr. Asaph Baier on Sunday evenings.

The Lansing Bible Institute is now holding its classes in the Holmes Street Baptist Church. Ten pastors of the Central Michigan area are teaching courses in Bible doctrine, Bible history, missions, Christian evidences and are offering an accredited teacher's training course.

The church has been giving full financial support to Mrs. Eva Mills, missionary to Brazil, and cooperating in the support of Miss Hilda Riffel in China and many other home and foreign missionary projects. A large relief program is now being sponsored by the Church and its individual members. Some members have sent over 200 individual food and clothing parcels directly to families in need.

An event of outstanding enjoyment was given on the evening of December 22nd, when the male chorus presented a concert. This program was given entirely by the male group, led by Mr. Reinhard Kwast. The chorus brought forth the beauty of many sacred songs. Mrs. Rudolph Kwast, Reporter.

Recent Holiday Events at the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan

New Year's Eve was another Red Letter Day for the Ebenezer Church of Detroit, Michigan. Beginning at 8:30 P.M. we had a fine song service and special musical numbers, after which Rev. S. Tanis of the Sudan Interior Mission told of his missionary work in Nigeria, Africa, and also showed some very impressive colored motion pictures.

We were especially impressed with these pictures, since one of our own number, Miss Eleanor Schulert, has recently been accepted by the Mission and expects to sail for that same field

DAY BY DAY WITH JESUS



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within the next month. We are very happy as a church to have the privilege of fully supporting Eleanor in this great work and we are indeed thankful that such a spirit-filled and talented servant of the Lord will soon be representing us in spreading the Gospel in Africa.

The last hour of the year was spent in testimonies of praise for the Lord's manifold blessings of 1947. Ebenezer has been especially blessed of God in the securing of a new church site. We felt the Lord's definite leading in giving us a most wonderful 4½ acre tract of land, on which we expect to start building early this Spring, and for which our hearts are filled with gratitude and praise. We were very happy to have three students from our Rochester Seminary present, who also gave their testimonies, and one favored us with a fine vocal solo.

Christmas is always a time of great festivity in our church. On Sunday evening, Dec. 21, we had a beautiful candlelight musical evening. Our choir, under the direction of our capable director, Miss Margaret Shersted, rendered many lovely Christmas selections besides several instrumental numbers. Between these numbers, our pastor, Rev. E. Arthur McAsh, read the complete Christmas story from the Word of God. The climax of the evening was the immortal "Hallelujah Chorus". We also had a fine uplifting service on Christmas morning, when our pastor brought us a wonderful Christmas message.

On December 28th, following our regular evening service, we had the Voice of Christian Youth Singspiration in our church for an hour of song and praise. Young people from 31 churches in our city were represented.

THE BAPTIST HERALD

All down through the years, Thanksgiving has always been a very special evening for Ebenezer. Besides many special beautiful musical numbers, we had Dr. Dale Ihrie of Bellwood, Illinois with us, who gave us a challenging message on the text, "I am debtor." We exceeded our goal of \$3000 for our Thanksgiving offering, which was designated for the Million Dollar Offering and the excavation of our new church.

Mrs. Ruth Ortland, Reporter.

Christmas and New Year's Eve Programs at Chicago's First German Baptist Church

With sincere gratitude to the Giver of all blessings, we of the First German Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., look back upon 1947, and especially the last four months. Having been without a pastor during the previous three months, we rejoiced to observe the change which took place with the coming of our new pastor, Rev. Robert Schreiber. Increase in attendance and membership, a better cooperation on the part of all, joyful participation in such activities as group singing in hospitals and bedside visitation, Rescue Mission work and caroling are only a few of the favorable changes.

The holiday season was a grand conclusion of the year, already richly blessed. On Sunday night, Dec. 21, a large audience was privileged to hear the rendition of Dudley Buck's cantata "The Coming Of The King", given by our mixed choir under the efficient direction of Mr. Herbert Pankratz.

Christmas Day brought a fine program by the Sunday School, which had been prepared by our Superintendent, Mr. Carl Orth. Our pastor gave a brief but inspiring message, speaking on "The Spirit of Christmas."

On New Year's Eve we assembled to spend the last three hours of the old year in the house of God. Inspiration, fellowship and worship were the keynotes of the program.

A rousing song service opened the meeting, during which German and English were used simultaneously with great enthusiasm. A selection in English by the girls chorus and one in German by the male chorus both praised the love of God. A German dialogue dealing with the great "Memorial Stones" of the Bible was followed by a religious play, "I Would Be True."

"Worship" was the theme of the last part. The robed choir sang "For God So Loved The World". Our pastor's message dealt with "A Daily Rate For Every Day." This in itself was a masterpiece for while both languages were being used, there was no repetition, but a continuity throughout. We thank God for his servant, who truly has the spiritual welfare of all his members at heart.

The supreme moment of the evening came when we gathered about the Lord's table, soft candlelight illuminating that which reminded us of our Lord's great sacrifice. Outside — the whistles were blowing noisily — but in our hearts joybells were ringing. Louise Zoch, Church Clerk.

February 15, 1948

Dakota Conference

The Golden Jubilee Festivities of the Streeter Baptist Church of North Dakota

The Golden Jubilee of the Streeter Baptist Church of Streeter, North Dakota was celebrated on Sunday, November 16, with the Rev. Frederick Alf, pastor, conducting each of the three services in the beautifully and appropriately decorated auditorium of Streeter High School. Visiting ministers from North Dakota included the Reverends Theodore Frey, Napoleon; R. A. Klein, Gackle; G. A. Ittermann, Jamestown; and from Montana David Little of Plevna. Each of these brethren with the Gackle and the Streeter-Medina Choirs participated in the inspiring program. Many other guests came to rejoice with the celebrating church as it recalled God's abundant blessings during its fifty, historical years.

The original church was organized by the Reverend John Reichert, pastor of the Eureka (South Dakota) Church. A small congregation grew in spirit and in numbers until today the churches at Medina, Gackle and Alfred, as well as the Streeter Church can all trace their history to the mother church which was located at Blumenfeld. Steady progress and expansion have been largely due to the faithful ministry of God-given leaders. In addition to the founder, the Reverends William Paul, George Bornschlagel, John Schmidt, H. Klempel, Henry Schnuit, A. Auch, Ed Wolf, Leo Gassner, B. W. Krentz, G. Eichler, David Little and G. A. Ittermann have consecutively served the church, which continues its work for Christ under the capable leadership of Rev. and Mrs. Frederick Alf.

During the past year financial contributions from the Medina Church averaged \$67.80 per member; from the Streeter Church, \$60.78 per member. Now we are prayerfully preparing for revival meetings during the month of February with Rev. Henry Pfeifer, our general evangelist, as our guest speaker.

Miss Ann Swain, Reporter.

A New Baptist Church Is Organized in the City of Aberdeen, South Dakota

The city of Aberdeen in South Dakota for various reasons has been the center of attraction for many people. Even a great many of our farmers from such churches as surround Aberdeen have made their homes here. From Ellendale, Venturia, Ashley, Herreid, Eureka and other churches and localities many of our farmers have gone to Aberdeen. Most of those who have moved to Aberdeen in recent years have also united with the English Baptist Church there, and almost all of them have been lost to our work. Our loss has been their gain.

However, from among those who have moved to Aberdeen in recent



Members of the Two Choirs of the Baptist Churches at Medina and Streeter, North Dakota With the Rev. F. Alf, Pastor, Behind the Pulpit

years there are those who feel led to establish our own work there. Aberdeen, in fact, has been considered as essential to our people and our work as any city or town in South Dakota, and perhaps more so. For some time now much has been said concerning a possibility for a church in Aberdeen.

When I was in Herreid and Eureka during part of November and December, I was informed that some property had been purchased in Aberdeen and that a church was on its way. The Lord has so led the entire undertaking that the group living in Aberdeen agreed to hold a week of services. Much to our regret the church building got stuck in the snow and could not be moved. However, the group rented an auditorium in the Lincoln School and from Sunday, Dec. 7, to Sunday, Dec. 14, services were held each night. The number of people

who attended grew nightly and reached 60.

A very fine spirit prevailed, and great blessings were experienced. The cost for renting that auditorium was \$10.00 for every meeting and we held 9 such meetings costing a total of \$90.00. In the final meeting of that week the group agreed to organize the work there in Aberdeen. The group that is thus united is to be complimented and deserves all of our prayers.

May it also be noised abroad everywhere that this work is definitely established and when you move to Aberdeen give consideration to our church and work there. As soon as further developments and progress is forthcoming, we will report again. Pray for the work and ask God to bless it.

Henry Pfeifer, Reporter.

:: OBITUARY ::

MR. JOHN A. WEISS

of Irvine, Alberta, Canada

Mr. John A. Weiss of Irvine, Alberta, a native of the United States, was born in Scotland, So. Dak., on December 10, 1883 and came with his parents to Canada in 1889 to live in the Irvine district. He was reconciled to God under the ministry of the Rev. Abraham Hagar, who also baptized him in 1902. He was a member of the Josephburg Church.

His marriage with Mina Hillenberg on December 12, 1908 was blessed of God with eight children. After an illness of two years, he was released from his suffering on December 4, 1947, reaching the age of 63 years, 11 months and 24 days. He leaves to mourn his departure his wife, two sons, six daughters, eight brothers and two grandchildren. May they find their comfort in the Lord!

Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Ervin J. Faul, Pastor.

MRS. ANNE BERTSCH

of Calgary, Alta., Canada

Mrs. Anna Bertsch, nee Diens, of Calgary, Alberta was born on October 2, 1872 in South Russia. Mrs. Bertsch was united in holy matrimony on October 11, 1908 with Mr. Peter Schmidt. This union was blessed with 2 children. Mr. P. Schmidt died in 1920 in South Russia.

In 1924 Mrs. Anna Schmidt emigrated to Acme, Alberta, Canada. In 1928 she was united in holy matrimony to Mr. Jacob Bertsch. For 17 years they lived happily together until the Lord called Mr. Bertsch to his heavenly home in 1945.

For many years Mrs. Bertsch had to suffer, and during the last three years she was in the Sunset Lodge of Calgary, until the Lord called her to her heavenly home on Nov. 20, 1947. Mrs. Bertsch believed in the Lord as her personal Savior. She was a member of the Mennonite Church. She leaves to mourn her departure her

son, Peter Schmidt; and a daughter, Mrs. Yuta Zacharies; and 9 stepchildren, Albert, Jacob, Otto, and Robert Bertsch, Mrs. R. Neubauer, Mrs. Sam Ohlhauser, Mrs. S. Halwegner, Ella Bertsch, Mrs. Arnold Ohlhauser; two sisters; one brother; two grandchildren; and a great host of friends. May God in his infinite love and mercy comfort the bereaved family!

Calgary, Alberta.

H. Schatz, Correspondent.

MRS. AMELIA GUSSICK

of Fessenden, North Dakota

Mrs. Amelia Gussick, nee Marsaul, of Fessenden, No. Dak., was born in Germany October 9, 1879. As a young lady she came to Pound, Wisconsin, where she married Gottlieb Gussick on January 29, 1903. With him she came to North Dakota and resided on his homestead in this community until her death.

She was converted and baptized in Germany and when she came to North Dakota she joined the Fessenden Baptist Church where she retained her membership until her death. She was true to her Lord and to her church.

She is survived by her husband; five daughters, Mrs. George Brown of Whitefish, Mont., Mrs. Oscar Hayford of Sacramento, Calif., Mrs. Charles Harding of Whitefish, Mont., Mrs. R. P. Williams of Heaton, N. D., and Mrs. Gerald Smith of Sacramento, Calif.; and five sons, Emil of Heaton, N. D., Carl of Heaton, Robert of Tucson, Arizona, August of Bowden, and William of Portland, Oregon. Also surviving are a sister, Mrs. Adolf Heisel, and a brother, Louis Marsaul, both of Pound, Wisconsin.

Her death was caused by complications from a diabetic condition after an illness of several months. She passed away quietly to be with her Lord on Dec. 21, 1947, in the hospital at Carrington, N. D. Funeral services were held from the First Baptist Church at Fessenden with the undersigned speaking words of comfort to the bereaved.

Fessenden, North Dakota.

Otto R. Schmidt, Pastor.



Athabasca Valley in Jasper National Park in the Canadian Rockies

Pastor's Family of Eight Children Makes Contributions to Programs at Zap and Beulah, No. Dakota

The Lord wonderfully answered our prayers and gave us the best weather for the Christmas season on our field at Beulah, North Dakota. Mrs. Trautner was enabled to prepare two programs, one in Zap and one in Beulah. Wesley and Phil, our children, came home on Sunday before Christmas and then Ruth and Elisabeth came from Minneapolis and all helped in singing.

Our first program was held on Christmas eve at Zap. The church was well filled and to our surprise visitors were present from New York, N. Y.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Sioux Falls, So. Dakota; Baker, Montana; and Bowdle, So. Dakota. The children of

our people scattered all over remembered us from 20 years ago when we were first on this field. It was truly a real family reunion. The children did so well that a great joy came upon us all to rejoice in the God of our salvation.

The Church at Beulah was crowded and here also the program was blessed of God so that the impression was well received and expressed by a good offering for our Children's Home. The offering amounted to \$67 from the two churches. The preacher and his family of 8 children at home were not forgotten so that the Christmas joy was great in our hearts and homes.

May all the children of God unite with us for a great awakening for all America at this midnight hour.

Fred Trautner, Pastor.

Your Pastor's Sunset Years

(Continued from Page 10)

Pension Fund on an annual pension basis of \$10.00 per year times the number of years he was an active, paying member of the Fund; said annual pension to become due and payable only upon such person attaining age 70, and continuing thereafter for the remainder of his lifetime.

- (b) Upon his death, after attaining age 70, leaving a widow surviving (provided he had become married to her before attaining age 70), his widow shall be entitled to an annual pension, for the remainder of her lifetime, in one-half the annual amount to which her husband was thus entitled.

ANNUAL BENEFITS OF \$525

Our new pension plan was designed to improve the prospects for the sunset years of our denominational pastors and missionaries and their wives. The pension benefit has been increased from \$300 to \$525 maximum. The retirement age has been lowered from age seventy to age sixty-five. Provision has also been made in our new plan for a proportionately paid-up

membership for those pastors who for any reason (after five years of membership) discontinue membership. Such members may also renew their paying membership at a later date.

Members who leave our denomination, but continue in full time Christian service, are also able to continue their membership by paying an increased premium. These provisions indicate the improvements that have been made in our pension plan. A complete set of "Rules and Regulations" is available to every pastor and to any church officer who is responsible for the enrollment of his pastor in our new pension plan.

We are looking forward to enrolling all of our pastors and missionaries in our new pension plan. The increased premium was necessary and in accord therewith we have had to increase the pension fund income from other sources. We want our members to be assured of this retirement income. We also look to God for guidance and his blessing for the successful completion and operation of our new Ministers and Missionaries Pension Fund. We also look to our faithful denominational members and churches for their continued generous support.

Ministry of "The Searchlights" and Holiday Programs at Grand Forks, North Dakota

"The Searchlights" represent a new organization in the Grace Baptist Church of Grand Forks, No. Dak., consisting of a group of girls from age 13 up to the time they marry. They meet every other week and busy themselves with sewing, for it is a sewing club. They also remember those who are ill by sending them cards of cheer.

The girls presented the play, "The Christmas Guest," on Sunday evening, Dec. 21, which was directed by Mrs. Fred Kranzler. At the close of the evening's program, the president of "The Searchlights", Eleanor Dutt, presented Mrs. Fred Kranzler with a gardenia corsage as a token of appreciation for her untiring efforts. Eleanor also presented Mrs. Rosa Wolf with a corsage, since it is she who "mothers" this group of girls and to whom they look for advice in their club's work.

On Christmas Eve most of the members and a great many friends of Grace Church gathered to witness the Sunday School program presented by the children. This fine program was under the direction of Mrs. Fred Kranzler and Mrs. Gottfried Kurzweg. A free will offering was received for our Children's Home in St. Joseph, Michigan. Our pastor, Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, and his wife were presented at this time with a gift from the members of the church.

On New Year's Eve we gathered at the church for the Watch Night service. The first part of the program consisted of songs by the male chorus under the direction of Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, a song by the girls trio in which Mary Ann Pollasch, Darlene Kranzler and Ardelle Montgomery took part, a New Year's poem read by Pauline Pollasch, a vocal solo rendered by Billy Pollasch and a reading by Marie Werre.

At the closing hour the Rev. Edwin Michelson, missionary of Africa, spoke. This part of the service closed with the members gathering about the Lord's table for communion.

Mrs. A. F. Bibelheimer, Reporter.

Making More Friends

(Continued from Page 7)

church which had only about 85 active resident members, there have been 47 additions during the last 16 months. The preaching has not been exceptional; many churches have pastors that are more eloquent than does ours. Nor have the workers been highly trained; few had previously participated in a promotional program of this kind; nearly everyone had to learn by trying.

Neither, have the gains been due to a lack of churches in the community. We have more than 50 churches in our city, an average of one for every 1000 inhabitants. It has all been due to a positive effort to make friends for the church, and an earnest, prayerful desire to win them to Christ.