

# Baptist Herald

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE



*Ducks at Sunset in a Winter Setting*

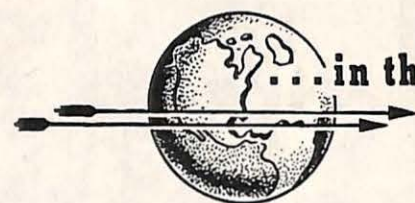
*February 14, 1952*

**Our First Impressions of Africa**

Rev. and Mrs. Howard K. Roth

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## ...in the course of human events

● During the calendar year 1950, the American people spent the immense sum of \$8,760,000,000 for alcoholic liquor, an increase of \$210,000,000 over the preceding year. Beer topped the list; hard liquor came second; and wine had third place. A total of \$3,800,000,000 was spent on recreation and amusement; \$4,400,000,000 on tobacco.—Missions.

● Of the 500 Protestant churches destroyed in Japan during World War Two, 170 have been reconstructed and 22 are soon scheduled for completion. The building program has been made possible by the Interboard Committee for Christian Work in Japan and the United Church of Christ in Japan. North American churches have given over \$800,000 for the project.—Watchman-Examiner.

● Television was utilized to publicize the ninth National Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, recently held in Chicago, Illinois. It was the largest and most important Roman Catholic assemblage in Chicago since 1926. It was attended by more than 10,000 ecclesiastical and lay delegates along with 100 members of the Catholic hierarchy.—Moody Monthly.

● Mrs. Roosevelt, the widow of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, said the following in a recent radio interview: "I don't know whether I believe in a future life . . . I came to feel that it didn't really matter very much because whatever the future held you'd have to face it when you came to it . . . I think I am very much of a fatalist. You have to accept whatever comes . . . I have outgrown many of my grandmother's teachings."—The Register.

● Streetcar workers of Hamburg, Germany, celebrated the third anniversary of the Christian Poster Service which now has spread to other German cities. To carry the word of God directly to the public, the transit employees in the three years have put up 20,000 posters and placards bearing biblical quotations and Christian messages in waiting rooms, hospitals, prisons and streetcars which they operate. They have hung an additional 600 on the advertising pillars that dot the street corners of that city.—Watchman and Examiner.

● According to official estimates, almost 5,000,000 Italians are unable to read or write. Apart from these illiterates there are at least another

million who are semi-literate, and other millions whose education is only rudimentary. Only 715,000 are attending secondary schools for the 11-14 age bracket. Only 450,000 children continue their education in pre-university schools and technical institutes. Of the few who continue after 14 years, most scorn technical trade courses, with the result that of Italy's 2 million unemployed some 70,000 people are qualified as teachers, lawyers, or doctors.—Chicago Daily Tribune.

● Manilal Gandhi, son of the late Mohandas K. Gandhi, fights the South African government with the same weapon his father used, non-violence. Dominating the room in which Manilal and his family gather for prayers is a picture of his father. The son too is a strict vegetarian, a total abstainer from alcohol, and a non-smoker. He declared recently: "It is folly to believe that an unarmed man is helpless. He has more strength than one armed to the teeth, provided he has an unshakeable faith in the power of God." Manilal, who was born in India, was brought to South Africa as a child and grew up at Phoenix on an 80 acre "back to nature" settlement founded by his father. People there earn their living by handicrafts and agriculture but without the aid of machinery.—Chicago Sunday Tribune.

● About a year ago one young communist boldly shot down two Christian students because they dared to confess that they were believers. They were sons of a well-known pastor in Korea. During that communist riot in South Korea, the rioters were subdued and among many others the murderer of these two young men too was captured. He was put on trial and sentenced to die. The minister, attending the trial, immediately began to plead on behalf of the murderer, saying, "My two sons are dead and are now safe in heaven, but if this young man dies, he will go to hell." The judge was deeply moved—also the murderer. He was acquitted and shortly thereafter the pastor adopted him as his son. This young man is now a Christian and studying at a Bible Institute in South Korea.—Moody Monthly.

The editor of this department, "In the Course of Human Events," is the Rev. John Grygo of Chicago, Illinois, pastor of the Ogden Park Baptist Church.

### ENGAGEMENTS

Rev. Richard Schilke  
Feb. 19-20—Aberdeen, S. Dak., Session of the Dakota Conference Mission Committee.  
Feb. 21-22—Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Promotional Visit of Secretaries at Our Seminary.  
Feb. 24 (Sunday)—Pipestone, Minn. (First Baptist Church.)

Rev. J. C. Gunst  
Feb. 17 (Sunday)—Grace Church, Racine, Wisconsin.  
Feb. 21-22—Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Promotional Visit of Secretaries at Our Seminary.  
Feb. 28-March 2—South Texas, Louisiana and Alabama Association at Greenvine Church, Burton, Texas.

Rev. Martin L. Leuschner  
Feb. 19 (Tuesday)—Lorraine, Kansas. Annual Fellowship Dinner and Installation of New Pastor, Rev. Alfred R. Bernadt.  
Feb. 21-22—Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Promotional Visit of Secretaries at Our Seminary.  
Feb. 24 (Sunday)—First Baptist Church, George, Iowa.

Rev. Herman Palfenier, Evangelist  
Feb. 17-29 — Immanuel Church, Portland, Oregon.

Dr. John Leypoldt, Interim Evangelist  
Feb. 6-20—Ebenezer Church, Vancouver, British Columbia.  
Feb. 24 (Sunday)—McDermott Ave. Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Miss Ida Forsch, Missionary  
Feb. 14-19—South Dakota churches.  
Feb. 20—Jeffers, Minnesota.  
Feb. 22-24—St. Bonifacius, Minn., Minnesota Midwinter Institute.  
Feb. 26-March 3—Oklahoma churches.

### SPECIAL DATES

Feb. 22-24—Minnesota Midwinter CBY Institute at St. Bonifacius, Minn.  
Feb. 25 (Monday Evening, 7:30 P.M.) —Students' Reception for All Chicagoland Students at Headquarters Bldg., Forest Park, Ill.  
Feb. 29 (Friday)—Worldwide Day of Prayer.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Rev. Alfred R. Bernadt  
Lorraine, Kansas  
Rev. Walter F. Berkan  
613 E. Eighth  
Spokane, Washington  
Rev. Fred Mashner  
Sumner, Iowa  
Rev. H. H. Riffel  
170 E. Bourbonnais Street  
Kankakee, Illinois  
Rev. William E. Schmitt  
1262 South Avenue  
Rochester, New York

# Editorial

## From "Sendbote" to "Salute"

OUR PUBLICATION SOCIETY is in a jubilant mood these days. It is celebrating important anniversaries and sounding the trumpet of promotion for its fine products. The special Sunday known as Bible Day is just around the corner in March. So draw up a chair and let us share some of these good things of our own Publication Society.

You ought to see the "new dress" of our German publication, "Der Sendbote," on its hundredth birthday. It is really a preview of the Centenary Jubilee since this is merely the beginning of the one hundredth volume. The celebrating will last throughout 1952! Birthday candles and a strong shield adorn the front cover of "Der Sendbote." This sister publication has always lived up to its name as a true "Messenger" of the Gospel of Christ to our churches. Its able editor, the Rev. W. J. Luebeck, deserves our heartiest congratulations on this significant milestone in its long and illustrious ministry.

You ought also to become well acquainted with our weekly Sunday School paper, "Salute." It cannot look back upon many years, although it has had several interesting predecessors. But it is rendering a marvelous ministry in bringing fascinating story material for Juniors (and for other children and young people of the Sunday School as well) with lots of interesting pictures. It is also giving the children a colorful glimpse into our own mission fields and denominational work. Its editor, Miss Martha Leypoldt, is doing a topnotch job. It deserves a wide distribution in every Sunday School of our General Conference. Give it a trial. You will not regret it!

The Bible Day material has been sent to our Sunday Schools. The observance of the day is scheduled for Sunday, March 9th. It is an "unusual" program since it has been dropped by other denominational groups through the years. But the observance still remains an inspirational, blessed program for our churches. The message of the Bible and the story of the Publication Society's concern over the distribution of Bibles and Christian literature as a missionary work need to be brought to the attention of our people.

The year 1952 also calls attention to the 30th volume of denominational service by the "Baptist Herald." This youth in our publication ranks is attaining full maturity as an indispensable paper in every North American Baptist home. At the Philadelphia General Conference this year special exercises and a colorful dramatization will bear tribute to these publications and their influential ministry.

The spiritual ministry of the Roger Williams Press is constantly emphasized by its business manager, the Rev. E. J. Baumgartner, and recognized by the members of the Publication House's personnel. Its purpose is to magnify the Lord Jesus Christ and to serve our churches in his Name by taking the Gospel to those still living in spiritual darkness. The Publication Society is also one of our denominational agencies that is missionary minded and evangelistic in its outreach. This has been its unfolding story since its earliest beginnings with "Der Sendbote" and continuing unabated to the launching of the fine Sunday School paper, "Salute."

# HERALD

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# Redeem the Time!

If God sends us on stony paths, he will provide us with strong shoes.  
God's best soldiers grow in the highlands of affliction

A Challenge to Youth by MISS HELEN LOHSE of McIntosh, South Dakota, a Student at Sioux Falls College

take life earnestly and who sincerely wish to fill their hearts with noble and pure thoughts and who wish to seek the meaning of God's Word. Thinking brings action. Therefore it is important that we keep our thoughts in the right direction.

Communist teachers in the state of Saxony instruct their pupils to repeat this little rhyme every night just before they go to sleep: "Händchen falten, Aeuglein senken, eine Minute an Stalin denken."—"Fold your little hands; close your little eyes; think a minute about Stalin." They realize how thinking can influence lives.

For right thinking we must study God's Word. In Timothy 3:15 we read: "And that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

In these days young people are faced with many temptations. 2 Timothy 2:22 tells us to "flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

After Joseph was brought to Egypt, the Bible tells us that he prospered and was made overseer. Shortly thereafter, he was tempted by the wife of Pharaoh, but Joseph fled from immorality. She told Pharaoh that Joseph had tried to molest her and he was cast into prison. Joseph went to prison rather than to commit this sin against God, himself and his fellowmen.

## EVIL TEMPTATIONS

Daniel fled the rich wine at the king's table. He had courage to stand up for what he knew was right. One of our greatest problems in these times is that of liquor. Did you ever hear anyone say that liquor is a stimulant? It is! It stimulates idleness, profanity, a person's animal nature, coarseness, insanity, bad health, poverty, accidents, grief and failure. "Beverage alcohol," says a doctor who knows, "gives you a RED nose, a BLACK eye, a WHITE liver, a YELLOW streak, a GREEN brain, a DARK BROWN breath, and a BLUE outlook." We know that such was the case of Samson. Sin blinds, and then it binds.

Right companions are very important. "Be ye not unequally yoked

together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?" (2 Corinthians 6:14.) Again we are reminded of Daniel and his three companions who refused to worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and were cast into the fiery furnace. However they remained unharmed. This was achieved through the strength of God. Paul says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

In Exodus 33:14 God says, "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest." In the battle against the enemies of our soul we need the whole armor of God.

We must know the great privilege of prayer. We are told in Thessalonians to "pray without ceasing" and to "prove all things, hold fast that which is good." To pray without ceasing could be interpreted as the habit of prayer, continued fellowship with God. Prayer, then, becomes the closest bond between us and our master.

## A CONSECRATED LIFE

Remember the fully consecrated life. A small crippled boy, whose only income was a few pennies earned from peddling papers, heard of a girl who had been severely burned and needed skin for grafting if she was to live. He offered the skin of his crippled leg. Because of the operation the little girl lived, but the shock was too much for the boy and he died. He gave all he had. God gave all he had when he sent his only Son into this world to die for our sins. Are we consecrating our **ALL** to him? Or, are we like the person in this poem who asked —

"Father, where shall I work today?  
And my love flowed warm and free.  
Then he pointed me toward a tiny spot  
And said, "Tend that for me."  
I answered quickly, "Oh, no, not that!  
Why no one would ever see,  
No matter how well my work was done,  
In that little place for thee."  
And the word he spoke, it was not stern,  
He answered tenderly: "Ah, little one,  
Search that heart of thine,  
Art thou working for them or me?  
Nazareth was a little place, and so  
was Galilee."

The fields are white unto harvest  
and youth and age alike have a great  
part to play in the world at such a time  
as this!

# Baptist Teacher on the Bull Reserve

"Experiences that have enriched my life as a school teacher on the Indian Bull Reserve of Alberta, Canada where now the Benke Memorial Chapel stands"

By MISS BERNICE STOBER of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Public School  
Teacher of the Indians on the Bull Reserve

ONE of the most interesting experiences of my life has been teaching school for the Indians on the Louis Bull Reserve. It was with great anticipation that I started my work in September 1950. I felt it was the Lord's will that I should venture out into an entirely new phase of teaching. It was my privilege to have Bernice Kern as companion and friend staying with me. The Lord gave us many blessed times together.

## SCHOOL INSTRUCTION

The school in which I teach is owned by the Canadian government. It is operated on the same basis as any other public school. I have had many opportunities of witnessing for our Lord through the school. Besides the religious instruction which is given by the missionary for half an hour three days a week, we try to let the pupils see the love of God shining in our lives at all times.

The children come to school eager to learn to read and write. Some of my pupils, who are fifteen and sixteen years of age, have never had an opportunity of attending a school before. The school was built only one and a half years ago. When the children have mastered the art of reading and writing, they display with pride what they have learned to their parents.

The best known book on the Reserve is the Bible. (Our mission has provided a Bible for every home de-

siring one.) The children often practice their reading at home by reading God's Word. This accomplishes a twofold purpose.

The children learn choruses and hymns at school. It is not uncommon to hear an Indian child who is busy at work, humming, "Nearer My God to Thee," or some other familiar chorus or hymn they have learned at school. Thus the teaching is carried from the school to the home. It gives me great pleasure to see even a slight change in the home, that has come about as a result of the influence of the school. Yes, we have spent many happy times together at the school, but this is not the only contact which we have with the Indians.

## INDIAN PRAYER MEETINGS

God has blessed in a special way our Wednesday evening prayer meetings. Through these meetings which are held in the Indian homes, we have had an opportunity to learn how our friends live. We have learned to understand them better and can therefore help them more effectively. Many Indians come to these prayer meetings who do not attend Sunday services at the church. It is a real pleasure for me to be able to shake their hand and say, "We are happy you came to the meeting."

The prayers of the Indians are a blessing to me, especially when I hear them pray earnestly for their children, missionary and teacher. I cannot help but wonder how many Christian par-

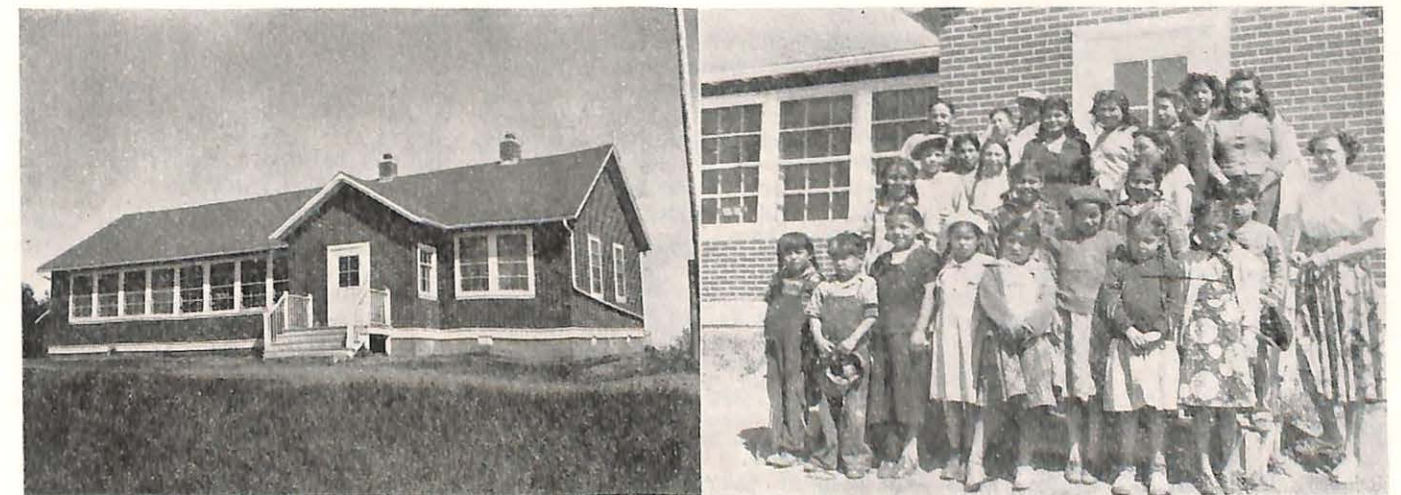
ents who send their children to school for five days a week ever think to pray for the teacher.

The Sunday afternoon services at our little old church have strengthened my spiritual life. The word was preached simply and sincerely by the Rev. R. Neuman every second Sunday, and students from the Christian Training Institute have helped with services every alternate Sunday. White friends who live near the Reserve often attend the services and worship the Lord together with their dark skinned brothers. With the completion of the new Benke Memorial Chapel on the Reserve, we have experienced even greater blessings. Our old church was not big enough for all our friends who came to the services.

## CONCERN FOR THE SICK

The problems of the Indians become the problems of the missionary and the teacher. We are eager and willing to give every problem, which our friends share with us, our careful thought and help whenever we are able. We have had to seek God's guidance through prayer many times when difficulties have arisen.

One problem has been that of false religion. The Indians need our earnest prayers in this matter. May God let them see the right way through his Word. The trials that we have faced seemed at times insurmountable, but God has shown us his greatness by working out every problem (Continued on Page 7)



The Indian school on the Bull Reserve near Wetaskiwin, Alberta, and the Indian school children with Miss Bernice Stober, their teacher, at the extreme right.



The ways of life stretch out before us, and everyone must prove himself by right thinking and with a consecrated life.

IN EPHESIANS 5:16 we read: "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." To redeem something, we have to do a certain thing. So it is with evil times—we must put the good to work. Man must prove himself! We see that already in the Garden of Eden.

Christian youth must also prove itself, and that cannot be done by walking on roses. Roses have thorns, and likewise the greatest things are hedged in by the hardest things. Hardship is the price of coronation. Triumphant arches are not woven out of rose blossoms but out of hard blows and bloody scars.

Each of us may be sure, however, that if God sends us on stony paths, he will provide us with strong shoes. Deuteronomy 33:25 says, "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass, and as thy days, so shall thy strength be."

Someone once gave Margaret Botome some beautiful pink flowers. She asked what they were and was told that they were rock flowers that grow and bloom only on rocks where no soil can be seen. Likewise, some of God's children are rock flowers. They grow in hard places. God's best soldiers grow in the highlands of affliction.

## RIGHT THINKING

There are several requirements of Christian youth. The first of these is right thinking. In Proverbs 23:7 we read, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Thinking, especially on the deeper things of life, is a duty, an obligation, and a virtue for those who



# The Crux of the Matter

The distinctive of Baptists is not baptism, but the declaration that the individual as a free soul has the right to come to God without the mediation of any other person. There is only one Mediator, Christ Jesus, and he has brought God's revelation to us!

The Fourth in a Series on "Who Are the Baptists?"  
by REV. O. E. KRUEGER of Rochester, New York

IN THE PREVIOUS articles we have looked to the rock from which we were hewn. Naturally we came upon the beliefs that lie deep in our convictions as Baptists and determined our direction. It now becomes our task to deal more definitely with these convictions, which expressed themselves in very clear and definite principles.

It will be seen how widely we differ from the Roman Catholics, though we do hold some things in common. They and we believe in the triune God, who revealed himself through Jesus Christ, his Son, as Savior and Lord. They and we believe in the forgiveness of sin, though we differ widely in the way it is obtained. They and we believe in an eternal destiny through the immortality of the soul.

We cannot carry on a debate with Roman Catholics, because we have no common ground of authority for our differences. For us as Baptists the Scriptures are the last word; for them the utterances of the pope, ex cathedra, are the final authority. These utterances do not mean a thing to us; to them the utterances of the Scriptures are changed at the will of the pope.

We can merely make our statements of belief in contrast to theirs, and let every man judge for himself. We hope to do that "with malice toward none, and charity for all." Nothing in these paragraphs is directed toward the individual Catholic. How could that be when we have such fine Catholic neighbors and friends? If we had grown up in their environment, no doubt, we would have their viewpoints and be carried by their convictions.

## THE PARTING OF THE WAY

What then is the outstanding difference, the pivotal point, between us and others? Many think just because we are called Baptists that it must be baptism. The fact is that we lay less stress on baptism than do the Catholics and most of the Protestants. The Salvation Army and the Quakers have dropped baptism altogether, regarding it as a mere form that had only temporary significance.

Our answer to them is the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). Except for that, we might be able to go along with them. We do not regard baptism as a saving act at all. To the Catholic it is necessary for the washing away of original sin. It is so important that even the embryo which may be in danger of dying with the mother must be baptized in her womb, or it will have no chance of going to heaven. Many Protestants still regard baptism as a sacrament necessary to salvation. Although we do not, we are called Baptists.

Our opponents say: "Then it must be because you immerse!" If it were that, we should be called "Immersionists." Others immerse! The Greek Catholic Church has never gotten away from immersion. The late Czarina of Russia had to submit to immersion before her marriage, for as a German princess she had merely been sprinkled. These Greek Orthodox adherents outnumber us by the millions upon millions. We did reject infant baptism and did talk much about believers' baptism, and so in derision we were dubbed "Anabaptists," "Re-baptizers," which came to be simplified as Baptists. But we make less of baptism than our antagonists do.

## THE OUTSTANDING DISTINCTION

The whole matter hinges on the privilege of the individual to come directly to God without passing through the hands of someone claiming to stand between God and his soul. That is the crux of the whole matter. In his book, "You and Your Church," J. S. Kirtley has a chapter on "The Great Distinctive," which sets forth this thesis that should be known more clearly by all Baptists.

The infant baptizer presumes to say, "I as a mediator between God and your soul must do something to your body to bring you into right relations with God. If you die without this act performed upon your body, your soul will be lost." We do not believe that such an act performed by anyone for anybody has any magical power to do anything to the person in question, nor has God designated it as a vehicle to transmit such power.

## THE BAPTIST HERALD

This stand cuts right into the whole matter of the priestly function. The priesthood is a pagan as well as an Old Testament institution. Unfortunately the Jewish priest was often no better than his pagan counterpart. The men who held the keys of the kingdom kept others out, and could not go in themselves. So said Jesus. What does he say to men who are doing that very thing today?

### ONLY ONE MEDIATOR

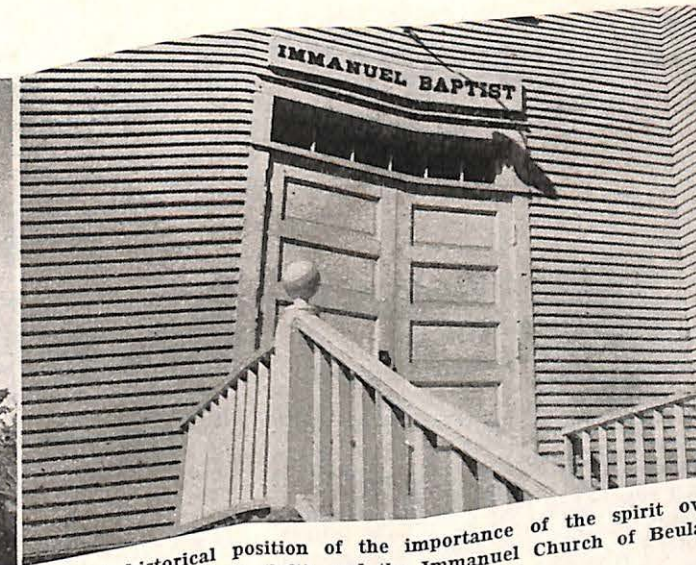
"For there is one God and one mediator, between God and men, the man Jesus Christ." We do not need to ask Mary to ask Jesus to present our petition to God. Jesus taught us to say, "Our Father who art in heaven." He did not teach us to say, "Mary, Mother of God." There is no record in the Bible that he addressed her as mother. Even on the cross he said, "Woman, behold thy son," when he committed her to John. If she is to hear the millions of prayers offered up to her, she must be omnipresent. If that is true, she is a goddess and her worshipers are committing idolatry.

We had a friend in Australia who, after going "home" to England for a visit, returned by way of America. He was impressed by the tall buildings of New York City and brought back "tall" stories. One said the skyscrapers were so high that it takes two men and a boy to look to the top. One looks as far as he can, the other takes over from there and the boy finishes the job. The idea of many mediators is like that. The poor sinner prays to a saint; the saint passes it on to Mary; and Mary tells Jesus what you want; and he passes it on to God.

There is only ONE Mediator and he has brought God to us, and through him we have direct access to him. That is the crux of the whole matter. That states the Baptist distinctive. That rules out all infant baptism, the whole matter of apostolic succession, the whole system of priestly functions. That is our Bible basis. Is it any wonder that the Bible was withheld from the people? It was too disturbing! Is it any wonder that the Baptists were persecuted? The repercussions in the bread box were too disturbing! That is why 50,000,000 people were eliminated in those Dark Ages.

The foulest sinner can come to God without meditation of a priest. The publican in the temple prayed, "God, be merciful to me a sinner." God answered that prayer. At least Jesus said, "This man went down into his house justified rather than the other," the self-righteous Pharisee.

Dealing with a cowboy under deep conviction, the evangelist prayed, and then asked the cowboy to pray, saying that he must come to God himself. He said he had never prayed and



The rugged simplicity of Baptist churches which emphasizes the Baptist historical position of the importance of the spirit over against outward forms is evidenced in the Baptist Church edifice at Hebron, N. Dak. (left), and the Immanuel Church of Beulah, North Dakota (right).

didn't know how. The evangelist said he should use his own words in his own way, which he finally did. His prayer was short and to the point: "O God, if you can save an old wretch like me, hop to it!" That was the best he knew. To God it was more acceptable than the most beautiful prayer from the prayer book read by an insincere man presuming to stand between God and a sinner.

### A UNIVERSAL PRIESTHOOD

The New Testament recognized no priesthood as a class set aside to function in the New Testament Church. The officers in the church are elders and deacons. Elders are identified with bishops who functioned in the local church only, as overseers, shepherds of the flock. When the need arose, deacons were chosen to serve in the distribution of food to the poor. Elders, bishops, prophets, teachers and evangelists gave themselves to the ministry of the Word. Deacons dealt with all material matters. There is never so much as the mention of a priest.

However, there is a priesthood in the New Testament, the priesthood of ALL believers, spoken of as the royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9). "He has made us unto God, kings and priests" (Rev. 1:6; 5:10). Everyone comes to God directly. Our sacrifice is "the praise of our lips unto God." "To do good and to communicate, forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

The royal priests may lay down their lives in sacrificial service, but not as a ransom for anybody. "By his own blood he entered in once, into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." That was done once for all. Read Hebrews, chapters 7 to 9.

In the face of all of that, the priest presumes to change the bread and wine into the actual body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and offers it in a new death. The Roman Catholic

catechism says, "The mass is the same sacrifice as that of the cross." It is estimated that about 200,000 masses are said every twenty-four hours. Jesus is made to suffer that terrible agony 200,000 times every day. And that in the face of the Scriptures, which say: "Now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself—so Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many."

### THE BAPTIST DISTINCTIVE

But, as we said before, the Scriptures are no authority for the Catholic. The pope can change it at his pleasure for his convenience. We cannot argue with him, but we ask, is the God and Father of our Lord and Savior a God who must be appeased 200,000 times a day? To us, moreover, the cross is not an appeasement for wrath, but a demonstration of his eternal love.

Let it be remembered that the distinctive of the Baptists is not baptism, but the declaration that the individual as a free soul has the right to come to God without the intervention or mediation of any other person. There is no magical power in baptism to wash sins away and to make a child of God out of natural man. As Baptists we hold that an individual must be old enough to comprehend that baptism is an open declaration of his faith in Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord, and that he comes into the church not by manipulation but by his own decision.

### DR. J. H. RUSHBROOKE SPEAKS

"The Baptist tabernacle," writes Principal Wheeler Robinson of Oxford, "is not always a graceful structure, but at least we may say this of it, that the twin pillars at its door are evangelism and liberty." The saying aptly brings home the fact that loyalty to the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, and loyalty to the principle and practise of religious liberty, are the dominant notes in the life and witness of our Baptist communion.

### BAPTIST TEACHER

(Continued from Page 5)

as we come to it. In this way our faith and the faith of the Indians have been strengthened.

The Indians are a very sympathetic type of people. They show great concern for their sick. They do not spare any effort if their loved ones are in any need of medical service. Their lack of knowledge how to care for their sick becomes their greatest enemy. They think it is right to grant every wish of the sick person, whether it is wise or not. A great fear of hospitals and doctors has been instilled in their lives.

When a member of the family gets sick, they do not like to take him to the hospital but prefer to try their own remedies first. This sometimes proves fatal. This past year we were often called upon to give advice and help when someone on the Reserve was sick. We were always happy to help where help was needed.

While Bernice Kern and I labored on this field, we had to depend upon other people to provide transportation for us. Our Indian friends often gave us a merry ride on a buggy in summer and a bob-sleigh in winter. Neighborly white people also proved to be very considerate when we needed to go to town, seven and a half miles away for supplies. All these kindnesses helped to make life more pleasant on the Reserve.

These experiences have enriched my life. I can now see the needs of this field clearer than ever before. As I look forward to this year of service on the Reserve, I humbly thank the Lord for using a weak vessel like me in the work of his Kingdom. The verse, "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths," has taken on new meaning for me. So likewise I would challenge you to try the Lord so that you too may find the joy of serving him.



# Missionaries 30 and 31 for the Cameroons

Testimonies by MR. and MRS. ERNEST HILDEBRAND of Stafford, Kansas, Prepared the Day Before They Left for Africa

## BUILDING PLANS FOR THE CAMEROONS

By MR. ERNEST HILDEBRAND

I AM LOOKING forward to my work in Africa during the next two years. I want to finish the hospital plant at Banzo which I started in 1951. You will remember that I built the nurses' home, the doctor's house and several native quarters. I am happy for this special assignment that the General Mission Society has given me of building the hospital at Banzo.

I know it will not always be easy, because of different and difficult building conditions. Materials which we take for granted at home are never seen in Africa, unless you put a few things in boxes, as I did, and take them along.

## THE NEED OF THE HOSPITAL

There is no question about the need of this new hospital, not because the old hospital did not serve its purpose but because it is much too small. We have X-ray and dental equipment that have never been unpacked because there is just no room for them. We thank God that under the leadership of Dr. Chaffee we have outgrown the old hospital.

Another important part of our building program is our leper field. As time permits, I will be called on to help Missionary Gilbert Schneider, who will be in charge of building this greatly needed camp. You will hear more of this from Mr. Schneider.

There will be many problems, but we are sure that the Lord can solve them. As the Lord cared for us and solved our problems, when we were in Africa before, so he will take care of us this time. We also have those encouraging days when we see what the Lord can do in the lives of these natives. They rejoice because they have been brought the Gospel. They thank you at home for sending us as missionaries and thank us for coming but, best of all, they praise and thank God for saving their souls.

## "HERE AM I, LORD"

When I was confronted with the needs of Africa and then asked, "What are you going to do about it?" I assure you it was not easy to say, "I will go," leaving loved ones at home to work in a strange land. It is strange land because you never know what you will be called on to do next. The need of missions changes, and the

natives always have new problems which they hope you can solve for them.

The most important thing of all is that we are in this work and are giving of ourselves because we love the Lord!

\* \* \*

## ANTICIPATING OUR RETURN TO AFRICA

By MRS. ERNEST HILDEBRAND.

NOW that we have been on the field in the Cameroons of Africa and back home again the past six months, we are praising God because of our return to the land and the people we have learned to love. We have found that it takes a great deal of planning, packing and hard work to make the necessary arrangements to go to a far away land for a period of two years. But anything that is worthwhile takes a bit of effort.

## MANY WITHOUT GOD

There are those of you who say, "Why go at all?" If you could get a glimpse of the native pagan who is in the very depth of darkness and sin, you would be more convinced than ever to go. They seem so hopeless.

Have you ever given it a thought how closely Africa is connected with the Holy Land? Now that I have seen the land, I can understand just a bit clearer what Christ bore when weeping over Jerusalem, and what he experienced in his agony as he saw a multitude without God.

If you would happen past the Banzo Hospital any morning except Sunday, you would see many natives in line waiting to see Dr. Chaffee. It reminded me of pictures we see of Christ ministering to those in need, partly because of the way some dress and then because of the way he ministers to them. In reality, it is the

same for they not only receive balm for their bodies but also healing for their souls. Dr. Chaffee and the nurses work day by day untiringly in the work that God leads them to do as with all the missionaries. The lost receive spiritual food, and if you could see the radiant faces of those who receive the Light, you would say it is wonderful and very worth-while.

## THE HOSPITAL STOREROOM

Perhaps you are wondering how I spent my time while on the field. One of my first projects was to give the storeroom "a once over." As it is much too small, dark and dingy, with only one window which is covered by shelves and no electric lights, it is impossible to keep it orderly, making it inconvenient and hard to find whatever is needed in a hurry. There was much sorting to do and replacing on the shelves and always more boxes to unpack.

You may say, "Oh, I wish I could do something to help." If you are remembering Africa at the throne of grace, you surely are helping in the most important part of the work. But I know that you have done even more than that. You have contributed many things that are needed in the work. The Southwestern Conference furnished machinery for the work that was done at Banzo.

## PNEUMONIA JACKETS

Then too I marveled at the many useful things which the women from all our churches have sent from time to time. If you could see the big piles of pneumonia jackets, you would say, "There is no use to send any more for years and years." Yes, we are over-supplied with a few articles, but I am wondering what we are going to use for bedding when the new hospital is finished. There are never enough sheets to go around. Oh, no, not the kind you use on your beds. The gray outing is much more suitable. They don't have a chance to get dingy. They give warmth for the cool nights at Banzo.

We are glad and thankful to God for the interest you have shown and for the part you have in bringing the Gospel to those less fortunate than you. I can only say, "God bless you!" We want to thank our friends heartily for the encouragement that you have given us. It has meant much to us. Now as we go back we are looking to God that he may do great things and that many may be saved for eternity.

# Our First Impressions of Africa

The Cameroons are a beautiful land when it comes to God's handiwork. But this is a dark continent in the fact that Satan has blinded the eyes of these people to the Truth in Christ

By the REV. and MRS. HOWARD W. ROTH, Cameroons Missionaries Stationed at Belo

IT WAS with great anticipation and joy that we set sail from New York harbor about one o'clock on the 19th of July (1951). We had been looking forward to our sailing for a long time and now we thanked God that the time had finally come. The preceding weeks were busy weeks with last minute preparations along with deputization work. We were glad for the time we would spend on the water for we needed the rest and relaxation.

Just ten days after we left New York City we landed in Africa. However, it was not until a month later that we arrived in the Cameroons. For three weeks our ship stopped in one port after another discharging cargo. On the 18th of August we disembarked at Lagos, one of Nigeria's larger cities. We spent ten days there before we got our cargo through customs and could get transportation to the Cameroons.

It is interesting how far some people have to go to experience certain things. We had to come all the way to Africa to take our first ride in an airplane. There was no way for us to get to our destination except to fly. On August 28th we flew to Douala in

the French Cameroons and the next day Don Ganstrom came for us to take us to Soppo. How thankful we were to see someone we knew! A person feels mighty lost when there is no transportation or when he is in a country where he cannot understand nor make himself understood.

From Douala we boarded a motor launch which took us to Tiko, British Cameroons, three hours away. An hour by motor and we were at Soppo! By this time darkness had fallen. Our hostess, Miss Berneice Westerman, had dinner planned for us for two nights in a row. In this land one just never can plan anything definite because of the difficulties of transportation and communication. The meal tasted wonderful and after bathing we crawled into bed.

## FIRST GLIMPSE OF SOPPO

The next morning we got our first glimpse of Soppo. That was a thrill. We had read so much about this station in our denominational papers and from missionaries that we could hardly believe that we were there. We had our own ideas about this land, but it did not take us long to realize how

wrong we were. We expected to see jungles and more jungles, rivers and more rivers. We expected to see mostly flat land. How wrong we were!

We did see some jungles here on the coast of the British Cameroons, but mostly one sees plantations. This land is known for its banana plantations. Miles upon miles of banana palms! There are rubber trees also. I remember reading about the rubber trees during my grade school days and how the trees are tapped for their sap, but little did I realize that one day I would be seeing the exact thing in reality. There are palm kernel plantations, too. Palm oil for soap is gotten from these trees.

There are rivers in this land but since we arrived at the end of the rains, the rivers were not swollen. There is a motor road and the bridges are good in the coastal region, so we did not have to ford any rivers.

There are two things which impressed us most concerning Africa. One is the beauty of the land. As we near the shore, we see the outline of the mountains, palm trees and now and then a village. The vegetation is

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Walter (Butch) Gebauer, holding flowers in his hand, and Elizabeth Ann Gebauer, children of the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Gebauer, ride "in luxury" over the Cameroons grasslands in company with several genial African natives.



# The Christian Training Institute in Action

An Encouraging Report About the Christian Training Institute of  
Edmonton, Alberta, by the REV. E. P. WAHL, President

CARLYLE WROTE: "Our grand business undoubtedly is, not to SEE what lies dimly at a distance, but to DO what lies clearly at hand." The program of the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton, Alberta, fully endorses this philosophy. Christian youth out of our ranks must be given the opportunity to train for greater service in our churches and denomination. Again and again our hearts are thrilled as we come in contact with the fine, sincere and consecrated young people whom the Lord has entrusted to us. We enjoy having them; may they enjoy staying with us.

## NINETY-THREE STUDENTS

Inquiries to enter CTI in the fall of 1951 were made in large numbers. Then came the trying harvest season in the Canadian Northwest. Dull weather, snow and rain made it impossible to reap the bumper crop as had been anticipated. Disappointments, serious setbacks and heavy losses were encountered by our farmer brethren throughout the prairie provinces. This led to the cancelling of many applications that had been made to enter the High School or Bible School here in Edmonton. We sincerely pray for the young people that have met with such disappointments.

Now the first school term is passed. Ninety-three students are attending CTI. We are sorry that several boys from the United States found it impossible to come because of the military draft. We expect to graduate three High School students and nine Bible School students this coming spring. Besides, thirteen students are to receive the Christian Worker's Certificate.



—Photo by Eric A. Pohl  
Dr. John Leypoldt of Forest Park, Ill., who served as guest speaker at the Spiritual Examination Week held from Jan. 14 to 19 at the Christian Training Institute, Edmonton, Alberta.

With grateful hearts we think of the men and women who make up the teaching staff of the school. Their harmonious working together is a good example to the students and does much to help bring them the best of training. The Rev. Otto Schmidt is a new member on the faculty. He has been assigned to head the Christian Education department of the school. A new course, "Harmonious Living," has been added to the curriculum. Mrs. Marie Muller, wife of the Rev. Willy Muller, pastor of our Lauder-

dale Baptist Church in Edmonton, has been chosen as teacher of this course. The entire student body is enrolled in this course. Mrs. Muller is well qualified to teach the subject and her work and influence at the school are most wholesome.

## SPIRITUAL EXAMINATION WEEK

With the beginning of the second school term, from January 14 to 19, 1952, the annual Spiritual Examination Week was observed. Dr. John Leypoldt of Forest Park, Ill., served as the guest speaker for the occasion. We are very thankful to the General Missionary Society for arranging to send Dr. Leypoldt to us. Dr. Leypoldt spoke on the following subjects in considering the general theme: "My Biggest Problem," "How Christian Am I in My Thinking?," "How Christian Am I in My Praying?," "How Christian Am I in My Speaking?," "How Christian Am I in My Giving?," "How Christian Am I in My Conduct?"

Besides special meetings, there were also private consultation hours. Students with their specific problems and weighty decisions availed themselves of this particular opportunity to consult with Dr. Leypoldt or a faculty member of their choice. These extraordinary days in the school year always have special inspirational value, bring new strength to the sincere Christian warrior and lead to real heart-searching for all who are at school. Usually many far reaching decisions are made during this week, and many problems of individuals are faced and solutions reached.

## MANY PRAYER PERIODS

As in past years, thus again the students are enjoying their prayer periods. The student body is divided into twenty-one prayer groups. These groups meet daily and have special prayer requests presented to them before they go upon their knees to pray. The Saturday evening prayer meeting is anticipated with great delight. It is helpful for the spiritual life of the student to take his or her turn to lead in returning thanks before the meals and also in leading in the morning devotions before breakfast.

The school family feels very grateful to the many friends who show their interest in supporting the school through financial offerings and the sending of edibles and articles needed at the school. Recently the Wetaskiwin Baptist women spent a day making noodles. Individuals and churches have sent vegetables. Yes, we have

(Continued on Page 24)



Women of the Baptist Church, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, work hard in the kitchen of the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton making noodles (right), and the Rev. H. Schumacher of Wetaskiwin operating the noodle slicer with Mrs. Fred Strohschein looking on (left).

# Do You Know "Salute"?

An introduction to the denominational Sunday School paper edited  
by Miss Martha Leypoldt

By MISS ALETHEA KOSE of Chicago, Illinois

AGAIN WE ASK, do you know Salute? Is Salute used in your church? Are you saying, "Why, I do not know! What is Salute?"

Many of our North American Baptists seem totally unaware of the existence of Salute, our excellent denominational "Story Paper" for boys and girls of Junior age. However, even Intermediates enjoy it greatly. It is published weekly, just as any other story paper. We know how popular such "papers" are with boys and girls, so why not give them an opportunity to enjoy our own Salute? In addition, we would have the satisfaction to know that our boys and girls are becoming acquainted with our own denomination through reading its interesting pages.

As Sunday School leaders and workers, our denominational loyalty should

be such that we naturally order Salute. It is our story paper edited especially for our boys and girls. We urge Baptist Sunday School literature, yet we often forget this, as we order story papers from non-denominational publishing houses which operate for private profit. We need to be reminded that any profit made by a denominational publishing house goes right back into furthering the work of the denomination. One of our standards is "Baptist teaching materials for Baptist Sunday Schools." This naturally should include story papers too. Let us give Salute its rightful place to serve our churches.

Beginning with January 1952, Salute has become a "magic carpet" on which we are travelling around the world. Everywhere our boys and girls are meeting some of our Baptist family. This of course includes our mis-

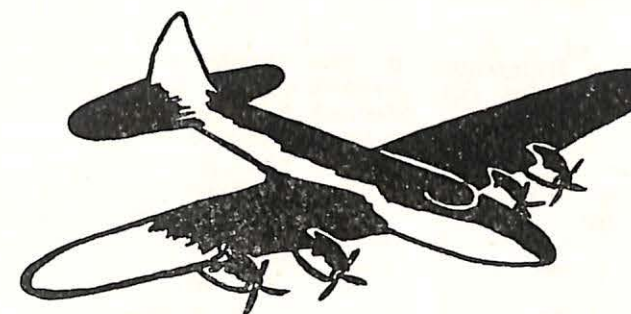
sion fields too. One Junior recently said when speaking of Salute, "I especially like the 'Pidgin English' stories." Probably as we stop at the Cameroons on our trip around the world, we will hear more such stories. I dare say "Mom" and "Dad" will enjoy the trip on this magic carpet too, as they read Salute with their boys and girls. In addition to this trip around the world in 1952, there will be articles on Baptist faith, on what it means to be a Christian, on what boys and girls can do to be of real help in their own churches. All such articles will be written in a language which is concrete and meaningful to our growing younger generation.

## BIBLE READING HELPS

One important goal of 1952 is to encourage the boys and girls of our denomination in their daily devotional reading and prayer time. As soon as boys and girls can read, we hope that they will daily read their Bibles! They do, however, need guidance as to which verses will be most helpful to them in their daily living. The 1952 Bible readings suggested in Salute will have a thought or a question for each day of the week along with the Scripture readings.

These suggested readings can also be used for family devotions. Often

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# SALUTE

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Evangelistic meetings were held by the Creston Baptist Church of Creston, Neb., from Nov. 26 to Dec. 9. The Rev. J. A. "Bud" Petersen of Omaha, Neb., served as evangelist. The church was revived spiritually and nine persons professed conversion through faith in Christ during the meetings. The Rev. John Broeder is pastor of the Creston church.

The Baptist Church of Sumner, Iowa, has extended a call to the Rev. Fred Mashner of Auburn, Mich., who has served as minister of the Beaver Baptist Church since 1947. He has responded favorably to the call and hopes to begin his pastorate in Sumner on February 15. He will succeed the Rev. William H. Jeschke, now ministering to the Dayton Bluff Church of St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Germantown Baptist Church near Cathay, N. Dak., has extended a call to the Rev. Elmer Buening, pastor of the Baptist Church of Holloway, Minn., since 1945. He has responded favorably and announced that he will begin his pastorate in the Germantown Church on March 1st. He has succeeded the Rev. Daniel Klein, at present serving on the personnel of the Home for the Aged in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Paul Gebauer, superintendent of our Cameroons Baptist Mission and now at home on furlough, was the guest speaker at a missionary service for the entire Sunday School of the Forest Park Baptist Church on Dec. 30. He spoke at the Watch Night service, Jan. 6, on Dec. 31st. On Sunday, Jan. 6, he brought messages at the Immanuel Church of Kankakee, Ill., which is the home church of Miss Ruby Salzman, one of the Cameroons missionaries.

The McDermot Avenue Baptist Church of Winnipeg, Manitoba, has extended a call to the Rev. C. H. Seebach, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Leduc, Alta., to become its minister. A favorable response has been given and Mr. Seebach hopes to begin his pastorate in Winnipeg on July 1st. He will succeed the Rev. Daniel Fuchs, who was recently appointed a denominational evangelist by the General Missionary Committee. Mr. Seebach has served the First Church of Leduc since 1946.

The First Baptist Church of Wishek, N. Dak., has extended a call to

the Rev. Loren Wahl of Cherry Grove, Ore., to become its pastor. Mr. Wahl is a spiritual son of the Baptist Church of McClusky, N. Dak., and a nephew of the Rev. E. P. Wahl, president of the Christian Training Institute, Edmonton, Alberta. He has been serving the Cherry Grove church for a number of years. He has responded favorably to the call and hopes to begin his pastorate in Wishek on March 1st, succeeding the Rev. Ervin Faul, now of Calgary, Alberta.

On Sunday, Jan. 6th, the Rev. H. Lohr of the Parkersburg Baptist Church of Parkersburg, Iowa, had the privilege of receiving fourteen new members into the fellowship of the church. These were baptized on Dec. 30th, the last Sunday of the old year, and are the result of evangelistic meetings held in November, 1951, when the Rev. James De Loach of Avon, S. Dak., served as evangelist. During the past year 33 new members were added to the church, 18 by baptism, and 15 by letter.

The Baptist Church of Baileyville, Ill., held its reception for the Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Kroeker and their family, Levina and Kenneth, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 12. The pageant, "It Came to Pass," was presented by the young people on Dec. 23rd. The Junior department also presented the pageant, "The Shepherd and the Angel." At the Watch Night service of the church, the Rev. J. J. Kroeker gave a chalk talk on "Our Span of Life." The services of Mr. Bert Milner, student at the Northern Baptist Seminary of Chicago, Ill., in his interim ministry were deeply appreciated.

The First Baptist Church of Bison, Kans., held its Harvest and Mission Festival on Sunday, Nov. 25. The Scripture Memory Class gave a short program in the morning. The Rev. Walter Weber, a member of the Strassburg Baptist Church of Marion, Kans., who was recently ordained by the church, brought inspiring messages at the morning and evening services. A fine dinner was enjoyed by everyone in the church basement. The Thanksgiving offering for missions amounted to \$865.44. Mr. Jack Block is the pastor of the Bison Church.

The Central Baptist Church of Erie, Pa., participated in a series of union prayer services from Jan. 7 to 10 with Dr. Norman W. Paullin of the Baptist

Temple, Philadelphia, Pa., as the guest speaker. On Tuesday evening, Jan. 8, Dr. Paullin spoke on "The Master Passeth By" in the Central Church with the local pastor, the Rev. Reuben A. Houseal, in charge. Dr. Paullin will be the special speaker at the devotional services of the General Conference in August 1952 to be held in the church in Philadelphia, Pa., of which he is the minister.

At the Watch Night service of the Carroll Avenue Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the film, "Forgotten Valley," was shown and the young people presented the dramatization, "Sankey Sings Again." Open house was held at the new parsonage on New Year's Day with the Rev. and Mrs. Harold W. Gieseke serving as hosts to the many guests. On Sunday morning, Dec. 23, Mr. Gieseke preached on the provocative theme, "Wise Man of 1951." The Christmas program on that Sunday evening was in charge of the Sunday School superintendent, Mr. Herman E. Balka.

Five North American Baptist churches of New Jersey held union Week of Prayer services from Jan. 7 to 12 with a different speaker each evening. The general theme was "Prayer at the Golden Altar." The churches represented and the speakers were as follows: Pilgrim Church of Jersey City, N. J., Rev. Everett Barker, speaker; Grace Church, Union City, N. J., Rev. Herbert J. Freeman; Second Church, Union City, N. J., Rev. Herman G. Kuhl; Willow Ave. Church, Hoboken, N. J., Rev. Wm. J. Appel; Faith Church, West New York, N. J., Rev. Norman H. Klann, speaker.

The Rev. G. W. Rutsch, pastor of the Grace Baptist Church of Gackle and Alfred, N. Dak., baptized seven young people on Sunday, Dec. 16. Another baptismal service is planned for Easter Sunday. The Christmas cantata, "The Chorus in the Skies," was rendered on Friday evening, Dec. 21, at the Gackle church with 26 voices in the church choir under the direction of Rueben Remboldt with Miss Lois Remboldt at the piano. From Jan. 5 to 11 the Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Rutsch rendered a special ministry during the Week of Prayer services at Hebron, N. Dak., where the Rev. C. Rempel is the pastor.

Evangelistic services were held for two weeks early in December at the Baptist Church of Minitonas, Mani-

February 14, 1952

toba with the Rev. O. A. Ertis, interim pastor of the Emmanuel Church of Morris, Manitoba, serving as evangelist. The attendance at the services began with 200 people and closed on the last Sunday with 500 to 600 people at each of the meetings. The Minitonas church choir besides special duets, trios and quartets rendered an inspiring musical program. The meetings were very successful with many persons accepting Christ as Savior and others rededicating their lives. The Rev. J. B. Kornalewski is the pastor.

The recognition service for the McKernan Baptist Church of Edmonton, Alberta, was held on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 13, with Dr. John Leypoldt of Forest Park, Illinois, as the guest speaker. The Council of representatives from sister Baptist churches met at the McKernan church on Dec. 14 to consider the recognition of the newly organized church on the south side of Edmonton with the Rev. Otto Schmidt as the pastor. On Dec. 15 a large sized group of 76 Baptists signed as charter members. It was expected that this total might reach one hundred by the time the charter membership list was to be closed before the formal recognition service of the church.

New hymnals will be purchased for the Baptist Church of Martin, N. Dak., as a result of donations from both the CBY and Sunday School. The CBY with the help of the church choir presented a Christmas program on December 23 at which time an offering was taken for these hymnals. The program included a cantata entitled, "Yuletide Memories," under the directions of Mr. Albert Seibel. At the close of the program a sound film, "Child of Bethlehem," portrayed the manger scene and early life of Christ. The high school auditorium was obtained for the evening and several of the neighboring churches attended. The new pastor is the Rev. John Engel of Ebenezer, Sask.

The Washburn Baptist Church of Washburn, N. Dak., and the First Baptist Church of Underwood, N. Dak., enjoyed a joint New Year's Eve service in the Washburn Church. The first hour was in charge of the Rev. F. Alf of Washburn. He brought a German message and there were several vocal selections and recitations. The last hour was taken over by the Rev. Fred J. Knalson and the Underwood group. The song service was led by Mr. Albert Jesser, student of Northwestern Schools, and the message was brought by Mr. Reuben Greunich, student at the Christian Training Institute. Special music also featured the service. As a climax to the entire evening Mr. Knalson stepped into the baptismal waters to baptize a young man upon confession of his faith in Christ.

## C.B.Y. and S.S.U.

HERALD NEWS

### YOUTH COMPASS TOPICS

February 17, 1952—"Climbing Upward" by Rev. Harold W. Gieseke, Dallas, Texas.

February 24, 1952—"Lest We Forget" by Miss Donna Stabbert, Anaheim, California.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Eight consecrated leaders, members of the Executive Committee and office staff, sat around the conference table in the William Kuhn Conference Room in Forest Park, Ill., for their annual meeting on January 4, 5 and 6. They were busy making plans for the General Conference in Philadelphia and they also formulated new advances in the programs of our young people's and Sunday School work. The Executive Committee was pleased with the fine response from our churches to the materials prepared by this department during the past year. Because the churches are requesting additional materials, the Executive Committee has made plans for advance in the Sunday School, youth and junior departments of our churches, in addition to a program for the adults. These plans will be presented to the General Conference



Mr. Herman Balka (left), superintendent of the Carroll Ave. Baptist Sunday School, Dallas, Texas; Rev. Harold W. Gieseke, pastor; Mr. Edwin Balka (right), CBY leader of the church.

Union Council at its triennial meeting in Philadelphia this year. As plans develop you will be informed, so keep looking for these announcements.

The Executive Committee consisted of Rev. J. C. Gunst, general secretary; Rev. Harold W. Gieseke, president; Mr. Milton Lippert, vice-president; Miss Ramona Schacht, recording secretary; Mr. E. Ralph Kletke, council member at large; Mr. Walter Pankrat, past president; Miss Ruth Bathauer, children's worker; and Miss Martha Leypoldt, editorial staff assistant. Dr. M. L. Leuschner and the Rev. R. Schilke were helpful in making suggestions to coordinate our program with the entire denominational advance.

### IS YOUR CBY LISTED?

Encouraging reports have come from the following CBY's that they have adopted the CBY STANDARD, striving towards a more effective, spiritually adequate CBY:

First Baptist Church, Lorraine, Kansas,  
West Side Baptist Church, Beatrice, Nebraska,  
First Baptist Church, La Salle, Colorado,  
Calvary Baptist Church, Stafford, Kansas,  
First Baptist Church, Golden Prairie, Sask.,  
Grace Baptist Church, Hettinger, North Dakota,  
Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan,  
Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, North Dakota.

### BWA YOUTH NEWS

The Youth Committee of the Baptist World Alliance is making available to Baptist youth all over the world an excellent youth news publication through its editor, Rev. Joel Sorensen, youth secretary. The BWA YOUTH NEWS is published in Sweden. Each copy contains youth news from many countries in the world. The periodical is highly informative regarding Baptist youth activities in other countries as well as our own. The subscription price is only \$1.00 to a person or CBY organization.

Your General Secretary recommends BWA YOUTH NEWS to individual leaders or four your entire CBY group. You may mail your subscription with \$1.00 per subscription, to your General Secretary, Box 6, Forest Park, Illinois. He will send your order on to the editor in Sweden.



February 14, 1952

THE BAPTIST HERALD

# Withering Grass

A Christian Novel by BERNARD PALMER

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that blossomed early in the spring, harbingers of warmer days and night, of roses and poppies and snapdragons, and of cherries in their season. She had loved the soft night air, the quiet of the little city that seemed to doze with the dying sun. It was not hard for him to imagine that nothing had been as he walked along, that she had stayed at home with Billy while he went to a meeting of the Red Cross Committee, or the church board, that the light would be on when he returned and she would be sitting in the living room reading a magazine and waiting up for him. No matter how late he got home she had always waited up for him. But the house was dark and forbidding. For the first time he realized how ugly it was. How could they ever have thought such a shell as that was beautiful?

In the house he turned up the fire and stood over the register, although the room was warm. It was strangely quiet and oppressive, so heavy with memories that it seemed as though his heart could not bear up under the load of them. Through the bedroom door he could see her open Bible on the dressing table beside the bed. Karen had been reading when he came home. Almost mechanically he went over and picked it up, his fingers caressing the page.

"In my Father's house are many mansions," he read. "If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there you may be also..." Then Karen had known.

He read on and on, with new understanding in that familiar old passage. He could repeat it from memory if he chose and yet its depth and beauty had left him untouched until the moment. He felt the tears subside within and he walked into his study where he tenderly laid the open Bible on his desk and sat down.

"Why she was taken from us in the bloom of life we do not know," he wrote, with strong, firm strokes. "We can never understand why youth must be snatched from this earth before life has scarcely begun for them. But who can judge the fullness of a life in length of years? Who can say a life is fruitful or empty by the span from birth to death? The lily bursts forth

into exquisite bloom and is faded and gone before the first hot blast of the summer sun, while the dandelion is with us from frost to frost. The oriole stays but a few short weeks, his haunting melody warming the hearts of his listeners, while the sparrow is ever near and none there be to mark his singing. And so it is with life. A few short years transformed by the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, warmed by Godly parents and an adoring husband are more to be desired than a century lived in sin. God measures lives by deeds, not years, by actions not existence, by works of love diligently performed for Him, not worldly honor and fame.

"By such standards though less than three decades spanned her lifetime, Karen Snydergaard Henning lived a full and fruitful life. She truly lived for Christ."

Ernest laid aside his pen, carefully read what he had written, then buried his head in his arms and wept.

Karen was buried in the little country cemetery on the hill beside the church where her father had served for so many years. Only the last time they had been home a few short months before Ernest had gone with her there to see her mother's grave. He had scarcely expected to be back so soon.

He straightened wearily and watched the last slowly moving car turn onto the road. Burt was going to stay with him when he insisted on remaining behind but he had asked him not to. He wanted to spend the next few minutes alone with his sorrow. He had been dry-eyed as he talked with them and was dry-eyed as he turned to watch with tender anguish the volunteer parishioners fill in the grave. They too had loved her. He stood there, tall and gaunt and grim until the last shovelful of dirt had been placed and they had picked up their tools and driven away.

Then he walked slowly to her mother's resting place:

Mother

ANNA SYNDERGAARD

The modest monument which Reverend Snydergaard had placed at the head of her grave read. And below were recorded the dates of her birth and death. A name and a span of years. Was that all there was to life? Was that all to be accomplished on this

earth? Even the wicked, the unsaved, could claim as much.

No place was there for the recording of the joy she had brought to those around her, no deeply incised letters to tell of the comfort she brought to so many, of the unselfish devotion she had given to her family and her husband's congregation alike, no eternal epitaph to tell of the Christian influence of her life. Was this all one lived for, a little patch of ground at the close of a futile existence? And then he lifted up his eyes and looked across the valley Karen had loved so well.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; He that keepeth thee will not slumber..."

As he repeated that portion of Psalm 121 a strange new peace rose above his grief as the thin sweet obligato of the flute or violin sounds above the heavy melody of the orchestra. No, this was not all to life. This was not the end recorded dismally in stone for all to see and sorrow. The graven granite slab marked two dates. The birth into this life of sorrow and tears and disappointments, and the triumphal entry into glory. There was little purpose to more than that. What need of recording deeds and accomplishments for man to boast in as long as they are recorded on the other side?

For several minutes he stood looking out upon the peaceful scene, across the lush, farm studded valley beyond the red barns and white houses to the place where the river twisted and turned on the way to dump its teacup full into the Mississippi. On either side of the narrow stream were rows of cottonwood and elm and hackberry, green-liveried footman to guard the cool water from the wrath of the summer's sun. And beyond the river were the hills rising up majestically to meet the sky, hills of deep, rich loam that lent themselves to the careful tilling of plow and harrow to yield bountifully of corn or flax or clover. How like Karen's life the valley was. She, too, had had the quiet forbearance necessary to wait upon the times and seasons of the Lord. At last he turned reluctantly and walked away with sagging shoulders and a heavy heart down the road to the little parsonage.

The yard was still filled with cars and Ernest almost dreaded to go in. Karen's father and most of the relatives had gathered there after leaving the cemetery. They had scattered across the country with the years and rarely got together excepting on such sorrowful occasions. The tension of the past few hours over, they would be clustered in little knots in every room in the house visiting as though nothing had happened.

At the moment the ladies of the church were probably busy preparing

lunch for them. Ernest squared his shoulders and went in. Conversation died to a whisper and all eyes turned instinctively toward him. He writhed nervously under their pitying glances until Burt came forward with an outstretched tray.

"Come and have a cup of coffee, Ernie."

"Thanks."

He and Burt went into one of the bedrooms, the room that had been Karen's before their marriage.

"How's it going, Ernie?"

"It's tough."

"I can well imagine. This is one of those times that we must lean on our faith. We can't understand, but we have to put all our trust in Him."

"You know, Burt, that's an easy thing to say, but it's mighty hard to do. The last funeral I had I spent a lot of time in the message on Romans 8:28. All things work together for good to them that love God. I thought I knew exactly what that verse meant at the time. I believe that it's true, all right, but I've got to believe it on faith alone. I can't understand how it could be possible."

Burt sipped his coffee for a few seconds. "I don't know what your plans are, Ernie, but if you'd like to get away for a few Sundays, and it's all right with your Board, I'll come down and take over for you."

"I'd like to get away somewhere, but Dad Snydergaard says that's the worst thing I can do. He says that we can't run from trouble. We've got to face it."

"That might be right. I don't want you to do anything you don't want to, or that isn't best for you, but if you do want a little vacation, just say the word."

"But you couldn't get away, Burt. You've got your school work to keep up."

"Didn't I tell you that I'm quitting school?"

"Not when you're so close to getting your doctor's degree!"

"They need men in Indo-China more than they've ever needed them before. I've got to go now?"

"Yes, but you might not want to spend your lifetime in a mission station."

"I can always go back to school."

"Sure, but you probably won't."

"The important thing for me right now is to be at work for the Lord."

Ernest sighed. He had not been tired before, but now his head swam and his very bones were aching.

"This is a personal question, Ernie, but have you decided anything about Billy?"

"Decided about him?" he asked, "What do you mean?"

"I was wondering whether you were going to keep him or let someone else take him."

"I'm going to keep him, of course," he went on in a tone that was with-

out bitterness or self-pity. "He's all I have left of Karen, excepting memories. Besides, it's tough on the little guy to lose his mother. The Lord willing he's not going to lose his dad as well."

It was Clara Syndergaard who cornered Ernest first, much after the manner of an antique collector who has just chanced upon a priceless old lamp in someone's attic or barn. He was standing in the kitchen by the sink getting a glass of water when she came in.

"Oh! there you are, Ernest. How are you?"

"There are times when we can only trust in the Lord."

"How true. And what about poor, dear little Billy? I almost cry every time I think of him."

"Billy'll be all right."

"You're going to place him with friends or relatives, aren't you?"

"On the contrary, I plan to keep him with me."

"I just knew you'd feel that way, but—Ernest, I—I almost hesitate to say this, but Mr. Snydergaard and I would be glad to take him. We just love the little darling already and we could give him a good home. He'd have every opportunity."

"You could probably give him a lot more than I ever could."

"And placing him with us wouldn't be the same as giving him to strangers," she beamed. "He'd still be right in the family."

For the first time Ernest caught a glimpse of Clara Syndergaard beneath the cloak of wealth and brilliance which she usually kept so tightly drawn about her. He saw the empty, gnawing hunger for a child, the aching of her arm and a mother's heart that had never known a baby's responsive love. Her time for bearing children had come and gone but the frustration still remained—a tremendous price to pay for the money she had worked to help her husband garner.

"I'm sorry, Aunt Clara (it was the first time he had ever called her that), but I don't plan to give Billy to anyone. I don't know how we'll manage, but with God's help we'll get along somehow."

Her lips trembled and without answering she turned and hurried into the other room. He stood there a moment or two. Somehow her lot seemed far more pitiable than his. He walked slowly to the dining room and opened it. He had not intended to eavesdrop on the two elderly women who were sitting on the wicker settee at his very elbow. But he could not have done otherwise, for their shrill voices were lifted above the others.

"And did you see him at the funeral?" one of them asked in a shocked tone, "as dry-eyed as the minister."

The other nodded her agreement. "I'm like you are. I like to see a few



—Eva Luoma Photo

## SYNOPSIS

The Rev. Ernest Henning had finally arrived! The greatest opportunity of his career was at hand, that of candidating in the big, influential church of Elba City. Always his illustrious younger brother had soared to heights in the spotlight ahead of him. If only Karen could have known the glory that now had come his way. Suddenly his mind was flooded with memories, meeting Karen at "an open house" party the first week of college. How vividly he remembered those days of many years ago at Indiana Christian College! Later Ernest and Karen were married in the seminary chapel with Karen's father officiating. They went to a small Kansas pastorate in the country. Shortly after their son was born, Ernest Henning received a call from the First Church of Prairie Grove, Kansas. Time passed quickly and happily at the new charge. Then unexpectedly Karen was taken sick and went to the hospital. A few days later she was dead. The doctor tried to comfort the minister, but for Ernest Henning nothing was important any more!

## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

Ernest walked slowly, deliberately, down the dark stairway, through the empty waiting room and out into the street. The moon had long since dropped behind the horizon. The wind had come up and the night was cold. In his haste to get to the hospital he had forgotten to put on a coat and now he was shivering. It seemed as though the cold drove through his body to chill his very soul.

He walked down the street as he and Karen had always walked on warm summer evenings when they had a free night alone together. She had loved the elms that towered on terrace and lawn to form a canopy of green above. She had loved the spirea



tears. I like to see them show that they really cared!"

Ernest found it difficult going back to Prairie Grove the following Tuesday. Somehow, away from home things seemed easier. There were few memories for him around her father's home to rise in mockery, no familiar furniture and rooms made suddenly unbearable, no hangers laden with her clothes to tear at his heart, no long tortuous nights alone to try his soul.

Burt made the trip home with him and stayed a few days. They drove over the same highway that he and Karen had always used and found so charming, but on this occasion it was ugly and unimpressive. The miles stretched endlessly before them.

The same was true at Prairie Grove. They were the same tree-lined streets, the same brick store buildings and offices, the same frame houses with their spacious yards and laughing children. And yet it was different, too. An obscure line of prose came to him . . . "for there can be no beauty when the heart is dead." That was what was wrong. A bit of his life was gone, a portion of his heart had withered and died.

He showed Burt around the church, through his Study, the Sanctuary with its stained glass windows and carpeted aisles, and into the basement that was rapidly becoming too small to hold the Sunday School. Burt was enthusiastic.

"You don't know how lucky you are to be filling a charge like this," he said in admiration. "I'd give most anything to be in your place. You can really do something here. This's just the kind of place I'd want to serve, where I could really challenge my people with the gospel of Christ, where I could accomplish things for Him! I'll tell you, Ernie, you've got a marvelous opportunity here!"

Six weeks before, Ernest would have thrilled to Burt's acclaim, would have accepted it as proof that he was going up the ladder of success. But today he was unmoved.

That night Ernest went to bed alone in the room that had been his and Karen's during their months at Prairie Grove. He had not supposed that he could ever stand to go back in the room again, with her clothes still in the closet, her toilet articles still on the dressing table and her personality revealed in everything about the room. He and Burt had prayed together only moments before, but as he entered the room and the pain stabbed deeply within he knelt again and prayed fervently, often wordlessly while his soul cried out to God. A strange, quiet peace came over him, a peace that transcended the turmoil in his heart and quieted it as oil spread upon the water quiets the tossing and turmoil of the sea. It was a peace softened and made even the

more beautiful by the sorrow and pain within. He slept dreamlessly.

Mrs. Lanier seemed happy enough to keep Billy until he could make more permanent arrangements. Ernest had been worrying somewhat about her, but he had worried needlessly. It was easy to see that her eagerness was not entirely prompted by pity. Her big motherly heart, big enough for six children of her own, half of whom were grown, had already included Billy among her brood. But it was Billy who wrenched bitter tears from Ernest's soul. It was Billy who, living in that strange, bewildering half-world of children, could only sense the tragedy, the uncertainty that had descended upon him. The moment he heard Ernest's voice he came running out of the kitchen, his tiny feet beating a gay tattoo on the hardwood floor.

"Daddy, daddy, daddy!" he yelled shrilly as he threw himself into Ernest's arms.

"Have you been a good boy, Bill?" Ernest asked.

He nodded his head vigorously. Ernest got him on his lap and held him fascinated by having him blow pennies out of his nose. When the supply of pennies was exhausted, clutched tightly in a chubby fist, Billy's smile vanished. With his free hand he turned Ernest's face to meet his own. "Where's Mommy?" he asked softly. "Daddy, where's Mommy?" Ernest could only crush him to his chest.

Mrs. Lanier told him after that that Billy took to living for the times when he would come to the house to see him. He took to watching up the street from a vantage point behind the big bay window for a glimpse of the long, angular figure that would be his dad. He took to talking about the time when he and his daddy would be living together again; and in his play he would pretend that they were back at "our house" just the two of them. He asked a few times about his mother, but did not question the simple answers his daddy gave him. Soon he did not mention her at all. Ernest wondered often whether her memory had actually slipped from his little mind, or whether an intuitive wisdom beyond his years had stilled his tongue. On the few occasions that he did speak of her he spoke so fervently it did not seem possible that his mind could ever have lost her image.

Ernest found the work at the church more heavy and demanding than before. He never realized how much of the load Karen had been carrying. She had always lamented the fact that she could not do more. She had never told him how many phone calls had come in during the day with minor questions and problems which she had answered, how many little irritations she had smoothed, or how many details she had handled for him.

The day after Burt left, Ernest had a caller, the elderly pastor of one of the other churches. The slight, gray-haired man followed him into the living room and sat down. Ernest eyed his fellow pastor critically. What could he possibly want so early in the morning?

But Wilcox seemed in no hurry to state his business. Finally, however, the conversation limped to a halt, to an awkward pause that seemed to cry for words. He leaned forward and said softly, "I've been wanting to stop by and see you, but thought I'd as well wait until your brother was gone." His words were spoken simply and without pathos, yet Ernest could feel the sympathy there, even as he felt it in the warm, firm handclasp a few moments before. "It's pretty tough, isn't it?"

Ernest nodded. "Plenty tough." "It's in times like these that we begin to find out whether our faith is real or counterfeit."

"It brings out the doubts if there've ever been any."

"Yes, but it brings out the steel, too, my boy."

Ernest was silent a moment or two. "What I can't understand," he began almost harshly, "is why she was taken?"

"I asked myself the same question thirty odd years ago," he replied, "when I lost my wife eighteen months after we were married. But there's no answer this side of glory. It's one of those things that God had chosen to keep behind the curtain."

"We preach that all things work together for good to them who love the Lord. But how can Karen's passing bring anything good?" It seemed as though he had held the words too long and now they were loosed with a rush that astounded him. "I'm just a shell without her—a half a man!"

The older man got up and walked slowly to the window. "That street light could burn all day long," he said, "and most people wouldn't even know it was on. But let it shine at night and anyone can see it five miles away. Sometimes we Christians are like that."

"I'm afraid my candle isn't burning very brightly this morning."

"Some day you'll be able to say, 'The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.'"

The clock in the hall struck the hour and neither of them spoke until the last resonant tones had died away.

There are times when nothing seems worth-while or certain anymore. And life's scarcely worth the living."

"It's for times like those that we have our faith."

"Reverend Wilcox, would you—" his voice choked and he swallowed hard before he could speak again. "Would you pray with me?"

(To Be Continued)

# We, the Women

News and Views of the National Woman's Missionary Union

By MRS. FLORENCE E. SCHOEFFEL, President

Friday, February 29, is set aside this year as the World Day of Prayer. On the islands of the South Pacific, in Alaska, in the heart of Africa, in the capitals of the western world; under the open sky, in thatched huts, in grand cathedrals, Christian women will be gathering for prayer. The thoughts of all these women will be centered on "Christ, Our Hope." Surely he is the answer to all the world's problems. He is our one hope of eternal security.

We trust that all of our North American Baptist women on that day will leave their household tasks and cares to join this large fellowship of prayer. As you meet in your own church sanctuary, the consciousness of the thousands of others meeting in the same way should lift your hearts and fill your souls with the sense of the power of united prayer.

Mrs. Walter Stein of Tyndall, S. Dak., vice-president of the Woman's Missionary Union, has written the following article, as a challenge to all of us.

## THE POWER OF UNITED PRAYER

By MRS. WALTER STEIN

"Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt. 18:19-20).

One of the most blessed days of all the year for us as women of the Mission Societies is the World's Day of Prayer, a day when hundreds of Christian women all over the world meet to pray.

Jesus gives us many lessons on how to pray effectively. In one of his first lessons, he teaches that when we pray we are not to be seen by men but are to enter into our closet, shut the door, and pray to our Father in secret. He goes on to teach that we have need of more than secret prayer. As a rose bush has its roots hidden in the dark soil and its blossoms blooming in the sunshine, so our prayers too must be balanced. The secret prayer when the soul meets God alone must be balanced with the public united prayer with other Christians.

It is in united prayer that we learn to say, "Our Father." Nothing would be more unnatural than that the children of a family would always meet their Father singly and never as a

group express their love or make a united petition. Just as a father, when beseeched by a number of his children, will more readily grant the request, so too our heavenly Father when petitioned by a group of his children. It was as the 120 were gathered together in one place in united prayer that God sent the Holy Spirit into the world. It was as the friends of Peter were gathered together in one place that the angel opened the prison door and set Peter free. Jesus promised that God would answer the united prayers of his children.

The marks of effectual united prayer are, firstly, that those gathered together must be in agreement as to the request they are making. "If two of you shall agree," Wouldn't it be wonderful if this year we as women would all actively agree to pray our Father for world peace?

The second mark is the gathering in the Name of Jesus. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Where there are peace and unity there Jesus is present. It is this gathering in his Name, with the assurance of his presence, that gives the power to united prayer.

The third mark is the sure answer, "It shall be done for them of my Father." When we as women meet for

our Day of Prayer it should be not only for a time of fellowship but for a time of special answer to prayer. The fruit of united prayer is the "answer," and only by the answer to our request can we see if our united prayer was true.

May God help that this year when we as Christian women meet for our united prayer that, first of all, we be agreed on our request, that we truly gather in the Name of Jesus, that we will surely receive the answer.

## DO YOU KNOW "SALUTE"?

(Continued from Page 11)

parents seek help to make the Family Altar one that can be of practical help and inspiration for their growing boys and girls. Salute may be the answer. If boys and girls, either through their own devotions or in family devotions, are united across our land reading the same passages of Scripture each day a new feeling of belonging and of working and praying together could be developed. What better way of developing denominational loyalty and unity could be found? So again we say—order Salute now!

Any helpful suggestions or ideas for Salute will be welcomed by Miss Martha Leypoldt, our capable editor. Box 6, Forest Park, Ill., is the address. Send for sample copies and see for yourself!

"The grace of God is the good which God puts into each concrete situation over and above all that man can do or plan or even imagine."

—HENRY NELSON WIEMAN.

## DECEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS—NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Conferences	Dec., 1951	Dec., 1950	Dec., 1949
Atlantic	\$ 4,339.84	\$ 3,510.33	\$ 2,574.58
Eastern	1,817.20	799.86	2,255.64
Central	14,712.40	8,102.55	13,561.01
Northwestern	7,461.56	7,906.27	12,509.01
Southwestern	8,958.41	8,393.66	5,290.87
Southern	3,463.96	2,286.51	4,733.54
Pacific	12,984.46	13,937.16	14,718.86
Northern	9,210.17	7,368.67	5,296.27
Dakota	18,324.54	15,208.71	10,130.00
Total Contributions	\$81,272.54	\$67,513.72	\$71,159.78

### CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED

	Budget Contrib.	Other Purposes	Total Contrib.
For the month of December, 1951	\$ 69,526.82	\$ 11,745.72	\$ 81,272.54
For the month of December, 1950	55,171.40	12,342.32	67,513.72
For the month of December, 1949	68,790.45	2,369.33	71,159.78

### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

April 1, 1951 to December 31, 1951	342,170.13	57,826.32	399,996.45
April 1, 1950 to December 31, 1950	273,113.37	87,251.14	360,364.51
April 1, 1949 to December 31, 1949	330,182.17	12,498.57	342,680.74

### CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR THE TRIENNIUM

August 1, 1949 to December 31, 1951	973,804.05	313,330.79	1,287,134.84
August 1, 1948 to December 31, 1950	976,931.23	256,524.64	1,233,455.92
August 1, 1947 to December 31, 1949	1,109,309.40	68,015.73	1,177,325.13





## Eastern Conference

### Baptist Men of Buffalo and Rochester, New York, Hold Inspirational Rally at Batavia

On Saturday evening, Dec. 15, the Men's Brotherhoods of the Bethel Baptist Church, Buffalo, N. Y., of the Temple Baptist Church, Buffalo, N. Y., and the Andrews Street Baptist Church, Rochester, N. Y., met at the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Batavia, N. Y., of which the Rev. Roger Schmidt is the pastor. We met at 7:00 P.M. for a delicious banquet served by the ladies of that church.

Immediately after the banquet an inspiring program was enjoyed by all present under the able leadership of the chairman, Mr. Wilbert Neuffer, with group singing and a short program given by each Brotherhood, consisting of musical numbers and talks. The guest speaker for the evening was the Rev. V. H. Logsdon, pastor of the Folsomdale Baptist Church, Folsomdale, New York. He spoke on the subject, "Men of Faith."

After the closing prayer by Mr. Logsdon, we all went on our snowy homeward way, happy and thankful for an inspiring evening together. We are hoping to have more get-togethers like this in the years to come.

Wm. M. Morrison, Secretary.

## Southwestern Conference

### Christmas Cantata and Sunday School Program at the Immanuel Church, Loyal, Okla.

The Christmas activities began at the Immanuel Baptist Church near Loyal, Okla., on Sunday evening, Dec. 23, with the presentation of the cantata, "The Light of Christmas," by the 28 voice choir. Besides the numbers by the choir, there were several numbers by the mixed quartet composed of the following: Mrs. G. W. Blackburn, Miss Ceceal Vilhauer, Messrs. Rufus Vilhauer and Ezra Geis. Mrs. Howard Lorenz favored us with an alto obligato solo, and Corporal Donald Teis sang the tenor solo. Mrs. Emil Weber, who so capably directed the choir, sang the soprano solo. Mrs. Kermit Geis was the pianist.

Earlier in the evening the CBY gave the program, "A Joyous Christmas" which was a very appropriate setting for the cantata to follow.

On the following evening, Christmas Eve, our Sunday School presented its Christmas program to a large audience. The outstanding number was a pageant, entitled, "Once Upon a Christmas Time." This was given by the Primary, Junior and Intermediate groups. The Rev. G. Wesley Blackburn is pastor of the Immanuel Church.

Mrs. Harry Stebens, Reporter.

### Cameroons Missionaries Address Anniversary Program of Woman's Society, Shell Creek Church, Neb.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Shell Creek Baptist Church of Columbus, Neb., presented its annual program on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 9, to a large audience having invited the members of the Creston Baptist Church as guests.

The interesting program, opened by the president, Mrs. Paul Hunsicker, featured vocal numbers, a piano solo and a dialogue demonstrating the seven goals to be carried out during the year by the Woman's Missionary Society. We were privileged to have two of our Cameroons missionaries, the Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Michelson, with us for this occasion. Mrs. Michelson was our main speaker for the afternoon and she spoke on "The African Mother."

During the past year our society was very happy to gain six new members, bringing our membership up to 29 members. At our monthly meetings a variety of interesting programs were presented, seasons of prayer were held, Christian fellowship was enjoyed and many spiritual blessings were received. The women also purchased silverware and gave a kitchen shower for the kitchen in their church.

Mrs. Geo. Behlen, Secretary.

## Dakota Conference

### Recent Activities and Missionary Program of Woman's Society, McLaughlin, South Dakota

We of the Woman's Missionary Society of McLaughlin, S. Dak., are thankful for the part we can play as missionaries in Christian service. In October we held a clothes' drive for the Alberta Indians, and we sewed and collected baby clothes and blankets as a White Cross project. In November we baked cookies to send to the students at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Each of us also donated \$2.00 as a Christmas gift to the Bismarck Home for the Aged.

On Sunday night, Nov. 25, we presented our annual missionary program. All participated in two group songs and about half of the members in a German number. Other specials included readings, a duet, a trio, a double duet and two plays, "I Love to Tell the Story" and "Anna Makes a Sacrifice." The offering of \$195.22 was designated for the Banzo Hospital.

Our birthday program at our December meeting proved interesting. Each month was represented by a number given by the members having a birthday in that month. The program consisted of readings, vocal duets, testimonials and a vocal solo.

The women are thankful that, except for our pastor's wife, Mrs. Alex Sootzmann, no members were lost during the past year. The present pastor's wife, Mrs. Bernard Fritzke, has joined the group, as have three other women.

Mrs. Reuben Friez, Secretary.

## Southern Conference

### Special Programs of the Cottonwood Baptist Church and Sunday School, Lorena, Texas

On Wednesday evening, Nov. 14, the women of the Cottonwood Baptist Church of Lorena, Texas, entertained their families with a Thanksgiving dinner and program. The tables were beautifully decorated with 12 different and original scenes representing every month of the year.

An interesting program was presented consisting of Scripture reading and prayer by the women. The ladies' chorus brought a message in song followed by a reading, "Thanks." Several of the ladies presented a play, "The Women Who Never Knew."

On Sunday, Dec. 23, the Baptist Training Union had charge of the evening service, with Mrs. Nehring leading. Louis Wedemeyer sang a solo, followed by two readings given by Irma Fae Lampert and Beverly Ann Guderian. The Wedemeyer Trio composed of Grace, Margaret and Sue, brought us a special song. Mrs. A. Braun favored us with an organ solo.

At this time the young people, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Kraemer, presented a play, "The King Who Abolished Christmas." After the services the young people went carolling to the numerous shut-ins in our community.

On Monday evening, Dec. 24, we observed our annual Christmas program. Words of welcome were heard from Mr. A. Guderian, the Sunday School superintendent, and Mrs. Nehring, BTU president. The elementary department presented a program of piano solos, poems, songs and a playlet, "Christmas Tree." A special offering at this time came to \$279.00. After the program, fruit bags were given to everyone, and gifts under the tree were distributed by the young people. The Rev. J. O. Zillen is pastor of our church.

Mrs. H. D. Lynn, Reporter.

### Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schulte of Brenham, Texas

A reception was held for Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schulte of Brenham, Texas, at their home on November 28, honoring them on their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married at the Greenvine Baptist Church of Texas on November 25, 1891 by the Rev. Mr. Voigt. Mr. Schulte is eighty-four years of age and Mrs. Schulte seventy-seven. Although Mr. Schulte is a semi-invalid and unable to attend church services, Mrs. Schulte is quite active and attends often.

Members of the Greenvine Baptist Church went to their home and with the aid of the pastor, the Rev. Frank Armbruster, held a service in English and German there. Following this service refreshments were served. May God's richest blessings rest on both of them!

Dorothy Deiss, Reporter.

### Second Christian Workers' Conference for Southern Conference Young People at Waco, Texas

Members of the Southern Conference experienced their second Christian Workers' Conference which began on Friday night, November 30, and continued through Saturday night, December 1. We were privileged to have Miss Martha Leypoldt of Forest Park, Ill., and the Rev. W. R. Bumpas, Educational Director of the First Baptist Church, Waco, Texas, as our teachers of the CBY and Sunday School classes, respectively.

Our climaxing services came on Sunday when Rally Day took place. The Rev. Oliver H. Whitson of the Central Valley Baptist Church, Donna, Texas, brought a challenging message based on Psalms 69:11, stressing the need for people in the world today to put on the garment of sackcloth and the great need for the saints of God to meet the Savior day by day. Following the message, a conference-wide communion service was observed with the Rev. E. J. Ruff and the Rev. Arthur Schulz assisting Mr. Whitson.

The Young People's Rally took place on Sunday afternoon with Mr. Herman Balka, president of the young people, presiding. Highlights of the afternoon included an inspiring testimony given by Mr. Alistair C. Walker, originally from Capetown, South Africa, who is now studying for the Lord's work in Baylor University, and a program presented by the Baylor Religious Hour Choir of Baylor University. This choir was composed of young people who are fully consecrated to the work of the Lord.

An offering of \$185 was received for the Young People's Project of \$3,000, which includes \$1100 for the Indian work in Canada and \$1000 for the leper work in the Cameroons. After having enjoyed the many spiritual blessings from the teachings and various services, it has now become our assignment to return to our valleys of service and apply that which we have learned and experienced in God's Kingdom work.

Doris Engelbrecht, Secretary.



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schulte of Brenham, Texas, members of the Greenvine Baptist Church, on their 60th wedding anniversary.

## Northern Conference

### Glorious Experiences During Recent Months at the Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alta.

At the threshold of a new year we of the Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alta., have been led to look back over recent months with all of their experiences in the service of Christ our Lord. From day to day and from Sunday to Sunday God has led us faithfully in achieving spiritual progress. This spiritual progress is especially reflected in recent undertakings.

During December every organization and almost every individual of our entire church were engaged to bring cheer and encouragement to those about us. In an impressive service and before an extensive audience our Sunday School choir under the direction of Mrs. Conn. Schroeder rendered the Christmas cantata, "Music of Bethlehem." With the as-

sistance of our young people a splendid program climaxed the observance of White Christmas. A constant stream of people marched toward the church platform and brought with them monetary gifts and other items for cheer and help to the needy. We delivered Christmas cheer in the form of food baskets and clothing parcels to 20 families.

The Christmas program itself, as presented by our Sunday School, was attended by more than 700 people, many of whom were standing for the entire program. On Christmas Day a very large group attended the German Christmas service and with liberty and freedom enjoyed the program entirely in German.

On the last Sunday of the year the sixth baptismal service saw four converts step into the baptismal waters and declare before a large interested audience that Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior. With the temperature hovering around 20 below zero, Christian warmth and cheer filled every heart.

In gratitude and praise to God we gathered for our Watchnight service to close the old year in prayer and to begin the new year likewise. Among those who brought messages were Mr. Edmund Beerwald, recently from Germany, several students from the Seminary and especially Erwin Strauss and Eddie Link. We went into the new year singing, for the church members have made a Christmas gift to the church in the form of the Broadman Hymnal. These 400 copies of the Broadman Hymnal were later dedicated.

On the first Sunday in 1952 we gathered about the Lord's Table and extended the hand of fellowship to those who had been baptized and to those who came to us by letter and testimony. This group of 30 filled the vacancy created when our church transferred 70 of its members to become the charter members of the newly organized McKernan Baptist Church in the south section of Edmonton. Our great loss is their gain and for the glory of God a strong threefold testimony and mission is now proclaiming the Good News to Edmontonians.

Henry Pfeifer, Pastor.



The executive committee of the Southern Conference CBY and SS Workers' Union with Mr. Herman Balka, president, at extreme right.



### The First Service Held in Benke Memorial Chapel on the Indian Bull Reserve

On December 18th the Indians of the Bull Reserve near Wetaskiwin, Alta., and some neighboring white men gathered eagerly for the opening of our new Benke Memorial Church and Chapel. Humbly, yet with thankful hearts, we listened as the Rev. R. Milbrandt of Medicine Hat, Alta., brought us the first message in our new chapel. "And His Name Shall Be Called Wonderful" was the theme of Bull Reserve as they give their hearts and revealed to us anew our wonderful Savior.

We are thankful to God for answering the prayers of those who saw the need for a chapel. That which had been only a vision for many years has now become a reality! We are grateful to all those who have had a share in making this possible. If it is God's will, many shall call Christ's Name wonderful in our new chapel on the Bull Reserve as they give their hearts to him in the years to come.

We are now using our beautiful church and are looking forward to the dedication of the same in the spring of 1952.

Bernice Stober, Reporter.

### Evangelistic Meetings and Christmas Banquet at the Wiesen-thal Church Near Millet, Alberta

An evangelistic campaign was held by the Wiesen-thal Baptist Church near Millet, Alta., from Nov. 19 to 30. The Rev. H. Pfeifer, pastor of the Central Church, Edmonton, Alta., served as evangelist with messages in the German language the first week and in English the second week. The children especially enjoyed the Felt-O-Scene pictures shown by him. Solos, duets and other musical numbers helped to beautify each service and the choir, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Smith, sang on several occasions. Miss Verda Scheeler very ably served as pianist each evening while the brass band filled our house of worship with joyous music before and after some of the services. We are also grateful for the ministry of Carston Seecamp with his violin and of the choir of the First Baptist Church of Leduc.

Five converts for God's Kingdom were the result of this campaign and of the personal work done each day by Mr. Pfeifer and our pastor, the Rev. E. A. Hoffmann. Two of those who accepted Christ as their Savior were young men having recently arrived from Germany.

On Dec. 11 members and friends of our CBY gathered in the church parlor for a Christmas banquet. The room and tables were appropriately decorated for the festive season with the delicious food prepared by the women. Roast chicken with all the trimmings was enjoyed by all. Our pastor, the Rev. E. A. Hoffman, served as master of ceremonies. The Rev. O. R. Schmidt, instructor at CTI and pastor of the McKernan Baptist Church of Edmonton, was guest speaker and provided us with "food for the mind." Mr. El-



Rev. Carl Swyter (left), interim pastor of the Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, Iowa, who was also the first pastor of the church (1900-1905), and Rev. W. G. Gerthe, the newly installed minister.

mer Adam is our recently elected CBY president.

Since becoming self-supporting in January 1951, we as a church have progressed very favorably. Our missionary offerings have increased by \$800.00 this past year. May God's blessings go with us in this New Year as we labor in the name of Christ who gave himself for us.

Shirley Neuman, Reporter.

### Organization of the McKernan Baptist Church on the South Side of Edmonton, Alberta

On Friday evening, Dec. 14, a congregation composed of representatives of the churches of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and vicinity gathered at the chapel of the Christian Training Institute for the purpose of organizing the McKernan group, a station of the Central Baptist Church of Edmonton, into a Baptist Church. The Rev. O. R. Schmidt, pastor of the McKernan congregation, led the gathering in a few stirring songs. Then the Rev. E. P. Wahl, president of the CTI, conducted a devotional period based on Acts 1:1-8. With a few explanatory remarks on the part of Mr. Schmidt regarding the purpose of the meeting, the congregation commenced the organizational activities proper.

To begin with, the council for examination was organized with 28 members representing nine churches and the McKernan group as well as our general work. The Rev. E. P. Wahl and the Rev. Karl Korella functioned in the capacity of moderator and clerk of the council, respectively. Following these essential preliminaries, the resolutions of the McKernan congregation were presented in four points: the beginnings of the congregation; the missionary purpose; the fulfillment of many prayers and hopes; and a statement of beliefs and aspirations.

The Council declared itself satisfied with the above resolutions and withdrew for deliberation and decision. As a result the following statement was presented to the McKernan group and the congregation at large: "After some comments and clarification of a few essential points under the chairmanship of Rev. E. P. Wahl, Dr. C. H. Seecamp moved and the Rev. H. Pfeifer seconded the motion that the council recommended the organization of the McKernan group into a church and its incorporation into our denominational family."

The moderator now brought the meeting to an inspirational close and dismissed the gathering in order to participate in a period of refreshments and fellowship in the dining hall of the Christian Training Institute.

Karl Korella, Reporter.

### Northwestern Conference

#### Farewell Reception and Installation Service at the Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, Iowa

It was a memorable day for the Rev. and Mrs. Carl Swyter in the early spring of 1900, when Mr. Swyter was state missionary. At this time they moved to Buffalo Center, Iowa, and assisted in organizing a new German Baptist Church of which they became charter members. Later Mr. Swyter became the pastor of this little flock. That same year when the new church edifice and parsonage were dedicated to the Lord, Mr. Swyter was ordained into the ministry, serving this church about six years.

Fifty years later upon the resignation of the Rev. Martin De Boer, who accepted a call to Springside, Sask., Canada, a call was again extended to the Rev. Carl Swyter to serve our church as interim pastor. This call was accepted and he served in this capacity for fourteen months.

On December 9, 1951 he closed his ministry here with a fine farewell message. After this, one of the deacons took charge. A special program was rendered in their behalf. The officers of the church and of various organizations thanked Mr. and Mrs. Swyter for their services and wished them many more years of wedded life. A love gift of \$200 was given them. A fellowship lunch was served by the women.

On the following Thursday evening, Dec. 13, a reception was held for our new pastor, the Rev. W. G. Gerthe, and his family. Another memorable event took place. Our first pastor of fifty-one years ago, introduced and welcomed our new pastor with well chosen words. Now again a special program was rendered and a hearty welcome was extended to Mr. Gerthe and family by the officers of the church.

We as a church are extending our best wishes to the Rev. and Mrs. Carl Swyter, and our prayers are that the church and our new pastor may work together harmoniously to the glory of God, to the edifying of his own and to the salvation of souls still without the fold.

Le Roy J. Fisk, Clerk.

### Dr. Leypoldt Finds the Faith Church of Minneapolis, Minn., to be Missionary Minded

It was my privilege and joy to serve as interim pastor of the Faith Baptist Church of Minneapolis, Minn., during the month of December, 1951. This church is erecting a new edifice in a new community. One of the things that impressed me during my short stay was a large chart at the rear of the Sunday School auditorium. It is divided into three columns under the heading, "Our Budget Goal." One column is for current expenditures with a goal of \$6000. The second column is for missions with a goal of \$3000. The third column is for the building fund with a goal of \$12,000. This chart also shows a weekly goal for every column which is something unusual.

What impressed me very much was that the weekly missionary offerings were ahead of the current expenditures and building fund column although the members were contributing splendidly for all three purposes. This church of some 200 members has no wealthy members but a number of tithers.

I fear that some of our churches when building a new edifice are inclined to decrease their missionary contributions. I felt that the Faith Baptist Church is worthy of commendation for their fine missionary spirit and their example is worthy of emulation. The former pastor of the church is the Rev. L. B. Berndt. The writer of the epistle to the Hebrews says: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works" (Heb. 10:24).

John Leypoldt, Reporter.

#### ATTENTION, REPORTERS!

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

No annual reports of church societies or reports of wedding anniversaries, except for golden wedding anniversaries, can be published.

Send all reports to the editor at Box 6, Forest Park, Illinois.

### Central Conference

#### Banquet of the Chicago Area Sunday School Union With Paul Gebauer, Speaker

The Chicago Area Sunday School Union held its 18th annual banquet on Saturday evening, Nov. 17, at the Lincoln-Belmont YMCA in Chicago, with about 180 persons in attendance. This event has become an institution—an opportunity for all people of our denomination in the Chicago area to assemble for spiritual inspiration and genuine fellowship.

Following an excellent meal, served by girls of the Grace and Foster Avenue churches, the group was led in some rousing singing by Herbert Pankratz. The master of ceremonies, Walter Pankratz, presented our Cam-



—Photo by Herman Siemund  
Young women of the Grace and Foster Avenue Baptist Churches, Chicago, Ill., who served as waitresses at the banquet of the Chicago Area Sunday School Union.

eroons missionaries, Edwin and Verna Michelson, who responded with words of greeting and appreciation.

The Foster Avenue Male Quartet delighted the listeners with a German selection, "Der Spielmann," and "The Big Bass Viol" with its surprise ending. Later in the program, they sang "Home of the Soul," and climaxed their performance with a splendid rendition of the Negro spiritual, "We'll Soon Be Done" which, with its appropriate and repeated motions of "shaking hands with the elders," and "sitting down to rest a little while," brought thunderous applause from the audience. The quartet is composed of Fred Sonnenberg, Walter Loewen, Herbert Pankratz and Robert Verderber.

Missionary Paul Gebauer brought the address of the evening, as his audience listened with rapt attention. In his inimitable manner, he pointed

out the changes in the American way of life which have impressed him after his five-year absence. He spoke of the fast-closing doors of opportunity in the Cameroons and ended with a powerful appeal for all to serve Christ.

This Union is one of the few unions in our denomination which is devoted to Sunday School work. It was organized nearly 60 years ago, being originally known as the "Lehrerbund." Mr. Herman Siemund ably served as its president for 25 years, relinquishing this position in 1950. The present officers are Walter Pankratz (Foster Ave.), president; Herbert Siemund (Grace), vice-president; Ida Mae Nordland (Forest Park), recording secretary; Marion Kleindienst (Foster Ave.), corresponding secretary; and Edward Wolff (East Side), treasurer.

Ida Mae Nordland, Secretary.



—Photo by Herman Siemund  
Officers of the Chicago Area Sunday School Union of Chicago, Ill., and guests at the annual banquet.

Left to right: Mr. Walter Pankratz, Rev. Paul Gebauer, Miss Ida Mae Nordland, Mrs. Verna Michelson, Rev. Edwin Michelson, Marion Kleindienst, Mr. Herbert Siemund and Mr. Edward Wolff.



## The Inspirational Watch Night Service at the Ebenezer Church of Detroit, Michigan

The New Year's Eve service at the Ebenezer Church of Detroit, Mich., successfully closed the old year and ushered in 1952. It was largely attended throughout the whole service. The Rev. Arthur McAsh, pastor, led the devotional periods of the evening. "The Great Discovery" with Colleen Townsend was a highlight. Refreshments were served at 10:00 P.M. in the church basement. There were a number of visitors with us.

The forty-five minutes of testimony by the congregation was a special blessing to all. Reports of conversion by those led to Christ in the past year were given. Saints who had tested the Lord's faithfulness gave their inspiring testimonies. An impressive candle-light Communion Service commenced at 11:45 P.M., and we were remembering the Lord's death till he come as the New Year slipped in.

The year of 1951 was a year of thankfulness in the Ebenezer Church, as the Spirit of God was manifest in the services and in all activities. Over 85 persons united with our fellowship in 1951. Of these, over 50 came by baptism.

E. Arthur McAsh, Pastor.

## Christmas Joy at the Schoeffel's for the Baptist Ministers' Fellowship of Chicago

The Ministers' Fellowship of Chicago, Ill., and vicinity had a most delightful and profitable evening at the parsonage of the Grace Baptist Church on December 28. The decorations consisted of those tangible things so dear to one's heart during the Yuletide season. Yes, and the gramophone gave forth soft melodies of German carols like: "O Tannenbaum," "Ihr Kinderlein kommet," "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht," and others. Red, white, and green candles cast a charming glow about the rooms, reminding one of the first childhood experiences.

The tastefully arranged tables were surrounded with couples and "single ones," all of them manifesting a spirit of cordiality and warmth. That type of atmosphere also prevails at our usual meetings, but on that night it had that certain radiance which only God's children can radiate, for they draw that strength from him who is the Source of all joy.

Our honored guests were the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Lehr of Grundy Center, Iowa, who came with the Rev. and Mrs. Otto Roth. Surely, the Lord had answered our prayers in behalf of Brother Lehr, for he looked so well and happy! Small wonder then that the table fellowship was so cheerful. Our great-hearted hosts, the Rev. and Mrs. William Schoeffel, saw to it that all were sufficiently fed. It was quite a task, yet they succeeded admirably.

The time was really well arranged. We saw a filmstrip, "As the Littlest Camel Kneet." We sang carols. We were called to order by the president, the Rev. Henry Schroeder, who with very appropriate remarks introduced Dr. Martin L. Leuschner as our devo-

tional speaker. Dr. Leuschner spoke in an easy and informal manner, directing our thoughts to the prayer of praise which Simeon uttered as he beheld the Christ-child: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Then, like children, we played innocent games—like cutting out pictures from magazines, and undergoing some vocabulary tests, and eating and drinking some more, and then we said, "Auf Wiedersehen!" to our Schoeffels. Indeed, it was a most profitable night!

John E. Grygo, Secretary.

## Pacific Conference

### Christmas and Watch Night Services at the Ebenezer Church, Los Angeles, California

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15). This Scripture may be stated as the basis and summary of the activities of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Los Angeles, Calif., during the recent holiday season. The Rev. Henry K. F. Hengstler is our pastor.

Friday evening, November 30, was the first of our "Praise and Psalmody" meetings at which time was spent in testimony, singing and special musical numbers from young and old, climaxed with a message brought by our Dr. Donald G. Davis, now a member of the faculty at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. The Woman's Missionary group sponsored the meeting.

Sunday evening, December 23, was occasioned by one of the most challenging Christmas programs ever presented by our Sunday School. Each recitation clearly projected the listener to HIM, the greatest and most precious Gift of all, and the simple Gospel story as given to the unsaved present was unmistakably forward and personal. The concluding number, a cantata-narrative entitled "Wonderful" (from Isaiah 9:2, 6-7), presented by the Clarion Choir, assisted by soloists Lynn Fischer, Rachel Zoschke, Henry Hengstler, Glenn Fleming, narrator Mrs. Sylvia Locke, and accompanist Mrs. Bernadine Bixel, showed Christ not only as God Incarnate descended as Savior some 1900 years ago, but as King Who is going to return to this sin-cursed world for his blood-bought believers at any time!

Watchnight services at Ebenezer Church are always anticipated and well attended, for they have been one of the most wonderfully blessed times of Christian fellowship of the year as through retrospect, introspect, and prospect we view Christ and his faithfulness. Monday night, December 31, proved this to be true again. Living, vibrant testimonies from both "the babes" and more mature Christians were heard, as well as vocal and instrumental numbers and a message by the Rev. Harold Fischer, former pastor of the Baptist Church at Bison, Kans., now obtaining further training at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles.

Helena B. Wiebe, Reporter.

## Obituary

(A charge of five cents a line is made for all obituaries, except for those of our pastors and their wives. If possible, limit the obituary notices to 250 words. Send them to the Editor, Box 6, Forest Park, Illinois.)

### MR. GOTTLIEB G. SCHOEPP of Bismarck, North Dakota.

Mr. Gottlieb G. Schoepp of Bismarck, N. Dak., son of Christian and Magdalena Schoepp, was born March 29, 1894, in Alexanderfeld, South Russia. He died as the result of a heart attack on December 9, 1951. He came to America in the year 1910, settling near Linton, North Dakota. Later he moved to a farm near Hazelton, where he lived until 1946, when he moved from the farm to Bismarck, North Dakota.

He was united in marriage on March 14, 1919 with Bertha Steinwandt. Five children were born to this union who together with the mother, one sister and one brother mourn the early passing of our brother.

The children are Herbert, Boise, Idaho; Reuben of the U.S. Army; Mrs. Ben Freimark, Powell, Wyo.; Mrs. Alvin Heckford, Lewiston, Mont.; and Mrs. Hartson, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The sister is Mrs. R. Gau, Spokane, Wash., and the brother, Ludwig Schoepp, Driscoll, North Dakota. There are also ten grandchildren.

Mr. Schoepp was baptized upon confession of his faith in the summer of 1916 by the Rev. R. Luchs and received into the membership of the Linton Baptist Church. Here he was a faithful member until his moving to Bismarck. In Bismarck he was an active member until his untimely passing. At a large memorial service the Rev. Roy Wiegand and the Rev. Edward Kary spoke words of comfort based upon the words of Jesus: "I am the resurrection and the life." May the allwise God comfort all the grieving hearts!

Bismarck Baptist Church,  
Bismarck, North Dakota  
EDWARD KARY, Pastor.

### RUTH IRENE NIEMEIER of Hope, Kansas.

Ruth Irene Niemeier was born January 24, 1948 at Herington, Kansas. She passed away Tuesday morning, Dec. 18, at Abilene, Kans., from injuries received in an automobile accident the night before. She never regained consciousness. She reached the age of 3 years, 10 months and 24 days.

Her untimely passing is mourned by her bereaved parents: Mr. and Mrs. Lauren Niemeier and brother, Cecil, of Hope, Kans.; also her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Niemeier; the following uncles and aunts: Mr. and Mrs. M. Calderon and Mr. Adolph Borges of Managua, Nicaragua; Mr. and Mrs. Gene Staengle and son Joe of Dodge City, Kansas; and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Klingsieck and daughter Ardis of Whittier, California. Also many other friends and relatives will miss her sweet disposition. May God be very close to the bereaved in these days of sorrow. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Dickinson County Baptist Church,  
Elmo, Kansas  
H. SCHAUER, Pastor.

### MR. BRUNO SCHROEDER of St. Rose, Manitoba.

Mr. Bruno Schroeder of St. Rose, Manitoba, was born in Germany on Aug. 29, 1920. While yet a boy, his family came to Canada settling in the Ochre River, Man., district. In 1944 he was married to Miss Greta Boerchers. On Oct. 12 while Mr. Schroeder was getting his combine ready for harvesting a portion of the machine on which he was working slipped and crushed him to death instantly.

He leaves to mourn his wife, Greta; Jerry, his six-year-old son; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Schroeder, Ochre River; Mrs. A. Geeartsima, Ochre River; Mrs. F. Ammin, St. Rose, Man.; Mrs. Wirth, Warren, Man.; and Irma, at home, his four sisters; and brothers: Herman, at home, and Christoff,

of Crystal City, Manitoba. The host of people including Roman Catholics who attended the service showed that he was loved by many and will be missed.

In his youth he was converted and since then has been a faithful member of the St. Rose Baptist Church where he served on the board of trustees. The pastor conducted the service speaking on the requested Scripture, 2. Sam. 15-23, "I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

Ochre River, Manitoba  
R. H. ZEPIK, Pastor.

### MRS. PAULINE BRUNNER of Mt. Auburn, Ohio.

Mrs. Pauline Brunner, nee Nippes, of Mt. Auburn, Ohio, was born on December 4, 1878, in Solingen, Germany. Her father departed from this life when she was still an infant. She came to this country with her mother when she was about three years old, and had made this country her home from that time on. She was united in marriage to George Brunner on May 28, 1903.

She leaves to survive her husband; two sons: Herber and Raymond Brunner; and one granddaughter, Myrtle. Her residence at the time of death was 131 Huntington Place, Mt. Auburn, Ohio. She departed from this life on December 11, 1951. She leaves to mourn her loss, her family and relatives and a host of friends, who loved and admired her devoted Christian life.

She was a member of the Walnut Street Baptist Church of Cincinnati, Ohio. She accepted Christ as her Savior and was baptized, and entered into covenant with the Church on March 5, 1893 at the age of fifteen, and for 58 years had been a faithful follower and laborer in the service of her Lord.

She was an active member in her church, and in the past had served as a secretary of the Missionary Society and Church School teacher. She was faithful in her attendance at Bible Class and church worship until three weeks before her death. She will be sorely missed by her pastor and church friends as well as her family and neighbors. Truly, a saint hath entered through the portals into that Haven of Rest.

Walnut Street Baptist Church,  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
MONROE D. CHALFANT, Pastor.

### MR. EMIL H. VOIGT of Avon, South Dakota.

Mr. Emil H. Voigt of Avon, S. Dak., son of August and Wilhelmina Voigt, was born November 24, 1869, in Bromberg, Germany. At the age of 13 years, he accepted Christ as his personal Savior and was baptized September 7, 1884, by the Rev. F. Currant.

On October 22, 1884 he with his parents, brothers and sisters left Germany, and on the 5th of November arrived in Tyndall, S. Dak., where they located. When he grew to young manhood he engaged in farming.

On March 5, 1895 he married Miss Martha Van Gerpen. This union was blessed with two sons and five daughters. He was preceded in death by both of his sons. Andrew died in infancy, and William, who was pastor of the Baptist Church in Preston, Neb., at the time of his death passed away in 1930.

When the First Baptist Church of Avon was organized in 1890 Brother Voigt became a charter member. During his lifetime Mr. Voigt held various offices in the church as Sunday School teacher, clerk, treasurer and deacon.

Mr. Voigt had always enjoyed a generous share of good health until recent years. He looked forward expectantly to the time of his departure which was granted on December 6, 1951. Those who sorrow over his departure but await a happy meeting in the Great Beyond are his wife, Martha; five daughters: Alma of Avon, S. Dak.; Laura of Chicago, Ill.; Vera, Mrs. Fred C. Stier, Lombard, Ill.; Alvina, Mrs. J. G. Rott, Carbon, Alta.; Canada; Ella, Mrs. J. J. Renz, Ashley, N. Dak.; six grandchildren; three brothers: Rev. Arthur A. Voigt, Mt. Sterling, Mo.; Albert, Avon, S. Dak.; Martin, Seattle, Wash.; two sisters: Mrs. Harm Bleeker, Emery, S. Dak.; Mrs. John Jucht, Avon; and other relatives and friends.

Avon, South Dakota  
JAMES DE LOACH, Pastor.

## THE LOVE OF GOD

The love of God is greater far  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star,  
And reaches to the lowest hell,  
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,  
God gave his Son to win;  
His erring child he reconciled,  
And pardoned from his sin.

—Evangelical Christian.

### MR. ANDREW HEHN of Gackle, North Dakota.

Mr. Andrew Hehn of Gackle, N. Dak., was born on May 30, 1885, in Neuburg, South Russia. He came to America in 1906 and settled in the vicinity of Gackle, N. Dak., where he lived ever since. He was married to Regina Zimmermann in 1913. God gave them eleven children. Two sons preceded their father in death. Mr. Hehn was a hard working man and a most regular church attendant. For 27 years he served faithfully as church janitor. Last January he took seriously ill, and was obliged to remain in the Jamestown Hospital for five weeks. During this illness he accepted the Lord Jesus as his personal Savior and the undersigned baptized him upon his joyous testimony of faith in Christ on Easter Sunday of 1951.

He was reasonably well and very happy in the Lord and his sudden death by heart attack on Christmas Day, while sitting with his family and friends, came as a shock to all. He reached the age of 66 years, 6 months and 25 days. He leaves to mourn his wife; six sons: Ernst, Aaron and Eddie of Gackle, N. Dak.; Albert and Willie of Great Falls, Mont.; three daughters: Alice, Mrs. Rueben Revinius; Lenora, Mrs. Em. Heller; and Delores, all of Gackle, N. Dak.; three brothers: Henry of Wessington Springs, S. Dak.; Karl of Gackle; and Ed. of Jamestown, N. Dak.; two sisters: Christine, Mrs. Henry Remboldt of Gackle, N. Dak.; Emily, Mrs. John Wetzel, of Botno, North Dakota.

The undersigned spoke words of comfort from 1 Samuel 20:3 and Psalm 90:12 in German and English to the bereaved and to the hundreds of neighbors and friends who filled the church auditorium and basement to capacity to show their respects to the deceased of his family.

Grace Baptist Church,  
Gackle, North Dakota  
G. W. RUTSCH, Pastor.

### MR. ERNEST H. HOENER of Bay, Missouri.

Mr. Ernest H. Hoener of Bay, Mo., was born at Woolam, Mo., on March 9, 1876. He died at the Workman Hospital, Hermann, Mo., on Dec. 6, 1951, at the age of 75 years, 8 months and 27 days. His death was caused by a lingering illness of a stroke.

On Feb. 27, 1901 he was united in marriage to Pauline Fritzemeier. To this union six children were born. The following preceded him in death: children: Emma, age 15; Mrs. Esther Allermann, age 43; and August, age 7 months. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hoener; brother and sisters: Henry Hoener, Emma Hoener, and Mrs. Minnie Niebruegge.

Those surviving are: his wife, Mrs. Pauline Hoener of Bay, Mo.; three sons: Albert and Harvey of Hermann, Mo.; and Clarence of Pittsfield, Pa.; one daughter, Mrs. Meta Suelthaus of Bay, Mo.; two brothers: Fred of Pratt, Kans.; and Ed of Stafford, Kans.; three sisters: Mrs. Christina Sicken-dieck and Mrs. August Fritzemeier of Stafford, Kans.; and Mrs. Carrie Neese of Owensville, Mo.; 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

On Nov. 4, 1894 Ernest Hoener was baptized on confession of his faith in Christ Jesus as his personal Savior by Andreas Hoffmann, Sr., and became a member of the Pin Oak Creek Baptist Church, Mt. Sterling, Mo., and remained a member until his death.

His pastor, Rev. Arthur A. Voigt, and wife visited Mr. Hoener during his late illness. When asked by the pastor if he was ready to go, he responded with the

word "Sure" and he joined in the singing of the song: "In the Sweet By and By." Thus ended the pilgrimage of our brother. The Rev. Arthur A. Voigt, pastor, conducted the funeral services at the Baptist Church of Mt. Sterling, Mo., and burial was in the Baptist Third Creek Cemetery. Words of comfort were spoken from 1 John 3:2.

Mt. Sterling, Missouri  
ARTHUR A. VOIGT, Pastor.

### MRS. EMMA ALF POWELL of Portland, Oregon.

Mrs. Emma Powell, nee Alf, was born in Kicin, Poland, in the year 1880. In her youth she was born again of the Spirit of God and baptized by her father, who was the pioneer minister of the Gospel in Poland and Russia.

At the age of 24, she came to this country in Lansing, Michigan. Here she was joined in wedlock to Leonard Powell and from this union two sons were born: Seymore and Waldemar. In Lansing, Mich., she became the charter member of the Holmes Street Baptist Church. Mrs. Powell was a devout Christian. Her sacrificing labor in her home was an expression of her love for her husband who went before her to the Father's house and family.

In the last years she moved to be with her children in Portland, Ore., and joined the Immanuel Baptist Church of Portland. She had a longing to visit her friends at Lansing, and here she suddenly became sick, and in the Lansing Hospital she was called into blessed present of Christ, her Lord.

The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Herman Riffel in the Holmes Street Baptist Church. A host of relatives and friends is grieving over the loss of a true Christian friend. The display of floral tributes at the funeral showed the esteem in which Mrs. Powell was held by her many friends. Since the Immanuel Church of Portland at the time of the funeral was without a minister, her brother, the undersigned, was asked to write this obituary.

Holmes Street Baptist Church,  
Lansing, Michigan  
FREDERICK ALF, Correspondent.

### MR. HORACE T. STORM of New Leipzig, North Dakota.

Mr. Horace Taylor Storm of New Leipzig, N. Dak., was born on January 18, 1894, in Putnam county, Ind., and passed away in the hospital at Elgin, N. Dak., on December 26, 1951 at the age of 57 years, 11 months and 8 days. He was converted at the age of 12 years, baptized and united with the Bethel Baptist Church of Coatsville, Indiana. He came to New Leipzig, N. Dak., in the fall of 1912 to teach school.

Our departed brother was united in marriage to Mayme Parr on May 13, 1914. This union was blessed with eight children: Grace Ingle, Henry Clair, Delia Margaret, Samuel Taylor, Charles Eldon, Edith Della, and twins, Horace Dean and Harlan Dale. The latter three passed away in infancy.

The deceased was also engaged in farming while teaching school. In the fall of 1923 he started carrying mail out of New Leipzig, and in April 1944 he became postmaster of this town, which position he held to his death.

Because Mr. and Mrs. Storm keenly felt the need of a Baptist Church in our town, they together with others of like mind started the church in New Leipzig 20 years ago. In this church, our brother served as Sunday School superintendent, teacher and trustee until ill health caused him to lead a less active life. He was deacon until his death. Those left to mourn his passing are: his wife, three sons, and two daughters with their families, including 13 grandchildren, one brother and four sisters.

Blessed with an understanding nature and cheerful personality, he was all anyone could ask or expect. Until his death, he had a smile for all who called on him and few knew how ill he really was. We shall greatly miss him in church, community and home.

"Rest on, precious husband and father, We'll miss you each day that we face, But since our dear Savior has called you, We'll all meet you there by his grace."

New Leipzig, North Dakota  
EMIL BECKER, Pastor.



## IMPRESSIONS OF AFRICA

(Continued from Page 9)

green and everything looks so peaceful and quiet. It is, too, except for the turmoil and fear in the hearts of the people who live in this land. It is wonderful how the love of God can drive out gloom and fear and bring joy and gladness to the hearts and lives of men and women.

The second thing is the darkness and fear which possess the people of this land. They have felt the effects of the west for over fifty years and yet most of them refuse to change their ways. Even some of the older Christians refuse to give up their old customs and pagan ways. They are so surrounded by their practices and their rituals and superstitions are such a part of them and their daily lives that only the Spirit of God can give them strength to break away and many do not give Christ the opportunity.

In just the short time we have been here we have seen a number of evidences of this very thing. We at home cannot realize just what an African Christian must go through since we do not come from a pagan background such as his. Pray for these Africans! We joy to meet those Christians who definitely have broken completely away from the world and are the pillars in our churches. They have had to face the same obstacles and temptations which have confronted the other Christians but Christ has filled them with such strength that they have been able to endure.

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Again we thank God for his wondrous love and mercy. We rejoice to see these men and women, boys and girls become new creatures in Christ Jesus and to watch them grow into mature Christians. We have met many native evangelists and church teachers already and have seen the work they are doing. Theirs is not an easy task. It is not always a happy task but he rewards are great and the results are encouraging. The devil is very strong in this land and will not release one person without a hard struggle but Christ is able to break the fetters of sin and give complete victory to "whosoever will."

Again last night we saw the power of the devil over these pagan people. Two days ago an African gave some native medicine to a five-year-old boy to cure his illness. Yesterday the parents brought the boy to the dispensary for help. He was in a coma from which he never rallied. Last night he died.

These people know that there is help at the dispensary and that the white man has good medicine, but they will not come to us except as a last resort, and then it is often too late. They know better, but their juju and native medicines are such a part of them that they resort to these things first.

The British Cameroons are a beautiful land when it comes to God's handiwork. It is not a dark continent when it comes to the light of day and the moon and stars at night, but it is dark in the fact that Satan has blinded the eyes of these people to the Truth. But we thank God that many of these people have been released from the bonds of sin and not only have life but have life more abundantly in and through the Lord Jesus Christ.

## CHRISTIAN TRAINING INSTITUTE

(Continued from Page 10)

so much for which to be thankful to God because of the evidences of such wonderful Christian love.

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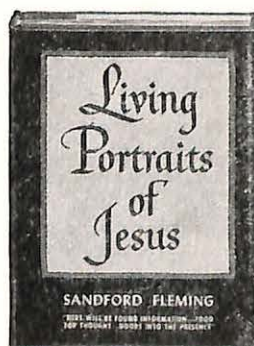
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